

Party Secretary of Xinjiang

Ma Xingrui
479 Zhongshan Lu, Tianshan Qu, Urumqi,
830041, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region,
People's Republic of China

Dear Secretary Ma,

I am writing to express concern about the situation of Uyghur student **Kamile Wayit** (卡米莱.瓦依提), who was sentenced under the charge of "promoting extremism" on 25 March 2023. A spokesperson from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs confirmed the news of her conviction to the Economist Magazine in early June 2023. It is unclear how long Kamile was sentenced for and where she is being held.

Kamile Wayit is a 19-year-old first-year student at the Shangqiu Institute of Technology (商丘工学院) located in Henan(河南). She was taken away on 12 December 2022 by the police after returning home to Atush, Xinjiang for a holiday. It is believed that her detention may be related to a video that she posted on WeChat in November 2022 about the protests that took place across China to commemorate the victims of a fire in Urumqi. Kamile should be released immediately as she was only peacefully exercising her rights to freedom of expression.

I am further concerned about Kamile's health condition. According to a source close to Kamile, she had been suffering from depression, and was scheduled to have an eye surgery in the summer of this year. With little information about her situation in general, I am deeply worried about her wellbeing and the risk of her being subjected to torture and other ill-treatment.

I therefore urge you to:

- Immediately release Kamile Wayit, unless there is sufficient, credible and admissible evidence that she has committed an internationally recognisable criminal offence;
- Pending her release, reveal her whereabouts, allow her regular access to her family and a lawyer of her choice;
- Pending her release, ensure that Kamile Wayit has access to adequate medical care, and she is not subjected to torture and other ill-treatment;

Yours sincerely,