

# PRC Transnational Repression Reporting Guide

safeguard  
DEFENDERS

Reporting acts of transnational repression against you or others is an essential step in our ability to combat such acts.

Your reporting serves not only to protect yourself but also others from becoming the potential targets of future acts.

## Remember!

If you are in imminent danger, alert local law enforcement at the general number immediately.



## Read this post in different languages



Chinese (simplified)



Chinese (traditional)



Tibetan



Uyghur

Transnational Repression is an increasingly prevalent phenomenon whereby states reach across borders to harm, intimidate, and silence journalists, activists, dissidents, and

diaspora communities. More broadly, it can be described as any attempt to silence or adversely influence independent democratic discourse on authoritarian actors.

## Transnational repression may take the following forms



- Stalking and unwanted physical or electronic surveillance
- Harassment
- Hacking
- Physical assaults
- Attempted kidnapping
- Forcing or coercing the victim to return to the home country
- Threatening or detaining family members in the home country
- Freezing financial assets
- Online disinformation campaigns to discredit an individual or group
- Surveillance of protest activity or threats to political activists

These acts all aim to severely undermine the target's free enjoyment of their freedom of speech, freedom of movement and/or freedom of assembly and association.

A growing number of democratic countries have started to pay increased attention to this phenomenon, including through establishment dedicated reporting channels for targets of acts of transnational repression.

To help democratic countries and law enforcement effectively counter these practices, it is **essential targets of such repressive acts report them to the dedicated channels.**

While not all instances may amount to criminal activities, only consistent reporting can assist law enforcement and other relevant agencies to get a better understanding of the breadth of the issue, the techniques used and the needs of the target communities so that together we can bolster our resilience against these practices.

# WHAT TO DO?



## 1. ENSURE PHYSICAL SAFETY

If you are or anyone around you is at immediate risk of severe physical harm, reach out to law enforcement immediately:

- Europe: **112**
- North America: **911**
- Australia: **000**
- United Kingdom: **999**



## 2. DOCUMENT

Once your physical safety is assured, document the activities taking place against you or those around you as well as possible. This may include:

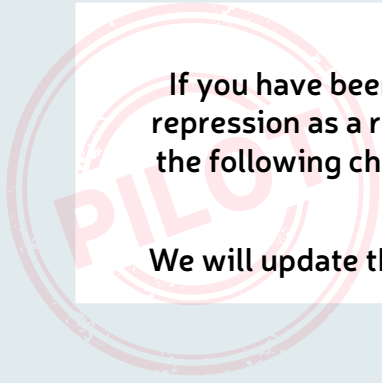
- Record and/or log incoming phone calls;
- Save (screenshot) incoming text messages / emails / online harassment;
- Try to obtain as much detailed information as possible on who is contacting you and on whose behalf (e.g. Public Security authorities/ State Security authorities/Embassy/ Consulate/private individual/...);
- If you are under the impression of being surveilled: do NOT approach or acknowledge the individual(s). Take note of their main physical traits (e.g. Gender, Age, Race, Build) so you may recognize them if they reappear in the future. If possible and at a safe distance, take a picture.
- In case of physical encounter/ surveillance, log the exact location of the incident.



## 3. REPORT

If you have been - or feel you may have been - the target of any acts of transnational repression as a resident or while on the territory of one of the below countries, please note the following channels for reporting in listed countries as communicated to Safeguard Defenders by the relevant authorities.

We will update this list as more countries make dedicated reporting channels available.





## Australia

The Department of Home Affairs has a dedicated National Security Hotline for reports involving foreign interference or other forms of transnational repression.

- **PHONE:** 1800 123 400  
**EMAIL:** [hotline@nationalecurity.gov.au](mailto:hotline@nationalecurity.gov.au)  
**SMS:** 0429 771 822  
**POSTAL ADDRESS:**  
National Security Hotline  
Department of Home Affairs  
PO Box 25  
Belconnen ACT 2616
- If you are travelling overseas and become aware of threats to Australia's security, you can contact the hotline toll-free on **(+61) 1300 123 401**.
- If you need an interpreter, call the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450**. You can ask them to call the National Security Hotline on **1800 123 400**.
- For TTY users, call **1800 234 889**

Also see the Australian Federal Policy's factsheets available in multiple languages, including [Chinese \(simplified\)](#), [Chinese \(traditional\)](#) and [Uyghur](#).



## Belgium

Belgium does not currently have a dedicated hotline for transnational repression.

- To report activities potentially hazardous to society in Belgium, you can reach out anonymously to state security via **+32 (0)2 205 62 11** or [info@vsse.be](mailto:info@vsse.be).
- If you live in Belgium, you can also contact your local police force to report. Local police (active on municipal level) will then reach out to the competent (federal) authorities via internal, dedicated channels: <https://www.police.be/en>.



## Canada

- Call the RCMP's [National Security Information Network](#) at **1-800-420-5805**
- Email at [RCMP.NSIN-RISN.GRC@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:RCMP.NSIN-RISN.GRC@rcmp-grc.gc.ca) (write "PRCTRANSNATIONAL REPRESSION" in the subject line)

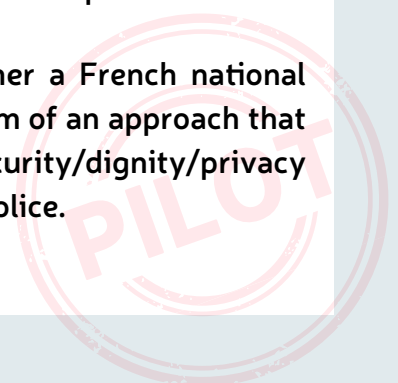
Also see Public Safety Canada's [How to Report Foreign Interference](#) guidelines.



## France

France does not currently have a dedicated hotline for transnational repression.

Any person - whether a French national or not - who is victim of an approach that violates his or her security/dignity/privacy can report it to the police.





## Ireland

Ireland does not currently have a dedicated hotline for transnational repression.

The Irish Department of Justice advises that any such instances should be reported to An Garda Síochána (police).



## Spain

Spain does not currently have a dedicated hotline for transnational repression.

Report to the Policía Nacional:

- Online at <https://denuncias.policia.es/OVD/> (in Spanish, English, German or French)
- Via Phone App to alert the police to threats and request immediate help at <https://alertcops.ses.mir.es/publico/alertcops/> (Spanish or English)



## Portugal

Portugal does not currently have a dedicated hotline for transnational repression.

Report to the national police (Policia Judiciária) at <https://www.policiajudiciaria.pt/english>:

- Step 1: select “comunicações”.
- Step 2: choose between “queixa eletrónica” (electronic complaint) or “denúncia anónima” (anonymous report).

Victims can also go directly to the police’s headquarters in central Lisbon which is operational 24/7.



## Sweden

Sweden does not currently have a dedicated hotline for transnational repression.

Report to Swedish Security Service (SAPO):

- 24/7 tip hotline: **+46 010-568 70 00** (Swedish or English)
- Online (encrypted message): <https://tips.sakerhetspolisen.se/tips/> (Swedish or English)
- Email: [sakerhetspolisen@sakerhetspolisen.se](mailto:sakerhetspolisen@sakerhetspolisen.se)

Report to Swedish Police:

- (Anonymous) tip line: **114 14** (Swedish)
- Info factsheets on various crimes, including stalking, illegal surveillance, threats and online harassment at: <https://polisen.se/utsatt-for-brott/olika-typer-av-brott/>





## United Kingdom

The UK does not currently have a dedicated hotline for transnational repression.

There are a few ways individuals can report an incident to the police:

- calling the police non-emergency number **101**
- reporting it online at [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk)
- visiting a police station

Individuals looking to visit a police station can locate their nearest station using the Find a Police Station service:

<https://www.met.police.uk/contact/find-a-police-station/> for people in London

<https://www.police.uk/pu/find-a-police-force/> for people elsewhere in the UK



## United States

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has centralized reporting on transnational repression:

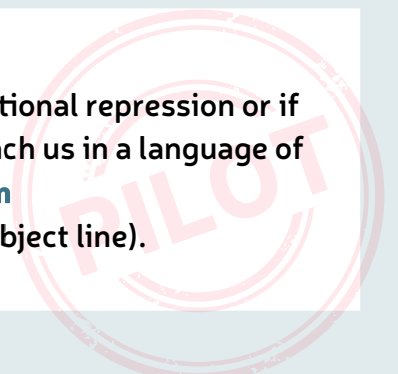
- Contact the FBI online at [tips.fbi.gov](https://tips.fbi.gov) (write “PRC TRANSNATIONAL REPRESSION” in the subject line)
- Call 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324)

Also see the FBI’s dedicated [FBI Threat Intimidation Guide](#), available in multiple languages, including [Chinese \(simplified\)](#), [Chinese \(traditional\)](#), [Tibetan](#) and [Uyghur](#).



## 4. CONTACT

If you are uncertain whether an act against you is an act of transnational repression or if you are unsure which authorities to report to, do not hesitate to reach us in a language of your choice at: [info@safeguarddefenders.com](mailto:info@safeguarddefenders.com) (write “PRC TRANSNATIONAL REPRESSION” in the subject line).



## Warning

The People's Republic of China uses luring to and entrapment in third countries as means to forcefully repatriate individuals to China. **Before traveling, always note your country's contact number for consular emergency services.**

Safeguard Defenders strongly discourages any individual at risk from traveling to or through third countries without having assured safe passage. Please check national travel advisories or Safeguard Defenders' upcoming travel advisory for individuals at risk.



safeguard  
DEFENDERS

[safeguarddefenders.com](https://safeguarddefenders.com)