



**OPEN LETTER OPPOSING THE ABUSE BY REGISTERED FOREIGN AGENTS
OF UYGHUR MUSLIMS**

June 29, 2021

President Joseph Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Room H-305, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Room S-221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Room H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Room S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear President Biden, Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader McCarthy, Majority Leader Schumer, and
Minority Leader McConnell:

We respectfully request that President Joseph Biden sign an Executive Order to prohibit lobbying by individuals and/or companies currently registered under Foreign Agent Registration Act that presently advocate on behalf of the People's Republic of China companies which are instruments for oppression of Uyghur Muslims. These companies include surveillance technology companies, population control and prison service-related companies, as well as bio-medical research companies that seek to sterilize Uyghur Muslims and forcibly abort their women and children.

This further Executive Order should parallel President Biden's June 3, 2021 Executive Order on "Addressing the Threat from Securities Investments that Finance Certain Companies of the People's Republic of China." In particular, it should revoke any and all foreign agent registrations of the employees of Mercury Public Affairs and their efforts to lobby on behalf of Hikvision and its surveillance technology.

It has come to our attention through an article in the June 25, 2021 Washington Post that "Former lawmakers have registered as foreign agents for the U.S. branch of Hikvision, the maker of cameras used to monitor Uyghur Muslims in China's detention camps."

Hikvision Digital Technology is not only involved in monitoring Uyghurs, but also in monitoring dissidents and human rights defenders.

Could anyone ever imagine that the late Congressman Tom Lantos, the only Holocaust survivor to have served in the United States Congress, would ever tolerate former Members of Congress advocating for surveillance of freedom fighters?

The Biden Administration can address part of this problem by prohibiting American citizens, especially former Members of Congress, from participating in lobbying activities for companies such as Hikvision, that oppress Uyghur Muslims, and women and men who struggle for freedom in China.

We are initially calling for the United States Congress to investigate its former Members, including former Senators Barbara Boxer and David Vitter, and former Rep. Anthony "Toby" Moffett, who have participated in these reprehensible efforts as employees of Mercury Public Affairs to disregard the fundamental human rights of Uyghur Muslims. We also call upon Congress to impose clear penalties to prevent its former Members from committing offenses as foreign agents in the future by their denying pension benefits.

Finally, we are calling for an immediate investigation of Mercury Public Affairs, and any abuses their registered foreign agents may have facilitated or committed for Hikvision's surveillance of Uyghur Muslims and Chinese dissidents.

Thank you for your immediate attention to these most urgent matters.

Respectfully,

Ilshat Hassan, Uyghur Human Rights Project
Ann Noonan, Committee for US International Broadcasting
Jing Zhang, Women's Rights in China