

Mr. Josep Borrell Fontelles  
High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy  
Rue de la Loi 200  
1040 Brussels  
Belgium

In Brussels, 08 April 2020

Dear Mr High Representative,

On January 31 the WHO declared that the outbreak of 2019 novel coronavirus originating from China's Wuhan is a public health emergency of international concern. As of today, the global number of confirmed cases passed one million mark. Many countries around the world are severely affected by this pandemic.

The WHO treatment of Taiwan as part of China has caused problems for Taiwan. Not only is its democratically elected government barred from taking part in the World Health Assembly, but Taiwanese experts are also arbitrarily prevented from taking part in technical meetings. If the motto of the WHO is 'health for all' and 'leaving no one behind', the Taiwanese people are certainly not treated that way. It is not fair to the 23 million people of Taiwan.

Given the Taiwan's early vigilance and effective efforts in containing this pandemic that have been widely recognized internationally I think that it is of utmost importance to cooperate and share knowledge and experience and include Taiwan in international organizations, mechanisms and activities.

Therefore, I would like to request your support for Taiwan to be incorporated in the WHO meetings, mechanism and activities, support Taiwan's full participation in both the World Health Assembly as an observer and the WHO's disease prevention mechanisms, including its Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN). It will enable Taiwan to help the global efforts in fighting the COVID-19.

In these difficult times, the substantial cooperation in areas such as medical supplies, research and development of vaccines between Taiwan, the EU and its Member States would be beneficial in order to curb the further spread of the pandemic and better prepare for any future outbreak.

I thank you in advance for the consideration of your support for Taiwan.

Best regards,



Ivan ŠTEFANEC  
Michaela ŠOJDROVÁ  
Urmas PAET

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Group of the European People's Party  
Renew Europe Group

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