Words from Taiwan:
emergence, mediation, interpretation

International multidisciplinary Symposium
Organised by Chanyueh LIU, Plidam

From 28 to 29 March 2024 at INALCO
65 rue des Grands Moulins 75013 Paris

Taiwan is a challenge for researchers, whether they are historians, anthropologists, sociologists, economists, political scientists, linguists, geographers, demographers, experts in theatre studies/dramaturgy, communications, IT, museum curators or cultural heritage professionals. This East Asian island, often referred to in Europe by the Western term 'Formosa', is relatively unknown, although it is frequently mentioned in the media and on social networks in France and around the world.

This conference will look at Taiwan's progress, its society, literature, religions, languages and exchanges with the rest of the world, as well as its prospects for development. It will also address the complex geopolitical environment, without losing sight of Taiwan's place in the field of research in France.

- How can the distinctive features and characteristics of Taiwan be described and summarised?
- What concepts have been used to trace the changes, modernity, identity and collective memory of the island?
- How has Taiwan been able to forge links with France and the rest of the world?
- How can we refine and renew our understanding of Taiwan?
Words are a gateway to cultural content. Some words, more than others, seem to embody the thoughts and ideals of the speakers of a language, and carry a strong charge of the collective unconscious. (Agar, 1994; Wierzbicka, 1997; Ballard, 2005)

With this in mind, this conference will look at the words that best define Taiwan, with a view to encouraging the sharing of varied scientific experiences and stimulating reflection on our university programmes in the field of Taiwan Studies.

Structured around different themes, our international scientific event will welcome proposals for papers from all disciplinary backgrounds. It will be open to all students and the general public, and will bring together teachers and researchers, experienced and novice, Taiwan specialists, Taiwanese, French and foreigners.

Languages of the conference: French, English, Taiwanese, Mandarin.

**Scientific Director:**
Chanyueh Liu (Doctor -Inalco)

**Organising Committee:**
Chanyueh Liu (Doctor-Inalco)
Cristina Birsan (Administrative officer -Plidam)
Proposals for presentations at the conference

Proposals must be submitted to the following e-mail address: chan-yueh.liu@inalco.fr no later than 17 September 2023. Each paper proposal - for a 20-minute presentation plus discussion - must include the following information:

Please return the form to this address: chan-yueh.liu@inalco.fr

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NB: Participants are responsible for their own travel and accommodation expenses.

A publication of the conference proceedings is planned.