

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0908

March 4, 2024

Mr. Frank Blethen
Publisher, CEO, Board Chair
The Seattle Times
1000 Denny Way
Seattle, WA 98109

Dear Mr. Blethen:

We write to urge your outlet to end its involvement with *China Daily* – an English-language newspaper owned and operated by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) Central Propaganda Department. The CCP's efforts to infiltrate American institutions are extensive, and news outlets are not immune to these ventures. *China Daily* is one of the CCP's leading organs to subvert U.S. news media by amplifying the goals and ambitions of the party.

Several years ago, *China Daily*'s propaganda efforts made headlines when Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) filings revealed that, in addition to repeatedly violating FARA reporting requirements, U.S. media outlets were accepting hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of dollars from the outlet. In response, several outlets severed ties with *China Daily*. Despite mounting evidence of the CCP's attempts to harass and intimidate American citizens, spy on sites of national security importance to the U.S., and influence our elections, your outlet has chosen not to cut ties with *China Daily*. Your organization's continued involvement with the Propaganda Department of the CCP impedes the countless federal efforts working to combat China's influence peddling schemes.

China Daily is an arm of the CCP. This is a well-known fact, and there are no shortage of examples showing the outlet's fealty to the party. From whitewashing the genocide of Uyghurs in Xinjiang, to excusing the CCP's continued bankrolling of Russia's war against Ukraine, *China Daily*'s mission is to propagate the goals of the party. By continuing to do business with *China Daily*, your outlet is disseminating CCP propaganda to an American audience. No company based in the United States, including news outlets, should be complicit in legitimizing the CCP's heinous acts or promoting the regime's outright lies. We urge your outlet to end its involvement with *China Daily*, as well as any other CCP-affiliated entity.

We look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,



Marco Rubio
U.S. Senator



Chuck Grassley
U.S. Senator