



Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump

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I know President Xi of China very well. He is a great leader who very much has the respect of his people. He is also a good man in a "tough business." I have ZERO doubt that if President Xi wants to quickly and humanely solve the Hong Kong problem, he can do it. Personal meeting?

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Trump ties China trade deal to Hong Kong protest

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President Donald Trump on Wednesday tied a U.S. trade deal with China to humane resolution of the weeks of protests wracking Hong Kong, hours after the State Department said it was "deeply concerned" about reports of movement of Chinese paramilitary forces along the Hong Kong border.

If China wants to talk trade with America, Donald Trump says it'll first need to deal with protests in Hong Kong.

The U.S. President tweeted in the late hours of Wednesday (August 14), with a message aimed at China's leader:

"I have ZERO doubt that if President Xi wants to quickly and humanely solve the Hong Kong problem - he can do it."

Trump then seemed to suggest a personal meeting with Xi Jinping to help resolve the situation.

For weeks Hong Kong has been plunged into crisis with pro-democracy protests sparking violent clashes between demonstrators and police.

Earlier on Wednesday, the U.S. State Department said it was 'deeply concerned' after reports of Chinese paramilitary forces moving close to the Hong Kong border.

Satellite images showed dozens of vehicles including what seemed to be armored personnel carriers in the city of Shenzhen.

That's fueled speculation that the military might intervene.

China has called Hong Kong's protest movement "near terrorism" following two days of intense standoffs at the city's airport.

On the other hand, Trump has come under fire from Congress and elsewhere for not taking a stronger line on Hong Kong and for calling them 'riots' that were China's matter to solve.

The United States has urged Hong Kong's government to respect freedom of speech and has also issued a travel advisory, urging caution when visiting the city.