

國立臺灣大學社會科學院國家發展研究所

105 學年度博士班入學考試試題

科目：英文

一、Translate the following paragraph into Chinese (50 分)

The United States applauds the meeting between the presidents of Taiwan and mainland China. Commenting on the historic summit, John Kirby, US State Department Spokesman, declared that “The United States welcomes the meeting between leaders on both sides of the Taiwan Strait and the historic improvement in cross-strait relations in recent years. The United States has a deep and abiding interest in peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait, and we encourage further progress by both sides toward building ties, reducing tensions, and promoting stability on the basis of dignity and respect.”

The statement took few observers by surprise. This is because the first-ever meeting between the leaders from both sides of the Taiwan Strait squares with longstanding and consistent U.S. policy. And the initiative resonates well with the American people who do not want to become entrapped in a war with China over Taiwan. Are there any general lessons that might be learned from this breakthrough?

In the 1940s, the U.S. became entangled in the Chinese Civil War and agreed, albeit reluctantly, to help negotiate a peaceful settlement between the combatants. The end result was a disaster. Both sides criticized the U.S. and blamed Washington for an undesired outcome in the conflict. As is so often the case, neither side really wanted the U.S. to act as an “honest broker.” This has not changed. From time to time, voices in Beijing or Taipei will ask America to help broker a settlement between the two sides. But Washington steadfastly refuses to do so.

After breaking relations with Taipei and establishing diplomatic relations with Beijing in 1979, American policy appeared confusing. This is because the U.S. position toward Taiwan’s future is outlined in the three U.S.-China Communiqués, the Taiwan Relations Act, and a variety of executive and legislative branch statements. However, as State Department officials explained, the U.S. position is firm and consistent on two points. First, the resolution of the Taiwan issue is a matter for the people on the two sides of the Taiwan Strait to settle by themselves. Second, any resolution of the Taiwan issue must be peaceful. In keeping with this policy, America has a long history of support for dialogue and discussions between Beijing and Taipei. But it will not play a role as mediator or negotiator.

Relations between Taiwan and mainland China have improved enormously since Taiwan's voters elected Ma Ying-jeou as president in 2008. For example, the two sides have signed 23 landmark agreements, there are hundreds of direct flights between the mainland and Taiwan every week, and four million Chinese tourists visited Taiwan last year. Nevertheless, the announcement that the leaders of Taiwan and mainland China would meet in Singapore caught the world by surprise. But the message seems to underscore an important lesson for American diplomacy.

One could argue that recent breakthroughs in relations between Taipei and Beijing – including the remarkable summit meeting in Singapore – underscore the fact that the U.S. does not always need to stick its nose into every dispute across the globe. The people on the two sides of the Taiwan Strait are proving to be smart enough to eventually resolve this messy conflict on their own. Decision-makers in Washington would be well advised to consider whether they might draw some lessons from the detente across the Taiwan Strait and if these lessons might be applied to certain other foreign policy challenges. Perhaps Washington needs to consider the case of the Taiwan-China problem before committing itself to more foreign quarrels.

二、 Translate the following paragraph into English (25 分)

「轉型正義」是所有從威權獨裁轉型至民主的新興民主國家，所共同面臨的政治和道德難題。威權統治時期，獨裁者對人權普遍的蹂躪，導致無數身心俱殘的受害者，高傲的加害者、政治恐怖生活下的平民百姓，形成一段記憶鮮活的歷史。民主轉型後，對於這段歷史，我們應如何面對和處置？因為轉型過程不同、道德理念不同，不同的新民主國家對轉型正義經常有不同的處理方式。臺灣的民主轉型至今，將近三十年過去了，我們對這項民主社會最重要的道德問題之處理，態度仍然是勉強的、不完整的。相較於比臺灣更窮、更落後的國家在處理轉型正義上所獲得的成就，臺灣的表現並不令人驕傲。

三、 Essay (25 分)

A house divided against itself cannot stand.