
DISSIDENTS IN CHINA DETAINED AND HARASSED AHEAD OF PARTY CONGRESS

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Chinese authorities have stepped up surveillance and harassment of government critics as part of a crackdown on dissent ahead of the Communist party's upcoming 20th congress.

On Thursday, a rare protest in Beijing against the Communist party and its policies stoked political tensions just three days before the congress which will reanoint China's president, Xi Jinping, as the party leader for the next decade.

Photos and videos emerged on social media show two banners hanging from an overpass of a major thoroughfare in the northwest corner of the Chinese capital. Plumes of smoke could be seen billowing from the bridge.

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