

R17new A full reset of relations with China

Proposers:

Agenda item: 4. Resolutions

Motion text

1 *Note: the resolution was drafted with support of the Taipei Representative*
2 *Office in the Netherlands.*

3 The current state of political affairs has made it immeasurably clear the
4 importance of international solidarity in the enforcement of international law
5 and the right to sovereignty and self-determination of peoples. Now more than
6 ever must we uphold the protection of human rights and the principles of
7 democracy and international rule of law, condemning the oppression, subjugation
8 and bullying that global superpowers exert unto their own peoples and on smaller
9 states.

10 The People's Republic of China's (hereinafter PRC) authoritarianism continues to
11 remain unabated as reports of abuses, if not atrocities, committed by the state
12 grow.

13 The crimes against humanity and genocide of Uyghurs.

14 Over a million Uyghurs remain arbitrarily detained in internment camps, wherein
15 they are subjugated to forced labour, systematic sexual abuse and rape, and
16 torture; a further number of at least 600.000 Uyghurs have been forcefully
17 relocated under the PRC's forced labour system. The Uyghurs are also subject to
18 extreme restrictions on freedom of religion and expression and the erasure of
19 their religious, ethnic and cultural identity, as the state has systematically
20 destroyed Muslim buildings including mosques and cemeteries, banned religious
21 practices and forced renunciations of faith, forced the separation of Uyghur
22 children for re-education, and brainwashing. It is now beyond reasonable doubt
23 that the PRC has implemented policies including mass forced sterilisations,
24 forced contraception, and forced abortions. Reports have also surfaced of forced
25 medical experimentation and mass deaths in camps.

26 It is thus clear that this is no longer simply a situation of cultural genocide,
27 but of crimes against humanity, including torture, and of genocide committed
28 against Uyghurs according to the definitions provided for respectively in

29 Article 7(1) of the 1998 Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal
30 Court, the 1984 United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel,
31 Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and Article II of the 1948
32 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. Similarly
33 there has been a clear breach of the right to (internal) self-determination of
34 the Uyghurs.

35 The right to self-determination, prohibition of crimes against humanity, torture
36 and genocide are *ius cogens* (peremptory) norms under customary international
37 law, and thus binding regardless of the PRC's reservations; as well as *erga*
38 *omnes* obligations (owed to the international community as a whole) that fall
39 under universal jurisdiction. Although the ICC does not exercise jurisdiction
40 over PRC territory, the Court has held that "the Court may exercise jurisdiction
41 over crimes when part of the criminal conduct takes place on the territory of a
42 State Party".

43 The formal recognition of the situation in PRC as a genocide is therefore of
44 significant legal importance as the first step to holding the PRC accountable.

45 **PRC neo-imperialism.**

46 Despite the lofty promises of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the project
47 has evolved into a framework in which the PRC implements various foreign policy
48 tools in order to manoeuvre and expand its sphere of geopolitical influence
49 across the globe. This includes various forms of economic and neo-imperialism
50 entailing the exploitation of the economic and/or political vulnerability of
51 countries in order to attain this expansion, such as its exercise of debt trap
52 diplomacy on less economically developed countries. Furthermore, the expansion
53 of cross-continental infrastructural development and natural resource extraction
54 through the BRI without sufficient provisions for the protection of the
55 environment and human rights has not only been devastating to the environment
56 and livelihoods, of especially rural populations, but entrenches a system of
57 asymmetrical reliance on natural resources and exploitative economic control
58 across the Global South when economic diversification, modernisation and
59 independence should be supported instead.

60 The PRC has further continued to increase military tensions and aggression
61 toward its neighbouring states, from its military interventions at the China-
62 India border to the ever increasing military pressure in the South China Sea.
63 The PRC has furthermore continued to exert pressure on any opposition abroad,
64 from its threats against Lithuania for establishing the Taiwanese Representative
65 Office, to sanctions of officials of states that criticise it.

66 **The isolation of the Republic of China.**

67 Despite the Republic of China (ROC, hereinafter Taiwan) fulfilling the criteria
68 of a state according to Article 1 of the Montevideo Convention of 1933, the
69 people of Taiwan are prevented from exercising their right to self-determination
70 and self-sovereignty by the PRC. Taiwan is also significantly limited in
71 meaningfully participating as a sovereign state within the international
72 political order, as it is prevented from membership or attendance of most
73 international organisations.

74 As a result of the PRC's One-China principle, all states are forced to choose
75 between the PRC or Taiwan, as formal diplomatic relations with the PRC is
76 contingent on the severing of any formal relationship with Taiwan and therefore
77 the non-recognition of the Taiwanese government.

78 Furthermore, China has significantly intensified their aggression against Taiwan
79 and military pressure across the border over the past decade, going as far as
80 sending warplanes into Taiwan's air defence zone. The PRC has also threatened
81 military action against any independence attempts of Taiwan, and throughout the
82 COVID-19 pandemic has continued to block Taiwan's membership of WHO. Based on
83 the ICJ Wall Advisory Opinion 2004 and Reference Re Secession of Quebec, it
84 could be argued that the increased aggression and militarisation and
85 international isolation indicate a significant breach of the meaningful exercise
86 of the right to self-determination of the people of Taiwan.

87 **A full reset.**

88 Europe needs to re-evaluate its ties with China. We need a full reset of EU-
89 China relations – deviating from a focus of maximalising economic gain to
90 maximalising the respect for human rights, democracy, international law and the
91 international rule of law.

92 **The Federation of Young European Greens reiterates R06 Standing up the Chinese**
93 **Authoritarianism of the 2020 General Assembly, and with regards to the crimes**
94 **against humanity and genocide of the Uyghurs, calls on the European Union and**
95 **the governments of European countries:**

- 96 1. To formally recognise and declare the situation subjected to the Uyghurs
97 as a genocide;
- 98 2. Based on this breach of international law,
 - 99 1. For member states to start universal jurisdiction investigations of
100 the crimes against humanity and genocide committed by the PRC
101 against the Uyghurs in order to pursue prosecution of the PRC within
102 national regimes, and/or

103 2. For the European Union to file a lawsuit against the PRC in the
104 International Court of Justice and to pursue charges against the
105 Chinese Communist Party in the International Criminal Court;

106 3. To implement Europe-wide trade sanctions on products originating from the
107 Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region or associated with the forced labour of
108 Uyghurs;

109 4. To implement Europe-wide diplomatic sanctions on PRC officials of the
110 Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, and eventually of Xi Jinping.

111 **With regards to the neo-imperialism of the PRC, calls on the European Union and**
112 **the governments of European countries:**

113 1. To denounce in the strongest possible terms the aggression of the PRC in
114 the South China Sea and the debt trap diplomacy in the African and Asian
115 regions;

116 2. To provide a feasible alternative to the BRI contingent on, amongst other
117 aspects, respect for human rights, including:

- 118 1. The adoption of the Build Back Better World (B3W) initiative, with
119 EU-wide funding of the initiative,
- 120 2. The ending of the externalisation of the EU border regime and thus
121 the funding of authoritarian regimes in Africa via the EU Trust Fund
122 for Africa and to replace this with intensified funding of pre-
123 existing Official Development Assistance (ODA) mechanisms contingent
124 on minimum standards and principles relating to, amongst others,
125 human rights and environment and climate, such as that of the Blue
126 Dot Network,
- 127 3. Further expansion and intensification of the Global Gateway
128 strategy, such as via further expansion of the European Fund for
129 Social Development Plus (EFSD+).

129 **With regards to the isolation of the Republic of China, calls on the European**
130 **Union and the governments of European countries:**
131

132 1. To denounce in the strongest possible terms the increasing aggression and
133 military build-up of the PRC against Taiwan;

134 2. To formally recognise the sovereignty of Taiwan and push for the full
135 membership of it in the institutions of the institutional order, primarily
136 the four core international agencies Taiwan is currently pursuing, WHO,
137 Interpol, ICAO and the UNFCCC, and eventually the UN;

- 138 3. To further enhance engagement and broaden partnerships with Taiwan,
139 including a reset of the European countries' One China Policy and the
140 broadening of the scope of interaction with Taiwan beyond purely economic
141 engagement such as the further collaboration of European and Taiwanese
142 ministers;
- 143 4. To increase European foreign investment into Taiwan, for example by
144 further intensifying the terms of the EU Bilateral Investment Agreement+
145 with Taiwan, with a particular focus on Taiwan's expansion of offshore
146 wind energy;
- 147 5. Based on this, to eventually establish formal diplomatic relations with
148 Taiwan:
- 149 1. By recognising the official diplomatic missions of Taiwan with the
150 EU and with the various European countries no longer as
151 representative offices serving as *de facto* embassies, but as *de jure*
152 embassies and diplomatic missions,
 - 153 2. And by doing the same for the representative offices of the EU and
154 of the various European countries in Taiwan.