18 November 2026

The Editor
The Washington Post

Dear Editor,

I strongly condemn the scaremongering opinion piece by Frances Hui, published by your newspaper on 17 November 2026.

The article grossly misrepresents the laws of Hong Kong for safeguarding national security. These laws protect the lives and property of our entire community, while precisely targeting an extremely small group of individuals who are intent on endangering national security through specific criminal acts of collusion with foreign forces, secession, subversion, terrorism, etc.

The vast majority of our residents who engage in ordinary civic life, including journalism, international exchanges and, most importantly, legitimate business activities have nothing to worry about. This is supported by all reputable surveys, including one conducted by the American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong, which clearly show increasing business confidence in Hong Kong.

It is ironic that your newspaper would publish such biased and unfounded opinions about Hong Kong when your own country maintains one of the most extensive and toughest national security legal frameworks, with zero tolerance of anyone who may collude with external forces to endanger US national security.

To claim that Wong Chi-fung and Lai Chee-ying were convicted and sentenced for "political purpose" is simply false. The overwhelming evidence proved that they had committed offences endangering national security. Both received a fair hearing by the Hong Kong court acting independently and in strict accordance with the law and evidence. What's more, Wong pleaded guilty on his own volition, while Lai chose not to appeal against his conviction and sentence after trial. In Hong Kong, anyone who breaks the law, regardless of their political stance, background or status, must be held legally accountable. To conversely claim that Wong and Lai were imprisoned for political reasons is a complete distortion of the truth.

I urge all anti-China elements and external forces to refrain from applying double standards and cease their malicious political maneuvering against our city and our country. The facts speak for themselves, clearly demonstrating the international community's trust in Hong Kong through rising levels of business activities, tourism and major entertainment and cultural events that are the hallmark of Hong Kong.

Tang Ping-keung
Secretary for Security
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region