



Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China  
對中政策跨國議會聯盟  
对中政策跨國议会联盟  
対中政策に関する列国議會連盟

Mr. Elie Maalouf  
Chief Executive Officer  
InterContinental Hotels Group PLC (IHG)  
Broadwater Park, Denham  
Buckinghamshire UB9 5HR

**InterContinental Hotel Group's Expansion in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR)**

Dear Mr. Maalouf,

I/we are writing to express serious concern regarding InterContinental Hotels Group's ongoing operations and expansion in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR) of China, where credible evidence of atrocity crimes perpetrated against Uyghurs and other Turkic Muslim peoples.

Parliament has passed motions recognising the persecution of Uyghurs in Xinjiang as constituting genocide and crimes against humanity. In response to these grave violations, the UK Government has acknowledged the significant risk of forced labour in supply chains linked to the region, following the report from the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, which said much the same. The Foreign Affairs Committee has further urged British businesses to ensure they are not complicit in human rights abuses through their overseas operations and partnerships, particularly in Xinjiang.

According to recent research by the Uyghur Human Rights Project, at least four IHG-branded hotels are operating in the XUAR and another sixteen are set to open in the coming years. This is deeply concerning in light of the region's entrenched system of mass surveillance, forced labour, religious repression, and the erasure of Uyghur cultural heritage.

In such an environment, it is exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, for foreign businesses to operate without the risk of benefiting from or contributing to state-led human rights abuses. Continued commercial presence in such a context risks signalling tacit endorsement of policies that the UK Government and others have condemned.

Furthermore, IHG's Holiday Inn Express Urumqi Station and Holiday Inn Express Horgos are both located within territory controlled by the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps (XPCC), a paramilitary organisation sanctioned by the U.S. government for its role in human rights violations. The U.K. government, along with Canada and the European Union have sanctioned the XPCC Public Security Bureau for "gross human rights violations."

In light of this information, we request urgent clarification on the following points:

- What human rights due diligence has IHG conducted regarding its existing and planned operations in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region?
- Has IHG assessed whether its properties or local partners in Xinjiang have any ties—direct or indirect—to the XPCC or other state entities sanctioned for their role in human rights violations?
- What procedures are in place to ensure that IHG hotels in Xinjiang are not benefiting from forced labour, either through staff recruitment or supply chains?
- Has IHG consulted with independent human rights experts or Uyghur civil society organisations to inform its risk assessments and ethical obligations in the region?
- Will IHG commit to reviewing and potentially suspending operations in the XUAR until it can credibly ensure that its business activities are not contributing to or complicit in human rights abuses?
- When did IHG sign contracts to begin opening hotels in the XUAR, particularly those that opened—or are planned to open—from 2024 to 2026? Is IHG currently planning to open more hotels in the XUAR?

Given growing legal and reputational risks associated with corporate presence in Xinjiang, we strongly urge your company to reassess your operations in the region. We respectfully request a formal response to the questions above and appreciate your attention to this issue.

Yours sincerely,

Sir Iain Duncan Smith MP

Blair McDougall MP

Chris Law MP

Alex Sobel MP

Lord Shinkwin

Baroness Meyer of Nine Elms

Marie Rimmer MP

Baroness D'Souza

Lord Mackinlay