

Director
Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous
Region No. 1 Prison
215 Hebeidonglu
Urumqi 830013
Xinjiang Weiwuer Zizhiqu
VOLKSREPUBLIK CHINA

Dear Director,

Ilham Tohti has been imprisoned for more than five years now. A renowned Uighur intellectual in China, Ilham Tohti was an economics professor at Central University for Nationalities in the capital, Beijing. He has worked for two decades to build understanding between Uighurs and Han Chinese. Rejecting separatism and violence, he tried to reconcile differences between these ethnic groups. Uighurs have faced widespread discrimination in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (XUAR). Ilham Tohti is the founder of the website "Uighur Online".

He was first taken away from his home in Beijing at the beginning of 2014. He was held in incommunicado detention for months and tortured. In September 2014 he was sentenced to life in prison.

Please support the immediate and unconditional release of Ilham Tohti as he is a prisoner of conscience imprisoned solely for the peaceful exercise of his right to freedom of expression. Please also ensure that Ilham Tohti is not subjected to torture and other ill-treatment in prison and is allowed access to his family and lawyer as well as any medical treatment he requires.

Yours sincerely,

Copy:

Botschaft der Volksrepublik China
S. E. Herrn Ken Wu
Märkisches Ufer 54
10179 Berlin

Fax: 030 – 27 58 82 21