Good afternoon. On behalf of the Human Rights Foundation, we are humbled to be a co-host of this important event today.

I would like to first acknowledge and express my deepest gratitude and admiration to all the brave activists, organizations, and allies here in the audience today, who — day-in and day-out — spearheaded the #NoBeijing2022 movement, putting the Chinese government’s abuses to the top of the global agenda.

From hanging flags on the Acropolis in Greece, to hosting a long and peaceful vigil outside the White House, your efforts have helped spark diplomatic boycotts from the United States, Canada, Australia, and more.

From the slopes of Aspen to the halls of Congress, your efforts have sounded the alarm against the Chinese Communist Party’s unrelenting repression.

**Today, we stand here united** because we believe more must be done to hold the Chinese government accountable for their crimes against humanity.

With its abysmal human rights record and history of broken promises, Beijing should have never been awarded the opportunity to host these games.

Yet, time and time again, we have seen the appalling complicity of the International Olympics Committee, and their refusal to stand on the right side of history.

**Today, we stand here united** as we call on the IOC and corporate sponsors to ask: *Where is your moral conscience?*

*How can you turn a blind eye* when more than a million Uyghurs, Kazakhs, and other Muslim groups are detained in China’s mass network of concentration camps?

*How can you turn a blind eye* to torture, to rape, and to genocide?
How can you ignore the severe suffocation of freedoms in Tibet — where even a simple WeChat message, a Tibetan flag, or a photo of the Dalai Lama could have you arrested?

How can you look the other way when an entire generation of pro-democracy, freedom-loving youth, activists, journalists, and politicians in Hong Kong are thrown into prison?

How can you accept blatant threats of use of force, of violence, of invasion — something Taiwan constantly faces?

And how can we be sure that our own athletes will be safe and uncensored, when there is no press freedom? No internet freedom? When we don’t even know the safety and well-being of Peng Shuai?

Today, we stand here united because historically, dictators have long used these very games to whitewash their abuses.

For every athlete who stands on a podium, for every sponsor funding the games, for every broadcast streamed, there are millions separated from their families, detained, tortured, and silenced.

Today, we are here united, hand-in-hand, to strongly condemn the Chinese government’s abuses, to protect democratic values, and to stand in solidarity.

Today, tomorrow, and onward - we stand united, undeterred, and ready to continue the struggle for freedom together.

Thank you.

By Jenny Wang
Human Rights Foundation
Delivered on February 3, 2022