

One China Policy and Its Implications for The Resolution of The Taiwan Strait Conflict in 2024

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Abstract

This study discusses the impact of the One China Policy on efforts to resolve the conflict in the Taiwan Strait in 2024. The main issue is the increasing tension between China and Taiwan, and how this policy affects the process of resolving the conflict. The purpose of this study is to analyze the role of the One China Policy in hindering or creating space for diplomacy. This study uses a qualitative approach by combining realism and constructivism theories. The results show that this policy strengthens China's position and limits the options for peaceful negotiations, but also encourages the involvement of international actors carefully. The main contribution of this study is to provide a critical understanding of the influence of foreign policy on regional conflicts, as well as enriching the study of international relations in East Asia.

Keywords: One China Policy, Taiwan Strait, conflict, diplomacy, international relations.

INTRODUCTION

Problem Background

The Taiwan Strait conflict is one of the most complex and sensitive strategic issues in East Asia, with far-reaching implications not only for regional stability but also for the global balance of power. The roots of this conflict date back to the end of the Chinese Civil War in 1949, when the nationalist Kuomintang government fled to the island of Taiwan and established a separate government from the newly

proclaimed People's Republic of China (PRC) of the Chinese Communist Party (Azzahra, 2022). Since then, relations between the two entities have been in an unresolved and tense political situation. Although Taiwan operates a de facto self-governing multi-party democracy and a free-market economy, Beijing consistently claims Taiwan as an integral part of its territory under the One China Policy.

Fundamental ideological and political differences between the PRC and Taiwan have further exacerbated the tensions between the two. While Taiwan champions a separate national identity and strengthens informal diplomatic relations with other countries, the PRC continues to intensify diplomatic and military efforts to prevent international recognition of Taiwan as a sovereign state. For decades, this status quo remained relatively stable, but in 2024, the conflict dynamics in the Taiwan Strait experienced a significant and worrying escalation. The increasing frequency and intensity of large-scale military exercises by the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) in Taiwanese waters, coupled with Beijing's aggressive diplomatic rhetoric, have raised concerns about the possibility of an open military confrontation (Jash, 2024).

This situation is exacerbated by growing international support for Taiwan, particularly from the United States and its allies in Europe and the Indo-Pacific region. This support includes arms sales, high-ranking official visits, and increased economic and technological cooperation, which the PRC considers a violation of the One China Policy (IPD FORUM, 2024). Taiwan, on the other hand, has leveraged this support to strengthen its position on the international stage, without formally declaring independence that could trigger a direct military response from Beijing.

The One China Policy remains a key element of the PRC's diplomatic and strategic approach to dealing with the Taiwan issue. This policy requires countries seeking diplomatic relations with Beijing to refrain from recognizing Taiwan as an independent state and from establishing formal diplomatic representation in Taipei (Maulana, Roizah, & Susetyorini, 2016). Consequently, many countries around the world find themselves in a dilemma: on the one hand, they want to support Taiwan's democratic principles and right to self-determination, but on the other hand, they

are reluctant to risk jeopardizing their economic and political relations with China, the world's second-largest economy.

The implications of the One China Policy are felt not only in the context of bilateral relations between China and Taiwan, but also at the regional and global geopolitical levels. This policy limits diplomatic maneuvering space for peaceful conflict resolution, hinders Taiwan's participation in international organizations, and creates new tensions in China's relations with major powers such as the United States, Japan, and the European Union member states (Firman & Wibowo, 2024). Furthermore, the existence of this policy also complicates ASEAN's efforts to promote regional stability through the principles of neutrality and peaceful resolution.

Considering these conditions, it is crucial to examine the role and influence of the One China Policy in shaping the dynamics of conflict and opportunities for peaceful resolution in the Taiwan Strait. This study seeks to provide a comprehensive analysis of how this policy is used as a strategic diplomatic tool by China, while also posing a significant challenge in creating a just, inclusive, and sustainable conflict resolution framework amidst the evolving regional security architecture in 2024.

Research Problem

Based on the background description above, this research is formulated in two main questions, namely “how the implementation of the One China Policy affects the dynamics of the conflict between China and Taiwan in 2024 and to what extent the policy becomes an obstacle or actually opens up opportunities in the process of resolving the Taiwan Strait conflict?”

Theory

In analyzing the Taiwan Strait conflict and the influence of the One China Policy on the prospects for a peaceful resolution, this study utilizes international relations theory, specifically the perspectives of structural realism and constructivism.

From a structural realist (neorealist) perspective, the dynamics between China and Taiwan can be seen as a manifestation of power competition in an anarchic international system (Yuliana, 2022). States act rationally to defend their sovereignty and national interests, including through military strengthening and regional dominance. The PRC's One China Policy reflects an effort to maintain territorial integrity as a key pillar of domestic stability and its status as a great power. Within this framework, the escalation of the conflict in the Taiwan Strait is understood as the result of a power imbalance and distrust between key actors, particularly between the PRC and the United States, each of which supports different approaches to Taiwan (Noer, 2022).

Meanwhile, constructivism offers a different perspective by emphasizing the importance of identity, norms, and perceptions in shaping foreign policy. The One China Policy is not only a political doctrine but also a social construct that shapes how China interprets sovereignty, legitimacy, and cross-strait relations (Yu, 2009). Taiwan, on the other hand, has developed a national identity separate from China, rooted in its experience of democratization and interactions with the international community (Javed, 2022). Tensions arise not only from differing strategic interests but also from clashing identities and the meanings attached to the concept of "one China."

These two approaches provide complementary conceptual frameworks for understanding the complexity of the Taiwan Strait conflict. Structural realism explains aspects of power and strategic calculations between states, while constructivism highlights how norms and perceptions influence actors' actions. By utilizing these two perspectives, this study seeks to provide a more holistic analysis of the role of the One China Policy in shaping the dynamics of the conflict and its potential resolution in 2024.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

RESULT

One-China Policy is a fundamental principle of the foreign policy of the People's Republic of China (PRC), asserting that there is only one state entity called China, and that the legitimate government representing China is the one based in Beijing. Under this policy, Taiwan is considered an inseparable part of China, and Beijing steadfastly rejects any international recognition of Taiwan's independence.

The historical roots of the One-China Policy can be traced to the end of the Chinese Civil War in 1949, when the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) successfully seized power and established the People's Republic of China (PRC) government on the mainland, while the Kuomintang (KMT)-led Nationalist government of the Republic of China (ROC) retreated and established a government-in-exile on the island of Taiwan (Rachmasari, 2025). Since then, the two separate governments have claimed to be the legitimate representatives of all of China. However, over time, most countries around the world, particularly after the official recognition by the United States in 1979, began shifting their recognition from the ROC (Taiwan) to the PRC (Mainland China) (Brown, 2024). In international diplomatic practice, the One-China Policy has become a primary prerequisite set by Beijing for any country seeking to establish formal diplomatic relations with the PRC. These countries were required to declare their recognition of "One China" and sever official ties with Taiwan. To date, only a handful of countries maintain formal diplomatic relations with Taiwan, while most countries, including the United States, recognize the Chinese government in Beijing as the sole legitimate representative of China but maintain informal relations with Taiwan.

It is important to note that while many countries, including the United States, formally accept the One China Policy, its implementation often differs from Beijing's interpretation. The United States government, for example, adopted the One China Policy based on three joint communiques with the PRC, the Taiwan Relations Act (1979), and the Six Assurances to Taiwan. Based on these, the US recognizes the existence of One China but does not explicitly recognize the PRC's sovereignty over Taiwan. The US continues to provide defense assistance to Taiwan to ensure regional stability and prevent any coercive change of the status

quo by either party (Yogianto D. , 2025). Within the framework of international relations and international law, the One China Policy has created a normative framework that limits Taiwan's scope for global action. Taiwan is not permitted to become a full member of international organizations such as the United Nations (UN), the World Health Organization (WHO), or the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), as membership is deemed to be in conflict with the One China principle.

However, in recent years, particularly with rising geopolitical tensions between China and the United States and the strengthening of Taiwan's national identity, the implementation of the One-China Policy has been increasingly questioned. Taiwan, under President Tsai Ing-wen, has categorically rejected the One-China principle as interpreted by Beijing, opting instead to strengthen informal relations with various democracies around the world. This has sparked a strong reaction from Beijing, which has responded with diplomatic, military, and economic pressure on Taiwan and countries deemed to be "supporting Taiwanese separatism" (Ahzani, 2021). The One-China Policy has become particularly relevant in the dynamics of the Taiwan Strait conflict in 2024, where increased PRC military exercises around Taiwan, visits by foreign political figures to Taipei, and political declarations from both sides demonstrate that the One-China position is not only the foundation of China's foreign policy but also a key point of conflict between the status quo and the pursuit of international recognition of Taiwan's sovereignty. Therefore, the One-China Policy is not merely a diplomatic discourse but also has direct implications for East Asian regional security strategy and the potential resolution of the Taiwan Strait conflict.

DISCUSSION

Dynamics of the Taiwan Strait Conflict in 2024

In 2024, tensions in the Taiwan Strait experienced significant escalation triggered by various interrelated military, political, and diplomatic factors. China

intensively increased its military exercises around the Taiwan Strait as a form of pressure on Taiwan and the countries supporting the sovereignty of the island. In October and December 2024, China conducted massive military exercises involving hundreds of fighter jets, dozens of warships, as well as coast guard vessels, which aimed not only to strengthen combat readiness but also to send a strategic message to Taiwan and its main ally, the United States. Moreover, China has begun to adopt new tactics in the form of blockade simulations using coast guard ships to patrol and inspect vessels passing through the Taiwan Strait, marking a shift from a purely military approach to a ‘lawfare’ strategy that combines military elements and law enforcement to reinforce sovereignty claims over Taiwan. In response to this pressure, Taiwan has raised its military alert status to the highest level, extended mandatory military service, and strengthened national defense capabilities, including the development of domestic submarines and conducting joint military exercises with strategic partner countries (Sarkar & Nath, 2024).

The political dynamics in Taiwan also complicate the situation in the Taiwan Strait. The Taiwanese elections in January 2024 resulted in a victory for Lai Ching-te of the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), known for its pro-independence stance. After his inauguration in May 2024, President Lai openly asserted Taiwan's sovereignty in his National Day speech, prompting a strong reaction from Beijing and becoming a key trigger for a series of provocative military exercises around the island. The United States increasingly bolstered its political and military support for Taiwan by approving a weapons transfer package worth hundreds of millions of dollars by the end of 2024, strengthening Taiwan's bargaining position while increasing the risk of military escalation in the region. Japan expressed its readiness to engage militarily in the event of open conflict, while ASEAN countries and international organizations such as the UN and G20 were urged to play an active role in promoting peaceful dialogue and easing tensions (Maizland & Fong, 2025).

Military and diplomatic maneuvers throughout 2024 demonstrate the increasing complexity of the conflict. China has conducted large-scale military

exercises code-named 'Joint Sword-2024B' and 'Strait Thunder-2025A' focusing on blockade capabilities, precision strikes, and control of strategic territories in the Taiwan Strait. These exercises often coincide with visits by high-ranking U.S. officials to the Asia-Pacific, signaling a strategic message and attempts at intimidation towards Washington and its allies. Taiwan is actively engaging in international diplomacy to strengthen global support for the status quo and maintain democracy on the island, including enhancing trade relations, technological cooperation, and public diplomacy campaign. A survey of security experts from the US and Taiwan shows that the majority expect a crisis in the Taiwan Strait is likely to occur in 2024, with the most probable scenario being a quarantine or non-military blockade by China, although the threat of a military blockade remains real and should be monitored (TVBS, 2024).

The escalating tensions in the Taiwan Strait have significant implications for regional and global stability. The Taiwan Strait has become a key arena for geopolitical rivalry between the US and China, with the potential for escalating conflict involving allies such as Japan, South Korea, Australia, and even Russia. These tensions directly impact global economic stability, given Taiwan's role as a major semiconductor producer vital to the global technology supply chain and the strategic position of the Taiwan Strait as a vital international trade route. Countries in the region, including Indonesia, face the risk of increased economic uncertainty and security challenges due to these conflict dynamics. Therefore, the escalation of tensions in the Taiwan Strait in 2024, triggered by the complex interplay of military maneuvers, domestic political changes, and great power rivalry, requires intensive multilateral diplomacy and enhanced defense preparedness to maintain stability and prevent the potential for open conflict with far-reaching impacts on the region and the world (Lu, 2024).

Implementation of the One China Policy in Global Diplomacy

China's implementation of the One China Policy in global diplomacy is a key pillar of the country's foreign policy strategy. This policy asserts that there is

only one legitimate government representing all of China, including Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macau, making its sovereignty claim non-negotiable. In practice, China implements this policy by intensifying diplomatic and economic pressure on countries that attempt to establish official relations with Taiwan or recognize its sovereignty separately. For example, China actively influences countries around the world to withdraw diplomatic recognition of Taiwan and recognize only the People's Republic of China as the sole legitimate government. This policy is also reflected in China's 7.2% increase in military spending by 2024, which supports additional missions such as patrols and military exercises around the Taiwan Strait as part of its efforts to defend its sovereignty claim.

Other countries' responses to this policy have varied, depending on their respective geopolitical and economic interests. Many countries, including Indonesia, have officially adopted the One China Policy as the foundation of their diplomatic relations with China, while maintaining informal economic and cultural ties with Taiwan. Indonesia, for example, respects this policy in the context of immigration, with visa and residency arrangements reflecting recognition of one Chinese government, while continuing economic and socio-cultural interactions with Taiwan. Globally, major powers such as the United States have adopted a more pragmatic policy, maintaining recognition of the One China Policy while also providing military and political support to Taiwan, thus creating tensions with China. Meanwhile, China has used economic diplomacy and investment, such as through its Belt and Road Initiative and energy cooperation, to strengthen its influence and promote this policy in various regions, including Southeast Asia (Febianto, 2024).

Overall, China's implementation of the One China Policy in global diplomacy focuses not only on political and military aspects, but also involves a comprehensive economic and diplomatic strategy to strengthen its sovereignty claims and limit Taiwan's room for maneuver on the international stage. Other countries, especially those with close economic ties with China, tend to adjust their foreign policies to align with this principle, while maintaining informal bilateral

relations with Taiwan for pragmatic reasons. This policy is a major factor shaping geopolitical dynamics in the East Asian region and globally in general.

Obstacles and Opportunities for Resolving the Taiwan Strait Conflict

The implementation of the One China Policy has had a highly complex and multidimensional impact on the possibility of a peaceful resolution of the conflict in the Taiwan Strait. This policy serves as a key pillar for China in asserting its sovereignty claim over Taiwan, firmly rejecting any form of international recognition of Taiwan's independent or separate sovereignty. In this context, the One China Policy strengthens Beijing's position to reject bilateral dialogue leading to recognition of Taiwan's sovereignty, significantly narrowing the space for official diplomacy between Taiwan and the rest of the world. China's intensified diplomatic pressure on countries considering formal relations with Taiwan, including threats of severing diplomatic ties and restricting economic cooperation, has exacerbated regional tensions and raised tensions that could potentially escalate into military conflict. Furthermore, increased Chinese military activity around the Taiwan Strait, such as large-scale military exercises and coast guard patrols, further emphasizes Beijing's tough stance and creates an environment less conducive to peaceful dialogue.

However, the One China Policy also opens up opportunities for indirect diplomacy and more flexible and pragmatic peace settlement mechanisms. Many countries that officially recognize the policy maintain economic, cultural, and social relations with Taiwan through non-diplomatic channels, such as the establishment of trade offices, academic cooperation, and informal cultural exchanges (Maulana, Roizah, & Susetyorini, 2016). This approach allows for interaction and dialogue that does not threaten the principles of the One China Policy, while maintaining the stability of regional relations and opening up space for conflict resolution through multilateral diplomacy and more inclusive negotiations. Furthermore, international pressure on China to refrain from aggressive military action and prioritize a peaceful settlement continues to increase, particularly from major powers such as

the United States, the European Union, and other regional allies. Although the United States officially recognizes the One China Policy, it continues to provide political and military support to Taiwan with the aim of maintaining the status quo and regional stability, thus creating a delicate balance between support for Taiwanese democracy and recognition of Chinese sovereignty.

However, increased US military and diplomatic support for Taiwan, such as the sale of advanced weapons and the passage of legislation facilitating visits by high-ranking US officials to Taiwan, has created new tensions that complicate the implementation of the One China Policy. This stance has raised concerns in Beijing that the One China principle is weakening on the international stage, increasing the risk of military confrontation and worsening bilateral relations between the US and China. This situation creates a strategic dilemma for the international community, where countries must balance the interests of maintaining good relations with China, a major economic power, while supporting Taiwan's democracy and security, which hold strategic and moral value for many countries. Meanwhile, Taiwan itself continues to strengthen its position through public diplomacy and informal international cooperation, hoping to expand its political space without violating the One China Policy (Yogianto D. , 2025).

Overall, the One China Policy serves as a major obstacle to conflict resolution in the Taiwan Strait by reinforcing China's intransigent position and limiting international recognition of Taiwan. This policy narrows the possibilities for official recognition and bilateral dialogue that could lead to a more permanent peace settlement. However, this policy also opens up opportunities for indirect diplomacy and pragmatic peace settlements through multilateral channels and informal mechanisms that can reduce tensions without sacrificing the fundamental principles held by the parties. Therefore, the successful resolution of the conflict in the Taiwan Strait depends heavily on the ability of international actors to navigate the complexities of this policy, manage geopolitical rivalries, and foster inclusive and sustainable dialogue for the sake of stability and peace in the region.

Theoretical Analysis: Realism and Constructivism Perspectives

Realism positions power and security as the primary factors driving state behavior in an anarchic international system, where no central authority can absolutely regulate interactions between states. In the context of the Taiwan Strait, China views Taiwan as an integral and indivisible part of its territory, making maintaining sovereignty over Taiwan a non-negotiable national priority (Morgenthau, 1985). The One China Policy is a manifestation of China's efforts to maintain and strengthen its power in the East Asian region while preventing foreign intervention, particularly from the United States, which it considers its main strategic rival. Within this framework, military escalation, including large-scale military exercises and intensive patrols around the Taiwan Strait, are strategic measures to demonstrate China's strength and readiness to defend its claims.

Meanwhile, the United States and its allies are using a containment approach to limit China's influence by providing military and diplomatic support to Taiwan. Advanced weapons sales and joint military training are part of a strategy to maintain a balance of power in the region and prevent a single Chinese domination that could threaten regional and global security interests. From a realist perspective, this conflict cannot be separated from the power competition between major powers, where national security is a top priority that drives both aggressive and defensive actions. Realism also emphasizes that in an anarchic international system, countries will always seek to maximize their power to ensure their survival and sovereignty, so the conflict in the Taiwan Strait is a natural manifestation of this power dynamic.

Unlike realism, which focuses on material aspects and power, constructivism emphasizes the importance of ideas, identities, norms, and perceptions in shaping the behavior of international actors (Risse, 2002). In the case of the Taiwan Strait, Taiwan's national identity as a democratic entity, politically and socially distinct from China, is a key factor reinforcing Taiwan's desire to maintain its de facto independence. Taiwan not only fights to defend its

physical territory but also seeks to maintain legitimacy and international recognition of its identity as a sovereign nation, even though it is not formally recognized by many countries.

The One China Policy, from a constructivist perspective, is not simply a political policy, but rather a social construct constructed through diplomatic interactions, historical narratives, and distinct national symbols between China and Taiwan. Beijing constructs a narrative of legitimacy for its sovereignty over Taiwan through international norms of territorial integrity and state sovereignty, while Taiwan asserts its identity through democratic practices, political freedoms, and informal international relations. The international community's perception and interpretation of both sides' claims also significantly determine the dynamics of the conflict; support for or rejection of one side can strengthen or weaken their position in the global arena. Therefore, this conflict is not only about military power, but also about how identity and legitimacy are continuously maintained and negotiated.

Constructivism also highlights the role of norms and dialogue in opening up opportunities for peaceful resolution. Shifts in perception and identity, for example through cross-cultural dialogue and public diplomacy, can help create a more inclusive and sustainable negotiating space. In this context, conflict resolution depends not only on the balance of power but also on the actors' ability to build shared understanding and legitimacy that is acceptable to all parties.

Combining these two perspectives, it can be concluded that the conflict in the Taiwan Strait is the result of the interaction between material power interests and ideational social constructs. Realism explains why China and the United States compete fiercely for military and geopolitical influence, and how security and power are the primary motives for their actions. Meanwhile, constructivism provides an understanding of how Taiwan's national identity, international norms, and perceptions of sovereign legitimacy shape the dynamics of politics and diplomacy, which are equally important. The combination of these two approaches provides a more comprehensive analytical framework, viewing the conflict not only

as a mere power struggle but also as a socio-political process involving the formation of evolving meanings, norms, and identities.

Thus, an effective solution to this conflict must consider both power and social construction. An approach that focuses solely on military power without considering identity and legitimacy risks prolonging the conflict and escalating tensions. Conversely, dialogue that prioritizes understanding shared identities and norms can pave the way for a sustainable peaceful resolution, although this requires patience and commitment from all parties involved.

Policy Implications for the East Asia Region and the International Order

A conflict in the Taiwan Strait in 2024 would have significant implications for regional stability in East Asia and the broader international order. Regionally, the escalating tensions between the People's Republic of China (PRC) and Taiwan pose significant risks to maritime and political security in this highly strategic region. The Taiwan Strait is a vital international shipping lane connecting major economic centers in Asia and the world, so disruptions in the region have the potential to disrupt global supply chains, particularly in the technology and manufacturing sectors, where Taiwan plays a central role as a producer of electronic components and semiconductors. Such disruptions could cause widespread economic losses, including a potential reduction of up to 10% in global Gross Domestic Product (GDP) due to a conflict involving a blockade or military operations in the Taiwan Strait.

From a geopolitical perspective, this conflict has triggered a power struggle between major powers, particularly the United States and China. The United States, despite officially recognizing the One China Policy, continues to provide military and political support to Taiwan in an effort to maintain the status quo and prevent unilateral changes by Beijing. This stance strengthens Taiwan's position while simultaneously raising tensions that could potentially lead to open military confrontation. Neighboring countries such as Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines have also consistently called for the status quo in the Taiwan Strait to

be maintained to maintain regional peace and stability. Meanwhile, China continues to increase its military presence around the Taiwan Strait, including patrols by warships and fighter jets across the median line, as a form of pressure and warning against Taiwan and the countries that support it.

For East Asia, this tension poses significant challenges in maintaining maritime security and political stability. Studies show that increased military presence in the region could trigger an arms race and increase the risk of accidental military incidents, which could ultimately erupt into open conflict. Countries in the region, including Indonesia, face direct impacts from this conflict, primarily through disruptions to global supply chains that can lead to rising prices and economic uncertainty. Indonesia, with close trade ties with China and the United States and many citizens working and studying in both countries, must prepare for the socio-economic risks resulting from these tensions (Robiyul & Iman, 2024).

At the international level, the Taiwan Strait conflict poses a crucial test for the global security system based on international norms and law. This conflict challenges the widely recognized principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity and tests the international community's ability to prevent the escalation of armed conflict between major powers. International organizations and regional blocs such as the European Union and ASEAN emphasize the importance of maintaining peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait and promoting dialogue and peaceful resolution. However, the intensifying geopolitical rivalry between the United States and China complicates multilateral diplomatic efforts, making the potential for open conflict a real threat to world peace.

Overall, the Taiwan Strait conflict in 2024 will have significant implications for East Asia's regional stability and the international order. Major powers such as the United States and China play central roles in this dynamic, with conflicting policies but both seeking to defend their strategic interests. Meanwhile, countries in the East Asian region and the international community must navigate this uncertain situation carefully, prioritizing diplomacy and multilateral cooperation to

prevent an escalation that could have fatal consequences for global security and the economy.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the analysis, it can be concluded that the Taiwan Strait conflict in 2024 is a manifestation of complex geopolitical tensions between China, Taiwan, and global actors such as the United States. Significant military escalation, including large-scale military exercises and intensive patrols by China, as well as the vocal stance of the Taiwanese government led by the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), are amplifying tensions that have the potential to threaten regional and global stability. The One China Policy is a key factor exacerbating the situation by narrowing the space for official diplomacy and exerting political and economic pressure on Taiwan. However, this policy also opens up opportunities for indirect diplomacy through non-diplomatic channels and pragmatic multilateral cooperation. Theoretical analysis shows that this conflict is the result of the interaction between power interests (realism) and social constructs of identity and legitimacy (constructivism), so an effective solution must consider both aspects. The implications of this conflict are far-reaching, affecting maritime security stability, the global economy, and the geopolitical dynamics of East Asia, with major powers playing a central role in maintaining or changing the status quo. As suggestions for further research, it is recommended to delve deeper into the mechanisms of indirect diplomacy and the role of non-state actors in easing tensions in the Taiwan Strait, including the role of international organizations and civil society. Research should also expand the analysis of the economic impact of this conflict on developing countries in Southeast Asia, particularly in the context of semiconductor supply chain dependencies and international trade. Furthermore, a more integrative comparative study combining realist and constructivist approaches could provide richer insights into the dynamics of the conflict and opportunities for peaceful resolution. Finally, research on risk mitigation strategies for ASEAN citizens residing in Taiwan is crucial given the potential socio-humanitarian impacts of any potential conflict.

With a multidisciplinary approach and a focus on practical and humanitarian aspects, future research can make a more constructive contribution to the development of effective knowledge and policy in addressing the highly dynamic and strategic issue of the Taiwan Strait.

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