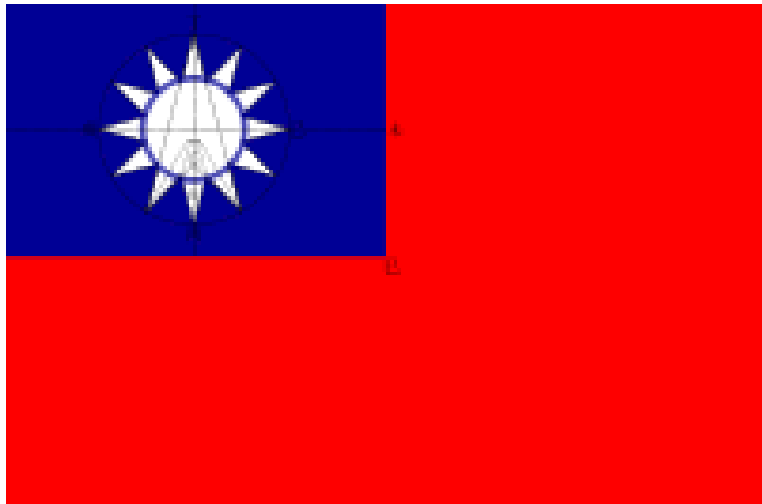


Boston Latin School
Tufts IGL Inquiry 2021
*The Sleeping Giant Has Awoken:
Security in the 21st Century in Asia*

Taiwan

Briefing Paper



Introduction:

As the delegation from Taiwan, we recognize the ever present issue of security in our home of Asia. Since our democratization in the late 20th century, our island has become a beacon of democracy in the area as well as a prime example of the benefits of a market economy which has helped bolster our technology sector. We hope this international conference will be an important opportunity to share our opinions and discuss our ideas for the future of security in Asia.

We hope to discuss the importance of the sovereignty of our state, our booming technology market, and our national security as a small island state. We hope that our fellow delegations in this symposium will be willing to recognize the importance of our democratic state and the need to protect ourselves from growing powers in our region. In recent years, it has become increasingly clear that we must fortify our island against future attacks by powerful governments in our area, and are eager to make connections with various countries in this meeting who may be able to aid us. We are excited to create solutions to address some of the nationalism that has emerged in recent years around our island as well as reestablish our international standing.

Key Points:

- ❑ We seek to continue our trade with China through the Cross-Straits Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA), but would like an end to the “one country-two systems” policy. We seek recognition of the sovereignty of our state from Beijing.

- ❑ We are a proud member of ASEAN, and are concerned with the People's Republic of China's aggressiveness in the South China Sea. We have been clear that we intend to be a facilitator and protector of peace in the South China Sea, and do not want war.
- ❑ Taiwan seeks assistance and commitment through recognition in the Paris Climate Agreement, United Nations, and World Health Organization.
- ❑ We strongly believe in human rights and transparency of governance.

Background:

Taiwan has been part of the Chinese empire on and off throughout our history. In ancient history, several aboriginal tribes existed on what is now the island of Taiwan. Around 239 CE, the first recorded contract between the native Taiwanese and China was written, after which a group of 10,000 Chinese explorers were sent to Taiwan to explore. After much peaceful contact following these initial encounters, around the 13th century, during the Yuan dynasty in China, Taiwan was first brought under Chinese control. At this time Japanese settlements were also starting to take root on Taiwan. The Dutch claimed control of Taiwan after negotiations with China in 1622, but were expelled by the Spanish only a few years later. The Spanish empire ruled Taiwan for about fifteen years before the Dutch regained control with the help of aboriginal peoples. While Taiwan was a Dutch colony, there was a focus on expanding Taiwanese agriculture and commerce as well as the spread of Christianity among native populations.

In 1662 the Chinese gained control of Taiwan, and operated it as part of an existing province. This continued for two centuries, with frequent rebellions by the Taiwanese people living on the island. After the First Sino-Japanese War between China Qing Empire and Japan in 1895, Japan gained control of Taiwan through the Treaty of Shimonoseki. However, locals in Taiwan proclaimed themselves to be independent of Japanese rule and called themselves the

Republic of Taiwan. This first attempt at independence by Taiwan was swiftly put down by the Japanese military, who re-established control over the island and began developing it beyond what China had done.

At the end of World War II Japan surrendered to China, and China began ruling Taiwan with the consent of its allies. In the next few years, civil war broke out in China and in 1949 the ROC government relocated to Taiwan while fighting the war with the Chinese Communist Party. That same year, the ROC defeated CCP forces and declared martial law in Taiwan which lasted until 1987. In 1952, Taiwan and Japan signed the Treaty of Peace, formally ending the war between the two parties and Japan renouncing all claims to Taiwan. In 1972, The United Nations passed a resolution recognizing the People's Republic of China as the only representative of China to the global body, causing the ROC to withdraw from the UN.

When martial law ended in 1987, democratization and cross strait trade began. A complete re-election of congressional representatives took place between 1991 and 1992 giving the people of Taiwan full representation. In 1996 we held our first-ever direct presidential election. In the later half of the 20th century Taiwan experienced rapid industrialization and economic growth, known as the “Taiwan Miracle”. This included the start of a National Health Insurance program in 1995 and improved cross strait trade relations. As economic growth went up, the quality of life improved. The Taiwan Miracle allowed Taiwan to have a quieter political climate and be able to participate in global groups. In 2002, Taiwan became a part of the World Trade Organization and in 2009 Taiwan participated in its first UN activity since its withdrawal in 1971. Taiwan also was able to sign trade agreements with China, Singapore and New Zealand during this time.

Today, the Republic Of China still controls Taiwan, and the People's Republic of China controls Mainland China. The issue of Taiwanese independence remains complicated. Taiwan continues to be under the control of China and is recognized as the Republic of China. China claims Taiwan is already independent as the ROC, but the issue is highly debated in Taiwan. Some in Taiwan want to be formally called the Independent Republic of Taiwan. Supporters in Congress include the Pan-Green Coalition, while the Pan-Blue Coalition wants to retain the Republic of China under the 1992 consensus, or reunify with mainland China. The Pan-Green Coalition is a localist political coalition in Taiwan, consisting of the Democratic Progressive Party, Taiwan Statebuilding Party, Taiwan Solidarity Union, Taiwan Independence Party, and the Taiwan Constitution Association. The Pan-Blue Coalition includes the Kuomintang, the People First Party, the New Party, and the Non-Partisan Solidarity Union. This group favors Chinese nationalist identity, while the Pan-Green Coalition favors the separation of Taiwan and mainland China. This is still an issue that is being debated within Taiwan and there is no national consensus. In 2020, President Tsai Ing-wen and running mate Lai Ching-te of the DPP party won re-election and retained their legislative majority.

I. Committee on the South China Sea

We allow the freedom of affairs, flight, trade, and navigation through the South China Sea. We furthermore have worked with other countries and decided that we will uphold the rights of humanitarianism, ecological conservation, and sustainable development.

Our goal, above all else, is to uphold the peace in the South China Sea. We do not wish to upend the trade or business that is currently happening, although we do wish to cement our claim, despite aggressive acts, over the area.

Most namely, we believe that China may attempt to take our sovereignty over the disputed areas of the South China Sea. Legally, however, it belongs to the Republic of China. Furthermore we do not believe that the other powers involved in this conflict will attempt to uphold human rights and maintain peace as we will.

We have enacted policies claiming all of the islands in the nine dash line of the South China Sea. We also have direct control over Tungsha Island and Taiping. We have also attempted to quell any signs of aggression from other nations.

We, the Republic of China, are the legitimate rulers of the Nine-dash line. However, we want to make sure that unlike the aggressive nature of our neighboring countries, we still want to keep peace and the prospering economics the area presents.

The Republic of China claims sovereignty over the region of the South China Sea and despite aggressive acts from the People's Republic of China the Republic of China still maintains the agreement of peace in the region.

UNCLOS is very relevant to the South China Sea. It is the recognized international law and it is in accordance with this international law that the Republic of China is entitled to all rights.

We see the Philippines claim over UNCLOS in Philippines v. China was "patently false" and even after we so kindly invited representatives from the Philippines to visit Taiping island we were rejected. It is also disrespectful that our opinion has not been sought out in this matter considering the fact that this matter pertains to us.

The Republic of China is an island nation so we understandably have a long and storied history with the sea so fishing, natural gas/oil and shipping are all central to our interests. Shipping in the South China Sea is one of the most important activities to the Republic of China

just like it is to the rest of the world. The maritime shipping industries The Republic of China is one of the largest fishing nations in the world, the industry being valued at two billion dollars. Oil is also extremely important; it accounts for 51% of our total energy consumption.

There should, under no circumstances be a military conflict in the South China Sea. The Republic of China has been clear that we intend to be a facilitator and protector of peace. The South China Sea Peace Initiative clearly outlines the importance for the adherence to peace in the region. It would pose a great threat to the national security of the Republic of China given that the Chinese government has promised war if we declare sovereignty but war is something that nobody wants.

If there is a conflict the Republic of China would have to participate given our sovereignty over the region but again we would like to reiterate that the Republic of China does not support any military conflict in the South China Sea.

II. Committee on the Korean Peninsula

There is considerable conflict between North and South Korea due to their arguments over territory. The conflict stems back to the end of World War II when the North and South officially split in 1948. There is still lots of tension today.

We are fairly concerned about the situation on the Korean peninsula because of North Korea's nuclear power. Tensions have been maintained for years and still remain a dangerous threat to global security. After China gave support to North Korea their relationship became strained in October of 2006. This was when Pyongyang tested a nuclear weapon and Beijing backed UN Security Council Resolution 1718 which imposed sanctions on Pyongyang.

The Six Party Talks began on August 27, 2003 between China, Japan, North Korea, Russia, South Korea, and the United States in an attempt to dismantle North Korea's nuclear

program. Since then the program has been unsuccessful as North Korea backed out, but other countries, notably China, want to return to negotiating.

China and South Korea's relationship is mostly economic as China is South Korea's largest trading partner. While China is also North Korea's largest trading partner their relationship is quite different as North Korea is cut off from a lot of other countries. Together they have the Sino-North Korean Mutual Aid and Cooperation Friendship Treaty signed in 1961.

The split between North and South Korea was caused by the breakup of the Japanese Empire at the end of World War II. During the Korean War China helped North Korea and has since provided "political and economic backing to North Korea's leaders." North Korea also aided the Chinese Communists during the Chinese Civil War and contributed to their victory over the Nationalists. Since then, they have maintained relatively good relations, however, North Korea's nuclear program has strained their relationship.

We want more countries to be involved since the situation on the Korean Peninsula is extremely volatile. There needs to be effort from multiple global powers to achieve global security and unity. We want to help in the negotiation process to ensure North Korea's nuclear weapons do not pose a threat to other nations.

North Korea has a large quantity of chemical and biological weapons and was assumed to have between thirty to forty nuclear weapons in early 2020. North Korea's extensive supply of nuclear weaponry brings uncertainty and fear into the region as surrounding nations work to control their power. North Korea's access to weapons that could cause mass devastation proves challenging for nations, as they have to find a peaceful way to prevent conflicts from leading to disaster and death.

We are most definitely worried about North Korea's nuclear weapons which is why we are committed to ensuring sanctions are enforced to rein in North Korea's nuclear and missile programmes. We consider ourselves to be a "responsible member of the international community" (Tsai Ming-yen, deputy secretary-general of Taiwan's National Security Council).

China wants to maintain friendly relations with North Korea for trading purposes, as China is North Korea's largest trading partner. North Korea does not maintain good relations with very many nations, thus China can profit greatly off of being one of the only nations North Korea imports from. Additionally, North Korea is a formidable military force, thus remaining amicable with them is important.

Human rights and social justice should be a concern when dealing with North Korea as we aim to protect Korean and Taiwanese citizens from the threat of North Korea. Additionally, we think it is crucial to maintain economic justice between trading partners for the benefit of Taiwan.

We officially support the unification of Korea as it would prevent further violence between the two countries. We do acknowledge that this would cause a reduced U.S. military presence on the Korean Peninsula, but we believe we can cultivate strong ties with the United States and other powers. We also understand that Korean unification may inspire China to ask a new unified Korea to reaffirm its commitment to the one-China principle, but we believe with South Korean and U.S. support we will be able to prevent this.

We think the resolution of the tensions on the peninsula should be a concern for all of Asia. We all uphold a responsibility to maintain peace, unity, and justice within our nations and throughout the continent. We cannot turn a blind eye to the conflict because many innocent people have lost their lives and will continue to if something is not done to bring peace to the

peninsula and control the North's nuclear power. The main issues are a refusal to negotiate and compromise and a fear of North Korea's nuclear weaponry.

III. Committee on Taiwan

Taiwan became home to its first known settlers when Austronesian tribal groups voyaged over to the island from Southern China. Despite this, the first time that Taiwan shows up in records from the mainland is in AD 239 with an expeditionary force being sent to the island. Later, the island was controlled by several Chinese dynasties including the Ming and Qing, with the island later becoming a province of the Qing dynasty. This entire time, starting in the 17th century, migrants began arriving in Taiwan, fleeing hardship or domestic turmoil in a few regions of China. After a Chinese defeat in the First Sino-Japanese War (1894-1895), the Qing government was forced to cede Taiwan to Japan, who administered Taiwan until 1945, when after the end of WWII, control fell to the Republic of China. The Republic of China (established during the early 1910s by Chinese revolutionaries) had early success but China quickly dissolved into a full-scale civil war as of 1948, with the main two sides being the Kuomintang Party (ROC), and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). In 1949, however, the Kuomintang were beaten back to the island of Taiwan, where Chiang Kai-shek, president of the ROC, kept power. The ROC armed forces successfully secured Taiwan and declared martial law until 1987. Beginning in 1979, with nationalistic leaders like Chiang Kai-shek becoming increasingly unpopular, democracy activists and organizations steadily gained traction, until in 1987 martial law was lifted and democratization sped up, leading to the the the first ever Taiwanese direct presidential election in 1996. While relations between the PRC and ROC have not necessarily been smooth since the civil war, they did see an improvement with China's "one country, two systems" policy, which however we do not condone. The US has also recently played a role in

these affairs, and they maintain a relatively strong support for our government. Current Beijing-Taipei relations remain relatively positive, although there have been increases in tensions between our two states as a result of rising nationalism in China, and we continue to urge China to recognize the sovereignty of our state.

The Republic of China is a sovereign state, which maintains its own national defense, foreign affairs, and government with democratically-elected officials. We have our own connections and diplomatic relations with foreign nations and a functioning government, constitution, and set of policies. We operate with our own democratic process and maintain our own political organization and constitution outside of any other nation. We also possess our own military with about 300,000 active troops.

We continue our resolve that we are a sovereign state, as we maintain our own internal and external affairs. Increasing percentages of our population identify as more Taiwanese than Chinese, and the Democratic Progressive Party, or DDP has grown in popularity and support in recent years. Despite this, the PRC maintains that Taiwan is a breakaway province that they will eventually retake and control, and only 15 countries recognize us. However, that does not mean that the ROC is not its own state.

Despite our sovereignty, since 1971, the ROC has not been a member of the United Nations. We were forced out when, under UN resolution 2758, the UN General Assembly recognized the PRC as legitimate and the only true representative of the geographic and cultural unit of China. However, we still maintain ties with 15 nations and have our own foreign diplomatic affairs like visas, policies, and executive visits.

The World Health Organization (WHO) excludes us from having any sort of connections with their affairs, much less becoming a member, and ignores us when it comes to warnings or

requests for discourse or sharing of data. Despite our rapid and effective response to the COVID-19 pandemic, empowered by our strict testing, screening, and quarantining measures and early competent government and citizen actions, the WHO ignored our data and warnings about the virus and backed the PRC's claims of no interhuman transmission. This is all because the PRC in mainland China prevents us from joining any international organization, including the UN and WHO. They claim the right to represent China in all of these associations, and flex their extreme influence to enforce this policy, despite us possessing all the important aspects of statehood. We would prefer to have relations with the WHO if possible due to the advice and assistance we could provide with them, not just on our own.

The PRC seeks to "reunify" with us because our existence challenges their legitimacy as the "one true China," and their win in the civil war of 1948-1949. The PRC wants the war to be securely their win in every sense. If we were to officially declare independence, the PRC might seek to go to war- they have said they would use force to make us submit- and destabilize the entire region. The PRC also fears that if the ROC were to officially declare independence, its own people might rise up and overthrow them. We recognize the threat our state poses to the authoritarian government of the PRC, but we do not want reunification with China under their terms by any means.

The PRC's "One Country, Two Systems" principle is a proposal that would allow us to retain our government, administration, military, and way of life, but it would mean we would have to give up independence and recognize the PRC's government as fully legitimate and the overarching power in China. This policy has also been applied in Hong Kong and Macau.

Originally the "One Country, Two Systems" principle was devised by PRC leader Deng Xiaoping soon after his establishment as the predominant Chinese leader in 1978. His goal was

to unite us and the PRC, a key goal of Beijing's government for a long time, and a lasting reminder of China's mid-20th-century civil war. Deng proposed the principle to us, but we did not- and still do not- agree with it.

We view the principle as a danger to democracy and freedom in Taiwan, that, if enacted, could be an intrusion into our sovereignty. We have seen how the situation played out in Hong Kong, and the failure the "One Country, Two Systems" policy was there, and do not want that sort of instability and threat to democracy on our island. We would prefer to remain with the status quo for the time being, and do not plan any changes to that policy.

As the Republic of China, we do recognize ourselves as a legitimate government. We affirm that we are a sovereign state with the right to govern our people in the manner we see fit, as well as manage our own military and foreign affairs.

We are proud of our ever growing technology sector and see ourselves as a beacon of democracy and market economy. We have increasingly become a hub of software, hardware, and semiconductors manufacturing as well as electronic companies and artificial intelligence development. We were ranked fourth for our innovation capability in East Asia by the World Economic Forum in 2018, while the PRC was ranked ninth. We have also been recognized by the international community for our scientific and technological infrastructure. We believe that our market economy and democratic ideals do set our state and our technology sector ahead of many other countries in the area.

We fully support the sanctions we felt we had to place on the PRC. Our technology sector is an important part of our economy and we are proud of its development in recent years. We felt it was in our state's best interest to place technology sanctions on the People's Republic of China.

When the ROC government was first re-established on the island under the Kuomintang Party and martial law, Taiwan was viewed as a province of the mainland, and there were clear divides between the ethnically Taiwanese and immigrants from the mainland. Unfortunately, this caused numerous acts of violence against the ethnically Taiwanese. When our island began democratization in 1986, our national identity began to evolve to its current state. Currently, there is a strong sense of national Taiwanese identity felt among our citizens, both ethnically Han Chinese and Taiwanese. We are proud of the progress our state has made to define itself and become a flourishing hub of democracy. Growing numbers of citizens have said they identify more as “Taiwanese” than ever before.

We have seen an increase in tensions between ourselves and the People’s Republic of China in recent years, much of which can be blamed on the growing nationalism in the country. This has resulted in a military presence in our region which has put our people at risk. There has also been a growing call by some people on the mainland to invade our island by force, which we resoundly condemn. We are a sovereign state and Beijing must accept that position. We hope that this increased nationalistic sentiment felt on the mainland will not influence the People’s Republic’s desire to continue current relations with us. This nationalism can not be productive in the relationship between Beijing and Taipei and we strongly urge the PRC to reject many of these nationalistic claims that its people have made.

We support the recent arms sale deal that we have reached with the United States. We believe this will provide us with the necessary safety measures to protect ourselves from any threats we may encounter and are grateful to the US for assisting us. We also feel that it is becoming increasingly clear that we must fortify our military to prepare us for future encounters, and this recent US arms sale is a step we must take to protect our citizens from future harm.

The tension that has risen in recent years between Taipei and Beijing has been fueled only by an increase in Chinese nationalism and their desire to expand their domain. The United States has been kind to us, aiding our state with the necessary tools to prevent harm to our citizens. There has been a rising call in the People's Republic of China to invade Taiwan by force, which we strongly condemn. This has been the cause of tensions between our two states, not any third party interference from foreign governments.

We hope to continue current relations with the mainland and avoid any escalation in military engagements between our two states. We recognize the increase in military activity in our airspace and waters by the mainland's government, but urge the PRC not to attempt a forceful invasion of Taiwan. Although we do urge the PRC to recognize the legitimacy of our government, we strongly affirm that we do not violence between our two states.

IV. Committee on Climate Change and Global Health

Taiwan has been excluded from the Paris Agreement due to the political ideas and difficulties that China has raised by claiming Taiwan as their territory. Taiwan is very susceptible to climate change and global warming, and struggles to modify their policies to adapt to the arising circumstances. While the UNFCCC excludes Taiwan, it is still very important for Taiwan to combat climate change because of its role in the economy and trade system.

The first Covid case was diagnosed on January 21, 2020. Taiwan has had approximately 905 Covid cases that resulted in eight deaths. Currently, Taiwan has so few Covid cases that our government holds news conferences to address each one. These low numbers are due to a mandatory two-week strict quarantine for all travelers to Taiwan, and social pressures for citizens to wear masks. Taiwan ensured that citizens had access to almost-free rapid testing centers. Geofencing technology allows hospitals to track where Covid patients had been to minimize

further spread of the virus. During Coronavirus, Taiwan intermeshed with the rest of the world economically.

Global health and climate change are related. Climate change causes more heat waves, extreme weather, the spread of disease, and increasing pollution. The spread of disease is increased as warmer temperatures increase transmission of vector-borne diseases. Air pollution, aside from warming the planet, causes health problems including asthma, lung cancer, bronchitis, and emphysema. Water pollution results in bacterial, viral and parasitic diseases including typhoid and cholera. Taiwan recognizes the health threat of climate change.

Taiwan has ambitious policies on climate change. Taiwan aims for its greenhouse gas emissions to be 50 percent of 2005 (base year) levels by 2050. Taiwan's Environmental Protection Administration created the National Climate Change Action Guidelines, Greenhouse Gas Reduction Action Plan, and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Control Action Program targeting six major fields: energy, manufacturing, transportation, residential and commercial buildings, agriculture, and environment management.

Taiwan has been excluded from partaking in climate commitments such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Due to political constraints, Taiwan has been unable to implement policies on climate change in conjunction with other nations. Taiwan will not let its exclusion prevent it from effectively combating the climate crisis.

China is the world's biggest source of carbon dioxide, responsible for around 28% of global emissions. Japan emitted 1.24 billion metric tonnes of greenhouse gases in 2018. In South Korea, 651.9 million tons were emitted in 2019. In contrast, Taiwan's emissions in 2019 were approximately 279.6 tons. Greenhouse gas emissions in the Philippines were 126,922,662 tons in 2016.

Taiwan is concerned about climate change, as the summer of 2020 was the hottest year on record, and extreme weather troubles the island. Taiwan's coral reefs have experienced bleaching and many of Taiwan's allies, including the Marshall Islands, Kiribati, and Tuvalu, are vulnerable to rising sea levels caused by climate change.

Other than climate change, Taiwan has dealt with waste production, polluting bodies of water and the whole atmosphere. In 2018, Taiwan amended its Air Pollution Control Act to reduce air pollution.

Taiwan tried to warn the world about COVID-19 very early and believes that the WHO should've released more information quicker on the potential of the outbreak. The WHO said that there were possibilities of human-to-human transmission, and hospitals around the world should be prepared. Taiwan was prepared before this and had already started health screenings just in case.

China's policy on COVID-19 was slow, but eventually did shut down towns and air travel into places with major outbreaks like Wuhan. China knew about the "atypical cases of pneumonia," and should've been quicker in reacting to this international threat. Early on, Taiwan received information about the novel coronavirus and was quick to act once the first case was found within our boundaries.

V. Committee on Trade and Technology

We as Taiwan have maintained a growing relationship with trade in China since 2010 when we signed the Cross-Straits Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA). Today, Taiwan is one of the biggest investors in China with the value of the cross strait trade being \$150.5 billion in 2018. Other prominent relationships within the Asia-Pacific region are our trade relations with Japan and Hong Kong.

China and the United States are Taiwan's largest trading partners. We have maintained a long standing and vibrant trade relationship with the United States over many years. Other trading partners include the European Union, Japan, and Hong Kong. Our main area for trade is in the South China Sea which has a third of the world's trade pass through it every year.

The TPP is a trade agreement with twelve countries on the Pacific Ocean that aims to reduce tariffs, strengthen economic ties and increase trade. When the United States withdrew from the agreement, the deal was changed slightly to remove policies that were priorities for the US, and renamed the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans Pacific Partnership (CPTPP). This trade agreement is one of largest free trade agreements in the world representing 13.5 percent of global GDP. The RCEP is a trade deal with the 10 member countries of ASEAN as well as China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand. This deal cut tariffs, but not as much as the CPTPP.

The CPTPP would have the signatories agree to reduce or remove tariffs and restrictive policies on industrial goods. This deal is significant because it fosters trade in the South China Sea, where already one-third of global shipping passes through. The RCEP would eliminate tariffs on imports within 20 years and define the "rules of origin". The rules of origin would have the biggest impact as it would promote trade with suppliers within the region.

The presence of China in the RCEP all but eliminates any chance of Taiwan in joining the trade deal, but we have continued to have talks with the US about a free trade agreement. We will continue to express our interest in joining the CPTPP. We will continue our informal discussions with member states and submit an application for membership after these have concluded.

The Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) and the Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) are the most prominent political parties in Taiwan, and both parties agree that we should continue to push for trade deals with many different countries. President Tsai Ing-Wen affirmed that joining the CPTPP was a national consensus and that both parties should work together to achieve that as it is the best for the national interest.

While seeking membership to the CPTPP we have continued to conduct informal talks with members as well as talking with the United States about signing free trade agreements. Although we are not a part of the RCEP, seventy percent of our exports to member countries are already tariff free, so the trade deal has not had a significant impact.

Our interest in joining the CPTPP has allowed us to maintain informal talks with all the member countries including Japan and Australia. Along with those countries, we have continued to discuss a free trade agreement with the United States and hope to make progress in signing this deal in the near future.

Many countries claim to have authority over the South China Sea, which is where we perform the majority of our sea trade. These claims to the South China Sea could present issues regarding supply chains. The coronavirus pandemic has caused supply chain issues across the world as well as in Asia. Countries across Asia indicate that the operational challenges that industries have faced include material shortage, drop in demand, and worker shortages. But many officials and countries are hopeful that with six to twelve months these issues will be resolved.

We, as Taiwan, export mainly Petroleum, iron, and steel. In addition, we export some products made of these resources, as well as technology and computer parts. Our major imports include most of our energy and resources used to extract energy. China accounts for 24% of all of

our trade. Since we are located in the South China Sea, almost all of our sea trade goes through there.

We export mainly intermediate goods- we export lots of iron and steel, as well as a smaller amount of products made from those metals. Another category of our largest exports is computer parts and technology equipment. Our other chief export is refined petroleum, which makes up around \$9.7 billion of our export revenue.

We depend on trade for much of our national income, so naturally wages would be affected by our trade. Our economy grew 2.98% in 2020 compared to 2019 as a result of our growing trade. Since we are such a small island, our wages have not grown considerably over the years, but our growing economy will allow our wages to improve.

Since many countries claim ownership of the South China Sea, there is competition for trade. Our island is located in the South China Sea, so naturally, much of our sea trade is conducted there. We hope that no country will attempt to push us out of such an important area of trade for us, because if that happened, there would certainly be some conflict: not just with our island, but also with our strong trading partner and merged government partner, China.

Our merged government partner, China, has begun to take advantage of the pandemic to try and expand its control over some of its southern waters. China is our island's largest trading partner, and we are very closely intertwined with them. This could affect us in many ways depending on whether or not they succeed.

We, as Taiwan, cannot speak to Xinjiang human rights issues, as we do not control Xinjiang and are not aware of all the business conducted there. However, we do not stand for human rights violations in general. We have worked tirelessly to improve workers' conditions on

our own lands. Regarding trade and the supply chain, all of our business conducted on those fronts we try to make as legitimate as possible.

Our energy consumption has not increased over the years- from 2015-2019, we have averaged about 86 billion liters of oil equivalent of energy per year, with no outliers. We import a large part of our energy, and we have a plan to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels by 2025. This would also allow us to import less of those materials.

We import a large amount of our energy. Oil accounts for 48.28% of our energy, followed by coal (29.38%), natural gas (15.18%), and nuclear and biomass energy (6.51%). Finally, hydroelectric and other types of renewable energy accounts for 0.64% of our island's total energy. In terms of power that we export, one of our chief exports, petroleum, can be used as a power source.

Since our energy consumption has not grown over the years, neither has our reliance on fossil fuels. In fact, we have a plan to have 20% of our island's energy be from renewable sources and 50% of our energy to be from low-carbon natural gas by 2025. This would mean lowering our energy from fossil fuel plants to just 30% of our total. Since we would be reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, this would mean that we would have to import less of it.

VI. Committee on Development

Some of our major economic successes like the Taiwan Miracle and being one of the Asian Tigers. In the latter half of the twentieth century, we were fueled by exports and had rapid industrialization and economic growth, and became one of the richest countries in the world. We became world leaders in technology products and benefited from improved infrastructure, education, and standards of living. The rapid growth was made possible by increases in capital and labor.

As of 2010, we have shown strong interest to be a member of Trans-Pacific Partnership, since it facilitates the development of production and supply chains, seamless trade, cross border integration, supporting more job opportunities, as well as opening domestic markets. We will submit our application to join the Partnership in order to boost domestic economic reforms and bring in more investments. We worked to maintain our relation with the US and strengthen the US's trust from arm sales. At the same time, our economy is now dependent on China, so as we are attempting to break out of China's shadow, we need more major economic reforms in order to be economically, politically and socially sovereign as a state.

We and United States has had a long established partnership since WWII. In 1954, we signed Sino-American Mutual defense treaty to consolidate our military alliance. Even after 1972, when President Nixon normalized the relation with China, without diplomatic recognition, we still sustained our good friendship with the US. Later along with the signing of the Taiwan Relation Act and the "six assurances", US reassured that it will continue to support us even if it had earlier cut our formal relationship. In 2016, the "six assurances" was adopted by the US House of Representatives in a non-binding resolution, upgrading their status to formal. Through different administrations, the US congress has passed numerous bills and resolutions and has taken concrete action to support Taiwan, and all these has included recognition of Taiwan's freedom and democracy, authorization of arm sales to Taiwan to maintain its defensive capabilities, and encouragement for Taiwan's aspiration to contribute to various international organization, such as APEC, WTO, International Civil Aviation Organization, INTERPOL, etc. Recently, in August 2019, the Trump administration has sold \$8 billion worth arms to Taiwan. We have cooperated with the US closely in the science and technology field, notable projects include the large-scale scientific collaborative contribution to the Atacama Large Millimeter

Array program, FORMOSAT-3/COSMIC, and FORMOSAT7/COSMIC-2, which aim to provide significantly more reliable weather forecasts. Other projects we have collaborated with can be extended to medical, clinical, physics, atmospheric science, space science, environmental conservation and more fields. We have worked very closely with the US in the field of education as well, for 4 consecutive years, Taiwan has been the 7th largest source of international students in the US. Along with the US, many Latin American countries like Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, etc, also recognize us as a country. Based on shared values and common interests, our relationship will continue to grow and prosper in the future.

Deng Xiaoping was a paramount leader in China from 1983-1990, and after he started in office, the People's Republic of China (PRC) established diplomatic relations with the United States. He tried to reform and strengthen US and China relations. However, with the presidency of Donald Trump, the reformation was stalled, and the chinese communist state started to challenge anti communist claims, wanting to stall reformation and move backwards towards the Mao Zedong Era. Trump initiated a large-scale trade war that fractured relations, making a harmful impact on China's economy: a fractured society between urban and rural, rich and poor, and ethnic chinese and minorities like Tibetans, Uyghurs, and our people. Deng Xiaoping started the 'reform and opening-up' program, opening trade to more countries. As well, he opened the one-child policy to control population, and introduced a decentralized economic management and plan for economic growth, which gave more control to individuals like peasant farmers. He stressed individual responsibility in economic decisions, and strengthened relations in the west. Deng Xiaoping, the ruler after Mao Zedong, was one of the revolutionary elders who fought for the communist cause, and was very committed to rescuing economic reform programs from conservative backlash. He was very committed to domestic stability and economic growth, and

wanted to help expand personal and cultural freedoms, making China a more developed country. His predecessor, Jiang Zemin, who was in power from 1989 to 2002 and secretary of the Communist Party, made reforms to reduce state ownership and control more industries, starting with the privatization plan in 1997. He improved more relations with the United States, and openly discussed his human rights record, which was criticized in the west.

In China, they put in many policies to increase economic growth, including the “total-factor productivity(TFP)” measures to raise output economic growths, leading to about a 40% GDP growth rate. As well, with more state owned enterprises being privatized, making more incentives to work harder and make a boost in the economy. As well, with Direct Foreign Investments, spillover gains have increased boosting the economy. With more inputs and more capital workers and a higher labor force, more have been able to work, including those of skilled workers. Lastly, with the trade theory of the Great Factor Price Equalization, the increase of schooling and availability to jobs, the average IQs have risen and given more opportunities for both men and women in China to work in technology and skilled jobs.

With China's reforms, they have helped and halted threatening military force to most neighboring countries except us. Because of China, they have displaced the United States as a major trading partner. The economic rise of China has led to them thinking they can exercise complete control over our state to only threaten our people with military force. China doesn't like that the United States helps us with military arms and supports our eagerness to be a sovereign state, showing how with their economic rise, it has only made our island suffer. The country who doesn't support our economic rise and self determination has been more powerful, making us more powerless. China says our control is their most important and sensitive issue in the US-China relations, which divides the United States and their Asian allies and us with China.

China can easily overwhelm us with missiles and air attacks, but it would jeopardize relations with the United States, so if China becomes more powerful, not needing the help and relation with the United States, this could be extremely detrimental for us.

Compared to his predecessor, Xi Jinping's economic governance strategies shift focus away from exterior stability towards internal security. Xi's aggressive BRI and "going out" policies help to grow Chinese economy exponentially. Beyond economic growth, Xi's proposals have solved issues of capital run off, population growth, lacking foreign policies, and expansion of the RMB currency. While these initiatives may look great on paper, the reality is that they are employed corruptly. Public disdain has recently risen over scandals of Chinese-funded infrastructure projects in the Philippines; local politicians received kickback all while attempting to undermine Philippine territorial sovereignty in the mid-2000s. More recently, Malaysia's 2018 elections were determined corrupt as a result of Chinese-funded investment projects resulting in the incumbent losing office. All this corruption spurred from Xi Jinping's economic policies proves they aim not to improve under-developed countries, but rather to spread Chinese influence regardless of the repercussions.

China's "going-out" initiative is a policy putting forth increased investment on foreign markets, natural resources, and technological advancements, in order to stabilize their modern economy. Complementing the BRI, the "going-out" policy aims to spread Chinese influence in other nations and establish direct trade-routes via maritime transportation. By increasing Chinese companies to invest in overseas ventures, China is not only able to secure its position of power on the global market, but is also able to impact the way in which other countries economically develop. A primary example of this is the expansion of the RMB currency throughout Eurasia.

Overall, the “going out” policy is significant because it spreads Chinese economic influence and diplomatic power.

China’s belt and road initiative, also referred to as the ‘new silk road policy,’ is the massive infrastructure project China has undertaken in order to launch international development goals stretching from Europe to East Asia. By expanding infrastructure development outside of China’s borders, Beijing is able to expand its economic and political influence. With over sixty countries already signed on, the BRI has already influenced international development. Both positive and negatives come from this, as aiding underdeveloped countries can never be seen as a detrimental thing. Undoubtedly Xi’s efforts to build massive railway networks, energy pipelines, and highways have benefited Kazakhstan, Indonesia, and other underdeveloped nations. Yet, given China’s history of manipulating underdeveloped groups and committing blatant human-right abuses, efforts in a good light without consideration for how they go to help China. The BRI initiative is beneficial to China because it expands Chinese influence and economic ideas. One of the most important economic ideas is the use of the Renminbi currency because it is the fastest growing currency in the world. China hopes to replace the American dollar as the international currency and by expanding the renminbi’s popularity it gets closer and closer to achieving this goal. This raises the question: where does Taiwan fall in all of this? Given the current tension with Beijing, We have joined a coalition of countries to informally counter China’s economic expansion. This group, known as the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, founded by the US, India, Japan, Australia, works to fund competitive infrastructure development in Eurasia and block China trade-routes. We have been warned by officials to be wary of the increased Chinese influence as another benefit it may have in the foreseeable future allow China to use its strengthened military against Taiwan. Preventing them currently from invasion is US

diplomatic ties and the repercussions such an invasion would bring. However, as China's influence continues to grow, their fear of war with the US significantly diminishes--making them more dangerous to our state.

Despite the tense geopolitical situation, We continue to be one of China's biggest investors--almost to a point of over-reliance. In an attempt to entice manufacturers to move back to Taiwan and reduce the "Chinese-Crutch", we put into place its New Southbound Policy in 2016. So far, this policy has been successful. Our nation's companies have contributed over \$33 billion in renewing our economy. This increased domestic investment by returning companies contributed to a GDP growth rate of 2.73% in 2019 alone: solidifying Taiwan as one of the Asian Tiger Economies. Beyond the re-immigration of Taiwanese companies in increasing the economy, We have made efforts to diversify trade exports and imports beyond Beijing. Our trade with other countries besides China grew by over 15.2 billion in 2019. Outbound investment also grew significantly. However, the problem remains in the status quo that roughly 40% of Taiwanese exports still go to China. Therefore, We still have ways to go before we achieve independence from China.

Past, present, and future regional development in Taiwan continues to be shaped by the effects of climate change, aftermath of the covid-19 pandemic, and regional geopolitical relations. Despite US-Taiwan political relations having been strengthened under the Trump administration, the election of Xi Jinping in China has created a diplomatic power-struggle between Beijing and Taipei. While alliance with the US provided us with access to new allies, Xi's election caused a massive diplomatic shift of seven allies from us back to China. Assurance of US-backed security is hardly a thing of ease for us, with our main rival having been a US ally for the past half-century. This geopolitical tension between us and China remains the biggest

impactful security concern. Beijing's overt intimidation tactics, of which include bombings, air surveillance, and propaganda, only prove to strengthen US-Taiwanese bonds and development growth. US investment is key to the state's GDP growth and economic sustainability in the face of Chinese threats. Where the covid-19 pandemic is concerned, we are one of the few countries to experience relatively few repercussions. Having closed all tourism early on, we were able to keep factories open and even experienced an unprecedented increase in GDP. As a sovereign state, we have had our fair share of epidemics. The SARS outbreak in 2003 revealed fundamental cracks in the institutional structure of pandemic procedure. In the aftermath of the SARS outbreak, we worked closely with the WHO to establish new procedures and restrictions to prevent the problems that had previously occurred. Sanitation became a #1 priority, hospitals were trained to handle massive disease spread, better means of communication were established, social distancing was practiced, and an abundance of face masks were made--all methods which were useful in the suppression of the covid-19 pandemic. Development in Taiwan takes into consideration possible outbreak scenarios and builds around the newly implemented restrictions. As for the issue of climate change and its impact on our countries development, extreme weather has changed the ways in which government policies allow infrastructure to develop as well as to monitor key areas of concern. Having been designated a 'water-scarce' state by the UN and having experienced a 0.8°C increase of temperature above the global average temperature increase, erratic weather patterns have filled our state with typhoons, earthquakes, landslides, tsunamis, etc. However, it was not until Typhoon Morakot broke all previous rainfall records and wiped out entire towns that government officials gathered together with scientists of all backgrounds in order to account for future impacts of climate change on development. Specifically, the National Development Council (NDC) in conjunction with the Environmental

Protection Agency of Taiwan established a *National Climate Change Adaptation Policy Framework* and a *National Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan* in 2010; The overall objective of these initiatives being to bring together our government ministries, academics and researchers, non-governmental organizations, and business communities to more clearly understand the looming challenges of climate change and generate assessments on specific vulnerabilities and how they might be addressed. Since Morakot, climate change side-effect prevention has played a crucial role in regional development as restrictions regarding infrastructure development, city development, and population growth, are all rooted in preventing future catastrophes.

VII. Committee on Governance, Human Rights and Social and Economic Justice

Taiwan is a constitutional democracy, with a president elected every 4 years. Our five branches of government that organize the bureaucracy are known as the Control, the Examination, the Executive, the Judicial, and the Legislative Yuans. All leadership positions including representatives, the president, and the vice president, are directly elected by the populus. Taiwan is part of the People's Republic of China. In Taiwan we strongly believe in equality in all aspects of life. Upholding democracy, fostering peaceful coexistence with other nations and states, and creating a strong and fair economy. Our constitution clearly states that "All citizens of the Republic of China, irrespective of sex, religion, ethnic origin, class, or party affiliation, shall be equal before the law." We believe that human rights are just as important as the economy, because in order for human rights to be successfully upheld, the economy must be prioritized as well. We believe that the goals of ASEAN, to create social and economic growth in Southeast Asian nations, are important ones that should be carefully fostered. In Taiwan we see ASEAN as an opportunity to create bonds with Southeast Asian countries in the future.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization tries to ensure security and stability across Eurasia, joins forces to protect themselves from threats, enhances trade, encourages cultural and humanitarian cooperation. They build polycentric world order by preventing conflicts and enforcing multicultural and geographical cooperation. They don't form alliances, only partnerships, or go against any sovereign state. ASEAN sees to better the status of Southeast Asian countries, and to be a member you must be an independent nation that ASEAN deems to be within Southeast Asian. Similarly, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization tries to secure and stabilize nations all across Europe and Asia. It is considered an intergovernmental organization, with only eight member states and several more observer states. Both organizations strive to prevent conflict through partnerships and peaceful measures. National sovereignty is political power, control, and independence over one's own state. We have promised necessary assistance to protestors fleeing the Hong Kong situation. During COVID we will be aiding and taking in protestors with special humanitarian considerations, within the parameters of the ROC's approval. Hong Kong activists have sought refuge on our island. Taiwan has no laws on refugees that would stop Hong Kong protesters from being welcomed into Taiwan. Taiwanese laws do however seek to protect those whose human rights are being politically infringed upon or threatened. In Taiwan peaceful protest is allowed within the restrictions that the ROC has set. Protest is an important part of democracy, however we do not tolerate riots and violence under any circumstances. No Taiwanese activists have sought refuge in another Asian country because Taiwan permits protests as long as they don't become violent or riots. We believe in Taiwan that religious freedom and human rights are an important part of life. The Uighur re-education camps in the Xinjiang province are not under Taiwanese jurisdiction. Our president offers support to the Uighur population within the re-education systems. Tibet believes it is legally independent, while

China believes it has legal control over Tibet. If Tibet is in fact independent, China's presence in Tibet is unlawful and goes against the Geneva Convention of 1949's agreements, and is an object of international concern. China's only claim to Tibet is that historically, Tibet has been a part of China for centuries. Whether an area can be legally considered a sovereign state is dependent on whether or not it has the proper criteria, not whether other states or countries recognize its independence. In Taiwan we have offered support to residents of Xinjiang province. Our video 'Support Uighurs, Protect Taiwan' is one of our official proclamations of support to those in the re-education system. Tibet is under jurisdiction of the ROC, not Taiwan. We have created foundations to maintain relations with Tibet, as it is also part of China. Individual surveillance is necessary to lower the risk of the Coronavirus. Based on our data, this system has been efficient and successful. We have a population of over two hundred million people, and we've had 941 cases, 888 recovered, and 9 deaths, which is 9 too many. We are taking this extremely seriously, as the rest of the world should be doing. Surveillance and monitoring our citizens has proved extremely effective and the Taiwanese government recommends it to the states who are struggling. Within states which prioritize technological advancements in security to be used by the government, which are techno security states, it becomes easier to see everything an individual does, and therefore the human right of privacy is violated. This type of government can more easily censor and eradicate behaviors that they don't approve of using technology like facial recognition software and fingerprinting. We do not import any Chinese surveillance technology. We only buy private surveillance technology for combating serious crimes and the COVID-19 virus. Our government has no intent on restricting our citizens' access to knowledge or social practices. We are not aware of any censorship within the Republic of China, and we actively seek to prevent censorship within Taiwanese jurisdiction.