



End Uyghur Forced Labour

The Coalition to End Forced Labour in the Uyghur Region, comprising over 60 CSOs, investors organisations, and trade unions. Uyghur-led organisations comprise 35% of our Steering Committee.

All information is based on an extensive body of evidence, including findings by the UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery and the former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, that aspects of this treatment may constitute crimes against humanity.



Forced Uyghur Labour

1. Forced labour and labour transfers
 2. Internment
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UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (2022):

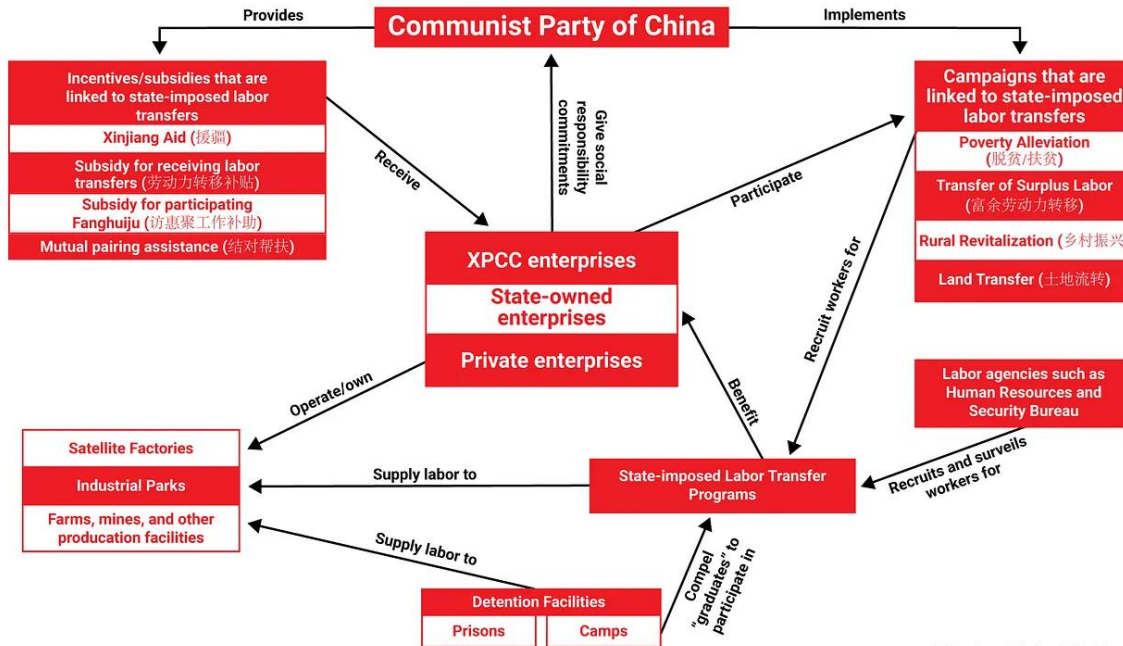
“The extent of arbitrary and discriminatory detention of members of Uyghur and other predominantly Muslim groups...may constitute international crimes, in particular crimes against humanity.”

State imposed forced labour

There is substantive evidence that the Government of China is subjecting or has subjected the Uyghur population and other Turkic and Muslim-majority peoples to **state-imposed forced labour** through various **state-sponsored programmes** including so-called “**poverty alleviation**”, “**vocational training**”, “**re-education through labour**” and “**deextremification**”

Structure of Forced Labor in the Uyghur Region

Number of people affected: Labor transfers between 2017-2022: 14.33 Million, 2022 transfers: 3.03 Million.



| Uyghur Rights Monitor |

Government sponsored labour transfers

Implicated sectors include, but are not limited to, **cotton and garments, electronics, automobile, and seafood.**

Forced labour and internment

01 Re-Education Policy:

Uyghurs and Turkic Muslims are placed in internment centers under the government's re-education policy.

02 Factory Labor Force:

Released detainees are coerced into working in nearby industrial parks or camp factories.

Scale of **Impact**:

1. The exact number is unknown, but estimates suggest hundreds of thousands forced into labor, particularly in garment and textile factories.

Forced Labour in the UPR

During its 3rd cycle Review, China received and **supported** labour-related recommendations and recommendations to fully respect the rights of ethnic minorities, including in the Uyghur Region

28.247 - Continue to guarantee the right to work, and build harmonious labour relations (Mozambique)

28.84 - Adopt an anti-discrimination law for the public and private work environment that guarantees all people equitable and non-discriminatory treatment in their places of work (Uruguay)

28.327 - Prevent and combat all forms of discrimination and violence, especially against ethnic and religious minorities (Italy)

28.322 - Fully respect the rights of ethnic minorities, freedom of religion and expressions of cultural identity (Croatia)

Forced Labour in the UPR

Recommendations on the situation in the Uyghur Region **only noted** by the Government of China include:

- Closure of all “re-education centres” & ensuring access to the Region by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and UN special procedures (28.35, Switzerland)
- Cease all government policies and activities, including ethnic profiling, that are not currently complying with China's international human rights obligations (28.325, Finland)
- Ratification and implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, ensuring its protections are extended to all minorities (28.6, Japan)

At the ILO

China's review under Convention 111 on Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) at the Committee on the Application of Standards

The **conclusions** of the Committee:

...“deplored **the use of all repressive measures against the Uyghur people, which has a discriminatory effect** on their employment opportunities and treatment as a religious and ethnic minority in China, **in addition to other violations of their fundamental rights.**”

Arbitrary Detention

A 2022 Opinion by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention **found** a "systemic problem with arbitrary detention in China" amounting "to a serious violation of international law." It has found arbitrary detention in the cases of various Uyghur people.

- In the third cycle, the Government *supported* one recommendation on the rights of all detainees and only *noted* those on the detention of Turkic/Muslim-majority peoples.

Business and Human Rights

The Government **supported several 3rd cycle recommendations** on business and human rights, e.g.

- To “[t]ake further measures on business and human rights in line with its international obligations and ensure that companies operating in high risk or conflict areas conduct human rights due diligence in line with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights” (28.133, State of Palestine)
- To “[e]stablish a regulatory framework to assess the human rights and environmental impacts of corporations headquartered in China” (28.134, Haiti).

Yet the Govt has continued to intensively develop industries in the Uyghur Region and incentivises business participation, including via subsidies, for those that make use of forced labour from the Uyghur Region.

Recommendations

Swiftly bring about the end of the systematic forced labour of Uyghur and other Turkic and Muslim-majority workers.

Implement the 2023 recommendations made by the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, including to immediately dismantle all systems of forced labour.

Invite and ensure unhindered access for all special procedures who have requested a visit, including the UN Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, the UN Working Group on business and human rights, and the UN Special Rapporteur on minority issues.

Recommendations

Provide all victims of forced labour and wider human rights violations, including Uyghurs and other Turkic and Muslim-majority peoples, with adequate and effective remedies and reparation.

Immediately cease intimidation and reprisals against Uyghur and other Turkic and Muslim-majority peoples who speak out about forced labour, both domestically and abroad, in line with the call of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in Decision 1 (108) of 2022.