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Dear President,

I am shocked to hear about the situation of Yu Wensheng and his wife, Xu Yan. The lawyer and human rights defender was detained in 2018. Since then, he has no access to a lawyer of his choice or his family. On June 17, 2020, Yu Wensheng was sentenced to four years' imprisonment and subsequent deprivation of political rights for three years for "inciting subversion of state power".

Xu Yan, Yu's wife, has faced continual surveillance and harassment by the authorities since she started advocating for her husband in 2018. She has filed approximately 300 requests to different government departments in relation to her husband's detention – and did not receive one single reply.

Please release Yu Wensheng immediately and unconditionally. The authorities must cease harassment and surveillance targeting Xu Yan. I urge you to ensure that he can exercise his procedural rights, including having access to lawyers of his choice. Pending his release, the authorities must ensure that Yu Wensheng is not subjected to torture or other ill-treatment.

Yours sincerely,

Copy:

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