



IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**CAN DEMOCRACY SURVIVE GLOBALIZATION?
FORMOSA FOUNDATION, GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY & TAIWAN
FOUNDATION FOR DEMOCRACY PRESENT CONFERENCE IN D.C.**

WASHINGTON, D.C.— On December 17, 2007, Formosa Foundation and the Sigur Center for Asian Studies at George Washington University, in conjunction with the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, will present a one-day, international conference on Taiwan's unique democratic predicament in the face of globalization.

Taiwan represents one of the greatest paradoxes for democracy in contemporary global politics – praised for its struggle for self-government and a democratic set-up, but not fully recognized by the international community, and always in danger of losing ground. Chinese threats against Taiwanese democracy further heighten the precariousness of regional security, prosperity, and peace. “This conference will explore the challenges that democracies face, the inconsistencies that are inherent in the global system's rules of the game, and the importance of international support for Taiwan,” said Terri Giles, Executive Director of the Formosa Foundation.

Additional topics to be explored include the role of East Asian democracies in maintaining peace in the region, Taiwan's democratic achievements, self-determination and its fundamental role in democracy, and democracy's relationship to economic growth.

This conference will bring together dignitaries and experts from both the United States and Taiwan. Former Senator Bob Dole will present keynote address. Other speakers include Former Ambassador James Lilley, Dr. Wen-cheng Lin from the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy and of New York University professor Dr. Lung-chu Chen, who is also Chairman of the Taiwan New Century Foundation and co-founder of the UN for Taiwan Alliance. Carl Gershman, President of the National Endowment for Democracy will speak on the current state of democracy.

Other prominent scholars and experts, including Professor Edward Friedman (University of Wisconsin), Stephen Yates (President, DC Asia Advisory), Dr. June Teufel Dreyer (University of Miami), John Tkacik (Heritage Foundation), James Mann (John Hopkins University), Dr. David Steinberg (Georgetown University), Randall Schriver (former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia), and Rupert Hammond-Chambers (US-Taiwan Business Council), will participate as panelists in various topical forums during the conference.

The conference will be held from 9:00 AM to 4:15 PM, inside the Jack Morton Auditorium of the George Washington University, at 805, 21st Street, NW, Washington, DC. For detailed schedule and agenda, please visit www.formosafoundation.org. The conference is free to the public. Advanced reservation is required, by emailing to gsigur@gwu.edu with your name, affiliation, email address and which panels you wish to attend.

Based in Los Angeles, the Formosa Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting greater understanding of the relationship between Taiwan and the United States and preserving and enhancing democracy, human rights and freedom for the people of Taiwan.

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