Prominent scholars pronounce the situation in Taiwan to be the “most dangerous … in East Asia at this point.” Is there a way to keep the peace, especially since Taiwan is the core challenge in the Sino-U.S. relations?

About the Book: Author Hsing Chi’s book “One Country, Two Systems” in Taiwan: A True Solution for the Cross-Strait Entanglement proposes that the solution lies in Taiwan’s reunification with the mainland of China via implementation of the “one country, two systems” policy. The book is the first of its kind: it was written by Hsing Chi, a Taiwanese, translated into English by Sheng-Wei Wang, a Chinese American from Taiwan, and published by International Publishing House for China’s Culture, in the U.S., to express this important political thought, which is highly applicable in Taiwan.

The first and second Chinese editions of this book were published respectively four months before and after Taiwan’s 2004 presidential election in March 2004, which represents a watershed in Taiwan’s modern political history. The book faithfully and objectively reflects on and analyzes the important referendum issue, the March 19 presidential shooting incident and their important implications in an attempt to seek a way forward for Taiwan’s future.

The “one country, two systems” policy has already been practiced successfully in Hong Kong and Macao. The policy, simply stated, is that in spite of the practice of socialism with Chinese characteristics in the mainland of China, Taiwan could continue to practice capitalism under a high degree of autonomy for 50 years or more after its reunification with the Chinese mainland.

Hsing Chi says that the Taiwanese people can benefit from reunification in the following ways:

- A shared national defense would mean saving on military expenditures;
The cross-strait economies would be an integral whole, complementing one another;
The two sides would benefit from a fused labor force;
Agricultural workers on both sides would exchange best practiced techniques;
Both sides could collaborate in science, education, elderly care, and technology.

Since no better alternative has yet been proposed, “one country, two systems” is the only method that can succeed in giving Taiwan a high degree of autonomy while allowing the Taiwanese people to govern the Taiwanese people.

Hsing Chi also argues that “one country, two systems” guarantees safety of the Taiwan Strait because:

- The Chinese in Taiwan can continue to be Chinese;
- The current lifestyle in Taiwan can be maintained;
- The reunification of China can be completed;
- The core hindrance of Sino-U.S. relations can be eliminated.

Realistically speaking, Taiwan’s current “status quo” of “no reunification, no independence and no war” supported by about 60 percent of its population will not last forever. For example, in 1995, Taiwan’s GDP was 36% of China’s; in 2005, ten years later, it had dropped to below 15%, and it continues to drop by about 2% each year. Ten years from now, Taiwan’s economic size may be only a few percent of China’s. The so-called “status quo” is changing with an alarming speed. Moreover, the total investment made by Taiwanese enterprises in the mainland has also been shooting up over the years. While the official amount was US$40 billion so far, unofficial statistics from Taiwan’s Straits Exchange Foundation indicate US$150 billion. Time is thus not at all on Taiwan’s side. Soon Taiwan will have no choice but to reunite with the mainland. Realistically, a de facto reunification may already be underway, since Taiwan’s economy now almost solely depends on trade with the mainland. Therefore, it is extremely important for the Taiwanese, the Americans and the world people to understand the meaning of “one country, two systems” in Taiwan and how it can work for the Taiwanese people.

The Taiwan issue, viewed superficially, involves a China-U.S.-Taiwan triangular relationship. But in reality it is a China-U.S. issue, or more precisely just an American issue. Sooner or later, the U.S. will have to decide how it wants to deal with this issue. China now carries a large weight in the world economy, which the Taiwan independence force does not have, and neither China nor the U.S. really want to engage in a war to resolve the Taiwan independence issue. In addition, Taiwan’s recent socio-political chaos does not point to a positive direction for its future nor does it meet America’s long-term national interests. Under these conditions, the so-called status quo could easily break down at any time. Taiwan’s future is very uncertain at this point and only after the Taiwan issue is resolved, can Sino-U.S. relations flourish. “One country, two systems” is therefore, in author’s opinion, the true solution for peacefully resolving the cross-strait entanglement.
Singapore’s former Prime Minister and most influential politician Lee Kuan Yew, one of the seminal figures of Asia, just published his comments on Taiwan’s political situation in a recent issue of Taiwan’s CommonWealth magazine (天下雜誌). He said: If Taiwan does not change its course to face the reality of China’s competition, Taiwan will lose this war … Taiwan’s next 5, 10 or 50 years cannot be determined by the Taiwanese people, instead, it will rest upon the conditions of China and the U.S. If Chen Shui-bian keeps making mistakes, he will cause tragedies for himself and the Taiwanese people … Taiwan must accept the reality of China’s ascendancy. China has been smart and learning fast. If they do not know this fact, they are stupid themselves.

Where should Taiwan go? “One Country, Two Systems” in Taiwan provides the perfect answer!

“One Country, Two Systems” in Taiwan is available for purchase at Amazon.com and will be exhibited in 2007’s world books fairs to be held in London, Frankfurt, New York and Beijing. The book has been hand-delivered as a Christmas gift to each of the 535 U.S. Congressional Members and its press release has been sent to about 1,000 U.S. media. The birth of this English edition has special and deep meanings for promoting world peace.

Here are highlights of the recent book tour and visits of Hsing Chi and Sheng-Wei Wang:

11/02/06: Sheng-Wei Wang met with Illinois Senator Richard Durbin’s representative Cynthia Bajjalieh for about 1 ½ hours. Other than expressing her sincere wish to see Taiwan’s reunification with the mainland of China, Sheng-Wei Wang also told Cynthia about her own non-political contributions to the U.S. while residing in California. Especially after she left her academic career as a physicist at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, she built apartment buildings for many years to house medium- and low-income American families and fought alongside them against rampant drug activities in the city of Oakland, which embodied her social conscience to work for the people for a higher cause of personal life. Sheng-Wei Wang wished that Cynthia could pass this message to Senator Richard Durbin: America is a great nation; it has had many great politicians and citizens and hence American people must be able to understand the pain and real suffering that the Chinese people have gone through during the 58-year split of the mainland and Taiwan. Until today, after several generations have gone by, the young and the old Chinese are still worried and working hard for their country’s unification. The Chinese people long for the support and help of the American people and government in not interfering with China’s reunification endeavor; the Chinese people also plead that the American government exports peace and good will, not wars or weapons, thus to retain America’s greatness, its endurance for all the ages to come and its true and everlasting contributions to mankind.

Cynthia replied by saying that she will convey this message to Senator Richard Durbin and make sure that he will also let it be known to other Senators.
11/03/2006: Sheng-Wei Wang met with Illinois Congressman Danny Davis and his staff F. Daniel Cantrell (the meeting was arranged and filmed by Chicago’s China Star Media Corporation President Daway Zhou). Mr. Davis had visited Taiwan and the mainland of China in the past. He was most impressed with people’s dynamism there. He gladly accepted the book “One country, Two Systems” in Taiwan offered by Sheng-Wei Wang. Mr. Davis said that he took German as a foreign language in the university and has always had curiosity and interest in foreign cultures. Sheng-Wei Wang hoped that the offered book would inspire his interest in China’s reunification issue, and he would become a good friend of China by helping China’s reunification and enhancing the Sino-U.S. friendship and collaboration.

11/04/2006: Hsing Chi gave a speech on Taiwan’s current political development at the annual conference of the Chinese American Alliance for China’s Peaceful Reunification of Chicago.

Richard Kuan, Vice President of China-U.S. Friendship Exchange, Inc., was in charge of the book auction event in Chicago.

Mr. Yao Wang was the highest bidder at US$2,000 a copy.

From left to right: Sheng-Wei Wang, Yao Wang, Hsing Chi and Richard Kuan

11/06/2006: Hsing Chi and Sheng-Wei Wang made presentations about the English edition of the book “One Country, Two Systems” in Taiwan in the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. Many reporters were present at the ceremony. Among the attendees were Dr. Anchi Hoh, Assistant to the Chief, Asian Division, Dr. Judy S. Lu, Head, Asian
Collection Services, China Area Specialist, Xuejun Qiu, Counselor and Consul General, Embassy of the People’s Republic of China (PRC) in the U.S., and Xiao-Ming Zhao, President of International Publishing House for China’s Culture in Washington D.C.

Sheng-Wei Wang speaking in the LOC

Hsing Chi speaking in the LOC

From left to right: Xuejun Qiu, Sheng-Wei Wang, Hsing Chi, Judy S. Lu and Xiao-Ming Zhao

A “Thank You” certificate to Hsing Chi and Sheng-Wei Wang from the LOC

From left to right: Sheng-Wei Wang and Hsing Chi in the Library of Congress (www.stdaily.com)
11/07/2006: Hsing Chi and Sheng-Wei Wang met with Professor Robert Sutter for an hour at Georgetown University to exchange their political views on Taiwan and the Sino-U.S. relations. Professor Sutter received his doctoral degree in history from Harvard University. He is a well-known China expert who has done research work on China for more than 30 years with 13 published books on China issues and has held important government positions at the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, the State Department and the Library of Congress. His most recent publication, *China’s Rise in Asia: Promises and Perils*, became the central topic of this meeting.

He frankly expressed his opinions and argued that there existed four conflicts in the Sino-U.S. relations: 1) different ideologies; 2) Chinese people’s strong nationalism; 3) China’s recent military expansion; and 4) the opposition of authoritarianism of the PRC and democracy in the U.S. For these reasons and also for their different national interests, he believed that the two countries could not become true friends, instead could only collaborate when they needed each other, and would go separate ways otherwise. He further stressed that the national interest of the U.S. was to maintain its unchallengeable supreme position in the world; hence, America must try to establish a China-Japan-India tri-power structure, not allowing China to become the only strong nation in Asia.

In fact, all four conflicts may be explained away by the trends observed in the rapidly changing China: 1) the ideological gap between the two countries is shrinking every day, especially with the Chinese young generations. China’s Westernization is proceeding with astonishing speed; even the Chinese people find difficulties adjusting to this globalization process. A good example is that there are about 30 million people in the world trying to learn Chinese, but there are currently 170 million Chinese in the PRC eagerly learning English. Also, in 1998, there were only 1 million internet users in the PRC, whereas by now the number has increased to 110 million; 2) the Chinese people’s nationalism is not more excessive than the Japanese or the American; the Japanese have been making strong demands to become a “normalized” nation and their political leaders have visited regularly the Yasukuni Shrine where Japanese war criminals among other deceased Japanese were worshipped, to boost their popularity in domestic elections; the Americans have shown overwhelming nationalism after the 9/11 terrorist attack when their national security was threatened. By the same token, it should be understandable that the Chinese people show similar strong nationalism after their country had been trampled by the world powers for 200 years in their recent history; 3) the national military expense of the PRC is far less than that of the U.S., although it has been increasing at a double digit percentage for the past decade, and the military expense per capita is less than 1/50th of the U.S.’s. The PRC’s military has been modernizing its warfare mainly for the deterrence of the Taiwan independence movement and for its national security protection for oil and other material imports; and 4) although the *New York Times* article “China vs. U.S.: Democracy Confronts Harmony. Stay Tuned” by Roger Cohen stated that “the era of struggle between democratic capitalism and the one-party capitalism has begun, a fight between Washington’s banner of multiparty and Beijing’s banner of no-string-attached growth,” the economy of the two countries are very much intertwined and complementary to each other. The only constructive way for
creating a win-win situation is for them to work together, instead of fighting against each other. For the most part, despite China’s different domestic political system, its “non-interference foreign policy” has produced no hindrance to what the U.S. wants to do internationally. For example: as a United Nation’s (UN’s) Security Council Member, China abstained in the vote on the U.S. attack on Iraq; on the North Korea nuclear issue, China has worked as a mediator in the Six-Party Talks; and on the Iran nuclear issue, China has voted to approve the UN Security Council resolution which gave Iran until August 31, 2006, to suspend its uranium enrichment and nuclear fuel reprocessing activities or face possible economic sanctions. All these acts have shown that the U.S. needs China to keep the international order and that China has not challenged America’s leading position in the world.

Professor Sutter speaking at the U.S. Embassy, Wellington

Professor Sutter thought that China was not yet a U.S. threat, because of the big gap between their developments and that China must concentrate on its domestic issues at present. But he was worried that after a few decades China could have the capability to threaten the U.S. For this reason, he believed that the U.S. must be prepared for the worst. He thought that America should on one hand “engage” China and on the other hand “contain” China in order to reduce its speed of ascendancy. In short, the U.S. thinks that it is more advantageous to accept China’s rise and then suppress it under the current circumstances. However, in Professor Sutter’s other articles, he also admitted that, neither during Mao Zedong’s and Deng Xiaoping’s Cold War era nor after the opening of China to the West, America’s containment policy was able to achieve its intended purposes. He reminded political observers to watch for China’s future development closely. As for Taiwan’s long-term future, he could not make predictions, except to say that the Taiwanese people were only paying attention to their local politics and were lacking a proper understanding of world affairs. He further said that no matter whether Taiwan were reunited with the mainland of China or became independent peacefully, the U.S. would accept that political outcome. From his other written articles, we can understand that he was optimistic about America’s maintaining its influence in Asia, because he thought that the Asian countries were all stuck with their little calculations;
even if they had close economic ties with China, they would still want to seek America’s protection on national security issues, etc.

Under this containment policy, China has made effort to develop its own strategies by making friends with other Asian nations, the EU, Latin America, Africa, the Middle East and other countries to develop trade and mutually beneficial relationships based on the idea of multilateralism and economic globalization. America’s unilateralism and containment policy have had a serious negative impact on the Sino-U.S. relations as well as on itself; such a policy has hindered a closer collaboration between these two big nations and compelled China to seek more actively other methods and security strategies. The “Beijing Consensus” was inevitably the product of China’s desire to accumulate the tools of “asymmetric power projection” to escape the U.S. containment. While the young America believes that it can make the world submit to its orders, the old Middle Kingdom has learned from its long past history that only a harmonious coexistence could provide the world with sustainable peace.


Hsing Chi (4th from left) and Sheng-Wei Wang (3rd from right) with supporters in D.C.

11/09/2006: Hsing Chi, Sheng-Wei Wang and Hunter Huang, President of the Chinese American Alliance for China’s Peaceful Reunification of Washington D.C., met with California Senator Dianne Feinstein’s representative Amir Stepak for about an hour. Apart from re-stating the contents of the book “One Country, Two Systems” in Taiwan, and the political backdrop while the book was first written, they pleaded the U.S. to export peace, not wars or weapons, to the world. Just like the phrase “soft power” first proposed by Professor Joseph Nye of Harvard University, America must try to rebuild its world image and soft power in the world damaged after it started the Iraq War. They also wished that the “peaceful resolution” advocated by the U.S. on the Taiwan issue meant
a peaceful cross-strait reunification, not a peaceful separation. Finally, they hoped that Senator Feinstein would be willing to invite some of the members in the Committee on Foreign Relations to meet with friends who support China’s reunification for further discussions in the near future.


11/12/2006: Hsing Chi gave a speech on Taiwan’s current political development and Sheng-Wei Wang gave a review of their book tour at the annual conference of the organization Chinese for Peaceful Unification-Northern California in San Francisco.
11/17/2006: Sheng-Wei Wang, President of China-U.S. Friendship Exchange, Inc. (CUFE), spoke at the book forum jointly sponsored by CUFE, China Forum, Global Alliance against Taiwan Independence for China’s Reunification, and the organization of Chinese for Peaceful Unification – Northern California. The following are some of the newspaper clips about this event:

Ming Bao newspaper 11/17/2006

Singtao newspaper 11/17/2006
In conclusion, Sheng-Wei Wang hopes this book will profoundly impact American politicians as well as the general public. This would best serve her intention of promoting peace on Earth.

**About the Author:** Author: Hsing Chi is a co-partner of Hsieh, Chi & Hsieh Law Offices, an editor of the *Strait Review Monthly*, and Vice President of the Alliance for the Reunification of China in Taiwan. She was born and educated in Taiwan and earned a Juris Doctor in the U.S.

Not long after she became a member of the California Bar, she returned to Taiwan in 1989 to practice law. For the past 15 years, she has been Associate Professor of the School of Law at Soochow University, Chairperson of the Taipei Awakening Association, and twice Member of the National Assembly of the Republic of China (the 3rd session from 1996-2000 and the ad hoc session in June, 2005).


**About the Translator:** Sheng-Wei Wang is a Ph.D. physicist who did many years of scientific research at Caltech, Stanford University and Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory. She is now the President of China-U.S. Friendship Exchange, Inc.

She was born and educated in Taiwan and considered herself nonpolitical until 2004. Like many native Taiwanese, she had doubts about the legitimacy of President Chen Shui-bian’s re-election. Wang used her physics research skills to write a JFK-conspiracy-exposé arguing that Chen’s minor skin wound must have been staged. This made her a well-known Chinese-American media figure and she decided to work full-time toward Taiwan’s peaceful reunification with the mainland (Nat Friedland, *The San Francisco Examiner*, 03/16/05).

She is also the author of a forthcoming English-language book *China’s Ascendancy: An Opportunity or a Threat? - Facts and Fiction.*