## Interview: Dr. Fung Hu-Hsiang

## 'Taiwan's Economy Will Further Deteriorate'

Dr. Fung is a legislator of the pro-unification New Party, and is the founder and president of Peoples Service Center Across the Taiwan Strait. He was interviewed by Leni Rubenstein on Dec. 21, 2001, in Taipei.

**EIR:** What do you think is the reason for the outcome of the election Dec. 1?

**Dr. Fung:** The DPP won the election because of their skills, and not their policies.

**EIR:** What kind of skills do you mean?

**Dr. Fung:** ... The DPP used a very successful strategy of propaganda of the media. They shifted the discussion away from the economic issue to other issues. Because, the economy now is very bad, and we have a very serious unemployment, but they used the media to shift the discussion, to whether we should have a National Stability Alliance after the elections, whether we should have a gathering between the governing



party and the opposition. Empty words, but attractive for many newspapers and other media. They discussed this issue every day. No room was made to discuss the economic crisis.

**EIR:** Has the DPP gotten more control of the media?

**Dr. Fung:** Yes, definitely, of course, because they are the ruling party. As long as they are the ruling party, they can control most of the most influential media, most of the TV programs. Now, most of the TV stations are controlled by the government, using financial means to gain such control through the advertisement business. Like in my case, I was almost excluded during the last two to three months from participating in any TV program, because the ruling party said to many TV program hosts; "Do not invite Dr. Fung, because he represents the reunification policy. Adhere, or we will not give you advertisements."

**EIR:** Did Lee Teng-hui's maneuvers have anything to do with the election result as well?

Dr. Fung: Of course. Lee Teng-hui's creation of the new

party, the Taiwan Solidarity Union, had, as its most important goal, to make sure that the candidates representing a reunification policy failed. Lee stated that publicly.

Those candidates that represent "One Country, Two Systems," who support the "One China" policy did fail, most of them. That is why some wondered, whether some tricks had been played, like at the last election, where [independent candidate, James] Soong was the victim of such tricks. Some ballots were thrown away, some people did not go to vote, because the voting procedures were very complicated.

**EIR:** Your evaluations in the last years regarding the aim, the role, and the manipulations by Lee Teng-hui and Chen Shui-bian has been completely vindicated. Lee is very supportive of Chen Shui-bian.

**Dr. Fung:** Yes, of course. Even today, when you read the *United Daily News*, Lee Teng-hui claims, that Taiwan is the motherland, not China. Taiwan is Taiwan, China is China. He even said, that Taipei city is the bad result of foreign influence, and that people should go to the middle and southern Taiwan, so that they can recognize the mainstream opinion of Taiwan, where many people are for independence, because of lack of truthful information. . . .

**EIR:** The policies pursued by Lee Teng-hui and now Chen Shui-bian have resulted in many gifted people leaving Taiwan, and settling in Shanghai or America.

**Dr. Fung:** That's right. A lot of people have been leaving. That is a fact. I think this kind of tendency even will accelerate in the coming years, because many facts prove, that the DPP are working to reinforce and strengthen a policy for Taiwan's independence. For example, they are trying to change the name on the passport from Republic of China, adding Taiwan, to make Republic of China equivalent to Taiwan. This is another way of supporting Taiwan's independence movement, so that Taiwan will be the name of the country, not R.O.C. They also removed the map of R.O.C. from the governmental spokesman's office. Every time the chairman of the Government's Information Office holds a press conference, the logo for R.O.C., depicting all of China, including mainland China and Taiwan, would be displayed, like the logo for the White House. This map has been removed, and I am sure, that sooner or later a map of only Taiwan will be displayed instead, which is the logo and flag of the DPP.

**EIR:** You just returned from Beijing. What is the evaluation and reaction in Beijing to the outcome of the election?

**Dr. Fung:** I think they are planning some actions. First of all, relatively speaking, they will not be in touch with the DPP government, unless they remove the policy for independence from their party platform. Secondly, Beijing still insists on a "One China" policy and the consensus of 1992. Otherwise they will not talk with the government of the DPP. And the

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third point is, that Beijing will not collaborate through the official organizations for cross-strait negotiations as before, but will work through unofficial channels, like "Peace Across The Taiwan Strait," or my organization, "Peoples Service Center Across the Taiwan Strait," or some other channels, but not the official governmental channel; because there are so many people's affairs that need to be done, need to be solved every day, and they say, that they hope I can still function as a channel, and make more contributions regarding the affairs across the Taiwan Strait. . . .

**EIR:** Chen Shui-bian has proposed a new Presidential system, to be in place before the next election.

**Dr. Fung:** I think this is another action, they are trying to use to push the Taiwan independence movement, because they are trying to destroy the old constitutional system and order completely. Right now, after six changes of the constitution, it has been destroyed, although the framework is still left. Now they are trying to destroy the framework. They are using the so-called three-power framework to replace the five-power constitution, designed by Dr. Sun Yat-sen himself.

The Cabinet is the highest authority, not the President, because there is no institution to check and balance the President according to our constitution. They want to have a Presidential system with no check and balance, so that the President can do whatever he wants to. In this way, he will be able to push and promote Taiwan's independence very freely.

**EIR:** What actions can be taken in the current situation by good people in Taiwan regarding the financial crisis, the economic crisis, the relations across the Strait?

**Dr. Fung:** This is a very important question, which is on many people's mind. Many people just left, being very dissappointed, and very sad. They felt hopeless for the future, especially the so-called mainlanders. They feel they have been discriminated against for a long time, and that this will be even worse in the future, not only in the army, in the government, but also in the schools and the big enterprises. The discrimination in connection with promotion is very clear, and very serious.

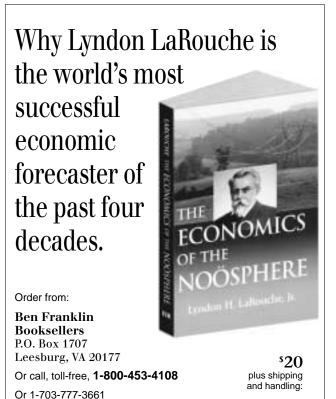
Those people who were born in mainland China cannot get a fair opportunity regarding promotion, although they are very capable, work very hard. They just do not get any chance. Especially in the government. The people that were born in mainland China, or who were second-generation born in Taiwan, therefore leave for mainland China or the United States. Some of them just do not care, they just do not want to talk about politics. They do not have a choice, they have no money, they do not want to move. But I think, that in the depth of their hearts, they still have a confidence of a better future. They are waiting for mainland China to push the reunification policy. The "One China" policy, from the international [Chinese] point of view, is mainstream, and the unification policy is also welcomed by most people across the Taiwan Strait. Of

course, in mainland China, almost nobody is against unification. We do not want to be unified by force, but if the Taiwan independence movement pushes too far, maybe the final outcome will be that.

**EIR:** With the collapse of the financial system, the economic situation in Taiwan will worsen.

**Dr. Fung:** Yes, it is clear, that the economic situation in Taiwan will further deteriorate. China will insist on a "One China-Two Systems" policy. As long as we can have the right to interpret the content, One China meaning R.O.C., then we have our dignity, we have our constitutional standpoint. Although many people say, that in international affairs, R.O.C. will not play a role, but that does not matter, because in the dialogue across the Taiwan Strait, we have a consensus regarding one China, a concept. There is no other choice.

In the future we hope to name the country just China. That means, each side will go back one step. Mainland China does not use People's Republic of China (P.R.C.), and we do not use the Republic of China (R.O.C.). Both of us use China, which could be accepted by both sides then, without war, without force, without blood. We then could proceed towards reunification, through peaceful dialogue and peaceful cooperation. That would benefit the people on both sides.



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