

CALL FOR PAPERS

Miniconference: Taiwan in World Politics

Chairs: Dennis Lu Chung Weng (dennis.weng@shsu.edu)
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You are invited to submit an abstract for a proposed mini-conference on the relationship between US-China-Taiwan at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association (WPSA), held from March 10 to 12, 2022, in Portland, Oregon.

The proposed “Taiwan in World Politics” mini-conference is co-sponsored by Sam Houston State University of Texas and Tam Kang University in Taiwan. It is the first of its kind at the WPSA Annual Meeting. We anticipate bringing domestic and international participation to the 2022 meeting as the importance of Taiwan, officially the Republic of China, becomes inevitable as the US-China tension escalated recently.

Since President Obama proposed “Pivot to Asia” in 2011, the world has witnessed the steady deterioration of U.S.-China relations. Among all the critical issues in the bilateral relationship, Taiwan appears to be the most sensitive issue between the two powers. In addition to the traditional hard-power competition, the island’s semi-conductor development dominating the modern world makes the home of 23 million an indispensable ally to many countries in the world. Hawkish rhetoric in the U.S. and rising nationalism at both ends of the Taiwan strait have exacerbated misperceptions that now present the core obstacle to charting a peaceful and productive triangular relation forward.

In a promising turn, the growing trade relationships within the triangular relation push the three administrations to find the solution rather than seeking conflict. To further delineate the potential development in the years to come, various questions need to be answered. The questions include but are not limited to the following inquires: what can the U.S. do to ensure that both sides are sufficiently informed to maintain the status quo? What is the role of Taiwan in the future US-China relation? How can each country better manage internal public sentiment toward each other?

The proposed “Taiwan in World Politics“ mini-Conference is open to papers focused on any aspect of Taiwan’s domestic politics or international relations, including papers that involve comparisons between Taiwan and other cases. We particularly encourage studies on US-China-Taiwan relations to partake in this meeting. The **DEADLINE** for submission of paper proposals/program participation forms will be **September 17, 2021**. We will inform everyone who has submitted a proposal whether they have been selected for the mini-conference by December 2021. If your proposal is selected, your paper will be included in the 2022 WPSA conference program. If your submission is not selected, you will be notified a few days before the deadlines for other major political science conferences, such as MPSA and APSA. In the latter case, you will still have the option to submit to another meeting on your own.

To submit a proposal for the conference, please complete the Request to Participate form at http://wpsanet.org/app_panel/participation.php?year=2022 by September 17 and submit your proposal to Section 31, Miniconference: Taiwan in World Politics. If you are willing to serve as a discussant or chair, the form will allow you to make that indication. Please get in touch with Dennis Weng (dennis.weng@shsu.edu) if you have any questions.

Finally, please circulate this Call for Papers widely, including to colleagues outside of North America, who may otherwise not be aware of the mini-conference. We look forward to hearing from you.

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