

**TAKE ACTION: Please cut and paste this letter onto your personal or Institutional letterhead calling for the immediate release from prison of journalist Cheng Shuqing.**

June 22, 2007  
His Excellency Hu Jintao  
President of the People's Republic of China  
State Council  
Beijing 100032  
People's Republic of China

Excellency,

I wish to add my name to this appeal from PEN Canada, the Canadian centre of the international writers' organization, International PEN. PEN Canada is writing to protest the continued detention of **Chen Shuqing**.

According to PEN's information, Chen Shuqing, a dissident writer and leading member of the Zhejiang Branch of the banned Chinese Democratic Party (CDP), was arrested on 14 September 2006 on subversion charges. His case has twice been handed back to the police for lack of evidence. He went voluntarily to the Daguang Police Station, Hangzhou City, Zhejiang Province after receiving a police summons, and following his arrest police raided his home and took away his computer and some documents. The reason for the charge is not known, although he is known for his critical articles published on various overseas Chinese websites such as Boxun, Minzhu Luntan, Dajiyuan, Yi Bao, Guancha, and Xin Shiji.

Chen, aged 42, was previously detained in 1999 for 4 months for his role in the setting up the banned Chinese Democratic Party. After his release, he trained to become a lawyer, but in 2005, after passing his exams, he was refused a lawyer's licence by the Justice Bureau of Zhejiang Province, who alleged his articles published online had violated China's Constitution. Chen challenged this ruling in court, but lost the case in both the lower and the appeal courts. He has since been subject to police harassment

**PEN Canada protests the detention of Chen Shuqing, and calls for his immediate and unconditional release in accordance with Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to which China is a signatory. PEN Canada also urges the authorities to respect the basic rights of Chen Shuqing whilst detained and to grant him full access to his family, lawyer and any necessary medical care.**

Sincerely,

[Your name and address]

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Appeals to:

**Procurator General Mr. Jia Chunwang**  
Supreme People's Procuratorate  
Beiheyuan Street 147  
100726 Beijing  
People's Republic of China

**Ms. Wu Aiying**  
Minister of Justice  
10 Chaoyangmen Nandajie  
Chaoyang District

Beijing 100020

People's Republic of China

Please note that there are no fax numbers for the Chinese authorities. PEN Canada recommends that you copy your appeal to the Chinese embassy in your country asking them to forward it and welcoming any comments.

COPIES TO:

Embassy of the People's Republic of China

515 St. Patrick Street

Ottawa ON K1N 5H3

Fax: +1 613 789 1911 / 789 1414

Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations

New York City, New York

Fax: +1 212 634 7626

E-mail: chinamission\_un@mfa.gov.cn

Please send copies of your appeal to the following Canadian authorities:

The Hon. Peter MacKay

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Lester B. Pearson Building, Room A-10

125 Sussex Drive

Ottawa ON K1A 0G2

Fax: (613) 996 3443

E-mail: peter.mackay@international.gc.ca

Peter Harder

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs

Foreign Affairs Canada

E-mail: peter.harder@international.gc.ca

Canadian Embassy

19 Dongzhimenwai Dajie

Chao Yang District

Beijing 100600

People's Republic of China

Fax: +001 86 10 6532 1684

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