Absender

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Director of Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region No. 1 Prison  
215 Hebeidonglu  
Urumqi 830013  
Xinjiang Weiwuer Zizhiqu

VOLKSREPUBLIK CHINA

Datum

**Ilham Tohti**

Dear Director,

January 15, 2022 marks the seventh anniversary of *Ilham Tohti's* imprisonment. The Uyghur scholar and writer was sentenced to life imprisonment for “separatism” simply because he criticized the Chinese government’s treatment of the predominantly Muslim Uyghur minority, promoted peaceful dialogue and campaigned against injustice and discrimination. He was tortured in prison and has had no contact with his family for some time. *Ilham Tohti* is a prisoner of conscience who is being held solely for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression.

I urge you to speak out for the release of *Ilham Tohti*. Please ensure that he is not tortured or otherwise ill-treated in detention, has access to medical treatment, and has regular contact with his family and legal representatives.

Sincerely,