

His Excellency  
Mr. Xi Jinping  
President of the People's Republic of China  
Via Botschaft der VR China  
Märkisches Ufer 54  
10179 Berlin

Fax: 030 27588221

Your Excellency,

I am writing to you today out of concern for the Chinese Christian Zhang Wenying. On August 14, 2021, a court in the city of Kaili (Guizhou Province) sentenced the pastor of a Seventh-day Adventist congregation – an officially registered church – to twelve years of imprisonment. She was accused of fraud for having collected donations for the purpose of administering her congregation. Unfortunately, despite testimony given in her favor, witnesses stated before the court that, as members of the congregation, they had donated voluntarily for the administration of their church and had agreed with the way the funds were used.

I regard these actions as a violation of religious freedom. Allow me to refer to Article 36 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China, which states: “Citizens of the People's Republic of China enjoy freedom of religious belief.” In this spirit, I respectfully ask you to support the observance of religious freedom and, above all, to advocate for the release of Zhang Wenying.

Most respectfully