

# Press Release

## First Gathering of “Future of Tibet” in Washington D.C

14 March 2022 - We are pleased to announce the first gathering of “The Future of Tibet” events to be held in Washington DC on April 9-10, 2022. Future of Tibet is a private initiative of members of the Tibetan civil society. The members of this initiative are Tashi Lamsang, Tashi Namgyal, Wangpo Tethong, Tsewang Phuntso, Tsewang Rigzin and Lungrub Phuntsok Phokruwa

Three gatherings will take place in the coming months: one in the US, one in Switzerland, and the last in India. Prior to all gatherings, participants will be presented a set of questions for discussion leading to the events. The gathering shall contribute to the general discussion about the future of the Tibetan people. The special focus of the events will be to better understand how the Tibetans inside Tibet think about the future.

Participants of these events will be required to contribute their experience and thoughts to the deliberations. The gatherings will take place in a spirit of openness and intellectual curiosity. We want Tibetans from inside Tibet and worldwide to share their expertise and feelings with us.

Background: Half a century ago, young Tibetans in India and Europe, having met independently, had the same vision of coming together and starting a democratic movement of young people to be led by themselves. These young Tibetans wanted to take responsibility for their community. 2020 was the anniversary of the founding of two youth organizations. Fifty years later, we face a situation that needs reflection. His Holiness the Dalai Lama has now reached an age that raises the question of how his succession will be arranged and what the future of his people will look like.

Due to the limited space for participants, interested Tibetans should register by using the registration link available on: [www.future-of-tibet.org](http://www.future-of-tibet.org)

Where: American Legion Post, 1355 Balls Hill Road - McLean, Virginia 22101

When: April 9-10, 2022; Day 1: 9 am to 5:30 pm, Day 2: 10 am to 5:30 pm

Online: Link will be available on [www.future-of-tibet.org](http://www.future-of-tibet.org) website. The event is partially online accessible with registration (from 09.00 am to 10.30 am, 9 April 2022)

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## Program (Tentative)

### Saturday, 9 April 2022 (Day One)

#### Opening Ceremony - online

- 9:00 am Tibetan National Anthem  
Welcome speech and introduction of Future Tibet by Wangpo Tethong,  
Presentation of the Booklet, by Tsewang Rigzin (New York)  
Presentation Program, by Tashi Lamsang (New York)

#### Morning Session: online

The Legacy of His Holiness the 14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama

- 10:00 am Introduction: Tenzin Namgyal Tethong (Washington DC)  
Speakers: Geshe Thubten Jinpa  
Lungrub Phuntsok Phokruwa (Washington DC)  
11:00 Discussion: (Moderator: Tashi Lamsang)  
12:40 Conclusion of day one morning session.

#### Afternoon Session

Strengthening the Tibet movement

- 2:00 pm Special Session: Speaker: Kelsang Gyaltsen (Switzerland), A Tibetan View on China  
2:15 pm Introduction  
Speakers: Bhuchung Tsering (Washington DC)  
Chimi Lhamo (Toronto)  
4.50 pm Discussion and Conclusion

### Sunday, 10 April 2022 (Day two)

#### Morning Session:

Tibetans inside Tibet and the future of Tibet

- 10:00 am Introduction: Tashi Lamsang  
Speaker: Jampa Monlam (former political prisoner, Boston) "How Do Tibetans inside Tibet See The Future of Tibet"  
Dhondup Wangchen (Activist, San Francisco), "How can we organize ourselves inside Tibet?"  
Discussion: (Moderator: Tashi Lamsang)  
12:40 am Conclusion of morning session

#### Afternoon Session:

The Prospects for Democracy in Tibet

- 2:00 pm      Introduction:  
One minute silence for the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for Tibet and Tibetan people.  
Speaker: Kunga Tashi (New York)  
Tsewang Rigzin (New York)  
Discussion
- 4:15 pm      Closing session: Individual initiative, responsibility and contribution to the Tibetan struggle.
- 5:00 pm      Closing remarks by Tashi Lamsang