

**President of the People's Republic of China, Xi Jinping**

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Dear President Xi,

I am writing to express my concern for **Gui Minhai**, who was sentenced on 24 February 2020 to 10 years' imprisonment and deprivation of political rights for five years, on the charge of "illegally providing intelligence to foreign entities".

Since his imprisonment, the authorities have rejected the Swedish consulate's request to read the verdict and meet Gui Minhai, who obtained Swedish citizenship in 1996. It is distressing to learn that he has not been able to see his family members and consular officials, or even speak to a lawyer of his own choice since 2018. There is no way to verify his wishes or conditions. Given his poor health, which requires regular and urgent medical care, his family is particularly concerned about his wellbeing. Gui Minhai was tried and convicted in secret. Despite the authorities' claim that he was prosecuted for handing over 'intelligence' to overseas parties, it appears that his conviction is primarily based on his attempted trip with two Swedish diplomats in January 2018. Gui Minhai was suddenly taken away by approximately ten plainclothes officers whilst travelling on a train with two Swedish diplomats to Beijing for urgent diagnosis of what is believed to be ALS (also known as Lou Gehrig's disease).

Without any further information provided, a court notice announcing Gui Minhai's conviction and sentence in 2020 stated that he had reapplied for Chinese citizenship in 2018, which would nullify his Swedish citizenship under Chinese law. As he has been held in custody since 2018 without access to his family or lawyers, the veracity of this information is highly questionable.

**I therefore call on you to:**

- **Release Gui Minhai and drop the charges against him, unless there is sufficient credible and admissible evidence that he has committed an internationally recognized offence and is granted a fair trial in line with international standards;**
- **Grant Gui Minhai prompt, regular and unrestricted access to lawyers of his choice and to his family**
- **Grant Gui Minhai access to medical care on request or as necessary; and**
- **Grant the Swedish consulate access to Gui Minhai.**

Yours sincerely,