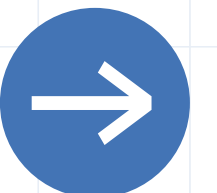


How the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) Restricts Freedom and Expands Authoritarian Control

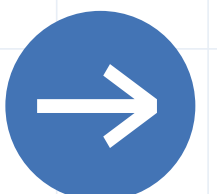


WORLD ANTI EXTREMISM
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Political System and Governance

- ✓ China is an authoritarian one-party state ruled by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) since 1949
- ✓ The CCP controls the executive, legislature, and judiciary.
- ✓ China does not hold free and competitive national elections.
- ✓ Ethnic minority representation on the CCP Central Committee fell to a 10-year low in 2022.
- ✓ In 2023, no ethnic minority members served on the Politburo, and only one held a provincial-level party secretary post



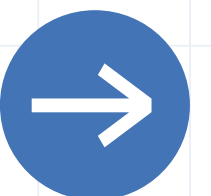
Media Control and Press Freedom

200,000+ official reporters in China

Only **1,406** work for news websites; most are state-run media employees

China is the **world's largest jailer of journalists**, with 100+ currently detained.

China ranked **172nd out of 180 countries** in the 2024 Reporters Without Borders World Press Freedom Index.



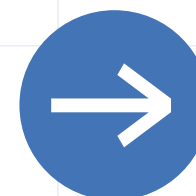
Censorship and Restrictions on Freedom of Expression

Censorship targets criticism of government policies, the CCP, and foreign affairs.

Uyghur- and Tibetan-language content is specifically targeted for removal.

It also restricts content on health, safety, civil society, and public protest.

Content related to the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre is systematically censored.



Cases of Repression Against Journalists, Artists, and Critics

Sep
2024

An economist reportedly disappeared after criticizing Xi Jinping's economic policies in a private WeChat group.

Shanghai police arrested filmmaker Chen Pinlin ("Plato") over a documentary on the 2022 White Paper protests.

Source: Human Rights Watch, World Report 2025: China

Jan
2024

Aug
2024

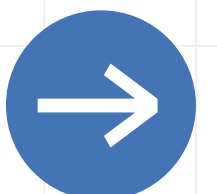
Artist Gao Zhen was detained while visiting China for allegedly "insulting revolutionary heroes and martyrs."

Source: BBC News (2024)

A comedian's shows were cancelled after joking about a slogan linked to President Xi; the Beijing comedy club was fined ~AUD 3 million (£1.49 million).

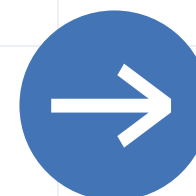
Source: UK Home Office Report (2026)

May
2023



Internet Censorship and Digital Control

- ★ China's "Great Firewall" is among the world's most advanced internet censorship systems.
- ★ It blocks 200,000+ websites.
- ★ Foreign platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and some Google services are blocked in China by the "Great Firewall."



Mass Surveillance and Facial Recognition

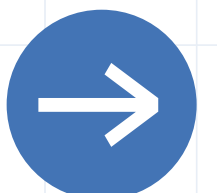


Mass surveillance has been widespread in Xinjiang since **2018**.

Urumqi had **~2.1 million** CCTV cameras in 2023 (**439 per 1,000 people**).

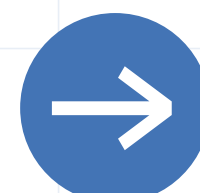
Many surveillance cameras reportedly use **facial recognition technology**.

Facial recognition systems have reportedly been used to identify Uyghurs and flag targeted individuals.

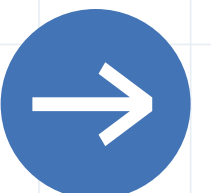


How the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) Restricts Freedom and Expands Authoritarian Control

Uyghur Repression in Xinjiang



- ✿ **1+ million** Uyghurs, Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, and other Muslims reportedly detained in camps
- ✿ Up to **20,000** detainee deaths alleged by the Uyghur Human Rights Project
- ✿ Authorities in Xinjiang renamed about **630 villages**, replacing Uyghur religious, historical, and cultural names with CCP-aligned names.
(*Human Rights Watch, 2024*)
- ✿ Uyghurs were reportedly forced to consume **pork and alcohol** by officials.
- ✿ Children with banned religious names risked denial of hukou registration, affecting access to education and other public services.
(*Human Rights Watch, 2017*)
- ✿ The Diplomat (2022) reported claims that over 1 million Chinese officials were sent to live with single Uyghur women or widows.
- ✿ Allegations include coercion, blackmail, sexual assault, and forced marriage threats involving families.



Xinjiang (Konasheher County)

Reported Imprisonment Data



“Nearly 1 in 25 people” imprisoned on terrorism-related charges

Imprisonment rate: **~4% of the population**

Total population: **~267,000+**

Reported imprisoned: **10,000+ Uyghurs**

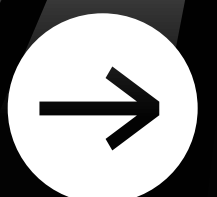
Sentence length: **2–25 years (avg ~9 years)**

Rate comparison: **~30× higher than China’s national average**

Rate comparison: **~10× higher than the United States**

Around **90% of criminal records in Xinjiang are not publicly accessible**

Source: Associated Press, via The Guardian (2022)



Religious Freedom Violations

~630 imams and Muslim religious figures
imprisoned (2014–2021), often on charges of
“extremism” or “separatism,” according to the
Uyghur Human Rights Project

Muslims are reportedly restricted and sometimes
punished for reading the Quran.

Source: Congressional Research Service (2024)

Police routinely arrest, detain, and harass members
of “illegal” religious groups.

This includes Catholic and Protestant “house churches”
that refuse to join state-approved churches.

Source: Human Rights Watch, World Report 2025: China

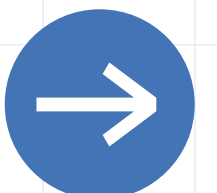


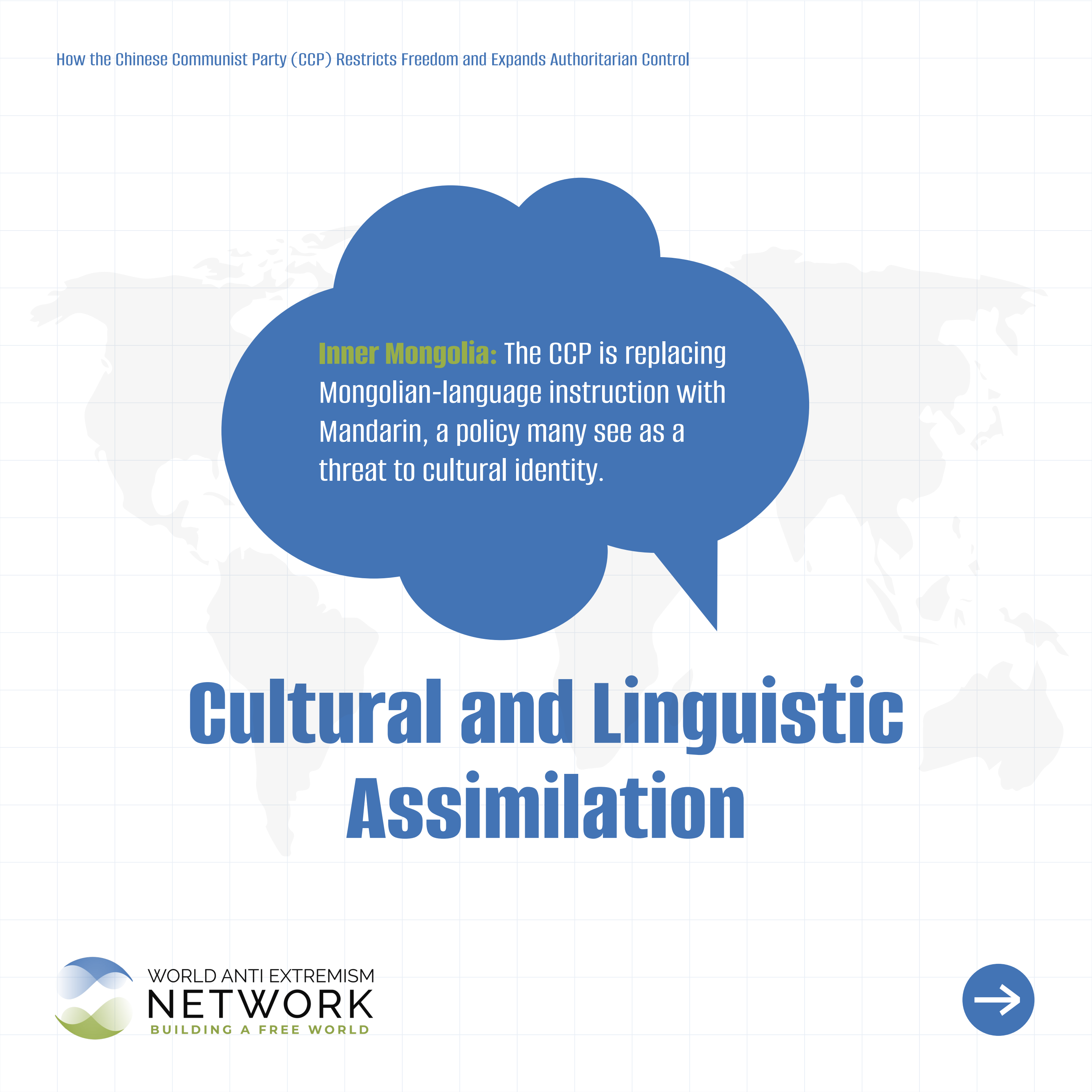
Using satellite imagery, ASPI estimated that **16,000** mosques (65%) in Xinjiang were damaged or destroyed by 2020.

Of those, **~8,500 mosques** were reportedly demolished outright.

Since 2024, religions in Xinjiang are required to follow the “core values of socialism” and the policy of Sinicisation.

Source: Australian DFAT (2024)



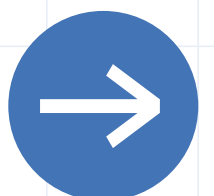


Inner Mongolia: The CCP is replacing Mongolian-language instruction with Mandarin, a policy many see as a threat to cultural identity.

Cultural and Linguistic Assimilation



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Political Prisoners and Crackdown on Dissent

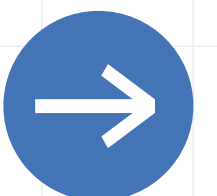
As of 31 March 2025, the Dui Hua organisation recorded **49,589 political prisoners** in China

Since the 2015 “**709 crackdown**,” human rights lawyers remain targeted.

In June 2020, authorities offered rewards of up to **RMB 100,000** for reporting people accused of “endangering national security.”

Hong Kong’s National Security Laws have been used to restrict dissent and political freedoms.

10,279 arrested over 2019 Hong Kong protests; **2,328** faced legal consequences.



Transnational Repression and Overseas Influence

100+ alleged Chinese “police stations” reported across 53 countries, used to monitor or pressure overseas dissidents

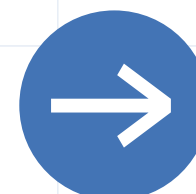
Overseas citizens and students reportedly mobilised for pro-government activities.

Sites reported in New York, London, and Dublin operating as community service centers

The CCP’s United Front Work Department uses global networks to promote party loyalty and suppress dissent.

2023: Illegal Chinese “police station” uncovered in New York (According to The Guardian).

Activists abroad report intimidation, including family harassment, interrogations, frozen accounts, and threats.



Export of Authoritarian Practices

Through the **Belt and Road and Digital Silk Road**, China exports financing and surveillance tools that help oppressive regimes consolidate power.

