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DEPUTY LEADER OF THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY
SHADOW MINISTER FOR DEFENCE
ACTING SHADOW MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
MEMBER FOR CORIO**

DETENTION OF DR YANG

Labor is deeply concerned by the detention of Australian citizen Dr Yang Hengjun by the Chinese authorities and the formal notification from China of his transfer to criminal detention.

Labor has been briefed by the Foreign Minister's Office and is fully supportive of the Australian Government's efforts to advocate for Dr Yang's interests.

We call on the Chinese Government to clarify the reasons for Dr Yang's detention and to ensure Dr Yang is treated in a fair, unbiased and transparent manner. We join the Government's request that if Dr Yang is being detained purely for his political views then he should be released.

Australia is a country governed by the rule of law, which cannot be compromised or politicised. We will always assert and protect our interests and safeguard our sovereignty. This includes defending democracy, free speech, the rule of law, and the protection of rights, including freedom from intimidation.

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Authorised by Noah Carroll, ALP, Canberra.