



台 灣 人 公 共 事 務 會

Formosan Association for Public Affairs

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Mr. José Miguel Sánchez Llorente
CEO, University of Salamanca
Patio de Escuelas Menores, s/n.
37008 Salamanca, España

August 29, 2018

Dear Mr. Sánchez Llorente:

As the president of the Formosan Association for Public Affairs (FAPA), a grassroots organization that promotes freedom, human rights and democracy for the people of Taiwan, I write to you today to express our support for the University of Salamanca in light of recent Chinese bullying of your esteemed university.

This past weekend it was brought to my attention that the Chinese Embassy in Spain sent an email to your university last October, demanding the cancellation of the “Taiwan Cultural Days” events to be held at your school. The embassy wrote: “We demand your University adheres to the ‘One China Principle’ and takes measures to avoid and eliminate the adverse effects.”

The embassy then condemned your invitation of Taiwan’s “ambassador” to Spain, Simon Ko, to speak at the event, for: “it causes confusion and misunderstandings about the Taiwan problem.”

First, as Taiwan’s foreign affairs ministry stated in a tweet on Sunday: “‘Taiwan problem?’ There is no ‘Taiwan problem.’ The only problem is China suppressing Taiwan culture and academic freedom in a sovereign and democratic state far from its shores.”

Second, China’s sovereignty claims over democratic Taiwan are preposterous and intellectually dishonest. It is incontestable reality that Taiwan is a sovereign, independent country, for Taiwan fulfills all conditions for statehood as laid down in the Montevideo conference of 1933: a territory, a population, a government that exercises effective control and has the capability to enter into relations with other countries.

Furthermore, Taiwan has its own democratically elected president, government, military, banking system, stock exchange, etc. If one plans to travel to China, one cannot apply for a visa to China at the Taiwanese embassy/consulate. If one travels to Taiwan, one cannot apply for a visa to Taiwan at the Chinese embassy/consulate. These are simply two separate countries.

So, again, we are here to support you and ask that if and when future conflicts with the Chinese embassy in Spain or with China in general arise, that you hold the line.

On behalf of all members of our association, I salute and thank you!

Cordially yours,

Mike Kuo

Formosan Association for Public Affairs