(By email)

Letters Editor, The Sunday Express

Sir or Madam,

In your article 'Britain ready to welcome Hong Kong refugees' (24 May), you said the proposed national security law 'would mark a fundamental change in how Hong Kong is run'.

This ignores the constitutional reality that Hong Kong is an inalienable part of China. This also ignores the facts that when making the Decision on establishing and improving the legal system and enforcement mechanisms for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the National People's Congress has complied with the law, the "one country, two systems" principle and endeavoured to safeguard the lawful rights and interests of people in Hong Kong.

Every country has a right, and indeed a duty, to protect national security and sovereignty. The proposed law will target acts of secession, subversion, terrorist activities as well as activities interfering with Hong Kong Special Administrative Region's internal affairs by foreign or external forces. The vast majority of law-abiding Hong Kong residents, including overseas investors, would be protected. Hong Kong's freedoms will be preserved and Hong Kong's vibrancy and the core values in terms of the rule of law, the independence of the Judiciary, the various rights and freedoms enjoyed by people will not be affected. Only when national security is assured can the "one country, two systems" principle be fully and smoothly implemented.

Yours sincerely,

Winky So Director-General Hong Kong Economic & Trade Office, London