



INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR TIBET

# IMPACT ON TIBET

MEMBERSHIP REPORT • SUMMER 2024

Dear Friend,

In this new publication, we share key accomplishments related to our mission in three areas of our work: Government Relations and Advocacy, Monitoring and Reporting, and Tibetan Empowerment.

Since 1988, ICT has been working tirelessly to advocate for Tibet and His Holiness the Dalai Lama's vision for Tibet. Most recently, our advocacy focus has been a bipartisan bill known as the "Resolve Tibet Act." Read the good news about this bill right here on the cover.

Meanwhile, our Monitoring and Reporting work underlies an important new report on threats to religious freedom in Tibet (page 2).

Finally, our Tibetan Empowerment programs promote and safeguard Tibetan cultural heritage even as China seeks to destroy it (page 3).

Your support powers these initiatives—and truly makes a difference.



In solidarity,

*Tencho Gyatso*

Tencho Gyatso  
President

## AFTER MONTHS OF ADVOCACY, RESOLVE TIBET ACT IS SIGNED INTO LAW

As we go to print, the Promoting a Resolution to the Tibet-China Dispute Act (called the Resolve Tibet Act) has just been signed into law by President Biden. We are thrilled by this legislative victory, and so appreciative of our members' efforts to support the passage of this bill!

In a statement, ICT President Tencho Gyatso thanked supporters and emphasized that China must resume dialogue with the Tibetans, saying, "I hope Beijing will now see that this dispute must be resolved through negotiation, instead of an assault on Tibet's unique and ancient civilization."

This law will strengthen US efforts to push the Chinese government to resolve the longstanding Tibet-China dispute through dialogue with Tibetan leaders. It passed with overwhelming bipartisan support.

### YOUR IMPACT

This day arrived because of you! Thank you so much for telling your friends, petitioning your elected leaders, and helping us achieve a record-breaking turnout at Tibet Lobby Day 2024.



# NEW REPORT: CCP GIVES BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION OF CHINA LEADING ROLE IN RESHAPING TIBETAN BUDDHISM

In a new report we released May 29, 2024, we show how the Buddhist Association of China (BAC)—the main organization representing Buddhists in China—is becoming a key instrument in the Chinese Communist Party’s (CCP) strategy to transform Tibetan Buddhism and bring it under government control. We found that since President Xi Jinping’s announcement of his intent to “Sinify” the PRC’s religions in 2012, the BAC is being used to implement these campaigns in Tibet.

Our findings show that CCP strategy is to make Tibetan Buddhism conform to government ideology, including

by establishing specialized “training institutes” for Tibetan Buddhist clergy.

But the most critical impact would be BAC interference in the search for reincarnate lamas. The CCP has assigned BAC a role in recognizing and training CCP-selected “reincarnations.” This step will be important to the Chinese government’s long-term strategy on controlling the reincarnation process and installing a false “Dalai Lama”—the ultimate act of religious suppression.

► Read the full report online at [SaveTibet.org/Sinify](https://SaveTibet.org/Sinify).

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Turn to page 4 to submit your petition to the presidential candidates. As His Holiness the Dalai Lama ages, the future of the reincarnation process brings increasing urgency to the Administration’s role in pressuring the CCP to return to the negotiating table.



► **Sinification:** a strategy used by the CCP to assimilate and transform Tibetan Buddhism, particularly in relation to the search for and recognition of reincarnate lamas, intended to break down Tibetan Buddhism’s unique characteristics and to change it into a tool of the Chinese state.





# TIBETAN EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMS IN WASHINGTON, DC

## Tibetan Youth Leadership Program (TYLP)

The 2024 Tibetan Youth Leadership Program brought 10 talented Tibetan American college students from across the country to Washington, DC this June for leadership training in activism and advocacy. This annual program hosted by ICT helps nurture young people to become leaders of the Tibetan community in the future, and to harness their energy and convictions about issues affecting Tibet into a powerful force for change.

Through workshops, discussions, and hands-on activities, participants learn more about the Tibetan context and develop their knowledge and confidence in becoming successful youth organizers. We are excited to see what the future holds for this energetic group of intelligent,

thoughtful Tibetan American leaders! Thank you for helping make this popular program possible.

## Washington Internship Program for Tibetan Americans (WIPTA)

Each summer, WIPTA provides 2-3 Tibetan American undergraduate or graduate students with an opportunity for a summer internship placement in US Congressional offices or other agencies in the heart of the US political system in Washington, DC. Part of ICT's efforts to empower the burgeoning Tibetan

American community, the WIPTA program offers meaningful opportunities and exposure to the US political process and public policy firsthand.

WIPTA participants are known as "Lodi Gyari Fellows" in honor of ICT's former President and Chair of the Board of Directors Lodi Gyari. Advocacy for Tibet and empowerment of the Tibetan community were issues that he cared about deeply. This year's Fellows included Tenzin Passang, who interned in Congresswoman Betty McCollum's office (D-MN), and Tenzin Menrinetsang, who interned at National Endowment for Democracy.

## YOUR IMPACT

Your generous support of ICT helps sustain these annual Tibetan Empowerment programs, which are critical in preparing the next generation of leaders for the future of the Tibet movement.





PHOTO: OLIVIER ADAM

# THE UNITED STATES MUST BE STRONG ON TIBET!

For decades, ICT members have played a crucial role in supporting Tibet and asking elected officials to do the same. Please sign and return this pair of petitions; the next president must know Americans want to see human rights and democratic freedoms for Tibetans.

PLEASE CLIP HERE & MAIL YOUR PETITIONS IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.



## PETITION TO DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

Xi Jinping doesn't want you to talk about Tibet. He wants you to remain silent about the human rights abuses China is committing there.

Unfortunately for Xi, successive American presidents have made it a point to speak out on Tibet. If elected, I call on you to uphold America's enduring tradition of support for Tibet and:

- Meet with His Holiness the Dalai Lama
- Proactively refute China's disinformation on Tibet
- Call on China, both publicly and privately, to resolve the Tibet crisis through meaningful and direct dialogue with the Tibetans

As an American, I hope you will help bring an end to China's repression of the Tibetan people.

Sincerely,

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR TIBET

## PETITION TO REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

Xi Jinping doesn't want you to talk about Tibet. He wants you to remain silent about the human rights abuses China is committing there.

Unfortunately for Xi, successive American presidents have made it a point to speak out on Tibet. If elected, I call on you to uphold America's enduring tradition of support for Tibet and:

- Meet with His Holiness the Dalai Lama
- Proactively refute China's disinformation on Tibet
- Call on China, both publicly and privately, to resolve the Tibet crisis through meaningful and direct dialogue with the Tibetans

As an American, I hope you will help bring an end to China's repression of the Tibetan people.

Sincerely,

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR TIBET