



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-seventh session

Agenda item 8

### General debate

#### **Letter dated 26 September 2022 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

During the General Debate of the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, a handful of countries abused the United Nations platform to spread lies on Xinjiang-related issues and made unfounded accusations against China. Upon instruction, I hereby state the position of the Chinese Government.

Xinjiang-related issues are not human rights issues at all, but are issues of counter-terrorism, de-radicalization and anti-secession. Since the 1990s, the “three forces” of violent terrorism, ethnic separatism and religious extremism have plotted and carried out thousands of violent terrorist incidents in Xinjiang, China, resulting in heavy casualties of innocent civilians. In order to ensure the safety of local people of all ethnic groups and to safeguard social stability, Xinjiang has taken a series of counter-terrorism and de-radicalization measures in accordance with the law and in full compliance with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism. These measures have achieved positive progress. There has not been a single terrorist attack in Xinjiang for five consecutive years, and the region enjoys social unity and stability. These are facts for all to see.

No one is in a better position than the people of all ethnic groups in Xinjiang to speak about the human rights situation there. In recent years, Xinjiang has witnessed sustained economic development, social harmony and stability, continuous improvement in people’s livelihood, unprecedented cultural prosperity, and religious harmony. Over the past 60 years, the total population of Xinjiang has increased fourfold, with the total Uyghur population growing from 2.2 million to about 12 million. Xinjiang has brought about a historic resolution to absolute poverty. All its 2.73 million rural poor people, 3,666 poor villages and 32 poor counties have been lifted out of poverty under the current standards. The rights to subsistence and development of the poor have been effectively guaranteed. Xinjiang has comprehensively implemented the policy of freedom of religious belief, effectively protected the diversity of spoken and written languages, comprehensively guaranteed the right to education, and fully safeguarded the reproductive rights of ethnic minorities. The living standards and human rights protection of people of all ethnic groups have been continuously improved.



The facts and truth of Xinjiang are crystal clear, and Xinjiang is always open to the world. In recent years, more than 2,000 experts, scholars, journalists, diplomats, and religious figures from more than 100 countries have visited Xinjiang, and witnessed Xinjiang's social stability, economic development, and people's happiness. Nearly 100 countries have spoken out in the United Nations Human Rights Council and the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly to support the position of China on Xinjiang-related issues and oppose any interference in the internal affairs of China under the pretext of Xinjiang-related issues. Around the world, more and more people with insight are making their rational and objective voice heard on Xinjiang-related issues. Lies and rumors cannot stand before the truth.

A small number of countries turn a blind eye to the great efforts made by the Chinese government to guarantee equal rights for all ethnic groups and the historic human rights progress in Xinjiang. They distort facts, fabricate lies, and politicize and instrumentalize human rights issues with an aim to undermine the prosperity and stability in Xinjiang and use Xinjiang-related issues to contain China. Under the coercive pressure of these countries, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), without the authorization of the Human Rights Council or the consent of the Chinese Government, drafted and released the so-called "assessment" on Xinjiang based on false information, seriously violating the mandate of the Office and the principles of universality, objectivity, non-selectivity and non-politicization. This so-called "assessment" is completely illegal and invalid, and China resolutely opposes and sternly rejects it. In fact, more than 60 countries have stood up for justice and sent a joint letter to the High Commissioner opposing the publication of this sham report. Nearly 1,000 non-governmental organizations and people from all walks of life in Xinjiang have sent letters to the High Commissioner expressing their opposition.

China once again emphasizes that Xinjiang-related matters are purely the internal affairs of China. The Chinese Government and people are firmly and unwaveringly determined to defend our national sovereignty, security and development interests. China urges the countries concerned to immediately change their tune, stop fabricating lies about Xinjiang, and stop interfering in the internal affairs of China.

I would like to request Your Excellency to circulate this letter as an official document of the General Assembly under Agenda Item 8, entitled "General Debate", of the agenda of the 77th session of the General Assembly.

*(Signed)* **Zhang Jun**  
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the  
People's Republic of China to the United Nations

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