

There really cannot be any educated discussion of the Taiwan question without a foundational understanding of post WWII history of the Far East.

Japan was the imperial power of the region leading up to WWII, with forays into China, and colonial rule of the entirety of the Korean peninsula. As the Pacific theater of WWII was prosecuted, ending with the Atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and Japan's surrender - **a vacuum of regional power led to great instability in the region.**

Japan's formal end to aggression, called its "Instrument of Surrender" was followed up by decades of strong United States presence around the Japanese island group, and in the Far East as a whole. The US had a strong tradition, not of imperialism, but of presence, and in the case of Japan, strong guidance and economic aid to help the country move toward a great deal of civic and economic reforms toward the democratic model.

All of this is to illuminate our **Primary Contention**: that the presence of United States leadership on democratic principles provides economic and security modeling to the region, thereby supporting sovereign peoples who wish to maintain the **IMPACT** of those principles, and the rights and economic benefits of a capitalist/democratic society.

So with the example of Japan before us, we come to Taiwan - (Full Pause)

Russia, and also, an emerging political force in **China**, BOTH made strong post war moves to manipulate the region's aforementioned instability and create control governments in the region.

Russia made their play for the Korean peninsula, which ultimately led to the Korean War, US intervention, and the saving of the southern part of that peninsula - South Korea as we know it today...

In China, in 1949, just four years after the end of WWII, the Chinese Communist Party defeated Chinese Republic forces and its supporters under the leadership of Chiang Kai-shek - who then fled to the island of Taiwan in 1949, where he led the Republic of China until his death in **1975**.

While the US doesn't recognize Taiwan as a political expediency, actions speak far louder than words. **In 1979**, in order to have some relations with Mainland China, the United States had to end relations with Taiwan - but simultaneously passed the **Taiwan Relations Act** in Congress - It (quote) *"Declares it to be the policy of the United States to preserve and promote extensive, close, and friendly commercial, cultural, and other relations between the people of the United States and the people on Taiwan"*

(HAVE CARD) H.R.2479 — 96th Congress (1979-1980)

With these histories, we can evaluate modern economic data to demonstrate the incredible significant impact of US presence in the region and the absolute risk of any reduction of support.

**According to the U.S. Relations With Taiwan
Bilateral Relations Fact Sheet produced by the US State Department in 2022
(HAVE CARD)**

“Taiwan is a highly advanced economy producing an estimated \$786 billion in goods and services in 2021. It is the United States’ eighth-largest trading partner, and the United States is Taiwan’s second-largest trading partner. And you can add to impact that U.S. exports of goods and services to Taiwan supported an estimated 188,000 American jobs in 2019”

It continues:

“Taiwanese cumulative investment in the United States was nearly \$137 billion in 2020. Taiwan’s direct investment in the United States is led by manufacturing, wholesale trade, and depository institutions. These investments directly support an estimated 21,000 jobs in the United States and \$1.5 billion in U.S. exports.”

But far, far greater than the relationship’s impact on the US economy, is that for 70 + years of tens of millions of people in the Far East.

According to current data of the International Monetary Fund - (HAVE CARD)

The 2023 GDP per capita of the following countries is significant:

China’s is 12,500 in US dollars per person

The Russian Federation is 13,650 in US dollars per person

North Korea provides no data for the obvious reasons

Let’s consider the numbers for Far East countries that have benefitted from 70+ years of United States presence.

Japan’s is 33,800\$ per capita

South Korea is 33,190\$

And Taiwan is 32,400\$

The contrast is incredible.

Over 70+ years, how many TENS and HUNDREDS of millions of people in Japan, South Korea and Taiwan - over now multiple generations of economic contrast - increased life expectancy, improved quality of life, food security, rights security - and ultimately, happiness and contentment. It’s nearly immeasurable. Thus, we negate the resolution.