

LAI CHING-TE

PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

Governing Philosophy

A Democratic and Peaceful Taiwan

Consolidate national unity under the banner of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Four Commitments.

Demonstrate to the world Taiwan's unwavering dedication to upholding peace across the Taiwan Strait through the Four-Pillar Plan for Democracy and Peace.

An Innovative and Prosperous Taiwan

Innovation-driven economic growth: Invest in future generations and promote industrial, technological and entrepreneurial innovation, transforming Taiwan into a vibrant hub for entrepreneurship and employment.

Inclusive economic growth: Develop major industries and businesses, bolster rural revitalization and support hidden champions to create diverse job opportunities and foster shared economic prosperity.

New strategy for green growth: Expand renewable energy research and development, leverage Taiwan's strengths in information and communications technology, and capitalize on energy saving, energy storage and net-zero technologies to initiate a second energy transition.

A Just and Sustainable Taiwan

Promote labor rights, achieve gender equality and expand socially responsible investment in areas including childcare, long-term care and housing rights to facilitate social justice. Strive for the goal of reaching net-zero emissions by 2050.



Family and Education Background

President Lai Ching-te, born in 1959 to a mining family in northern Taiwan, overcame early hardships during his childhood, including the loss of his father. His mother's resilience left a lasting impression on him, fostering his belief that with self-confidence, one can overcome any obstacle.

He attended Taipei Municipal Chien Kuo High School, National Taiwan University's Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and the Post-Bachelor Program in Medical Science at National Cheng Kung University. His academic pursuits continued with a Master of Public Health from Harvard University, distinguishing him as one of Taiwan's few physicians with rehabilitation, clinical care and public health expertise.

Political Experience

In 1994, Lai entered public affairs as the head of a Tainan City physicians association supporting Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) candidate Chen Ting-nan during Taiwan's first direct election for provincial governor. Two years later, Lai transitioned from medicine to politics. Elected to the National Assembly, he propelled constitutional amendments that readjusted Taiwan's government structure, including the freeze of Taiwan Provincial Government.

Elected to the Legislative Yuan in 1998, Lai prioritized professional governance and robust community service, successfully addressing over 100,000 local cases. His commitment earned him four consecutive terms in office.



During his legislative tenure, he played a critical role in the Social Welfare and Environmental Hygiene Committee, was named Best Legislator by Citizen Congress Watch and actively advocated for Taiwan's inclusion in the World Health Organization. He was also designated as DPP caucus whip, leading delegations abroad to conduct parliamentary diplomacy and participating in the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program.

In 2010, Lai was elected as the first mayor of the newly formed Tainan Special Municipality. He fostered a government distinguished by its integrity, industriousness and efficacy. Lai was also deeply committed to city diplomacy, delivering compelling speeches at renowned think tanks in Washington, D.C. His remarkable reelection, garnering an unprecedented 72.9 percent of the vote, underscored Tainan citizens' deep appreciation for his leadership.

He served as premier from 2017 to 2019 during President Tsai Ing-wen's administration, implementing policies to boost employment security, enhance Taiwan's investment climate and facilitate balanced development throughout the country. In 2020, Lai became vice president after winning the election alongside Tsai with a record 8.17 million votes and a continued DPP legislative majority. He was named the DPP chair in 2023 and elected Taiwan's 16th-term president in 2024, marking the first time a party has served three consecutive presidential terms, with the vice president ascending to the presidency, since democratic elections began in Taiwan.