



Senato della
Repubblica

**Statement on the 25th Year of Enforced Disappearance of Panchen Lama of Tibet,
Gedhun Choekyi Nyima**

On this 25th year of enforced disappearance of Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the 11th Panchen Lama of Tibet, I call for his immediate release along with his entire family unconditionally. He was kidnapped by the Chinese authorities when he was six-year old and has not been seen in public since 17th May 1995.

Expressing my serious concerns over China's continued disregard of its International human rights obligations, the continued abduction of Panchen Lama of Tibet is a serious human rights issue in particular the violation of Tibetan people's right to freedom of religion and belief.

On the 25th year of the enforced disappearance of Panchen Lama of Tibet, I call upon China immediately reveal the fate and whereabouts of Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, the 11th Panchen Lama of Tibet. For the last six decades, China has not only suppressed Tibetan religious freedom in Tibet but has been used as a means to gain control over Tibetans.

The Chinese authorities must respect Tibetans' freedom of religion and right to choose their own religious heads without governmental interference.

Roberto Rampi
Member of Italian Parliament
Italian Senate
Roberto.Rampi@Senato.it



Camera dei Deputati

On. Antonella Incerti

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Juciano Nobile



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On. Matteo Luigi Bianchi

Rome, 14 May 2020

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Matteo Luigi Bianchi
Italian MP