

Table of Contents

I.The facts and nature of the “amendment bill ” in Hong Kong.....	1
II.How violence has disrupted Hong Kong over last 2 months	3
III.Facts about foreign interference in Hong Kong affairs	9
IV.Reports on practices of foreign governments in response to violent protests.....	22
V.Objective and unbiased voices of the international community.....	29

I、 The facts and nature of the “amendment bill” in Hong Kong

The cause

The Hong Kong government proposed the amendments to the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance and the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Ordinance because of an ordinary judicial case. In February 2018, Chen Tongjia, a Hong Kong resident, was suspected of murdering his pregnant girlfriend in Taiwan before he fled back to Hong Kong. Hong Kong had no jurisdiction over this case. In order to transfer Chen Tongjia to Taiwan for trial, the Hong Kong SAR government proposed the amendments to the above-mentioned ordinances. So far Hong Kong hasn't signed any deals with China's mainland, Macao or Taiwan on the transfer of fugitives and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters. By amending the ordinances, the SAR government hopes to cooperate with China's mainland, Macao and Taiwan in transferring criminal suspects and fugitives through special arrangements, which will help to deal with individual cases and plug the loopholes in the legal system, and enable Hong Kong to work better with other parts of China to jointly combat crimes and uphold rule of law and justice.

The purpose

Around the time when it returned to the mainland, Hong Kong had signed agreements with 20 countries on the transfer of fugitives and treaties with 32 countries on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters. By proposing the amendments to the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance and the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Ordinance, the Hong Kong SAR government intends to incorporate its cooperation with other parts of China into the ordinances regarding fugitive handover and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters. Similar cooperation mechanisms have already been put in place between Hong Kong and foreign countries. This arrangement will not affect Hong Kong's judicial independence at all. “One country” is the prerequisite and foundation of the principle of “one country, two systems”. As an important measure to implement this principle, different jurisdictions within China need to conduct mutual legal assistance so as to prevent safe havens for criminals.

Suspension of the amendments

Quite a number of Hong Kong citizens do not have much understanding of the mainland along with its legal system and judicial institution. Taking advantage of that, some people and media with

malicious intentions started fear-mongering campaigns to stoke panic and block the bill's passage in the Legislative Council. Under such circumstances, several massive assemblies against the amendments have taken place in Hong Kong since June this year. In order to solicit broader public opinions and to restore calm as early as possible, the SAR government decided on June 15 to suspend its work on the amendment bill. The relevant legislative process also came to a full stop. The central government supports, respects and understands this decision.

II、 How violence has disrupted Hong Kong over last 2 months

Starting from June, Hong Kong's opposition and some radical forces have used the pretext of peaceful demonstration to engage in violent protests.

Though the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government said, on many occasions, that it has completely halted the amendments of two ordinances concerning the transfer of fugitive offenders, protesters continued to escalate violence and cause mayhem in Hong Kong.

Here is a timeline of these violent activities that are aimed to trample the rule of law, sabotage social order, undermine national sovereignty and the "one country, two systems" principle.

CHALLENGING GOVERNANCE AUTHORITY

The demonstrations, which started in June, repeatedly became violent clashes under the instigation of individuals with ulterior motives. Some radicals repeatedly mounted attacks on police. They surrounded Hong Kong police headquarters, disrupted government agencies and ransacked the Legislative Council (LegCo) building.

-- On June 9, demonstrators started to protest against the proposed amendments. In the wee hours of June 10, well-organized radical protesters started attacking the LegCo building, blocking roads and assaulting police officers. They clashed with police, with some attempting to rob officers of their guns. Eight policemen were injured.

-- On June 12, an illegal rally started around Admiralty, and some radical members stayed around the LegCo building until midnight. Well-organized protesters assaulted officers with bricks, home-made spears and even petrol bombs, injuring 22 police officers. Though police exercised restraint, the protesters continually assaulted their line of defense and forced police to use appropriate force to disperse demonstrators.

-- On June 21, even after the HKSAR government announced that it had halted the amendments, violence continued. Extremist protesters surrounded police headquarters and wreaked havoc, and blocked the public from using service at the Revenue Tower and the Immigration Tower. Then they blocked Hong Kong government offices and the High Court.

-- On June 26, a few 'fanatics' instigated demonstrators to storm police headquarters for the second time. They repeated similar savage behaviors. Opposition lawmakers were once again present to provide support. The personal data of some police officers was illegally leaked online.

-- On July 1, rioters blocked roads and threw corrosive liquids at police officers. They ransacked the LegCo building and assailed police with toxic chemical powder. They extensively damaged the council chamber, defaced HKSAR regional emblem, tore up the Basic Law, waved a colonial-era flag and even called for an establishment of a so-called "interim government."

DISTURBING SOCIAL ORDER

Hong Kong's social disorder worsened in July, as aggressive members unlawfully assembled or launched more demonstrations in various districts of Hong Kong. Violence spread further, affecting the normal lives of more residents.

-- On July 6, disputes broke out in Tuen Mun district between protesters and residents. Residents were besieged, beaten and kicked by radicals. Protesters occupied roads and sieged Tuen Mun police station.

-- On July 7, protesters organized another demonstration in Kowloon, leading to a 50-percent plunge in passengers through West Kowloon high-speed train station, compared with an average weekend. Only 31,000 passengers traveled through the station on that day. After the demonstration, some radical protesters illegally blocked roads in Tsim Sha Tsui, forcing most shops to close early in the once trendy shopping area.

-- On July 13, a demonstration in Sheung Shui district ended with violent clashes with the police. A few radical protesters dismantled iron bars, blocked main roads, beat and attacked police officers with umbrellas, iron bars, suspected toxic powders and corrosive liquids. At least 16 police officers were injured. At night, the radical members continued to sabotage stores in the district. The police then launched a clearance operation in accordance with the law.

-- On July 14, some radical protesters removed the roadside fence in Sha Tin district to block roads, sharpened bamboo branches as weapons, hurled bricks, umbrellas and other debris at police officers from high buildings. Fierce clashes broke out at New Town Plaza, injuring at least 10 police officers. An officer in plain clothes was attacked by a mob.

Some officers were left with facial fractures. One police officer's finger was bitten off.

-- On July 27, though the Hong Kong police had issued a notice of objection, some people assembled illegally at the Yuen Long district. A group of radical protesters illegally cut off traffic, sieged police vehicles, smashed car windows and smeared cars with insulting words. Police officers were deployed at the village entrances to prevent conflicts between protesters and villagers. Several radical protesters also sieged the Yuen Long police station, forcing the report room to suspend service. Opposition lawmakers were once again present to support the violent acts.

-- On July 28, a number of radical protesters carried out illegal demonstrations in the central and western parts of Hong Kong Island, seriously hindering traffic. They dug up pavement bricks, destroyed street signs and lampposts, set fires on multiple roads and charged police lines. Violence again escalated, as some people carried lethal weapons such as bows and arrows and petrol bombs.

UNDERMINING "ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS" PRINCIPLE

A group of extreme radicals stormed the offices of the Central Government in Hong Kong, insulted the national emblem and flag of China, undermined national sovereignty and dignity and the "one country, two systems" principle.

-- On July 21, radical protesters besieged and attacked the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government, defaced the national emblem in front of the building by hurling eggs and black paintballs, damaged security facilities and scrawled graffiti insulting the nation.

They even raved about forming an "interim legislature" in a statement read out on the scene.

-- On July 28 and Aug. 4, some radical protesters mounted more attacks at the liaison office but were thwarted by riot police.

-- On Aug. 3 and on Aug. 5, black-clad and masked extreme radicals twice ripped the Chinese national flag off the pole in Tsim Sha Tsui, flung it into the sea, in clear defiance of national sovereignty.

On July 26, police arrested a suspect on suspicion of desecrating the national emblem.

PUSHING HONG KONG TO BRINK

Violence and chaos escalated in August as mobsters used guerrilla

tactics to stage strikes, block public transport, prevent residents from going to work, damage public facilities, siege police stations and attack police officers across Hong Kong, pushing the city to the brink.

-- On Aug. 3, radical protesters sabotaged areas in Yau Ma Tei, Tsim Sha Tsui and Mong Kok. They blocked the Cross-Harbor Tunnel twice, paralyzing traffic between Hong Kong Island and Kowloon. They charged police stations in Tsim Sha Tsui, Mong Kok and Wong Tai Sin, scribbled words to insult and provoke the police, ruined police vehicles and started fires in front of police stations.

-- On Aug. 4, protesters caused considerable damage in western Hong Kong Island, Causeway Bay and Tseung Kwan O by blocking roads and storming several police stations. They later flocked to Hung Hom to block the Cross-Harbor Tunnel and the Golden Bauhinia Square to smear the sculpture.

-- On Aug. 5, flash mobs stirred up trouble across Hong Kong. They destroyed public facilities, including roadside railings, sidewalk bricks, traffic bollards and lights. As a result, 36 roads and the Cross-Harbor Tunnel were blocked, 96 buses suspended or rerouted, 8 MTR lines obstructed and more than 200 flights canceled.

From the night of Aug. 5 to the wee hours of the following day, some radical protesters raided at least 10 police stations. They scribbled words to insult police, hurled petrol bombs and firebombs at police stations and officers, shot vision-harming lasers, ruined police cars, and caused mayhem on several streets, police stations and buildings. They also cut off power lines.

-- On Aug. 11, protesters threw petrol bombs and wounded at least one policeman.

-- On the evening of Aug. 13 and early on Aug. 14, shockingly violent acts occurred at the Hong Kong International Airport. Some violent radicals attending an unlawful assembly at the airport inflicted severe physical harm to two mainland residents.

Around 8:00 p.m. local time on Aug. 13, they unlawfully detained a resident from Shenzhen surnamed Xu, who held a Hong Kong and Macao travel permit for private visit purposes and was at the airport to see people off. They tied him up, shot a laser at his eyes and beat him into a coma. They also obstructed the way for an ambulance crew to take him to hospital. With the help of the police, it took nearly four hours for Xu to be rescued. As the events played out, they also sieged and assaulted a police

officer and snatched his baton.

After midnight of Aug. 14, some violent radicals tied up both hands of a Global Times reporter surnamed Fu and beat him in the name of suspecting him to be a fake reporter, causing multiple injuries to Fu.

The radical protesters have become better-equipped, coordinated and planned, and they have continued to push the level of violence to new heights. Alarming, many weapon depots containing explosives, firebombs and knives suspected to be owned by radical protesters have been uncovered in police operations.

From June 9 to Aug. 6, the Hong Kong police arrested 589 people suspected of illegal assembly, rioting and assaulting the police.

What is more alarming is that anti-China forces in the West have colluded with local anti-China forces who intend to mess up Hong Kong. On multiple occasions, foreign nationals were seen meeting and talking with radical protesters. Recently, leaders of "Hong Kong independence" groups secretly met with officials of the U.S. Consulate General in Hong Kong. The day after their meeting, the groups said on social media that they plan to boycott classes in September.

It is incontrovertibly evident and without question that the Hong Kong opposition camp and radical groups have colluded with foreign forces. Certain forces in the U.S. and Britain have deliberately ignored extreme violence in the illegal protests and attempted to beautify mobsters as campaigners of "freedom, democracy and human rights."

During the recent riots, the Hong Kong Police Force has honored their duties and enforced the law with professionalism and great restraint. The Hong Kong police have been a pillar in safeguarding Hong Kong's social security and the last shield to uphold its social stability. It has maintained its reputation as one of the world's most outstanding police forces. From June 9 to Aug. 5, 139 officers suffered injuries on duty.

Looking back at what happened during the past two months, the ordinance amendment issues have changed in their essence and now bear the features of a "color revolution."

Should violence and chaos be allowed to continue, the safety of Hong Kong citizens' lives and property will be endangered, and the governance authority of the SAR government, the cornerstone of the rule of law in Hong Kong, its prosperity and stability, and the "one country, two systems" will be destroyed. Citizens of Hong Kong will not allow this to happen. The people of China will not allow this to happen.

On Aug. 7, the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council and the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in Hong Kong jointly held a symposium in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, briefing the attendees on the central authorities' policies on stabilizing Hong Kong's situation. It stressed that the most pressing and overriding task in Hong Kong is to stop violence, end the chaos and restore order.

The recent violence in Hong Kong is intolerable in any civilized, rational society under the rule of law. Any illegal and criminal acts that blatantly defy the basic principle of "one country, two systems," trample the rule of law, destroy social stability and infringe public interest will be brought to justice.

III、 Facts about foreign interference in Hong Kong affairs

i.Oslo Freedom Forum: Activists gather to share secrets of successful protest (20141021,BBC Newsnight)



The forum is taking place while protests continue in Hong Kong

Where might you find a North Korean defector, a self-confessed Serbian troublemaker, a Tiananmen Square protester and members of punk group Pussy Riot in the same room?

While Hong Kong's students continue their protests and stumbling negotiations with the territory's authorities, democracy activists from around the world, some of whom have helped their struggle, gather together.

The Oslo Freedom Forum is one of the biggest meetings of human rights activists in the world, and this year its rather surreal proceedings have a different tension, as activists trying to take on Beijing's actions in Hong Kong seek to hold their ground.

Activists are furious at what they see as Beijing's proposals to fix the election of Hong Kong's next chief executive.

'Trained demonstrators'

However, far from being impromptu demonstrations, it is an open secret at this meeting in Norway that plans were hatched in Hong Kong

for the demonstrations nearly two years ago.

The idea was to use non-violent action as a "weapon of mass destruction" to challenge the Chinese government.

Organisers prepared a plan to persuade 10,000 people on to the streets, to occupy roads in central Hong Kong, back in January 2013.

They believed that China's moves to control the Hong Kong election would provide a flashpoint where civil disobedience could be effective, and planned accordingly.

Their strategies were not just to plan the timing and nature of the demonstrations, but also how they would be run.

BBC Newsnight has been told that some leading protestors received advice and materials from Western activists to help them train as many as 1,000 of those who would later be involved in the demonstrations

'New world race'

Yang Jianli, a Chinese academic, was part of the protests in Tiananmen Square 25 years ago.

He has been talking to the Hong Kong students on a daily basis.

He says that the students are better organised than the Tiananmen protesters ever were, with clearer, more effective structures for their action and clearer goals about what they are trying to achieve.



But he adds that responsibility for what happens next is not just down to the protesters themselves, not just down to other democracy

activists like those gathered here in Oslo, but to the rest of the world.

Jamila Raqib, the executive director of the Albert Einstein Institution based near Boston, which analyses and distributes studies on non-violent struggle, says it is clear that protesters have been trained how to behave during a protest.

"How to keep ranks, how to speak to police, how to manage their own movement, how to use marshals in their movement, people who are specially trained.

"It was also how to behave when arrested - practical things like the need for food and water, movement can last longer when people are taken care of, and also how to manage a water cannon being used against you, and other types of police violence."

In a statement Occupy Central with Love and Peace (OCLP) said none of its members had attended the Oslo Freedom Forum or received "any specific training" from the organisations mentioned in this report.

OCLP said it had openly held "non-violent protest" workshops in Hong Kong but these were "wholly organized by OCLP, without any support or intervention from foreign organisations."

It also said the "initiators" of OCLP had never been in contact with Yang Jianli, nor had OCLP been in contact with Jamila Raqib.

Protests don't always work.

Srdja Popovic, one of the student leaders involved in overthrowing Slobodan Milosevic, was another of the protest veterans in Oslo.

Srdja Popovic says you have to understand the "rules of the non-military battlefield"

He has since trained activists in 40 countries, but he says the techniques of non-violent action that he advocates have led to successful and lasting change in only six or seven countries.

He argues that there is more need than ever for the methods of organisation and leadership to be shared.

He says that after the 20th Century military race, "what we are seeing now is a new world race - now it is 'can the good guys learn as well as the bad guys?'"

'Schmoozing for democracy'

Mr Popovic has not had any involvement with the Hong Kong protests, but says whether in Georgia, Ukraine, Egypt or Hong Kong "you can look at these movements - and see the set of rules".

"You have to understand the rules of the non-military battlefield."

His work in Oslo, along with the writings of the American human rights activist, Gene Sharp, is in high demand.

There is something incongruous about the Oslo meeting - seeing Chinese dissidents, American computer hackers, activists from Africa, the Middle East and Russia trade information over champagne and canapés.

Media caption Members of Pussy Riot are attending the Oslo Freedom Forum. Watch Laura's report

Like any conference, a good deal of the work is done after hours, even if it is schmoozing for democracy.

Two members of Russian opposition female punk group Pussy Riot, members of which were put in jail by President Putin, are here too.

They say they want to "make personal contacts" and meet others doing similar human rights work.

What this event shows is that struggles for democracy or human rights in the 21st Century rarely happen in isolation.

Activists, whether those on the streets of Hong Kong right now, or from other parts of the world, are sharing information and insights faster than ever before.

(<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-29708917>)

ii. What causes the Hong Kong protests? (20190811,CGTN)

Over the past two months, Hong Kong has experienced chaos and confusion that have wrecked the Asian financial hub profoundly. As the crisis goes on, Hong Kong protests are becoming severely irrational. Meanwhile, more evidences showing foreign interference in Hong Kong affairs are emerging and exposing continuously.

So who plot the work of "evil behind-the-scenes masterminds" that have incited and funded violent protests? Well, the answer is absolutely obvious.

A report in Hong Kong major newspaper Ta kung Pao said there had been a meeting between several radical opposition figures, including the "Hong Kong independence" activist Joshua Wong and a female official from the U.S. on Tuesday. Later, the secret lady's identify was disclosed as Julie Eadeh, political unit chief of the U.S. Consulate General in Hong Kong & Macau.

Undeniable facts

Joshua Wong then confirmed the meeting under media pressures but dismissed the claim of collusion. He said "there is nothing special" in

their conversation but didn't mention the duty of the U.S. official and how many of them joined. And it is even more ridiculous that the separatists threatened to wage student strikes in September via social media websites after that.

On Thursday, the Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China in Hong Kong lodged solemn representations and expressed dissatisfaction and opposition, demanding clarification from the U.S. side.

Morgan Ortagus, the U.S. spokesperson, later admitted the meeting at a press conference, claiming that U.S. government representatives "meet regularly with a wide cross-section of people across Hong Kong and Macau". The U.S. State Department accused Hong Kong media reports of "leaking an American diplomat's private information" and called China "a thuggish regime".

She also noted that this is what American diplomats do every single day around the world to meet with opposition individuals. Indeed, many countries are disordered by thuggish U.S. diplomacy.

Again, Washington wants to call white black and distort the truth. In a separate statement, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said the U.S. State Department spokesperson should first reflect on her own words and deeds and should not use media reports to attack or blame other countries' governments. She also urged the U.S. side to abide by international law and basic norms governing international relations.

More facts

Since the beginning of amendments to a fugitive transfer bill in Hong Kong, rumors that this move will affect Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy and global confidence have been spread out. Though the law has long been pronounced dead, violent demonstrations persist. And they have evolved into overt provocations against ordinary people, businesses and lawful authorities.

In late February, Kurt W. Tong, U.S. Consul General in Hong Kong and Macao, criticized the HKSAR government for amendments to the fugitive bill and China's "One Country, Two Systems" principle.

In March, U.S. Department of State issued the "2019 Hong Kong Policy Act Report" which accused Chinese central government of implementing or instigating a number of actions that were inconsistent with the Basic Law and the Sino-British Joint Declaration of 1984. In the

context, U.S. Department of State distorted facts maliciously, claiming that HKSAR government's crackdown on "Hong Kong independence" activists, the introduction of National Anthem Law and Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link were all the proof of erosion of Hong Kong democracy and freedom.

Also in June, U.S. Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi publicly stated that Hong Kong demonstrations were "a beautiful sight to behold" and part of congressmen raked up the so-called "Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act". Then in July, Pence and U.S. National Security Advisor John Bolton held meetings with Hong Kong opposition leaders.

Beyond that, more American faces appeared in Hong Kong violent demonstration scenes from media exposed pictures, even the figure of American flag.

The U.S. is not satisfied in overt oral support for Hong Kong, but resorts to financial backing. It's not a harshly-worded statement that the U.S. government is pumping up loads of cash via the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) to some of the organizations in Hong Kong who mainly plotted and participated in the highly-tensed protests.

Although the NED defines itself as a private, non-profit organization committed to strengthening democratic institutions worldwide, it has been on suspicion of in league with Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and accused of playing a role in covert actions against governments.

Founded in 1983, the entity has four main branches, two of which – the Solidarity Center and the National Democratic Institute – seem quite active in Hong Kong. It has granted some 355,000 U.S. dollars to these two organizations for their work in the city last year alone, and has been in contact with the so-called "pro-independence movement."

Although former U.S. president Ronald Reagan established the NED as a more discreet and less controversial instrument to "export democracy," China has always been alert about foreign interference into its internal affairs – a bottom line for many other countries in the world.

Looking back on it, Hong Kong's grim situation indicates that the West has been the "black hand" behind the stage to whip up Hong Kong youth that "only violence can solve problems," to fool innocent citizens unaware of the truth. Of course, U.S. administration has particularly played a disgraceful role in the riots. Washington publicly supports the radical protesters but never condemns violence targeting Hong Kong

police.

So does the "double standard" really make sense to the world?

(<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2019-08-10/Who-has-stirred-Hong-Kong-chaos--J2cVBSCzZu/index.html>)

iii. Who is behind Hong Kong protests? (20190817, China Daily)

It's not hard to imagine the United States' reaction if Chinese diplomats met leaders of Occupy Wall Street, Black Lives Matter or Never Trump protesters.

On Aug 6, Hong Kong media reported two meetings between a US political counselor and separatist leaders. Julie Eadeh, who works at the US Consulate General in Hong Kong, was caught on camera meeting with opposition figures Martin Lee and Anson Chan.

Later that day, Eadeh also met Joshua Wong, one of the leaders of the illegal "Occupy Central" movement in 2014.

But long before those reports, there was growing evidence of a deliberate US hand in the worsening of the situation in Hong Kong. US politicians have met with Lee and other Hong Kong opposition leaders, including Jimmy Lai.

Those meetings have only added fuel to the criminal deeds jeopardizing Hong Kong.

China has repeatedly asked US to stop interfering in other countries' domestic affairs but it seems the latter has no intention of withdrawing its "meddling hand".

The protest's messaging, and the groups associated with it, raise a number of questions about just how organic the movement is.

MintPress News, a US news website, has reported that some groups involved in recent rioting in Hong Kong received significant funding from the National Endowment for Democracy, which it described as "a CIA soft-power cutout that has played a critical role in innumerable US regime-change operations".

Although it promotes itself as a "non-governmental organization", the NED's website says it "receives an annual appropriation from the US Congress through the Department of State, to help the US government".

"NED's NGO status allows it to work where there are no government to government relations and in other environments where it would be too complicated for the US government to work."

NED was founded in 1983, when the spotlight on the CIA was so

intense that new methods — without a clear connection to the US state — had to be found to promote US interests in foreign political systems.

Presenting itself as an independent and private NGO, its function was to take over the CIA's political regime-change programs.

"We should not have to do this kind of work covertly. It would be terrible for democratic groups around the world to be seen as subsidized by the CIA," NED President Carl Gershman told the New York Times in 1986. "We saw that in the sixties, and that's why it has been discontinued. We have not had the capability of doing this, and that's why the endowment was created."

In 1991, The Washington Post quoted another NED founder, Allen Weinstein, as saying "a lot of what we do today was done covertly 25 years ago by the CIA".

NED doesn't hide its support for "democratization" in certain Asian countries, proclaiming on its website: "In 2017, the Endowment prioritized countries in Asia ... where the NED was positioned to have the greatest impact. Building upon NED's strategy from previous years, programs continued to be concentrated on key countries within each sub-region."

Voice of America interviewed Louisa Greve, then vice-president of NED's programs for Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, in 2014. It said the organization had been funding programs in Hong Kong for about two decades, with grants totaling several million dollars. Greve said the level of support had been consistent during that period.

VOA said NED's three partners in Hong Kong were the US-based Solidarity Center and Hong Kong Human Rights Monitor, which received grants of around \$150,000 and had been working in Hong Kong since 1997, and the US National Democratic Institute, which had a \$400,000 grant.

MintPress News said NED funding for groups in Hong Kong actually dates back to 1994, with HKHRM receiving more than \$1.9 million between 1995 and 2013.

The NED's website shows it granted \$155,000 to SC and \$200,000 to NDI for work in Hong Kong, and \$90,000 to Hong Kong Justice Center in 2018. NDI received \$650,000 from 2016 to 2017, and SC received \$459,865 from 2015 to 2017.

Through the work of its three partners in Hong Kong, NED has had close relations with other groups in the region.

An episode of The News with Rick Sanchez on Russia's RT TV network in July disclosed that six organizations are taking money from and working with NED.

They are the HK Institute of Human Resource Management, the HK Confederation of Trade Unions, the HK Journalists Association, the Civic Party, the Labor Party and the Democratic Party, whose founding chairman is Martin Lee.

They are all members of the Civil Human Rights Front, a coalition Hong Kong media, including the South China Morning Post and Hong Kong Free Press, say is the organizer of the anti-extradition law demonstrations.

In an interview with the Fox News show DEFCON 3 in 2014, Michael Pillsbury, a senior fellow at the Hudson Institute, said the US holds some influence over political matters in Hong Kong.

"We have also funded millions of dollars of programs through the National Endowment for Democracy ... so in that sense the Chinese accusation (that the US played a role in Hong Kong protests) is not totally false..." he said.

It is inconceivable that the organizers of the current Hong Kong protests are unaware of the NED's ties to some of the coalition's members. In her interview with VOA in 2014, Greve said activists knew the risks of working with NED partners, "but they still say 'international cooperation is legitimate'".

In March, US Vice President Mike Pence met Anson Chan and opposition lawmakers Charles Mok and Dennis Kwok in Washington.

Two months later, Lee visited the US and met with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and participated in an event organized by NED.

Early last month, Lai met with US politicians including Pence, Pompeo, National Security Adviser John Bolton and some Republican senators.

The same sequence of events occurred in the illegal "Occupy Central" movement in 2014.

Lee and Chan discussed plans for "Occupy Central" with Greve in Washington in April 2014, telling her about the movement, its key players, agenda and demands.

Two days later, Martin Lee and Anson Chan met then US vice-president Joe Biden.

NED, described by American historian William Blum as an

organization that often does exactly the opposite of what its name implies, has never stopped its global meddling. It uses the tool of democracy to fan "color revolutions" around the world.

The South China Morning Post says it commits more than \$170 million each year to "labor unions, political factions, student clubs, civic groups, and other organizations".

In the 1980s, it funded "democratic forces" in Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria to agitate for "regime change", according to a Washington Post report in 1991.

More recently, it has sought to influence elections in Mongolia, Albania, Bulgaria, and Slovakia and has built "anti-Russia movements in... Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Georgia, Serbia, Kosovo, and Bosnia-Herzegovina", according to Stephen Kinzer, an international and public affairs specialist at Brown University, who said the organization should be more properly called the "National Endowment for Attacking Democracy". NED has also given money to "civic groups" in China's Xinjiang Uygur and Tibet autonomous regions to sabotage the region's stability.

Zhang Guoqing, an expert from the Chinese Academy of Social Science told Global People that NED is an old hand at planning "color revolutions" around the world, especially in Middle Asia, the Middle East, and South America. These kind of "revolutions" have become a major political tool for the US to subvert state power, said Zhang.

It claims to be safeguarding democracy around the world, but is, in fact, bringing destabilization to the countries it targets at US taxpayers' expense.

(<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201908/17/WS5d578b28a310cf3e355664f1.html>)

iv. US foundation supporting HK riots shows 'Americanization' aims: observers (0818Global Times)

A CIA-backed US foundation has been colluding with the heads of the recent Hong Kong riots with financial and strategic support, actions that Chinese experts said show the US' intention of "Americanization" which is endangering Hong Kong.

Sentaku, a Japanese monthly magazine, revealed in August how the foreign forces represented by the US, manipulate the Hong Kong chaos.

The magazine said that Hong Kong extremists received significant

funding from the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), which it called "a CIA soft-power cutout that has played a critical role in innumerable US regime-change operations."

Under the Reagan administration in 1983, the NED was founded to "support democracy in other countries."

The NED's website shows that it granted \$155,000 to the Solidarity Center (SC) and \$200,000 to National Democratic Institute (NDI) for International Affairs for work in Hong Kong, and \$90,000 to the Hong Kong Justice Center in 2018. NDI received \$650,000 from 2016 to 2017, and SC received \$459,865 from 2015 to 2017.

"US foundations like the NED have been promoting 'Americanization' around the world," Li Haidong, a professor at the China Foreign Affairs University's Institute of International Relations in Beijing, told the Global Times on Sunday.

According to Li, the foundation conducts "transformation" in various regions around the world tangibly and intangibly, but in fact it is a behind the scenes player for color revolutions. It is also the US' way of violating the internal affairs of other countries.

"This is a tradition of US diplomacy," Li noted. "The US does not even try to cover its goal of promoting 'Americanized' governance, which has now been proven a failure and is ridiculous."

Western forces have been directly or indirectly involved in the Hong Kong riots, Shi Yinhong, director of Renmin University of China's Center for American Studies in Beijing, told the Global Times on Sunday.

He noted that the interference also includes media promotion, which aims to encourage the protests to follow the desired direction. "The intention is obvious - to endanger Hong Kong and endanger China."

Splittist camp

Leung Chun-ying, former chief executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, in 2014 warned that foreign forces had been involved in Hong Kong affairs, including the Occupy Central movement.

Martin Lee Chu-ming, known as the "father of democracy" and "extremist" in Hong Kong, in May 2015 called for Western governments to speak out for Hong Kong.

The opposition camp is publicly colluding with forces attempting to split Xinjiang and Tibet from China. Hong Kong's Wen Wei Po reported in May 2015 that during the Occupy Central movement, leading figures of the opposition camp, including Law Kwun-chung and Chow

Yong-kang, went to the US for a "study camp" hosted by a "Civil Force" organization. There, the Hong Kong riot leaders "exchanged experiences" with those from Xinjiang and Tibet independence parties as well as the Falun Gong cult.

Wen Wei Po said that the "Civil Force" was founded by Yang Jianli, who was believed to be a spy for Taiwan. The camp would invite "anti-China and separatist" organizations to study how to confront China every year. The camp is sponsored by the NED, said the report.

US government-backed

On the webpage of NED, it claims to be "a private, non-profit, grant-making organization that receives an annual appropriation from the US Congress." A founder of the NED, Allen Weinstein, told the Washington Post in 1991 that "A lot of what we do today was done covertly 25 years ago by the CIA."

"US Government, NGOs Fuel and Fund Hong Kong Anti-Extradition Protests," read an article published on the Global Research website in Canada in mid-June. "Maintaining Hong Kong's distance from China has been important to the US for decades."

MintPress News, a US media outlet, said that NED funding for groups in Hong Kong dates back to 1994. Between 1995 and 2013, Hong Kong Human Rights Monitor received more than \$1.9 million from the NED.

The Hong Kong Post reported in 2018 that protesters consulted with the NED during the Occupy Central movement in 2014.

Searching "Hong Kong" on the NED website, the Global Times reporter found at least 14 items, including \$1.95 million in funding for the region.

In May, the foundation invited some "pro-secession" activists to attend a seminar, after which the violence in Hong Kong streets became increasingly severe, echoing the voice of anti-China politicians and NGOs in Washington.

The Sentaku magazine said that China has released measures for the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, which shows that integration of the region will be further enhanced and pragmatic work has started. Under these circumstances, it may be urgent for the US to continue to interfere in Hong Kong affairs.

"The goal is to promote a hostile and suspicious attitude toward China and toward communism and to foster the false concept of a past

democratic Hong Kong with a distinct identity," read the New York-based news website Workers World. It warned that what is happening in Hong Kong "should be a danger sign to everyone fighting for change and for social progress."

History of interference

NED has a history of interfering in political affairs in other parts of China as well as around the world. Its website showed that in 2018 alone, it provided 17 items of funding for Tibet-related affairs, including at least \$46,870 to Tibetan separatist movements. More money was poured into other parts of the Chinese mainland in the name of "Human Rights" that year.

Besides China, other countries have also suffered from NED's interference.

The Philippine media outlet the Manila Times said on August 7 that "Hong Kong destabilizer NED is the same outfit funding the anti-Duterte media." The CIA-linked outfit NED has extended about 100 million Philippine pesos (\$1.9 million) to vociferous anti-Duterte media outfits, it read.

Historically, the organization has played a special political role in some countries, including Poland, Ukraine, Iran and Myanmar, which have been affected by NED's activities, People's Daily quoted the US-based The National Interest magazine in 2015 as saying.

Li Haidong, the international relations professor, said that the US' "reform" aims to have other countries follow the US' direction, maintain US hegemony and serve its leading role globally. "When the US government does not come forward, its NGOs and foundations play directing roles."

"The US elites make policies to kidnap the masses in the country, in order to serve the insular elites." Li said. "It will damage not only the interests of Hong Kong and the whole of China, but also the US' interests in the long term."

(<http://enapp.globaltimes.cn/#!/article/1161845>)

IV、 Reports on practices of foreign governments in response to violent protests

i. The United States

(i) President Trump Considered Naming a Group of Protesters an “Organization of Terror.”

With both the left and the right declaring victory following a long-hyped rally that had Portland, Oregon, on edge it seems the liberal city will continue to be a flashpoint in an increasingly divided country.

There were 13 arrests and police seized bear spray, shields, poles and other weapons. But by using barriers and bridge closures and allowing a large contingent of right-wingers to leave when they asked to authorities were able to mostly keep the two sides apart. Six minor injuries were reported.

President Donald Trump tweeted early Saturday that "major consideration is being given to naming ANTIFA an 'ORGANIZATION of TERROR.'"

(<https://apnews.com/423e0ee1018942a59e218a800b30b59f>)

(ii) Mayor of Portland: We Do Not Tolerate Violence

Two of the 13 people arrested Saturday made a first court appearance Monday, while the rest have court dates next month to allow authorities to process reams of evidence, including videos and photos posted on social media, the Multnomah County district attorney's office said in a statement. More arrests may come as those postings are reviewed, authorities said.

As the city returned to normal, Mayor Ted Wheeler called Saturday's dueling demonstrations a win for residents. Oregon's top federal prosecutor called the handling of the event a "definitive counterpoint" for those who on both sides who have criticized police after past protests for favoring one side or the other.

"We do not tolerate hate and we do not tolerate violence," Wheeler said. "We had a plan, we executed on that plan and on the whole, it was successful."

(<https://www.apnews.com/5bae7ab2ba5441c6a698bf45531d7a99>)

(iii) 700 Arrested After Wall Street Protest on Brooklyn Bridge

New York City police say about 700 protesters have been arrested after they swarmed the Brooklyn Bridge and shut down a lane of traffic for several hours.

The group Occupy Wall Street has been camped out in a plaza in Manhattan's Financial District for nearly two weeks staging various marches, and had orchestrated an impromptu trek to Brooklyn on Saturday evening. They walked in thick rows on the sidewalk up to the bridge, where some demonstrators spilled onto the roadway after being told to stay on the pedestrian pathway, police said. Most of those arrested face disorderly conduct charges, while others were accused of resisting arrest.

The group has meetings and forums planned for Sunday at Zuccotti Park, the private plaza off Broadway the protesters have occupied.

Some protesters sat on the roadway, while others chanted and yelled at the police from the pedestrian walkway above. Police used orange netting to stop the group on the roadway from going further down the bridge, which is under construction.

Some of the protesters said they were lured onto the roadway by police, or they didn't hear the calls from authorities to head to the pedestrian walkway. Police said no one was tricked into being arrested, and those who were in the back of the group were allowed to leave.

"Multiple warnings by police were given to protesters to stay on the pedestrian walkway and that if they took roadway they would be arrested," said Paul Browne, the chief spokesman of the New York Police Department.

(<https://www.foxnews.com/us/700-arrested-after-wall-street-protest-on-brooklyn-bridge>)

(iv) UC Berkeley Riot Police Use Batons to Clear Students from Sproul Plaza

In iconic Sproul Plaza, many hundreds or perhaps thousands of UC Berkeley students and Occupy Oakland activists clashed with university police late into the night Wednesday, after officers carried out instructions from administrators to clear Occupy Cal protesters from their makeshift encampment. "We formed a human barricade around our tents, and they just beat their way through it with batons," said one student. "It really, really hurt - I got the wind knocked out of me," another protester, doctoral student Shane Boyle, told the San Francisco Chronicle, showing

the reporter a red welt on his chest. "I was lucky I only got hit twice," he added.

"After warning protesters that camping at the university is illegal, officers moved in and shoved demonstrators out of the way as they pushed toward the camp," the Contra Costa Times reported. "Six UC Berkeley students and an associate professor were arrested; charges included resisting officers and failing to disperse." The police succeeded in clearing away tents, but protesters refused to leave the plaza, insisting that they'd camp there with or without equipment. Protesters with smartphones took turns webcasting video from the scene, and ultimately voted around 1 am to approve a University of California-wide general strike to be held Tuesday of next week.

(<https://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2011/11/uc-berkeley-riot-police-use-batons-to-clear-students-from-sproul-plaza/248228/>)

(v) Gov. Hogan Declares State Of Emergency, Activates National Guard

Governor Larry Hogan has declared a state of emergency and activated the National Guard to address the growing violence and unrest in Baltimore City.

"I have not made this decision lightly. The National Guard represents a last resort in order to restore order," Hogan said during a news conference Monday night. "People have the right to protest and express their frustration, but Baltimore City families deserve peace and safety in their communities and these acts of violence and destruction of property cannot and will not be tolerated."

Major General Linda Singh, the adjutant general of the Maryland Army National Guard, said during the news conference that the guard would be out in activation beginning Monday night. Up to 5,000 troops were available to patrol the streets and protect property.

(<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/apr/27/chaos-baltimore-more-dozens-clash-riot-police-multiple-/>)

(vi) Police Arrest 'Known Gang Member' In Connection With Dousing NYPD Officers

New York City Police arrested a suspect Wednesday in connection with the set of viral videos taken over the weekend showing NYPD officers being doused with water.

Officers apprehended a 28-year-old Courtney Thomas — described as a “known gang member” — allegedly involved in the one of the two videos, showing cops soaked with water while making arrests in Harlem and Brooklyn, according to a statement from NYPD Chief Terrence Monahan. He is charged with obstruction, criminal nuisance, tampering, disorderly conduct and harassment.

“Actions like we’ve seen in videos recently will NEVER be tolerated in this city. YOU WILL BE ARRESTED,” Monahan said on Twitter.

(<https://dailycaller.com/2019/07/24/nypd-water-suspect-arrested/>)

ii.UK

(i) David Cameron's full statement on the UK riots

Good morning. I've come straight from a meeting of the government's Cobra committee for dealing with emergencies, where we've been discussing the action that we will be taking to help the police to deal with the disorder on the streets of London and elsewhere in our country.

I've also met with the Metropolitan police commissioner and the home secretary to discuss this further, and people should be in no doubt that we will do everything necessary to restore order to Britain's streets and to make them safe for the law-abiding.

Let me first of all completely condemn the scenes that we have seen on our television screens and people have witnessed in their communities.

These are sickening scenes – scenes of people looting, vandalising, thieving, robbing, scenes of people attacking police officers and even attacking fire crews as they're trying to put out fires. This is criminality, pure and simple, and it has to be confronted and defeated.

I feel huge sympathy for the families who've suffered, innocent people who've been burned out of their houses and to businesses who have seen their premises smashed, their products looted and their livelihoods potentially ruined.

I also feel for all those who live in fear because of these appalling scenes that we've seen on the streets of our country. People should be in no doubt that we are on the side of the law-abiding – law-abiding people who are appalled by what has happened in their own communities.

As ever, police officers have shown incredible bravery on our streets in confronting these thugs, but it's quite clear that we need more, much

more police on our streets and we need even more robust police action, and it's that that I've been discussing in Cobra this morning.

The Metropolitan police commissioner has said that, compared with the 6,000 police on the streets last night in London, there will be some 16,000 officers tonight. All leave within the Metropolitan police has been cancelled.

There will be aid coming from police forces up and down the country, and we will do everything necessary to strengthen and assist those police forces that are meeting this disorder.

There have already been 450 people arrested. We will make sure that court procedures and processes are speeded up and people should expect to see more, many more, arrests in the days to come.

I am determined, the government is determined that justice will be done and these people will see the consequences of their actions.

And I have this very clear message to those people who are responsible for this wrongdoing and criminality: you will feel the full force of the law, and if you are old enough to commit these crimes you are old enough to face the punishment.

And to these people I would say this: you are not only wrecking the lives of others, you're not only wrecking your own communities – you are potentially wrecking your own life, too.

My office this morning has spoken to the Speaker of the House of Commons and he has agreed that parliament will be recalled for a day on Thursday so I can make a statement to parliament and we can hold a debate and we are all able to stand together in condemnation of these crimes and also to stand together in determination to rebuild these communities.

Now if you'll excuse me, there is important work to be done. Thank you.

(<https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2011/aug/09/david-cameron-full-statement-uk-riots>)

(ii) Riots: Theresa May's speech on 11 August 2011

First, the reasons behind this behaviour. We must never forget that the only cause of a crime is a criminal. Everybody, no matter what their background or circumstances, has the freedom to choose between right and wrong. Those who make the wrong decision, who engage in criminality, must be identified, arrested and punished - and we will make

sure that happens.

I now want to move on to the questions about the police reaction to the violence. I know that Hon Members, like members of the public, are concerned about the speed and quality of the police response. That response has changed over the course of the last five days, and has been different in different parts of the country. We need to appraise it honestly, bluntly, and learn the lessons where things have gone wrong.

On Sunday night, with Tottenham calm, the police managed to nip in the bud trouble at Oxford Circus, but the violence spread to Enfield and Brixton. On Monday night, the number of officers deployed in London increased to 6,000 - two or three times more than a normal evening. But still, that wasn't enough and with the violence reaching Hackney, Peckham, Croydon, Ealing, Lewisham and Clapham, officers were overwhelmed. In Clapham, the mob ran amok for more than two hours before the police regained control. That is simply not acceptable.

During the day, the ringleaders were identified, arrested and taken out of circulation.

We said that we would do everything necessary to bring the disorder to an end, and we meant it. We made clear to the police that there was nothing to stop them using baton rounds if they judged it necessary. We put the water cannon stationed in Northern Ireland on standby to be deployed within 24 hours. The police made it clear to me that they did not want to use them. And, as things stand, what is working is officers on the streets, robust policing and the help and support of local communities - which we would jeopardise if we rushed to use things like rubber bullets.

Policing by consent is the British way. But the police will only retain the confidence of the wider community if they are seen to take clear and robust action in the face of open criminality.

We will change the law to allow police officers to remove face coverings - if they have reasonable belief that they are related to criminal activity - under any circumstances.

Since Saturday, more than 1,200 people have been arrested and more than 400 have been charged. Courts in London, the West Midlands and Manchester have worked throughout the night and we are already starting to see the offenders prosecuted.

I am clear that the perpetrators of this violence must pay for their actions, and the courts should hand down custodial sentences for any

violent crimes.

The tide is turning because communities up and down the country have said enough is enough.

It's turning because the thugs are being arrested and locked up.

And it is turning because of the bravery and dedication of the men and women of our police forces.

So I will just end Mr Speaker with this thought. We ask police officers to put themselves in harm's way on a routine basis. We ask them to go into dangerous situations that most of us would hope we will never experience.

We have the best police officers in the world, and we owe them all a debt of gratitude.

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/riots-theresa-mays-speech-on-11-august-2011>)

iii. France

(i) Macron signs controversial French 'anti-rioters' bill into law

French President Emmanuel Macron has signed into law legislation giving security forces greater powers at demonstrations which opponents claim violate civil liberties.

The bill, approved by lawmakers in February, aims to crack down on violence that has marred the anti-government "yellow vest" protest movement which began in last November.

On Thursday Interior Minister Christophe Castaner took to Twitter to hail the law as a "text which protects the French in the face of insecurity and violence" ... "which protects our institutions and liberties".

But in a move indicative of the political trouble caused for Macron by the "yellow vest" movement, the Constitutional Council, France's highest authority, refused this month to give its green light to one of the most contentious parts of the legislation.

Several MPs, including some from the ruling Republic on the move party, opposed an article that would have given the authorities the power to ban any individual "posing a particularly serious threat to public order" from taking part in demonstrations.

The article was accompanied by a file of named individuals sought by the police, which critics strongly denounced as violating citizens' freedom of assembly as enshrined in the constitution.

However the council did approve two other key parts of the legislation, including giving the authorities the power to search bags and cars in and around demonstrations if demanded by a prosecutor.

It also approved making it a criminal offence for protestors to conceal their face at a demonstration, punishable by a year in prison and 15,000 euros in fines.

(<http://en.rfi.fr/france/20190411-macron-signs-controversial-french-anti-rioters-bill-law>)

V、 Objective and unbiased voices of the international community

i. Singapore doesn't profit from Hong Kong chaos, says minister K Shanmugam

The law and home affairs minister says solutions will have to be found for Hongkongers' socio-economic and political concerns.

But there is no easy way forward when people take entrenched positions and compromise is necessary, he adds.

A senior Singapore government official has described prolonged anti-government protests in Hong Kong as worrying, but insisted that the republic does not stand to gain from the ongoing unrest.

Minister for Law and Home Affairs K Shanmugam said that at the most basic level, Hong Kong must deal with the law and order situation that has arisen as protesters have broken into the city's legislature, defaced flags, held sit-ins at the airport, surrounded police stations and disrupted public transport, among other things.

The extent of the protests, involving thousands including young people as well as members of different professions and civil servants, suggests underlying causes need to be addressed as well, and these could include young Hongkongers' material aspirations.

But he noted that some protesters also have "an ideological perspective" and would like to see a different structure of government, referring to the calls for greater democracy in electoral systems.

A senior Singapore government official has described prolonged anti-government protests in Hong Kong as worrying, but insisted that the republic does not stand to gain from the ongoing unrest.

Minister for Law and Home Affairs K Shanmugam said that at the most basic level, Hong Kong must deal with the law and order situation that has arisen as protesters have broken into the city's legislature, defaced flags, held sit-ins at the airport, surrounded police stations and disrupted public transport, among other things.

The extent of the protests, involving thousands including young people as well as members of different professions and civil servants, suggests underlying causes need to be addressed as well, and these could include young Hongkongers' material aspirations.

But he noted that some protesters also have "an ideological

perspective” and would like to see a different structure of government, referring to the calls for greater democracy in electoral systems.

“Unlike socio-economic issues, ideological issues could be more difficult to deal with,” he said in an interview with This Week in Asia in Singapore on Wednesday.

“And these seem to be deeply entrenched positions. My own view ... when we see this, we are worried for Hong Kong.”

He said there was no easy way forward when people took entrenched positions. “To go forward is going to need compromise and a clear approach that deals with the problem – not just political, but also the social-economic problem.”

Protests in Hong Kong, first triggered by the government’s now-suspended extradition bill, have entered the third month and have turned increasingly violent.

Shanmugam said he was sure the Hong Kong government, like every government, would want to meet its people’s aspirations and seek solutions to issues raised. “But the solutions cannot be found if serious disruptions like these continue,” he added.

On the political front, he said, Hong Kong was part of China and Beijing would expect the city to adapt to the prevailing political structure in China.

“Some of the protesters seem to think that China will allow a very different system in Hong Kong. That is wishful thinking replacing reality,” he said.

The question was how China’s leaders would regard the demands of protesters in Hong Kong.

Looking at the situation from an outside perspective, he said Chinese Communist Party leaders might well conclude that some protesters are aiming at their rule and control of China.

“The current situation is challenging China, and I’m not sure that Chinese leaders will accept that or can accept that,” he said.

Shanmugam said not enough credit is given to China for lifting hundreds of millions of people out of poverty over the past three decades, describing it as “a huge achievement”.

“No country has done that in history, in 35 years,” he said.

Claiming that China’s system selects “very competent” people to be in government, he asked: “Is there a system, a political system that can do better for the people of China, compared to the current system? Which

one? Name one? Whose system is better?”

“So ideology must square with reality,” he said.

Shanmugam also blamed international news organisations for presenting a “confused, muddied” picture of events in Hong Kong with superficial analyses, a skewed perspective and by engaging in labelling.

“All protesters are automatically, generally, democracy fighters,” he said. “Police on the other hand, are oppressive, attacking the forces of democracy, using excessive force. ‘They’re negative, they’re an evil force.’”

The ongoing unrest has led to reports that some wealthy businessmen based in Hong Kong had begun moving their assets overseas and Singapore was a beneficiary.

But Shanmugam said he did not believe the “superficial talk” that Singapore stood to benefit from the troubles in Hong Kong.

“We benefit from stability across the region, including Hong Kong,” he said. “If China does well, Hong Kong does well, the region does well, we do well.

“There’s no profit in seeing instability. And if Hong Kong is at odds with China, it’s a problem for everyone, including us.”

Asked about how Singaporeans viewed the ongoing protests, Shanmugam said many of them, perhaps the majority, believed they were lucky that this sort of unrest was not happening in the city state.

“If this happened to us, it would be bad for our economy and we don’t have the advantages Hong Kong has to weather such a situation,” he said.

“Hong Kong has the huge advantage of China’s support. Singapore has no one to support it.

“From that perspective, I think Singaporeans say if this happens in Singapore, it will be very troublesome and they are grateful that it is not happening here.”

The minister added that Hong Kong possessed deep strengths, including its financial system, stock exchange and proximity to mainland China, all of which savvy investors would note.

“Unless people become pessimistic about China, I don’t see immediate calculations being made by serious investors,” he said.

One area in which Hong Kong and Singapore have been competing is in regional legal and dispute resolution.

The city state received a boost with the naming this week of the

Singapore Convention on Mediation, the international protocol on applying mediation agreements across 46 jurisdictions.

Shanmugam said the two cities were in healthy competition, in different geographical areas and serving potentially different needs.

He said: "There is enough work for Hong Kong and Singapore."

While Hong Kong is launching its home-grown online mediation and arbitration platform later this year, Singapore is also studying the topic and considering reviewing legislation.

But he did not want to be drawn into saying if Hong Kong was catching up with Singapore or vice versa, making clear instead that Singapore examined the various issues of arbitration and mediation, and would proceed as it saw fit.

"We generally do not sit on things," he said.

(<https://www.scmp.com/week-asia/politics/article/3022217/singapore-doesnt-profit-hong-kong-chaos-says-minister-shanmugam>)

ii. Hong Kong protesters seeking to create chaos, says former German official

Dr. Michael Borchmann, a law expert and former government official from Germany, has written that the purpose of the ongoing protests in Hong Kong is to stir up chaos and turmoil in the city, and is not a response to the draft extradition bill.

In an article entitled "Don't let Hong Kong fall into chaos", published in the German edition of the European newspaper *Nouvelles d'Europe*, Borchmann said it is true that freedom of speech and assembly is protected by law in Hong Kong, but this doesn't give people the right to use violence to impose on the freedoms of others.

Borchmann said the characterization of the recent actions of the protesters by some members of the German press as a general strike was incorrect. A strike, he said, means stopping work, but what's going on in Hong Kong now is all about committing acts of violence.

"The 'protesters' block the tracks at railway stations, leading to a disruption in railway and bus services. The roads have been heavily congested and more than 200 flights have been cancelled. Many streets in the city have also been sealed off, and residents who want to lead normal lives like they had before have been forced to get involved in the chaos," said Borchmann.

Borchmann said that it is in the best interests of Hong Kong and

China as a whole to put an end to the protests with determined and tough action. He added that criticism of China by some voices in the Western media were irrelevant, as "the moon does not heed the barking of dogs."

(<http://chinaplus.cri.cn/news/politics/11/20190813/330857.html>)

iii. Hong Kong phooey! Would you like any hypocrisy with that?

【 George Galloway was a member of the British Parliament for nearly 30 years. He presents TV and radio shows (including on RT). He is a film-maker, writer and a renowned orator. 】

Where to start? For nearly 40 weeks hundreds of thousands of French people have been on the streets in anti-government demonstrations against President Emmanuel Macron's rule.

Some have lost eyes and hands in the police response. The public has begun to view the smell of tear gas as a normal part of a weekend in Paris. France is 29 miles from the coast of England. Siri just told me that "Hong Kong is about 5,992 miles from London as the crow flies."

So complete has been the British media blackout on the Yellow Vests that many believe, wrongly, that there is some British government order banning on any mention of "les événements en France." The truth is that there is no need for one.

Like a homing pigeon in reverse the entire UK media has flown like a bat out of hell away from France all the way to Hong Kong (as they had earlier flown to Caracas until the big protests turned into the wrong kind of protests).

There is nothing, except the shoe-sizes, of the demonstrators in Hong Kong that I don't know thanks to the veritable blizzard of in-depth analysis of the protestors there and their each and every demand. Protesters in Saudi Arabia and Bahrain can be executed, but we will never be told their names.

And the hypocrisy of the media is just for starters.

If a group of British protestors broke into the British Parliament and hung, for argument's sake, a Russian flag over the Speaker's chair it is "highly likely" that a commando force would quickly and violently overwhelm and arrest them accompanied by volleys of accusations about Russian interference.

If a crowd of British protestors occupied Heathrow Airport in such numbers and so disruptively that British Airways had to stop flights in and out of the airport, causing massive financial loss, dislocation, and

personal inconvenience, I promise you that their protest would have been cleared out by the above mentioned commandos on the very first day of their protests.

If protesters in London were hoisting Chinese flags and singing the Chinese national anthem then, well, I'm sure you get my point.

The struggle between the government of China and its citizens is no more the business of the British than it is of the Slovaks. It's true that Hong Kong was a British colony for 150 years but the least said about the shame and disgrace of how that came to be, the better, I promise you.

Suffice to say that to acquire territory by force, followed by unequal treaty at gunboat-point to punish the actual owners of the land for resisting the British opium trade, is, even by British Imperial standards, extraordinary. So shameful is it you'd think the British would want to draw a veil over it. But not so.

The British tell us that Hong Kong want democracy but nobody ever says that across a century and a half of British rule in Hong Kong the people there were allowed no democracy of any kind.

They tell us about the justice system without ever mentioning that even today the 'draconian' courts of Hong Kong are still stuffed by white English judges.

They tell us about NGOs and "civil society" without telling us whose pounds and dollars the "NGOs" are stuffed with.

In fact, these foreign-funded and guided organisations are carefully stabled Trojan Horses chomping their British and American supplied hay until the time came for them to be told to gallop, and gallop they now are.

This is all Hong Kong phooey! No other country in the world would have shown such forbearance in the face of foreign-sponsored rioting destruction and sabotage of the national economy as China has. If in the days to come China's patience runs out, it will not be before time so far as the great majority of Chinese citizens, including Hong Kong citizens, are concerned.

China signed up to the one country, two systems in the territory. It did not agree to two countries, two systems. Not one inch of Hong Kong belongs to anyone but China. The days when foreign countries could impose their will on China are long gone.

(<https://www.rt.com/op-ed/466396-hong-kong-british-hypocrisy/>)

iv. Doubts about Hong Kong “justice” after narrow escape from “justice holders”— Junzo Aoyama

The Hong Kong that I loved

On June 12, a demonstration against the amendments to the Fugitive Offenders Ordinance was held near the Hong Kong Legislative Council Building.

At that time, I was also in Hong Kong— but for other things. I planned to go to mainland China via Hong Kong to observe the country’s wildlife.

However, I learned that day about the fierce clashes between the demonstrators and the Hong Kong police, and heard that the protesters would stage another large-scale demonstration on June 16.

So I decided to stay in Hong Kong for a few more days before my wildlife observation in mainland China to have an in-depth interview about the demonstration.

Since I studied at a university in Chongqing, China in 1988, I have always had transfers in Hong Kong on my trips between Chinese mainland and Japan. Roughly, I have crossed the Luohu Port connecting Hong Kong and China’s Shenzhen, Guangdong province for more than 560 times. For me, this was only a small part of my journey to the Chinese mainland to conduct my research and study—nothing special at all.

However, even for a person like me who has neither the interest in nor knowledge of the human society, could notice the “differences” between Hong Kong and the mainland from many perspectives as I traveled to and from mainland China and Hong Kong at such a high frequency.

I used to love Hong Kong (I am not sure whether I should use the expression “used to”). Every time I went through the exit formalities at the Guangzhou train station and boarded the non-stop train to Hong Kong after I finished my arduous research in remote mountainous areas in Sichuan and Yunnan provinces, I felt I came alive again.

Since last year, there have been incessant reports saying that the trains leading to down town Hong Kong from the mainland would seriously challenge Hong Kong's “sovereignty”, and Hong Kong's “anti-train movement” was also hyped by foreign media as a similar demonstration took place last July.

However, the direct train from Guangzhou to Hong Kong already

started operation 30 years ago, and the differences now are only updated ticket offices, platforms, routes and trains.

I had strong affection for Hong Kong since I have had hundreds of round trips between mainland China and Japan via the city. However, such affection changed without my slightest notice.

Recently, I tend to get agitated when I'm in Hong Kong and feel more at ease in Shenzhen. I can't figure out why.

Needless to say, one of the important reasons is that the Hong Kong's culture is gradually influenced by the Chinese values after its return to China.

Hong Kong's territory accounts for about 1/10,000 China's total and hence huge differences between their cultures.

For example, the Hong Kong people usually stand in lines while they are waiting in subway stations. However, things are different in Shenzhen and Guangzhou where passengers often crowd in front of the doors before the subway trains stop (However, the mainlanders never hesitate to offer their seats they scrambled to seniors - an interesting scene seldom happen in Hong Kong). Therefore, it seems natural for Hong Kong citizens to worry that their "freedom" and "human rights" might be deprived of.

However, during my recent visits to Hong Kong, I felt a sense of "disgust" which became even more evident after the interview this time.

Meaning of mask changed

I was in Hong Kong from June 12 to July 2. During the period, I collected the information about the practices and thoughts of the student protesters against the Hong Kong government, the citizens who supported the protest, the police, Islamists and Chinese mainlanders.

The first thing that I noticed was that most Hong Kong citizens, including the protesters, were extremely united in the campaign. The demonstrators were very disciplined and acted in unison, completely different from the loose demonstrations in Japan.

They claimed to safeguard Hong Kong's freedom and to never give up its sovereignty to China, etc. The majority of Hong Kong citizens were "united" and had little tolerance for disagreements.

What was so distinguishable about the protests was that they all happened in a scheduled and organized manner. Most of the citizens, except for those who had to go to work, participated in the demonstration under the so-called ideal to protect Hong Kong's justice and freedom. Just

thinking about their uniform practices makes me shudder.

The masks worn by the protesters are a great example. When I was at the demonstration sites, young protesters frequently handed me masks, and said the masks would minimize the harm of possible attacks of tear gas shells when asked what the usage of the masks was.

Actually, at the very beginning of the protest, masks were worn by only a very small number of people, mostly those on the front line.

However, there was constant news in the foreign media and social platforms that the protesters needed to wear masks, otherwise they could be recognized and retaliated by the Communist Party of China. Because of this, more and more people started wearing masks, which became a symbol of “the suppression from the authoritarian” in the eyes of foreign media.

The marginal group of Hong Kong “justice”

The protesters base themselves on the bridge leading to the Legislative Council Building and the square to the west of the building. After the carnivals—I chose the word deliberately, most of the participants returned to their daily lives and somehow disappeared in a magical way. Then I wondered, is this really Hong Kong?

The immigrants from mainland China to Hong Kong are regarded as the marginal group of the Hong Kong “justice”.

My ex-fiancée M and my assistant S both come from the rural areas in the mainland and bear a hate for Hong Kong, because the Hong Kong people look down on the mainlanders, especially those from rural areas.

I realized it from my personal experiences. When I was at a coffee shop in an exclusive residential area in Hong Kong, I thanked a waiter who offered me water in Chinese. Sitting in the next table was a Japanese woman who lived in Hong Kong. She reminded me, “You are Japanese, right? It’s better for you not to say 'thank you' in mandarin because you’ll have troubles if taken as a Chinese.”

Asymmetry between the mainland and Hong Kong

I recently asked M and S about their opinions on the Hong Kong protest. Both of them said, "Hong Kong is a part of China. Isn't it only a matter of course that the Chinese law applies to the city?"

To put it in a negative way, the “freedom” safeguarded by the Hong Kong people and unseen in mainland China is indeed “vested interests” the city gained in the colonial times.

Before Hong Kong returned to China, the Hong Kong people were

regarded as the "servants" of the British. They were once the weak despised by their European and American "masters".

However, after the city returned, these people began to despise the mainlanders and the people from other Asian countries in the same way their European and American "masters" did.

Maybe the disgust I felt in Hong Kong derives from here.

After Hong Kong returned to China, it became more convenient to travel between the mainland and Hong Kong. As far as I know, it was the Hong Kong people who crossed the border between the mainland and Hong Kong most of the time.

The ordinary people in Hong Kong believe that after Hong Kong's return to China, the policies of the Communist Party of China (CPC) have constantly eroded the city. In fact, we might well say that it was Hong Kong's capitalist society that has gradually "invaded" the mainland.

Distortion of justice

Hong Kong citizens are elites and rich people in the eyes of the majority of mainland people. Hong Kong did enjoy a lot of favorable treatment after its return to China.

Many demonstrators shouted loudly at the Hong Kong police, yelling "don't kill student demonstrators", but what did the police actually do? In Japan, there are people who hate human rights campaigns and demonstrations and believe that the Japanese government, police and laws represent absolute justice. When extreme human rights campaigns and demonstrations break out, they would shout slogans in support of police and justice, saying that "demonstrators are traitors, and the police shouldn't be soft on traitors" and "the Japanese judicial authorities are too moderate. They should severely punish the criminals". In contrast to Japan, the Hong Kong demonstrators chanted "police cannot be forgiven" "guard human rights" and "the extradition bill is evil." (I was on the spot and tried to take pictures of the demonstrators, but was maliciously obstructed.)

The Hong Kong residents assume that the CPC is the ringleader who intends to deprive Hong Kong of freedom, and the Hong Kong police are CPC's running dogs.

However, as far as I know, the Hong Kong police only moved on the protests when the demonstrators besieged and vandalized the Legislative Council building on June 12 and July 1. I was not on the scene when the two riots took place, but I saw the videos. The police did fire tear gas

toward the crowd and several demonstrators were injured.

The first priority for the Hong Kong police is to ensure the safety of citizens. The traffic was still running smoothly after the riot on June 12 broke out, but the students jaywalked in the streets and tried to incite more people to join the protest. Under such circumstances, it behooves the police to take action no matter in China, Japan or Hong Kong. Firing tear gas is already the lightest response. Demonstrators smashing into the Legislative Council on July 1 can be regarded as a terrorist act.

The demonstration leaders didn't mean to solve the problem through dialogue and consultations at all, but attempted to win sympathy from the world by blaming the "wicked" in the name of justice. I can see it at the scene that Hong Kong demonstrators generally believe that Japanese are on the same side with them. They treated Japanese journalists in an unusually mild manner, saying to every Japanese journalist things like "thank you for meeting with us for an interview. My friends were killed here by the police yesterday. Please make sure that you will let the Japanese public know this." However, so far, there has been no evidence that the Hong Kong police have killed any demonstrator. So, I'm wondering how many of their friends were "killed"?

They broke my camera lens

On July 1, the demonstrators gathered outside the Legislative Council complex again. I went to take some photos of the demonstrators on the spot, and felt the change of their attitude.

Media reported that day that the student demonstrators, who had been holding peaceful demonstrations without riots and protests, broke into and vandalized property in the legislative council building.

Before that, the Hong Kong police were described as slaughterers of the demonstrators. But the fact is that there has been no source or story supporting such a report, which made many foreign media quite confused.

Out of fear of foreign media, perhaps, demonstrators, rather than the government, started to limit interviews with foreign media. Hong Kong used to welcome all types of news activities, but after the incident, demonstrators prohibited foreign media from taking pictures or videos of them, saying that "this is obviously a peaceful demonstration. We'll be troubled if the foreign media misinterpret it as riot", "you are not allowed to take photos that handicap students," and "only those media approved by us can take pictures".

I raised my camera several times, but was forced to delete the photos at the request of ordinary citizens. They even crowded around me, took my camera away and damaged the lens. They attempted to tell the world they are victims. But frankly speaking, I felt my life was under threat in Hong Kong.

Finally, I was saved by a US freelance journalist. He told me that originally he intended to take some pictures and videos freely, but was halted by the citizens (as the pictures and videos we took were not what they have assumed). And, the Hong Kong citizens didn't behave overly offensively towards him because he was an American. "Freelance journalists need to report from a neutral perspective," I said to him, expressing my thanks and left the scene.

I have no family in Japan. It's nothing for me if anything untoward should happen. But, is it really okay?

Hong Kong has been involved in greater chaos since the white-clad men clashed with the demonstrators in late July. What's behind the protests in the name of "justice" hailed by Hong Kong citizens? I think we should think deeper and have a prudent attitude to the current situation in Hong Kong.

(<https://gendai.ismedia.jp/articles/-/66271>)