

Taiwan & 2 Superpowers 2012-2016

Dr. Alexander Chieh-cheng Huang Brookings-CNAPS & CSIS-Freeman Chair Conference Washington DC, January 17, 2012



The Strategic Parallel between Ma & Hu



It's Not MaMaHuHu

- Maintain strategic high altitude to ensure peace
 - Make efforts expressing good will
 - Pursue peaceful external environment
- Economic development/revitalization as priority
 - Express hope to end the state of hostility
 - Prefer negotiation instead of confrontation
 - Promote a form of framework relationship

My presentation at the Brookings Institution after last election 4 years ago.

President Ma's 1st-term Guideline

Ally with the U.S., Rapprochement with China,

Be friend with Japan

(親美、和中、友日)

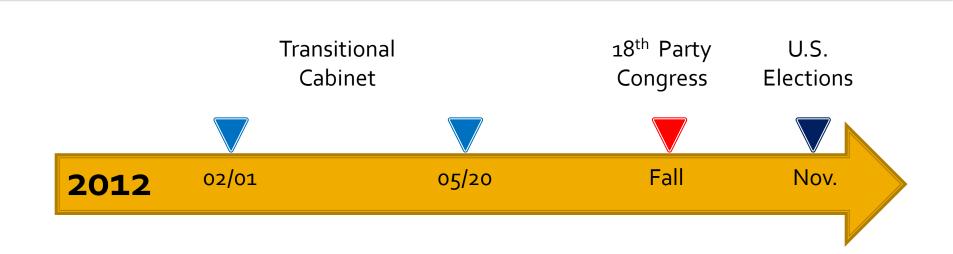
Non-confrontational approach to China ≠ sold out Taiwan

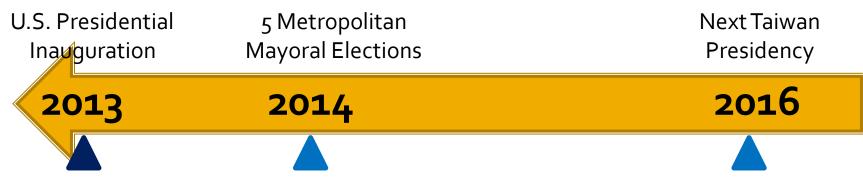
Ma was too close to China? Hu knows!

Ma's 2nd-term China Policy

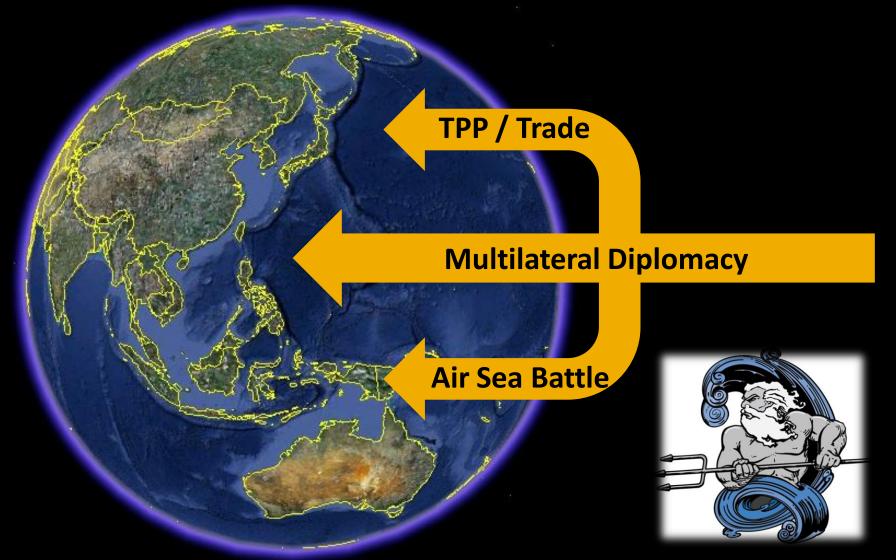
- "1992 consensus" gained ground
 - But, it's "one China, different interpretations"
 - Taiwan public: "don't rock the boat"
- "Economy first, politics later" continues
 - Post-ECFA negotiations
 - Stronger parliamentary oversight by oppositions
- Political / Military negotiations Unlikely
 - After 18th Party Congress & U.S. elections
 - Mayoral elections 2014 / KMT candidate for 2016

Constraints in Political Calendar





The Strategic Trident U.S. Reengaging Asia



Ma's 2nd-term U.S. Policy

- More focus on bilateral relations
 - To beef, or not to beef + visa waiver program +
 TIFA + arms sales . . .
- Positioning in U.S. Asian Strategy
 - ECFA for U.S. interests + Taiwan for TPP
 - Critical period in defense transformation
- Mini-S&ED for mutual benefit
 - Cross-agencies, cabinet-to-cabinet dialogues (at appropriate level) is warranted







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