

Former Top US Defense Officials Arrive in Taiwan Amid Russia-Ukraine War

By [Rita Li](#) and [Reuters](#)

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As the [Ukraine](#) crisis escalates, Taipei welcomed a high-level visit by former top U.S. defense officials, which indicates “rock-solid relations” between [Taiwan](#) and the United States, a Taiwanese official said.

The unannounced [delegation arrived in Taipei](#) at 4:13 p.m. local time on March 1, according to Taiwan’s state-run [Central News Agency \(CNA\)](#). The group, led by retired Admiral Mike Mullen, former chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, will meet President Tsai Ing-wen in the following morning, and attend a banquet later that day.

The two-day visit underscores bipartisan support from Washington and “will even more clearly highlight the rock-solid relations between Taiwan and the United States, especially at a time of the Ukraine crisis,” Taiwan’s presidential office spokesperson Chang Tun-han said a day earlier, CNA reported.

Mullen, a former top U.S. military officer, will be accompanied by Meghan O’Sullivan, a former deputy national security adviser, Michèle Flournoy, former undersecretary of defense, and Mike Green and Evan Medeiros, both of whom were senior directors for the Asia affairs office of the National Security Council.

A senior official of the Biden administration told [Reuters](#) that the selection of the five flagged “an important signal about the bipartisan U.S. commitment to Taiwan and its democracy.”

The two sides are also looking to exchange views on bilateral cooperation, Taiwan-U.S. relations, and regional peace and stability, said Chang.

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