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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(19.5.2025)

On 1 April 2025, the Spokesperson of the High Representative/Vice-President issued a statement on Chinese military drills which happened on the same day¹. This followed the statements in response to the May² and October³ 2024 military drills, calling to avoid any actions that may further escalate cross-strait tensions.

EU's position on preserving the status quo in the Taiwan Strait and the concerns about increased tensions have been reiterated publicly and in bilateral meetings with China and with other partners. Most recently, during the second EU-Japan Strategic Dialogue (Brussels, 4 April 2025), the High Representative/Vice-President and the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs reaffirmed that peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait are of strategic importance for regional and global security and prosperity, and expressed their strong opposition to any unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion⁴.

The Commission supports a strong trade and investment relationship with Taiwan that is results-driven. Since 2022 the Commission has upgraded the EU-Taiwan Trade and Investment Dialogue (TID), now conducted at Director-General level on the EU side. The third TID was held on 17 December 2024⁵, covering economic security challenges, in addition to bilateral trade and investment matters, as well as future cooperation. The existing architecture of the TID provides sufficient flexibility to address the breadth and depth of issues that need to be discussed. The Commission remains open to expanding the scope of exchanges to any new areas of shared interest in the framework of the TID.

¹ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/taiwan-statement-spokesperson-china%E2%80%99s-military-drills-0_en

² https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/taiwan-statement-spokesperson-china%E2%80%99s-military-drills_en

³ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/taiwan-statement-spokesperson-china%E2%80%99s-latest-military-drills_en

⁴ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/japan-high-representativevice-president-kallas-holds-second-eu-japan-strategic-dialogue-foreign_en

⁵ https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-and-taiwan-hold-third-trade-and-investment-dialogue-2024-12-17_en