THE SEMINAR

Influence without formal recognition

With only twelve diplomatic partners and no seat in the UN system, Taiwan should be marginal. It is not. Two days of discussion on where Taiwan's international agency really comes from.

I **Democracy as Diplomacy**
A democratic record as external currency

II **Technology as Diplomacy**
Semiconductors as leverage and instrument

III **Global Engagement**
Parliamentary, public and cultural diplomacy

Working language: English

INFORMATION

Venue
Sala Conferenze, Presidio Mattioli (3rd floor)
Via P. A. Mattioli 10, Siena

Dates
Mon 23 November, 9:00–16:30
Tue 24 November, 9:30–13:00

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ORGANISED BY

TAIWAN STUDIES CENTER SIENA
TAIWAN FOUNDATION for DEMOCRACY 財團法人 臺灣民主基金會
UNIVERSITÀ DI SIENA 1240
DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE POLITICHE E INTERNAZIONALI — DISPI

TAIWAN STUDIES CENTER SIENA
TAIWAN FOUNDATION for DEMOCRACY 財團法人 臺灣民主基金會

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR · HYBRID

Taiwan's International Agency

Democracy, Technology, and Global Engagement



SPEAKERS

Reinhard Biedermann · Min-yen Chiang · Andrea Francioni · Chiung-chiu Huang · Hung-chih Hu · Bo-jiun Jing · Chun-yi Lee · Shih-fen Peng · Eleonora Pennino · Charles Chong-han Wu · Chia-chi Wu

23–24 November 2026

University of Siena · Presidio Mattioli
and live on YouTube

PROGRAMME

DAY 1

Monday 23 November

9:00 · Opening addresses

University of Siena & Taiwan Studies Centre · Taiwan Foundation for Democracy · Taipei Representative Office in Italy

9:30 · Session I

Democracy as Diplomacy

Chair: Matteo Gerlini, Taiwan Studies Centre

Chiung-chiu Huang 黃瓊萩
National Chengchi University · online
Contested Statecraft: A Genealogy of Taiwan's Grand Strategy across Shifting Crisis

Shih-fen Peng 彭士芬
Taiwan Foundation for Democracy · online
From Democratic Values to International Action: Taiwan's Networked Democracy Diplomacy

Charles Chong-han Wu 吳崇涵
National Chengchi University
Democracy under Constraint: Democratic Peace, War, and Cross-Strait Relations

11:15 · Coffee break

DAY 1 · CONTINUED

Monday 23 November

11:45 · Session II

Technology as Diplomacy

Chair: Charles Chong-han Wu, National Chengchi University

Chun-yi Lee 李春怡
University of Nottingham · online
Smart Power: Taiwan's Semiconductor Diplomacy

Min-yen Chiang 江旻諺
Research Institute for Democracy, Society, and Emerging Technology
Extending Advanced Semiconductor Manufacturing Across Borders: An Exploratory Study of TSMC's Overseas Expansion and the Globalization of Its Production System

Bo-jiun Jing 荊柏鈞
National Chengchi University & University of Oxford
Taiwan's Role in Emerging Technologies and Global Technology Supply Chains

13:30 · Lunch break

OPTIONAL
Cultural Activity & City Tour

15:00 · BOOK PRESENTATION

Governare il vuoto. Le relazioni diplomatiche tra Italia e Taiwan (1949–1979)

Stefano Pelaggi · McGraw-Hill, 2026

DAY 2

Tuesday 24 November

9:30 · Session III

Global Engagement and Unofficial Diplomacy

Chair: Massimiliano Guderzo, University of Siena

Reinhard Biedermann
Tamkang University
Taiwan's Evolving International Role: Institutional Change, Agency, and Participation in Global Governance

Hung-chih Hu 胡吭誌
Taiwan Studies Centre · online
Navigating Unofficial Ties: CEE–Taiwan Relations through Parliamentary and Public Diplomacy

Eleonora Pennino
Taiwan Studies Centre
The European Community and the Republic of China, 1970s–1980s. Informal Channels, Transnational Networks, and the European Parliament

Andrea Francioni
Taiwan Studies Centre
Engaging through History. Taiwan and the Decolonial

11:30 · Coffee break

12:00 · WORKSHOP

Exploring Taiwan's Multilingual Heritage and Identity

Chia-chi Wu 吳家琪 · Taiwan Center for Mandarin Learning