

Taiwan strait

May 21, 2021

In news- China has accused the United States of threatening the peace and stability of the Taiwan Strait after a US warship sailed through the seas that separate Taiwan and China.

More information-

- The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer **USS Curtis Wilbur** conducted a “**routine Taiwan Strait transit**” in accordance with international law.
- However, US has said that the ship’s transit through the Taiwan Strait demonstrates its commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific.
- Chinese forces tracked and monitored the ship throughout its voyage.
- Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen has said that they are already an independent state called the **Republic of China, the island’s formal name.**



- The **United States** (like most countries), **has no formal diplomatic ties with Taiwan** but is its most important international backer and a substantial seller of arms.

About Taiwan Strait-

- The Taiwan Strait is a 180-kilometer wide strait **separating Fujian Province from Taiwan Island.**

- Current international agreement does not define the Taiwan Strait but places **its waters within the South China Sea.**
- **Former names** of the Taiwan Strait include the ***Formosa Strait or Strait of Formosa, the Strait of Fukien or Fujian, and the Black Ditch.***

Its northern limit runs from **Cape Fugui** (the northernmost point on Taiwan Island) **to Niushan Island** to the southernmost point of **Pingtang Island** and then westward along the parallel 25° 24' N. to the coast of Fujian Province.