Teng Biao

Dr. Teng Biao is an academic lawyer, currently Pozen Visiting Professor at the University of Chicago, and Grove Human Rights Scholar at Hunter College. He had been a lecturer at the China University of Politics and Law (Beijing), a visiting scholar at Yale, Harvard, and NYU. Teng's research focuses on criminal justice, human rights, social movements, and political transition in China. Teng defended cases involving freedom of expression, religious freedom, the death penalty, Tibetans and Uyghurs. He co-founded two human rights NGOs in Beijing – the Open Constitution Initiative, and China Against the Death Penalty, in 2003 and 2010, respectively. He is one of the earliest promoters of the Rights Defense Movement in China and the manifesto Charter 08, for which Dr. Liu Xiaobo was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Teng has received various international human rights awards including the Human Rights Prize of the French Republic (2007), and NED's democracy award (2008).