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The Geopolitical Implications of Taiwan-China Relations on Regional Security

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Abstract

Introduction: China and Taiwan is fraught with tension as Taiwan seeks to maintain its autonomy against China's growing power. This relationship is a critical flashpoint in East Asia, with conflicting sovereignty claims hindering diplomatic progress. To manage this situation, it is essential to understand its complexities and avoid provoking Beijing, allowing time for future generations to reassess the relationship.

Methodology: The objective of this research is to investigate particular issue regarding China and Taiwan within the realm of political science by utilizing secondary data. The review encompasses a variety of primary and secondary sources, including articles, books, journals, and pertinent online data. The objective of this literature evaluation is to discern deficiencies, regularities, and tendencies in the current research pertaining to the subject matter.

Results/Findings: The China-Taiwan relationship is characterized by political instability, divergent interests, and historical tensions, fueled by linguistic, ethnic, religious, and political disparities. The Taiwan Strait symbolizes the

enduring animosity between the two, complicating reconciliation efforts. Regional security concerns are exacerbated by China's actions in the South China Sea, necessitating responses from stakeholders like the US, Japan, and South Korea. Taiwan's geopolitical importance, economic strength, technological advancements, and military capabilities underscore its significance in regional security and global trade.

Future Direction/ Implication: *The future of China-Taiwan relations relies on diplomatic efforts to de-escalate tensions and promote dialogue. Prioritizing stability and peaceful dispute resolution is crucial amid regional security concerns, with implications extending beyond the Taiwan Strait to influence global geopolitics.*

Key Terms: *Cross-Strait relations, China, Taiwan, Regional Security*

Introduction

The Taiwan-China dispute is a multifaceted subject characterized by a lengthy historical background and a profound political and cultural basis. The East Asia region has been afflicted by the ongoing conflict between China and Taiwan, which is marked by long-standing historical tensions and differing perspectives on sovereignty. The conflict between Taiwan and China derives from their divergent political systems and distinct patriotic objectives (ASEAN, 2023). The Taiwan disputes the most dangerous and enduring, as hostilities between Taiwan and mainland China are anticipated to continue well into the twenty-first century. The disagreement on territorial control is a primary catalyst for the Taiwan-China dispute. The advancement of diplomatic relations between Taipei and Beijing has been hindered by deeply rooted conflicting ideas about sovereignty (Beeson, 2009). Taiwan often confronts the possibility of a military invasion or economic coercion from the People's Republic of China (PRC). However, it is important to recognize that preserving the current situation with prudence is the most prudent approach. This approach grants Beijing some flexibility and enables future Chinese generations to reconsider the relationship between Taiwan's formal independence and China's security (Roy 2000).

Literature Review

The presence of political turmoil in both China and Taiwan contributes to the intricate nature of the dispute. The divergent political interests and allegiances of different factions and parties contribute to the occurrence of political instability in Taiwan. The political stability in China is maintained through a one-party system that emphasizes control and conformity (Rubab, Mustafa, & Nawaz, 2020). This system allows for the development of diverse perspectives and tactics to tackle the Taiwan issue. Language, ethnicity, religion, culture, and politics are significant

factors that actively contribute to the conflict, resulting in the formation of organizations with divergent goals and perspectives (Britannica, 2023). Amid rapid global changes, it is crucial to grasp the intricacies of the Taiwan- China dispute, which encompasses factors such as national heterogeneity, political volatility, and questions of sovereignty. To summarize, comprehending the Taiwan-China conflict necessitates analyzing factors such as nepotism, societal divisions, and governmental instability (Chen & Jian, 2019). By acknowledging the intricate nature of the conflict and its capacity for future settlement, we can strive towards a more tranquil and prosperous future for both nations.

While discussing the Influence of Geographical Proximity and Historical Factors it is obvious that the relationship between China and Taiwan is influenced by their close geographical proximity and historical conditions (Chen & Yu-Jie, 2022). The Taiwan Strait serves as a physical obstacle between the two nations, and their historical relationship has been characterized by strife, animosity, and suspicion. The 1949 Chinese civil war has had a profound historical impact on their relationship, resulting in the separation of Taiwan from China and an enduring dispute over Taiwan's political status. The current division between China and Taiwan has heightened their mutual animosity (Cheng & Joseph, 2013). Despite significant improvements in exchanges and economic collaboration since 1987, the condition of isolation between Beijing and Taiwan remains due to the long-standing enmity maintained by Beijing towards Taiwan and Taipei's concerns about China's military activities (Nawaz, Akhlaq, & Bilal, 2023). This is seen in China's constant statements that Taiwan is a rebellious province and its annual military maneuvers aimed to apply pressure on Taiwan for reunification. The execution of these exercises and the exhibition of intimidations of aggression have resulted in a disruptive influence not just on Taiwan but also on the wider Asian area (Chu 2017). The proximity of China and Taiwan acts as a constant reminder of their shared boundaries, heightening the animosity and mistrust between the two entities. The presence of historical factors, such as the Chinese civil war and the ongoing dispute on Taiwan's political status, has escalated tensions and solidified hatred between China and Taiwan (China, 2005). The continuous military exercises and aggressive language employed by China against Taiwan have intensified the destabilizing repercussions in the region. The persistent animosity and absence of confidence between China and Taiwan can be ascribed to their mutual condition of isolation. Since the 1949 division of China and Taiwan, their relationship has been characterized by animosity, distrust, and strained relations. The relationship between China and Taiwan is complex and fragile, shaped by geographical proximity and historical factors (Chinese MFA, 2023).

Regional Security Concerns in East Asia explains that the China-Taiwan conflicts have emerged as a prominent regional security concern in East Asia, with Taiwan's position serving as a

longstanding cause of contention since the Chinese Civil War in the late 1940s. China considers Taiwan to be an essential part of its territory and has continuously highlighted its readiness to use armed force if necessary to achieve reunification with the island (Chinese MFA, 2023a). The escalated military exercises and unequivocal admonitions from China towards Taiwan have had significant repercussions for the neighboring region. The current geopolitical tensions between China and Taiwan possess the capacity to escalate into an armed conflict, leading to grave consequences for both entities and exerting a substantial impact on the entire region (Sun 2001). The Taiwan Strait, acting as a demarcation line between China and Taiwan, is often regarded as the most precarious focal point in the Asia-Pacific region. The possibility of a military conflict in this area causes concerns about the stability and security of neighboring countries, such as Japan and South Korea, which heavily rely on the stability of East Asia to support their economic growth and ensure their safety. The growing hostilities between China and Taiwan have triggered a competition to acquire military weaponry in the area, as countries endeavor to strengthen their defensive capacities in preparation for the rising likelihood of armed conflict (Cote & Owen, 2022). Japan, South Korea, and the United States have increased their military forces in the region and conducted joint military exercises with Taiwan to enhance their readiness and deter any aggressive actions from China. The geopolitical tensions between China and Taiwan has the potential to escalate into an armed conflict, leading to significant ramifications for both parties and posing a threat to the stability and security of neighboring nations (CSIS, 2023). Taiwan's Strategic Importance in the Asia-Pacific cannot be ruled out as Taiwan, officially referred to as the Republic of China, is a diminutive island nation situated in East Asia, with a population of approximately 23.81 million. Taiwan's geopolitical location, economic strength, technological advancements, and military capabilities give it significant strategic importance in the Asia-Pacific region, despite its modest size and population (Danner et al., 2019). The strategic significance of Taiwan in the region is greatly influenced by its geographical position. It acts as a vital hub connecting Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia, and the Pacific area, enabling it to play a central role in regional trade and economy. Taiwan's strategic geographical location also functions as a vital sea route for the transportation and delivery of commodities, connecting major economies such as China, Japan, South Korea, and Southeast Asian nations (Goh & Evelyn, 2019). Taiwan is widely acknowledged as one of the "Four Asian Tigers" due to its impressive economic strength, with Singapore, Hong Kong, and South Korea. Taiwan's economic strength is bolstered by its technological advancements, namely in the fields of semiconductors and electronics (Hassan, Nawaz, & Tasaddaq, 2023). Taiwan is home to renowned technology companies like TSMC and Foxconn, which produce components for major global tech giants like Apple and Intel. The use of these

technological advancements not only strengthens Taiwan's economic growth but also enhances its strategic importance. Taiwan has always upheld a robust and efficient defense force, bolstering its military prowess to serve as a deterrence against potential threats and significantly influencing regional security. The strategic importance of Taiwan is further compounded by its affiliation with China. China considers Taiwan to be a defiant province and has not ruled out the use of armed force to achieve reunification (Heiduk & Felix, 2022). Taiwan's independence as a sovereign political entity serves as a counterbalance to China's hegemony in the area. Taiwan's unique political status and strong military capabilities act as a deterrent against possible attack from China, so bolstering the stability of the Asia-Pacific region (Chu & Kastner 2014).

Important think to note is the Taiwan's military prowess greatly enhances its strategic importance in the Asia-Pacific region. The existence of a strong and skilled Taiwanese military acts as a deterrent against possible aggression from China, ensuring stability in the area. In addition, Taiwan's military forces actively participate in the wider security framework of the Asia-Pacific region, making valuable contributions to regional security initiatives and engaging in cooperative military exercises with other states in the vicinity (Nawaz, & Rasool, 2023). Taiwan's conventional security worries have heightened as a result of the growing disparity in military capabilities between Taiwan and China. China's growing marine capabilities can be utilized to deter foreign access to the "first island chain," which is situated close the East Asian continent and includes Taiwan. To summarize, Taiwan's strategic importance in the Asia-Pacific region stems from its unique political status separate from China, its strong military capabilities, and the evolving power dynamics in the Taiwan Strait. where China's Assertiveness and Its Impact on Neighboring Countries is a true story (Heiduk & Felix, 2022). The neighboring states are concerned about China's more assertive foreign policy due to the potential hazards it poses to their national security, territorial integrity, and economic stability. China's territorial claims in the South China Sea, which encompass disputed islands and maritime resources, have escalated tensions with nations such as Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Indonesia. The proactive measures taken by China, such as the establishment of islands and military installations in areas prone to disputes, have the capacity to escalate tensions and jeopardize regional peace and stability (Holcombe & Charles, 2017). The belligerence exhibited by China in the South China Sea has resulted in economic ramifications for neighboring countries, potentially obstructing their access to crucial maritime channels and disrupting trade pathways. Consequently, their significant reliance on these marine routes for economic prosperity has resulted in heightened tensions and a feeling of uncertainty. The bellicose conduct of China towards Taiwan has also elicited apprehension, given its implications for

regional stability and the potential for armed hostilities (Japanese MFA, 2023). China's expanding military capabilities and its steadfast reluctance to renounce the use of force against Taiwan demonstrate its preparedness to employ coercion in order to achieve its objective of reunifying with Taiwan. China's assertiveness and territorial claims exert a substantial impact on the national security, territorial integrity, and economic stability of surrounding countries (Wang 2010).

The Role of the United States in Taiwan-China Dynamics is a major contributor in the relationship between Taiwan and China which is intricate and delicate, carrying substantial ramifications for regional stability and global geopolitics. For several decades, the United States has exerted a pivotal influence on the dynamics between Taiwan and China. The United States has exhibited a resolute commitment to safeguarding the security of Taiwan through the maintenance of a longtime alliance and the provision of unwavering support, which encompasses military aid, arms trade, and participation in joint military exercises (John, 2001). The existence of the United States' military presence has deterred China from initiating any aggressive steps against Taiwan, as China recognizes that any attack on the island could result in a military confrontation with the United States. The United States has actively engaged in mediating and supporting discussions between Taiwan and China, employing diplomatic channels to encourage all parties to engage in peaceful dialogue and pursue a nonviolent resolution to their disputes. This has been especially crucial at periods of increased strain, such as when Taiwan made advancements towards independence under the Democratic Progressive Party in 2000. The United States has actively advocated for the international recognition and incorporation of Taiwan into global organizations, despite China's opposition (Shlapak, Orletsky, and Reid 2009). Under the Taiwan Relations Act, the United States has been instrumental in protecting and securing the safety of Taiwan by ensuring that Taiwan has the necessary skills to defend itself against potential threats or acts of aggression. This encompasses the provision of advanced military equipment, training, and the sharing of strategic intelligence. The strategic deployment of US military personnel in the region, particularly through the placement of naval vessels and aircraft in the Taiwan Strait, serves as a strong deterrent against any Chinese aggression towards Taiwan. The United States' engagement in the interactions between Taiwan and China aims to mitigate these tensions and foster stability in the region. It serves as a vital partner and supporter for Taiwan, providing political, economic, and military assistance (Kastner, et al., 2022). The diplomatic relations between China and Taiwan have remained stable in recent years, albeit with persistent tensions and worries. The United States has sought to reconcile its support for Taiwan with its broader geopolitical interests in maintaining a stable relationship with China. To summarize, the United States has a multifaceted and pivotal position in the interactions between Taiwan and China, exerting a substantial influence on the

tranquility and steadiness of the area (Kim & Hyung, 2023).

Research Methodology

This research paper is primarily qualitative in nature. The scholar shall mainly rely on secondary sources of data books, research articles, official documents, newspapers, etc. In addition to this, the scholar if require shall also take into the interviews of various political leaders, analyst given to various channels. The scholar shall also apply historical and analytical approaches to this selected study; and Content Analysis method shall be used for data analysis.

Findings and Geo Political Implications

The interplay of geopolitical factors between China and Taiwan exerts a substantial influence on regional security. The tenuous diplomatic ties between the two nations have the potential to evolve into a catastrophic crisis, thereby jeopardizing the security of neighboring countries. The issue arises from divergent political systems and opposing assertions of sovereignty regarding Taiwan. The inclusion of foreign nations, such as the United States, adds an additional layer of complexity to the scenario. The geopolitical dynamics may result in an escalation of military competition, thereby drawing the attention of other regional actors such as Japan and the United States (Kim, Woosang & Gates, 2015). The destabilization may lead to a rise in military deployment, hence raising the probability of escalation and misjudgment. The conflict carries substantial economic and diplomatic ramifications. The exertion of China's power on Taiwan has dissuaded other states from recognizing its sovereignty. The existing tensions between Taiwan and China have the potential to undermine regional stability and cooperation, especially in regional organizations that limit Taiwan's participation due to China's objections.

Discussion

International Responses to Cross-Strait Tensions

The current Cross-Strait tensions between China and Taiwan have attracted considerable global interest, with certain countries adopting a prudent stance, recognizing the sensitive nature of the issue and the possibility of it escalating. Some individuals have chosen to remain impartial, refraining from affiliating with any faction and highlighting the significance of peaceful dialogue and diplomatic talks in resolving the conflict. Certain individuals have expressed support for Taiwan's de facto self-governance and have called for the acknowledgment of its rights and independence. Several nations have increased their military presence in the area as a show of deterrence and support for Taiwan (Loke & Beverley, 2021). There is a growing call for greater participation of global organizations, such as the United Nations, in resolving crises and promoting peaceful resolutions. These responses demonstrate the acknowledgment of the potential threat posed by a substantial Chinese attack on Taiwan and the need of maintaining peace in the region.

The present circumstances suggest that global responses to the tensions between China and Taiwan in the Taiwan Strait vary, but there is a general agreement on the importance of constructive communication and negotiations to ensure a peaceful resolution to the matter. Due to the high likelihood of continued hostilities between Taiwan and mainland China in the future, Taiwan has the challenging issue of maintaining its de facto independence while being overshadowed by China's growing economic and military power (Monique, 2017). The international responses to the Cross-Strait tensions between China and Taiwan are complex and varied. Certain nations maintain a neutral stance, but others openly support Taiwan's autonomy and actively promote the acknowledgment of its rights. Several nations have increased their military presence in the region as a show of deterrence and support for Taiwan. The ongoing diplomatic efforts seek to facilitate dialogue and negotiations between China and Taiwan with the goal of mitigating tensions and attaining a peaceful conclusion to the issue. Collectively, the worldwide responses to the Cross-Strait tensions between China and Taiwan indicate a recognition of the potential danger posed by a substantial Chinese attack on Taiwan, as well as the importance of maintaining peace and stability in the region (Monique & Kastner, 2014).

Taiwan-China Relations: Balancing Peace and Power Dynamics

The relationship between Taiwan and China is intricate, marked by cordial cooperation and the interplay of power dynamics. Over the course of time, the two nations have successfully upheld a fragile equilibrium between harmonious cohabitation and the intricacies of power dynamics within their relationship. Nevertheless, the growing military prowess of China, encompassing its arsenal of missiles, has sparked apprehension regarding the security of Taiwan and the United States' capacity to safeguard the island against prospective Chinese assaults. The military balance between Taiwan and mainland China is undergoing a shift, posing challenges for Taiwan's defense capabilities. China has retained the authority to employ force in order to prevent Taiwan's independence, so introducing intricacy to the issue (Okunev, 2013). The stability of Taiwan-China relations in 2009 was underscored, signifying an amelioration in bilateral relations in comparison to preceding years. The question of Taiwan's autonomy presents a substantial barrier within the context of China's growing economic and military strength. In order to comprehend the complexities of the relationship between Taiwan and China, as well as the fragile balance between peaceful coexistence and the dynamics of power, it is crucial to examine the latest research on this topic (Purwanti & Asih, 2019). The studies conducted by Shlapak et al. and Bantha and Nayak offer valuable insights into the intricate relationship between Taiwan and China, with a specific emphasis on strategic defense measures against prospective Chinese invasions. The study

conducted by Bantha and Nayak emphasizes the strong correlation between psychological empowerment and innovative work behavior in a higher education institution in Pakistan. It highlights that individuals who feel empowered are more likely to critically assess and improve existing work norms, as well as come up with original solutions. To summarize, the relationship between Taiwan and China is a complex undertaking, as Taiwan endeavors to maintain its practical independence while China's economic and military capabilities continue to grow (Shlapak et al. 2009).

Navigating the Complexities of Cross-Strait Relations

The relationship between Mainland China and Taiwan, known as Cross-Strait relations, has been a multifaceted and sensitive matter in international politics. China considers Taiwan to be an essential part of its territory and adheres to a "One China" policy, whereas Taiwan sees itself as a separate and self-governing republic (Yan, et al., 2022). The historical relationship between China and Taiwan has been marked by sporadic episodes of tension and instability. Nevertheless, in recent years, there have been deliberate endeavors to strengthen relations and cultivate reciprocal comprehension. An approach that has been used to handle the complexities of cross-strait relations is to maintain the current situation without making any drastic alterations to Taiwan's political standing (Wang, 2010; Yahuda, 1993). This approach fosters stability and mitigates the escalation of tensions between the two parties. Another strategy that has been utilized is promoting economic and cultural exchanges between China and Taiwan. This strategy focuses on the potential benefits of improved collaboration and mutual understanding, and can help build trust and reduce hostility between the two parties. Distances have been crucial in maintaining the interactions between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait. Countries worldwide have played a role in facilitating dialogue and fostering peaceful relations between China and Taiwan (Watanabe, Atsuko. 2018). International organizations, such as the United Nations and World Trade Organization, have facilitated communication and cooperation between the two parties (Rinehart, Ian & Elias, 2015). The United States has played a prominent role in these efforts, pushing for peaceful resolution of issues between China and Taiwan and actively assisting the resolution of tensions and the promotion of contact between the two parties. The dynamic relationship between China and Taiwan is of great importance, not only for the two parties directly involved, but also for other stakeholders in the region, such as the United States and Japan. These influential figures have a significant personal interest in ensuring peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region, recognizing that any conflicts or tensions between China and Taiwan could have significant implications for regional security and economic stability (Zhang & Zhang 2003).

In order to navigate the complexities of cross-strait contacts successfully, it is essential to

take into account the cultural differences that exist between China and Taiwan. It is crucial to make a concerted effort to promote cultural exchange and foster mutual understanding, since this can effectively bridge divides and build a sense of mutual respect. Taiwan must maintain its de facto autonomy while skillfully managing the current situation with China. This involves refraining from engaging in actions that might provoke Beijing and patiently allowing the relationship to evolve gradually (Scobell, 2000). One of the primary challenges in navigating the complexities of cross-strait relations between China and Taiwan is Beijing's dilemma on whetherto pursue a peaceful path towards reunification or consider military involvement if Taiwan continues to pursue independence. It is crucial to acknowledge China's determination and ability to exert pressure on Taiwan using non-military methods (Smith & Paul, 2009).

Potential Scenarios for the Future of Taiwan-China Relations

The future course of Taiwan-China ties is ambiguous, with multiple potential outcomes. An option is to maintain Taiwan's de facto independence while effectively handling tensions in the Taiwan Strait. An alternative option entails the harmonious reunification of Taiwan and mainland China, accomplished by diplomatic discussions or progressive assimilation (Taiwan News, 2023). Additionally, there is a potential for increased tensions and conflicts, marked by heightened militarization and the potential for armed conflict (Sullivan, Patricia & Koch, 2009). An alternative scenario is the deepening of economic integration between Taiwan and China, leading to enhanced interconnections and cooperation in other areas (US Census Bureau, 2023). The Taiwan dispute is the most enduring and dangerous area of contention in East Asia, since conflicting interpretations of sovereignty between Taipei and Beijing hinder diplomatic advancement. In light of the strong likelihood of continuing disputes, Taiwan must maintain its de facto autonomy despite being overshadowed by China's growing economic and military power. The People's Republic of China's determination and capacity to apply substantial military force on Taiwan without resorting to invasion is of utmost importance. In order to optimize their strategy, Taiwan should prioritize meticulous handling of the present circumstances and refrain from intentionally provoking Beijing. Implementing this method would provide a chance for future Chinese authorities to reevaluate the connection and security concerns associated with the independence of Taiwan (Taiwan & Dataset, 2023). The optimal strategy is to cautiously manage the current circumstances, refraining from needlessly antagonizing Beijing and enabling future generations of Chinese to reevaluate the relationship between Taiwan's official autonomy and China's security concerns.

Additional Possibilities for the Future of Taiwan-China Relations Could Encompass:

- ❖ Ongoing political and diplomatic impasse, characterized by a lack of substantial advancement or resolution in addressing the sovereignty problem.

- ❖ The gradual establishment of normal diplomatic relations, in which Taiwan and China peacefully coexist without settling the issue of sovereignty.
- ❖ The attainment of a harmonious settlement by diplomatic discussions, potentially requiring compromises and concessions from both parties. 4. Taiwan is moving gradually towards a greater level of independence, maintaining its de facto sovereignty while enhancing its international recognition and involvement in global events.
- ❖ Heightened global engagement and intervention in the Taiwan-China dispute, potentially resulting in a mutually agreed settlement or diplomatic resolution.
- ❖ The intensification of tensions and conflict culminating in a large-scale military clash between Taiwan and China.
- ❖ The establishment of normalized ties between Taiwan and China, characterized by a mutually advantageous agreement that upholds each party's sovereignty and security interests. Considering the intricate and unpredictable nature of Taiwan-China relations, plausible future outcomes could encompass:
- ❖ The situation remains same, with occasional episodes of tension but no substantial alterations.
- ❖ Taiwan persistently endeavors to enhance its global influence and pursue diplomatic acknowledgment, thereby contesting China's assertions of sovereignty over the island. 8. Facilitating enhanced interpersonal contacts and cultural engagements between Taiwan and China, promoting deeper comprehension and mitigating animosity.
- ❖ Escalated economic rivalry between Taiwan and China, resulting in disputes about trade, investment, and technology.9. Enhanced economic collaboration and integration between Taiwan and China, resulting in mutual prosperity and stability in the region.
- ❖ A progressive reconciliation between Taiwan and China, wherein both parties reach a peaceful and mutually agreeable resolution to the matter of sovereignty.
- ❖ The strengthening of Taiwanese identity and nationalism, resulting in heightened opposition to China's dominance and potential steps towards official independence.
- ❖ The retention of the existing state of affairs, wherein Taiwan maintains its de facto autonomy while China applies pressure to bring Taiwan under its influence.12. Heightened global pressure on China to uphold Taiwan's autonomy and participate in substantive discussions to peacefully resolve the conflict.
- ❖ The acknowledgment and backing from the international community for Taiwan's independence, leading to a change in the distribution of power and enhanced bargaining ability for Taiwan in talks with China.

- ❖ Escalating nationalist sentiments in Taiwan and China have resulted in heightened polarization and a more rigid stance on the matter of Taiwan's sovereignty.
- ❖ There has been an upsurge in international involvement and mediation in Taiwan-China relations, aimed at achieving a peaceful resolution and averting any escalation of hostilities.

Recommendations

- ❖ Diplomatic Engagement: Both China and Taiwan should prioritize diplomatic engagement to address differences and promote mutual understanding.
- ❖ Confidence-Building Measures: Implement confidence-building measures to reduce tensions and build trust between the two sides.
- ❖ Dialogue Platforms: Establish and maintain regular dialogue platforms at various levels of government and civil society to facilitate communication and cooperation.
- ❖ Peaceful Resolution: Commit to seeking peaceful and non-coercive means to resolve disputes, respecting international norms and agreements.
- ❖ People-to-People Exchanges: Promote people-to-people exchanges, cultural interactions, and educational programs to foster mutual respect and appreciation.
- ❖ Economic Cooperation: Explore opportunities for economic cooperation and trade relations that benefit both sides and contribute to regional stability.
- ❖ Cross-Strait Confidence-Building Measures: Develop and implement cross-strait confidence-building measures to prevent misunderstandings and reduce the risk of conflict.
- ❖ Track II Diplomacy: Encourage track II diplomacy initiatives involving experts, academics, and civil society representatives to explore creative solutions to contentious issues.
- ❖ Regional Multilateralism: Engage in regional multilateral forums to address common challenges and promote regional stability and prosperity.
- ❖ International Mediation: Consider engaging neutral third-party mediators or international organizations to facilitate dialogue and negotiations during periods of heightened tension.

Conclusion

The China-Taiwan conflict is a complex issue involving China's growing economic and

military power and divergent views on sovereignty. The Taiwan dispute is the most perilous, with ongoing tensions projected to persist until the 21st century. The geographical proximity of China and Taiwan presents a barrier, and their historical relationship has been marked by conflict, hostility, and distrust. The current geopolitical tensions between China and Taiwan have the potential to escalate into an armed war, endangering the stability and security of neighboring nations. The United States has significantly influenced the dynamics between Taiwan and China by offering military assistance, engaging in arms trade, and providing support. Despite enduring tensions, diplomatic relations between the two countries remain stable, with the United States maintaining a delicate balance between its support for Taiwan and its wider geopolitical concerns. The trajectory of Taiwan-China ties remains uncertain, with various possible outcomes including the continuation of Taiwan's de facto autonomy, reunification of Taiwan and mainland China, a harmonious resolution, or furthering economic integration. The geopolitical consequences of the relationship between Taiwan and China are substantial, as the fragile diplomatic connections could erupt into a disastrous crisis, endangering regional security.

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