



THE LAST DEMOCRACY

an independent filming project
by TaiwanLegit

Revised 14 August 2023







THE GREATNESS OF THIS COUNTRY LIES
IN HOW EVERY SINGLE PERSON CAN EX-
ERCISE THEIR RIGHT TO BE HIMSELF OR
HERSELF. ~TSAI ING-WEN

projectScope

Capture the beating heart of Taiwan's vibrant democracy through their free and open elections of 2024.

Our Mission

We aim to gain insights into Taiwan's vibrant cultural and political scenes during the lead-up to its 2024 presidential election. The Last Democracy will document Taiwan's fight to maintain its political independence during a time of unprecedented uncertainty and the escalated threat of invasion from the People's Republic of China. This coming January, Taiwanese voters will do more than just choose their next president and legislature when they go to the polls. Taiwan will be representing the last remaining Han Chinese majority population in the world who has the right to choose their officials, the freedom to live their lives, and the power to speak their minds. Our mission is to capture and share the spirit of this free and open democratic island with the world, furthermore, highlight Taiwan's inspiring journey to become one of the most robust democracies and thriving economies in the world.

Our Approach

Armed with film production equipment, our team will connect with political parties, activist groups, and various cultural scenes throughout Taiwan. We will position ourselves to capture the heart and soul of the Taiwanese people through personal stories found deep below the headlines of international news media. We will travel across the Island, capturing meaningful moments inside Taiwan's political landscape, capturing the atmosphere of its energetic rallies, and capturing the emotion of its citizens. Filming locations will be diverse, balancing the hustle and bustle energy inside various city centers, to that of the tranquility of its remote villages and farms along the countryside...taking every opportunity to capture Taiwan's stunning natural beauty along the way.

Filming will take place for approximately six weeks between 01 December through 16 January. The election will take place 13 January 2024.



backstory

Background

The story of Taiwan is inspiring. It has evolved from an authoritarian dictatorship under Chiang Kai-shek, to one of the world's most vibrant democracies, with a foundation on free democratic elections, government accountability, independent judiciary, emphasis on moral values, and is a strong protector of human rights and individual freedoms. Today, Taiwan is a critical ally in an increasingly hostile geopolitical landscape cultivated by the aggressive nature of the Chinese government. In contrast to Taiwan, China is an authoritarian communist government, with no free press, no government accountability, no independent judiciary, and where personal liberties and freedoms are regularly stripped from its citizens. China is intensifying its threats on taking the small democratic island by force, deliberately undermining Taiwan's sovereignty by repeat incursions into their air defense zone, readying their Peoples Liberation Army for invasion, and are actively engaging in political warfare on the island.

Political Ideology and the War for a new world order

The rise of China over the last two decades is noteworthy. When the United States brokered China's entrance into the WTO over 20 years ago, it was dreaming that the influx of wealth and growing middle class would help liberalize the country into a freer more open society. Unfortunately, this dream turned into a nightmare. China has become even more authoritarian, deprives its people of their rights and freedom, indoctrinates its youth with political ideology, incorporates Orwellian style surveillance of its citizens, engages in horrific crimes against humanity on a grand scale, and uses its economic power and access to its consumer market as leverage to project its power and its ideology across the world. The Communist Party sees free liberal democracy as its #1 enemy and is attempting to re-shape the structure of the rules based international order, using a vast tool set of military might, economic coercion, intimidation, influence, corruption, and manipulation. When taking a world view, one can see the stark difference between China, the Goliath Authoritarian regime with 1.4 billion citizens, and that of the small island of Taiwan, a peacefully democracy with 23 million citizens. Taiwan is at the forefront of an ideological war. How the world responds to Taiwan's peaceful existence could define the future of humanity.

Political Parties

Taiwan essentially has two main political coalitions. The Pan Green Coalition which generally represents the pro-independence platform, and the Pan-Blue Coalition, which generally represent having closer ties with China. The Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), the prominent political party under the Pan Green Coalition, has decisively won the presidential election over the last two cycles, with Tsai Ing-Wen as President. The Kuomintang Party (KMT), the original authoritarian party under Chiang Kai-shek, and the newly formed Taiwan Peoples Party (TPP), which is headed by the Previous Mayor of Taipei, are the largest opposition parties to the DPP.



intersections

Political Process

Capture the energy of Taiwan's political rallies and the heart of its citizens. Follow the journey of its prominent political figures, and gain access behind the scenes of its most influential political groups.

Political Warfare

Gain insight into the strategies China is using to infiltrate the political landscape in Taiwan, and document the individuals and processes involved. Follow those who are fighting against the political warfare tactics, and document their deterrence strategy.

Cultural Scene

Get a street level view of Taiwan's fight for democracy through its food, music, and art scenes. Follow pod-casters, influencers, and other notable figures to capture Taiwan's cultural identity.

Human Rights

Follow groups who have been persecuted by the Chinese government including Falun Gong practitioners, Tibetan Monks, Muslim Uigurs, LGBT communities, and other Human Rights activists. Document how Taiwan protects the rights and freedoms of these individuals, and how the island serves as a sanctuary.

Hong Kongers in Taiwan

The broken promise of a One Country Two Systems principal, the vacuum of Hong Kong's autonomy, and the loss of its citizen's freedom, serves as a warning to what Taiwan faces should a similar principal be adopted. Documenting the stories of Hong Kongers will provide perspective on the ongoing political struggle inside Taiwan.

US-China Relations

How will this election impact US-China relations, and how do US-China relations impact this election?

Military

How are the young men and women of Taiwan reacting to the Military threat from China. Provide insight into Taiwan's conscription program. What is Taiwan's defense posture and preparedness, and how will they protect the island in the event of a kinetic War.



intersections...continued

Taiwan Strait

Travel by boat into the Taiwan Strait to witness hostile incursions by the Chinese Military, and freedom of navigation operations by US Navy, and other allies. Document Taiwan's naval capacity.

Islands

Taiwan has a large array of islands outside of Formosa, which are important to understanding Taiwan's history and culture. Some of these islands are in very close proximity to China, while others have groups of indigenous populations. Islanders perspective on China may differ than that of Formosa.

Fishing Industry

Travel with a fishing boat as they fish the waters outside of Taiwan. Document the challenges they face due to overfishing by China and the intimidation tactics by China's Maritime Militia.

Historical Sites

Capture the story of Taiwan's evolution into democracy through various historical locations including green island, white terror memorials, and other relevant historical sites.

Indigenous Populations

Visit indigenous communities to learn their stories and way of life.

Countryside

Visit Taiwan's countryside, farms, fishing towns, and villages.

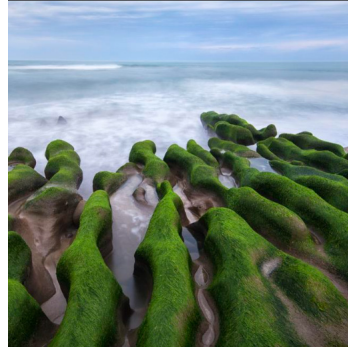
Scenic Footage

Capture Taiwan's stunning natural scenery throughout the island including its mountains, volcanoes, forests, waterfalls, etc.

Filming Opportunities

Locations

Progressive Party Headquarters
Presidential Palace
Political Rallies throughout Taiwan
Voting locations
Student Groups/Young Independent Organizations
Government offices
Military/Navy Sites
Various private companies
Pro freedom advocates
Hong Kong organizations
Uighur Organizations
Falun Gong Organizations
Tibet Organizations
Art scenes
Food markets
Tech/gaming scenes
Internet/Podcast/Influencers
Parks
Mountains
Ocean Views
Countryside
Villages
Shipping
Industry
Religious sites
Ceremonies



Filming Locations (Examples)



Filming Locations (Examples)



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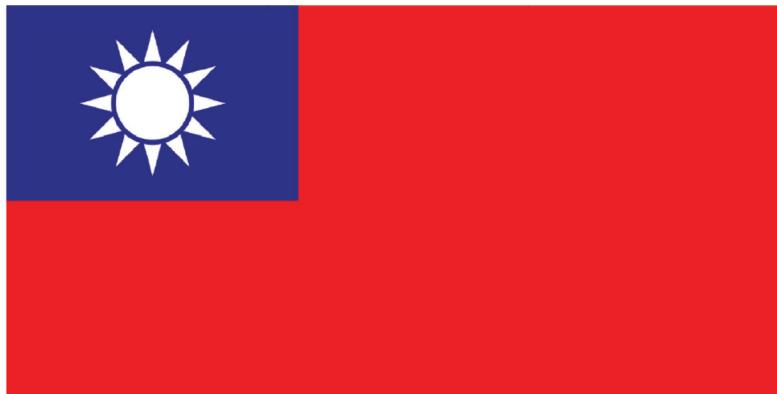
SUPPORTING FREEDOM, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND THE LEGITIMACY OF TAIWAN

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THE LAST DEMOCRACY

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by taiwanlegit.org



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