Brief Lecture

On China, Taiwan, & the United States of America



July 10th, 2023 - TDP

A Brief History of China / Taiwan

- 1949: Chinese Communist Revolution (People's Republic of China) exiles government (Republic of China) to Taiwan.
- Since then, the island has been governed independently of mainland China.
 - · China views Taiwan as a renegade province that will eventually be reunified with the mainland (One China Principle)
 - Taiwanese leaders have differing views on their relationship with mainland China
- Taiwan is **not** a member of the **United Nations**. with only 13 countries maintaining official diplomatic ties with Taiwan (the US is not among



Last 30 Years @



- 1992 Consensus: Agreement between Chinese Communist Party (CCP) & the Kuomintang (KMT) party that was in charge of Taiwan at the time.
 - Very vague terminology that has very differing opinions on the consensus
 - CCP: "Two sides of the strait belong to one China that will work together for national reunification"
 - MT: "one China, different interpretations. This includes China, Mongolia, Taiwan, Tibet, & the South China Sea"
 - Never intended to address Taiwan's legal status
- 2016 Tsai Ing-wen inaugurated as Taiwanese president
- Tsai is leader of the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP). which has never endorsed the 1992 Consensus
- Tsai has been a stark defender of the island's democracy and sovereignty





The U.S. & Taiwan 🚇

- 1979: U.S. establishes formal diplomatic relations with the PRC, severing ties with the ROC
- The U.S. has maintained a strong unofficial relationship with the island, frequently selling defense equipment to
- Policy has been that the U.S.:
- acknowledges the China position that Taiwan is part of
- rejects any use of force to settle the dispute
- · maintains cultural, commercial, and other ties with Taiwan, specifically through the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT)
- · commits to selling arms to Taiwan for self-defense
- · will maintain the ability to come to Taiwan's defense, while not actually committing to doing so (Strategic Ambiguity)
- · Recently, Biden has stated multiple times that the U.S. would come to Taiwan's defense if China attacked. The White House has walked back these comments.





The U.S. vs China - Super Power Challenge



	China, as % of U.S.	
	1980	2014
GDP (PPP)	10%	101%
GDP (US\$)	7%	60%
Exports (US\$)	6%	106%
Reserves (US\$)	17%	2,800%

- · China has already passed the U.S. as the world leader in these 20 indicators:
- Exporter
- Trading nation
- Saver
- Holder of U.S. debt
- · Foreign-direct-investment destination
- Energy consumer
- Oil importer
- Carbon emitte Steel producer
- Auto market
- · Smartphone market
- E-commerce market
- · Luxury-goods market
- Internet user
- Fastest supercomputer:
- · Holder of foreign reserves
- · Source of initial public offerings · Primary engine of global growth

Thucydides Trap 🕲

- Graham Allison led a team at the Belfer Center that studied what happens when a rising power challenges a ruling power.
- Thucydides: "It was the rise of Athens, and the fear that this inspired in Sparta, that made war inevitable."
- This does not make war between The U.S. & China inevitable, but it can offer a guide to avoiding war.
- Xi: "There is no such thing as the so-called Thucydides Trap in the world. But should major countries time and again make the mistakes of strategic miscalculation, they might create such traps for themselves."



Exports (US\$)

(USS)

6%

106%

2,800%

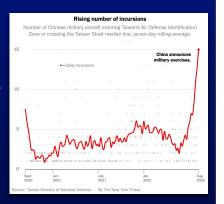
China's Recent Moves



• 2019: XI: The island "must be and will be" united with China. A warning that independence efforts could be met by armed force.

Military Exercises

- Increased frequency & scale of patrols of PLA bombers, fighter jets, & surveillance aircraft over and around Taiwan. Increased presence of warships through the Taiwan Strait.
- Cyber-Attacks
 - In 2020, Taiwan accursed four Chinese groups of hacking into over 10 government agencies
- Interference in Elections
- Spreading disinformation that damages Tsai & boosts KMT's candidates, also erodes trust in Taiwan's political





Changes This Year



- Last year I gave you a briefing
- This year, I'm giving you an updated version of the actual simulation we did in my grad class.
 - Don't worry, we'll go through it together.
 - For those of you that wanna go to the moon, you'll be able to dive into real rich resources.
 - For those of you looking to stay near the surface, there will be easier resources too.
- Let's read it now! Get it at <u>www.radclass.us/nsc2.html</u> & then click <u>The</u> Game

Let's Talk



- What are important details that impact the situation?
- What are we supposed to do?

Request from the President





Interest Profile Memo (from your agency's perspective) should include.

- **1. National Interests** Which national interests are most relevant to the situation?
- **2. Capabilities** What instruments of statecraft do we have available to us (both long & short term)?
- **3. Vulnerabilities** What areas of ours might be targets? What do we need to do to protect these vulnerabilities?

* Note: The memo should be 1/2 page. The briefing to your team should be 1-3 minutes.





Let's meet in our DC groups

Domestic

- Secretary of Homeland Security
- Homeland Security Advisor
- Deputy
 Homeland
 Security Advisor
 (DHSA) for
 Resilience &
 Response

Diplomacy

 Ambassador to the U.N.

· Secretary of

- Secretary of Commerce
- Deputy National Security Advisor (DNSA) for International Economics

Defense

- Secretary of Defense
- Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- Director for Strategic Capabilities
- IndoPac Commander

Cyber National Cyber

Deputy National

(DNSA) for

Director for

Director for

Security Advisor

Cybersecurity &

Cybersecurity &

International Cyber

Infrastructure

Emerging Tech

Communication

- National Security Advisor
- Senior
 Director for
 China
 - Coordinator for Strategic Communications

DC Groups











- Start to understand your perspective (maybe split up research?)
- Share info with each other.
- Start crafting your Interest Profile Memo.
- Figure out what needs to be done tonight / tomorrow (you'll have about 30 minutes of time tomorrow to work on your memo)