



FREEDOM NOW

Honorary Co-Chairs  
The Honorable Václav Havel  
The Most Reverend Desmond M. Tutu

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release  
October 10, 2010**

**Contact: Beth Schwanke  
+1 (202) 617-0744  
bschwanke@freedom-now.org**

### **WIFE OF LIU XIAOBO DETAINED**

The Chinese government is detaining Liu Xia, the wife of the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize recipient, at her Beijing apartment. She has not been charged with a crime, however, is she is no longer allowed to leave her apartment. Friends and media are not allowed to enter her apartment. She is also no longer allowed to use her mobile phone.

“Liu Xia is under enormous pressure,” Dr. Yang Jianli, founder of Initiatives for China and one of Liu’s international team of legal counsel and human rights specialists with Freedom Now. “We hope that world leaders will immediately condemn this shameful act by the Chinese government and urge Liu Xia’s immediate and unconditional release.” Dr. Yang went on to call for international media and the Chinese dissident community to surround Liu Xia’s apartment compound and demand interviews and access.

Liu Xia was able to inform Liu Xiaobo that he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in a brief visit to his prison in Jinzhou. Upon hearing the news, Liu Xiaobo cried and said that the “award is for the Tiananmen martyrs.”

Freedom Now represents Liu Xiaobo with a team of international human rights specialists, including NYU Law Professor and Adjunct Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations Jerome A. Cohen, Canadian Member of Parliament and Former Minister of Justice and Attorney General Irwin Cotler, Former Canadian Member of Parliament and Secretary of State, Asia Pacific David Kilgour, and former Freedom Now client and Founder and President of Initiatives for China Dr. Yang Jianli.