

Interactive webchat: Chinese Repression of Muslim Minorities in Xinjiang



**CHINESE REPRESSION
OF MUSLIM MINORITIES
IN XINJIANG**

AUGUST 7 AT 7:00AM EDT
[FACEBOOK.COM/STATEDRL](https://www.facebook.com/STATEDRL)

-Social Media Package-

- **Facebook Live webchat**
- **Date/time:** Aug. 7th, 7:00 a.m. - 7:45 a.m. EDT (Washington, DC time)
- **Event page:** www.facebook.com/StateDRL
- **Shortened link:** [FB.com/StateDRL](https://fb.com/StateDRL)
- **Language:** English
- **If hosting a viewing group:** Please confirm with [Simon van Steyn](https://www.facebook.com/SimonvanSteyn)
- **Promotional materials and Speaker bios:** <http://bit.ly/2SAWCMQ>
- **Promotional video to share or download:** <http://bit.ly/3384jiK>

Description:

The Chinese government's repression of Uighurs, ethnic Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, and other Muslim minorities in the Xinjiang region of China is extensive and well-documented. The Chinese authorities' tactics include: the suppression of Uighur language and customs, banning Islamic practices, economic discrimination and travel restrictions; and the mass detention of Uighurs in internment or "re-education" camps.

As part of an effort to draw attention to these abuses, the U.S. Department of State will host an interactive webchat featuring a journalist and human rights advocates who have worked extensively on this issue. In this discussion, they will help us understand what is happening in China—and why it concerns us all.

The panelists will discuss a number of topics, including:

- The mass detention of Muslim minorities in Xinjiang.
- Increasing use of surveillance technology.

- Repression of religious and cultural expression.
- Chinese disinformation on the issue.

The speakers will also answer viewer questions and links to resources will be provided. This Facebook Live webchat will take place on Wednesday, August 7, from 7:00 - 7:45 a.m. EDT at [Facebook.com/StateDRL](https://www.facebook.com/StateDRL).

Time Zone: 7:00 a.m. EDT can be converted to your time zone here: <http://bit.ly/2UrTRBS>

Hashtags/Handles:

- [#Uighurs](#) [#Uyghurs](#) [#FreeUighurs](#) [#Xinjiang](#) [@RadioFreeAsia](#) [@SophieHRW](#) [@nuryturkel](#)
- Dept. of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor [@StateDRL](#)

Panelists:



Sophie Richardson is the China director at Human Rights Watch. She is the author of numerous articles on domestic Chinese political reform, democratization, and human rights in Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Vietnam. She has testified before the European Parliament and the US Senate and House of Representatives.

Dr. Richardson has provided commentary to the BBC, CNN, Foreign Policy, National Public Radio, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Washington Post. Dr. Richardson is the author of [China, Cambodia, and the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence](#). [@SophieHRW](#)



Nury Turkel is a U.S.-based Uyghur rights advocate and attorney in Washington D.C. Turkel was born in a re-education camp in China's Xinjiang region, and has been advocating for the rights of the Uyghur people in the region.

Turkel is the Chairman of the Board of the Uyghur Human Rights Project (UHRP) and the former president of the Uyghur American Association (UAA). Turkel serves as a prominent voice for the Uyghur people by urging action against the repression of Uyghurs. [@nuryturkel](#)



Alim Seytoff is the Director of the Uyghur Service at Radio Free Asia (RFA). He previously served as the Executive Director for the Uyghur Human Rights Project. In 1999 he started his career at RFA as a Production Coordinator and Broadcaster. Throughout his career has written many articles on China's human rights violations of the Uyghur people.

Seytoff has been frequently interviewed/quoted by CNN, Al Jazeera, BBC, Fox News, PBS, Voice of America, the New York Times, the Washington Post, Foreign Policy, Christian Science Monitor, and the newswires.



Moderator: Cory Andrews is the Deputy Director of the Office of Policy Planning and Public Diplomacy in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) at the U.S. Department of State.

He previously served in the Office of Western Hemisphere Affairs where his portfolio included 15 countries of the Caribbean Basin as well as LGBTI issues for Latin America, the Caribbean, and Canada. Cory also served as the Communications Director for GLIFAA, the State Department's LGBT+ employee affinity group.

Sample Social Media Posts

Facebook

[Post anytime]

- On July 16-18th, the U.S. Department of State hosted the 2nd Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom, where the United States invited government and civil society leaders from around the world to discuss the current global challenges and threats to religious freedom. Among the many horrific examples we discussed, the Chinese government's systemic repression and detention of more than one million Uighurs and members of other Muslim minority groups in Xinjiang for practicing their faith is among the worst. Unfortunately, much of the world remains unaware of this increasingly bleak reality.

To learn more about the Chinese government's abuse of human rights in Xinjiang, join a Facebook Live webchat on August 7th at 7:00 a.m. EDT. Hear from a panel of experts and ask your questions:

[Facebook.com/StateDRL](https://www.facebook.com/StateDRL). #Uighurs #Xinjiang

- The Chinese government has waged an extensive campaign to repress the culture and religion of Uighurs and other Muslim minorities in the Xinjiang region of their country.

Join us for a Facebook Live webchat to hear from expert journalists and human rights advocates about what is happening on the ground in Xinjiang. They will discuss China's mass detention of Muslim minorities in sprawling internment camps, the ramping up of high-tech surveillance, and the Chinese government's wide-spread disinformation campaign to cover up the reality of the situation in Xinjiang.

Join the conversation and ask the experts your questions by going to [www.Facebook.com/StateDRL](https://www.facebook.com/StateDRL) on Wednesday, Aug. 7 at 7:00 a.m. EDT (Washington, DC time). #Uighurs #Xinjiang

- The Chinese government's use of high-tech surveillance makes everyday life for #Uighurs and other Muslim minorities in #Xinjiang an "open-air prison." Chinese officials forcibly live in Uighur homes, track their every movement, and involuntarily collect DNA samples and biometrics. Learn more about this and other tactics the Chinese authorities are using to repress Muslim minorities during a live webchat

featuring expert journalists and human rights advocates. Add your voice to the conversation: www.Facebook.com/StateDRL.

- You may have seen news reports recently about the Chinese government's repression of the Uighurs and other Muslim minority groups in Xinjiang. But did you know that men and women can be detained without question or trial for simply having beards, wearing veils in public, fasting during the holy month of Ramadan, or possessing "unauthorized" Qurans?

Join us for a Facebook Live discussion on Aug. 7th at 7:00 a.m. EDT to learn more about what is happening in Xinjiang. Event page: [Facebook.com/StateDRL](https://www.facebook.com/StateDRL). #Uighurs #Xinjiang

[Post morning of Aug. 6, day before event]

- Tomorrow, join us at 7:00 a.m. EDT (Washington, DC time) for a discussion with journalists and human rights advocates about the Chinese government's increasing repression of Uighurs and other Muslim minorities in the Xinjiang region of China. To join the discussion and share your questions with the panel, go to [Facebook.com/StateDRL](https://www.facebook.com/StateDRL). We hope you'll participate in this important conversation.

[Post Aug. 7, immediately before live event]

- Today at 7:00 a.m. EDT, a panel of experts will discuss the Chinese government's wide-spread persecution of Uighurs and Muslim minorities in Xinjiang, China. To learn more, join the discussion during a live webchat: [Facebook.com/StateDRL](https://www.facebook.com/StateDRL). #Uighurs #Xinjiang

Twitter

[Post anytime]

- Join a Facebook Live webchat with @SophieHRW @nuryturkel and Alim Seytoff of @RadioFreeAsia to discuss the Chinese government's ongoing repression of #Uighurs and Muslim minorities in #Xinjiang. Ask your questions live on Aug. 7 at 7:00am EDT: www.Facebook.com/StateDRL
- The Chinese government's repression and mass internment of #Uighurs and other Muslim minorities abuse universal and inalienable human rights set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights articles 3, 10, 12, and 18. Learn more during a live webchat: www.Facebook.com/StateDRL
- Learn about the #Uighurs and China's increasing campaign of repression in #Xinjiang: <https://share.america.gov/who-are-uighurs> - then join a live webchat to ask journalists and human rights advocates your questions >> www.Facebook.com/StateDRL on Aug 7 at 7:00am EDT.
- China's use of high-tech surveillance makes everyday life for #Uighurs in #Xinjiang an "open-air prison." Chinese officials forcibly live in Uighur homes, track their every movement, and involuntarily collect DNA samples. Learn more during a live webchat: www.Facebook.com/StateDRL

[Post morning of Aug. 6, day before event]

- Tomorrow, a panel of experts will discuss the Chinese government's repression of Uighurs & Muslim minorities in Xinjiang. To learn more join the discussion at 7:00 a.m. EDT: [Facebook.com/StateDRL](https://www.facebook.com/StateDRL). #Xinjiang #Uighurs #Uyghurs

[Post Aug. 7, at the beginning of the live event]

- LIVE NOW: Join a discussion with journalists and human rights advocates to learn about the Chinese government's campaign of mass detention, surveillance, and disinformation in #Xinjiang. Go to www.Facebook.com/StateDRL #Uighurs #Uyghurs