

## Instances of China's Interference with Taiwan's International Presence

December 31, 2019

No.	Date	Details
1.	January 2, 2019	In a speech to mark the 40th anniversary of China's <i>Message to Compatriots in Taiwan</i> , Chinese President Xi Jinping sought to impose the "one China principle" and "one country, two systems" framework on the Taiwanese people. In response, Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has called on the international community to continue to support Taiwan's democracy, recognize the fact that Taiwan is not ruled by China, and work with Taiwan to safeguard democracy, freedom and human rights, as well as the existing international rules-based order.
2.	January 16, 2019	The Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Peking University jointly issued the <i>Blue Book on the Cyber Rule of Law in China</i> , demanding that 66 multinational companies—including Amazon, Apple, Nike and Siemens—designate Taiwan as "China Taiwan" so as to comply with the "one China principle." The book also proposed that companies that do not respect China's territorial sovereignty should be criminally prosecuted, have their business permits revoked, or be fined. Following an effort by Chinese authorities in 2018 to force international airlines and other enterprises to change their designations of Taiwan on their websites, this incident served as another example of China's campaign to propagate demeaning designations for Taiwan. Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a press release strongly condemning China's actions and proactively contacted, through its overseas representative offices, related companies to

		ensure they use proper designations for Taiwan.
3.	January 19, 2019	A McDonald's advertisement in Taiwan that featured the word <i>Taiwan</i> in the nationality column of the protagonist's university entrance examination admission ticket led to calls by Chinese citizens to boycott the company. A spokesperson for China's Taiwan Affairs Office stated that "Taiwan is an inseparable part of China's territory" and that "this fact should be respected by enterprises investing and operating in China." McDonald's subsequently expressed regret over the matter and withdrew the advertisement.
4.	February 21, 2019	Taiwan's participation at an international meeting was disrupted due to political interference from China. The WHO consultation meeting on the Composition of Influenza Virus Vaccines took place in Beijing on February 21. Since the Ministry of Health and Welfare intended to participate in the event, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) instructed Taiwan's Representative Office in Geneva to submit an application to the WHO Secretariat in December 2018. However, WHO referred Taiwan's application to China in accordance with a secret Memorandum of Understanding signed between WHO and China in 2005, and delayed extending an invitation to Taiwan until 1 AM on the same day of the meeting. With insufficient time to prepare, Taiwan was unable to send representatives to attend. This was the first time that Taiwan had been absent from the consultation meeting since being invited to the event in 2014. MOFA expressed its strong disappointment and filed a protest with the WHO Secretariat through Taiwan's Representative Office in Geneva.
5.	February	On the registration website for this year's Mobile World Congress (MWC), held in Barcelona, Spain from

	23, 2019	<p>February 25 to 28, the trade show’s organizer GSM Association (Group Special Mobile Association, GSMA) and host Fira Barcelona inappropriately listed Taiwan as “TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA,” which prevented executive officials of Taiwan’s relevant government agencies from attending. This was the first year Taiwan had encountered such belittling treatment at the event; in past years, Taiwan’s officials had all been able to register to attend under the designation “TAIWAN.” The Ministry of Foreign Affairs instructed its overseas Representative Offices to request repeatedly that GSMA and Fira Barcelona correct this inappropriate designation, but the companies buckled under political pressure, and insisted that they would use the same name for Taiwan as the United Nations and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) website. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs strongly condemns GSMA’s unjust use of this denigrating appellation.</p>
6.	February, 2019	<p>The Taiwan International Windpower Training Corp. (TIWTC) and the Global Wind Organisation (GWO) jointly introduced a certification program to cultivate related technicians in Taiwan. However, due to pressure from China, the GWO referred to Taiwan as “Taiwan, Province of China” in the country selection dropdown menu on its registration website. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs promptly instructed the Taipei Representative Office in Denmark to assist the TIWTC in protesting and demanding that the GWO correct the error. MOFA will continue to maintain close contact with the Bureau of Energy, the TIWTC, and affected offshore windfarm companies. It will also keep demanding that the GWO cease its discriminatory treatment and rectify the inappropriate designation of Taiwan on its website.</p>
7.	March 2,	<p>On February 27, the website of the Swedish public broadcaster Sveriges Television (SVT) published an</p>

	2019	article by Taiwan’s Representative to Sweden Daniel Liao, in which he called for support of Taiwan’s democracy amid threats from China. In response, China’s Embassy in Sweden issued a news release on March 2 arguing for the imposition of the “one China principle” on Taiwan, and accusing the broadcaster of using its website to openly promote a message of Taiwanese independence. Then, on March 19, Reporters without Borders (RSF) issued a statement which called on the Chinese Embassy in Sweden to stop harassing Swedish journalists, and condemned China’s obstruction of press freedom.
8.	March 8, 2019	On March 8, an advertisement for the international cosmetics brand M·A·C that appeared in the publication Women’s Day included a map of China in its background which omitted Taiwan. This led Chinese internet users to call for a boycott of the brand and hefty fines for the company, forcing M·A·C to release a statement of apology the following day expressing the company’s respect and support for China’s “one China principle.”
9.	March 12, 2019	Because of President Tsai Ing-wen’s plans to make a transit stop in the US during her tour of South Pacific diplomatic allies from March 21 to 28, China’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesperson stated on multiple occasions that China strongly opposes the development of any sort of official exchanges between Taiwan and the US, and reiterated China’s hope that the US abide by its “one China” policy. They emphasized that cross-strait affairs are a “Chinese internal matter in which others have no right to meddle,” and called upon the US not to let President Tsai transit through Hawaii.
10.	March 20,	Ms. Liu Po-chun, an ROC (Taiwan) national, received the 2019 International Olympic Committee’s

	2019	<p>Women and Sports Award from the IOC and UN Women. However, UN Women listed her nationality as “Chinese Taipei” on its website, and as “Taiwan, Province of China” on its Facebook and Twitter posts. While lauding the achievements of Ms. Liu, ROC Foreign Minister Joseph Jaushieh Wu stressed that she comes from Taiwan. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York wrote a comment regarding Ms. Liu’s protests on the UN Women’s Facebook page, posted on TECO’s Facebook page Taiwan’s unwavering stance on the matter, and reposted Minister Wu’s response. UN Women finally removed “Taiwan, Province of China” from its Facebook page, thereby correcting the mistake.</p>
11.	March 26, 2019	<p>At the invitation of the Ministry of Industry of the Czech Republic, Mr. Wang Chung-i, Representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Prague, attended an annual meeting on the economic achievements and future prospects of the Czech Republic. However, he was forced to leave the premises during the event due to pressure from the Chinese Embassy. MOFA strongly protested the incident with the Czech government, which later apologized.</p>
12.	April 3, 2019	<p>On a globe sculpture at the London School of Economics, Taiwan and China are depicted in different colors, with Taipei shown as the ROC capital. LSE had said that it intended to make them the same color, and depict Taipei as a regional city due to pressure from China. The Taipei Representative Office (TRO) in the United Kingdom promptly expressed its profound disappointment with LSE. The TRO also called for the UK Parliament, academia, and media to request that LSE respect the fact that the two sides of the Taiwan Strait are ruled by different governments and demand that the original appearance of the sculpture be maintained. ROC Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu sent an open letter to LSE’s director on April 4, urging LSE to neither submit to unreasonable interference and bullying, nor carry out the inappropriate decision to change the artwork, thereby respecting Taiwan’s position and dignity. In July,</p>

		LSE decided to maintain the globe sculpture’s original appearance, including the name and color of Taiwan. However, an asterisk has been affixed to the names of Taiwan, Palestine, and Kosovo, and a plaque has been set up to indicate that the asterisks represent territories or borders that may be disputed. MOFA affirms LSE’s decision to respect the artist’s original work and accurately depict the status quo across the Taiwan Strait.
13.	May 2, 2019	Each year, Linköping University in Sweden hosts an International Day performance competition for students from different countries. Although Taiwanese students had participated in this event under the name “Taiwan” in previous years, the event organizer downgraded the designation to “Taiwan/Chinese Province of Taipei” on May 2 under pressure from China. Taiwan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs promptly instructed the Taipei Mission in Sweden to lodge a protest with the event organizer.
14.	May 3, 2019	Under pressure from China, the Hungarian University of Debrecen prohibited Taiwanese students from taking part under the name “Taiwan” in its International Food Day, which took place on May 5. The Taipei Representative Office (TRO) in Budapest immediately urged the Hungarian government to respect and protect the rights and interests of the Taiwanese students and to resist political interference from China. It also asked members of the Hungarian National Assembly who are supportive of Taiwan to express concern with the university. Following the TRO’s negotiations with the university, a flexible approach was adopted so that the students could operate a booth bearing the sign “Taiwanese Food.” Beijing’s pressuring of students participating in a food fair just demonstrates its all-out efforts to suppress Taiwan. Considering such actions regrettable, Taiwan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs strongly condemns them.
15.	May 3,	Taiwanese in the UK have participated in London’s renowned Lord Mayor’s Show for the last two years

	2019	<p>under the name “the overseas Taiwanese community in the UK.” However, China has been pressuring the organizers to exclude overseas Taiwanese from this year’s event, which will take place on November 9. The Taipei Representative Office in the United Kingdom has been discussing the issue with the City of London Corporation. In the meantime, several British parliamentarians friendly to Taiwan have spoken up in the UK Parliament, urging the City of London to welcome overseas Taiwanese participation. The UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office has also endorsed such participation. Taiwan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs will continue to keep abreast of the matter so as to better ensure that overseas Taiwanese can take part in the event.</p>
16.	May 6-17, 2019	<p>On May 6, China’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Taiwan Affairs Office again unjustifiably obstructed Taiwan’s participation in the World Health Assembly, citing the “one China principle.” China once again distorted the meaning of UN General Assembly Resolution 2758 and WHA Resolution 25.1. It even propagated disinformation, claiming that Taiwan’s absence does not create a gap in global disease prevention. Taiwan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs strongly protested and condemned these actions. At a joint press conference held at MOFA on May 17, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Joseph Wu and Minister of Health and Welfare Shih-chung Chen expressed the Taiwan government’s strong regret and disappointment, and reiterated Taiwan’s firm position. Minister Wu stated that only the democratically elected government of Taiwan has the right to represent the 23 million people of Taiwan at the WHA. The Chinese government’s misleading assertion that appropriate arrangements have been made for Taiwan’s participation in global health affairs is a blatant lie.</p>
17.	May 15,	<p>The editorial “Walk to protect democratic Taiwan” published by the Swedish newspaper <i>Nerikes</i></p>

	2019	<p><i>Allehanda</i> on May 15 referred to Taiwan as a country and expressed support for Taiwan's bid to become an observer in the World Health Assembly. Subsequently, China's Embassy in Sweden openly criticized the newspaper, calling for it to "correct" the content of the editorial and publish a statement by China. In an interview, Editor-in-Chief Anders Nilsson replied that China is an authoritarian regime, and that the newspaper would neither change the editorial's content nor publish China's statement.</p>
18.	June 6, 2019	<p>Under pressure from China, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) revoked the credentials of National Tsing Hua University Professor Lu Chung-chin and WeatherRisk CEO Peng Chi-ming (concurrently an assistant professor at National Central University), who had been due to attend its Eighteenth World Meteorological Conference in Geneva, Switzerland, on June 6, as observers. Although Taiwan's Representative Office in Geneva provided immediate assistance, the WMO ultimately succumbed to Chinese pressure. MOFA has instructed the Representative Office in Geneva to convey its grave dissatisfaction to and lodge a strong protest with the WMO, and will appeal to the United Nations, via the appropriate channels and methods, to rectify as soon as possible the UN's inappropriate treatment of Taiwanese nationals.</p>
19.	June 27- July 1, 2019	<p>At the ICN Congress 2019 held in Singapore by the International Council of Nurses from June 27 to July 1, China's representative tried to force the ICN to downgrade the national designation of the Taiwan Nursing Society (TNS). In addition, China's representative brusquely intended to cover the nametag of the Taiwanese representative at the closing ceremony. Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs promptly offered to help the TNS and instructed the Taipei Representative Office in Singapore to provide assistance to the greatest extent possible. With the active response of the TNS and support of friendly fellow members of</p>



		the TNS, the dignity, professionalism, and equitable participation of the TNS was upheld. MOFA condemns China's constant attempts to suppress the participation of Taiwan's civic organizations in international professional forums.
20.	July 31, 2019	China's government pressured the government of Fiji into forcing the Trade Mission of the Republic of China (Taiwan) to Fiji to change its name on July 31 to the Taipei Trade Office in Fiji. The government of the Republic of China (Taiwan) strongly condemns China for leveraging political and economic pressure to coerce the government of Fiji.
21.	August 22, 2019	A delegation led by the System Integration Promotion Alliance Project Office of the Ministry of Economic Affairs attended the ASEAN Smart Cities Network Conference and Exhibition in Bangkok, Thailand. On August 22, the host organization demanded that the name and title of the delegation be changed due to pressure from China. After the delegation refused to comply with this unreasonable request, the event organizers took it upon themselves to remove the delegation's booth sign. The delegation then left the event in protest. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs immediately expressed strong protest and great disappointment to the Thai government. It also condemned China for abusing its political power to interfere in economic exchanges and technical cooperation.
22.	September 11, 2019	Coming under pressure from mainland China, J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. changed its corporate website's designation of Taiwan from "Taiwan" to "Taiwan, China." In response, our government strongly expressed its position on this matter to the company and demanded that it rectify this misnaming.
23.	September 16, 2019	Once again resorting to dollar diplomacy and false promises of large amounts of foreign assistance to buy off a small number of politicians, mainland China caused the government of Solomon Islands to adopt a resolution to terminate relations with Taiwan. Our government expressed regret and condemnation at the

		move, and announced the termination of relations, and the end of all cooperative projects with Solomon Islands, effective September 16.
24.	September 20, 2019	Pledging full funding for Kiribati to procure several airplanes and commercial ferries, mainland China enticed Kiribati into breaking diplomatic relations with the Republic of China (Taiwan). In response, our government expressed dismay at Kiribati's turning its back on decades of assistance and friendship, and condemned mainland China's continued attempts to have our allies break relations with Taiwan. The government announced that it terminated relations and all cooperative projects with Kiribati effective September 20.
25.	October 1, 2019	At the fifth plenary of the 40th session of the International Civil Aviation Organization Assembly, our diplomatic ally Saint Lucia spoke up for Taiwan, and asked ICAO to consider the possibility of inviting us to attend the Assembly and participate in related mechanisms as an observer. In direct response, China's representative at the meeting falsely claimed that Taiwan is part of the territory of China, that UN General Assembly resolution 2758 and related ICAO resolutions recognize China's "one China principle," and that these resolutions serve as a legal basis for denying Taiwan's right to ICAO participation. These claims were an attempt to mislead and confuse the international community. Taiwan's Representative to Canada Winston Wen-yi Chen immediately granted a media interview to clarify our position, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a press release strongly denouncing China's erroneous statements.
26.	October 3, 2019	China's embassy in Sweden pressured public agencies and private companies in Stockholm to deny our representative office in Sweden the use of a venue to host an annual National Day reception. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs strongly denounced China's use of such pressure and expressed our concern to the Swedish government. In the end, our representative office in Sweden held its reception on October 3 at the Swedish History Museum, where the event went smoothly and was well-attended.

27.	October 9, 2019	On October 9, President of the Czech Senate Jaroslav Kubera attended a National Day reception hosted by our representative office in the Czech Republic. President Kubera’s decision to attend drew protests from China’s embassy in Prague, but he insisted on going to the reception anyway. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs commends and thanks President Kubera for his fearlessness in the face of China’s interference, his dedication to the values of freedom and democracy, and his concrete actions demonstrating support for Taiwan. The Ministry also condemns China’s shameless attempts to interfere with our National Day events.
28.	October 25, 2019	Deputy Speaker of the Danish Parliament Pia Kjaersgaard led a delegation to Taiwan from October 14 to 18. After returning to Denmark, she tweeted about the success of this trip. Moreover, during an interview, she stated that China had lodged a protest with the Danish Parliament that she had not respected the “one China principle.” She remarked that she could not accept this kind of suppression by China. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs thanks Deputy Speaker Kjaersgaard for her support, and condemns China’s gross and contemptible interference with a democratic parliamentarian’s visit to Taiwan.
29.	October 31, 2019	The International Conference on Computer Vision was held in late October in Seoul, Republic of Korea. On October 31, China forced the event organizer to revise a slideshow, stating that Taiwan had mistakenly been listed as a country, and requiring that the “country” designation be changed to “country/region.” The Ministry of Foreign Affairs protests and condemns China’s gross political interference with international scientific exchange and academic freedom. MOFA instructed its New York office to contact the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the ICCV’s organizer, requesting that it, as one of the world’s largest associations of electrical engineers, maintain academic neutrality, resist China’s unreasonable requests and political intimidation, and rectify any inappropriate changes that compromise Taiwan’s sovereignty or the IEEE’s reputation.

30.	November 16, 2019	The Chinese Embassy in Malaysia demanded that when the Malaysian media report on Taiwan, instead of naming China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong separately, they write “China (including Taiwan).” MOFA strongly protested and severely condemned China’s unreasonable and oppressive behavior, appealing to the international media to remain neutral in order to preserve press freedom and dignity, to reject any inappropriate conduct that could prejudice Taiwan’s sovereign status, and to check China’s political intimidation and unreasonable demands.
31.	December 14, 2019	In an internal website post in March, the World Bank announced that people from “Taiwan, China,” would need to hold a passport from the People’s Republic of China in order to work there. Following inquiries, the World Bank announced that the inappropriate requirement was no longer in force.