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THE ROLE AND PLACE OF TAIWAN IN THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC SECURITY SYSTEM

Starting from Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan in 2022, the topic of Taiwan as a new possible military hotspot became more and more discussed in various international contexts that are related to international and regional security in the Asia-Pacific. The competition between the United States and China has become the competition of the global scope even before 2022 because of numerous factors.[9] The main concern comes from the question of the probability of a conflict in the Taiwan Strait between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China and dragging not only other regional actors into this possible conflict but also the possible role of the United States in case such conflict occurs. That possibility has several very important factors:

1. Sino-American competition. The report of the RAND published in 2021 claims that competition between the US and the PRC is a constant and multidimensional notion that central roles belong to economics, diplomacy, and technological areas. However, the sphere of competition also includes competition for regional leadership, competition for global influence, and intensifying information, cyber, and space competition. [8]

2. Growth of the Chinese influence. The economic growth of China and it's becoming a second-world economy could not but lead to the growth of Chinese ambitions in general. Different researchers show the growth of Chinese influence not only in the region of Southeast Asia[7] but also in the Middle East [4], Africa, and Latin America[5]. These are the regions that have no direct borders with China but are targets of Chinese foreign policy. That also pushed back the US's position and made them reconsider their attitude towards China. This issue is especially important during the growth of the Chinese influence in the Asia Pacific.

3. The growth of security concerns in Asia Pacific. With the growth of Chinese influence and ambitions, more and more states of the region claim growing security concerns about this fact. Among these countries are the Philippines, Japan, Vietnam, and Malaysia. One of the key issues is the dispute over the Spratly Islands (Chinese name 南沙群島, nánshā qúndǎo) and Chinese activity for the militarization of the region.[6] The disputes also include disputes over the Paracel Islands and other smaller claims between China and other countries of the region. That's why most countries consider the looking for the US as the only strong ally in the region. On the other hand, all these territories belong to the First Island Chain, which China tries to control and pass in order to obtain the freedom of geopolitical expansion in the Asia Pacific region.

4. Taiwan, China, and American strategic ambiguity toward Taiwan. The cross-strait relations in the Taiwan Strait can be considered as one of the most complex Gordian knots of international relations. For China, the Taiwan issue is considered a primary and vital issue to resolve. To some extent, this issue can be called sacred for solving, as long as official Beijing claims that Taiwan is an integral part of the country that always belonged to China. Thus, the reunification of Taiwan with the rest of the country is a primary mission.[10] On the other hand, as a part of the First Island Chain, bringing Taiwan under the control of the official Beijing will mean the creation of a new outpost for expansion in the whole Pacific region. As for the US, Taiwan has two meanings: “...*Taiwan is important to Americans for two reasons: because it is militarily critical and because it is a bellwether...*”. [2] In fact, that means the existence of the political system in Taiwan reflects democratic values and reflects democratic values, which, in many aspects, contradict the official view on national governing promoted in Beijing and create at least a visible alternative for a political system that exists in PRC. The United States managed to balance between providing weapons and conducting political dialog with Taipei without official recognition of Taiwan and, at the same time, managed to conduct the course for peaceful reunification by building Taiwanese defense capabilities.[1]

Thus, the issue of Taiwan is one of the central ones in the number of problems and dilemmas because it directly involves the greatest military and economic international actors. Moreover, according to the representatives of the official Beijing, it is going to use peaceful means for the reunification of Taiwan. However, they do not reject “...to use all necessary means...” to conduct the reunification of Taiwan.[3]

Conclusions

A “Hot” war in the Taiwan Strait between Taiwan and the PRC might not only drag the US into the conflict but also eruption the fragile system of security in the whole Asia-Pacific region because of the shifts in relations in the triangle of relations between Beijing-Taipei-Washington. That calls the danger of causing back-to-life regional conflicts of different scales and dragging international nuclear superpowers into an international conflict with particularly unpredictable results and consequences.

In general, we can see a general trend of further militarization of the region together with growing tension around Taiwan and generally in the region together with new concerns of the regional actors, which are usually caused by the expanding influence of China as a most powerful actor. The conflict or growth of confrontation potential around Taiwan will definitely not only affect the region itself but will have unpredicted consequences globally.

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МЕТОДИ ОЦІНКИ СТРАТЕГІЙ ІННОВАЦІЙНОГО РОЗВИТКУ КРАЇН

Розробка і реалізація стратегії інноваційного розвитку дозволяє втілювати державну інноваційну політику, на практиці покращуючи діяльність державних інституцій та створюючи умови для інноваційної діяльності господарюючих суб’єктів. Стратегія визначає цілі, пріоритети та напрями діяльності для органів державного управління, які є орієнтирами для ініціаторів проектів та становлять основу для попередньої оцінки реалізованих заходів в інноваційній сфері. Рівень державного контролю за суб’єктами, які виконують державні завдання за державні кошти, є обмеженим, тому на законодавчому рівні встановлюються вимоги щодо проведення фактичної оцінки, яка є одним із інструментів непрямого контролю обґрунтованості витрачання державних коштів.

Оцінка результатів реалізації інноваційної стратегії передбачає застосування різноманітних наборів методів і заходів, зосереджених на критичному осмисленні цінності та якості державних втручань – обох процесів, їх проведення та ефектів, які мають супроводжуватися надійністю, об’єктивністю та систематизацією. Більшість визначень поняття «оцінювання» вказують на такі основні його ознаки, а саме: 1) йдеться про оцінювання проміжного або остаточного результату діяльності; 2) це процес, у якому оцінки базуються на конкретних критеріях; 3) це процес систематичного збору інформації, який дозволяє побудувати методологію – відповідно до того, наскільки оцінки відповідають критеріям; 4) встановлює