

Forced Organ Harvesting in China: A Crime Against Humanity

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Doctors Against Forced Organ Harvesting

Nominated for Nobel Peace Prize
2016 and 2017

NGO; non profit medical ethics advocacy group of doctors, nurses and other health care providers volunteering to raise awareness, promote ethics in medicine and end unethical forms of organ harvesting globally.



Doctor's Against Forced Organ Harvesting (DAFOH) - Mission

DAFOH is concerned with unethical, illegal organ procurement: *Forced Organ Harvesting* or **FOH**

FOH is non-voluntary organ seizure from prisoners and prisoners of conscience and violates the basic human right to donate organs freely, voluntarily and with informed consent. International guidelines prohibit prisoners to volunteer as donors due to lack of self determination. Altruistic, free donation is the fundamental and ethical cornerstone of transplant medicine internationally.

KEY ISSUE: **FOH** prolongs victim's death to harvest individual organs, when needed, from a forced living "organ bank" within the prison system. Victims are non-violent due to religious practices, persecuted and anonymous (family safety). Victims are healthy due to practice.

Nursing Ethics

FOH in China takes a life to save a life

Dilemma in medicine: the duty of care

- Lack of guidelines in caring for the patient who has engaged in transplant tourism
 - Duty of Cooperation with colluding transplant teams
- Risk of endemic infection and lack of medical records with patients who have secretly traveled to China
- Lack of global Whistle Blower Protection Laws to protect nurses who report the abuse.
- Very little is known about the rights and conditions for medical professionals practicing in China today



The Last Empress of China is shown flying over Washington – by Zhong-Yang Huang, born in Guangzhou in 1949.

China's communist regime has long aspired to dominate the US, and recently has announced plans to lead the world in organ transplant medicine by 2020

Unethical Organ Harvesting - Overview

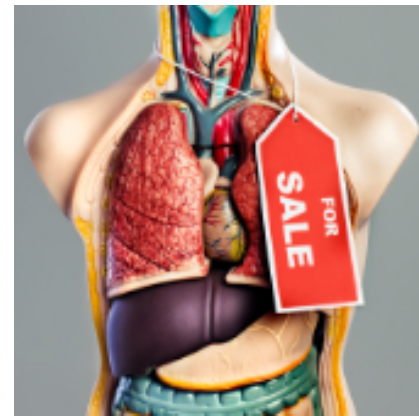
There are 3 different types of unethical organ harvesting:

1. **Commercial:** organ trafficking; transplant tourism; paid system:

- Donor generally survives and money is exchanged: occurs in India, Pakistan, South America, Kosovo and the Philippines
- Illegal brokers and transplant teams are black market
- Transplant tourism industry, mainly driven by kidney transplants

2. **Prisoners and Prisoners of Conscience:** China, few in Iran/Singapore

- Execution after death sentence.



- Organ harvesting from executed prisoners is unreliable unless there are thousands of organs available at all times.
- One cannot predict, match, endemic diseases, wait time, criminal offenses/capital punishment and supply of organs
- A prisoner is not a donor, but is killed for their organs-no rights, no consent, no legal representation in China's "lawless zone."

实行革命的人道主义

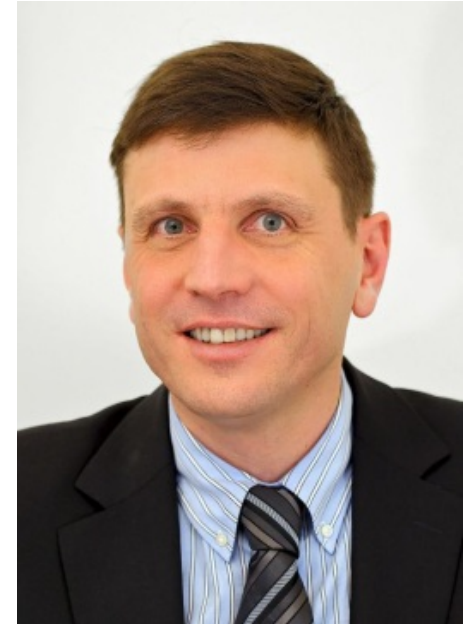


Organ-on-demand system in China

"During my visit in Beijing in 2007, a hospital invited us to watch a **heart transplantation** operation.

The organizer asked us whether we would like to have the transplantation operation in the morning or in the afternoon.

This means that the donor would 'die', or be killed, at a given time, at the convenience of the visitors. I refused to participate".

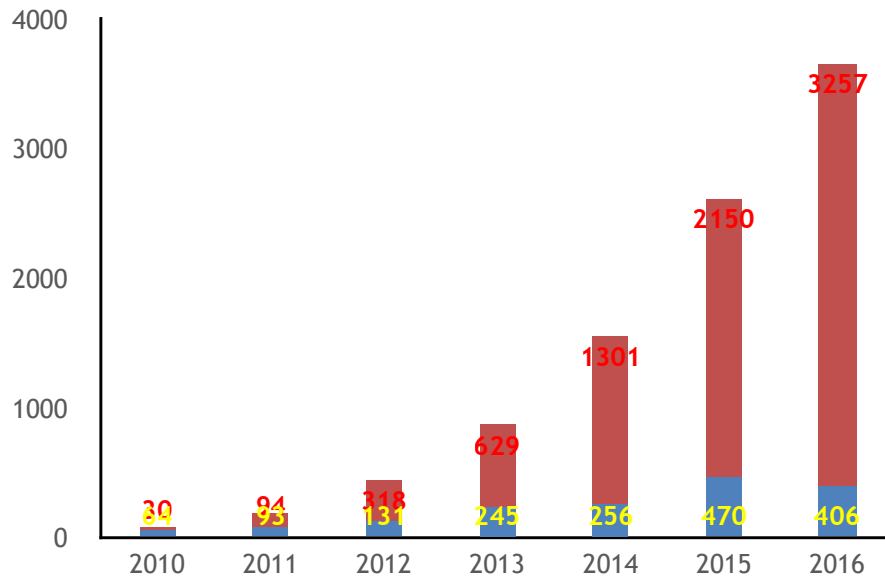


Franz Immer, M.D.
Chair of the Swiss
National
Foundation for
organ donation and
transplantation

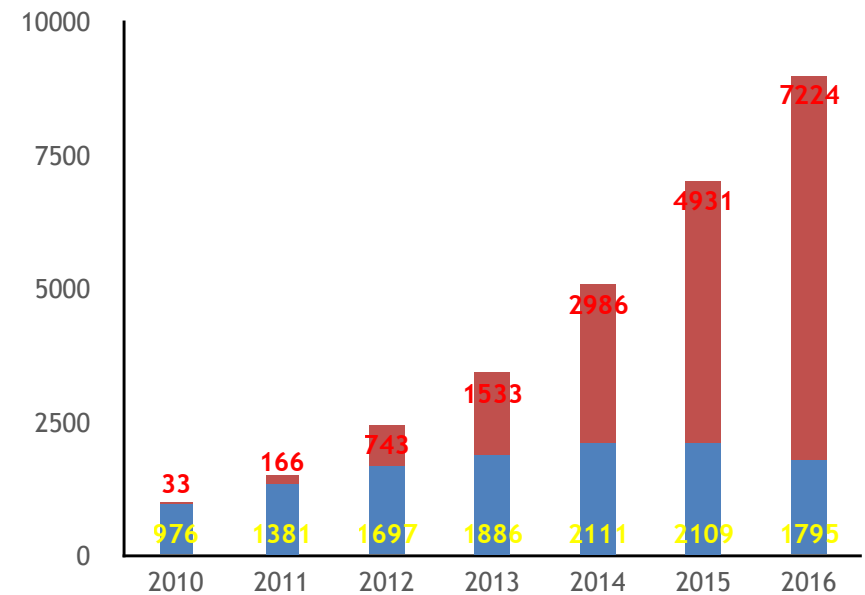
The number of kidney, liver transplant in China from deceased and living donors, 2010-2016

Where do the organs come from ?

The number of liver transplantation from 2010 to 2016



The number of kidney transplantation from 2010 to 2016



Living Donation Deceased Donation Total

Living Donation Deceased Donation Total

Organ Donation “Made in China”

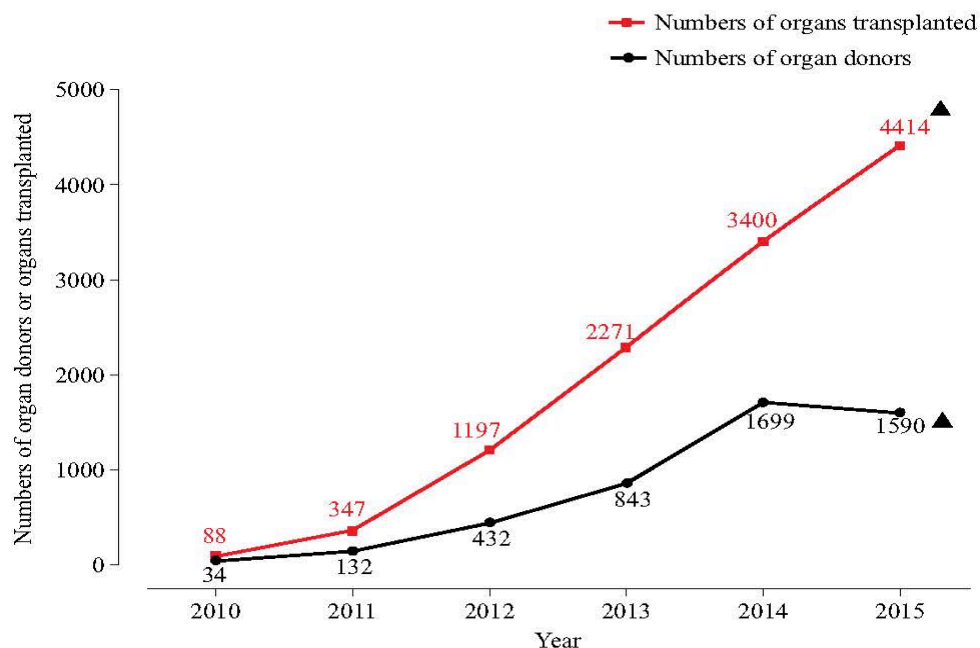


Fig. 1 The number of voluntary organ donors and organs transplanted in China from 2010 to 2015. ▲ These numbers are calculated until August 2015. Data were obtained from the China Organ Donation Administrative Center.

Annual increase in organ donations (2010-2015):

China: 50 - 100 %

USA: 2 - 3 %

Global (GODT): 2 - 3 %

Year	2015	2016
Donors	2,776	4,080
Increase	63%	47%

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	August 2015
Donors	34	132	432	843	1699	1590 (2385)
Increase		288 %	227%	95%	102%	- 6% (40%)

*Ni A, Yuanyuan S, Yabo J, Linlin Z. Organ donation in China: the major progress and the continuing problem. The Journal of Biomedical Research, 2016, 30(2): 81-82.

Unusual Math and Secrecy: 2006-2016

Kilgour/Gutmann/Matas Report – An Update (2016)

Between 2006 and 2016:

- Increase of **number of beds** on transplant wards
- Increase of **transplant teams**
- Some transplant teams state that they work day and night
- Increase of **investments**
- Increase of **revenue** (transplant centers report 8-fold revenue increase within 4-5 years)

Yet:

For past 10 years official transplant numbers remained at 10,000/year. No transparency

The China Tribunal 2019

- Chaired by Sir Geoffrey Nice**, led the prosecution of Slobodan Milošević, former President of Serbia, at the UN's International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia.
- David Matas**, Human Rights Attorney, Investigator, Nazi War crimes investigator
- Hon. David Kilgour**, former Canadian Secretary of State for Asia-Pacific, senior member of the Canadian Parliament and nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize
- International crimes attorneys
- Human Rights Lawyers
- Ethicists
- Eye witnesses and survivors

"The Tribunal's members are certain – unanimously, and sure beyond reasonable doubt – that in China forced organ harvesting from prisoners of conscience has been practiced for a substantial period of time involving a very substantial number of victims."

Tribunal Judgment

- That there were extraordinarily short waiting times (promised by PRC doctors and hospitals) for organs to be available for transplantation;
- *That there was torture of Falun Gong and Uyghurs;*
- That there was accumulated numerical evidence (excluding spurious PRC data) which indicated:
 - the number of transplant operations performed, and
 - the impossibility of there being anything like sufficient 'eligible donors' under the recently formed PRC voluntary donor scheme for that number of transplant operations;
- That there was a massive infrastructure development of facilities and medical personnel for organ transplant operations, often started before any voluntary donor system was even planned;- That there was direct and indirect evidence of forced organ harvesting.

A Case of Cold Genocide

Commission of Crimes Against Humanity against the Falun Gong and Uyghurs has been proved beyond reasonable doubt by proof of one or more of the following, legally required component acts:

- murder;
- extermination;
- imprisonment or other severe deprivation of physical liberty in violation of fundamental rules of international law;
- torture;
- rape or any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity;
- persecution on racial, national, ethnic, cultural or religious grounds that are universally recognised as impermissible under international law; and
- enforced disappearance.

- China Tribunal 2019

Preventing Collusion:

Governments and international bodies must do their duty not only in regard to the possible charge of Genocide but also in regard to Crimes against Humanity"

- Doctors, nurses and medical institutions;
- Industry, and businesses, most specifically airlines, travel companies, financial services businesses, law firms and pharmaceutical and insurance companies together with individual tourists,
- Educational establishments;
- Arts establishments

The Elephant in the Room: Western Media and Forced Organ Harvesting



Ethics in Nursing: We Are Not Bystanders



Global transplant tourism: are you prepared?

- ✓ Topics for research and inquiry: Patient confidentiality and privacy laws *versus* advocacy
- ✓ Unconditional patient regard *versus* the International Codes of Ethics
- ✓ How you can help today: join DAFOH as an advocate; learn more; sign a petition; educate your peers and doctors; talk to your Reps and Congresspersons