

Washington Declaration for the Dignity, Hope, and Freedom of North Koreans

Adopted on July 22, 2024

Dignity matters. Hope matters. Freedom matters.

As people who have recently attained freedom and believe that it is a universal human aspiration, we are a voice for the voiceless and commit to advancing the human rights of our North Korean brothers and sisters. This commitment to action enables us to mobilize and be the hope for North Korean human rights.

Having directly experienced totalitarian oppression, we firmly reject all efforts to suppress individual freedom and human rights. We strongly condemn the North Korean regime's crimes against humanity and systematic brainwashing of its people to justify its actions.

We acknowledge and pay tribute to all those who have tirelessly worked to promote and advance North Korean human rights. Through these efforts, the world has become aware of the human rights atrocities being committed by the regime. We must sustain this movement by continuing to raise global awareness and strengthening international solidarity on North Korean human rights. This commitment is a call to action of the following:

1. We will **work in our respective professions** to advance North Korean human rights.
2. We will work to ensure North Korean human rights issues are **widely supported irrespective of political agendas**.
3. We will build a community that will work to advance the North Korean human rights movement using **innovative approaches that are sustainable and effective**.
4. We will cultivate and support human rights activists within the **defector community**.
5. We will devise and implement various measures to **empower the people of North Korea**.
6. We will be the voice for North Koreans, including North Korean refugees, and through **international solidarity** we will continue to pressure China and North Korea.
7. We will **strengthen global networks** with activists around the world.

Through our actions, we hope these small ripples will lead to a tidal wave of change that brings human rights and freedoms to our brothers and sisters in North Korea. To all freedom fighters across the world, we call for continuous solidarity and action until the day our brothers and sisters in North Korea can also enjoy freedom and human rights.

To commitment, courage, hope, and action!

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