ACROSS THE TAIWAN STRAIT
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Both Taiwan and the Mainland share a common history, language, and cultural heritage. Personnel exchanges and trade and investments across the Strait are abundant.
Taiwan and the Mainland could be closer to each other.
Yet the political systems, social conditions, lifestyles, and values developed over the years are strikingly different.
Both sides of the Strait have different views on certain political issues thus affecting the normalization of cross-strait relations.
The Mainland authority has never relinquished its military threats, deploying more than 700 missiles along southeastern coastal areas in the Mainland. The number of missiles is increasing every year and has constituted the biggest threat to Taiwan’s security and regional stability.
The Mainland has continued to obstruct
Taiwan’s participation in international organizations.
During the WHO Global Conference on SARS in Kuala Lumpur,
a Mainland official commented:

Nobody cares about you!
showing indifference toward the feelings of the Taiwanese people.
Ignoring pleas from Taiwan and the International community to think twice, Beijing has recalcitrantly passed the anti-separation law (so-called anti-secession law). China’s attempts to unilaterally change the status quo in the Taiwan Strait through undemocratic and non-peaceful means will only drift both sides of the Strait further away.
The Mainland's two-handed strategy has led to potential crisis and problems as cross-strait exchanges increase.
Improving cross-strait relations requires willingness from both parties. Further, positive interaction should be carried out based on democracy and parity.
To prevent disorder in cross-strait exchanges, reduce potential risk and impacts,
we have to establish management and protective mechanisms step by step. This is the challenge we must face.
The Act Governing Relations between Peoples of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area regulates cross-strait relations and civilian exchanges. The MAC foresaw developments in cross-strait exchanges, and proposed amendments to the Act to enable the Act to keep pace with current developments.
Whether it is to promote tourism, to enhance cross-strait financial exchanges, or to implement cross-strait direct transportation, policy implementation requires concerted efforts from both sides.
The implementation of One Country, Two Systems in Hong Kong has caused economic slowdown, undermined human rights, and furthered the deterioration of freedom. Beijing breached the promise of keeping Hong Kong unchanged for 50 years, making Hong Kong no longer as the Pearl of the Orient.
Maintaining the status quo is the majority view of the people. The future development of cross-strait relations has many options. It is necessary to respect the freedom of choice of the Taiwanese people.
Dialogues and negotiations help narrow the gap between Taiwan and the Mainland. We propose to discard precondition, and communicate our ideas on any issues based on the respect for government authority.
Maintaining the spirit of goodwill, proactive cooperation, and permanent peace have always been our policy objectives. It is hoped that both sides can establish a framework for peace and stability to create new possibilities in cross-strait relations.
Easing tension across the Strait and peaceful resolution of disputes are not only the expectations of the international community, but also most consistent with the mutual interests of Taiwan and the Mainland.
As a member of the international community, the Mainland should follow international trend, be more democratic and transparent in implementing its policies.
We hope the Mainland can adopt new thinking and new approach in managing cross-strait political differences and issues pragmatically.
With goodwill and sincerity, with confidence and action, as long as the window of opportunity is not closed, better cross-strait relations will eventually be realized.
Both sides can take it easy, drink tea and chat. They can likewise coexist and work toward a win-win situation.
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