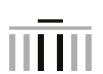


ifa ECP Monitor Fact Sheet

Taiwan

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1. Key Indicators¹

		2019	% change since 2015
Population / ranking²	Number/rank	23.60 million / 56 th	23.49 million / 54 th
GDP ranking	Rank	21 st (2021)	n/a
GDP per capita³	Number (\$)	25,941	22,780
Cultural economy⁴	As share of GDP	0.10	0.09
Education economy⁵	As share of GDP	4.82	5.02
R&D economy⁶	As share of GDP	3.49	3.00
Media economy	As share of GDP	n/a	n/a

Sources: MOC, World Bank, National Statistics

Geopolitical position	Hard power rank⁷	22 (2021)	n/a	-
	World trade indicators / ranking (\$ million)⁸	17 th (Export & Import) / 618,000	17 th (Export); 18 th (Import) / 523,000	↑
	Soft power rank⁹	5 th (out of 10 Asia Soft Powers) / 48.11	n/a	-
	Diplomacy rank¹⁰	32 nd	n/a	-

¹ All figures in this factsheet are calculated with an average exchange rate of New Taiwan Dollar (NTD) to Euro (EUR) 1:34.225 for FY2019 and 1:35.663 for FY2015 (European Central Bank).

² https://sdw.ecb.europa.eu/quickview.do;jsessionid=AC57BA9B07EA9D75FBE82C3404372CEB?SERIES_KEY=120.EXR.H.TWD.EUR.SP00.A.

³ https://eng.dgbas.gov.tw/public/data/dgbas03/bs2/yearbook_eng/y003.pdf; <https://www.worldometers.info/world-population/taiwan-population/>

⁴ <https://eng.stat.gov.tw/point.asp?index=1>

⁵ 2019 & 2015 Final accounts of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of China.

⁶ https://eng.stat.gov.tw/public/data/dgbas03/bs2/yearbook_eng/y012.pdf

⁷ Expressed as Gross Domestic Expenditure on R&D (GERD) (Eurostat).

https://eng.stat.gov.tw/public/data/dgbas03/bs2/yearbook_eng/y018.pdf

⁸ 2019 Military Strength Ranking. (2020).

⁹ World Trade Statistical Review 2016 & 2020.

¹⁰ Soft Power 30. (2020).

¹⁰ Global Diplomacy Index. (2020).

2. Government funding as percent of total government outlays, by selected fields

	2019	2015
Culture ¹¹	1.5	1.6
Education	13.9	12.6
R & D ¹²	5.5	5.5
Media	n/a	n/a

3. Overview of External Cultural Policy

	2019
Number of countries with ECP activities	Over 58
Total number of institutions abroad	MOE: 30 MOC: 16 Taiwan Academy: 3 Science and Technology Innovation Center: 12 Ministry of Science and Technology Branch Offices: 17 Education Centers: 62 ⁽²⁰²¹⁾ Taipei Economic and Cultural Offices: 58
Total number of FTE staff engaged in ECP activities	n/a
Government financial support (€ million)	MOFA: 9.82 ¹³ MOE: 69.57 ¹⁴
Total expenditure of all ECP operators (€ million)	n/a
Comparative ECP ranking	medium

¹¹ Central Government General Budget by Category 2019 & 2015 (中央政府總預算案 歲出政事別預算總表).

¹² Expressed as GBARD - Government budget appropriations or outlays on R&D.

¹³ Refer to pp. 57 & 72 of MOFA 2019, the budget includes 1) Department of International Communication 2) Academic exchange 3) Cultural exchange.

¹⁴ Refer to the general category of "International and cross-strait education" (國際及兩岸教育交流) in Ministry of Education 2019 Annual Budget.

MAIN OBJECTIVES

- Building on the narrative of Taiwan democracy and culture to gain greater international recognition.
- Through the overarching New Southbound Policy and the establishment of the Taiwan Academy, Taiwan seeks to distance itself further from mainland China and ground its existence in traditional Chinese culture, indigenous Taiwanese cultures, and part of a bigger Southeast Asian community.

POLICY CONTEXT

- While Taiwan seeks more international visibility, it often fails to attract it for a number of reasons, including the lack of understanding of how it is culturally distinct from Mainland China for the international audience.
- The US-China rivalry and Taiwan's relation with China further complicate the issue of building a unique and independent Taiwanese national identity, which is contested and largely undefined at home and abroad.
- There is a shift in emphasis to cultural diplomacy under Ma Ying-jeou, especially with the dissolution of the GIO (Government Information Office) and the establishment of the new Ministry of Culture undertaking previous responsibilities of the GIO.
- Under current Tsai Ing-wen's Administration, the emphasis on soft power is more pronounced because the New Southbound Policy not only extends to South Asia regionally but also expands into areas of culture and education.

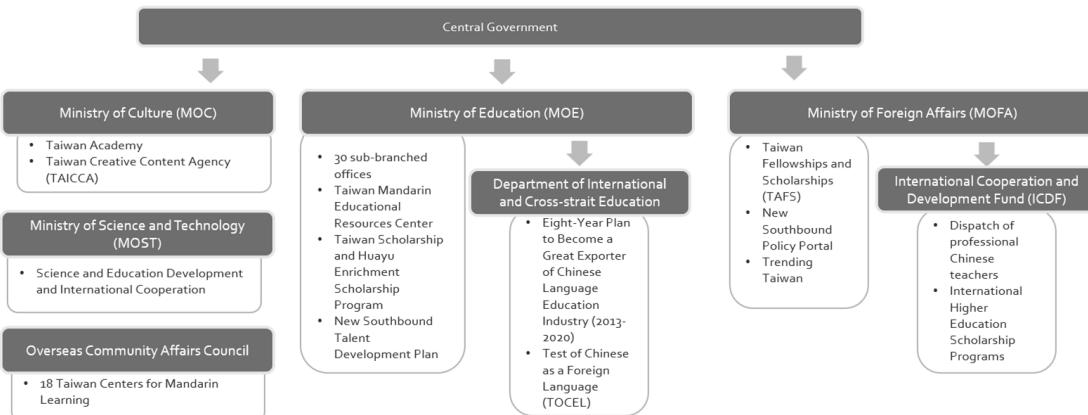
REGIONAL FOCUS AND INSTITUTIONAL EMPHASIS

- Through the New Southbound Policy, Taiwan seeks to strengthen its economic and interpersonal linkages with 18 countries (ASEAN countries, six South Asian countries, Australia and New Zealand). This push includes promoting sharing of resources, talent, and markets.¹⁵
- The U.S. is home to the largest Taiwanese diaspora abroad, so Taiwan has been pushing cultural programs and institution-led initiatives in the U.S. The leading example is the Taiwan Academy. It is also in America's interest to keep a robust unofficial relationship with Taiwan to secure a strong presence in Asia-Pacific, even though the U.S. does not support Taiwan's independence.¹⁶

¹⁵ "Taiwan details New Southbound Policy – targeting South Asia, Southeast Asia, Oceania," *Asia Today*, August 22, 2016, <https://www.asiatoday.com.au/content/taiwan-details-new-southbound-policy-%E2%80%93-targetting-south-asia-southeast-asia-oceania>.

¹⁶ <https://www.state.gov/u-s-relations-with-taiwan/>

INSTITUTIONAL MAP



4. Fields of External Cultural Policy

	2019	2015
Culture and the Arts		
Number of countries present	13 (2021)	n/a
Number of institutes	Taiwan Academy: 3 Cultural centers and offices of Ministry of Culture: 16	Taiwan Academy: 3
Number of FTE staff	n/a	n/a
Number of exchange programs ¹⁷	66	95
Number of cultural agreements	n/a	n/a
Budget (€ million)	MOC: 34.72 ¹⁸	n/a
Government financial support (€ million)	n/a	n/a

¹⁷ More program details refer to Official Travel Abroad Report Information Network (公務出國報告資訊網)
https://report.nat.gov.tw/ReportFront/ReportList/category/topic?class_id=75.

¹⁸ The figure includes two main categories of 1) Cultural and creative industry development business (文化創意產業發展業務) 2) Cultural exchange business (文化交流業務) in 2019 Budget of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of China (中華民國 108 年文化部單位預算).

	2019	2015
Language		
Number of countries where courses are offered	4	n/a
Number of institutes ¹⁹	Taiwan Centre for Mandarin Learning: 18 ⁽²⁰²¹⁾	n/a
Number of students enrolled	In-class: - Online reach: -	In-class: - Online reach: -
Number of candidates for Chinese language qualifications ²⁰	24,232	16,259
Number of language teachers	-	-
Budget (€ million)	-	-
Government financial support (€ million)	-	-
Education - Primary & Secondary		
Number of countries ²¹	3	3
Number of schools	5	5
Number of students	1,971 ⁽²⁰¹⁸⁾	2,978
Number of staff / teachers ²²	247 ⁽²⁰¹⁸⁾	252
Budget (€ million)	2.86 ²³	1.92 ²⁴
Government financial support (€ million)	n/a	n/a

¹⁹ <https://english.ocac.gov.tw/OCAC/Eng/Pages/Detail.aspx?nodeid=5894&pid=26496783>

²⁰ Number of applicants for the Chinese Language Proficiency Test by year (各年度華語文能力測驗報考人次) from MOE. For more information, also refer to the table Number and Percentage of Successful Test-takers Qualified to Receive the Certificate (TOCFL CAT Listening & TOCFL Reading). Retrieved from <https://tocfl.edu.tw/index.php/study/report>.

²¹ Statistics on the number of students in overseas Taiwan schools by academic system over the years (歷年海外臺灣學校各學制學生人數統計).

<https://ws.moe.edu.tw/Download.ashx?u=C099358C81D4876CC7586B178A6BD6D5C1694E51409E5F2827E6A6C7C521E0B0A5FEA6C43005DF20A770467095909BCEE79BB6E3A9A11D8F68B926EE258DA09CC79A7E2ED57FB8D5A881CA16FD601DA7&n=4B132473EE5DF3E05EC63621B58025E806262962AF28629409AF624A35D213C6F67D596C72BD7A9D6073A72D6FA2FA603DA3AED512534190A7CD87A1CF762EOA&icon=..pdf>

²² Number of teachers in overseas Taiwan schools by school in the past (歷年海外臺灣學校各校教師數統計表).

<https://ws.moe.edu.tw/Download.ashx?u=C099358C81D4876CC7586B178A6BD6D5C1694E51409E5F282174EA6362F400F028BB8E1E53D4D9AB048E6B3A25992E15BE87B5B10F73474D5CC03B123BA9F6CFF96EFE6878F60282BBC2EC92C8FBF431&n=B276D1E25025D4C987FDFFB30DF46F87404776C18C075885D7E44F71668375188899FAD174B29FOAE929EF2C2E931C197EF4363A02DCB7CB65313409016C03FA&icon=..pdf>

²³ Refer to pp. 226 of the Ministry of Education 2019 Annual Budget.

²⁴ Refer to pp. 122 of the Ministry of Education 2015 Annual Budget.

	2019	2015
Education - Tertiary		
Number of countries	41 ²⁵	59 ²⁶
Number of universities / colleges abroad	0	0
Number of academic agreements signed with foreign universities ²⁷	n/a	1,377
Number of foreign students ²⁸	Inbound (Mainland Chinese): 28,743 ²⁹ Inbound (Total): 116,175 Outbound: 41,559	Inbound (Mainland Chinese): 24,649 Inbound (Total): 110,182 ³⁰ Outbound: 38,166 ³¹
Number of students at trans-national higher education (TNE)	n/a	n/a
Number of government scholarships awarded	Taiwan Scholarship and Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program: 1,609 ³² Taiwan Fellowship: 126	Taiwan Fellowship: 234 ³³

²⁵ In 2019, 126 candidates from 41 countries were selected to receive the Taiwan Fellowship sponsored by the MOFA. https://taiwanfellowship.ncl.edu.tw/ch/news_detail.aspx?sn=1213.

²⁶ 各年度與各國學術交流統計 (Statistics of academic exchanges with other countries in each year) published by Department of International and Cross-strait Education.

<https://ws.moe.edu.tw/Download.ashx?u=C099358C81D4876CC7586B178A6BD6D5B2F2DCE63F17084640E04D497849B4B4486011B35C6B9A59744E005098A10DCC54AD0C44FA1578186CC34E97F0E32669C831895CAF6D7774&n=8FFCE71B2783273EF1A078CC703B8EC4DE98FE564C82F92DE7D4BD1A031B55BAE3F33750A650F25CCBEADF3A6969E1CE&icon=..pdf>

²⁷ <https://ws.moe.edu.tw/Download.ashx?u=C099358C81D4876CC7586B178A6BD6D5B2F2DCE63F1708466BBA6CC6144222DE2AC742EA28AE518400344E194E2F5BE0FBB354AF73D4A32DF664C8508B01D4942D0CAC8610032FC&n=3324C60C76063FAF888E8097D22E52886CA2245E42070F85692FE22E5815CC9FF0C1B0D28EE483EC5BFB27F587CB49ED&icon=..pdf>

²⁸ Data based on Global Flow of Tertiary-Level Students | UNESCO UIS. (2020). Retrieved 2 September 2020, from <http://uis.unesco.org/en/uis-student-flow>.

²⁹ https://eng.stat.gov.tw/public/data/dgbas03/bs2/yearbook_eng/y016.pdf

³⁰ Refer to pp. 19 of the Eight-Year Plan to Become a Great Exporter of Chinese Language Education Industry 2013-2020.

³¹ Number of students who study abroad in major countries in the past 10 years (近 10 年我國學生赴主要留學國家留學簽證人數統計表) published by Department of International and Cross-strait Education.

<https://ws.moe.edu.tw/Download.ashx?u=C099358C81D4876CC7586B178A6BD6D5062C39FB76BDE7EC63728F150D98BF8A423959E0602D838B60C4222F23327AE09780C262FE2AADBE1BB246BBF2030226C1893BB8B2CF7D8F92B6A2C9A6F89471&n=10E79FD441DB8CE5F3CEE12BDA973CD571DBC737BEFE519B574771707829D7E952CD6B01B6E03EF3137F1FB5E2DBC4198599232D7C86379477C2076B6E3EA5B9754A446543023504&icon=..pdf>

³² Taiwan Scholarship and Huayu Enrichment Scholarship Program.

<https://taiwanscholarship.moe.gov.tw/web/newspage.aspx>

³³ https://taiwanfellowship.ncl.edu.tw/ch/news_detail.aspx?sn=361

	2019	2015
Number of staff / teachers dispatched ³⁴	146 ⁽²⁰¹⁸⁾	104
Budget (€ million)	Taiwan Scholarships and Fellowships (MOFA): 13.76 ³⁵	Taiwan Scholarships and Fellowships (MOFA): 10.76 ³⁶
Science and Research		
Number of countries	Over 41	n/a
Number of institutes	12	0
Number of international cooperation agreements and MoUs	Over 123 ⁽²⁰²¹⁾	n/a
Number of projects ³⁷	98	130
Number scientists in exchange programs	Inbound: 559	Inbound: 758
Budget (€ million)	-	-
Government financial support (€ million)	-	-
Media		
Radio: Radio Taiwan International		
Number of countries broadcasted to	-	-
Number of languages	10	-
Number of channels	-	-
Audience / weekly (million)	-	-
Digital & social media audience (million)	-	-

³⁴ List of the number of overseas Chinese teachers subsidized by the Ministry of Education in each year (各年度教育部補助海外華語教師人數一覽表).

<https://ws.moe.edu.tw/Download.ashx?u=C099358C81D4876CC7586B178A6BD6D5C1694E51409E5F28C243840DAB78CBEB895C03607E9C388BDB477D92C376BD7A635F668A24199A8D1A942DE88AA9B9F3B1AF061712A3A798B70B408DC0548CBB&n=45015554857018E134C3CA8CF0A1A9B39728071E54B83EDB579B504CE11C644AC28A61A292600DEBA334D8FCB30566AD&icon=..pdf>

³⁵ Refer to pp.92 of the Republic of China 2019 Central government total budget Ministry of Foreign Affairs unit budget (中華民國 2019 年度 中央政府總預算 外交部單位預算).

³⁶ Refer to pp. 82 of the Republic of China 2015 Central government total budget Ministry of Foreign Affairs unit budget (中華民國 2015 年度 中央政府總預算 外交部單位預算).

³⁷ Refer to pp. 71 of Annual Report 2019 published by MOST (Ministry of Science and Technology).

	2019	2015
New Media		
Social networks following	Page views: 16,260,057 times Number of Internet radio listeners: 509,808 times Cumulative number of new media users: 218,969	-
Audience / unique visitors (monthly /million)	-	-
Budget (€ million)	-	-

5. Current Issues and Developments

- Externally, Taiwan faces several geopolitical constraints, including its relationship with Mainland China, the U.S.-China rivalry, its ineligibility to join major IGOs, and the absence of formal diplomatic relationships with major powers. For these reasons, Taiwan cannot take full advantage of its soft power grounded in liberal democracy and growing civil society movements. Taiwan remains largely invisible in international political and media discourses.
- Internally, after the dissolution of the GIO (Government Information Office), Taiwan lost a key player in communicating its message and policies abroad. Coordinating between different ministries and possibly NGOs to have a coherent voice and enhance Taiwan's international influence will be a question. While Tsai's public diplomacy policy is more proactive than those of her predecessors, the long-term diplomatic gains of the NSP's move into areas of culture and education are still unclear.

6. Contributions to multilateral cultural organisations

	2019	2015
UNESCO (€ million) ³⁸	-	-
Council of Europe (€ million)	-	-
Creative Europe (€ million)	-	-
Other ³⁹	-	-

Sources: UNESCO, CoE, European Commission

³⁸ Assessed contributions to UNESCO are mandatory contributions due from States by virtue of their membership.

³⁹ Taiwan is excluded from a number of international organizations, including UN organizations, given Taiwan's lack of UN membership.

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The External Cultural Policy Monitor

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