

Chief Executive Mrs. Carrie Lam  
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
HONG KONG

Oslo, 18.03.2021  
Our ref. 20/1426-13  
840.100/BRMA  
Your ref.

Att:

Dear Mrs. Lam,

## **LO Norway calls on the Government of Hong Kong to respect labour and civil rights**

On behalf of LO Norway, representing more than 970 000 workers in Norway, I am writing to express grave concern over labour and social activists that have been arrested by the Hong Kong SAR government since June 2019, and the 47 activists arrested and charged with conspiracy to commit subversion under the new National Security Law on Sunday, 28 February 2021.

Among the 47 activists are two trade unionists – Carol Ng, Chairperson of the Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions, and Winnie Yu, Chair of the Hospital Authority Employees' Alliance.

The prosecutions of Cheuk-yan Lee, General Secretary of Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions (HKCTU) and a leader of the labour movement in Hong Kong for organising unauthorised assemblies, and the arrests of Ng and Yu for broadly-defined national security crimes when they were taking part in activities decided by the trade unions, infringe the legitimate right of trade unions to participate in social and economic affairs.

Trade unions, their members and representatives must have the right to organise protest action and engage in political activities.

The right to freedom of association, peaceful assembly, expression and political participation protected by Convention No.87 of the International Labour Organisation, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; are protected under article 39 of the Hong Kong Basic Law.

We stand in solidarity with HKCTU , Cheuk-yan Lee, Carol Ng and Winnie Yu as well as all the arrested activists. We urge your government to drop the charges against them in observance of your obligations under the ratified international labour and human rights treaties.

Yours sincerely  
**LO NORWAY**

### **The Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions**

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Peggy Hessen Følsvik  
President  
(Sig.)

**Copy:**  
International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)  
Norwegian Department of Foreign Affairs

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