



Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China
對中政策跨國議會聯盟
對中政策跨國議會聯盟
對中政策に関する列國議會連盟

Jack Perry Jr.
Chairman
The 48 Group Club
Suite A, 6, Honduras Street, London,
England, EC1Y 0TH

April 9, 2026

Dear Mr. Perry,

As members of The Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China (IPAC), we write regarding the 48 Group Club's (hereafter "48 Group") troubling ties to the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), including business activities and other engagements with organizations and individuals connected to the CCP's United Front system.

United Front work is a sophisticated blend of engagement, influence, and intelligence operations that the CCP employs to shape its political environment and advance its strategic objectives. The United Front's activities include technology transfer, surveillance of Chinese diaspora communities, promotion of pro-People's Republic of China (PRC) narratives through seemingly independent voices, and the harassment, intimidation, or neutralization of CCP critics. These operations are carried out through an extensive and well-documented network of organizations that operate in parallel with China's Foreign Ministry, party organs, and intelligence services, seeking to influence companies, associations, universities, think tanks, civic organizations, prominent individuals, and public opinion worldwide.¹ The United Kingdom is a clear target of the CCP's malign influence activities.²

In particular, we are concerned by the 48 Group's relationship with the alleged CCP agent and spy, Mr. Yang Tengbao.³ Mr. Yang reportedly maintained close ties to the CCP's United Front

¹ U.S. House Select Committee on China, *Memorandum: United Front 101*, (Sept. 2023), <https://chinaselectcommittee.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/selectcommitteeontheccp.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/uf-101-memo-final-pdf-version.pdf>

² National Protective Security Authority, *Protecting our Democratic Institutions: Countering Espionage and Foreign Interference*,

<https://www.npsa.gov.uk/national-security-act/defending-democracy/countering-espionage-and-foreign-interference>

³ Frances Mao, *Yang Tengbo: Who is alleged Chinese spy linked to Prince Andrew?*, BBC (January 31, 2025), <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c3dx1yzzerlo>

Work Department⁴ while serving as an honorary board member of the organization.⁵ As recently as 2022, Mr. Yang was listed as an honorary board member of the 48 Group.⁶ While the organization reportedly rescinded Mr. Yang's membership in 2023 due to the revelation that the UK government deemed that his "presence posed a threat to national security," this does not help explain how he was admitted as a member in the 48 Group or the degree to which Mr. Yang may have influenced the organization's mission. Indeed, there remain other individuals currently affiliated with the 48 Group who have either served in senior levels of the Chinese government or maintain close ties to the PRC.

A review of other PRC-linked individuals on the 48 Group's website reads like a Who's Who among CCP political and business elites. For example, the list includes political heavyweights such as Mr. Li Yuanchao, former vice president of the PRC; Ms. Fu Ying, former vice minister of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Jiang Enzhu, former chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress and president of Xinhua News Agency; Mr. Liu Mingkang, chairman of the China Banking Regulatory Commission; Mr. Zha Peixin, former UK ambassador and chair of the NPC-European Parliament Relations Group; and several former chairmen of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT). First formed in 1952, CCPIT has long been identified publicly by the U.S. intelligence community as a central node in the CCP's United Front system targeting foreign business communities.⁷

Other current honorary members—a title also held by Mr. Yang—include current and former representatives from major Chinese state-controlled companies like Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd., China Telecom Global Ltd., and China COSCO SHIPPING Corporation Limited, and Bank of China (UK)⁸—companies that the U.S. has either designated as a national security risk for working with the Chinese military or penalized for allegedly violating U.S. sanctions.⁹

⁴ United Front Work Department, UK Parliament (2024), <https://hansard.parliament.uk/Lords/2024-12-17/debates/45C0387C-450D-4515-AF1C-3E2EC8F0D1CF/UnitedFrontWorkDepartment>;

Jane Tang, *EXCLUSIVE: United Front-linked group lauded Yang Tengbo's ties to David Cameron*, RFA (December 16, 2024), <https://www.rfa.org/english/china/2024/12/16/yang-tengbo-david-cameron-united-front/>

⁵ *Id.* at 3.

⁶ *Who's Who*, The 48 Group Club, available at <https://web.archive.org/web/20221024101213/https://www.the48groupclub.com/about-the-club/whos-who/>

⁷ John Dotson, *China Explores Economic Outreach to U.S. States Via United Front Entities*, The Jamestown Foundation (June 26, 2019), <https://jamestown.org/china-explores-economic-outreach-to-u-s-states-via-united-front-entities/>; Central Intelligence Agency, *The United Front in Communist China* (May 1957) (approved for release August 24, 1999), <https://www.cia.gov/readingroom/docs/CIA-RDP78-00915R000600210003-9.pdf>.

⁸ *People*, The 48 Group Club, available at <https://www.48group.co.uk/people>

⁹ U.S. Department of War, *Entities Identified as Chinese Military Companies Operating in the United States in Accordance with Section 1260H of the William M. ("Mac") Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021* (Jan. 7, 2025),

The CCP sees the 48 Group as a tool for its ability to shape British narratives and for elite capture.¹⁰ Reportedly with over 500 members, the 48 Group has been described as serving “as a meeting place and networking hub for friends of China, through which Beijing grooms Britain’s elites.”¹¹ Given the 48 Group’s political access to the current UK government¹²—the CCP is incentivized to cultivate influence with the organization to provide it with channels of leverage over the United Kingdom, its government, and, by extension, its British and international audience. In turn, senior leaders of the 48 Group have been on the record repeatedly spouting CCP talking points and propaganda.¹³

The CCP is undertaking a coordinated campaign to undermine democratic institutions, pressure open societies, and coerce economies through foreign interference, strategic investment, and military aggression. The CCP’s United Front operations and interference activities are central to this strategy. In the face of rising authoritarian interference in democracies, IPAC is committed to deepening our coordination across the Atlantic and beyond—to protect our shared values, strengthen collective resilience, and ensure the free world stands united in defending a peaceful, rules-based international order.¹⁴

As members of the Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China, we respectfully request the 48 Group Club provide the following:

<https://media.defense.gov/2025/Jan/07/2003625471/-1/-1/1/ENTITIES-IDENTIFIED-AS-CHINESE-MILITARY-COMPANIES-OPERATING-IN-THE-UNITED-STATES.PDF>; Settlement Agreement Between the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control and Bank of China (UK) Ltd. (Aug. 26, 2021), <https://ofac.treasury.gov/recent-actions/20210826>.

¹⁰ Clive Hamilton & Mareike Ohlberg, *Hidden Hand: Exposing How the Chinese Communist Party Is Reshaping the World* (2020), https://archive.org/stream/hidden-hand-exposing-how-the-chinese-communist-party-is-reshaping-the-world/Hidden%20Hand%20Exposing%20How%20the%20Chinese%20Communist%20Party%20is%20Reshaping%20the%20World_djvu.txt

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² Stella Robertson and Josh Hoang-Wilkes, *What Is the 48 Group Club and Why Is It Connected With So Many U.K. Elite?*, *Domino Theory* (Oct. 17, 2025), <https://dominotheory.com/what-is-the-48-group-club-and-why-is-it-connected-with-so-many-u-k-elite/>.

¹³ Ma Jingjing, *48 Group Club’s Jack Perry Jr optimistic about China’s economic prospect, hoping closer China-UK cooperation*, *The Global Times* (October 21, 2024), <https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202410/1321594.shtml>; and *British expert: China’s global economic clout makes ‘isolation’ impossible*, *CGTN* (November 14, 2025), <https://news.cgtn.com/news/2025-11-14/British-expert-China-s-economic-clout-makes-isolation-impossible-1IhZ5eHfv9u/p.html>

¹⁴ Press Release, U.S. House Select Committee on China, *Democracies United: U.S. and Allies Confront CCP Threats Head-On* (May 23, 2025), <https://chinaselectcommittee.house.gov/media/press-releases/democracies-united-us-and-allies-confront-ccp-threats-head>.

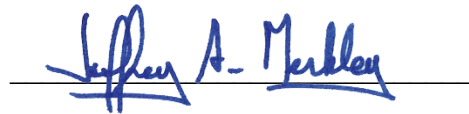
1. Compliance, risk, and due-diligence assessments that the 48 Group conducted when entering or expanding its partnerships with individuals affiliated with the CCP's United Front system.
2. Records of internal deliberations regarding Mr. Yang's membership and those specifically relating to how he was admitted as a member in the 48 Group, and a detailed explanation of what an association with the organization, including an honorary membership, actually entails.
3. All agreements, memoranda, or contracts between the 48 Group and any of the following: Mr. Yang, Mr. Li Yuanchao, Ms. Fu Ying, Mr. Jiang Enzhu, Mr. Liu Mingkang, Mr. Zha Peixin, Mr. Michael Liu, Mr. Winston Fang, Mr. Ou Yan, Shicheng Yang, Mr. Wang Jifei, Mr. Liu Jinsheng, Mr. Yu Xiaosong, or any PRC-based entities and ties to the CCP's United Front system.

Please respond to the above questions to Russell.hsiao@mail.house.gov by 22 April.

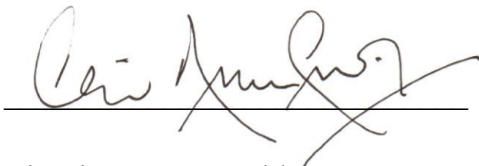
Sincerely,



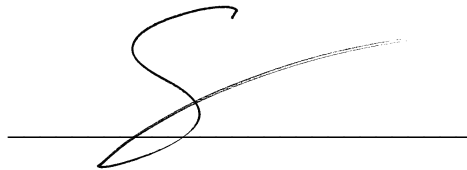
Representative John Moolenaar
Co-Chair, United States
Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China



Senator Jeff Merkley
Co-Chair, United States
Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China



Sir Iain Duncan Smith MP
Co-Chair, United Kingdom
Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China



Sarah Champion MP
Member, United Kingdom
Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China