



For Immediate Release

Washington, D.C. – September 28, 2026

Contact: 202-547-3686

FAPA Urges Trump Administration to Expedite Taiwan Arms Sales to Strengthen Credible Deterrence Amid Intensifying PRC Pressure Across the First Island Chain

Following President Donald Trump’s meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping on September 24, **the Formosan Association for Public Affairs (FAPA) urges the Trump administration to move forward without further delay on the pending \$14 billion Taiwan arms package and ensure the timely delivery of critical defense capabilities already approved for Taiwan.**

“U.S. policy must reinforce Taiwan’s ability to defend itself and must never oppose Taiwan’s independence — not allow Beijing to dictate Taiwan’s defense needs or turn Taiwan’s security and independent sovereignty into leverage in U.S.-China negotiations,” said FAPA National President **Dr. Su-Mei Kao (林素梅)**. “We strongly condemn the escalating military and gray-zone coercion against Taiwan by the People’s Republic of China (PRC), as well as its efforts to pressure Washington to restrict Taiwan’s access to the capabilities it needs to defend itself.”

On September 24, FAPA joined hundreds of advocates from the Taiwanese, Uyghur, Tibetan, and Hong Kong communities who gathered near the White House to protest Xi’s visit. **Invited to address the crowd, FAPA Executive Director Anny Chiao-Yun Hsiao (蕭喬勻) stated, “Xi Jinping says he supports peace and prosperity. If so, China must stop attacking Taiwan’s democracy, stop isolating Taiwan from the world, and stop sending warplanes toward Taiwan. We are here to ensure that Taiwan stays safe and free. Keep your hands off Taiwan!”**

The PRC’s military and maritime gray-zone pressure against Taiwan has reached unprecedented levels. In July alone, Taiwan’s Coast Guard Administration detected a record 244 Chinese coast guard, research, and other government vessels around Taiwan’s main island — averaging nearly eight per day, not including Chinese military warships operating on a near-daily basis. A recent *CommonWealth Magazine* investigation analyzing 1.8 billion vessel-tracking records further documented **China Coast Guard operations expanding east of Taiwan and across the First Island Chain, underscoring Beijing’s unilateral efforts to alter the status quo in the Western Pacific.**

“Credible deterrence along the First Island Chain is directly tied to critical U.S. security interests in the Indo-Pacific,” FAPA National President Dr. Kao emphasized. **“Strengthening Taiwan’s ability to defend itself is an indispensable investment in U.S. security and regional peace, helping to reduce the risk of a wider conflict that would require far greater American military resources.”**

On Capitol Hill, senators from both parties have continued to press the Trump administration to move forward with the pending \$14 billion arms package and to expedite other stalled security assistance for Taiwan. Meanwhile, a bipartisan group of seven House members stressed the importance of strengthening Taiwan’s self-defense and reaffirmed that, **consistent with the Six Assurances, the United States must never consult with Beijing on arms sales to Taiwan.**