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FREEDOM NOW

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**14 MEMBERS OF BRITISH PARLIAMENT CALL ON PRIME MINISTER CAMERON TO  
ADDRESS CASES OF LIU XIAOBO AND GAO ZHISHENG**

14 members of the British Parliament urged Prime Minister Cameron to ask Chinese President Hu Jintao at the G-20 Summit in Seoul, South Korea from November 11-12, 2010, to release Chinese prisoners of conscience Liu Xiaobo and Gao Zhisheng. In a letter dated November 5, 2010, the Members of Parliament declared: “China must be discouraged from detaining individuals for exercising their fundamental right to freedom of expression.”

“Grace, Peter, and I are so grateful for the support of these Members of Parliament,” said Gao’s wife, Geng He. “I beg Prime Minister Cameron to help secure the release of Grace and Peter’s father as he travels to Beijing and then on to Seoul for the G-20.”

On October 4, 2010, Liu and Gao’s international legal teams released a letter from 29 members of the United States House of Representatives to President Obama requesting that he raise Liu and Gao’s cases with President Hu at the G-20. On October 25, 2010, Liu’s international legal team released a letter from 15 Nobel Peace Prize Laureates to the leaders of the G-20 countries and the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urging them to raise Liu’s case with President Hu at the G-20. On November 4, 2010, the Honorable Irwin Cotler released a letter from 11 Members of Canada’s Parliament urging Prime Minister Harper to raise Liu and Gao’s cases with President Hu at the G-20. The letter to Prime Minister Cameron was coordinated by CSW, the UK-based religious freedom NGO.

Liu Xiaobo is the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate. He is a renowned scholar and democracy activist whose role drafting Charter 08 led to his December 2009 sentence of 11 years in prison for “incitement to subvert state power.” Gao Zhisheng is a human rights lawyer known as the “conscience of China” who was disappeared by the Chinese government in February 2009. He was briefly released in March 2010 and again disappeared in April 2010. He is currently held *incommunicado* in an unknown location.

Freedom Now was retained by Liu Xiaobo’s wife, Liu Xia, to serve as his international *pro bono* legal counsel. In addition to Freedom Now, the team of international human rights specialists includes Jerome A. Cohen, Irwin Cotler MP, David Kilgour, and Yang Jianli. Freedom Now was also retained by Gao Zhisheng’s wife, Geng He, to serve as his international *pro bono* legal counsel along with international human rights specialists Jerome A. Cohen, Irwin Cotler MP, Albert Ho, David Matas, and David Kilgour.

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*Our mission is to free prisoners of conscience through focused legal, political and public relations advocacy efforts.*