



## **Statement Regarding the Proposed Falun Gong Protection Act, H.R. 4132**

July 13, 2023

DAFOH applauds the introduction of the Falun Gong Protection Act, H.R. 4132, introduced by Rep. Scott Perry (PA) on June 14 and passed unanimously by the House Foreign Affairs Committee, 33-0, on June 21, 2023. This bill aims to end China's mass murder through forced organ harvesting of Falun Gong practitioners and is the first in the U.S. to take on this horrendous crime.

In our age of interconnectivity, where findings from medical research in one corner of the world are accessible around the globe on the same day, a country's breach of internationally accepted ethical standards in medicine is not an isolated, domestic issue, but an international affair that challenges ethical principles in the rest of the world.

In 2020, a local virus rapidly spread and escalated into a major pandemic within weeks. According to what we know today, this global incident was the result of a deliberate mismanagement and disinformation by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), and it necessitates a reappraisal of our response. We must ask ourselves an important question: can we afford to turn a blind eye to irresponsible, domestic conduct in the medical field when it can have global consequences?

In 2006, the world was made aware of an abominable violation of medical ethics committed by the Chinese Government: forced organ harvesting from living Falun Gong prisoners of conscience. After 1999, its 70-100 million practitioners became the main victim group for forced organ harvesting, and despite being the most horrendous violation of ethics in this century, the response by the international community has been comparatively meager.

The lukewarm response by the international community exposed the global 'rules of engagement', which might have emboldened the People's Republic of China to move the goal post in medical ethics: Knowing full-well the rate of COVID-19's contagiousness by late 2019, the CCP imposed a quarantine on Wuhan on January 23 and purchased more than two billion face masks worldwide between late January and the end of February 2020, while demanding to keep the international air traffic running. Such reckless behavior threw the world in chaos.

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We must respond to such medical malfeasance. The proposed Falun Gong Protection Act addresses what is fundamentally at the root of China's inhumane engagement with the world—the persecution and forced organ harvesting of Falun Gong practitioners for over two decades.

In 2019, a people's tribunal in London, referred to as the China Tribunal chaired by Sir Geoffrey Nice, KC, conducted an independent review and evaluation of the existing evidence on China's forced organ harvesting practices. The Tribunal unanimously concluded that forced organ harvesting is an undeniable reality in China, with Falun Gong being the main victim of this medical abuse. The panel cautioned institutions that interact with the People's Republic that they should recognize that they are interacting to a certain extent with a "criminal state."

An academic paper from 2018 shone light on another aspect of China's illicit transplantation practices. The authors cited numerous pieces of evidence which indicated that forced organ harvesting of Falun Gong practitioners is an integral part of a systematic destruction of this faith-based group of people: a *cold genocide*.

We must ask ourselves: If the CCP is willing to commit genocide against its own people, what can the people outside China expect from this "criminal state"? What country would systematically harvest organs from its prisoners to build up its transplantation infrastructure? To answer these questions, one needs to understand that the totalitarian Chinese government deliberately replaces internationally accepted ethical standards with its own Party rule, thus jeopardizing not only the well-being of the Chinese people but also the global community at large.

The Falun Gong Protection Act highlights the dangers inherent in the destructive ideology of the CCP and sets limits that are long overdue. By creating legislation that penalizes complicity in China's forced organ harvesting of Falun Gong practitioners, the bill not only contributes to combating the ongoing persecution of this victim group, but it is also important for other victim groups, the U.S. and the rest of the world. This deserves applause.

As a nation that cares deeply about human rights and the protection of those subjected to repressive governmental policies, the U.S. is in a unique position to initiate actions that will save lives and protect democratic values. State-sanctioned mass murder, crimes against humanity and genocide must not have a place in the international community, and the medical profession should be the last of all professions to be involved in the crime of forced organ harvesting.

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