

Chinese Regime's Strict Control over Chinese Immigrants in Europe

Polish Falun Dafa Association

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OSCE, October 6, 2008

I would like to bring to your attention the conditions faced by Chinese immigrants in Europe. While these students, workers and business people may have come to a free country, they cannot be free of the control of the Chinese communist regime. While the world has mainly focused on China's rapid economic development, it has failed to notice the deterioration of the human rights inside China and the growing sophistication of methods used by the Chinese regime for monitoring, intimidating and threatening Chinese people whether in China or abroad. Instead of expecting help from their embassies and consulates, Chinese immigrants face heavy monitoring and various forms of intimidation as well as social and financial persecution.

One example is the case of Mrs. Zhang Qian in Poland – a Falun Gong practitioner. Falun Gong is a peaceful meditation practice that has been severely persecuted by the Chinese communist regime since 1999 but is practiced freely in over 80 countries around the world. In late May of this year, Mrs Zhang, a Falun Gong practitioner, was attacked at the Chinese wholesale shopping center while distributing an independent Chinese newspaper, Dajiyuan (known in English as The Epoch Times). Dajiyuan is known to be critical of the Chinese regime and supportive of discriminated groups including Falun Gong. The attacker was recognized as Mrs. Wu Xia who is on diplomatic mission with the Chinese Embassy in Warsaw. Mrs Wu grabbed newspapers from Mrs. Zhangs arms and punched her to try to get at the rest of the papers. Then this embassy worker said: "If I will see you again doing this, I will kill you." This case is currently under investigation by Polish Police.

This is but one example from one country. I raise it to alert the members here that we must pay attention to the reality of migrants who may have settled in safe countries, but they are still subject to monitoring and control by their mother countries. Often the types of violations faced by Falun Gong practitioners and other Chinese immigrants are invisible or very hard to detect by local police and lawmakers. When local police try to investigate such cases, there is a strong language barrier and difficulties in finding witnesses, because of the intimidation and heavily monitoring of all Chinese communities by their local embassies. This creates in effect, a small country within another country's borders which is ruled by Chinese official representing the Chinese Communist Party.

In another example, the Chinese Embassy in Warsaw gave out signs to business owners in a Chinese Shopping Center near Warsaw. The signs read, in Chinese, "No Falun Gong allowed." For the local Polish population, the signs have no meaning since they are written in Chinese, so Polish police or human rights observers would never notice them unless there is a complaint. For a Chinese national to submit such a complaint would be the same as attacking the communist regime itself which they know carries very severe consequences. Moreover, these Chinese immigrants in Europe do not feel that the local authorities can help them since for them, they still feel as though they are living under the absolute control of the Chinese Communist Party. The situation is even worse in post-communist European countries who

still maintain close ties with Chinese Communist Party and its deep pockets. Because of these factors representatives of the Chinese Communist Party, particularly in Eastern Europeans, in fact ARE exhorting absolute power over local Chinese people.