



# Be Water

By HongKongers

# Description

Since the summer of 2019, Hong Kong has been going through a tremendous political movement. Digital technology plays a key role in this movement, and the methodology is creative, innovative and pervasive. Digital community functions in range of front-liners support, situation reacting, crowdsourcing campaign, social media spreading, solidarity, education, promotion, fact checking/reporting, doxing, archiving, petitioning, provoking new social system, etc... The platforms HongKongers use go across forums, social media, crowdfunding, live streaming, smartphone apps, exhibitions, online petition, products, e-commerce, radio broadcasting, website, video, animation, music, whatever you can think of. Pro-democracy HongKongers follow a strategy called “Be Water”, the famous quote from martial arts star Bruce Lee: to be shapeless, formless and able to adapt to any situation.

Our agenda is to collect the excellences of the digital means in the movement and generalize them into one discourse regarding digital community. We believe HongKongers have set a new standard to digital activism, and we aim to as well flow the "Bewater" stream to the world of media art through nominating HongKongers to compete in the Digital Community category in order to share the know-how of protesting in the digital era. We hope to bring HongKongers in the center of art/technology/society community to provoke a contributing dialogue of how digital culture shapes the practice of political movement in human history and future.



# Background

The 2019–20 Hong Kong protests were protests in Hong Kong triggered by the introduction of the Fugitive Offenders amendment bill by the Hong Kong government. Had it been enacted, the bill would have allowed the extradition of criminal fugitives who are wanted in territories with which Hong Kong does not currently have extradition agreements, including mainland China. This led to concerns that the bill would subject Hong Kong residents and visitors to the jurisdiction and legal system of mainland China, thereby undermining the region's autonomy and people's civil liberties, and infringe on privacy and freedom of speech laws. As the protests progressed, the protesters laid out five key demands, namely the withdrawal of the bill, investigation into alleged police brutality and misconduct, the release of arrested protesters, retraction of the official characterisation of the protests as "riots", and Chief Executive Carrie Lam's resignation along with the introduction of universal suffrage for election of the Legislative Council and for the Chief Executive.

Despite a demonstration attended by hundreds of thousands on 9 June, the government persisted with the bill. Protesters gathered outside the Legislative Council Complex to stall the bill's second reading on 12 June, resulting in an intense standoff between the protesters and the police, who deployed tear gas and rubber bullets. An even bigger 2 millions protesters march took place on 16 June, just one day after the suspension of the bill, as protesters insisted on the complete withdrawal of the bill and reacted to the perceived excessive use of force by the police on 12 June. The anniversary of the handover on 1 July saw the storming of the Legislative Council Complex, and subsequent protests throughout the summer spread to different districts. The police's inaction when suspected triad members assaulted protesters and commuters in Yuen Long on 21 July, the police storming of Prince Edward station on 31 August, and the large-scale demonstrations during the 70th anniversary of the People's Republic of China on 1 October, caused further escalation of the protests.

Lam refused to withdraw the bill until 4 September, but still refused to concede on the other four demands. Claiming to curb further protests, Lam invoked the Emergency Regulations Ordinance on 4 October to implement an anti-mask law, to counterproductive effect. As the protests dragged on, confrontations escalated as both sides became increasingly violent. The number of police brutality and misconduct allegations continued to increase. In response, some protesters escalated their use of radical methods such as throwing petrol bombs, conducting vigilante attacks against perceived provocateurs, and vandalising supposed pro-Beijing entities. Rifts within society widened as activists from both sides have assaulted each other, with lawmakers from both sides and protest organisers being attacked or intimidated. Two student deaths as well as the shooting of an unarmed protester in November further intensified the protests. Protesters' occupation of two university campuses to block key thoroughfares, ended by sieges and resulted in a large number of injuries and arrests.

The government and the police have received the lowest approval ratings since the 1997 handover in public opinion polls. Their performance contributed to the unprecedented landslide victory of the pro-democratic bloc in the 2019 District Council election, which was widely viewed as a de facto referendum on the protest movement. The Central People's Government has characterised the protests as the "worst crisis in Hong Kong" since the handover in 1997 and alleged that foreign powers were instigating the conflict, though the protests, which continued through to 2020, have been largely described as "leaderless". The United States passed the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act on 27 November to support the protest movement; solidarity rallies were held in dozens of cities abroad. Counter-protesters have held several pro-police rallies.

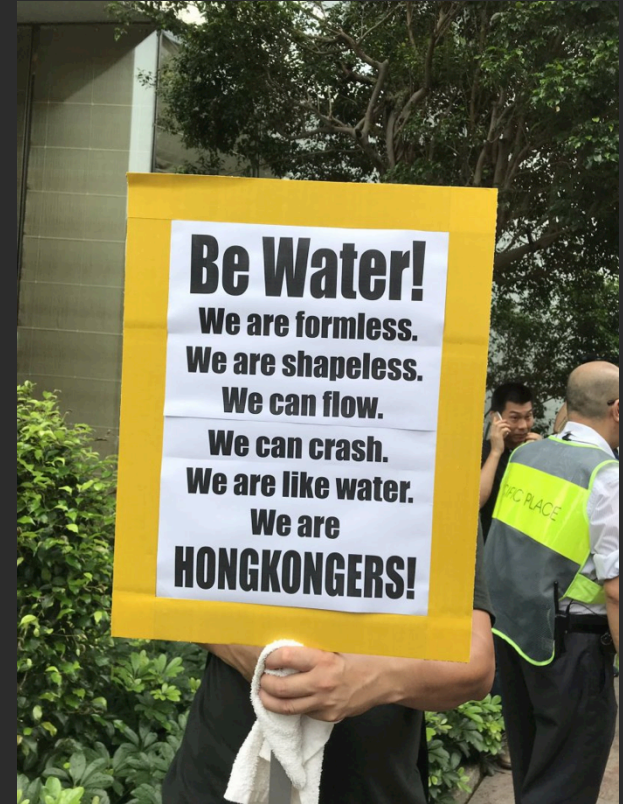
# What is Be Water?

“Be water, my friend” – the famous saying of the late martial arts star Bruce Lee became the clarion call of young protesters waging their fight against the extradition bill as they staged a shape-shifting guerilla game that crippled Hong Kong government operations on Friday.

Tech-savvy demonstrators – who had been deliberating their tactics on online forums and encrypted channel Telegram in an apparently **leaderless** movement – moved in unexpected waves.

They rolled from one spot to another as the day wore on to occupy several key thoroughfares, police headquarters and government offices, forcing thousands of civil servants to end their work early.

Learning from the lessons of the Occupy movement of 2014, they traded the strategy of prolonged mass sit-ins for spontaneous road blockades and circling of buildings – a “**formless**” protest in Lee’s words – to sustain their momentum and secure the continued goodwill of the public.





POLICE ANOUNCEMENT: Those people gathered  
outside the Mong Kok police station.

# Role of Digital Technology

A very unique characteristic of this movement is that the major participants are youngsters in the age group of Gen Z. This age group is tech savvy, they learn fast and react quick. With this in place, the protestors have generated a **new ecosystem** and applied **tactical media** for the movement.

- Learning from the Umbrella Movement in 2014, HongKongers understand the disadvantage of having leader, yet decision has to be made for the actions to be taken. Online **community** becomes core methodology to gather collective intelligence and formulate strategy. Good ideas to be accepted democratically and executed organically.
- Such high level spirit did not come in easy among HongKongers. On/offline **propaganda** helped to promote philosophy, align values, and lift morale. When an action has to be taken collectively, protestors call to action in all means, and with social media, things go viral in no time.
- While sometimes the protestors are in the protest scenes no matter frontliners confronting the police or peaceful protestors considering safety of actions, **real-time** information becomes the key of which highly assisted by digital technology.
- Especially for frontliners, not only real-timeness is important, **security** is as crucial, they have to find ways to be anonymous, encrypted and protected.
- Sometimes the movement will split into different battle lines, protestors has applied creative use of **local and global platforms** to elevate the voice of HongKongers from front line to all walks of lives.
- In a world full of information, it's a good practice to identify the authenticity of what we see online. Protestors have cultivated **fact checking** practices, in the field or onone. Sometimes it is important weapon when they have to resist the questionable discourse from the **other side**.
- "The history can only be written by the winner," even with this saying, protestors, reporters and civilians all learnt to use they digital devices to keep truth recorded, **archived** and spreaded. Never again allowing information loss like Tiananmen square happens in our time.
- Nevertheless, while the movement slowly becomes a long term one, protest has been embedded into daily life. which evolve to experiments on social structure such as introducing pro-democracy **economy circle**. Apps, new services, products have been prototyped to make this possible.








# Digital Communities Tactical Media

*Learning from the umbrella movement in 2014, HongKongers understand no more occupying but “Be Water” in time.*

A high-angle, night-time photograph of a massive crowd of protesters filling a city street. In the lower center, a white tram with 'A328' and 'AMBULANCE' markings is moving through the crowd. To the left, a banner with the Chinese characters '香港' (Hong Kong) is visible. The scene is illuminated by streetlights and the tram's headlights, creating a sense of scale and movement.

Telegram was the most downloaded app in Hong Kong during the summer 2019. Telegram groups - autonomous, leaderless and made up of hundreds of thousands of protesters - are enabling the world's most decentralised revolution of date.

Hong Kong's groups published a slew of news and video footage - unavailable on "Approved" media, about the city's protests. Details of arrests, assaults on journalists and civilians, over 100 open letters of support from Hong Kong Industry Leaders, as well as plans for strike were publicised on these groups.



The battles have been fought, not only on the streets of the city, but Digitally - on the messaging apps installed on the laptops and mobiles of hundreds of thousands of protesters.

“We owe the existence of the protests to it - mainly Telegram, live media and a whole lot of other social media,” said a protester - a Telegram group coordinator.

Protest organisers use the encrypted messaging available within Telegram to share sensitive information and evade the increasingly sophisticated surveillance of Beijing backed authorities.

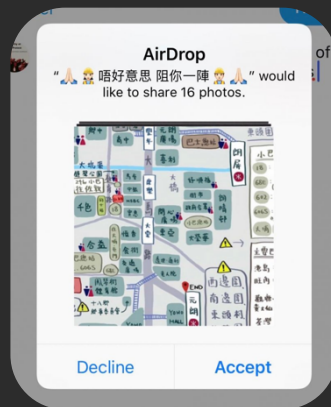
The APP allows them to form groups and - along with other social media, such as Signal, Facebook & WhatsApp- to disseminate video footage and updates, details on how and where to rally, and requests for additional supplies.



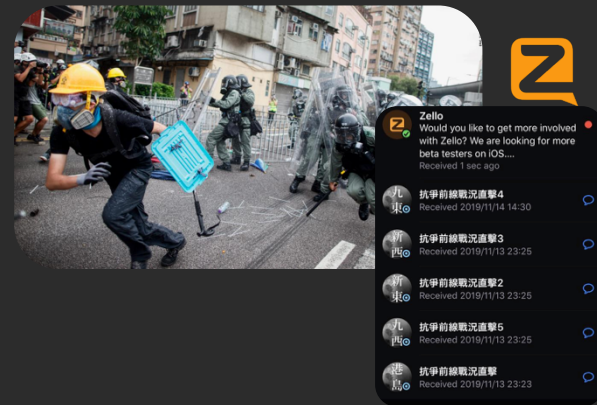
<https://www.hongkongfp.com/2019/07/07/hong-kong-protesters-embrace-telegram-will-messaging-app-for-the-highest-security-flaws/>  
<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/telegram-messaging-app-driving-hong-184701749.html>



Hong Kongers are becoming more and more creative in deploying various digital tools to organise and protect their identities from the authorities. In addition to Telegram, protesters were using other encrypted messaging apps such as Signal & FireChat. All three tools were among the top three most downloaded apps in Hong Kong's apple store (May/ June 2019).



When tens of thousands of people are standing in the same small area trying to access their devices simultaneously, and communications can quickly become unreliable. In response, protesters have turned to alternative peer-to-peer technologies, in particular the “AirDrop” feature that every Apple phone is equipped with.



Sometimes, radical protesters are just too busy in the scene, and they literally have no hand to check messages. They started to use Zello walkie talkie app to communicate and stay informed. Channels of real-time situation in different districts are listed in the app. Supporters from home will read scout team Telegram messages in the Zello channels. Some of the “broadcasters” might even live oversea.



# Flexible Tactics

Protesters are reported to have adopted “Be Water” philosophy throughout the campaign, “be formless, shapeless, like water”. By moving in a mobile and agile fashion to different government offices during the 21 June protests, they intend to bring additional pressure to the government.

Starting from Aug 2019, protesters embraced the “hit-and-run” tactic when the police began to ban requests for demonstrations.

Another tactic is geographical dispersal. While the 2014 protests were centred in three main locations in Hong Kong, in 2019 movement, demonstrations and clashes with Hong Kong Police diversified to over 20 different neighbourhoods spread throughout Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and New Territories. Blossom everywhere (遍地開花) has been applied to avoid massive arrest.



# Decentralized Leadership

We learned from 2014 umbrella movement, the one in 2019 has taken place in decentralised manner. We have “the Civic Human Rights Front (CHRF) has a long history in organizing social movements and was the organiser for two massive protests on both 9 and 16 June 2019, but no one claimed the leadership over this movement, all in supporting roles. This kind of decentralisation has led to increased fluidity for protesters and difficulty for officials to locate representatives for negotiation. And that’s why we rely on digital tools a lot in this case, for strategic arrangement and information sharing - initiatives are on the people themselves, everyone take their own responsibility for their participation to this movement.

Hong Kongers share the same belief integrates. This is the REAL PEOPLE’s VOICE.

Chinese University of Hong Kong professor Francis Lee called this new type of decentralised, leaderless movement, the “open source” protest model. **Through a participatory process of DIGITAL DEMOCRACY activists are able to collaborate by voting on tactics and brainstorming next moves in an egalitarian manner in which everybody is EQUAL.**

Telegram chat groups and online forums with voting mechanisms to make collective decisions has facilitated this type of flexible coordination.

# Digital Democracy and Open Source

Established in 2016, LIHKG is a news forum site based in Hong Kong. LIHKG surged in popularity and replaced HKGolden as the go-to site for Hongkongers to discuss political content.

Protesters use LIHKG to call for backup or request supplies for those on the front lines of clashes with police.

“If I get there at 7pm, will it be too late?” asks one poster to the rallying call.

“No it won’t, we really need people on the streets,” another replies.

Threads can be voted up or down by other community members. They can potentially gain hundreds or thousands of upvotes and comments, making them more likely to appear on the forum’s front page. If a thread about a protest idea is voted up to the front page, most likely it will be taken to action.

Protesters would list all the major actions gathered from all the platforms in a schedule known as “HongKongers schedule and share back to the platforms.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/society/article/3021224/hong-kong-protests-how-citys-reddit-forum-lihkg-has-become>





# Unity and cohesion - DO NOT SPLIT

The “DO NOT SPLIT” principle has helped maintain the cohesion of the public, throughout the broad political spectrum of the struggle. Embracing a diversity of tactics has allowed participants to engage in different levels of participation and actions while respecting each roles that others play.

Solidarity between protestors and engagement with the “DO NOT SPLIT”

Praxis was evidenced by the two mothers’ sit-in demonstrations of 14 June and 5 July, and the silver-haired protest on 17 July. Tens of thousands attended the rallies, in support of the protest actions of the younger generation, while standing firm together in opposition to police brutality, Carrie Lam, and the intervention of mainland Chinese government.

Several media organisations have described the two most influential camps among protestors: the “brave fighters” on the frontlines, and the majority “non-violent peaceful” camp that has engaged in mass demonstrations, civil disobedience, and numerous creative actions.



# Protest Art

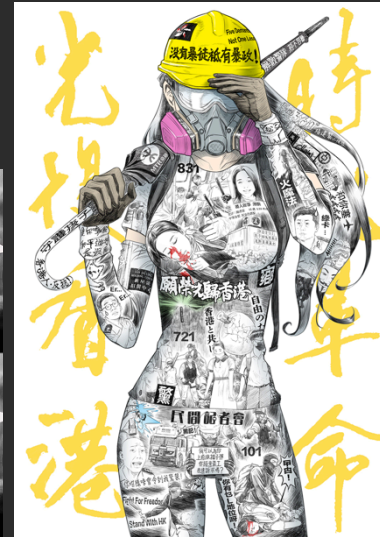


Protesters have to unify commonly agreed values in order to amplify the protest efficiently. Context like “be water”, “do not split”, “we fight on, each in his own way”, the roles of frontlines “brave fighters” and majority “non-violent peaceful” camp, practical protest tip and all have to be spread usually through protest art. Artists often work quickly and anonymously, and present their oeuvres either in Reddit-like internet forums or public places with heavy foot traffic.



# Protest Art - Solidarity and Call to Action

Artworks that keep encouraging HongKongers and Call to join protest or take action. Not only these materials would flood the internet, but also Lennon Walls all over the city.





## Protest Art - Other media

Creative works are not limited to the choice of media. Original anthem, official song from musicians and popstars, parody music from civilians, video, photography, youTubers, characters all bloom every online and offline.

### 香港國歌《願榮光歸香港 Glory To Hong Kong》

何以這土地 淚再流  
For all of our tears on our land  
何以 令家人 亦憤恨  
Do you feel the rage in our cries?  
昂首 拒默沉 胸臆聲 響透  
Rise up and speak up! Our voice echoes  
盼自由 歸於這裡  
Freedom shall shine upon us

何以這恐懼 抹不走  
For all of our fear that lingers  
何以 為信念 從沒退後  
With faith, we shall never surrender  
何解血在流 但邁進聲 響透  
With blood, tears and sweat, we shall stride ahead  
建自由 光輝香港  
For this glory, liberal land

在晚星 墜落 徬徨 午夜  
When the stars no longer guide our path  
迷霧裡 最遠處 吹來 號角聲  
In the fog, the horn of conscience summon us  
“捍自由 來齊集這裡 來全力抗對”  
“Persevere! For we are as one, with poise and be brave  
勇氣 智慧 也 永不滅”  
Courage, wisdom, are long with us.”

黎明來到 曙光復 運香港  
The dawn has come. Let's revive our Hong Kong  
同行兒女 為正義 時代革命  
Revolution of our time! For righteous cause!  
祈求 民主 與自由 萬世都 不朽  
Democracy, n liberty, wish them long last here  
我願 榮光 歸香港  
For the glory of Hong Kong





# Digital Activism

速離 否則開槍

• DISPERSE •

OR WE FIRE

Keep your head down  
Press C to crouch

x0



## Online Activism - Game

“Liberate Hong Kong” is a 3D single-player third-person simulation video game developed by the Hong Kong protesters during the 2019 Hong Kong protests. The game simulates the protests environment of Hong Kong, and the protagonist is an unarmed and unnamed protester.

You also can't win the game, but you can certainly lose, either by being shot by a rubber bullet or by being arrested. The game is very rough because it was developed in only one week.



Hong Kong protesters are out in peaceful force.

#BlizzCon2019 #blizzcon #meiwithhongkong #freedomhk



Professional video game player was suspended from Blizzard after expressing support for Hong Kong. After an outcry in the gaming community, Blizzard with #boycottblizzard. Then game another Blizzard game Overwatch, turned Mei as a symbol of Hong Kong protests criticizing China. With the trend of #meiwithhongkong are trying to get the game banned in China.



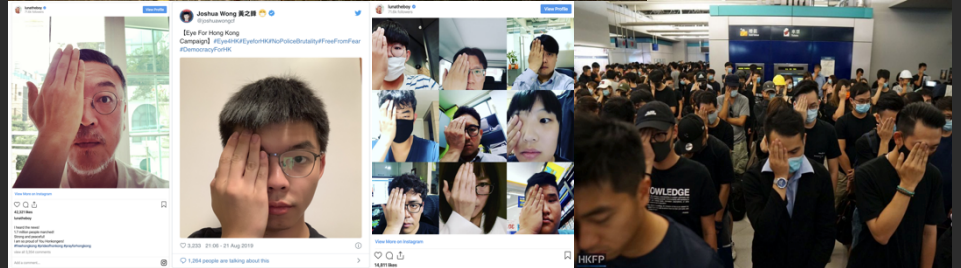
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liberate\\_Hong\\_Kong](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liberate_Hong_Kong)

[https://youtu.be/Wwr\\_49mlmKQ](https://youtu.be/Wwr_49mlmKQ)

<https://www.scmp.com/lifestyle/entertainment/article/3035176/gamer-blitzchung-streams-footage-controversial-video-game>



Protesters also bring their voice to international world through online petitions. Hundreds of them are campaigned in online platforms such as [change.org](https://www.change.org) and We the People (from the White house.) The topic varies from withdrawal extradition bill, revoke citizenship and visas of pro-Beijing HK and China officials, police brutality etc... This petitions often easily reach some hundreds thousands within days.



After 11 August, the Chinese government was alleged to have used the Internet to netizens have been accused of calling people to post photos of themselves in front of the Tiananmen Square on social media to mark the 30th anniversary of the 1989 movement and to demand the government to open up the Internet.



## Crowdfunding - International ads

In June, protesters launched an online crowdfunding campaign to place open letters as full-page ads in major international newspapers before the 28–29 June G20 Summit in Osaka, Japan to raise global awareness and appeal for world leaders' intervention on the bill, urging everyone to "ally with them" and to "demand the preservation of Hong Kong's freedom and autonomy under the Chinese government." The goal to raise HK\$3 million was accomplished in less than four hours, and successfully raised HK\$5.45 million in less than six hours. The open letter was published by popular international newspapers including The New York Times, The Guardian, Japan Times, The Globe and Mail, Süddeutsche Zeitung, The Chosun Ilbo, Le Monde and the online version of Politico Europe. The advertisements were printed in the local languages of the readership for each periodical, and while graphic design and layout varies, most included the slogan and appeal to "Stand with Hong Kong at G20" along with the open letter.

Hong Kong protester raise US1.97 million for international ad campaign as they accuse police of "war crimes" and using "chemical weapons. Activists raise money in matter of hours as 22,500 people contribute to fund, adverts will aim to pressure Hong Kong's government and Beijing on the world stage.



<https://www.newstatesman.com/world/2019/08/be-water-seven-factics-are-winning-hong-kongs-democracy-revolution>

## Crowdfunding - Project and Support

Hong Kong residents also raised funds to support the legal fees and the medical expenses for the detainees and the injured protesters respectively. For instance, the 612 Humanitarian Relief Fund raised more than HK\$12 million in a month. Another organisation offering financial aid to the protesters was Spark Alliance, though the police and HSBC seized over HK\$70 million (US\$9 million) in funds for the protests in December 2019 and arrested three men and one woman, all responsible for operating the group, for "suspected money laundering".



### Is Hong Kong still "Financially Free"? **STOP Political Suppression!**



Spark Alliance, a humanitarian fund, supports protesters by covering legal and medical services.



11/18

HSBC has shut down Spark Alliance's Account.



12/19

Hong Kong police has frozen Spark Alliance's money and framed as "Money Laundering".

The pro-democracy statue "Lady Liberty Hong Kong" also reached its goal of raising HK\$200,000 (US\$26K) within six hours. 3D printed miniature version is now sold online. Profit is back to the support for protesters.



# History and Archiving

Famous quote from Winston Churchill said, "**History Is Written by the Victors**", but what if technology comes into play? In 1989, when Tiananmen Square Massacre happens, records have been buried.

Protesters know well this historical plain, and they have to make sure the truth is archived. While internet allows information to be stored in the cloud, civilians use all sort of methods to keep evidences. Multi online archive with function of timeline, search, categories, media, have been created. Archive not only related to the protest and police brutality, but also collection of art and posters ( [https://www.collaction.hk/lab/extradition\\_gallery](https://www.collaction.hk/lab/extradition_gallery)) as well. There are self developed website like Hong Kong Democratic Movement 2019 ( <https://tl.hkrev.info/>) comes in 7 languages and existing platform like Internet Archive ( <https://archive.org/>)

Timeline

Recently, protesters had shifted target to MTR stations in response to the company's recent arrangements in co-operating with the police force by deliberately leaving particularly busy station platforms open to demonstrators since the first last month. Some more deadly, in the MTR, MTR stations closed down 5 lines to aid police actions, preventing protesters from returning home. Many were arrested and assaulted by police as a result. Disturbed events by Wednesday, 2nd March, Tong MTR Station were closed, 1-2-3 Train and two other stations were arrested and assaulted by police. After the MTR stations were closed, 1-2-3 Train and two other stations were arrested and assaulted by police. After the MTR stations were closed, 1-2-3 Train and two other stations were arrested and assaulted by police.

2020.01.01 Civil Human Rights Front New Year Rally

The New Year Rally organized by Civil Human Rights Front originally intended to give the Chinese New Year the public. However, the police ordered the rally to be moved after clashes between police and protesters in other cities. The Civil Human Rights Front announced that there were 1.2 million Chinese participated in the rally, which was the largest rally.

星火同盟

2019.12.19 Police Arrests 4 Suspects In Relations to Money Laundering Involving Spark Alliance

The Police have allegedly created and run Spark Alliance, a pro-profit group providing financial and pro-democracy protesters, some allegations of money laundering. The Police have arrested 100 others, including bank deposits, as well as movement and insurance providers. Senior Superintendent Chan Wei has said that there were more and a female, aged from 17 to 50 years.

2019.11.25 [Result of District Council Election]

2019.11.25 [Result of District Council Election] With a recent turnout of 71.2%, pro-democrats won 85% of the seats among 387

2019.11.20 US Senate Unanimously Passes the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act

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Anti Extradition Movement Poster Gallery

Curated by Collection Team & 1,272 Volunteers

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Gallery Search

Search

Collection

Hong Kong Protesters - 1,632

Hong Kong Protesters - 1,632

Feel free to share this Gallery! Let more people know what's happening in Hong Kong!

Collection Team welcomes everyone to record and archive all poster in this Anti Extradition Movement. Everyone can search, upload new gallery and search items. Use them in Letterbox Club public meetings, pressions or any other suitable cases.

Welcome to submit the new poster to our website.

18,087 31,912 1,272

Total Galleries | Total Posters | Total Volunteers

Hong Kong Protests Collection

The 2019 Hong Kong anti-extradition bill protests are a series of ongoing demonstrations in Hong Kong against the Fugitive Offenders and Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Legislation (Jenchiu Ming) proposed by the work.

ABOUT

COLLECTION

1,632 ITEMS

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Collection

Hong Kong Protesters - 1,632

Hong Kong Protesters - 1,632

18,087 31,912 1,272

Total Galleries | Total Posters | Total Volunteers



## Yellow Economy Circle

Further to the movement to boycott pro-government merchants and restaurants, the pro-democracy protesters have initiated what they call "Yellow Economic Circle", an attempt to segregate merchants into pro-democracy or pro-government.

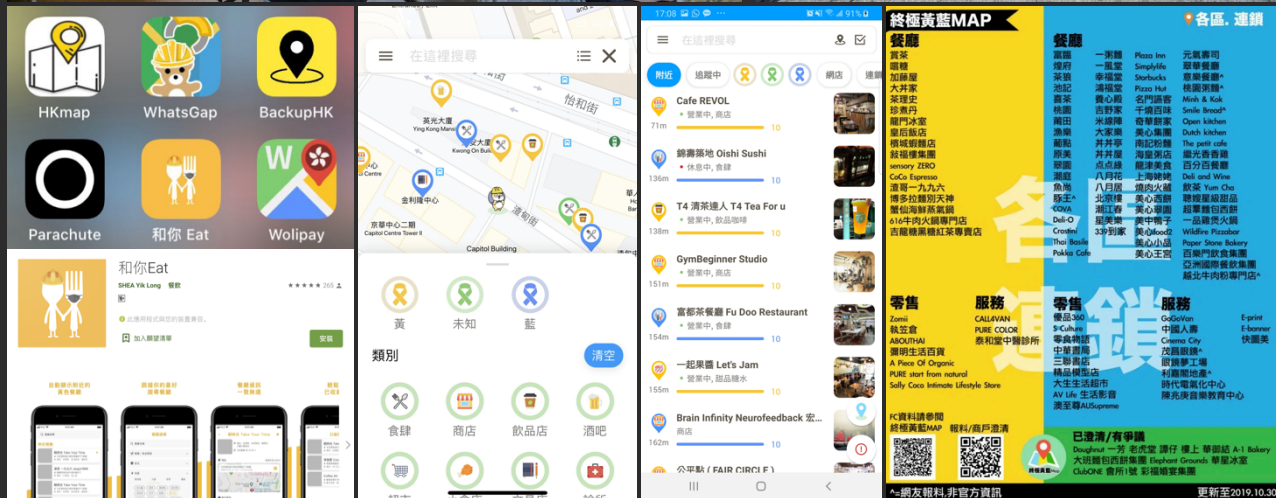
This partly is a response to the politics-oriented business model of the communist party. One prominent example being that the communist party, through various state-owned enterprises and business influences, has boycotted the pro-democracy newspaper Apple Daily since 1997 through not placing advertising on the newspaper.

Apps and websites are springing up to advise residents on which businesses are declared yellow, or supportive of the pro-democracy campaign.

Those suspected of being backers of Beijing are coded blue.



## Blue Shop Yellow Shop





# Net Friend

Digital Peer Support

我這一生  
只為放縱愛



## Net friends

The majority age group of the radical protesters can be as young as 14. Joining this movement especially in the front line as “brave protesters” is definitely not an open topic. While they are digital savvy, online platform becomes the only safe space to rely on.

*“I felt hopeless. I didn’t know what to do, except I knew I still needed to go to protests,” young protester said. Months of protest have driven deep divisions in some families, with parents warning their children against taking part in the demonstrations, fearful that they will be arrested or ruin career prospects.*

Not gaining support or force to be separated from family is quite common to the young protesters. They hardly find anyone to talk about their story and feeling, and they always have to be cautious to keep anonymous and secured. A lot of them would prefer communicate with strangers, online.

In this movement, some non-violent peaceful protesters would act as the so call “parent” (家長) to give all sort of support to brave protesters, whose might at first just ask for resources like gear, lawyer, medical aid, safe house, expenses, etc... Slowly, trust built digitally, they start to have different level of emotional attachment that allows them to express more, which they cannot do in real life.

*“I’d been thinking about what I can contribute,” one of the “parent” said “I was aware of youngsters in the movement not having enough money or shelter or a place to take a rest. This is the minimum we can do.”*

We often see internet to be a more isolated and emotionless world, but in this movement, it acts the opposite becoming the only safe place for protesters to find sympathy.



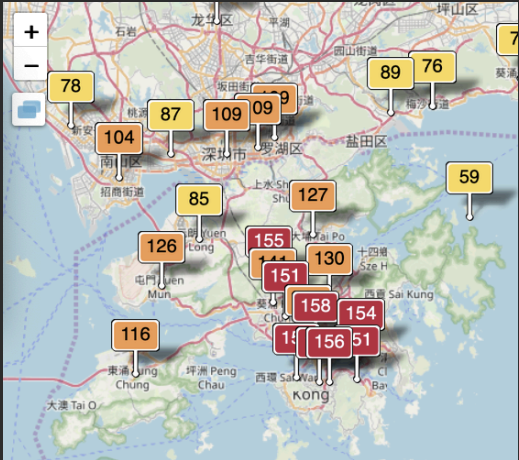
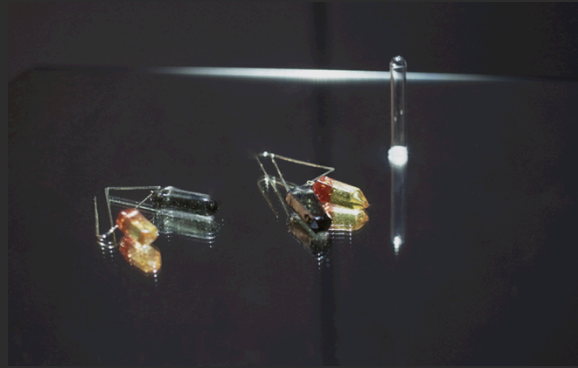
# Projection of Be Water in ARS

In case of our application being awarded, we would love to explore, not exclusively, producing below activities in Ars Festival 2020:

- Exhibition about Be Water and Hong Kong protest in focus on digital community, tactical media and technology, including related media artist works.
- Talk and conference about the research.
- Be Water social simulation: simulating the Be Water strategies on the street of Linz.



# Media Artworks from Hong Kong Artists



Top Left: Inkflux - Flowin' in the Wind by Cheung Honhim (HK) (Tear Gas Data Visualization)  
Top Middle: Microwave International New Media Arts Festival 2019 - E.A.T. Features. (HK)  
Top Right: Tear Mirror (2019 HK edition) by Tomoko Hayashi & Joel Kwong (HK)

Bottom Left: Smog Tasting (2019 HK edition) by the Center for Genomic Gastronomy & Joel Kwong (HK)  
Bottom Middle: Data infor for HK edition of Smog Tasting Installation  
Bottom Left: 人話 People Says Music Video by Charmaine Fong (HK)

Key Date	Happenings
Feb 2019	Hong Kong's Security Bureau proposes amendments to extradition laws that would allow extraditions to countries, including mainland China, beyond the 20 states with which Hong Kong already has treaties.
31 Mar 2019	Thousands take to the streets to protest against the proposed extradition bill
3 April 2019	Hong Kong Leader Carrie Lam's government introduces amendments to the extradition laws that would allow criminal suspects to be sent to mainland China for trial.
28 April 2019	Tens of thousands of people march on the Legislative Council to demand the scrapping of the proposed amendments.
11 May 2019	Scuffles break out in the legislature between pro-democracy lawmakers and those loyal to Beijing
30 May 2019	Concessions to the extradition bill introduced but critics say they are not enough.

Key Date	Happenings
9 June 2019	Amid heavy police presence, an estimated 1 millions Hong Kongers march from Victoria Park to Legislative Council in Admiralty, to oppose the extradition bill, Crowd control measures including shut down some of the MTR stations, and trains skipping near LegCo.
15 June 2019	Lam indefinitely delays proposed extradition law.
16 June 2019	In the largest march in Hong Kong's History, an estimated 2 million people - roughly one in four Hong Kongers march from Victoria Park to the Legislative Council in Admiralty in continued protest to against the extradition bill, The greatest concentration of protesters is in Admiralty, Harcourt Road, Hennessy Road, Causeway Bay, and Wan Chai. Most of the Marchers wearing black, to commemorate the protester who fell to his death the day before.
1 July 2019	Protesters storm the legislative Council on the 22nd anniversary of the handover from British to Chinese rule, destroying pictures and daubing walls with graffiti.
9 July 2019	Lam says the extradition bill is dead and that government work on it had been a "total failure".



Key Date	Happenings
21 July 2019	Men in white T-shirts, some armed with poles, storm a train at rural Yuen Long station, attacking passengers and passers-by, after several thousands activists surrounded China's representative office. General public called 999 to Hong Kong Police for emergency but failed to get any HK Police to be on site for rescue until all the white T-shirts gangs were gone.
30 July 2019	Forty-four activists are charged with rioting, the first time the charge has been used during the protests.
9 Aug 2019	China's aviation regulator demands Hong Kong flag carrier Cathay Pacific suspend personnel who have taken part in the protests. The airline suspends a pilot, one of the 44 charged, the next day.
14 Aug 2019	Police and protestors clash at Hong Kong's international airport after flights were disrupted.
21 Aug 2019	Alibaba, China's biggest e-commerce company, delays its Hong Kong listing of up to 15 billion.

Key Date	Happenings
31 Aug 2019	Prince Edward MTR Station incident - in which Hong Kong police allegedly indiscriminately attacked passengers during their arrests of returning home alleged protestors in Prince Edward MRT station, on the night of 831, after a protest was held that the same day.
2 Sept 2019	Lam says she has caused "unforgivable havoc" and would quit if she had a choice, according to a recoding of remarks to business people.
3 Sept 2019	Lam says she had never asked the Chinese government to let her resign
4 Sept 2019	Lam announces the formal withdrawal of the extradition bill. Critic say it is too little, too late.
7 Sept 2019	Police fire tear gas for a second consecutive night after fending off airport protests.
8 Sept 2019	Security forces fire tear gas to disperse protesters in upmarket Causeway Bay shopping district.

Key Date	Happenings
17 Sept 2019	Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam pledges to hold talks with the community to try to ease tensions.
22 Sept 2019	Hong Kong police fire tear gas to break up pro-democracy demonstrators who trashed fittings at a railway station and shopping mall.
26 Sep 2019	Hong Kong protesters trap city leader Carrie Lam in a stadium for hours after she holds her first “open dialogue” with the people.
29 Sep 2019	An Indonesian journalist Very Mega Indah, who was shot in the eye with a rubber bullet by Hong Kong Police
1 Oct 2019	City rocked by the most widespread unrest since the start of the protests, as China’s Communist Party rulers celebrate 70th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic. Around 4pm in Tsuen Wan, a police shoots 18-year-old Form 5 student, Tsang Chi Kin, at close range in the upper left chest, three centimetres from his heart.

Key Date	Happenings
2 Oct 2019	Hundreds of people march from Chater Garden in Central protesting the shooting of the high school student the day before. Protestors also gather at Tamar PArk, in Shatin, and in Kowloon Tong. Lawyer of the Indonesian journalist who was shot on 29 Sep confirmed permanently blind in one eye.
4 Oct 2019	Carrie Lam announces a face mask ban effective October 5, 2019. The ban prohibits wearing of masks or any facial covering that obscures the face in all authorised or unauthorised assembles and processions and carries a penalty of maximum one year prison term and a HKD25,000 fine.
	An off-duty police officer drives a car into a crowd in Yuen Long, reportedly bumping a person. He then shoots a 14-year-old boy in the left thigh when he is surrounded by protesters.
5 Oct 2019	The 14-year-old boy who was shot in the thigh by police on Friday (4 Oct) is charged with rioting.
6 Oct 2019	2pm, despite the pouring rain, thousands of Hong Kong protestors march in large and peaceful processions in Kowloon, Causeway Bay, and Victoria Park.



Key Date	Happenings
8 Oct 2019	Nearly 200 firefighters and paramedics issue a joint statement condemning police obstruction of humanitarian aid.
11 Oct 2019	Hong Kong Officials reveal that one-third of the 2379 protesters arrested since June are under 18; and 104 of them are under 16. The Police Deputy Commissioners threaten to arrest female student Sonia Ng and her family for slander after she alleges she was sexually assaulted in custody by the police.
14 Oct 2019	In the evening, 130,000 people gather in the rain at Southern Stadium to support NBA manager Daryl Morey, who spoke out in defence of the Hong Kong protesters.
15 Oct 2019	The United States House of Representatives approves the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act, with the Senate vote next week.
16 Oct 2019	Guri Melby, a Norwegian Parliamentarian, nominates the people of Hong Kong for a Nobel Peace Prize.

Key Date	Happenings
20 Oct 2019	Hong Kong Police fire blue-coloured tea spray liquid through water cannons at a mosque in Kowloon, despite eye witness accounts that there were no protesters nearby.
23 Oct 2019	Hong Kong legislature formally withdraws the extradition bill that sparked the protest movement.
2 Nov 2019	Hong Kong Police discontinue a pre-approved peaceful assembly in Central minutes after it has begun. Later in the day, police use tear gas to disperse a gathering in Victoria Park which protesters characterise as an election meeting concerning upcoming district council elections, which in principle doesn't not require police permission.
3 Nov 2019	Riot police storm several shopping malls, were some protesters gather peacefully while others have vandalised shops and restaurants.
8 Nov 2019	Chow Tsz-lok, the 22-year-old Hong Kong student who fell from a car park building on 4 Nov 2019, dies at 8:08am.

Key Date	Happenings
11 Nov 2019	In a call of citywide strike, protesters cause wide-spread traffic disruption, resulting in suspension of classes at 11 universities on Mon and at 10 universities on Tue. Police enter CUHK, HKU and PolyU, leading to violent clashes and several arrests.
12 Nov 2019	More than 1000 demonstrators rally during the lunch hour in Hong Kong's Central financial district. Police fire tear gas at demonstrators and arrest more than a dozen people.
	In clashes that last for hours at a barricaded bridge outside of the CUHK, police fire hundreds of rounds of tear gas and rubber bullets; students hurl gasoline bombs and bricks, and shoot flaming arrows. More than 100 injured students are taken to a makeshift first-aid clinic in a gym.
13 Nov 2019	Bus routes, train services, and major roads are shut down as part of a general strike protesting the death of Chow Tsz-lok on 8 Nov.
15 Nov 2019	White colour workers continue to show support for protesters by attending more lunchtime rallies - the fifth day this week.

Key Date	Happenings
17 Nov 2019	Police clash with protesters around HK PolyU throughout the day in the most violent confrontation since the protests began in June. Police use tear gas, rubber bullets and water cannons.
21 Nov 2019	Almost a hundred protesters remain inside the HK PolyU campus, which police have surrounded since Sunday (17 Nov). 4 months after the attacks of protesters at Yuen Long MTR station, only 36 people have been arrested and 6 have been formally charged.
26 Nov 2019	Carrie Lam says she is considering setting up an independent "review" committee to investigate the causes of the social unrest in Hong Kong.
27 Nov 2019	Over 3,700 intellectuals in the international academic community sign a joint petition condemning police violence in HK, and urging universities to deny police entry to campuses, in support of freedom of assembly and academic freedom.



Key Date	Happenings
	President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, signs into law the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act and the Protect Hong Kong Act, which could sanction Hong Kong government for not maintaining its autonomy from China under “one country two systems” framework.
29 Nov 2019	At noon, police end their 12 days siege on HK PolyU. During their final search of the University, they find no remaining protesters.
30 Nov 2019	Seniors join with students as part of a cross-generational rally of several hundred people at Chater Gardens in Central Hong Kong.
1 Dec 2019	3pm, approximately 380,000 people gather to march from TST to Hung Hom in Kowloon, with the theme “dont forget our original intentions”. The police revoke the notice of no objection issued just 1 hour later and clash with protesters - using pepper spray, pepper balls and tear gas, and carrying out many arrests.
2 Dec 2019	Thousands of people, including protesters dressed in black, the elderly, as well as families march along a main thoroughfare on Kowloon Victoria Harbour waterfront chanting “five demands, not one less” and “disband the police force”.

Key Date	Happenings
4 Dec 2019	A photograph of a female police officer pinning the 14-year-old female student to the ground by sitting on the head goes viral.
6 Dec 2019	Around 20,000 people in the evening gather at the Edinburgh Plaza in Central HK demanding authorities to stop using tear gas and release details relating to its chemical composition.
8 Dec 2019	In the first protest organised by Civil Human Rights Front to be approved by authorities in more than 4 months, hundreds of thousands (organisers estimate 800,000) march from causeway bay to central to show their ongoing support for democracy & human rights in Hong Kong.
19 Dec 2019	HK Police freeze more than HK\$70 million and arrest 4 people for alleged money laundering in connection with Spark Alliance, a non-profit group that raises donations to support HK protesters.
23 Dec 2019	“Be Water” makes Financial Times “Year in a Word.”

Key Date	Happenings
24 Dec 2019	Police manuals leaked to the Washington Post show frequent breach of guidelines and international standards on the use of force.
26 Dec 2019	Third day in a row, protesters and police clash in and around shopping malls across the city. Police confirm that during 24-26 Dec, 336 people were arrested - youngest at aged 12,. 76 tear gas bombs and used 33 rubber bullets.
27 Dec 2019	A LegCo inquiry reveals that HK police have earned a total of HK135 million in protest-related allowances since June - mostly related to work-related and meal allowances - on top of HK950 million for overtime pay.
29 Dec 2019	The newly formed MTR workers union urges the company to disclose surveillance footage of the Yuen Long, Prince Edward attacks.
1 Jan 2020	HK police arrest about 400 people across HK, after a peaceful New Year Day March of tens of thousands spirals into chaos. The total arrests since June are now 7,000.

Key Date	Happenings
8 Jan 2020	Residents say they were chased and beaten in early morning by 50 masked individuals who demolished the Lennon Wall in Kwai Chung, that police made no arrests and helped attackers get taxis.
12 Jan 2020	Hong Kong Authorities deny Kenneth Roth, Executive Director of Human Rights Watch, entry to the city, where he had planned to launch the organisation's "World Report 2020.". Roth warns that the Chinese Government is carrying out an intensive attack on the global system for enforcing human rights.
19 Jan 2020	About 150,000 people attend an anti-communist rally at Chater Garden. Riot police stop the rally at short notice and arrest the organiser Ventus Lau for "obstruction of police administration" and for violating the terms of permission for the protest. In Mong kok, in clash with protesters, police fire tear gas into the crowd, and pepper spray reporters.
8 Feb 2020	Over a hundred citizens gather in TKO to commemorate the 3-month anniversary of Chow Tsz Lok's death; police fire tear gas and use pepper spray, arresting 119 people, including two reporters, five district councillors and residents nearby.

Key Date	Happenings
29 Feb 2020	A rally of hundreds in and around Mong Kok commemorating the 6-month anniversary of the police storming of the Prince Edward metro station. The police attack protesters with tear gas and pepper spray, while some protesters retaliate with petrol bombs, police arrest 115 protesters.
2 Mar 2020	The Commissioner of Police, Chris Tang Ping-keung, reveals that, to date, over 7,700 people have been arrested in the 9 months of protests. Among the arrested, 40% are students, a significant jump from 25% at the beginning of the school year in Sep 2019.