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## QNO # 02

Taiwan is a potential conflict between China and USA. Critically evaluate the reasons and why and how the two countries must avoid the conflict.

### Introduction

The Taiwan issue represents one of the most volatile flashpoints in international relations. It has potential to trigger a conflict between two global superpowers - China and USA. China sees Taiwan as part of its territory, but Taiwan is a self governing democracy with its own identity. The United States supports Taiwan indirectly to prevent Chinese control, as Taiwan is important both strategically and economically. The situation is made more complicated by the growing competition between China and USA, along with changing alliances in the region. However, both countries rely on each other economically, and a war would be disastrous, it is important to find peaceful

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solutions. It will further discuss the main reasons behind the conflict and how both countries can avoid it to keep the peace in the region and the world.

## Importance of Taiwan for China and USA

Taiwan is very important for both countries in terms of economically and strategically. It has common concern related to chip production. Taiwan is largest producer of chip. It is also largest producer of raw material required for semiconductor. The world largest producers are US and China in terms of all products that are heavily dependent on chip which include defense, transport, electricity etc. More than \$3 trillion each economy depend on chip. China wants to control Taiwan because China has territorial claim on Taiwan. If China controls it, the trade corridor of chip will be

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disturbed and more than \$3 trillion economy of USA will be on stack. Not only USA but also other allies of USA. Therefore, this is not acceptable to USA having multiple reason but the major reason is chip.

## Reason behind the conflict

### 1 Historical perspective of <sup>Taiwan</sup> ~~China~~

Taiwan is an autonomous state of china. Historically, from 1949 to 1978, UN security council seat of china was represented by Taiwan. After the chinese civil war (1945-1949), it had ended kinship, Communist party was established. The defeated Nationalist government fled to Taiwan and established the Republic of China (ROC). The People's Republic of China (PRC) views Taiwan as an inseparable part of its territory. However, Taiwan has developed into a vibrant democracy with a distinct political identity, favouring self rule, which contradict china's "one ~~party~~ china" principle. On the

other side, since 1952 to till date, the defense of Taiwan has been responsibility of United States of America. In case of unprovoked attack by China on Taiwan, US will defend it.

## 2. Geostategic Significance of Taiwan

Taiwan is positioned at the heart of vital shipping lanes and near critical choke points in the South China sea. Control over Taiwan would enhance China's naval and strategic power in the Indo-Pacific region, which threatens US influence. China has long standing claim on Taiwan since 1949. The claim of China is that all the territories or Island in South China sea which comes within 9 dash line belongs to China and Taiwan also is in.

## 3. US-China Rivalry

The world two largest economies, China and USA, are locked in

a competition for global dominance. The USA perceives Chinese expansion, including potential military actions towards Taiwan, as a threat to the rules-based international order. Conversely, China views US involvement with Taiwan as interference in its internal affairs, undermining its sovereignty.

## How and Why the Two Countries Must Avoid Conflict

### 1. Economic Interdependence

Both China and USA have deeply intertwined economies, and a conflict over Taiwan would disrupt global supply chains and cause severe economic consequences. Semi-conductor shortages, trade disruptions, and stock market instability would affect entire world economy. China's reliance on exports and USA's dependence on Chinese manufacturing create incentives for both nations to pursue peaceful coexistence. War is biggest ulcer to economy.

### 2. Military and Humanitarian Risks

A military conflict over

Taiwan would result in huge losses of life and could escalate into a broader regional or even global war, involving other major powers like Japan and South Korea.

If China attacks on Taiwan then automatically sanctions on China by USA and other allied country. Both countries, US and China have nuclear capabilities, the risk of unintended escalation makes diplomacy the only viable path.

### 3. Affordability of war

Both countries cannot afford war, China has policy of peaceful existence. It will risk their economy. US also cannot afford war with China. Because it has already engaged in two war fronts at Ukraine and also in the Middle East (Palestine) and another war will be disaster for US. It cannot afford as well China's economically strong, strategic location with Taiwan.

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## Conclusion

The Taiwan conflict is a complex issue with historical, ideological and strategic dimensions. The USA and China must carefully manage this dispute to prevent it from being an armed or nuclear conflict. Both countries have much to lose economically and geopolitically from a confrontation, making conflict avoidance not only a strategic necessity but also a moral imperative for global stability.