

# Country Briefing - United States of America

## *Political Briefing*

### **Introduction**

The United States is a major strategic power in the Pacific given its extensive military presence, economic investments, and diplomatic commitments. While it does not explicitly recognize Taiwanese independence it implicitly does, and the United States continues to make available defense articles and services to Taiwan to ensure self-sufficient defense capacities. Given the current buildup of Chinese forces, USINDOPACOM has been put on heightened alert in order to prepare to protect economic maritime pathways and fulfill security commitments to regional partners if necessary. The President has already publicly stated that we believe in the importance of self-determination and that the US will not allow Taiwan to be coerced.

### **Strategic Objectives**

The United States seeks to maintain its strategic ambiguity policy in order to ensure continued balance of power in the region. As per the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979, the United States has not formally recognized Taiwan as an independent state and acknowledges that the Chinese claim the island based on the One China Act (but the US does not recognize the claim itself). This avoids provoking China via an explicit recognition of Taiwan, which could cause a Chinese attack and force the United States to support Taiwan militarily.

### **National Strategy**

Coercement of our allies in the region by force or guile threatens the peace in the Western Pacific and is of serious concern to the US.

Our diplomatic and military strategies are based on the ideal of preserving the status quo of peace and security between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China, this should be maintained if possible. War or aggressive competition poses severe economic risk: as the most important sea-lane in the world, approximately 6% of our trade passes through the South China Sea. Additionally, much of our regional allies' trade flows through the same area, and many of the world's highly advanced semiconductors are still manufactured in Taiwan.

The Seventh Fleet can be readily activated with approximately 70 ships, 300 aircraft, and 40,000 Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard personnel. Larger support forces from the overarching USINDOPACOM includes the United States West Coast based Third Fleet, Marine Corps Littoral Regiments, army units, and other military forces. We can call upon basing agreements with Japan and the Philippines to forward deploy more forces if needed.

Diplomatically, the Six Assurances Guidelines of 1982 make clear the United States will not act as a mediator between Taiwan and the PRC nor end its arms deals with the island. Military sales are expected to continue in addition to sustained cultural ties as carried out by the American Institute in Taiwan (the de facto Embassy). Regionally, China's bullying behavior has made it no friends and our allies our numerous.

The US must strongly oppose Chinese attempts to meddle in Taiwanese politics and deter China from taking military action. *China can never be allowed to dictate the politics of Taiwan.*

## *Special Orders*

### **Special Order: DEFCON**

Any movements up or down the DEFCON (Defense Condition) levels must be relayed to your Team Control. Changing your DEFCON is a public act and will be known by all other countries. You are currently at DEFCON 4.

Readiness Condition	Description	Readiness Level
<b>DEFCON 1</b>	Nuclear war is imminent or has already begun.	Maximum readiness. Immediate response.
<b>DEFCON 2</b>	Next step to nuclear war.	Armed forces ready to deploy and engage in less than 6 hours
<b>DEFCON 3</b>	Increase in force readiness above that required for normal readiness.	Air Force ready to mobilize in 15 minutes.
<b>DEFCON 4</b>	Increased intelligence watch and strengthened security measures.	Above normal readiness.
<b>DEFCON 5</b>	Lowest state of readiness.	Normal readiness.