



INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR TIBET

Promoting the Resolution to the Tibet-China Conflict Act

CONSISTENT WITH THE DALAI LAMA'S "MIDDLE WAY" PROPOSAL

- The Middle Way is a proposal of compromise based on protecting the core interests of both sides. Tibetans continue to call for dialogue to identify a solution that is compatible with the People's Republic of China's constitution while allowing Tibetans the self-determination needed to protect their unique cultural, religious, and linguistic heritage.

"The Tibetan people do not accept the present status of Tibet under the People's Republic of China. At the same time, they do not seek independence for Tibet, which is a historical fact. Treading a middle path in between these two lies the policy and means to achieve a genuine autonomy for all Tibetans living in the three traditional provinces of Tibet within the framework of the People's Republic of China."

- His Holiness the Dalai Lama

- The Central Tibetan Administration (CTA), the Tibetan exile government based in Dharamsala with the Dalai Lama, is one of the prime stakeholders. The CTA stated that the Resolve Tibet Act "reaffirms the Tibetan people's faith and trust in the just leadership of the US."

CONSISTENT WITH US POLICY SUPPORTING DIALOGUE

- American policy as cemented by the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 (TPA) is to support the resumption of negotiations; the TPA created the role of Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues, which has the "central objective" of seeking "to promote substantive dialogue between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama or his representatives."
- American Presidents of both parties have publicly voiced support for negotiations. And Congress requires presidential administrations to report on their efforts to persuade the PRC to return to the table.

WHY THE RESOLVE TIBET ACT IS NEEDED

Makes Clear US Support of Tibetan's Human Rights Will Never Waiver

- The atheist Chinese government may have clear plans to wait for the current Dalai Lama to pass away to impose its own chosen “Dalai Lama” in order to further decimate Tibetan freedom of religion and cultural identity. This strategy must be neutralized.
- The Resolve Tibet Act clarifies that America will back the Tibetan people until negotiations are settled, whether it is with the 14th Dalai Lama or a future Tibetan leader. This is essential to providing the Tibetan people the long-term support needed in their quest for dignity and self-determination.
- The Act refutes as “inaccurate” China’s disinformation campaign that Tibet has been part of China since “ancient times.”
- Empowers the Special Coordinator for Tibet Issues to consistently and actively counter Chinese disinformation regarding Tibet and the Tibetan people.

China Refuses to Seek a Solution

- To date, thirteen years have passed since the last round of Sino-Tibetan dialogue. Although the United States continues to call for the resumption of dialogue, the Chinese Communist Party continues to snub its nose at the US and like-minded nations.
- The Resolve Tibet Act will bolster American support for dialogue, making it perfectly clear that the United States will not consider the dispute resolved until Chinese and Tibetan leaders reach an accord that works for both parties. Thus, the onus will be put on China to return to the table if it wants to establish any legitimacy in Tibet.

The situation is urgent

- The Dalai Lama is a key figure who commands widespread respect and support from across Tibet, the Tibetan diaspora, and around the world. He has committed himself to supporting a negotiated solution to the Tibet issue. In the absence of the Dalai Lama, finding and maintaining a mutually beneficial solution will only be more difficult.
- America has a strong interest in a peaceful resolution to the Tibet China conflict. Tibet sits at the fulcrum of East, South, and Central Asia. As a former buffer state between China and India it is now a site of PRC military buildups, ongoing human rights abuses, and border skirmishes that threaten the stability of the region.
- As China and America enter an era of strategic competition, our handling of Tibet provides a clear distinction between the American values of freedom, liberty, and democracy contrasted with Beijing’s embrace of brutal authoritarian violence. China’s sensitivity on Tibet betrays an understanding that it provides a rallying point for people, parties, and countries from around the world who want to see an end to their grotesque misrule of Tibet.