

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

July 18, 2025

RE: Urgent Plea to Address China's Ongoing Genocide in East Turkistan

Dear President Trump,

We, the undersigned representatives of East Turkistani/Uyghur organizations across the global diaspora, write ahead of Captive Nations Week 2025 to urge your administration to address the People's Republic of China's ongoing genocide of Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, and other Turkic peoples in Occupied East Turkistan. This crisis represents both a severe humanitarian tragedy and poses an existential threat to the survival of our people, as well as to U.S. national security and economic interests. Decisive action is critical to counter China's actions and uphold America's commitment to self-determination, human rights, and global stability.

The United States, under your previous administration, took historic steps by recognizing China's atrocities in East Turkistan as genocide and crimes against humanity. The *Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act*, along with the *Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act*, and sanctions on Chinese officials, as well as bans on goods produced using forced labor, have established a strong precedent for holding Beijing accountable. However, China's continued deception, demonstrated by its failure to honor the trade agreement negotiated during your first term, underscores its unreliability. Beijing exploited that agreement to delay accountability, intensify its repression in East Turkistan, and undermine American economic interests.

Today, millions of Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, and other Turkic peoples in Occupied East Turkistan continue to endure mass internment, enslavement through forced labor, forced sterilization, forced separation of over a million children, and cultural and physical erasure, while China's actions directly threaten U.S. security, economic prosperity, and strategic interests.

East Turkistan, recognized as a captive nation under the 1959 *Captive Nations Resolution (Public Law 86-90)*, remains brutally subjugated under Chinese occupation. For generations, the people of East Turkistan have relentlessly fought for the recovery of their liberty and the restoration of their independence. This ongoing occupation stands as an affront to our people's fundamental right to self-determination and sovereignty, perpetuating a grave injustice that must be addressed.

- **Strategic Control:** Bordering nine nations, including Afghanistan and Tibet, East Turkistan anchors China's Belt and Road Initiative, enabling Beijing to dominate trade routes across Central Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East, challenging U.S. influence in these regions. This is their launchpad to outmaneuver the United States.
- **Resource Exploitation:** East Turkistan's oil, natural gas, uranium, lithium, and rare earth and other critical minerals fuel China's military, nuclear capabilities, and surveillance technology, stolen resources that make them stronger, while America continues to negotiate with deceitful liars in Beijing.
- **Economic Harm:** Slave labor in East Turkistan floods America's markets with cheap, low-quality goods, kills American jobs, and violates U.S. sanctions, constituting economic aggression against the United States. This is China's economic war on American workers and industry.

- **Authoritarian Expansion:** China's surveillance and AI-driven repression in East Turkistan serves as a blueprint for digital authoritarianism exported globally, threatening democratic values and U.S. allies.

China's failure to uphold its trade commitments, including promises to purchase American goods and respect intellectual property, reveals a pattern of deceit. A government that perpetrates genocide while breaking international agreements cannot be trusted in diplomatic or economic engagements.

Recommended Actions

To address this crisis and protect U.S. interests, we respectfully urge your administration to consider the following measures within your executive authority:

- **Issue an Executive Order Recognizing East Turkistan as an Occupied Nation:** Formally designate East Turkistan as an occupied nation, consistent with the Captive Nations Resolution and U.S. precedent for Tibet. This would affirm the U.S. commitment to self-determination and challenge China's false narrative.
- **Expand Sanctions:** Impose targeted sanctions on Chinese officials and entities involved in the ongoing genocide in East Turkistan and companies profiting from forced labor and surveillance technology in East Turkistan, building on existing measures to hold China accountable for its crimes and increase economic pressure.
- **Strengthen the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act and Prohibit Genocide-Linked Trade:** Enact an executive order banning all imports from Occupied East Turkistan and all Chinese goods linked to forced labor, protecting American workers and enforcing U.S. sanctions.
- **Adopt Accurate Terminology:** Direct federal agencies to use East Turkistan in official communications, rejecting China's colonial term "Xinjiang" (which means "New Territory" in Chinese), to counter Beijing's propaganda and affirm historical accuracy.
- **Reject Deals Compromising East Turkistani Interests:** Direct U.S. negotiators to forgo any deals with China that could delay or undermine accountability for the ongoing genocide, forced labor, and repression in Occupied East Turkistan, ensuring no agreements are pursued that prioritize economic gains over protecting American jobs, national security, and the survival of Uyghur, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, and other Turkic peoples.

The United States has a moral and strategic imperative to address China's genocide in East Turkistan. Recognizing East Turkistan as an occupied nation, supporting our aspirations for the restoration of independence, enforcing economic measures, and countering China's narrative will protect American jobs, strengthen national security, and uphold the principles of freedom and justice. The suffering of tens of millions in East Turkistan, subjected to internment, forced labor, and cultural and physical destruction, demands a robust response.

We stand ready to provide further information or support to advance this critical effort. Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Respectfully,

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Yarmemet Baratjan
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