

## Dr Saša ISTENIČ

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Department of Asian Studies, University of Ljubljana  
Director, Taiwan Study Center

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### **Educational Qualifications**

<b>PhD China and Asia-Pacific Studies, National Sun Yat-sen University, ROC Taiwan</b>	2005-2009
➤ Dissertation: “Taiwan’s Diplomacy towards Former Yugoslavia and its Successor States”	[Outstanding]
<b>MA Chinese Studies, University of Leeds, UK</b>	2003-2004
➤ MA Thesis: “Environmentalism and Nationalism Combined: Taiwan’s Perspective”	[Distinction]
<b>BA Chinese and Japanese Studies, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia</b>	1996-2002
➤ BA Thesis: “The Question of Taiwan and Japan’s Dilemmas”	[Grade 9.3/10]

### **Awards and Achievements:**

- Certificate for completing the Hanban/Confucius Institute Headquarters Professional Training on Chinese Language Teaching & Materials (Tianjin, PR China, 2010)
- Award for an outstanding doctoral dissertation, National Sun Yat-sen University (Kaohsiung, ROC Taiwan, Nov 7, 2009)
- Scholarship for doctoral study, ROC Taiwan Ministry of Education (2005-2008)
- Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation grant for organizing the symposium “Mainland China and Taiwan - cooperation and/or competition” (Fiesa, Slovenia, Aug 29-31, 2008)
- Tetley and Lupton Scholarship, University of Leeds, UK (2003-2004)
- AD Futura Scholarship, Science-Education Foundation, Slovenia (2003-2004)
- Slovenian Government scholarship for postgraduate students of great talent (2003-2004)
- Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation research grant, University of Heidelberg, Germany (Aug 2004)
- Scholarship by Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute to participate in Study Tour Award Program for Outstanding Students of the Japanese Language (Kansai, June 1998)
- Scholarship by the ROC Taiwan Ministry of Education and Ministry of Foreign Affairs to learn Chinese at the National Taiwan Normal University (Sep 1998 - Aug 1999)
- Scholarship by the Association of International Education, Japan (AIEJ) to participate in the Student Exchange Program, University of Tsukuba, Japan (Sep 2000 - Aug 2001)
- Slovenian Government scholarship for students of great talent (Oct 1999 – Oct 2002)

### **Guest Lectures**

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|---------------------------------|---------------|
| • SOAS, University of London    | 22 Sep 2017   |
| • ERCCT, University of Tübingen | 2-7 July 2017 |

- Faculty of Humanities, University of Juraj Dobrila, Pula 2016-2018
- Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Zagreb 18-12 Dec 2014
- Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana Oct 2010-Jun 2012
- Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana Mar-Jun 2012
- Faculty of Humanities, University of Zagreb Apr-Jun 2012
- Higher Vocational College Novo mesto Mar 2012
- Krka, d.d., Novo mesto Apr-May 2009

### Professional Associations

- Director, Taiwan Study Center (TSC), University of Ljubljana
- Executive Board Member, East Asian Resource Library (EARL)
- Editorial Board Member, International Journal of Taiwan Studies (IJTS)
- European Advisory Board member, European Research Center on Taiwan Studies (ERCCT)
- Board Member, European Association of Taiwan Studies (EATS, 2011-2016)
- Board Member, Slovene Student Sinological Association Yuan (2009-2015)
- Member, Slovene-Taiwanese Friendship Association
- Member, Slovene-Chinese Friendship Association

### Selected Publications

- “New Directions in Taiwan’s Foreign Policy: How Much is New?” In: Jonathan Sullivan and Chun-yi Lee (eds.), *A new era in democratic Taiwan? Trajectories and turning points in politics and cross-Strait relations*. Routledge, UK (forthcoming in 2018).
- “Vzhodna Azija: prizorišče kompleksnih varnostnih dilem” (East Asia: a scene of complex security dilemmas), *Razprave FF*, Znanstvenoraziskovalni inštitut FF, Ljubljana, 2016.
- Interview: “Tajvan zaradi politike ene Kitajske vse bolj marginaliziran v svetu”, by Gregor Valenčič, *MMC RTV SLO*, ISSN 1581-372X, 5. 2. 2016, <http://www.rtv slo.si/svet/tajvan-zaradi-politike-ene-kitajske-vse-bolj-marginaliziran-v-svetu/384959>.
- Interview: “Življenje v grozeči senci velikega brata” (“Life in the big brother’s shadow”), by Brane Maselj, *Nedelo*, ISSN 1318-7023, 7. 2. 2016, št. 6, str. 18-19, <http://www.delo.si/nedelo/zivljenje-v-groze-ci-senci-velikega-brata.html?iskalnik=Delo.si>
- “Is it ok to say Taiwan?” China Policy Institute Blog, University of Nottingham, UK, Jan. 5, 2015.
- “Reporting of the Diaoyu/Diaoyutai/Senkaku Islands Dispute in Selected Slovene Media, *Asian Studies* 3 (19) / 1, 2015, pgs 263-280.
- “Taiwan-China: The Gordian Knot Stays Tied.” *Časopis za kritiko znanosti, domišljijo in novo antropologijo* 42 / 258: 189-197, 2014, ISSN 0351-4285.
- “Taiwan’s Relations with Slovenia.” *China Policy Institute Blog*, University of Nottingham, UK, Oct 2, 2014.
- “Institutional Profile: Taiwan Research Center in Slovenia.” *EATS News: The Newsletter of the European Association of Taiwan Studies* 3, London, UK, Jan 31, 2014, pgs 16-17, ISSN 2053-6143.

- “The ICAO Assembly attendance: a step forward or backward?” *China Policy Institute Blog*, University of Nottingham, UK, Oct 14, 2013.
- *National Study Plan for Elementary Schools & High Schools: Chinese as an Elective Course*. Ministry of Education and Sports of the Republic of Slovenia, 2011 & 2012.
- “Building Confidence across the Taiwan Strait.” *Razprave FF: Tradicija v objemu modernosti: Stoletje kitajskega preporoda*. Ljubljana: Scientific & Research Institute of Faculty of Arts, 2012: 47-58, ISBN: 978-961-237-550-8.
- “The Role of the Media in Democratic Consolidation of Taiwan and Slovenia.” *Asian and African Studies* 16, no. 2, 2012: 67-77, ISBN 978-961-237-519-5.
- “Opportunities, Obstacles and Challenges for China and Taiwan in Adopting CBMs in the Military/Security Domain.” In: Ma, Ying-jeou, (ed.), *The Chinese (Taiwan) Yearbook of International Law and Affairs* 27. London: CMP Publishing, 2011: 1-41, ISSN: Y507-1852.
- “The New Developments in Relations between China and Taiwan and Future Outlook.” In: Belina, Linda (ed), *International Sinology Symposium 2004-2009: Reader*. Ljubljana: Center for Chinese Studies at Faculty of Arts, 2011: 164-172, ISBN 978-961-93089-0-5.
- *Taiwan’s Diplomacy: Former Yugoslavia and its Successor States*. Monograph. Saarbrücken: VDM Verlag, 2009: 1-245, ISBN 978-3-639-15637-9.
- “Slovenian Foreign Policy toward Taiwan: Implications of Regional and Interregional Dynamics.” *Asian and African Studies* 12, no.1, 2009: 301-22, ISSN 1408-5429.
- “Slovenia on the Global Stage: A Role in the Taiwan Strait Conflict?” *Issues & Studies* 44, no. 4, 2008: 129-166, ISSN 1013-2511.
- “The EU’s Endeavours to Achieve a Discernible Political and Security Role in Asia in the Framework of ASEM: The Taiwan Issue.” *Issues & Studies* 43, no. 3, 2007: 53-96, ISSN 1013-2511.
- “Politics of Wildlife Protection in China.” *Leeds East Asia Paper* 64. Leeds: Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Leeds, 2004: 1-15, ISSN 0965-8548.
- “Taiwan’s Business Communities in Mainland China: Contesting Influence over Cross-Strait Economic Policy.” *Leeds East Asia Paper* 65. Leeds: Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Leeds, 2004: 1-12, ISSN 0965-8548.
- “Tajvan: Majhen otok z veliko dušo” (Taiwan: Small Island with a Big Soul). *Svet in ljudje* 3, no. 9, 2000: 90-99, ISSN 1408-7952.
- “Tajvan postal prava ekonomska elektrarna” (Taiwan: An Economic Powerhouse). *Demokracija*, no. 11, (Mar 16, 2000).
- “Društvo odigralo vlogo, ki bi jo morala odigrati slovenska politika” (The Association Played a Role on Behalf of the Slovenian Politics). *Demokracija*, no. 9, (Mar 2, 2000).

## Book Reviews

- Book Review: Gunter Schubert (ed.): *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Taiwan*, Abingdon, Oxon & New York, Routledge, 2016, 570 pp. *China perspectives*, ISSN 1996-4617, 2017, no. 1. <http://www.cefc.com.hk/article/gunter-schubert-ed-routledge-handbook-of-contemporary-taiwan/>.

## Performed Works and Skills

- Webpage manager, Taiwan Study Center [[www.tajvan.si](http://www.tajvan.si)], 2009-present

- Director of 13 consecutive annual projects between the Faculty of Arts, the Taiwan Foundation of Democracy and Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Austria, 2009-present
- Presidential and Legislative Elections Observer, Taiwan, Jan 12-18, 2016
- Co-organizer of the *Month of Taiwan Culture*, Ljubljana, Slovenia, [http://www.tajvan.si/images/stories/PDF/plakat\\_mtk\\_2015.pdf](http://www.tajvan.si/images/stories/PDF/plakat_mtk_2015.pdf) Apr-May 2015
- Invited Chair, European Association of Taiwan Studies (EATS), Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland, April 8-10, 2015
- Local Election Observer, Taiwan, Nov 24 – Dec 1, 2014
- Invited Chair, Symposium at Tübingen University: Inauguration of the ERCCT as CCK Foundation Overseas Center, Tübingen, Germany, Jul 14, 2014
- Moderator and interpreter at the international scientific conference *China-CEE cross-cultural dialogue, education & learning*, Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana, Oct 4-6 2013
- Co-organizer and moderator at the international conference *The Development of Democracy*, City Hotel, Ljubljana, Sep 3-4, 2013
- Co-organizer of the *Month of the Taiwan Culture* (incl. art exhibitions, film festival, workshop, seminars and international conference), Ljubljana, Oct 10-Nov 16, 2012
- Co-organizer of International Sinology Symposium *1911 – 2011, and the Next 100 Years*, Gorenjci Radenci, Oct 7-9, 2011
- Organizer of Annual Conference of European Association of Taiwan Studies (EATS), May 12-14, 2011
- Co-Organizer of International Sinology Symposium *Cultural Identity of China and Taiwan*, Bohinj, Slovenia, Aug 26-29, 2010
- Organizer of *Taiwan Days*, Lokal Patriot Club, Novo mesto, Apr 26 - May 12, 2010
- Organizer of student workshop *Insight into Taiwan and China*, Novo mesto Grammar School, Mar 30-Apr 2, 2010
- Organizer of *Taiwan Movie Week*, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, Mar 15-25, 2010
- Co-Organizer of *Symposium Taiwan II*, Slovene Ethnographic Museum, Ljubljana, Mar 24, 2010
- Organizer of photo exhibition *Impressions of Taiwan*, Faculty of Arts, Univ. of Ljubljana, Dec 1-10, 2009
- Organizer of International Symposium *New Trends in Cross-Strait Relations and Implications for Slovenia*, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, Dec 1, 2009
- Co-Organizer of workshop *Chinese Culture*, Hostel Celica, Ljubljana Oct 16-17, 2009
- Co-Organizer of International Sinology Symposium *Culture, Politics & Economy; Taiwan, Mainland China & EU*, Ptuj, Slovenia, Aug 27-29, 2009
- Co-Organizer of Chinese language training project for the Ljubljana University's students of sinology, (Jinan, China, Jul 1997)

## Conference Contributions

- “European Perspective and China: Developing a European strategy to respond to China's presence in South, East and Central Europe.” Center for European Perspective in cooperation with WeBuildEurope, Grad Jable, Mengeš, Feb 13, 2018.
- *Global Development of Taiwan Studies Programmes Conference*, SOAS University of London, Sep 23-24, 2017.

- “President Tsai’s New Foreign Policy in Relation to International Space.” *Young Scholar Workshop 2017*, ERCCT, University of Tübingen, Germany, Jul 2-7, 2017.
- “Rejuvenating Taiwan’s foreign policy.” *The 13th Symposium on Sino-EU Relations and the Taiwan Question*, Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (SIIS), PRC, Oct 9-11, 2016.
- “Eastern Europe: relations with China and with Taiwan.” *Roundtable on Taiwan-EU Relations*, Department of Policy Planning, MOFA, ROC, Oct 13, 2016.
- “NGO Diplomacy of Taiwan towards Countries Without Diplomatic Relationship.” *2016 Asia Young Leaders for Democracy*, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, Taipei, Taiwan, Aug 7-20, 2016.
- “New Directions in Taiwan’s Foreign Policy: How Much is New?” *Taiwan after the General Elections: New Management, new directions?* Taiwan Studies Programme, China Policy Institute, University of Nottingham, UK, Jun 17-18, 2016.
- “Beyond Post-Modern Politics.” *Trajectories from Pre-Modern to Post-Modern*, International Conference, Department of Asian Studies, University of Ljubljana. Nov 7-8, 2015.
- “Taiwan’s Visibility in Slovenia.” International Symposium: *Discovering Taiwan in Europe*, Chiang Ching-kuo International Sinological Center, Charles University & Inter-University Center for Sinology, Harvard University. Charles University, Prague, Oct 22-23, 2015.
- “Taiwan’s Exclusion from Interpol and Implications for Global Security.” *The 12th Annual Conference on the Taiwan Issue in China-Europe Relations*, Shanghai: Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (SIIS), Sep 21-23, 2015.
- “Taiwan Studies in Slovenia: Progress and Challenges.” *The 2<sup>nd</sup> World Congress of Taiwan Studies: The State of the Field*, SOAS, London, Jun 18-20, 2015.
- “In Search For More Sun: Taiwan’s International Space.” *The 11th Annual Conference on the Taiwan Issue in China-Europe Relations*, Aug 14-16, 2014. Shanghai: Shanghai Institutes for International Studies.
- “Japan’s Image in Slovene Media Coverage of the Senkaku/Diaoyu/Diaoyutai Islands Disputes.” *The 14<sup>th</sup> Conference of the European Assoc. for Japanese Studies, (EAJS)*, Univ. of Ljubljana, Aug 27-30, 2014,
- “Media Coverage of the Senkaku/Diaoyu/Diaoyutai Islands Disputes and Taiwan’s Image in Slovenia.” *11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of EATS*, Portsmouth, UK, Apr 30- May 2, 2014.
- “Cross-Strait Relations: The Uncertain Political Roadmap of ‘One China’.” Invited scholar for an international seminar *Taiwan: Challenges and Achievements*, Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb, Croatia, Oct 11, 2013.
- “New geopolitical realities in East Asia & old Westphalian realities vis-à-vis Taiwan's international space.” *The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on the Taiwan Issue in China-Europe Relations*, Jul 28-31, 2013, Shanghai: Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (SIIS).
- “Taiwanese Community in Beijing.” International Symposium of the Department of Asian and African Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana: *Language, Thought & Reality*, Ljubljana, Oct 18-20, 2012.
- “Political, Historical, Cultural and Traveller’s Insight into Taiwan.” *Taiwan Cultural Month*, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, Oct 10, 2012.
- “The Role of the Media in Democratic Consolidation of Taiwan and Slovenia.” International Sinology Symposium *1911 – 2011, and the Next 100 Years*, Gorenji Radenci, Oct 7-9, 2011.
- “Building Confidence across the Taiwan Strait.” International Symposium of the Department of Asian and African Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana: *Cooperation and conflicts in East and South Asia: Contemporaneity, historical and cultural aspects*. Ljubljana, Mar 23-24, 2011.
- “Opportunities, Obstacles and Challenges for China and Taiwan in Adopting CBMs in the Military/Security Domain.” *7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of EATS*, Tübingen, Apr 8-10, 2010.

- “Od lepotic betelovih orehov do duhov: vse kar niste vedeli o kulturi, tradiciji in običajih Tajvana” (From the Betelnut Beauties to Ghosts: everything you didn’t know about the culture, tradition and customs of Taiwan). Symposium *Taiwan II*, Ljubljana: Slovene Ethnographic Museum, Mar 24, 2010.
- “The New Developments in Relations between China and Taiwan and Future Outlook.” International Sinology Symposium *Culture, Politics & Economy; Taiwan, Mainland China & EU*, Ptuj, Aug 27-29, 2009.
- “Cross-Strait Relations and the Role of Japan.” Symposium *Visions and Opportunities of the Institute of East Asia*, SAZU, Ljubljana, May 2003.

### **Editor**

*Special edition on Taiwan*, (Asian and African studies, vol. 15, issue 2). 1st ed. Ljubljana: Znanstvena založba Filozofske fakultete: = University Press, Faculty of Arts, 2011. VIII, 122 pgs, ISBN 978-961-237-458-7.

### **Correspondent**

- *Xinhua News Agency*, the official press agency, PRC
- *The Balkans* (周刊巴爾幹), Taiwan
- *China Policy Institute Blog*, University of Nottingham, UK