

Wang Xiaohui

Communist Party Secretary of Sichuan Province
16 Shangye Jie
Qingyang Qu
Chengdu, Sichuan Province
610015, People's Republic of China

Dear Secretary,

I am writing to express my grave concern about human rights lawyer **Lu Siwei (卢思位)**, who is being held in the Xindu Detention Centre in Sichuan province, southwestern China, after he was forcibly returned to China from Laos. There is no information about the charges against him.

Lu has been intimidated and harassed for his human rights work by the Chinese authorities. Officials disbarred him in January 2021 for online speech that allegedly "endangered national security" and imposed an exit ban on him in May 2021.

Since his return to China, he has been denied regular access to his family and a lawyer of his choice; he is now at grave risk of torture and other ill-treatment. He should not be punished for his peaceful exercise of human rights and defending other human rights defenders or individuals deemed sensitive by the authorities.

I am troubled to learn that Lu is suffering from psoriasis and needs to take medicine every day. Without access to medical care, his health is very likely to be negatively impacted.

I therefore urge you to

- **Release Lu Siwei immediately and unconditionally from detention, unless there is sufficient credible and admissible evidence that he has committed an internationally recognizable criminal offence;**
- **Pending his release, allow him regular access to his family and a lawyer of his choice;**
- **Pending his release, ensure he has access to prompt and adequate medical care, and he is not subjected to torture and other ill-treatment.**

Yours sincerely,