

**BEIJING'S THIRD WHITE PAPER ON  
THE TAIWAN ISSUE: POLICY  
IMPLICATIONS FROM A  
COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS**

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## Executive Summary

1. Beijing's third White Paper on the Taiwan issue released on 10 August 2022 is to clarify Beijing's Taiwan policy for foreign audiences and to serve domestic purposes, such as appease popular dissatisfaction with Beijing's Taiwan policy as a result of growing radical nationalism against Taiwan. It is also to prepare for Xi's re-election at the 20th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party.
2. The White Paper summarises Xi's achievements on Taiwan with more words than the total number of words summarising the previous four leaders' achievements. Nevertheless, Hu Jintao's achievements on Taiwan seem more significant than Xi's.
3. The White Paper more clearly places the resolution of the Taiwan issue within the strategic framework of national rejuvenation, raising the importance of the Taiwan issue to an unparalleled level, and indicating Beijing's high concern for the issue and its strong desire and resolve for reunification.
4. "Peaceful reunification, and One Country, Two Systems" continues to be the basic principles for Beijing to resolve the Taiwan issue. Nevertheless, following its tightened control of Hong Kong since 2020, Beijing proposes a politically more conservative version of its "One Country, Two Systems" for the resolution of the Taiwan issue.
5. The White Paper indicates that Beijing will continue its carrot and stick strategy with an emphasis on anti-independence and anti-interference. Rising internationalisation of the Taiwan issue is becoming another main concern for Beijing.
6. As in many other policy documents since Xi took office, the White Paper repeatedly emphasised the Party's dominant role in resolving the Taiwan issue, which may further alienate the democratic Taiwan where public opinions play a significant role in politics.