



To: Dr. Oliver Blume, Chairman of the Board of Management, Volkswagen AG

21/10/2024

Dear Dr Blume,

We, a cross-party group of Members of the European Parliament, are writing to you to express our dismay at the contents of a leaked audit of Volkswagen's joint venture in the Xinjiang province, People's Republic of China (PRC).

The report finds that the factory promoted "ethnic unity" - the policy rubric under which the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) assimilationist policies have been imposed upon Uyghurs and other minorities.

It is also alleged that Volkswagen AG misled the public and its shareholders by claiming to have conducted appropriate supply chain due diligence, and potentially exposed employees to state surveillance.

It is totally unacceptable for a major European company like Volkswagen AG to continue operating a factory where assimilationist policies are promoted, and unacceptable that claims were made about the integrity of their supply chain due-diligence which appear to be false.

We call upon Volkswagen AG to withdraw from Xinjiang in recognition of the impossibility of meaningful human rights due diligence in the region - a fact long acknowledged by experts.

Volkswagen Group's values, which include responsibility, honesty, bravery, diversity, pride, solidarity and pride are all tainted by its presence in Xinjiang, a province infamous for some of the worst crimes against humanity, repression and excesses committed by the CCP. Such entanglements not only harm the European Union's economic security, but make Volkswagen AG morally complicit for the oppression and suffering caused by the totalitarian regime in Xinjiang and across mainland China.

We demand an urgent explanation from Volkswagen AG in response to these reports, full transparency regarding this audit, compliance with relevant European legislation, and return to upholding of the Group's values together with an apology for misleading the public and its shareholders.

Signed,

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