

The Editor  
Letters to the Editor  
The Globe and Mail  
By Email: letters@globeandmail.com

Dear Editor,

I refer to your editorial “Another year, another stab at Hong Kong” (May 25).

Every country has a right, and indeed a duty, to protect national security and sovereignty. There is no reason to suggest that our sovereign, China, does not have the right to legislate, protect national security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR).

It is a constitutional reality that Hong Kong is an inalienable part of China. As such, it cannot and must never become a base for subversive activities or organisations seeking to destabilise our country. The proposed national security law mentioned in your article will only target acts of secession, subversion, terrorist activities as well as activities interfering with HKSAR’s internal affairs by foreign or external forces.

The decision by the National People’s Congress (NPC), the highest organ of State power, to enact the national security law will establish and improve the legal framework and enforcement mechanisms for the HKSAR to safeguard national security. The draft Decision and the Explanatory Statement of the NPC stated that, when making the Decision, the NPC will comply with the laws, the "one country, two systems" principle and also endeavour to safeguard the lawful rights and interests of people in Hong Kong.

The legitimate rights and freedoms enjoyed by Hong Kong residents under the law and independent judicial power, including that of final adjudication, will not be affected. Hong Kong will remain a free, cosmopolitan, open and welcoming city under the rule of law. Our high degree of autonomy and the cardinal principle of Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong as enshrined in the Basic Law will remain intact. The long-term stability and prosperity of this vibrant international metropolis under the unique and well-tried “One Country Two Systems” will be further assured.

Sincerely,  
Emily Mo  
Director  
Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto)