

# Hong Kong: Demand retraction of 'riot' classification by the police - A Change.org petition

Sunday 16 June 2019, by [Petition / Sign-on Letter](#) (Date first published: 16 June 2019).

**Umbrella City Cyberchurch a lancé cette pétition adressée à Hong Kong Police Force.**

### Demand retraction of 'riot' classification by the police

## Condemnation of police classification of peaceful protests as 'riots'

Demand retraction of 'riot' classification by the police

Police fired tear gas, bean bag rounds, and rubber bullets towards the peaceful assembly on June 12, even attacking journalists. Their justification of the use of force was that part of the police barricade outside the Legislative Council Complex was charged, and that violent conflicts had occurred.

A secondary school teacher was shot in the head without any display of warning by the police. Many other citizens were shot in the head. Police were filmed firing tear gas directly towards journalists, and provoking them saying “Journal your mom” (“Journalist my ass”). The police also provoked church pastors by saying “Ask your Jesus to come out and see me.” Part of the police force have demonstrated the same qualities of thugs, using an excessive amount of force and violence against the unarmed peaceful protestors.

Chief Secretary of Hong Kong Matthew Cheung said the decision to declare the conflict as a ‘riot’ and the use of rubber bullets was solely made by the Hong Kong Police Force. We strongly condemn Commissioner of Police Stephen Lo Wai Chung’s decision to declare the conflict during the peaceful protest taken part by tens of thousands of citizens as a ‘riot’, and for taking excessive violent action against citizens. We demand Commissioner of Police Stephen Lo Wai Chung retract the irrational classification of the conflict as ‘riots’.

We are the witnesses of the peaceful assembly. We call for all who had witnessed the peaceful assembly and protest to become witnesses. Petition for the police to retract their inaccurate judgement to classify the events as a 'riot'.

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