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**Unravelling the Taiwan Question:  
A Discussion on the Historical Background,  
Theoretical Issues, Policy Approaches,  
The Present and the Future**

**A thesis presented in partial fulfilment  
of the requirements of the degree**

**of**

**Master of Philosophy (Defence and Strategic Studies)**

**At Massey University, Palmerston North**

**New Zealand**

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**2008**

## **Abstract**

The Taiwan question is a multi fold story with complexity and outsiders of China may not grasp a full picture of the question. Taiwan is a part of China and the idea is taken for granted for Chinese, but not debate-free in the world. This thesis aims to resolve some misunderstandings in the debate. The thesis is composed of four chapters. The first chapter will discuss Chinese people's altitude on national unity and delineates the historical background of the Taiwan question with a focus on its bond with the Chinese Mainland. Some theoretical issues, relevant to the Taiwan question, such as sovereignty, self-determination right and so on, will be discussed in the second chapter. Chapter three will brief policy approaches across the Taiwan Strait. The updated situation and the Taiwan question's possible future will be presented in the fourth chapter.

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## **Abbreviations**

ARATS	the Association for Relations across the Taiwan Strait
CPC	the Communist Party of China
DPP	the Democratic Progressive Party
GMT	the Guo Min Tang (the Nationalist Party)
PRC	the People's Republic of China
ROC	the Republic of China
SEF	the Strait Exchange Foundation