



UHRP Policy Agenda for New Administration and 119th Congress

December 2, 2024

In 2025, the White House and Congress must urgently implement stronger policies on the Uyghur genocide, and take decisive action to counter transnational repression to protect human rights and defend U.S. sovereignty. The Chinese government's ongoing genocide of Uyghurs—marked by mass detention, torture, prevention of births, cultural erasure, and forced labor—demands robust responses, not only to uphold global human rights norms but also to prevent the erosion of international law.

Additionally, China's growing efforts to target and intimidate Uyghur activists, journalists, and dissidents on U.S. soil, through transnational repression, threaten fundamental freedoms under the US Constitution. The U.S. should expand sanctions, vigorously enforce accountability for transnational repression, and support Uyghur diaspora communities. It is critical for the U.S. to counter foreign interference and impose real consequences for genocidal practices.

Sanctions on Perpetrators

- Re-authorize the Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020, which sunsets in June 2025, to ensure that Global Magnitsky sanctions on 12 officials do not lapse. [Sanctions Must Not Lapse: UHRP Calls for Reauthorization of Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020](#), November 18, 2024.
- Impose at least 100 more sanctions more perpetrators of the genocide. To date, only 35 Chinese officials and government agencies, and 60 Chinese companies, are subject to sanctions such as Commerce BIS EAR export controls and investment bans. Only 12 Global Magnitsky Sanctions are in place as a response to ongoing crimes. See the [UHRP U.S. Sanctions Tracker](#).
- The Department of Homeland Security and the Forced Labor Enforcement Task Force (FLETF) should continue add many more companies, to the 100+ companies currently on the [UFLPA Entity List](#), after being found to use forced labor of Uyghurs, under the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act.

End Business Complicity

- Close the “de minimis” loophole for illegal imports, including goods made with Uyghur forced labor: Ensure that the result is not watered down, in the final rulemaking on measures announced by the White House and [DHS](#) on September 9, 2024.
- Institute procurement bans on taxpayer funds being used for tech devices, pharmaceuticals, agricultural, and any products or services from PRC companies or international companies assisting the repression and genocides by the CCP. Priority agencies should include: HHS, Veterans Administration, GSA and DHS.
- Expand investment bans on capital flows to these companies
 - Take executive action to institute a rigorous outbound CFIUS

- Greatly expand President Biden’s June 2021 [executive order banning](#) U.S. persons from holding or trading Chinese companies that develop or use Chinese surveillance technology to facilitate repression or serious human rights abuse.
- Ensure the clean energy industry does not [depend on imports](#) made with state-imposed forced labor of Uyghurs.
- Revise and re-issue the 2021 [Xinjiang Business Supply Chain Advisory](#) to [include](#) both inbound and outbound investment and new “high risk” sectors

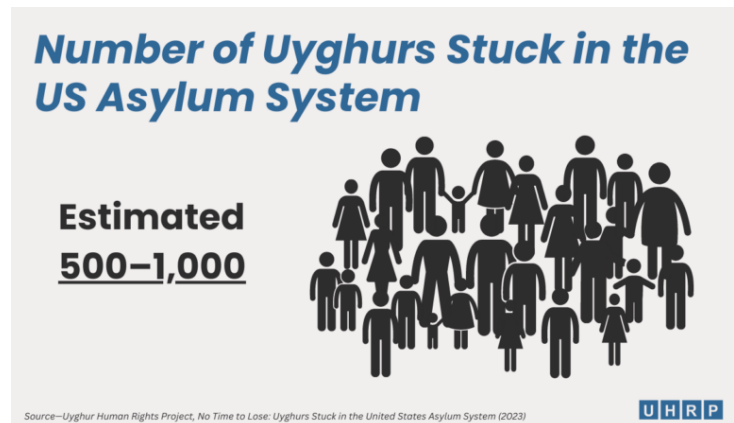
Surveillance tech and digital authoritarianism

- UHRP calls on the White House to impose comprehensive human rights sanctions on Chinese tech giants assisting the atrocities: DJI, Dahua, Hikvision, and all surveillance companies operating in the Uyghur Region.
 - Export bans on components for surveillance systems
 - Procurement bans for taxpayer-funded surveillance systems
 - Investment bans on capital flows to these companies
- The Congress should pass the [Countering CCP Drones Act](#).

Refugees and Asylum

Uyghur refugees are facing an unprecedented campaign of harassment and intimidation in the form of China’s transnational repression, rendering Uyghur refugees as potentially the most at-risk refugee population in the world in a non-militarized context. The number of at-risk Uyghur refugees around the world is estimated to be much smaller than other crises receiving international assistance, numbering in the low hundreds in some cases, making the prospect of de-escalating the crisis a very real possibility.

- Expedite Uyghur refugee resettlement, given the State Department’s finding of Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity committed by CCP. Prioritize humanitarian acceptance of stateless and at-risk Uyghur refugees currently exposed to reprisals or deportation in third countries.
- Update the 2022 United States Strategy to Anticipate, Prevent, and Respond to Atrocities to address the imperative for asylum for survivors of the CCP’s genocide, let by the White House U.S. Task Force on Atrocity Prevention, created under the Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act of 2018.
- Urge the Royal Thai Government to ensure safe passage of the approximately 50 Uyghurs held indefinitely in immigration detention to a third country where they will be effectively protected.
- Take action to immediately process asylum applications of Uyghurs who are survivors of the CCP genocide, to address the backlog requiring some Uyghurs to wait 8 years or more for a decision.



Transnational Repression

- The State Department should appoint a Special Envoy on Transnational Repression. The Special Envoy should create an emergency task force within the Department to rescue Uyghurs and Chinese dissidents at risk of imminent deportation to China from third countries, and ensure safe passage to a safe country.
- Create sufficient capacity and authorities for law enforcement to enforce domestic rights guarantees, to protect Uyghur-Americans from harassment, threats, coercion, and reprisals by Chinese security agencies.

International Religious Freedom

- Vigorously pursue the release of imprisoned Uyghur imams, Uyghur women religious leaders, and their families, as Religious Prisoners of Conscience.
- Issue an update of genocide and CAH finding that includes findings on the detention, imprisonment, and persecution of religious leaders, women and men, among Uyghur and other Turkic peoples, as a core element of the crimes.
- On International Women's Day, March 8, the White House should condemn persecution of religious Uyghur women and demand the release of Muslim women detained and tortured for their religious identity and roles.

Humanitarian Relief for Genocide Victims and Secondary Survivors

A secondary humanitarian crisis is unfolding in the Uyghur diaspora and exile communities abroad. Uyghurs living outside the Uyghur region face challenges including enforced statelessness and vulnerability to refoulement, loss of livelihoods and businesses, denial of access to healthcare and schools, single-parent families without a primary provider, homelessness, unaccompanied minors, collective trauma, cultural trauma, and ongoing harassment, threats, and cyberattacks.

- Provide financial support to more Uyghur diaspora civil society organizations (CSOs) working to meet the needs of Uyghur diaspora communities, offering skills training and support for small business creation; scholarships for students; cash support for housing, food, clothing, and medical care; and social support through mutual aid programs, cultural programming, and mental health programming addressing trauma.
- Support NGOs that seek to document ongoing human rights violations in the Uyghur region; including a secure, legally admissible database of evidence for accountability for the perpetrators of atrocity crimes.

Release of prisoners

- Vigorously pursue the release and detailed information about Uyghur prisoners and those arbitrarily detained, including location and health status, of U.S. lawful permanent residents and relatives of US citizens and LPRs.
- Impose Global Magnitsky Sanctions on all Xinjiang officials and entities on the Commerce BIS Entity List. See [UHRP U.S. Sanctions Tracker](#).

REFERENCES

- The Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act is US law: [Where Are the Sanctions?](#)
- Without Human Rights Sanctions, [the World Is Normalizing China's Genocide of Uyghurs](#)

Surveillance Tech:

- <https://uhrp.org/report/hikvisions-links-to-human-rights-abuses-in-east-turkistan/>
- <https://uhrp.org/report/surveillance-tech-series-djis-links-to-human-rights-abuses-in-east-turkistan/>
- <https://uhrp.org/report/dahuas-links-to-human-rights-abuses-in-east-turkistan/>