

Tibet debate in UK Parliament on Human Rights Day

[5 December 2014] After months of requests, a parliamentary debate on Tibet has finally been granted by the Office of the Speaker of the House of Commons. The debate will take place, aptly, on Wednesday 10 December - Human Rights Day.

The House of Commons debate, titled "Tibet and Freedom of Expression", will be opened by Fabian Hamilton MP, who is the chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Tibet. As an adjournment debate it will last for up to 90 minutes and to which the government has a duty to respond. It is expected that Hugo Swire, Foreign Office Minister whose responsibility includes Tibet and China, will attend and respond for the government.

The debate is due to take place 9.30am - 11am on Wednesday 10 December in Westminster Hall within the Houses of Parliament.

Please encourage your MP to join the debate. You can also attend the debate in person or watch online.

This will be the first debate on Tibet in Parliament in three years and only the second since 2008. The last debate was led by Simon Hughes MP in December 2011. ([Click here to read about Dec 2011 debate.](#))

Note: Also on 10 December, in the evening, there will be a candle-lit vigil outside the Chinese Embassy in London to mark Human Rights Day. All welcome (see below).

Take Action

1. Please encourage your MP to join the debate

Phone or email your MP and encourage them to join the debate on Tibet on 10 December, by expressing their concern over the current situation in Tibet (including China's draconian policies which curtail Tibetans' freedom of expression) and questioning the government on what action they plan to take to address the situation.

Find your MP's contact details via findyourmp.parliament.uk

Or call the House of Commons Information Office on 020 7219 4272. You can also send a message via www.writetothem.com.

2. Attend the debate at Parliament and show your support

The debate is being held in Westminster Hall, the secondary debating chamber where most adjournment debates are held. Seating capacity is limited so please turn up early to be guaranteed entry. Following the debate Fabian Hamilton has agreed to address Tibet supporters who attend.

Time: 9.30am - 11am

Location: Westminster Hall, Houses of Parliament. Enter via the Cromwell Green visitor entrance. Entry is free, tickets

are not required.

Note: Allow plenty of time to gain access because queues for tours are common. Inform security you wish to view a debate. There are standard security checks. Flags, placards and t-shirts with slogans are not allowed. Assistants can direct you to the Westminster Hall visitors' gallery. [Click here](#) for further details about visiting Parliament.

3. Watch the debate online

The debate is due to be broadcast live, and will be available to watch at any time afterwards. Link: www.parliamentlive.tv/Main/Player.aspx?meetingId=16688

Note: Tibet Society will also publish a full transcript following the debate, which will be added to our Tibet in Parliament page.

Wednesday 10 December: Human Rights Day Vigil in London

Chinese Uyghur Tibetan Solidarity UK is hosting a candle-lit vigil outside the Chinese Embassy to mark International Human Rights Day and to express solidarity with all those oppressed by the Chinese Communist Party regime. Join us in our call for freedom, human rights and democracy for the peoples of Tibet, East Turkestan, Hong Kong and China.

Time: 6pm - 9pm

Venue: outside the Chinese Embassy, 49-51 Portland Place, London W1B 1JL

Nearest tubes: Oxford Circus, Great Portland Street, Regents Park

[Map](#) | [Facebook event](#)

(Tibet Society is a founding member of Chinese Uyghur Tibetan Solidarity UK, a coalition of activists & organisations working on human rights in China, East Turkestan & Tibet.)

[Click here](#) to view all Tibet-related events in the UK

Tibet Society, the world's first Tibet support group, was founded in 1959. Funded by its members, it has been working for over 50 years to seek justice for Tibet through parliamentary lobbying, campaigns and actions. Help keep Tibet alive by joining Tibet Society today. Annual membership £24; Family £36; Life £500.

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