
IN S.KOREA, PELOSI AVOIDS PUBLIC COMMENTS ON TAIWAN, CHINA

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Hyung-Jin Kim & Huizhong Wu

After infuriating China over her trip to Taiwan, U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi met South Korean political leaders in Seoul on Thursday but avoided making direct public comments on relations with Beijing and Taipei that could further increase regional tensions.

Pelosi, the first House speaker to visit Taiwan in 25 years, said Wednesday in Taipei that the American commitment to democracy in the self-governing island and elsewhere remains ironclad. In response, China on Thursday began military exercises, including missile strike training, in six zones surrounding Taiwan, in what could be the biggest of their kind since the mid-1990s.

After visiting Taiwan, Pelosi and other members of her congressional delegation flew to South Korea – a key U.S. ally where about 28,500 American troops are deployed – on Wednesday evening, as part of an Asian tour that included earlier stops in Singapore and Malaysia.

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