

SOFT COOPERATIVE SECURITY AND RESILIENT FREE TRADE

29 MAY



INDO-PACIFIC 2024



駐義大利台北代表處
Ufficio di Rappresentanza di Taipei in Italia



中華經濟研究院
CHUNG-HUA INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH



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CONCEPT

The context

Taiwan is a country well known across the international community but on very specific aspects: its problematic relationship with the PRC, the importance of its semiconductors industry, the long-standing friendship with the USA. These and few other subjects tend to obscure much more rich realities and a geopolitical potential hitherto unexplored. Economic development is the surface, but the substance is made by: the evolution of a specific Chinese culture, rooted in a millenary heritage; the growth of a vibrant civil society, emerging from a hard struggle against dictatorship; the creation of democratic freedoms with local characteristics. If this is a fact, the potential for a different geopolitical posture is inherently possible, namely the passage from security consumer to security provider.

Security, since many decades, is not just armies and weapon systems, it includes a diversity of issues like crisis prevention, health management, hybrid threats, organised crime, illegal trafficking, terrorism, climate change, collective resilience. In all these fields Taiwan can provide its own distinctive positive contribution as a soft cooperative security provider, and this implies that it can have its place, formal or informal according to circumstances, within Indo-Pacific, European or also transatlantic wider networks.

In this sense Taiwan has all its interest in enlarging and deepening the conversation with Europe, beyond the indispensable relation with the USA (as underlined by the President Tsai), in order to reinforce stability and peace across the Strait. This wider framework is in the interest of several countries, who want to change the existing PRC-Taiwan paradigm, in a gradual, cautious, adroit way, without antagonising Beijing.

The Indo-Pacific represents a complex strategic region because it includes four major actors (China, India, Japan, Russia and the USA) whose relations are far from settled, while the subregions are often embroiled in long-standing rivalries and conflicts, not to mention transnational security issues. From the Gulf till the East Sea there are particularly relevant security issues, which may have regional and global implications. The hybrid High-Level Seminar with the CIER intends to explore in two sessions the following relevant issues: soft cooperative security and resilient free trade.

In the first panel the general evolution of the geopolitical and geoeconomic situation will be sketched taking into account major challenges (pandemic, climate change, disruptive technologies, financial imbalances, energy transition, illegal trafficking, cyber, piracy, terrorism, etc.) and its main consequences at political, social and economic consequences. The appropriate combination of cooperative settings may help in mitigating and preventing major risk and threats.

In the second session the resilience of free trade will be discussed against the backdrop of an evolving globalisation, trying on the one hand to delve into the complex balance between free trade, politics and economic security. On the other hand, the potential areas of cooperation between like- and non-like minded actors will be analysed.



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Taipei Representative Office in Italy
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Indo-Pacific 2024

The Indo-Pacific issue: soft cooperative security and resilient free trade

NDCF-CIER High-Level Hybrid Seminar

Rome, Italy | **Wed, 29th of May 2024 at 10:30 CEST(UTC+2)**
Taipei, Taiwan | **Wed, 29th of May 2024 at 16:30 CST(UTC+8)**

10,30 – 10,45 CEST *Opening Remarks*

- **Vincent Tsai**, Ambassador, Taipei Representative Office in Italy, Rome
- **Alessandro Minuto-Rizzo**, President, NATO Defense College Foundation, Rome
- **Shing-Horng Chen**, Vice President, CIER, Taipei

10,45 – 10, 50 CEST *Group Photo*

10,50 – 11,30 CEST

SESSION 1

THE INDO PACIFIC ISSUE: SOFT COOPERATIVE SECURITY

Chair: **Andrew Spannaus**, Member, NDCF Scientific Committee, Milan

Rome

- **Alessandro Politi**, Director, NATO Defense College Foundation, Rome
- **Eva Pejsova**, Japan Chair, Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy, Brussels School of Governance, Brussels

Taiwan

- **Hung-Jen Wang**, Professor, Department of Political Science, National Cheng Kung University, Taipei
- **Roy Chun Lee**, Ambassador, Taipei Representative Office in the European Union and Belgium, Brussels

11, 30 – 11. 50 *Q&A Session*

11,50 – 12,20 *Coffee Break*

12,20 – 13,00

SESSION 2
THE RESILIENCE OF FREE TRADE AT A GLOBAL LEVEL

Chair: **Shing-Hornng Chen**, Vice President, CIER,

Taiwan

- **Huai-Shing Yen**, Chairperson, Taiwan Council for US Affairs, Taipei
- **Da-Nien Liu**, Director, Regional Development Study Center, CIER, Taipei

Rome


- **Silvia Menegazzi**, Assistant Professor, Luiss Guido Carli University, Rome
- **Paolo Guerrieri**, Paris School of International Affairs, Sciences-Po (Paris) and Business School, University of San Diego (USA)

13,00 – 13,20 *Q&A Session*

13,20 – 13,40 *Wrap-Up and Concluding Remarks*

- **Alessandro Politi**, Director, NATO Defense College Foundation, Rome
- **Da-Nien Liu**, Director, Regional Development Study Center, CIER, Taipei

14,00 – 15,00 *Working Lunch*

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