

# Front Line Protester Explains Tactics Communication within H...

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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

protests, protesters, telegram, movement, people, unified, cover, noticed, hong kong, information, government, police, hand, front, undercover cops, carrie lam, major, join, spread, solve

## SPEAKERS

Speaker 2, speaker 1

**S** speaker 1 00:09  
The protests in Hong Kong drive big crowds, massive crowds, over a million people join one of the protests in June. And since then 10s to hundreds of thousands continue to join the demonstrations against the proposed extradition bill, which as of today was finally withdrawn by Chief Executive Carrie Lam. However, these protests have become about more than just the bill, the withdrawal of which was just one of five demands. My name is Emily Molli, and you're watching Subverse News. From the time I've spent here in Hong Kong, I can say without a doubt, these were the most well organized protests I've ever covered. There are multiple channels on Telegram that broadcast information to countless people and protesters who take on various roles during the clashes with police. On my last day in Hong Kong, I spoke with a protester who actively participated in the front lines about communication strategy and the unified message of this movement.

**S** Speaker 2 01:00  
Ever since the 9th of June I've been in the front line to protest. My first goal was to save people among the whole movement. Until now.

**S** speaker 1 01:15

I've seen a lot just from joining some of these Telegram groups just how many people are involved. So many people so how do these How did these protests organize to get so many people involved?



01:32

Sometimes there's like posters and words among Telegram, among Facebook, every social media and protest form ever just came down in wherever name justified that protest. We always do the same, the five represses, repeal of obstacles, SK defense, to make the government respond.



speaker 1 01:57

So what kind of role has Telegram played in this movement since the beginning?



02:02

We've got a lot of information from it, like where the police are coming from. How many. Literally everything. How the people get arrested. With Telegram. Anything substant. Legal issues. Anything you can think of.



speaker 1 02:26

Can you explain because when when I go and I see the protests, there are different people taking on different roles there. A lot of people doing different things to come together. So what are some of the different roles people play in the protest?



02:39


Basically divided into two main groups. The peaceful one, and violent one. And usually in the front line people who throw things, metallics, maybe even fire extinguisher. And even there are some small groups among Telegrams, which they met in front line, and they decide what to do a month from now maybe, they call themselves "the cops killers".




speaker 1 03:07

You have the people on the front lines, you have the people who put out the fire with extinguishers, and I noticed a lot of medics as well, where are those people who just take

on that role? Do they usually have experience?

 03:18

I do believe they have experience and that's why they took on that role. Everyone is playing the role by what is asked, by their skill set.

 speaker 1 03:27

And I also notice people are using a lot of hand signals for different things.

 03:32


Yeah, it's not convenient to use Telegram or social media during the protest. So they just make a hand shape, and share whatever they want to back and pass it on. Until we get what we want.

 03:46


Can you tell me some of the and symbols that are commonly used?

 03:50


Um, maybe umbrellabra. Spread out. Something like that.

 speaker 1 03:58

Have you noticed much misinformation about protests?

 Speaker 2 04:05

Please think of something to solve it like fact check. It will live. But sometimes we find out the factor is really fractured but a more more convincing way for us to believe tough fake news. So your information is always there. We just have to take everything in this all

 speaker 1 04:30

Did you see a lot of it coming from the the mainstream media here?

**S** Speaker 2 04:39  
Indeed, yes. We I wouldn't call those false informations. But fake news. Because the outer it

**S** speaker 1 04:47  
been like a major problem, you

**S** Speaker 2 04:53  
know, is not a major problem. The major one is inflammation, I'm only TechCrunch growth, which needs to be factors in the front line sometimes. And that fake news among the media, this nothing we do we just spread out those players to watch it watch some news. And we hope that people will listen to especially those elders,

**S** speaker 1 05:16  
when people are only getting their news from the certain sources. They're only getting the one side of the story. So is there something that protesters are doing to counteract those narratives?

**S** Speaker 2 05:31  
BB quality was the TV oldest sidewalk or wherever. And we put on some a4 size stories with pictures and words about what really happened out there.

**S** speaker 1 05:48  
So how do you deal with the misinformation in the telegram groups other than the fact checkers? I saw today that Carrie lamb is planning to withdraw the extra effort, she's going to scrap it entirely. So do you think that's going to make people happy? Do you think that's going to affect the movement

**S** Speaker 2 06:13  
of folders A long time ago, and some of us were happy, some of us are very small part of us. But ever since 2014, and everything happened? A lot of us will not be gratification from this. No, this is a listing they could do. I think we across a little bit closer to successful because they're trying to do this to suit us. And there's no more thing to do.

**S** speaker 1 06:43  
So do you think a lot of the protesters are unified? In sticking by their demand? You know, and what do you think are some of the major ones that they want to see?

**S** Speaker 2 06:54  
From from the retreat of the proclamation of lights, the code writers, gangs, Fox release all the rest of protesters use administrate folder to disassembly, the whole government to solve the Legislative Council by administrative orders and immediately implement dude unofficial survey. So we believe the whole pro everything that happens is out of the problem of that system. So we believe if we want to change everything, from the roots, we have to destroy everybody one. But in the legal way. We want the government to do it with us.

**S** speaker 1 07:44  
So tell me a little bit more about the fake reporters that you've seen.

**S** Speaker 2 07:51  
She was she acts like everyone photos, but is the hero boss and top crucial Swan fences and our shoes, and have been told that our shoes is one of the way that they used to identify us and our accessories. So

**S** speaker 1 08:09  
is there anything else that you think is important just about the tactics being used for the information coming out about it?

**S** Speaker 2 08:22  
It's quite sad. So a lot of us the protesters, just students, and we don't have much time as we learn from the protest on the front line. And those lessons we learn from our injuries and stuff. There's not much static, which is a whole show to cover us as much as we could. But we are so unified. And if we fall down, because I did and they just pull us back. And heroes send me the hospital send me home. A lot of like free drivers, they will come pick you up and send you home. And some people just by food order is bread. Oh, everyone is during one of the good things come today.

S

speaker 1 09:08

Yeah, cuz I noticed that people are handing out, you know, gas masks, covers faces helmets of handing out a lot of equipment for people because even the ones who aren't participating in the front lines have shown a lot of support to the people who are how strong Do you think the like, the general support in Hong Kong for these protests are

S

Speaker 2 09:34

very strong. We we do think they're like our backbone in the protests. But in the other hand, they think we are the backbone in the protest, which stand frontline. So they are very important to us the soul are we in a way, we say we have a shadow to help us Lord in every way to get I'd like to add something on TEDx side, we usually spread out so that we could have more space to deal with a tear gas. And we will form small groups in the front line to which are sex and stuff. In case there's like the court calls, which is the undercover cops conferences. They use a data when we are no like in front of you number two ambition. So rather than arrest us, we just trust that and not

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speaker 1 10:35

have you noticed any kind of mainland influence either on the police or in the media

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Speaker 2 10:45

and the media for sure. Their memory of the money involved is on more partial to police. Listen to the government the government is into trance conference or in some way Yeah.

S

speaker 1 11:00

If you want to hear more about this protesters views on this movement including his fear, the consequences, the success or failure of this movement, and his feelings about the surveillance state. You can check out his interview with loot grid ASCII on his YouTube channel we are change. The link to that video is in the description. If you want to support the work that we do and make more on the ground reporting happen, you can donate to our PayPal subscribe star or Patreon. Those links are in the description as well. Thanks for watching, and we'll see you next time.