

A Summary of When and How the 5 Demands Were Formed

The Beginning

On 9 June, the groundswell of opposition to the extradition bill erupted for the first time. An estimated 1 million people marched the Hong Kong streets demanding that the legislation be withdrawn.

The demonstration was very peaceful in the beginning. However, the government ignored their voices and tried to rush the bill through the legislative council. From then on, things started to escalate and it is still going on, 4 months into the movement.

Many events had taken place since the first million-person march (**check out the Timeline exhibit**). On 12 June, police officers fired volleys of tear gas, scattering the stunned crowd of demonstrators. It was the first cries of alarm against their crowd-control tactics.

“In 2019, when an estimated 1 million people took to the streets on June 9, they only had one demand: the withdrawal of the hated extradition bill...But as confrontations with police escalated and the movement morphing into a wide anti-government campaign, protesters came up with five demands.”

Adolfo Arranz and Jeffie Lam, 28 Sept 2019, SCMP



An estimated 2 million people marched through Hong Kong on 16 June.
Photo credit: Robert Ng

Over these past four months, there were countless protests, civil disobedience and strikes. Yet the government did not address the root cause of the unrest and failed to respond sincerely with concrete actions. Furthermore, the Chief Executive Carrie Lam continues to rebuke the protesters, allowing the police to label them as “cockroaches” and forcefully suppress this movement. Bombarded with police brutality (**check out booth E**), gang involvement and alleged collusion with the government, and the empty promises and corruption of the HK government, the Hong Kong people are realizing that their autonomy—as promised in “one country two systems”—is being taken away.

These reasons led to the formation, refinement, and the wide acceptance of the 5 demands of the protests. These represent the most fundamental wishes of millions of us.



“Five Demands, Not One Less!”

March in Shatin, 14 Jul

The first protest in the New Territories, protesters chanted “all 5 demands must be fulfilled” and “Hong Kong police break laws.”

Hunger strikers’ march, 15 Jul

A dozen hunger strikers (many of whom have been on strike for over 12 days), along with 2,400 protesters marched from Admiralty Centre to the Chief Executive’s official residence—Government House. They called for the protesters’ five demands to be answered and requested dialogue with Carrie Lam.

Flashmob rally by finance professionals, 1 Aug

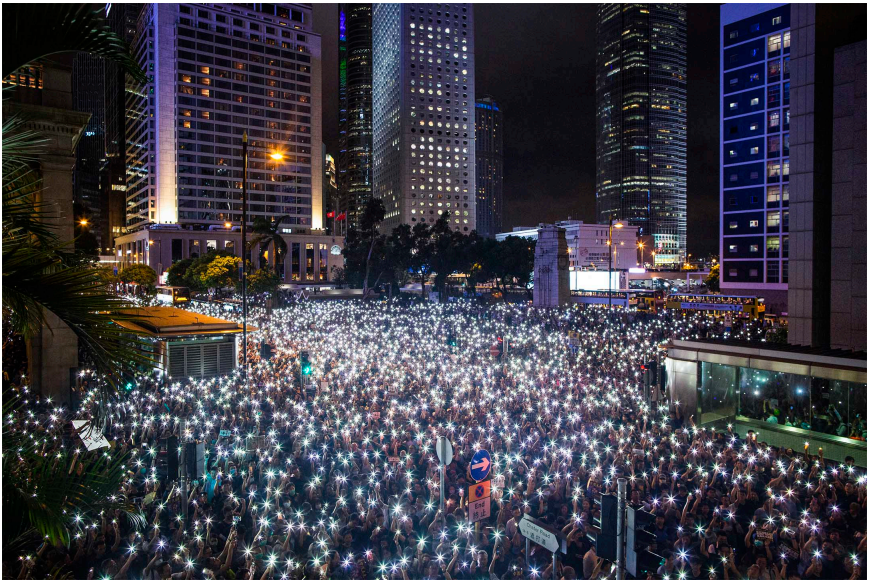


Medical professionals’ march, 2 Aug

This was the third medical sector protest in a week.

“We Stand by Our Citizens”, 2 Aug

Rally by civil servants in Hong Kong.



Legal sector professionals march, 7 Aug

This is their second march, it aimed to speak out against politicized prosecutions of protestors.

Thousands of accountants in march, 23 Aug



Accounting sector lawmaker Kenneth Leung (centre) with fellow protesters in Chater Garden on Friday.
Photo credit: Dickson Lee

“Strike without Stopping Medical Services”, 3 Sep

Kowloon Hospital medical personnel requested the government to respond to the 5 demands

Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act Rally, 8 Sep

A call on the US government to pass the act.

“Hold with You” operation, 16 Sep



A group of medical staff from the Prince of Wales Hospital gathered in the hospital lobby and shouted “Five Demands, No one less” and other anti-ELAB slogans.