

*William Zartman*  
*Professor of International Organizations and Conflict Resolution*  
*Director of the Conflict Management Program*  
*SAIS, Johns Hopkins University, USA*

*Abstract:*

The optimal strategy for Taiwan is not to seek negotiations or upset the informal status quo; However external changes may disturb this strategy: either events such as the competition for a third country's recognition or internal political opportunism such as an electoral campaign. In Korea, on the other hand, the pursuit of the six-party venue is crucial to lock a wily adversary into an agreement, and should continue, but any agreement will only be temporary as DPRK seeks to wiggle out and prolong the negotiations. Only playing along will keep DPRK in the game and so increase chances for a final change of heart and mind into a reentry into the international community.