

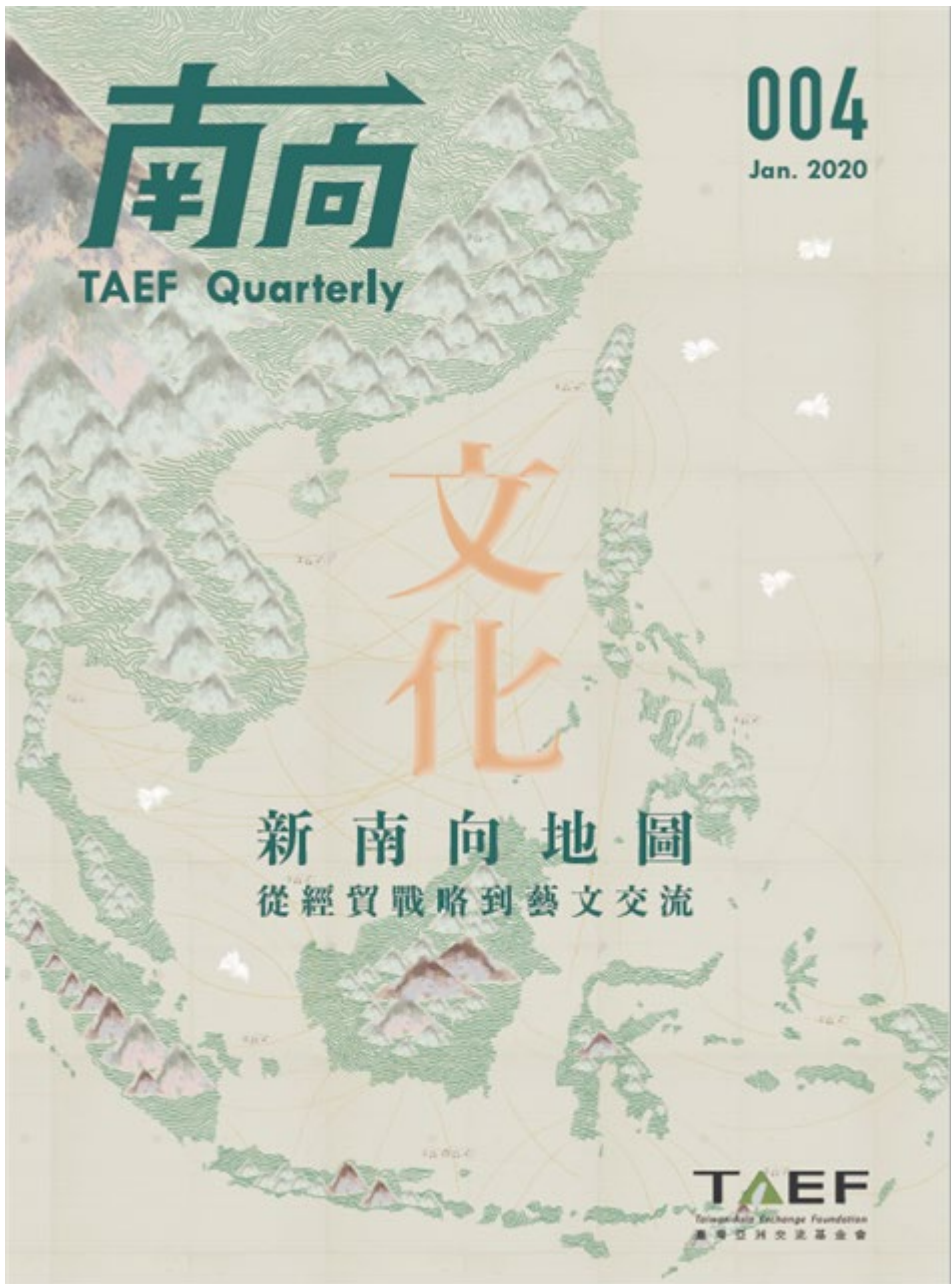


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**TAEF UPDATES**

**The 2020 January Issue of TAEF Quarterly Has Recently Published**



*Thursday, January 2, 2020*

This issue focuses on cultural exchanges in the New Southbound Policy, one of the less represented aspects in our current discussion of the policy. Titled "Mapping Culture in the New Southbound Policy: From Economic Strategies to Cultural Exchanges," the cover story in this issue delineates art and culture policies initiated by Ministry of Culture, New Southbound cultural exchanges carried out by local art and culture communities, and transnational interactions among artists and cultural workers. In so doing, we endeavor to portray a cultural map of the New Southbound Policy as a way to familiarize readers with some of the cooperative foundations that Taiwan and New Southbound countries could continue working together in the realm of culture.

[Read more in Chinese](#)

## TAEF COMMENTARIES

*Taiwan Insight*

# Tsai's Cross-Strait Policy: One China, Evolving Strategies

*Thursday, January 9, 2020*

-Jeremy Huai-Che Chiang | Assistant Research Fellow, TAEF

Under the pressure of a rising China, two trends affecting and restraining the Cross-strait policy of both major political parties emerged. First, in a recent poll by Academia Sinica, Taiwanese now care more about sovereignty than the economy, the first reversal since this poll started in 2013. Stability in cross-Strait ties is still held dearly by the Taiwanese public, but people now have heightened worries over the future of the country's autonomy. The second trend, standing in contrast with the first one, is that both the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) and the increasingly fragmented KMT have been slowly moving towards the unification end in the unification-independence spectrum of Taiwanese politics, though, for different purposes.

The challenges of the (ir)reconcilability of these two trends have particularly put a further burden on Tsai, and prompted and curbed the evolution of her Cross-strait policy

[\*Read more\*](#)

## *Taiwan Insight*

### **Han's Cross-Strait Policy: Peace, Prosperity, And "No Politics"**

*Thursday, January 9, 2020*

-Jeremy Huai-Che Chiang | Assistant Research Fellow, TAEF

In running up to where we are now ahead of the 2020 Taiwan Elections, the Cross-Strait policies of both incumbent Tsai Ing-wen and the main competitor, KMT candidate Kaohsiung City Mayor Han Kuo-yu have shown some clear differences. In contrast with Tsai's cautious DPP stance, Han's colorful proposals on Cross-Strait relations has caught the attention of many, drawing staunch support from people who agree with his visions of a "non-political" peace and prosperity across the Taiwan Strait. The political implications of his approach, however, have also caused caution among others.

[\*Read more\*](#)

## *The Diplomat*

# Election Aside, Taiwan's Generation Gap Will Shape Relations With China

*Thursday, January 9, 2020*

-Jeremy Huai-Che Chiang | Assistant Research Fellow, TAEF

Taiwan's 2020 presidential elections are now just days away, with the final polls giving incumbent President Tsai Ing-wen from the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) a 16 percent lead over the main opposition Nationalist Party (KMT) candidate Han Kuo-yu. Although, Tsai seems set to win re-election on January 11 and many are already starting to analyze the potential implications for Taiwan's relations with China, an increasingly apparent generation gap in Taiwanese identity politics provides a better vantage point to understand Taiwan's future relations with China than inferring the trajectory of cross-strait relations through the lens of one election.

[\*Read more\*](#)

## NEW SOUTHBOUND POLICY NEWS

*Focus Taiwan*

### Foreign Visitors to Taiwan up 7% in 2019

*Monday, January 6, 2020*

The number of overseas visits made to Taiwan by foreign nationals hit another record high in 2019, helped by double-digit growth in visitors from Japan and South Korea, the Tourism Bureau said Monday.

Foreign visitor arrivals total 11.84 million for the year, a 7 percent rise from the 11.07 million visits recorded in 2018, the statistics showed.

The number of Japanese visiting Taiwan exceeded 2 million for the first time ever, while visitors from the 18 New Southbound Policy countries (Southeast Asia and South Asia countries and Australia and New Zealand) also rose nearly 6 percent during the year.

[\*Read more\*](#)

*Taiwan News*

### Taiwan Pushes for More Industrial, Academic Exchanges with India

Friday, January 3, 2020

With the number of Indian students studying at Taiwanese universities increasing, the India Taiwan Career & Academic Linkages forum organized by the National Development Council (NDC) took place at National Tsing Hua University on Tuesday (Dec. 31), attracting more than 400 Indian students in Taiwan.

NDC Minister Chen Mei-ling (陳美伶) quoted India Taipei Association Director General Sridharan Madhusudhanan as saying that as more Indian students have come to Taiwan for short-term study or a degree program recent years, he hoped the students could develop a closer relationship with Taiwan and become more familiar with the country's economy and plan for future development. To that end, the India Taiwan Career & Academic Linkages were created, Chen said.

[Read more](#)

## REGIONAL HEADLINES

*The Telegraph*

**Spy Scandal  
Rocks Taiwan  
Ahead of  
Weekend  
Elections**

January 9, 2020

Allegations in the Australian media that a Chinese spy was pressured to smear the Taiwanese ruling party with bribery charges has prompted accusations of meddling in the Taiwanese election.

The island of 23 million is already on high alert

*The Japan Times*

**Philippines  
Lifts  
Restrictions on  
Importing  
Fukushima  
Food**

January 10, 2020

Philippine Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin said Thursday his country has lifted restrictions on Japanese food imports imposed following the 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster due to a lower risk of radioactive contamination.

*Reuters*

**Indonesia  
Mobilises  
Fishermen in  
Stand-off with  
China**

January 6, 2020

Indonesia will mobilise fishermen to join warships in the South China Sea to help defend against Chinese vessels, the government said on Monday, as the biggest stand-off with China for years escalated off Southeast Asia's largest country.

for any signs of Chinese interference in its presidential and legislative polls on Saturday, amid mounting fears of targeted disinformation campaigns to undermine Tsai Ing-wen, the incumbent president who Beijing deeply mistrusts. China denies trying to do so.

In the latest allegations of dirty tricks, reported in *The Age*, Wang Liqiang, a self-confessed Chinese intelligence operative seeking to defect to Australia, was warned in December that he could be sent back to China and killed if he did not publicly recant his story.

The Australian Security agencies later uncovered a list of threats against Mr Wang on Christmas Eve, the *Age* reported.

He was allegedly asked to recant his accusations by Alex Tsai, a senior figure of Kuomintang (KMT), Taiwan's main opposition party, and directly threatened by a Chinese businessman.

He was reportedly told that his family would be spared punishment if he backtracked on his spy claims.

Locsin said during a meeting with his Japanese counterpart Toshimitsu Motegi in Manila that the Philippines had eliminated the need for radiation test results for shipments of some types of seafood and agricultural products from Fukushima and surrounding areas on Wednesday.

Following the meeting, the two signed an agreement for Japan to provide a low-interest loan of up to ¥4.4 billion (\$40 million) to reinforce major bridges in Manila.

Later in the day, Motegi paid a courtesy call on Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte and toured one of the 10 patrol ships supplied by Japan to the Philippine Coast Guard to protect its waters.

[Read more](#)

In an unusually strong statement, President Joko Widodo told reporters: "There is no negotiation when it comes to our sovereignty."

The stand-off since last month in the northern Natuna islands, where a Chinese coastguard vessel has accompanied Chinese fishing vessels, has soured the generally friendly relationship between Jakarta and Beijing.

Indonesian vessels often confront Chinese fishermen off the Natuna islands, but the presence of the Chinese coastguard vessel has marked an escalation this year over which Indonesia summoned the Chinese ambassador.


Speaking in Beijing last week, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said China had sovereignty over the Spratly islands and their waters and that both China and Indonesia have "normal" fishing activities there. He did not specifically mention the Natuna islands, which are southwest of the Spratlys.

[Read more](#)

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