
FACING CHINESE PRESSURE, TAIWAN PRESIDENT PLEDGES TO 'STRIDE' INTO THE WORLD

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Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen thanked democratic nations for their support of the island in her Chinese New Year message on Sunday (Jan 30) and pledged to "stride out" into the world, sounding a defiant note in the face of unrelenting Chinese pressure.

China, which claims the democratically-ruled island as its own territory, has increased military activity around Taiwan over the past two years and stepped up efforts to limit its international role, lambasting those who have sought to support Taipei or strengthen ties with it.

In a short pre-recorded video message a day before the eve of Chinese New Year on Monday, the formal start of the most important holiday in the Chinese-speaking world, Tsai expressed appreciation for growing international support for Taiwan.

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