

Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office
Government of the Hong Kong Special
Administrative Region of the
People's Republic of China
Rue d'Arlon 118
1040 Brussels
Belgium

[English version]

To: The Director
El Pais
Madrid

Brussels, 22 January 2020

Dear Director,

Your article of 11 January “The lesson of HK leaves a mark on the youth of Taiwan” quotes a Taiwanese schoolgirl as saying that “In HK the Police shoots the people because the people do not want to follow what China says”.

This statement is a gross misrepresentation of the work of the Police which has been maintaining order in the face of severe and escalating violence by radical protesters over the last six months.

No protesters have been killed as a result of direct Police action, but 520 police officers have been injured on duty, several of them seriously. Masked rioters have vandalised public facilities and shops, committed arson, hurled petrol bombs as well as attacked people with different views. An innocent man was set on fire in broad daylight by protesters while a government contract cleaner was killed by a brick thrown at him. Our city has often been brought to a chaotic halt, with many citizens suffering from severe disruption to daily life.

No law enforcement agency in the world would tolerate this. The Hong Kong Police only responded with necessary force when radical protesters took part in illegal and violent activities that endangered public safety.

Yours sincerely,

Eddie Cheung
Special Representative for Hong Kong
Economic and Trade Affairs
to the European Union