



10 September 2026

For the Attention of:

H.E. Kaja Kallas

High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Vice-President of the European Commission

European External Action Service (EEAS)

EEAS Building

9A Rond-Point Schuman

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Subject: Urgent European Union leadership on Tibet following the death of Lobsang Palden (Lobga Rangzen), China's new Ethnic Unity and Progress Promotion Law, the accelerating erosion of Tibetan identity and freedoms, and the urgent need for transboundary water transparency

Your Excellency,

We write to you as two Tibetans, currently undertaking the *Stand for Tibet: European Alps Tour 2026*, in anticipation of raising international awareness of Tibet's unresolved political question and the continuing plight of the Tibetan people. We are writing with the support of the Global Alliance for Tibet & Persecuted Minorities, based in London, which supports this initiative and is facilitating our meeting and submission with your good offices.

We make this appeal at a particularly critical moment following the tragic death of Lobsang Palden, widely known as Lobga Rangzen, outside United Nations Headquarters in New York. We hope our engagement with your good offices can help reignite meaningful discussion of Tibet in international forums, as well as directly with the leadership of the People's Republic of China through the European Union's diplomatic influence, with the ultimate goal of helping resolve the China-Tibet conflict. Such a resolution would not only benefit Tibetans and Chinese but has the potential to bring wider benefits to peace, regional stability, environmental security, and communities throughout Asia and beyond.

We write with an urgent appeal for the European Union to assume a more determined, sustained, and strategic leadership role on the question of Tibet and the wider human rights crisis confronting Tibetans, Uyghurs of East Turkistan, Southern Mongolians, and other peoples living under the rule of the Chinese Communist Party.

The international community is approaching a critical juncture. China's growing economic, political, and diplomatic influence is occurring alongside the systematic narrowing of democratic space and fundamental freedoms, both within China and increasingly beyond its borders. What happens to Tibet is therefore neither China's so-called "domestic" affairs nor an isolated regional issue. It tests whether the international community, including the European Union, will allow economic and geopolitical power to override universal human rights and the principles on which the post-war international order was founded.

The death of Lobsang Palden, widely known as Lobga Rangzen, outside United Nations Headquarters in New York on 2 July 2026 demands the international community's attention. A Tibetan community leader and activist, he died after setting himself on fire outside UN Headquarters while carrying the Tibetan flag and drawing international attention to the situation in Tibet. His death came one day after China's Law on Promoting Ethnic Unity and Progress entered into force on 1 July 2026.

We do not invoke Mr. Palden's death to glorify self-immolation or any act resulting in the loss of human life. We invoke it as a profound warning. When peaceful avenues for political expression, cultural preservation, religious freedom, and meaningful political dialogue are progressively closed, despair can manifest in devastating ways.

The international community must not wait for another Tibetan life to be lost before recognising the urgency of the underlying political and human rights crisis.

China's New Ethnic Unity Law: A Profound Warning

China's Law on Promoting Ethnic Unity and Progress, adopted by the National People's Congress in March 2026 and which entered into force on 1 July 2026, establishes a new legal framework for Beijing's so-called "ethnic" policy agenda.

Chinese authorities present the legislation as promoting unity, common prosperity, and a shared sense of belonging among China's 56 officially recognised ethnic groups. Yet its implications must be examined against the lived experience of Tibetans and other persecuted communities whose distinct historical, linguistic, cultural, and religious identities have already been subjected to increasingly intrusive state policies.

The concern is not merely the text of this law in isolation, but its place within a broader policy framework that subordinates distinct identities to a centrally defined conception of a single Chinese national identity.

For Tibetans, this comes after decades of restrictions affecting language, education, religion, freedom of expression, movement, association, and cultural life. Human Rights Watch has documented the continuing tightening of controls over Tibetan religion, language, movement, and information, alongside broader policies of forced assimilation affecting Tibetans and Uyghurs.

The new law must therefore be scrutinised as part of a wider process through which distinct peoples may be compelled to surrender aspects of their identity in the name of state-defined "unity."

What is happening in Tibet also has wider implications for Uyghurs in East Turkistan (Ch: Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region), Southern Mongolians, and other ethnic, religious, and linguistic communities facing increasing pressure to conform to a centralised political model and assimilation.

The Forced Sinicisation of Tibetan Children

Perhaps nowhere is this danger more profound than in the treatment of Tibetan children.

United Nations human rights experts have expressed serious concern about the expansion of residential and boarding schools in Tibetan areas. UN Special Procedures reported that approximately 78% of Tibetan children aged between six and eighteen were enrolled in residential schools, compared with a national boarding school rate of approximately 22%, and estimated that almost one million Tibetan children were studying in such institutions.

The Chinese government presents these facilities as educational establishments designed to overcome geographic and socio-economic challenges. Yet the scale of residential schooling, the mandatory separation of children from their families, and the increasing dominance of Mandarin Chinese raise grave concerns about the preservation of the Tibetan language, culture, and identity.

The forced or coercive separation of children from their families and cultural environment, combined with intensive ideological education, represents a particularly serious form of cultural assimilation.

This is not simply an education policy. It concerns the right of a people to transmit its language, traditions, history, religion, and identity from one generation to the next.

Reports from Tibetan areas describe an environment in which children are immersed from an early age in official Chinese patriotic education and state ideology. Chinese flags and political imagery are ubiquitous, including in rural Tibetan communities, while symbols associated with His Holiness the Dalai Lama are prohibited or heavily restricted.

This stark contrast reflects a deeper transformation: the displacement of Tibetan cultural and spiritual life by a state-imposed political identity.

The preservation of Tibetan identity cannot be reduced to the survival of monuments or the performance of selected cultural traditions. A culture survives only when its children are able to inherit and freely practise its language, history, religion, and collective memory.

Human Rights Obligations Cannot Be Optional

China is a member of the United Nations and a party to numerous international human rights instruments.

Its international commitments cannot be treated as declaratory statements without consequence.

The principles enshrined in the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the treaties to which China is a party establish binding responsibilities concerning human dignity, equality, freedom of religion or belief, freedom of expression, family life, and protection from discrimination.

The European Union should therefore insist that China's international obligations cannot be subordinated to claims of sovereignty or domestic jurisdiction when fundamental human rights are at stake.

China cannot simultaneously assert its status as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council while rejecting international scrutiny of serious human rights concerns.

Transnational Repression: China's Repression Does Not Stop at Its Borders

The European Union must also confront the growing challenge of transnational repression.

For Tibetans, Uyghurs, Southern Mongolians, Hongkongers, and other communities living in Europe, the freedom to assemble, demonstrate, speak publicly, and advocate peacefully for human rights is increasingly constrained by fear of repercussions against relatives remaining in China and its occupied territories.

Human Rights Watch has documented how Chinese authorities intimidate Tibetans, Uyghurs, and Southern Mongolians living abroad – including by exerting pressure on family members in China to deter diaspora communities from participating in protests or politically sensitive activities. Such pressure has also been documented within European Union Member States, including France and Germany.

This form of repression is particularly insidious: an individual may be physically safe in Europe, while their parents, siblings, children, or other relatives remain vulnerable in Tibet or East Turkistan.

Those considering participation in peaceful protest may receive warnings that their families will be contacted, questioned, subjected to pressure, or otherwise placed at risk.

Such intimidation effectively exports China's system of censorship into European democratic societies and creates a chilling effect – without Chinese authorities ever needing to act directly against the individual on European soil.

No person living in Europe should be forced to choose between exercising fundamental democratic freedoms and protecting their relatives from retaliation by an authoritarian government.

We therefore urge the European Union to treat transnational repression as an issue of European security, democratic resilience, and human rights. Robust mechanisms are required to document, investigate, and respond to acts of intimidation, surveillance, coercion, and threats directed at Tibetan, Uyghur, Southern Mongolian, Hongkongers, and other diaspora communities across the European Union.

Tibet Cannot Be Allowed to Disappear from the International Agenda

The Tibet question has remained unresolved for more than seven decades. The absence of a political settlement must never be mistaken for the absence of an international issue.

Restrictions on the freedoms of the Tibetan people; the erosion of linguistic and cultural space; increasing state control over religious institutions; restrictions on movement and communication; and the absence of meaningful political dialogue together constitute an enduring challenge to human dignity and fundamental freedoms.

The European Union itself has repeatedly acknowledged these concerns.

The European Union has raised Tibet and Uyghurs in East Turkistan (Ch: Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region) in its high-level engagement with China and has expressed concern over restrictions on fundamental freedoms, religious freedom, minority rights, and cultural identity. Following its 2024 Human Rights Dialogue with China, the European Union called for the preservation of Tibetan cultural heritage and identity, respect for fundamental freedoms, and greater international access to Tibet. It also stated that the selection of religious leaders must take place free from government interference, including concerning the succession of His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

We welcome these positions. They provide an important foundation upon which to build a stronger, more coherent European policy on Tibet.

However, the present moment demands that this foundation be translated into sustained diplomatic action.

Tibet–Nepal Flood Disaster and the Urgent Need for Transboundary Water Transparency

Your Excellency,

We also wish to draw your urgent attention to another issue that demonstrates why the situation in Tibet cannot be viewed solely through the lens of human rights and political rights.

The catastrophic flooding and glacial-collapse disaster that struck the Kyirong area of Tibet and downstream communities in Nepal on 26 August 2026 has demonstrated the potentially devastating regional consequences of events occurring on the Tibetan Plateau.

As of 2 September, the combined death toll in Nepal and Tibet had passed 1,000, while more than 4,400 people remained missing according to reported official figures. Nepal has suffered the overwhelming majority of the reported fatalities, while Chinese authorities have reported 16 deaths and 546 missing on the Tibetan side. Rescue operations remain ongoing, and the numbers continue to change.

The disaster was triggered by a glacial collapse and the subsequent movement of enormous quantities of water, ice, rock and debris through Himalayan river systems. Its effects travelled rapidly downstream, demonstrating the extraordinary vulnerability of communities that depend upon rivers originating on the Tibetan Plateau.

The tragedy must therefore become a turning point for international advocacy on transboundary water transparency, early-warning systems, and mandatory downstream data-sharing.

Nepal has previously sought greater access to shared monitoring information concerning weather, rainfall and river conditions. According to Reuters' questioning of the Chinese Foreign Ministry, no formal mechanism had been established at the time. China has subsequently stated that it has provided Nepal with meteorological and hydrological data and early-warning information following the disaster.

The issue therefore cannot simply be reduced to whether some information was or was not shared after the disaster. The central question is whether there exists a transparent, timely, verifiable, predictable and institutionalised system through which downstream countries receive the information necessary to protect their populations before catastrophic events occur.

Reports from Tibet have also raised concerns about restricted access to the disaster zone and the ability of independent journalists and affected families to obtain information. Such restrictions inevitably make independent verification of casualty figures and the chronology of warnings more difficult.

The European Union should therefore support the establishment of a comprehensive international framework requiring the timely sharing of relevant hydrological, meteorological, glacial, seismic and river-flow information from the Tibetan Plateau with downstream countries.

This is not merely a Tibetan or Nepalese issue.

The Tibetan Plateau is the source of some of Asia's most important rivers. Rivers originating there flow downstream toward India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and other parts of Asia. Millions of people depend upon these waters for drinking water, agriculture, energy, livelihoods, and ecological security.

The Tibet–Nepal catastrophe should serve as a warning of what can happen when a rapidly developing natural hazard in the high Himalayas meets vulnerable downstream populations without sufficient time, information, coordination, or warning.

A similar catastrophic event involving other rivers originating on the Tibetan Plateau could affect communities across national borders on a vastly greater scale.

We therefore respectfully urge the European Union to make transboundary water transparency and downstream early-warning cooperation an explicit component of its engagement with China.

We ask the European Union to:

Encourage China to establish binding, transparent and permanent mechanisms for sharing real-time and near-real-time hydrological, meteorological and river-flow data with downstream countries.

Support independent verification and international monitoring of major transboundary river systems originating on the Tibetan Plateau.

Advocate for advance notification of unusual glacial activity, landslide-dammed lakes, sudden changes in river discharge, extreme rainfall, glacial-lake outburst flood risks and other hazards capable of producing rapid downstream flooding.

Encourage China and downstream states to establish joint early-warning and emergency-response mechanisms capable of communicating warnings directly to vulnerable communities.

Support greater transparency concerning casualties, missing persons, damage assessments and environmental consequences following disasters occurring in Tibetan border regions.

Encourage international scientific and humanitarian access to disaster-affected areas so that independent experts can assess risks and help prevent future loss of life.

Raise the principle that information concerning transboundary environmental and hydrological hazards should not be treated solely as a matter of domestic or political sensitivity when withholding or delaying such information can place downstream populations at risk.

Support the development of regional agreements for the equitable and responsible management of transboundary Himalayan rivers.

Encourage India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and other downstream states to strengthen collective disaster preparedness and information-sharing arrangements.

The fundamental principle should be simple: no population downstream should lose precious hours or lives because essential information about a rapidly developing hazard upstream was unavailable, delayed, incomplete, or impossible to independently verify.

The European Union is well placed to promote this principle through its diplomatic, development, environmental, scientific, and humanitarian engagement with both China and South Asian countries.

This is also an area where resolving the broader China-Tibet conflict could have benefits extending far beyond Tibetans themselves. A more open, cooperative and peaceful political environment in Tibet could create greater opportunities for

environmental cooperation, scientific access, disaster preparedness, water security, and regional confidence-building.

Europe and the Tibetan Search for a Peaceful Solution

Few international institutions have been as profound a source of inspiration to His Holiness the Dalai Lama as the European project.

On 15 June 1988, His Holiness addressed the European Parliament in Strasbourg and presented what became known as the Strasbourg Proposal.

He drew inspiration from Europe's transformation from a continent divided by devastating conflict into a community in which former adversaries could coexist, cooperate, and prosper while retaining their distinct identities.

His vision was not one of confrontation for its own sake. It was an effort to imagine a political settlement in which Tibetans could preserve their distinct identity while living in peace alongside China.

The Strasbourg Proposal looked to the European experience as an example of how peoples can achieve cooperation and mutual benefit without being required to abandon their differences.

This European example remains profoundly relevant today.

The European Union's historic achievement lies not in erasing differences between its peoples, but in creating institutions through which different peoples can cooperate while retaining their languages, cultures, identities, and democratic freedoms.

Europe demonstrated that unity does not require uniformity.

That is precisely why Europe's voice carries such weight for the Tibetan people.

The Middle Way and the Lost Opportunity for Dialogue

Following His Holiness the Dalai Lama's Five-Point Peace Plan of 1987 and the Strasbourg Proposal of 1988, sustained international attention contributed to the eventual resumption of contacts between representatives of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the authorities in Beijing.

Multiple rounds of dialogue took place between 2002 and 2010.

The Tibetan side consistently sought a peaceful and mutually acceptable political arrangement, rather than confrontation.

The dialogue process ultimately centred on the proposal for "Memorandum on Genuine Autonomy for the Tibetan People," which embodies the essence of His Holiness the Dalai Lama's Middle Way Approach: a negotiated political settlement capable of protecting Tibet's distinct cultural, religious, and linguistic identity while addressing China's stated concerns regarding security and territorial integrity.

That the dialogue was ultimately rejected by Beijing and ended without agreement should not be seen as proof that dialogue itself is futile. Rather, it underscores the urgent need for the international community to help create the conditions in which meaningful dialogue can take place.

The European Union is uniquely placed to encourage such a development.

The United Nations Has Not Been Silent on Tibet

It should also be recalled that the *Question of Tibet* has been brought before the United Nations General Assembly on three occasions, resulting in three landmark resolutions.

When the first resolution on Tibet was adopted in 1959, the People's Republic of China was not represented at the United Nations. During the debate, some Member States argued that the issue should not be considered by the Assembly on those grounds.

That historical circumstance cannot serve as a valid argument today.

The People's Republic of China is now not only a full member of the United Nations, but also holds one of the five permanent seats on the Security Council.

If anything, this reinforces the fundamental principle:

Membership of the United Nations – and particularly permanent membership of the Security Council – can never confer immunity from international scrutiny in matters concerning fundamental human rights.

The three General Assembly resolutions remain an essential part of the historical record:

Resolution 1353 (XIV), adopted 21 October 1959, called for respect for the fundamental human rights of the Tibetan people and for their distinct cultural and religious life.

Resolution 1723 (XVI), adopted 20 December 1961, addressed the deprivation of the Tibetan people's fundamental human rights and freedoms and reaffirmed the principle of self-determination.

Resolution 2079 (XX), adopted 18 December 1965, was the third General Assembly resolution specifically concerning the Question of Tibet.

These resolutions must not be consigned to history. They establish that the situation in Tibet is a matter of legitimate international concern, and that the United Nations has already pronounced clearly on the rights and freedoms of the Tibetan people.

We urge the European Union to ensure that these resolutions remain part of contemporary international discourse and are appropriately referenced in the European Union's engagement with China and within relevant United Nations forums.

The European Parliament's Longstanding Solidarity

We wish to place on record our sincere appreciation for the European Parliament's consistent solidarity with the Tibetan people.

Over many years, Members of the European Parliament have repeatedly raised the situation in Tibet, adopted resolutions, and spoken out against human rights violations affecting Tibetans and other persecuted communities across China.

This principled record provides a strong foundation upon which the European Union's executive and foreign policy institutions can build a more coherent and effective Tibet policy.

We respectfully urge the High Representative to work closely with the European Parliament and with all Member States to translate this longstanding parliamentary commitment into stronger, coordinated common foreign policy action.

The Name "Tibet" Must Not Be Erased

We are also increasingly concerned by a systematic international campaign led by Beijing to replace the internationally recognised name "Tibet" with the Chinese designation "Xizang."

In international diplomacy, terminology carries political weight.

The deliberate promotion of "Xizang" in place of "Tibet" cannot be dismissed as a neutral matter of usage when it coincides with policies designed to redefine Tibetan identity and political history.

Should the term "Tibet" gradually disappear from diplomatic communiqués, international institutions, maps, media, and political discourse, the issue itself risks becoming invisible.

The European Union must not lend credibility to such an outcome.

We therefore urge all European Union institutions and Member States to continue using the name "Tibet" when referring to the historical, cultural, and political question of Tibet, and to resist attempts to make terminology an instrument for erasing the distinct identity of the Tibetan people and the unresolved nature of the Tibet question.

Europe must not yield to pressure to adopt terminology whose very purpose is to diminish and redefine the issue under discussion.

The Plight of Tibetan Refugees in Nepal

The European Union should also devote greater attention to the situation of Tibetan refugees in Nepal, whose circumstances have deteriorated amid growing Chinese influence.

Nepal has historically served as a vital refuge and transit route for Tibetans fleeing

repression. Today, however, mounting Chinese pressure has led to increasing restrictions on Tibetan political expression, public assembly, cultural activity, and the ability of Tibetan refugees to speak openly about conditions in their homeland.

Human Rights Watch has documented restrictions, surveillance, intimidation, and arbitrary detention targeting Tibetan refugees and peaceful protesters in Nepal, alongside growing diplomatic pressure exerted by China upon the Nepalese authorities.

The European Union must not allow Tibetan refugees in Nepal to become invisible to the international community.

We urge the European Union to use its diplomatic channels with Nepal to advocate for the full protection of Tibetan refugees' rights – including freedom of expression, peaceful assembly, religion, and association – and to provide appropriate humanitarian and educational support to vulnerable Tibetan refugee communities.

The European Union should also work to ensure that no Tibetan refugee or asylum seeker is subjected to forced return to a territory where they would face a real risk of persecution or other serious human rights violations.

Why Tibet Matters Beyond Tibet

The choice facing Europe extends far beyond the situation in Tibet alone.

China's growing economic, technological, political, and diplomatic influence is reshaping the global order at a time when democratic nations face deepening divisions and uncertainty.

In a world where economic power can be wielded to silence criticism, where political influence can deter governments from upholding human rights principles, and where authoritarian practices may be exported across borders – the consequences will ultimately be felt far beyond the Tibetan borders.

Tibet, therefore, serves as a critical test: will the international community permit economic and geopolitical power to take precedence over universal principles?

The question is not whether Europe should seek confrontation with China. It is whether Europe can uphold principled engagement without allowing engagement to become silence.

The same principle applies to the Himalayan environment and water security. Tibet's rivers, glaciers and ecosystems do not stop at political borders. Decisions made in Tibet can directly affect communities in Nepal, India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and elsewhere.

The international community therefore has a legitimate interest in ensuring that environmental information and disaster warnings capable of saving lives are shared transparently and promptly across borders.

Our Urgent Requests to the European Union

We respectfully call upon Your Excellency and the institutions of the European Union to:

1. **Make Tibet a clearly identified priority** within EU-China relations, and raise the situation in Tibet systematically at the highest levels of all political, diplomatic, and human rights dialogues.
2. **Raise the death of Lobsang Palden (Lobga Rangzen)** directly with the Government of China, recognising his death as a tragic warning concerning the human cost of the total absence of meaningful political space for Tibetans. Urge China to address the underlying conditions that give rise to such despair.
3. **Demand the immediate resumption of substantive dialogue** between the Government of China and representatives of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the Central Tibetan Administration, without preconditions intended to predetermine the outcome. Offer the European Union's good offices, should the parties agree, to help create an environment conducive to meaningful negotiation.
4. **Uphold the Tibetan people's right to self-determination and to a peaceful political settlement.** A durable solution cannot be imposed unilaterally from Beijing; it must address the legitimate aspirations and rights of the Tibetan people and protect their distinct cultural, religious, and linguistic identity.
5. **Place China's Ethnic Unity and Progress Promotion Law under sustained international scrutiny.** Assess its implementation against China's binding international human rights obligations, and examine its impact upon Tibetans, Uyghurs, Southern Mongolians, and other ethnic, religious, and linguistic communities.
6. **Call for an immediate end to the forced Sinicisation of Tibetan children.** Demand effective protection of every Tibetan child's right to family life, education in their own language, and preservation of their cultural and religious identity; and end policies that separate children from their families and cultural environment on a mass scale.
7. **Insist upon genuine protection of the Tibetan language, culture, and religion.** Call upon China to repeal policies that marginalise Tibetan-medium education, restrict religious practice, and suppress peaceful cultural and linguistic expression.
8. **Defend the religious freedom** of the Tibetan people, including their right to determine their own religious leadership without external interference. No government should be permitted to dictate the succession of His Holiness the Dalai Lama or to impose political control over Tibetan Buddhist religious institutions.
9. **Demand unrestricted international access to Tibet.** United Nations human rights experts, independent diplomats, journalists, researchers, scientists, humanitarian organisations, and civil society organisations must be granted full, unfettered, and regular access to all Tibetan areas, free from

government-managed itineraries or restrictions that prevent independent assessment.

10. **Establish an international mechanism** for transparent monitoring of environmental and humanitarian conditions in Tibet, including glaciers, rivers, major hydrological infrastructure and disaster-prone areas.
11. **Make transboundary water transparency** a component of EU-China diplomatic engagement. Urge China to establish permanent, transparent and verifiable mechanisms for timely sharing of hydrological, meteorological, glacial and river-flow data with all downstream countries.
12. **Demand effective early-warning arrangements** for downstream populations. Information concerning glacial collapses, landslide-dammed lakes, sudden river surges, extreme rainfall and other potentially catastrophic events must be communicated rapidly to downstream authorities and communities.
13. **Support independent international scientific access** to major disaster zones in Tibet. Independent experts should be able to assess environmental hazards, casualty figures, damage, and lessons necessary to prevent future loss of life.
14. **Encourage China and downstream countries** to establish joint Himalayan disaster-prevention and emergency-response mechanisms covering the major transboundary river systems originating on the Tibetan Plateau.
15. **Raise the Tibet-Nepal disaster** directly with the Government of China and encourage full transparency concerning the causes, warnings, casualty figures, missing persons, environmental impacts, and information shared with downstream authorities.
16. **Encourage a regional framework** involving China, Nepal, India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and other affected states for the responsible management of transboundary Himalayan waters and disaster risks.
17. **Combat transnational repression emanating from China.** Establish a coordinated European Union mechanism to document, investigate, and counter intimidation, surveillance, threats, and coercion directed at diaspora communities. Give particular attention to cases where family members in China and its occupied territories are targeted to silence individuals lawfully exercising their democratic rights within the European Union.
18. **Protect the right to peaceful demonstration throughout the European Union.** Ensure that Tibetans, Uyghurs, Southern Mongolians, and other communities may assemble and protest peacefully without fear of retaliation against relatives remaining in China.
19. **Support Tibetan refugees in Nepal.** Use European Union diplomatic influence to secure the protection of Tibetan refugees' fundamental rights, and provide humanitarian, educational, and civil society support to vulnerable communities.
20. **Defend the integrity of the name "Tibet" in international discourse.** Reject attempts to replace the internationally recognised name "Tibet" with "Xizang" in

official usage, and ensure that terminology is not used to obscure the political and historical reality of the issue.

21. Uphold the United Nations resolutions on Tibet within multilateral forums.

Coordinate European Union and Member State positions to ensure that the situation in Tibet is consistently raised within the United Nations Human Rights Council, General Assembly, and other relevant mechanisms, with specific reference to General Assembly Resolutions 1353 (XIV), 1723 (XVI), and 2079 (XX).

22. Reaffirm that United Nations membership confers no immunity from

scrutiny. China's status as a permanent member of the Security Council should strengthen – not weaken – the expectation that it upholds the principles and obligations of the United Nations Charter.

23. Ensure that economic engagement does not eclipse human rights.

The European Union's economic and trade relations with China must never be purchased at the price of silence over fundamental human rights. Human rights, democracy, the rule of law, and human dignity must remain central pillars of European foreign policy.

24. Establish a dedicated European policy mechanism on Tibet.

Consider the appointment of an EU Special Envoy or Special Representative for Tibet and Persecuted Minorities, or another institutional framework capable of maintaining sustained diplomatic focus and coordinating a unified European policy.

25. Support peaceful civil society and democratic voices.

Expand meaningful, regular engagement with Tibetan, Uyghur, Southern Mongolian, and other affected civil society representatives – including those in exile and those resident within the European Union.

26. Encourage all Member States to speak with one voice.

A unified European position carries far greater diplomatic weight than fragmented national statements.

27. Launch a new European initiative in support of dialogue.

Drawing inspiration from the historic Strasbourg Proposal, explore how the European Union may help create conditions for a renewed political process between the parties.

A Moment for Europe to Lead

Your Excellency,

His Holiness the Dalai Lama once looked to Europe and saw a political experiment that turned centuries of conflict into cooperation – without demanding the erasure of distinct national, cultural, and linguistic identities.

That vision remains as compelling today as it was in 1988.

Europe's greatest strength has never lain solely in its economic or military capacity. Its true influence derives from the credibility of universal principles that transcend

borders: human dignity, democracy, freedom, pluralism, the rule of law, and peaceful coexistence.

At a time when authoritarian powers are increasingly assertive and democratic nations are deeply divided, Europe must define what kind of global actor it aspires to be.

The situation in Tibet offers Europe an opportunity to demonstrate that principled diplomacy is not weakness; that engagement does not require appeasement; that economic partnership does not demand silence; and that the rights of a small, peaceful people cannot be set aside merely because the state confronting them is powerful.

The treatment of Tibetan children; the suppression of language and religion; the closing of political space; the intimidation of communities abroad; the targeting of family members; the lack of transparency surrounding major disasters in Tibet; the risks posed to downstream populations by transboundary rivers; and the deliberate erasure of the very name of Tibet – these are interconnected developments that demand a coherent, collective international response.

The catastrophic flooding in Kyirong (Tibet) and Rasuwa (Nepal) has provided another stark reminder that what happens on the Tibetan Plateau does not remain confined to Tibet. The rivers, glaciers and ecosystems of Tibet are connected to the lives and livelihoods of millions of people across Asia. Transparent cooperation and timely sharing of life-saving information must therefore become a matter of regional responsibility.

The death of Lobsang Palden – Lobga Rangzen – outside United Nations Headquarters must not become merely another footnote in the long history of Tibet.

It must become a turning point: a moment of renewed international resolve.

The European Union possesses the historical connection, the diplomatic reach, and the moral authority to act. It possesses a vision that inspired the Tibetan people's search for peace; a Parliament that has stood steadfastly beside them; and influence that extends to Beijing, Kathmandu, New York, Geneva, and every capital of the free world.

We therefore respectfully urge Your Excellency to exercise the full authority of your office to place Tibet firmly and permanently upon the European Union's foreign policy agenda; to raise the Tibetan question directly with the leadership of China; to oppose the forced assimilation of Tibetan children and the erasure of Tibetan identity; to protect Tibetans and other persecuted communities from transnational repression; to stand with Tibetan refugees in Nepal; to defend the name "Tibet"; to champion the resumption of meaningful dialogue; and to ensure that the principles for which the United Nations stands – and which its own resolutions on Tibet affirm – remain alive in international discourse.

We further urge Your Excellency to make the protection of downstream populations from transboundary Himalayan disasters an integral part of European diplomacy with China. The Tibet-Nepal catastrophe demonstrates that transparent sharing of

environmental and hydrological information is not simply a technical matter. It is a humanitarian imperative and, ultimately, a matter of life and death.

We sincerely hope that our European Alps Tour and this submission can help reopen space for international discussion of Tibet at a time when the issue risks being overshadowed by competing geopolitical crisis.

With the support of the Global Alliance for Tibet & Persecuted Minorities, we respectfully seek the opportunity to meet with your good offices and to submit this appeal personally. We hope this engagement can help reignite the Tibet debate in European and international forums, while also encouraging the European Union to use its good offices to promote renewed dialogue directly between the parties.

Our objective is not confrontation. It is the peaceful resolution of the China-Tibet conflict through meaningful political dialogue, respect for the rights and identity of the Tibetan people, and a framework that can ultimately benefit not only Tibetans and the Chinese but the wider region and international community.

The world is watching to see whether democratic institutions will defend the very principles they were created to uphold.

For Tibetans, for Uyghurs, for Southern Mongolians, for vulnerable downstream communities across the Himalayas, and for all peoples whose identities, freedoms, environment and security are threatened by policies of assimilation, opacity and authoritarian rule – Europe's voice can help change the course of history.

We respectfully ask you to raise it.

With the highest consideration,



Tenzin Dakpa



Dawa Tsering

Two Tibetan individuals undertaking the Stand for Tibet: European Alps Tour 2026

www.StandForTibetEuropeanAlpsTour2026.com

With the support of
Global Alliance for Tibet & Persecuted Minorities