

**Answers to questions on notice**  
**Australian Uyghur Tangritagh Women's Assoc.**

*Senator KITCHING (page 16): I also wanted to ask about H&M and the reaction of the Chinese government to the statement that they put out, expressing concerns about forced labour in Xinjiang*

The reaction is extraordinary but certainly not shocking. This is a bullying tactic of the CCP and how it reacts to any form of criticism. With reactions like this it is extremely clear of the strong hold and control the CCP has in all aspects of life in China. Even foreign brands do not have the freedom to express its ethical stand on issues. The clear message to H&M and to all other brands was if you criticize China you will pay the consequences. With propaganda being a tool that is used to control the minds of the citizens, industries, major brands no chance to survive. It would be detrimental to the CCP if its Han Chinese citizens also learnt of the atrocities being committed in East Turkistan, Xinjiang, China, which could mean they would start asking questions, the idea is to keep everyone knowing only what the CCP wants them to know, nothing more.

*CHAIR (page 17): On behalf of Senator Fierravanti-Wells, I ask the following question on notice. If you could respond within about the next two weeks, we would be much obliged. The question is: how important is it for Muslim nations to show greater solidarity with the Uighur? What more would you like to see happening?*

It is extremely important for the Muslim countries to show support, however they seem to have been gagged due to being indebted to China investing heavily in infrastructure and loans to these countries. Some would be reluctant to talk due to the fact that they are also dictatorships, and or one party rule, and it would be against their governing structure. We would love for all countries to stand up, for humanity and basic human rights, this is a human rights issue not a religious or race issue.

The fact that not much media attention is able to be given to the region, due to the iron walls, a lot of people, globally, are not aware of the genocide and oppression the Uyghurs and other Turkic people are facing. The lack of access to the region to see the full picture is the extremely frustrating bit for us, we as Uyghurs know what is going on, however convincing enough governments to speak up for these atrocities have been very difficult.