

Edward Snowden Has Left Hong Kong to Moscow in Transit to a Third Country: HKSAR Government Statement

The US Government requirements did not comply with the legal requirements under Hong Kong Law

By [Global Research News](#)

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Updated

*The US Government requirements did not comply with the legal requirements under Hong Kong Law. As the HKSAR government has yet to have sufficient information to process the request for provisional warrant of arrest, there is no legal basis to restrict Mr Snowden from leaving Hong Kong.” (see **HKSAR press release below**)*

The Guardian has reported that Snowden has left Hong Kong on an Aeroflot flight to Moscow, in transit to a third country.

Snowden’s flight from Hong Kong has touched down in Moscow, according to the New York Times correspondent in Moscow.

The Reuters report intimates that “his final destination may be Cuba, Ecuador, Iceland or Venezuela”, according to various unidentified and unconfirmed reports.

“Russia’s Interfax news agency quoted a source at the Aeroflot airline as saying there was a ticket in Snowden’s name for a Moscow-Cuba flight. Itar-Tass cited a source as saying Snowden would fly from Havana to the Venezuelan capital, Caracas.”

The South China Morning Post said his final destination may be Ecuador or Iceland.

The latest Reuter’s report states that Edward Snowden “will fly from Moscow to Cuba on Monday and then plans to go to Venezuela”, according to a source at the Russian airline Aeroflot

According to the HKSAR Government Release (see below):

“The U.S. government earlier on made a request to the HKSAR government for the issue of a provisional warrant of arrest against Mr Snowden,”

“Since the documents provided by the U.S. government did not fully comply with the legal requirements under Hong Kong law, the HKSAR government has requested the U.S. government to provide additional information ... As the

HKSAR government has yet to have sufficient information to process the request for provisional warrant of arrest, there is no legal basis to restrict Mr Snowden from leaving Hong Kong.”

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HKSAR Government issues statement on Edward Snowden

The HKSAR Government today (June 23) issued the following statement on Mr Edward Snowden:

Mr Edward Snowden left Hong Kong today (June 23) on his own accord for a third country through a lawful and normal channel.

The US Government earlier on made a request to the HKSAR Government for the issue of a provisional warrant of arrest against Mr Snowden. Since the documents provided by the US Government did not fully comply with the legal requirements under Hong Kong law, the HKSAR Government has requested the US Government to provide additional information so that the Department of Justice could consider whether the US Government's request can meet the relevant legal conditions. As the HKSAR Government has yet to have sufficient information to process the request for provisional warrant of arrest, there is no legal basis to restrict Mr Snowden from leaving Hong Kong.

The HKSAR Government has already informed the US Government of Mr Snowden's departure.

Meanwhile, the HKSAR Government has formally written to the US Government requesting clarification on earlier reports about the hacking of computer systems in Hong Kong by US government agencies. The HKSAR Government will continue to follow up on the matter so as to protect the legal rights of the people of Hong Kong.

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Michel Chossudovsky contributed to this report

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