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Bloomberg Business's Exclusive Interview with VP Lai

On August 14th, Bloomberg unveiled an exclusive interview featuring Vice President Lai Ching-te with Joel Weber, as part of a comprehensive glimpse into his time as Vice President and presidential candidate thus far. During this interview, he delved into topics such as cross-strait and international relations, Taiwan's economic growth, and the significance of the youth vote.

Below is an excerpt from the interview:

JW: If you could change one thing about Taiwan's recognition in the world, what would it be?

Lai: I would hope the international community can recognize the truth about Taiwan, which is Taiwan is not part of the People's Republic of China. Taiwan is a democracy; we pursue the same values as the international community. Taiwan is very willing to contribute to global society.

JW: Do the Taiwanese people want formal independence? And do you want formal independence?

Lai: We must abide by the truth – which is what I mean by pragmatism – which is Taiwan is already a sovereign, independent country called the Republic of China. It is not part of the People's

already a sovereign, independent country called the Republic of China. It is not part of the People's Republic of China. The ROC and PRC are not subordinate to one another. It is not necessary to declare independence. The ROC (Taiwan) is not subordinate to the PRC.

JW: To gain more formal recognition, would you consider changing Taiwan's name to something other than the Republic of China?

Lai: The current name according to our Constitution is the Republic of China. And in respect to unifying Taiwanese society, President Tsai has used the term Republic of China (Taiwan) to describe our country. I will continue to do so in the future. There are no plans to change the name of our country.

JW: What is your roadmap to formal independence?

Lai: My responsibility is to maintain the status quo in the Taiwan Strait, while protecting Taiwan and maintaining democracy, peace, and prosperity. As a result, no such framework exists. We must work to maintain the peaceful status quo, because Taiwan is already a sovereign country.

Bloomberg has also published an [article](#) to go alongside the interview, which you can find the [transcript](#) and [short video clip](#) of it here. Additionally, the Bloomberg team has also paid a visit to VP Lai's hometown in Wanli and his schedules as a candidate, which you can find [here](#).

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