

NGO urges UK sanctions on Chinese firms linked to Uyghur forced labor

An NGO, which wanted to remain anonymous, has filed a legal petition urging the UK government to impose sanctions on seven Chinese firms

By [Undercurrent News](#) | March 11, 2024 09:45 GMT



□ A Chinese fishing vessel known to belong to a company linked to using Uyghur forced labor. Photo courtesy of the Outlaw Ocean Project

An NGO, which is seeking to remain anonymous, has filed a legal petition urging the UK government to impose sanctions on seven Chinese firms implicated in forced labor practices tied to the Uyghur minority.

The submission, filed under the UK's Global Human Rights Sanctions (GHR) law on March 4, is a significant development following an ongoing investigation by the Outlaw Ocean Project.

The legal petition claims forced labor from China's Xinjiang province has been extensively used in seafood processing factories across the country, with repercussions reaching global seafood industries that rely on China's processing capacity.

Among the implicated companies are Yantai Sanko Fisheries, Yantai Longwin Foods, The Chishan Group -- including subsidiaries Shandong Haidu and Rongcheng Haibo -- The Shandong Meijia Group -- including subsidiaries Rizhao Meijia Aquatic Foodstuff, Rizhao Jiayuan Foodstuff, and Rizhao Meijia Keyuan Foods -- Qingdao Tianyuan Aquatic Foodstuffs, Rongsense Group -- including subsidiaries Rizhao Rirong Aquatic Products and Rizhao Rongxing -- and Xinjiang Zhongtai Zhihui Modern Service.

The petition aims to halt the import of seafood produced by these companies into the UK, as these products have ties to major UK importers.

It calls for targeted sanctions to hold those involved in serious human rights violations accountable, aligning with the GHR law's objectives.

This move by the UK follows similar petitions filed in Canada and the US, demonstrating a growing international effort to address human rights abuses in China's seafood industry.

The OOP's report is just the latest to rock the seafood industry; the group reported last fall that Chinese processors were using Uyghur forced labor and supplying major seafood companies, with products from the plants ending up in the US and EU, as previously reported by [Undercurrent News](#).

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