

Situation in Taiwan

Taiwan, also known as the Republic of China or Formosa, is an island in the Pacific Ocean. Its relationship with China, or PRC, is complicated due to their history. Because of that, Taiwan is still not recognized as a sovereign country or state by most of the world.

In 2020, Taiwan published the date concerning military exercise areas China established all around Taiwan. Since then, they have been shooting into Taiwan's Air Defense Zone. No damage has been reported, however the areas, or danger zones, are established on territory that belongs under ROC.

I- Background

In 1945, after Japan surrendered, Taiwan's administration was given to China, forming the ROC. Slowly, unrest in Taiwan started to spread as they continued to be excluded from higher positions in the administration of Taiwan as well as decisions concerning the island.

In 1949, during the Chinese civil war, the Communist party took over and PRC was formed on the mainland. Because of that, the ROC lost control of the mainland and decided to flee to Taiwan. An authoritarian, single-party rule was established there, and until the 1970s, was considered to be the legitimate government of China. However, most countries started to consider the PRC to be a legitimate government. ROC proceeded to go through many changes, and by 1979 were already considered a democracy.

In 1995, the so-called Taiwan Strait crisis happened. PRC shot missiles into the waters surrounding Taiwan. The president agreed to visit his university and give a speech about Taiwan's democratization, but PRC was trying to isolate ROC. They labeled him as a traitor and claimed he was trying to split China. PRC Missile tests were then announced to happen in the waters surrounding Taiwan.

Since then, conflicts were kept at bay, but in 2020 PRC established military exercise areas similarly placed as the ones in 1995. In 2021, a record of 56 missiles flew into the Taiwan Air Defence System.

II- UN involvement

Until 1971, the ROC was a part of the UN, but after the United States of America cut off ties with ROC many countries followed, until the UN proclaimed that the PRC is the only legitimate government of China. Once Taiwan became a democracy, it started asking for re-entry into the UN as a sovereign state. China, however, still claims it as its territory, making it impossible for the UN to make Taiwan a member of the UN.

Up to this day, Taiwan is still not a part of the UN, making any involvement very hard.

III- Questions to take into considerations

- Does my country view Taiwan as a sovereign state?
- Does it support the idea of Taiwan entering the UN?
- How much does my country depend on Taiwan economically?
- In a hypothetical scenario, what would the invasion of Taiwan mean to my country?

Sources

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