

Leitender Staatsanwalt der Volksstaatsanwaltschaft
der Autonomen Tibetischen Präfektur in Yushu
Yushu Zangzu Zizhizhou Remin Jianchayuan
Minzhulu, Yushushi
Yushu Zangzu Zizhizhou
Qinghaisheng 815000
VOLKSREPUBLIK CHINA

Dear Procurator,

The 27 January marked the second anniversary of Tashi Wangchuks' detention. A human rights defender passionate about his Tibetan culture, Tashi Wangchuk was detained by the Chinese authorities after his quest to legally challenge the government on the lack of Tibetan language education in schools and expressing his views in media interviews. Tashi Wangchuk had his trial on 4 January at Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture Intermediate People's Court on the charge of "inciting separatism". After four hours, the case was adjourned with the verdict and sentencing to be delivered at a later date.

Ethnic Tibetans in China face discrimination and restrictions on their rights to freedom of religion, expression, association and peaceful assembly. Harsh criminal sentences – for instance up to 15 years in prison for the vaguely defined crime of "inciting separatism" – continue to be imposed in China on people peacefully exercising their rights to freedom of expression. Tashi Wangchuk could be one of them.

Please drop the charge against Tashi Wangchuk, who is a prisoner of conscience and arrested merely for peacefully exercising the right to freedom of expression.

Yours sincerely

Copy:

Botschaft der Volksrepublik China
S. E. Herrn Mingde Shi
Märkisches Ufer 54
10179 Berlin

Fax: 030 - 27 58 82 21
E-Mail: presse.botschaftchina@gmail.com
und de@mofcom.gov.cn