

Foreign Secretary statement on Xinjiang: 24 May 2022

Press release

Foreign Secretary Liz Truss issues a statement following new evidence emerging of China's human rights violations in Xinjiang.



UK Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said:

Today, further shocking details of China's human rights violations in Xinjiang have emerged, which add to the already extensive body of evidence from Chinese government documents, first-hand testimony, satellite imagery and visits by our own diplomats to the region.

New evidence shows the extraordinary scale of China's targeting of Uyghur Muslims and other ethnic minorities, including forced labour, severe restrictions on freedom of religion, the separation of parents from their children, forced birth control, and mass incarceration.

The UK stands with our international partners in calling out China's appalling persecution of Uyghur Muslims and other minorities. We remain committed to holding China to account.

We reiterate our longstanding expectation that China grants the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights full and unfettered access to the region so that she can conduct a thorough assessment of the facts on the ground, and we are following her visit this week closely.

If such access is not forthcoming, the visit will only serve to highlight China's attempts to hide the truth of its actions in Xinjiang.

Published 24 May 2022