

# Taiwan= 臺灣



***HI Kawasan Asia Timur – Hubungan Internasional UNIKOM***

# How big is Taiwan?

- The area is about 14,000 square miles.
- Taiwan's population is a bit more than 23 million.
- The capital Taipei, is located on the northern end of the island
- Subtropical; monsoon (rain), Hot and humid, Now the temperature in Taipei can be as high as 70 degrees. During the summer, it can reach beyond 100 degrees. Winters are mild with the temperatures of around 50 degrees



- **Politics:** Taiwan was a one-party state before it transitioned to democracy in the early 1990s
- **Economy:** It is a major producer of computer technology; the main export market for Taiwanese goods is China
- **International:** Taiwan has few formal diplomatic ties; relations with China have improved since President Ma Ying-jeou took office, but tensions remain

- Long-standing tension with the mainland has eased since the China-friendly President Ma Ying-jeou took office in May 2008. In July 2009 the leaders of China and Taiwan exchanged direct messages for the first time in more than 60 years, albeit in their respective party functions, and not as national leaders.
- In 2014, Mr. Ma's popularity becoming low, as general dissatisfaction with Ma's administration about food security, wage stagnation, the widening gap of rich and poor people, and growing influence of Beijing



- There is disagreement and confusion about what Taiwan is, and even what it should be called. Chiang Kai-shek's Republic of China (ROC) government, which fled the mainland to Taiwan in 1949, at first claimed to represent the whole of China, which it intended to re-occupy. It held China's seat on the United Nations Security Council and was recognised by many Western nations as the only Chinese government.
- in June 2010 the two countries signed an historic trade pact that was described by some analysts as the most significant agreement in 60 years of separation.



- **In 1949 there was a civil war in China**
- **The communists won and the democrats retreated to Taiwan or the Republic of China**
- **Since then China has viewed Taiwan as a renegade province**
- **Taiwan, however, views themselves as a separate country**

**History**

- **After the retreat of the democratic peoples to Taiwan Chiang Kai-shek was elected by the congress of democratic China or the mainland to the office of president**
- **Chiang Kai-shek died in term and his son Chiang Ching-kuo was elected the next president also by the congress of democratic China**

**History: Politics**

- **Chiang Ching-kuo then died during his term and Vice President Lee Teng-hui assumed power**
- **While serving his term as president Lee modified the laws for elections**
  - **Presidents were to be elected directly by the people and serve terms**
- **Lee was then the first president directly elected by the people in 1996**

**History: Politics**



- **The next election took place in 2000, where Democratic Progressive Party candidate Chen Shui-bian was elected the current president**
- **This election was significant as the party in control, the KMT, ended their 50-year reign in the presidency as the DPP took control**

**History: Politics**

- **Since 1949: the ROC and the PRC governed as separate territories**
- **1979: Beijing launches intensive United Front Campaign**
  - **Taipei responds with “Three No’s Policy”**

**No contact**

**No Negotiation**

**No Compromise**

**Independence From the PRC**

# The Taiwan Strait

- The Taiwan Strait is one of the important fishing grounds in China, and there are about 700 fish species, among which 100 species are economic.
- The coastal areas of the Taiwan Strait deposit rich sand reserves. Recently, oil and gas has been discovered around the Taiwan Strait.
- In addition, the Taiwan Strait is traditionally used as an important navigational waterway both for China and for the rest of the world. For China, it is a critical sea route from north to south, and also between Taiwan and Fujian Provinces.

# TAIWAN TODAY



## Historical and political implications

- Taiwan strait could be the most dangerous war zone in East Asia that could bring the United States into it.
- In case of armed conflict, Beijing would define a “war zone” in the Taiwan Strait

*Every time Taiwan thought they made progress, Beijing would suspend negotiations.*

**Cross-Strait Talks ??**



The People's Republic of China asserts that there is only "One China" and Taiwan is an inalienable part of it.



**PRC - One China Two Systems**