



Taiwan Woche: Mo-Di-Mi Taiwan qi 臺灣期

Facetten der Demokratie und Außenpolitik programe

Organizer: Universität Trier (Germany), National Chengchi University (Taiwan), Die Taipeh Vertretung in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, Büro Frankfurt.

Agenda

17, July 2023

Venue: HS2

18:30 20:00	Prof. Dr. Wang Hsin-Hsien 王信賢教授	National Chengchi University (Taiwan)	Is Taiwan the Most Dangerous Place on Earth? US-China Competition and Cross-Strait Relations
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18, July 2023

Venue: HS5

18:30 20:00	Dr. Hsu Yu-fang 許友芳教授	Soochow University (Taiwan)	Taiwans 'ewiges Parlament' und der Weg in die Demokratie
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19, July 2023

Venue: HS2

18:30 20:00	Dr. Wang Shinn-Shyr 王信實教授	National Chengchi University (Taiwan)	US-China-Taiwan Triangle Relations: Technology Competition, Business Strategy, and Geopolitical Security
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Is Taiwan the Most Dangerous Place on Earth? US-China Competition and Cross-Strait Relations

In recent years, there have been claims both internationally and within Taiwan that “Taiwan is the most dangerous place on Earth”, “Today Ukraine, Tomorrow Taiwan,” or “The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) will soon use military force against Taiwan”. Many people have also predicted that 2027 will be the time when the CCP will invade militarily in Taiwan. At the beginning of this speech, we will discuss the geopolitical importance of Taiwan and its role in the global ICTs industry. We will then examine the international situation and the internal dynamics of China, particularly the “Xi Jinping factor,” to observe whether the CCP is likely to use military force against Taiwan. From Beijing's perspective, the Taiwan issue is no longer solely about cross-strait relations but is embedded in two larger contexts: China's national development strategy, as emphasized by Xi Jinping's concept of the “Great Rejuvenation of the Chinese Nation,” and the international environment China faces, characterized by “U.S.-China strategic competition”. In this speech, we will analyze the CCP's policies toward Taiwan and the development trends in cross-strait relations from the perspective of U.S.-China strategic competition and China's national development. We will explain Taiwan's survival strategy, which involves strengthening its self-defense capabilities, seeking support from various countries, and exploring avenues for dialogue with Beijing. We will also highlight the significance of the 2024 Taiwan presidential election. We will discuss the views of Taiwanese people on political identity, cross-strait relations, whether China will use force against Taiwan, and whether the United States will support Taiwan as well. The outline of the lecture is as follows:

1. Is Taiwan the most dangerous place on Earth?
2. The development trends in U.S.-China strategic competition
3. The 20th CCP's Congress and Xi Jinping's third term national strategy
4. CCP's policies toward Taiwan and cross-strait relations
5. The 2024 Taiwan presidential election and public opinion polls

Hsin-Hsien Wang (王信賢) is a distinguished Professor at the Graduate Institute of East Asian Studies (GIEAS 東亞研究所) at National Chengchi University. He also serves as the Deputy Director of the Institute of International Relations (IIR 國際關係研究中心) and is the chief editor of “*Mainland China Studies*” (中國大陸研究), Taiwan's most prestigious academic journal on China studies. He has previously held positions as the Director of GIEAS, Deputy Dean of the College of International Affairs, and a consultant or advisor on cross-strait relations for the Taiwan central government and several local governments. His major research interests include comparative politics, political sociology, civil society in China, and cross-strait relations. He has published books such as “*A Person or an Era: Examination of the Xi Jinping Decade*,” “*Toward Civil Society? The State-Society Relations in China*,” and “*Contending Theories of NGOs in China: The Perspectives of State-Society Relations*.” His major articles have been published in renowned academic journals such as *The China Journal*, *China Review*, *China: An International Journal*, *Pacific Focus*, *Asian Affairs, Issues & Studies*, as well as major academic journals in Taiwan.

Taiwans „ewiges Parlament“ und der Weg in die Demokratie

Die Geschichte der Demokratisierung Taiwans wird oft aus zwei Perspektiven erzählt: Einerseits wird sie als Ergebnis einer Reihe internationaler Entwicklungen seit den 1970er Jahren dargestellt, die das KMT-Regime nach und nach in Schwierigkeiten brachten und seine Legitimität in Frage stellten. Andererseits wird es als Ergebnis bewusster Entscheidungen bestimmter politischer Persönlichkeiten gesehen, Taiwan in Richtung Demokratisierung zu drängen. Unter diesen beiden Perspektiven wurde die Rolle der Institutionen, insbesondere des Parlaments, oft vernachlässigt.

Nachdem die KMT-Regierung aus China nach Taiwan geflohen war, folgten auch Abgeordnete, die 1947 in China gewählt worden waren, nach Taiwan, und das Parlament (der Legislativ-Yuan) wurde dorthin verlegt. Dieses Parlament, das mehr als 40 Jahre lang ohne regelmäßige Wahlen existierte, wurde meist als großes Hindernis für die Demokratisierung und als treuer Apologet der Regierung angesehen. Ist es möglich, dass es dennoch auch einige positive Beiträge zur Demokratisierung geleistet hat und wenn ja, welche Umstände haben dies möglich gemacht? Es ist wichtig zu beachten, dass die Beziehungen zwischen der Regierung und dem Parlament häufig von Konflikten geprägt waren. Diese Konflikte werden hier eingehend analysiert und als ein Faktor betrachtet, der zur Förderung der Demokratisierung beitragen könnte. Diese institutionellen Aspekte erklären auch, warum das erste frei gewählte Parlament im Jahr 1992 so schnell zu einem lebhaften Wettbewerb zwischen Regierungspartei und Opposition führte.

Hsu, Yu-Fang(許友芳) hat ihren Doktor- und Magister-Abschluss in Politikwissenschaft an der Universität Bonn absolviert und ist zurzeit als Assistenzprofessorin am Institut für Deutsche Sprache und Kultur an der Soochow Universität in Taiwan tätig. Politische Themen im Zusammenhang mit Taiwan und Deutschland sind beide ihre Forschungsinteressen. Zwischen 2019 und 2021 nahm sie an dem vom Parlament beauftragten Forschungsprojekt zum ersten *Legislative Yuan* teil. Das Forschungsergebnis wurde 2022 veröffentlicht. Ihre jüngste Veröffentlichung befasste sich mit der Legalisierung der gleichgeschlechtlichen Ehe in Taiwan.



US-China-Taiwan Triangle Relations: Technology Competition, Business Strategy, and Geopolitical Security

In the semiconductor industry, the dynamics of technology competition, business strategy, and geopolitical security are significantly influenced by the complex triangle relations among the United States, China, and Taiwan.

First, technology competition remains fierce as companies strive to lead in semiconductor innovation. Research and development (R&D) investments are essential to maintain a competitive edge. In this context, the United States, China, and Taiwan are major players, each vying for technological dominance. Companies from these regions compete to develop cutting-edge technologies, focusing on areas such as miniaturization, power efficiency, and performance.

Second, business strategy plays a crucial role in navigating the semiconductor market within the US- China-Taiwan triangle. Companies strategically assess market segmentation and product portfolios to cater to specific needs. They invest in diverse product lines and optimize supply chains to ensure competitive advantages. The strategies employed by companies in this triangle are particularly significant, as they can have implications for domestic industries, economic growth, and national security in each respective region.

Third, geopolitical security takes on heightened importance within the US-China-Taiwan triangle. Semiconductors are integral to critical sectors such as defense, telecommunications, and infrastructure, making their availability and security crucial. The geopolitical tensions among the three entities impact the semiconductor industry. For example, the US-China trade war and rising tensions between China and Taiwan have led to disruptions in the semiconductor supply chain. These tensions have prompted governments and companies to address vulnerabilities and reduce reliance on foreign suppliers, especially in critical industries that require secure supply chains.

To mitigate geopolitical risks, governments in the US-China-Taiwan triangle have focused on strengthening their domestic semiconductor capabilities. Policies have been implemented to support local manufacturing, incentivize R&D, and enhance infrastructure. Additionally, collaborations and alliances are formed to promote technological advancements and maintain competitiveness.

In summary, the semiconductor industry within the US-China-Taiwan triangle is shaped by intense technology competition, where companies strive to lead in innovation. Business strategies are essential for market segmentation, product portfolios, and supply chain optimization. Geopolitical security considerations are crucial, given the geopolitical tensions among the three entities. Governments and companies are actively working to bolster capabilities and foster secure supply chains in the semiconductor industry to ensure stability and resilience.

Dr. Shinn-Shyr Wang (王信實) is an Associate Professor of the Department of Economics at National Chengchi University (NCCU), Taipei, Taiwan. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA. His research interests include industrial economics, entrepreneurial economics, economic development, and social economy. In the recent years, Dr. Wang and his colleagues worked on the relationship of industrial dynamics and economic development and derived its geopolitical implications in the context of the competition between China and the United States through a unique dataset collected and maintained by the Center for Economic Policy Research at NCCU. He has published articles in international journals, such as *Journal of Macroeconomics*, *Economic Modelling*, and *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*.