Recommendations

The Transplantation Society, in addressing political abuse of organ transplantation in China, should follow the example of what the World Psychiatric Association did to address political abuse of psychiatry in the former Soviet Union.

The Transplantation Society should:

1) recognize that organ transplant abuse in China with prisoners sentenced to death as sources is not the only form of organ transplant abuse in China with prisoner victims;

2) acknowledge that prisoners of conscience not sentenced to death and in most cases not convicted of anything have been and, absent evidence to the contrary, continue to be the primary source of organs for transplantation in China;

3) condemn organ transplant abuse in China with prisoner of conscience organ sourcing;

4) call on all transplant health professionals in China or visiting China to renounce and disassociate themselves from organ transplant abuse in China with prisoner of conscience organ sourcing;

5) acknowledge that the onus falls upon the Government of China to establish that the sourcing of organs from prisoners of conscience has stopped, that the onus does not fall on The Transplantation Society to establish that this abuse continues;

6) establish its own review committee mandated to address political abuse of organ transplantation in China by examining, factually, whether the Government of China and its transplantation system have discharged the onus which falls upon them to establish that the sourcing of organs from prisoners of conscience for transplantation has ceased,

7) impose as a pre-condition for participation at TTS events, including Congresses, whether it be presentations or just registration, of anyone involved in the Chinese transplantation system, that the to be established TTS review committee determine that

a) the would-be participants are sincerely cooperating with The Transplantation Society in ending organ transplant abuse in China with prisoner of conscience victims,

b) the Government of China and its transplantation system

i) have unconditionally accepted The Transplantation Society review committee as a valid instrument of review;

ii) have acknowledged organ sourcing for transplant not just from executed prisoners but also from prisoners of conscience;

iii) have provided concrete evidence the sourcing of organs from prisoners of conscience has stopped,

iv) have reviewed with the review committee every case identified by the review committee where there is evidence of organ transplant abuse with prisoner of conscience sourcing; and

v) have allowed on-site visits by the review committee and an unimpeded access to all relevant documents and witnesses.

There are further steps that The Transplantation Society could take. In principle, all perpetrators in China of organ transplant abuse with prisoner of conscience victims are guilty of crimes against humanity and arguably genocide and should be brought to justice. However, no such requirement was imposed by the World Psychiatric Association on the Soviet Union for its abuse of psychiatry. So, if The Transplantation Society were to limit themselves to following the World Psychiatric Association model, the actions above would suffice.

These actions, though, are not all that can be done. Bringing to justice the perpetrators could and should happen. Following the World Psychiatric Association model should, for The Transplantation Society, be a bare minimum.