

Taiwan Policy Centre Press Release: Taiwan Policy Centre call on UK to clarify Taiwan policy

For immediate release

Following the announcement by the new government that the Prime Minister's special adviser for foreign affairs and defence, Professor John Bew, will be leading a Downing Street process to update the Government's Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy, in light of the growing security challenges to the UK posed by both Russia and the People's Republic of China, Taiwan Policy Centre Chief Executive, David Spencer, commented:

"The initial Integrated Review did not include a single mention of Taiwan, which sums up the UK's approach so far, which amounts to not so much a policy of 'strategic ambiguity', as burying our heads in the sand and hoping the problem will go away.

"This updating process is therefore welcome, and we would urge the Government and Professor Bew to use this opportunity to outline a clear UK Government strategy towards Taiwan.

"The initial Integrated Review pledged that the UK would defend democracy and uphold the freedoms and values the UK stands for. It now needs to clarify how the UK will achieve this with Taiwan.

"The unprovoked hostility from the People's Republic of China following the visit of Speaker Pelosi to Taiwan in August illustrates the very real threat the Chinese Communist Party poses to the rights and freedoms of Taiwan's 23 million people.

"The time is right for the UK to make clear its support for Taiwan's freedom, and its right to self-determination under international law, as we will argue in our forthcoming report on the topic, and to outline how it will work with allies to defend these."

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Notes to Editors

UK Government statement:

The UK Government press release ahead of Prime Minister Liz Truss' speech to the UN General Assembly in New York later today can be found here - <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-to-tell-un-general-assembly-i-will-lead-a-new-britain-for-a-new-era>

About the Taiwan Policy Centre

The [Taiwan Policy Centre](#) 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.