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MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES
COUNCIL OF NSW



NATIONAL SIKH COUNCIL OF
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NATIONAL CHINESE AUSTRALIAN
LEADERSHIP GROUP

Community Joint submission to Senate FADT page: 1

***Joint Submission of the
Chinese Community Council of Australia Inc.
Multicultural Communities Council of NSW Inc.
National Chinese Australian Leadership Group &
National Sikh Council of Australia Inc.***

On Customs Amendment (Banning Goods Produced by Uyghur Forced Labour) Bill 2020

Committee Secretary
Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Email: fact.sen@aph.gov.au
Date of Submission 28 Jan 2021 (Submission due 5 Feb 2021)

The Submission

1. Our response in consultation with or Chinese , Sikh Australian communities. and the general multicultural communities.

In our internal consultation with our Chinese and Multicultural colleagues, we frequently encountered these questions. We are in no position to answer these questions properly and instead we propose to share this information with the Senate committee in good faith. The questions below were frequently asked of us:

- 1.1 Why the interest in Xinjiang of all the other places in China?
- 1.2 Is the very focus on Xinjiang is already a leading question?
- 1.3 Is there indeed forced labour in Xinjiang?
- 1.4 How could one write a fair submission if there is no real access to information on a sensitive subject in China?
- 1.5 One would assume that for a fair report, one would have to ask the Chinese government for information. In which case, how would one be sure that the information given is genuine? Or can we refer to the Global Times as a source of information?
- 1.6 The other information that can be gleaned from available sources have too much political agenda and how would one determines its authenticity?
- 1.7 Do you not think that the task given to you is full of traps?

2. Reasons for our submission

Despite the questions in Section 1.0 and the perceived attitude of the questioners, we decided to participate in this national enquiry as responsible and loyal citizen of Australia and to express our independent views, free of any foreign influence and most importantly, to have the opportunity and freedom in expressing our views in a democratic Australian society and in our national interests.

3. Here is our stand for the issue.

3.01 We recognize the sensitivity of this submission particularly to our fellow 1.2 million Australians of Chinese descent.



CHINESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
OF AUSTRALIA



MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES
COUNCIL OF NSW



NATIONAL SIKH COUNCIL OF
AUSTRALIA



NATIONAL CHINESE AUSTRALIAN
LEADERSHIP GROUP

Community Joint submission to Senate FADT page: 2

3.02 As Australians, we uphold the principle of not consuming goods produced by forced labour, coming from any country. Ideally, we should ban chocolate (see Sec 4.4 (a))

3.03 Before we make a commitment in the use of such good, we have to be convinced that there is ample and sufficient legal evidence or proof that the goods were made under "slavery conditions". Such action has to be ratified by the UN General Assembly. Credible enquiries on Xinjiang would need to be at the level of UN enquiry and we refer the Senate to Michael Kirby's contribution to human rights. (see item 4.1(i)).

3.04 Conditions in item (3.03) must be met to give credibility and truth about a manufactured item and to avoid playing geopolitics or being accused of being partisan or subject to propaganda.

3.05 The ban of such goods should not only be applied to China but to all goods from global sources where goods are made by forced labour, otherwise the world would condemn us for being "racists" or "xenophobic".

3.06. We are aware of the current deterioration of the Australia-China relations. The current "trade wars" is already costing billions of dollars in export revenue in agriculture, tourism, education and now coal and costing thousands of Australian jobs, it is very likely that the Chinese government will consider this public inquiry as another China bashing exercise and therefore, will remain hostile to any government attempts to negotiate for a diplomatic solution for our broken diplomatic and trade relations. Articles of interests on Australia-China relations can be found in Section 4.2 (4.2(a) to 4.2(h)).

3.07 Although the FADT inquiry may be presented as a domestic issue and it is Australia's right to make such inquiry. Despite this, there may be unintended consequence arising from the question of timing - "Why now when the relations are frozen" and the question of being discreet, ie. "Why do we need to make it so public as to attract unnecessary Chinese attention" as these circumstances would only add fuel to fire.

3.08. This proposed Act in banning manufactured good made by force labour and in Xinjiang, if done without evidence or facts, could be considered a unilateral action of Australia's. If it is a fact, then the evidence speaks for itself and we can stand upright and upholding our principles. If the evidence is controversial or severely challenged, it would damage Australia's international reputation as a *fair dinkum* nation. The collateral damage to Australia's global reputation, influence etc. would be large and would turn the world against us.

3.09 There may be other contrary evidence that there is no forced labour in Xinjiang. Section 4.1 (4.1(a) to 4.1(h)) are information obtained from the internet and makes the allegations of Uighur forced labour sounds controversial.

3.10 If we make the allegations, we better get it right otherwise we will be labelled as hypocrites and will be perceived as being a sore loser seeking revenge since the last covid-19 raised about the origin of the virus. (Note: Section 4.2 (a) – China targets Australian human rights record).



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OF AUSTRALIA



MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES
COUNCIL OF NSW



NATIONAL SIKH COUNCIL OF
AUSTRALIA



NATIONAL CHINESE AUSTRALIAN
LEADERSHIP GROUP

Community Joint submission to Senate FADT page: 3

3.11 For these reasons, we would submit to the Senate that inquiry and subsequent passing of the law, would not be in our national interests, for economic and geopolitical reasons. (see: Section 4.3 (4.3(a) to 4.3(j)) in John Menadue P&I Australian blog).

3.12 The UK stand on this issue is somewhat ambiguous. (See Section 4.4(b) and 4.4(c)).

3.13 The US “Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act. , was awaiting approval in the Senate, having breezed through Congress on Dec2020 and it would appear that Australia just follows. A better understanding of the US-China relations is best presented by Prof Kishore Mahbubani of Singapore, and former UN Security Council President, does help to clarify the background. (see Section 4.4(d)). The url for a video contradicting western claims on Xinjiang forced labor can be found in Section 4.4(e).

3.14 If there is some truth in the allegations of forced labour manufactured goods, it is a better way to approach the problem by diplomatic solutions rather than trade sanctions.

3.15 The passing of this Bill by the Senate would no doubt attract repercussions from China and consequently make Australia the lonely man in the Asia Pacific holding the poison chalice when Biden and Xi make up.

3.16 We make this submission as independent Chinese Australians who have Australian national interests at heart, and are free from interference from the Chinese Communist Party or the Chinese government.

4.0 PUBLISHED ARTICLES or REFERENCES

4.1 Internet Uighur information contradicting the West

4.1(a) **US lacerates China's Uighur wound - Indian Punchline**

by M K Bhadrakumar Mar 28, 2019

US lacerates China's Uighur wound. (US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo receiving **Uighur** activists, Washington, March 27, 2019). The US ...

Report highlight: Xinjiang suffered a severe setback when the recent foreign-minister level meeting of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) in Abu Dhabi on March 1-2 decisively turned its back on Washington. The OIC resolution, inter alia, recalled the “outcomes of the visit” of the group’s delegation last month to China (including Xinjiang) and said that the OIC “commends the efforts of the People’s Republic of China in providing care to its Muslim citizens; and looks forward to further cooperation between the OIC and the People’s Republic of China.”

4.1(b) **American Expert - The US is trying to dismember China by ...**

ednews.net › news › interview › 429265-american-expert

May 21, 2020 — American Expert - **The US is trying to dismember China by promoting separatism in its regions** | Eurasia Diary.



CHINESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
OF AUSTRALIA



MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES
COUNCIL OF NSW



NATIONAL SIKH COUNCIL OF
AUSTRALIA



NATIONAL CHINESE AUSTRALIAN
LEADERSHIP GROUP

Community Joint submission to Senate FADT page: 4

Report highlight: **Dennis Etler:** The bill passed by the US Senate is yet another attempt to demonize China and inflame public opinion against the PRC. It is based on unsubstantiated allegations that the Uyghurs of China are being subjected to wholesale repression and subjugation as an ethnic minority. The evidence for these allegations has been provided by separatists in Xinjiang aided, abetted and funded by the US government. Thus, the US government funds numerous groups which are then used to provide evidence used by that same government to sanction China. This is nothing but a self-fulfilling prophecy and should lack any degree of credibility by an objective observer. As Secretary of State Pompeo himself revealed, the US is proud to lie, cheat and steal and has “entire training courses” in how to do it. You can rest assured that the anti-China separatists in Xinjiang who happen to be of Uyghur ethnicity are following the precepts of their US sponsors and are taught how to do so. The allegations directed against China in the US Senate bill are concocted in that manner from half-truths and distortions of the actual situation in order to provide the US ammunition in its propaganda war against China.

4.1(c) [Seventy Years of US Destabilisation in China. US Sponsored ...](#)

[www.globalresearch.ca > u-s-sponsored-uyghur-insurge...](#)

Dec 23, 2019 — **U.S. Sponsored Uyghur Insurgency in Xinjiang.** By Shane Quinn. Share Tweet Pin Mail. **China's** exit in October 1949, from the sphere of ...

Report highlight: Following the September 11 attacks on America, Uyghur extremists were seen fighting against US soldiers during Washington’s “war on terror” in Afghanistan. Almost two dozen Uyghurs were sent to the notorious US-run Guantanamo detention camp in south-eastern Cuba, with some Uyghurs held there for as long as 12 years.

4.1(d) [The Uyghur Issue: How Can the U.S. Dare Lecturing China ...](#)

[www.globalresearch.ca > how-can-u-s-dare-lecturing-c...](#)

Nov 5, 2020 — **The Uyghur Issue: How Can the U.S. Dare Lecturing China About the Rights of the Muslims?** By Andre Vltchek. Share Tweet Pin Mail.

In 2019, I have written a long analysis about “the Uyghur issue”; analysis which will be soon published as a book.

Report highlight: For some time, I have been warning the world that the West, and the United States in particular, are helping to radicalize the Uyghurs in Xinjiang Province and outside.

And not only that: I clearly mapped movement of the Uyghur radicals through some countries like Indonesia, towards Turkey, from where they are then injected into brutal war zones like Idlib in Syria. I worked in Idlib area, with the Syrian commanders, and I spoke at length with the Syrian internally displaced people; victims of the Uyghur genocidal attacks.

4.1(e) **March of the Uyghurs | Dissident Voice**

[dissidentvoice.org > ... > March of the Uyghurs](#)

March of the Uyghurs. Again, The West Tries to Destroy China, Using Religion and Terror. by Andre Vltchek / July 22nd, 2019. Important note: The Uyghurs have ...

Report highlight: Again, The West Tries to Destroy China, Using Religion and Terror



CHINESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
OF AUSTRALIA



MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES
COUNCIL OF NSW



NATIONAL SIKH COUNCIL OF
AUSTRALIA



NATIONAL CHINESE AUSTRALIAN
LEADERSHIP GROUP

Community Joint submission to Senate FADT page: 5

[Important note: The Uyghurs have managed to create a very old and deep culture. Most of them are good, law abiding citizens of the PRC. Also the great majority of followers of Sunni Islam are peaceful people. This work is addressing terrible problems related to extremism and terrorism, most of them crafted and then fueled by the West and its allies. The goal is to damage China. The victims live in various countries.

4.1(f) [Washington's major push for Xinjiang - New Age](http://www.newagebd.net)
www.newagebd.net > [washingtons-major-push-for-xinjiang](http://www.newagebd.net/washingtons-major-push-for-xinjiang)

04.08.2019 Author: [Jean Perier](#) Washington's major push for Xinjiang ... In a bid to build an anti-Chinese coalition Washington would establish an annual meeting of foreign ...

Report highlight: With the war of words and sanctions heating up between the US and China, Washington is getting increasingly determined to stir separatist sentiments in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the PRC. The ability to inflict real damage on its primary geopolitical competitor by turning Xinjiang into a break-away region or plunging it into chaos has transformed the matter of Uyghur separatism into Washington's weapon of choice in its struggle against Beijing in today's version of the Great Game.

4.1(g) [Western pride and prejudice must stop - Global Times](http://www.globaltimes.cn)
www.globaltimes.cn > [content](http://www.globaltimes.cn/content)

Western pride and prejudice must stop. Source:Global Times Published: 2019/7/17 21:58:41. Susan Rice Photo: IC. Zhao Lijian, Deputy Chief of Mission at the ...

Report highlight: Zhao Lijian, **Deputy Chief of Mission at the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan**, posted several tweets Saturday in response to the 37 countries' support for China's governance in its [Xinjiang](#) Uyghur Autonomous Region, denouncing the mud which the 22 Western countries threw at China. Zhao pointed out that southeast Washington DC is a district where "the white never go" because "it's an area for the black and Latin."

4.1(h) [Fake photos and videos of 'Uygurs being tortured' exposed ...](http://www.globaltimes.cn)
www.globaltimes.cn > [content](http://www.globaltimes.cn/content)

Fake photos and videos of 'Uygurs being tortured' exposed. By Xie Wenting Source:Global Times Published: 2020/1/10 15:08:46 ...

Report highlight: A senior official from Northwest China's **Xinjiang** Uygur Autonomous Region on Friday debunked social media rumors that "Uygur people are tortured in Xinjiang," during a media conference in Urumqi, using facts and photos. Four rumors that were refuted on Friday involved fake and frightening videos and photos that were used to blind audiences of the real situation in Xinjiang. In fact, those videos and photos that supposedly showed "Uygur people being tortured" had nothing to do with Uygurs or Xinjiang.

4.1(i) 16 May 2014 **Ten things we learned from Michael Kirby's North Korea Reddit AMA**



CHINESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
OF AUSTRALIA



MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES
COUNCIL OF NSW



NATIONAL SIKH COUNCIL OF
AUSTRALIA



NATIONAL CHINESE AUSTRALIAN
LEADERSHIP GROUP

Community Joint submission to Senate FADT page: 6

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/may/16/reddit-michael-kirby-north-korea-human-rights-abuses>

4.2 Australia-China relations

4.2(a) China takes aim at Australia's human rights record at UN

<https://www.smh.com.au/world/asia/china-takes-aim-at-australia-s-human-rights-record-at-un-20210122-p56w1t.html>

Report highlight; The Chinese government has targeted Australia at the UN Human Rights Council, making five recommendations to improve its record on war crimes, racial discrimination, immigration detention and Indigenous Australians. The formal submission follows 40 other countries scrutinising Australia's treatment of refugees at the UN body and more than a dozen others raising concerns about the treatment of Indigenous Australians and lowering the age of criminal responsibility. 4.2 On Australia China policy

4.2(b) [Australia needs to recalibrate its China policy to optimize ...](#) www.globaltimes.cn > page

Jan 6, 2021 — **Australia needs to recalibrate its China policy to optimize national interests** ... do not have any historical grievances or direct conflicts of interest.

4.2(c) [How can Australia avoid 'uncharted territory' with China ties ...](#) www.globaltimes.cn > page

6 days ago — If Australia keeps blindly sticking to the mentality that China is attempting to interfere ... the current world order, it will hardly adjust its China policy. ... **Australia needs to recalibrate its China policy to optimize national interests.**

4.2(d) [Australia can repair its relationship with China, here are 3 ...](#)theconversation.com > australia-can-repair-its-relationsh...

Dec 1, 2020 — **Australia** can't remake **China** into a completely different country. Instead, we **need** to see **it** as a challenge to be managed — not an enemy. ... **Australia** could make one big gesture and two small to **improve its** relationship with **China**. ... to pursue the **national interest** has been narrowed by priming the public ...

4.2(e) [Australia can repair its relationship with China, here are three ...](#) www.themandarin.com.au > 146415-australia-can-repai...

Dec 3, 2020 — **Australia** could make one big gesture and two small to **improve its** relationship ... government do if **it** wanted to **reset** the relationship with **China**? ... But in **Australia's** case, **China's** displeasure is not directed towards one **policy**. ... of options to pursue the **national interest** has been narrowed by priming the ...

4.2(f) [Australia and China may not be best friends anytime soon, but ...](#) www.abc.net.au > news > china-australia-tension-three-...

Dec 2, 2020 — **China** has 14 grievances against **Australia**. ...

In **Australia's** case, **China's** displeasure is not directed towards one **policy**. . **Australia** could



CHINESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
OF AUSTRALIA



MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES
COUNCIL OF NSW



NATIONAL SIKH COUNCIL OF
AUSTRALIA



NATIONAL CHINESE AUSTRALIAN
LEADERSHIP GROUP

Community Joint submission to Senate FADT page: 7

make one big gesture and two small to **improve its** relationship with **China**. ... range of options to pursue the **national interest has** been narrowed by priming the public to .

4.2 (g) **Australia needs to recalibrate its China policy to optimize ...**

ground.news > article > rss_3903_1610057367154_10

Jan 8, 2021 — **Australia needs to recalibrate its China policy to optimize national interests**. If Australia's China policy is to return to a normal, professional and ...

4.2(h) Constructive engagement': **Tehan reaches out to Chinese counterpart in bid to end trade dispute**

<https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/constructive-engagement-tehan-reaches-out-to-chinese-counterpart-in-bid-to-end-trade-dispute-20210122-p56w2j.html#comments>

Report highlight; New Trade Minister Dan Tehan has extended an olive branch to his Chinese counterpart in a bid to repair Australia's deteriorating relationship with its largest trading partner, saying he wants "very constructive engagement" with Beijing. In his first interview since taking over the portfolio last month, Mr Tehan said he hoped the appointment of new Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Wentao would "get the relationship, get a dialogue in the relationship, happening again".

4.3 John Menadue P& I articles an Australian Blog om Australia-China Trade

4.3(a) **Australia, China and the weaponising of trade - Pearls and ...**

johnmenadue.com > australia-china-and-the-weaponisin...

Dec 17, 2020 — The conflict between **Australia** and **China** worsens with each passing day. The latest piece of news, **China's** 'indefinite' pause in coal imports ...

4.3(b) **China-Australia trade conflict is not all China's doing - Pearls ...**

johnmenadue.com > china-australia-trade-conflict-is-no...

1 days ago — After signing a free **trade** and investment agreement with **China** in 2015,
2 we: Blocked more than 100 **Chinese** imports by using anti-dumping .

..

4.3(c) **The scary picture of a failed Australia-China trade relations ...**

johnmenadue.com > the-scary-picture-of-a-failed-austra...

Sep 29, 2020 — The scary picture of a failed **Australia-China trade** relations ? ... you won't find on CNN or Fox News), and **Australian** owned John Menaude ... A short but interesting chronology of the **Australia-China trade** war in 2020 and ... in the World Daily News Information Clearing House, **John Menadue** Blog and ...

4.3(d) **How Australia sabotaged its own interests in relations with ...**

johnmenadue.com > how-australia-sabotaged-its-own-i...

Dec 6, 2020 — The destruction over the past five years of **Australia's** mutually beneficial diplomatic and **trade** relationship with **China** was probably a ...

4.3(e) **An all-out trade war with China would cost Australia 6% of ...**



CHINESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
OF AUSTRALIA



MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES
COUNCIL OF NSW



NATIONAL SIKH COUNCIL OF
AUSTRALIA



NATIONAL CHINESE AUSTRALIAN
LEADERSHIP GROUP

Community Joint submission to Senate FADT page: 8

johnmenadue.com > an-all-out-trade-war-with-china-w...

Dec 2, 2020 — **China** accounts for more than a third of export dollars earned by **Australia**.
... Pearls & Irritations · **John Menadue** · Our Writers · Style guide · Contributions ... An all-out **trade** war with **China** would cost **Australia** 6% of GDP ... Conversation authors John Quiggin and James Laurenceson argue the effects ...

4.3(f) **Australia and China: Getting out of the hole - Pearls and ...**

johnmenadue.com > australia-and-china-getting-out-of-...

Nov 27, 2020 — Pearls & Irritations · **John Menadue** · Our Writers · Style guide · Contributions ... **Australia** and **China**: Getting out of the hole ... of treaty obligations as well), discriminatory and overprotective **trade** and industry policies, and ... The first is what (as John McCarthy recently reminded us) Talleyrand would have ...

4.3(g) **Bad relations with China are not in Australia's interests ...**

johnmenadue.com > bad-relations-with-china-are-not-i...

Dec 4, 2020 — On 30 November 2020, Robert Gottliebsen, **business** columnist for The **Australian**, a newspaper nobody could accuse of being favourably biased ...

4.3(h) **Australia-China relations: a downward spiral that can be ...**

johnmenadue.com > australia-china-relations-a-downwa...

Nov 6, 2020 — **Australia** and **China** agreed to the **China Australia Free Trade Agreement** (ChAFTA), opening up significant **trade** opportunities. And in a piece ...

4.3(i) **Pompeo and Blinken are wrong: China is not committing genocide in Xinjiang**

By [COLIN MACKERRAS](#) | On 25 January 2021

<https://johnmenadue.com/pompeo-and-blinken-are-wrong-china-is-not-committing-genocide-in-xinjiang/>

On his last day as US secretary of state, Mike Pompeo declared China's human rights abuses in the Xinjiang region constituted "genocide" against ethnic Uighur Muslims. This outrageous declaration was the last of many that Pompeo has issued in a deliberate attempt to destroy relations with China on his way out of office.

4.3(j) **Xinjiang residents upload personal videos to debunk Pompeo's lies on 'genocide**

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202101/1213911.shtml>'

4.4 Other publications (videos or tv)

4.4(a) Chocolate: still tainted by child labour

By [TONI HASSAN](#) | On 17 January 2021

<https://johnmenadue.com/toni-hassan-chocolate-a-sector-still-tainted-by-child-labour/>

It will come as a surprise to many that hazardous child labour persists in the mainstream production of cocoa.

4.4(b) UK ambiguous position South China Morning Post 14 Jan 2020 Britain's Boris Johnson warns against 'unthinking sinophobia' in China ties



CHINESE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
OF AUSTRALIA



MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES
COUNCIL OF NSW



NATIONAL SIKH COUNCIL OF
AUSTRALIA



NATIONAL CHINESE AUSTRALIAN
LEADERSHIP GROUP

Community Joint submission to Senate FADT page: 9

<https://www.scmp.com/news/world/europe/article/3117635/britains-boris-johnson-warns-against-unthinking-sinophobia-china>

Report highlight: The prime minister's comments come amid heightened tensions with Beijing over its Hong Kong crackdown, forced labour in Xinjiang and the UK's Huawei ban. Johnson says 'calling out human rights abuses' should not stop the countries from having a 'productive relationship'.

And his foreign Secretary somewhat contradicts the PM Boris Johnson.

4.4(c) Britain introduces new policies to end supply-chain links to Xinjiang

Report highlight: British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab announces moves to cut off business with suppliers where there is sufficient evidence of human rights violations. Our aim, put simply, is that no company that profits from forced labour in Xinjiang can do business in the UK,' he says.

4.4(d) Videos Has China Won? 21 May 2020 on US-China relations

Prof Kishore Mahbubani former President of the United Nations Security Council (2001–2002) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=li6xcTsVPB4>

Singapore's Permanent Representative to the United Nations (1984 – 1989, then 1998 – 2004) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=li6xcTsVPB4>

and a later review on the subject in:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v1Nrgw37If0&t=11s>

4.4(e) #FerMuBe #XinJiang video Xinjiang the Future of China.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i915eArrego>

[end Section 4)

[end submission]

Dr Anthony Pun, OAM

Chair, Multicultural Communities Council of NSW Inc

And on behalf of:

Chinese Community Council of Australia Inc. (Mr Kinglsey Liu, President)

National Sikh Council of Australia Inc. (Mr Ajmer Singh Gill, National President)

National Chinese Australian Leadership Group (Dr Ka Sing Chua, Coordinator)