

## Statement against the police raid on private lives of those who resist the 'Olympics'

Dear friends and supporters,

Early morning on February 18<sup>th</sup> 2020, 30 police officers with plain cloths, commanded by Inspector Kaoru Ohbayashi from the Second Division of the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department Public Security Bureau made a violent intrusion with no advance notice on the residing site of a person under the plea of 'investigation'. The person ('A' in the following) has been a central voice against Tokyo 2020 and we have worked together with 'A' to protest against and resist the Olympic that destroys people's lives, engaging in social movement and creating a public and academic forum to critically analyze the Games.

We hereby strongly denounce the police for subjecting 'A' to the violent search.

Regarding this abuse of power by the police, we have so far confirmed several facts as follows;

1. This is preventive suppression, based on an extremely 'minor offence' of 'misstatement of residential address'
2. Disproportionate numbers of plainclothes police officers, nearly 30 of them, were mobilized for the search of a minor offense.
3. Many personal belongings such as a lap-top computer, private diaries, a mobile phone and credit cards, which have nothing to do with the concerned charge, were seized by the police, and some items remain yet to be returned to 'A'.
4. The police attempted to collect such biometrical 'evidences' as hair and oral DNA samples, the latter of which 'A' refused to provide when the police acknowledged that it was 'voluntary' investigation.
5. The police threatened that re-raid would take place and 'A' might be asked to come to the police station 'voluntarily'.

We are very concerned with the immense difficulties of 'A's life without essential personal belongings, and also with the way investigation was carried out. The fact that the police aimed for such sensitive individual information as DNA samples surely shows that the security control for the Olympics is

gradually becoming an 'experimental site' for the next generation technology of biometrical social control. It may be a warning sign of the drastic transformation of crime control measures.

We hereby strongly condemn the police's unjust search of our comrade who we have worked together to demand the cancellation of Tokyo 2020. We call for the national and international support for 'A', and vigilant monitoring of the police suppression which is expected to be strengthened hereafter.

The time of preventive suppression may have come.

Forcible oppression of free speech and the voice against the Olympic must be stopped immediately. Mass mobilization of students and pupils for games, torch relays and 'volunteer' works is compulsorily planned. Education and research are inevitably exposed to threatening power of the Olympic. Now is the time for us, teachers, researchers and writers, to come out and voice up against the upcoming social destruction, called Tokyo Olympic 2020. Let us, once again, call for your support and help.

March 10<sup>th</sup> 2020

Signed by the members of Teachers/Researchers/Writers Against the Suppression of Anti-Olympic Movements

Kiyoshi Abe

Satoko Itani

Nanako Inaba

Satoshi Ukai

Hiroki Ogasawara

Takashi Sakai

Takeshi Haraguchi

Jules Boykoff

Atsuhisa Yamamoto

To endorse this statement, please contact: [info@2020okotowa.link](mailto:info@2020okotowa.link) Rather than including formal affiliations (such as place of employment), please include

activities you are involved in, your interest, or research area (e.g. "Sociology", "Poet", "OkotowaLink").