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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(11.6.2026)

The EU's position on the human rights and rule of law situation in China is well known and has been set out in its public statements and in its exchanges with the Chinese authorities, including in the framework of the EU-China Human Rights Dialogue¹ and in statements at the UN Human Rights Council².

The EU has consistently expressed its concerns about the human rights situation in China and has repeatedly urged China to abide by its obligations under national and international law, to respect, protect and fulfil human rights for all, and to uphold the rule of law. These concerns include the situation in Xinjiang, Tibetan areas and Hong Kong, as well as the situation of human rights defenders, lawyers and journalists. The EU has also repeatedly called on China to respect the rights of persons belonging to ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, including their right to freely enjoy and preserve their culture, religion or belief, language and identity.

The EU will continue to engage with China on human rights and the rule of law, both bilaterally and in multilateral fora, while reiterating its long-standing position that respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms, due process and the rule of law are essential elements of EU-China relations.

¹ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/china-40th-human-rights-dialogue-european-union-takes-place-brussels_en.

² https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-geneva/hrc61-eu-statement-item-4_en.