

URGENT ACTION

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER DISAPPEARED WHILE SEEKING URGENT MEDICAL CARE

Human rights defender Yin Xu'an was reportedly taken away by authorities on August 2025, after traveling to Beijing to seek urgently needed medical treatment. Since then, his fate and whereabouts remain unknown despite repeated efforts by his family and supporters. Given his health condition and the authorities' previous interference with his access to medical care, there are grave concerns for his wellbeing. Amnesty International calls on the authorities to immediately disclose his whereabouts, ensure he has access to his family and lawyers of his choosing, and adequate medical care, and release him if he is being detained solely for the peaceful exercise of his human rights.

TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter to the government official(s) listed. Use the sample letter below as a guide or use your own words.
- [Click here](#) to report your action(s) on **UA 80.26**. We share this number with the officials we are trying to persuade.

Secretary Li Wenbo

Secretary of the Political and Legal Affairs Commission

Huangshi Municipal Committee of the Communist Party of China
No. 1 Hangzhou East Road, Xialu District
Huangshi City, Hubei Province
People's Republic of China

Send a copy of your letter to the address below

CC: Embassy of China in the United States

Ambassador Xie Fang

3505 International Place, NW,
Washington DC 20008

Email: chinaembpress_us@mfa.gov.cn

Dear Secretary Li,

I am concerned about the enforced disappearance of **Yin Xu'an**, a human rights defender from Daye City, Hubei Province, whose fate and whereabouts have remained unknown since August 2025.

According to available information, Yin Xu'an was taken into custody by the authorities on August 11, 2025 after traveling to Beijing to seek urgently needed medical treatment for serious health conditions, including severe hypertension, coronary heart disease, and renal artery stenosis. Since then, his family and supporters have been unable to obtain any information regarding his whereabouts, legal status, or physical condition.

The urgency of the case stems not only from the disappearance itself, but also from the continuing and ongoing nature of the apparent violation and the serious concerns for Yin Xu'an's health. Enforced disappearance is considered a continuing human rights violation until the person's fate and whereabouts are clarified.

I call on you to immediately disclose Yin Xu'an's whereabouts and legal status and ensure that he is protected from torture and other ill-treatment. I urge you to ensure that Yin Xu'an has prompt and regular access to his family, lawyers of his choice, and any medical treatment he requires, including specialist care where medically necessary. If he is being detained solely for the peaceful exercise of his human rights, he must be released immediately and unconditionally.

Yours sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Yin Xu'an is a long-time human rights defender and petitioner from Daye City, Hubei Province. For nearly two decades, he has sought accountability for alleged human rights violations, including wrongful convictions, arbitrary detention, forced evictions, and land expropriation. He has also advocated for legal reforms and for China to ratify and implement international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

As a result of his peaceful activism, Yin Xu'an has faced years of harassment and reprisals by the authorities. He has previously been imprisoned on multiple occasions in connection with his human rights work and activities petitioning authorities. In 2017, he was sentenced to three and a half years' imprisonment for "picking quarrels and provoking trouble" (寻衅滋事). In 2021, he was again sentenced to four and a half years' imprisonment on the same charge. "Picking quarrels and provoking trouble" is a vaguely defined offense frequently used by the Chinese authorities to criminalize the peaceful exercise of human rights, including freedom of expression.

Due to years of harassment, detention, and imprisonment, Yin Xu'an reportedly developed and continued to suffer from several serious health conditions, including severe hypertension and coronary heart disease. According to available information, local hospitals in Hubei Province were unable to provide the specialist treatment he required. On July 28, 2025, Yin Xu'an reportedly traveled to Beijing carrying a referral issued by a hospital in Hubei Province for treatment at Fuwai Hospital. However, upon arriving at Beijing West Railway Station, he was allegedly intercepted by officials and forcibly returned by personnel from the Daye Public Security Bureau to his home.

As his condition continued to deteriorate, Yin traveled to Beijing again on August 10, 2025 and temporarily stayed with a friend while preparing to attend a medical appointment the following day. On August 11, 2025, officials reportedly led by Xu Yuefei, Secretary of the Political and Legal Affairs Commission of Bao'an Town, located and took him away. Since then, his family and supporters have been unable to obtain any information regarding his whereabouts, legal status, or physical condition.

Yin Xu'an's case reflects a broader pattern of retaliation against human rights defenders in China. Amnesty International has documented the use of arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, prolonged incommunicado detention, restrictions on access to lawyers, and the criminalization of peaceful human rights activism through offenses such as "picking quarrels and provoking trouble".

Enforced disappearance is a crime under international law and a multiple and continuous violation of human rights. It is an autonomous crime with multiple and interconnected elements that might constitute violations of several rights. Any individual who has suffered harm as the direct result of an enforced disappearance is a victim of an enforced disappearance. This includes the families of disappeared persons. The denial of the right to know the truth about the whereabouts of a person forcibly disappeared results in turn in a form of cruel and inhuman treatment for the immediate family.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: English, Chinese, or your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: December 31, 2026

NAME AND PRONOUN: Yin Xu'an (He/him - Yin is his surname, Xu'an is his given name)