

CREDIBLE DETERRENCE: CHINA'S NEW POSTURE IN THE TAIWAN STRAIT

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Abstract

A number of explanations have been made for lessening of the tension across the Taiwan Strait. This paper argues that deterrence which Beijing has constructed and accentuated, plays a key role in maintaining the stability, if provisionally, in West Pacific. Drawing lessons from the failure of stopping leaders in the island from slipping down the path to independence over last years, Beijing has revised its policy toward Taiwan and made its deterrence more credible.