(Translation)

Motion on "Safeguarding editorial independence and autonomy" moved by Hon Alan LEONG at the Council meeting of 22 January 2014

That the recent post transfer of a veteran and influential journalist by the media organization to which he belongs has once again aroused the concern of society about the impact on freedom of the press and editorial autonomy; a recent opinion poll also indicates that more than half of the respondents consider that the phenomenon of self-censorship exists among Hong Kong news media; and a survey on the credibility of news media conducted by an academic institution even reflects that the credibility of Hong Kong media has hit a record low since the reunification; in this connection, this Council expresses concern and calls on journalists to remain steadfast in their duties, safeguard the principle of editorial independence and autonomy, and continue to give play to the functions of the Fourth Estate.