



# DPP after 2016

---

AUSTIN HORNG-EN WANG

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, DUKE UNIVERSITY

[AHW15@DUKE.EDU](mailto:AHW15@DUKE.EDU)    [HTTP://SITES.DUKE.EDU/AUSTINWANG/](http://sites.duke.edu/austinwang/)

# Research Question

---

After Tsai Ing-wen won the presidency in early 2016...

1. How have DPP changed so far (compared to 2000)?
2. How did President Tsai interact with other DPP members?
3. What should we expect in the 2018 local election?

# Takeaway points

---

1. Half-Empty Headquarter
2. High-Level Policy Coordination Meeting
3. (Re)emergence of factions
4. Dr. Lai's "The Decision"

# Half-Empty DPP Headquarter

---

1. Campaigning staff followed Tsai and left
2. No director in
  1. Media and Creative Center (Internet + Propaganda Dept.)
  2. Public Opinion Center
  3. Youth Department
3. “DPP forgot how to use the social media” by the former campaigning chief (Shotme Lin)
4. Just like the 2000-2008 under Chen



蔡英文 Tsai Ing-wen



Austin

Home 20+



蔡英文 Tsai Ing-wen



@tsaiingwen

Home

而因國家偉國  
偉你大 家嗎 家



# Half-Empty DPP Headquarter

---

Implications:

1. The end of the DPP's top-down, centralized, presidentialized campaign (since 2009)?
2. Seven youth summer camps in 2017 held by factions

# High-Level Policy Coordination Meeting

---

1. 執政政策協調會議
2. Presidential Office, Cabinet, DPP dept. directors and think tank, DPP legislative caucus and DPP's local government
3. Problem/solution of the semi-president Constitutional design? (Followed Chen and Ma – no record)
4. Oct. 2016 to April. 2017
5. “Fluent enough” or “Not much effective”?





# High-Level Policy Coordination Meeting

---

“Fluent enough” or “Not much effective”?

- Forward-Looking Infrastructure Development Program
  - The Legislative Yuan passed a different version (8yr to 4yr)
- Pension Reform
  - Different versions in different Yuans
- One fixed day off and One flexible rest day
  - Local mayors still oppose and want it replaced.

# (Re)emergence of DPP's factions

---

## 1. Tsai (英派)

Executive Branch, DPP Headquarter, 10 legislators

## 2. New Tide (+Su) (新潮流)

- 7 mayors (half Taiwan), 4/10 DPP standing committee
- After 2016, occupied state-owned enterprise

## 3. Taiwan Normal Country Promotion Association (Yu+Hsieh)

- Taichung Mayor + 3 legislators (正國會, TNCPA)

# Fights among factions

---

1. DPP's 2018 mayor primaries  
New Taipei City, Kaohsiung City, Tainan City, ...
2. The 2016 Farmer's Association Election
3. 815 Power Outrage
4. "Youth and Minority Draft for 2018 county legislative Election"
  - 35yr, nominated by Tsai
  - Will be decided in 3 days
5. Dr. Lai to be the Premier?

# Fights among factions

---

1. No debate for the cross-strait relationship
2. No major difference in left-right ideology
3. Only fight for power – try to win the elections
  - With Tsai's low approval rate, harder to control factions
4. Worse/better than what happened before 2008?

# Dr. Lai's "The Decision"

---

1. Tainan City Mayor (til 2018), 70% approval
2. New Tide
3. Young (60 in 2020, 64 in 2024)
4. Tsai's preferred successor
5. Never rules Northern Taiwan or works in the central government



# Dr. Lai's "The Decision"

---

## Becoming Premier?

1. Elder New Tide opposed: Premier never ends well in Taiwan.
2. May lose Tainan City to other factions
3. TNCPA opposed

## Running for 2018 New Taipei City (where Lai was born)?

1. Chance of winning is low (high reward)
2. If win, Cannot run 2020
3. If not, coward, may be blamed by other DPPs



# Takeaway points

---

1. Half-Empty Headquarter
2. High-Level Policy Coordination Meeting
3. (Re)emergence of factions
4. Dr. Lai's "The Decision"



# DPP after 2016

---

AUSTIN HORNG-EN WANG

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, DUKE UNIVERSITY

[AHW15@DUKE.EDU](mailto:AHW15@DUKE.EDU)    [HTTP://SITES.DUKE.EDU/AUSTINWANG/](http://sites.duke.edu/austinwang/)