

Chief Procurator Chen Yong
Shanghai People's Procuratorate
75 Jian'guo West Rd, Shanghai, 200020
People's Republic of China

Dear Chief Procurator Chen,

In November 2023 **Chen Pinlin (陈品霖)**, also known as Plato, released the documentary “Urumqi Middle Road” (乌鲁木齐中路). This film records scenes from the nationwide “White Paper Movement”, a series of peaceful protests against three years of rolling lockdowns under China’s zero-COVID policy and the harsh environment of censorship and surveillance in China.

I am writing to express my grave concern for Chen’s well-being. On January 5, 2024, police in Shanghai arrested him for “picking quarrels and provoking trouble”. Chen is currently being held in pre-trial detention at the Baoshan Detention Center in Shanghai. While in custody, Chen is at risk of torture and other ill-treatment, as well as violations of his due process rights.

Chen Pinlin is being detained solely for the peaceful exercise of his right to freedom of expression. Therefore, I urge you to release Chen Pinlin immediately and unconditionally. Pending his release, I urge you to ensure he is not subjected to torture and other ill-treatment. Finally, I urge you to stop threatening, harassing, and arresting Chen’s family, other individuals associated with the White Paper Movement, and anyone who peacefully exercises their rights to freedom of expression and association.

Yours sincerely,

CC: Ambassador Xie Fang
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