



## **Taiwan's Economic and Political Outlook: Trump Card in a Game of 21**

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**Presented by Ross Darrell Feingold to the  
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# Personnel & Policy Developments

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- President and premier's approval ratings are falling:
  - Is public losing patience with transitional justice rather than economy focus.
  - Party assets dispute litigation loss.
  - Marriage equality mis-managed.
- Business environment challenges resolved but not necessarily to public or industry's satisfaction: Labor, TransAsia, Uber.
- Local election strategy dominates 2H2017.

# Personnel & Policy Developments

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- Political leaders positive view (好感度民調):
  - Kaohsiung Mayor Chen Chu: 55.1%
  - Tainan Mayor William Lai: 50%
  - Taichung Mayor Lin Chia-lung: 42.6%
  - Taipei Mayor Keh Wen-je: 41.9%
  - President Tsai: 40.4%
  - New Taipei Mayor Eric Chu: 36.8%
  - Legislative Yuan Speaker Su: 28.9%
  - Taoyuan City Mayor Cheng: 25.9%
  - KMT Chairwoman Hung: 21.6%
  - Premier Lin: 21.5%

# Personnel & Policy Developments

- Mayor Keh is vulnerable:



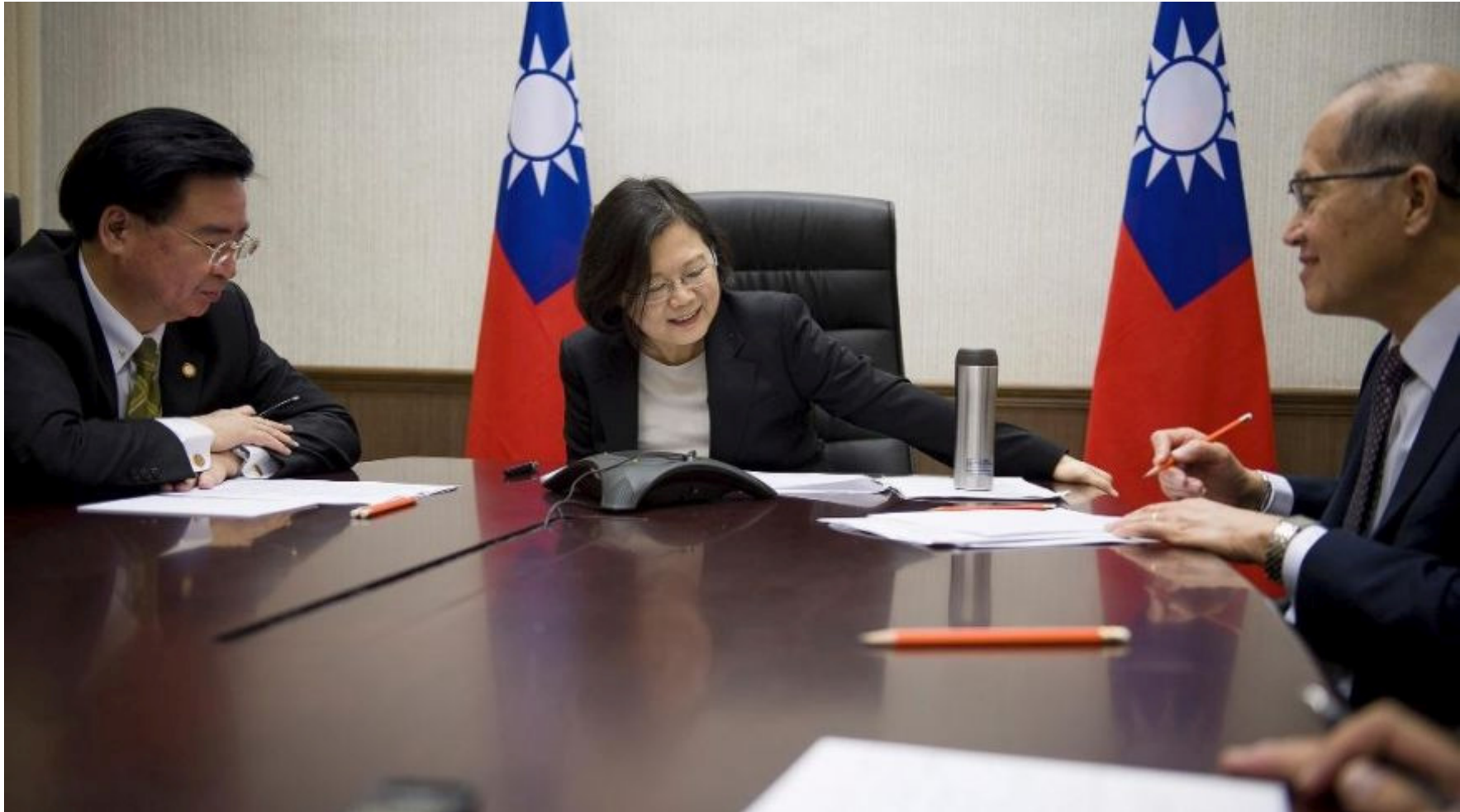
# Cross Straits Relations

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- Communication channels remain closed; alternative channels not working (KMT, Soong, industry leaders).
- Diplomatic truce over with São Tomé and Príncipe's decision to recognize PRC.
- Hong Kong relations set for a downturn amid localist interaction w/Taiwan, Singapore military equipment seizure, and chief executive election campaign.
- Taiwan corporates face greater China risk.

# Taiwan – U.S. Relations

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# Taiwan – U.S. Relations

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- Possible outcomes under Trump:
  - Anti-China = Positive for Taiwan.
  - Anti-China = Negative for Taiwan.
  - Accommodation w/China = Negative for Taiwan.
  - Status quo = Good & bad for Taiwan
- Taiwan must understand personnel in the next administration and the next Congress.
- Inaugural delegation politics.



# Taiwan – Japan Relations

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- Economic talks resulted in cultural agreements; restrictions on Fukushima region food imports hinders progress.
- State Minister for Foreign Affairs Nobuo Kishi called for strengthening of Taiwan-US-Japan relations in recent interview with Taiwan media, but emphasized food issue
- Abe's focus on Asean, China, DPRK could expand post-US election.



# Taiwan – Foreign Relations

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- Taiwan's increasing isolation in Asia:
  - Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand continue shift towards China or are under pressure to do so.
- President Tsai speech on Southbound policy today emphasized supporting industry, despite previous claims policy focus was on soft power objectives.
- Next South Korea president will seek closer ties with China, limited scope for Taiwan.

# Key Political Figures

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**Tsai Ing-wen**



**Lin Chuan**



**Xi Jinping**



**Donald Trump**



**Shinzo Abe**



**Lee Hsien-loong**

# Key Political Figures

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**Freddy Lim**



**Su Chia-chyuan**



**Wellington Koo**



**Feng Shih-kuan**



**Hung Hsiu-chu**



**Ke Wen-je**

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