

Taiwan Policy Centre Press Release: Taiwan Policy Centre responds to the PRC Embassy statement attack Foreign Secretary Liz Truss' support for Taiwan

For immediate release

Commenting on the hostile statement made by the Embassy of the PRC in response to Foreign Secretary Liz Truss' comments about Taiwan yesterday, Taiwan Policy Centre Chief Executive, David Spencer, said:

"The Taiwan Policy Centre notes both the words and tone of the comment made by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China yesterday in response to Foreign Secretary Liz Truss' comments in support of Taiwan.

"We firmly oppose and strongly condemn the People's Republic of China issuing demands about which nations the United Kingdom has a sovereign right to engage with.

"The UK has no immutable obligation to recognise any so called 'One China Principle' where doing so would clearly contravene the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights which outlines Taiwan's right to self-determination, and by extension the development of all diplomatic relations, under any name it chooses.

"We urge the PRC to stop threatening Taiwan, stop trying to render Taiwan invisible on the world stage, and stop its expansionist sphere of influence operations in the China Seas and Western Pacific, all of which are creating tension in UK-China relations.

"Taiwan has never been a part of the People's Republic of China and the future of Taiwan is a matter for the people of Taiwan and their democratically elected representatives to determine."

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Notes to Editors

PRC Embassy statement:

Embassy Spokesperson's Remarks on the UK Official's Wrong Comments on China

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Question: The UK Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs Liz Truss claimed recently that China could make "a catastrophic miscalculation such as invading Taiwan", and that the West must not become economically dependent on China and should reduce the use of China in key supply chains. What is your comment?

Embassy Spokesperson: We firmly oppose and strongly condemn this repeated peddling of "China threat" and the remarks that violate the one-China principle and interfere in China's internal affairs.

China is always a staunch force for world peace and common development. The development of China, with a population of over 1.4 billion people, only creates opportunities for countries in the world. This is a basic fact and international consensus. Who is wantonly interfering in other countries' internal affairs and creating troubles around the world? One needs only to take a look at the record of the UK and its cohorts in the Middle East and Afghanistan.

The Taiwan question is purely China's internal affairs which no country has the right to interfere in. We urge the UK side to earnestly observe the one-China principle, stop any official exchanges with the Taiwan authorities, stop any military link with Taiwan, and stop lending support to secessionist forces seeking "Taiwan independence", so as to avoid causing serious harm to the China-UK relationship.

About the Taiwan Policy Centre

The <u>Taiwan Policy Centre</u> is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to boosting political, cultural, and trading relations between the UK and Taiwan.

We aim to increase the knowledge and understanding that policy-makers, the media, and the British public have about Taiwan through a combination of research, educational events, and outreach.

We further aim to highlight the threats and injustices that Taiwan faces at the hands of the Chinese Communist Party and lobby the UK Government to take a stronger and more proactive stand in support of Taiwan on the global stage.

Too often, media coverage and understanding of Taiwan is shaped by the language and claims of the Chinese Communist Party, a governing authority which does not, and never has, governed Taiwan.

The Taiwan Policy Centre aims to correct these misconceptions and ensure that the UK's policies towards Taiwan and media coverage of Taiwanese affairs are rooted in research and law.

