

## Invitation to 23 February 2023 TBLF Taiwan Business Leaders' Forum session

**TBLF Taiwan Business Leaders' Forum**  
A MONTHLY FORUM PROVIDING INFORMED OPINION ON THE OUTLOOK FOR TAIWAN'S POLITICAL, ECONOMIC & BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT  
SINCE 1995

February 2023  
Political Outlook  
presented by  
**Dr. Enrico Cau**  
Chief Advisor for  
Geopolitical Affairs

February 2023  
Economic Outlook  
presented by  
**Mr. James Chiao**

**Date: 23 February 2023**

Guest Speaker Topic

**Macro Social and  
Political Changes in  
Taiwan after the First  
Regime Change in  
the Year 2000**

Guest Speaker  
**Dr. Michael Hsiao**  
Chairman, Taiwan-Asia  
Exchange Foundation  
Adjunct Research Fellow /  
Professor, Institute of  
Sociology, Academia Sinica

**Time: 3:30PM - 7PM** **JustCo Minsheng Jianguo** Organized by European Business Association in Taiwan

### SEASON 2023 - 23 February Monthly Forum Session

February

# 23

**Political commentary by Dr. Enrico Cau**  
**Economic commentary by Mr. James Chiao**

Time: 3:30pm - 7:00pm  
Venue: EBAT @ JustCo  
Minsheng Jianguo

**REGISTER**

*Please note: registration for  
TBLF sessions is required by  
every participant.*

*This e-mail is intended for the  
recipient of this e-mail address.  
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invitation.*

*Please send any guest requests  
to [info@ebatw.org](mailto:info@ebatw.org).*



**Dr. Michael Hsiao**  
Chairman, Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation  
Adjunct Research Fellow / Professor, Institute of  
Sociology, Academia Sinica

Guest Speaker Topic

### Macro Social and Political Changes in Taiwan after the First Regime Change in the Year 2000

I. Introduction: Phases of Democratization in Taiwan  
up to 2000

II. Civil Society and Democratic Progress and Retreats

III. Quality and Challenges of Taiwan's Democracy and  
Democratic Governance

IV. Taiwan's Paradigm Shifts since 1980s and their  
Current State

V. Living and Coping with "China Threats"

VI. The New Southbound Policy (NSP) as Taiwan's Soft  
Power and Public Diplomacy

VII. Concluding Remarks

What to expect in February's monthly Forum

### Politics and Economics

In a world heading towards big power competition across multiple geographies and challenges, caught in a transition across different international orders, the conflict between Russia and Ukraine continues to be the stage where powers and ideologies clash driving international tensions, conflict and complex, conflicting narratives. The United States, the European Union and a number of European countries continue to support Ukraine's effort to counter Russian expansionistic ambitions in the East, as NATO members scramble to beef up their defense budgets and introduce reforms to face the new challenges, despite the cracks that begin to emerge in Europe and beyond on how to steer the outcomes of the conflict. In the Indo-Pacific, the spillovers of the ongoing events in Ukraine are influencing narratives and strategies associated to China and Taiwan, with several experts engaging in comparisons of various nature between Ukraine and the situation in the Taiwan Strait. In terms of regional priorities, Taiwan and the recurrent clashes over South China Sea disputes sit steadily atop of the challenges that regional leaders are trying to navigate through, in an attempt to build a viable model of containment and cooperation with China, while also expanding the security architecture with local partners and, increasingly, with NATO. Amidst these increasingly stormy waters, Taiwan maintains a growing international profile. This is largely linked to Taiwan's crucial role in key supply chains and manufacturing in the technological sector, and the carefully construed image as a democratic, liberal and progressive country the island has managed to achieve under the leadership of the DPP. A political setup that might undergo an important stress test in during the 2024 election, opening the door to potential shifts in foreign policy, which will be anyhow limited by the contingent need for Taiwan to maintain its international profile, in order to gain and maintain a broader support base to confront the Chinese challenge.

In the ever-shifting world of economics, central banks finally made their moves by announcing interest rate hikes in a bid to slow inflation. Amongst those, the Bank of England and European Central Bank all mirrored the hike of the U.S. Federal Reserve. U.S. Fed chair Jerome Powell has confirmed that more raises will come, undoubtedly spelling bad news for the stock market. In a huge gain for the labor market, the January employment report shows the U.S. economy added 517,000 jobs in January, much higher than the expected 187,000 increase and above December's 260,000 jobs, which was revised upward. Eurozone retail data for December was also released this week - the 19 countries sharing the euro saw weakness in consumer demand amid high inflation. Post-Lunar New Year, Asian markets reacted fairly well to initial news of the interest rate hike but will slowly be absorbing the after-effects in the weeks to come. Still, some silver lining - Indonesia's 2022 GDP shows its best annual growth rate since 2013. This comes ahead of a busy week on the regional economic data and events calendar, which includes interest rate decisions from India and Australia, inflation and bank lending data from China, and current account figures from Japan. How will the Asian markets and Taiwan in particular fare this year? We delve into these topics, and more in February's TBLF session.

### Date & Time

23rd of February, Thursday  
3:30PM - 4:00PM Networking & Registration  
4:00PM - 6:00PM Presentations and discussion  
6:00PM - 7:00PM Informal conversation over wine, beer and light bites will follow the presentations and discussions.

### Payment details

TBLF subscribers enjoy complimentary access.  
**Non-subscribers - participants** will be charged NTD1300 at the door (cash only). Receipts are available upon request at the registration desk.  
To find out more about TBLF subscription, please email us at [info@ebatw.org](mailto:info@ebatw.org).

### Dress Code

Formal / Business Smart

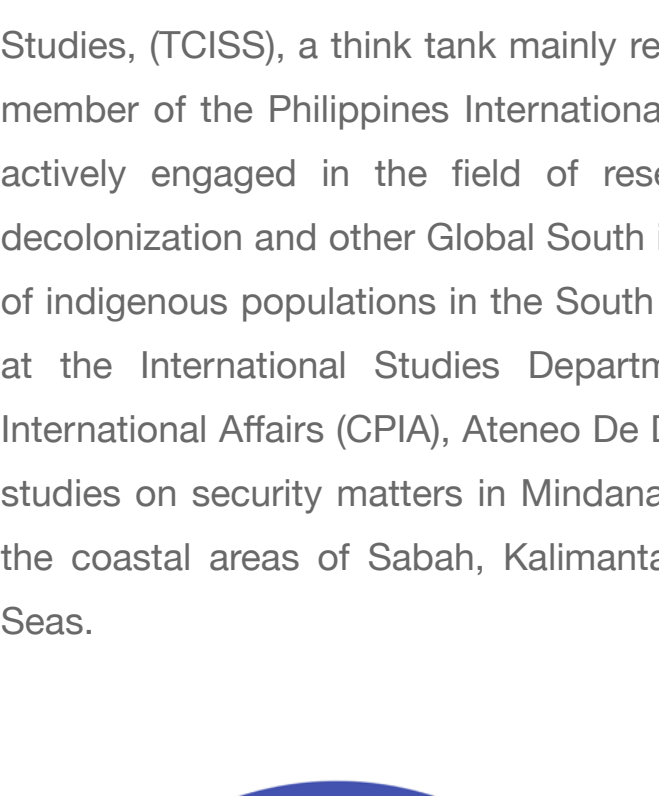
### TBLF sessions are by invitation only

TBLF subscribers may delegate to a senior colleague if they are unable to attend, in which case please advise us beforehand of the change. If you wish to invite along a senior colleague or corporate guest, please check with us first.

### Venue details

EBAT European Business Association in Taiwan / 歐台工商聯合會  
JustCo Minsheng Jianguo / 國泰民生建國大樓  
7F, No. 2, Section 3, Minsheng East Road, Zhongshan District, Taipei City, 104  
/ 台北市中山區民生東路三段2號 (7樓)

\* Please kindly ask the security in the lobby of the building for the entry instructions (Scan Card) will be issued to the TBLF session participants).



### About our Political Outlook presenter

**Dr. Enrico Cau**  
TBLF Chief Advisor for Geopolitical  
Affairs

Dr. Enrico Cau holds a BA in translating and interpreting, an MA and a PhD in International Affairs and Strategic Studies. He specializes and alternates his focus among three Asia-related macroareas of research: non-traditional security in maritime Southeast Asia, security and great power competition in East Asia and the Indo-Pacific and Cross-Strait relations. Enrico also cultivates a range of side research areas that are mostly security-related, such as cybersecurity and disinformation/propaganda, as well as occasional activities in Track II diplomacy.

Enrico is an Associate Researcher at the Taiwan Center for International Strategic Studies, (TCISS), a think tank mainly researching on Cross-Strait matters. He is also a member of the Philippines International Studies Organization (PHISO), an association actively engaged in the field of research on non-western international relations, decolonization and other Global South issues, ranging from gender issues to the rights of indigenous populations in the South of the Philippines, as well as a Visiting Scholar at the International Studies Department (ISD) and the Center for Politics and International Affairs (CPIA), Ateneo De Davao University, where he had conducted field studies on security matters in Mindanao and the Tri-Border Area, encompassing also the coastal areas of Sabah, Kalimantan and Sulawesi facing the Sulu and Celebes Seas.



### About our Economic Outlook presenter

**Mr. James Chiao**  
President, Taiwan Smart Solutions  
Association  
Chairman & CEO, Smart City Consulting  
Co. Ltd.  
Advisor, EBRD Chairman,  
CIECA Taiwan - Smart Cities Committee  
Chairman - CACCI Asian ICT Council  
Consultant, World Bank

Mr. James Kuo-Ann Chiao is the founder of the Taiwan Smart Solutions Association, Chairman of the CIECA-Taiwan Smart City Committee and the Asia ICT Council of the Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CACCI), and CEO of Smart Cities Consulting Technology. He is a strategic planning consultant for both public and private sectors, and currently serves as a World Bank consultant, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development advisor, and member of the Transportation Advisory Committee of Taipei City.

With his expertise in smart diagnostics and strategic planning, James offers services such as feasibility studies, technical design, and prioritized action plans for government agencies and businesses. He integrates smart applications with AI, Drone, and 4D models to provide digital twin solutions for smart city development and management.

James has received several national awards in the US, including the National Award for Outstanding Individual Leadership from US AMPO and the Transportation Planning Excellence Award from USDOT. He has held leadership positions, including Chairman of the Technical Committee of AMPO, Regional Director for Asia of Citilabs, and Adjunct Lecturer at NYU Tandon School of Engineering and Industry Professor of Smart City at Tainan University of Technology. He has also been invited to speak at international conferences, bilateral economic cooperation conferences, and World Bank-sponsored events. In 2019, he was invited to deliver a speech on "Smart City, Generation Z, and Trade" at the World Trade Organization Public Forum in Geneva.



### About our Guest Speaker

**Dr. Michael Hsiao**  
Chairman, Taiwan-Asia Exchange  
Foundation  
Adjunct Research Fellow / Professor,  
Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica

Dr. Hsin-Huang Michael Hsiao is the Adjunct Research Fellow of Institute of Sociology, in Academia Sinica and Chair Professor of Hakka Studies, National Central University and Honorary Chair Professor of Southeast Asian Studies, National Chi-Nan International University. He is also the chairman of both Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation (TAEF) and the Executive Committee of Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS), National Cheng-Chi University. Internationally, he is the chairman of both the Consortium of Southeast Asian Studies in Asia (SEASIA) and Consortium of Global Hakka Studies (GHAS). Dr. Hsiao is also an author, and his publications cover his areas of specialization ranging from the middle class, civil society and democratization in Asia; environmental movements, sustainability and risk society; and comparative Hakka studies in Taiwan and Southeast Asia. Additionally, he currently serves as a Senior Advisor to the President of Taiwan since 2016.

### About TBLF TAIWAN BUSINESS LEADERS' FORUM

*An exclusive subscription program for diplomats, trade officers, senior executives of  
Taiwan-based business enterprises and NGOs*

An annual subscription programme that has been running since 1995, the TBLF Taiwan Business Leaders' Forum was developed 28 years ago under its founder and key economic presenter Mr. Michael Boyden.

For in-depth insight and 24/7 access, subscribe to TBLF Taiwan Business Leaders' Forum for complete Economic and Geopolitical summary through:

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In addition to 24/7 access to an online library providing comprehensive monthly reports, analysis and resources, TBLF Subscribers also enjoy complimentary access to the monthly Forum sessions which includes the monthly Economic and Geopolitical update, as well as an invited guest speaker for the month.

Since 2021, the organization of the monthly forum sessions has been undertaken by EBAT European Business Association in Taiwan, marking a partnership that strives to enhance delivery of quality content every month to TBLF subscribers.

Subscription is open to all nationalities as well as overseas-based applicants.

For more information on the programme and subscription eligibility, as well as opportunities and partnership queries, please write to [info@ebatw.org](mailto:info@ebatw.org).

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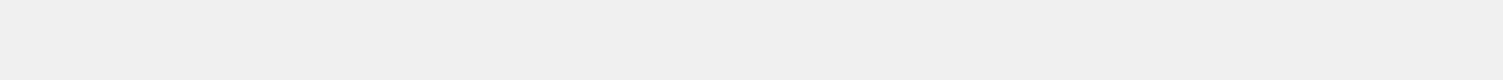
Keeping track of economic and business developments locally, regionally, and globally, is time-consuming and costly.

Subscription to this executive peer group forum will prove to be an invaluable, cost-effective and time-saving external knowledge resource.

Mark your calendar for our next monthly session  
**TBLF Season 2023 Monthly Forum session dates**  
19 January • **23 February** • 23 March • 27 April • 25 May • 15 June  
24 August • 21 September • 26 October • 23 November

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