

7 Facts you Should know about Taiwan!

1. **Taiwan is a sovereign country!**
Taiwan has **NEVER** been ruled or administered by the People's Republic of China. The Taiwanese assert that Taiwan and its 23 million people are **NOT** a part of China.
2. **Taiwan is a democratic nation!**
Taiwan respects the rights and freedoms of its citizens as it holds frequent and fair elections. China is an authoritarian, dictatorial regime that continues to **SUPPRESS** political dissent and **OPPRESS** its people.
3. **Taiwan is the target of over 700 Chinese missiles!**
Taiwanese live under constant threat as China continues to create instability in East Asia by **THREATENING TO ATTACK** and annex Taiwan by force.
4. **Taiwan wants full participation in the international community!**
Taiwan has eagerly and **CONSISTENTLY CONTRIBUTED** to humanitarian and disaster relief efforts around the world while providing generous amounts of foreign aid to developing nations.
5. **Taiwan demands a seat in the United Nations!**
Taiwan has been continuously denied its rightful membership into the United Nations, contrary to the Principles of **UNIVERSALITY and SELF-DETERMINATION**.
6. **Taiwan demands a seat in the World Health Organization!**
Taiwan still remains excluded from the World Health Organization despite the fact that Taiwan has an excellent health care system. Due to China's **OBSTRUCTION**, Taiwan was denied direct access to resources during the 2003 SARS crisis.
7. **Taiwan wants to live peacefully with all nations!**
Taiwan wishes to resolve issues diplomatically with peaceful dialogues and **VOID OF MILITARY THREATS**.

7 Things you can do to help Taiwan!

1. **Write letters to our Canadian leaders!**
Ask politicians to support Taiwan's inclusion in international organizations such as the W.H.O. and the United Nations.
The Right Honourable Paul Martin: pm@pm.gc.ca
Minister of Foreign Affairs: Pettigrew.P@parl.gc.ca
2. **Boycott Chinese goods to show opposition to Chinese aggression!**
Buy "Made in Canada" and not "Made in China".
3. **Write letters to support a democratic Taiwan!**
The Toronto Star: lettertoed@thestar.ca
The Globe and Mail: Letters@GlobeAndMail.ca
The National Post: letters@nationalpost.com
4. **Write to express opposition to Chinese aggression!**
Stress that China's 700 missiles aimed at Taiwan is creating instability in East Asia. State that the European Union's arms embargo against China should continue until China renounces the use of force against Taiwan and drastically improves its own human rights record.
5. **Attend a rally to support Taiwan!**
Show solidarity for the rights of: a sovereign Taiwan, Falun Dafa followers to practice their religion, Hong Kong citizens to elect their own leader and Tibetans to establish an autonomous and free Tibet.
6. **Start or sign a petition!**
Support the existence of a peaceful, independent and free Taiwan.
7. **Demand that corporations in China act responsibly!**
Make businesses accountable for human rights and labour issues.

For more information, visit the webpage of the Formosan Association for Public Affairs: www.fapacanada.org
Questions can be directed to: info@fapacanada.org

Information about the proposed Taiwan Affairs Act

The Taiwan Affairs Act (Bill C-357) is a private members bill proposed by MP Jim Abbott. This Bill seeks to boost Canada-Taiwan relations, and its passage is long overdue.

1. Seeks to promote Canada-Taiwan exchanges

Canada-Taiwan trade totals \$5-billion annually, Canada is a favourite destination for Taiwanese tourists, and there are 150,000 Taiwanese living in Canada. This Bill will foster more economic and cultural ties between the two countries.

2. Opposes use of force by China against Taiwan

China threatens Taiwan with more than 700 missiles pointed at the island nation. Threats of attack and use of force are made only by China, not Taiwan. This Bill states unequivocally that Canada supports peaceful resolutions to any international disagreements.

3. Supports democracy in East Asia

Taiwan is a liberal democracy that holds frequent and fair elections. China is a dictatorial regime that undermines basic human rights and persecutes political dissidents. This Bill will show that democratic behaviour is rewarded and that human rights violations are opposed by Canada.

4. Supports Taiwan's inclusion to the World Health Organization

The 23 million people of Taiwan have been denied access to this important international body. Thus Taiwanese citizens are isolated from international medical cooperation, due to China's obstruction. This Bill will facilitate and ensure Canadian support for Taiwan's membership to the WHO.

5. Allows Taiwanese government officials to visit Canada

The Canadian government consistently denies visas to Taiwanese government officials wishing to visit Canada. This practice is an insult to Taiwanese-Canadians, and shows that Canada supports the isolation of Taiwan. This Bill will reverse this senseless practice and will show that Canada welcomes Taiwan into the international community.

MYTHS about the proposed Taiwan Affairs Act

Some have raised concerns about the Taiwan Affairs Act and speculated on negative repercussions if Canada passes this Bill. However, these fears are unfounded.

1. Myth: It damages relations with China

Reality: This Bill is about Canada-Taiwan relations, not about Canada-China relations. Canada-China relations are unaffected by this Bill. China is historically verbose about such actions, but does not retaliate with substantive measures.

2. Myth: It will hurt the Canadian economy

Reality: The trade deficit with China tripled in the last 3 years, totaling \$18-billion annually. China has more to lose than Canada in cutting off commercial ties. Canada is not solely reliant on China, as India, Indonesia and Malaysia all provide sources of labour-intensive products. Speculation about China's retaliatory measures is exaggerated.

3. Myth: It interferes with China's internal affairs

Reality: The status of Taiwan is not a Chinese internal affair. The right to decide Taiwan's status lies with the citizens of Taiwan. Taiwan has never been ruled by the People's Republic of China, and its citizens oppose annexation by China. Canada should treat Taiwan as a sovereign entity, since Taiwan has a democratically elected government, respects the freedom of the press, and does not trample on human rights.

4. Myth: It prevents Canada from engaging China on human rights

Reality: Diplomatic relations with China failed to prevent the Tiananmen Square massacre, the persecution of Falun Dafa members, and the continued crackdown on democracy advocates. A better way to signal Canada's human rights support is to reward countries with good human rights records.

The text of Bill C-357 can be found at:

www.parl.gc.ca/38/1/parlbus/chambus/house/bills/private/C-357/C-357_1/C-357_cover-E.html