



STATEMENT

Conservatives Advance Hearings on Taiwan at Foreign Affairs Committee

January 31, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ottawa, ON – The Hon. Michael Chong, Conservative Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs, issued the following statement on his proposal for the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development to conduct hearings on Taiwan:

“Today, at the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development, I proposed the Committee conduct four hearings on the threats to Taiwan posed by the People’s Republic of China (PRC) in the Taiwan Strait – a proposal the Committee accepted.

“In the last four months alone, the PRC has sent more than 355 military jets into Taiwan’s air defence identification zone (ADIZ). Just over a week ago, the PRC sent 39 military jets into the ADIZ, the largest number seen in a single day since last October.

“These threats come at a time when Russia, another authoritarian state, is threatening Ukraine, another democracy in Eastern Europe. To date, Russia has amassed an estimated 130,000 troops along Ukraine’s border. The Committee will also be conducting four hearings on the threats to Ukraine from Russia. These two sets of hearings complement each other and will allow the Committee to better understand the threats coming from the world’s two largest authoritarian regimes.

“Canada’s Conservatives believe that the Liberal government must take a stronger stance against the threats authoritarian regimes present to the rules-based international order. These hearings will allow us to hear testimony about these threats and the actions needed to counter them and defend democracy.

“Canada’s Conservatives remain committed to advancing our values and interests on the international stage, including standing with our democratic allies against the threats from authoritarian states.”

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