

Reflection on the Conference

Date: _____/_____/_____

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First and foremost, I thank Tamkang University for providing subsidy for me to participate in the ISA Asia-Pacific 2023 Conference in Tokyo, Japan. I also thank the Dean of College of International Affairs, Dr. Cheng-Hao Pao, and the Director of Graduate Institute of International Affairs and Strategic Studies, Dr. Da-Jung Li, for endorsing my trip.

The ISA Asia-Pacific 2023 Conference is the first overseas conference in which I participated. I was excited and anxious when the organizers notified my submission was accepted for the conference particularly because it was my first time presenting overseas and it is organized by a well-known association.

The organizers invited well-known speakers such as Amitav Acharya, Joseph Nye, and T.V. Paul to deliver keynote speeches. I admired these scholars, in particular Joseph Nye, as he has published many influential works that I used in my research. I felt delighted to listen to their speeches firsthand. I also agreed with their views on the changing world order and studying international affairs from different perspectives.

I went to several panels during my three-day conference and interacted with some scholars. I felt that their knowledge and research capabilities are excellent and unique, which drives me to conduct better research. The presenters also presented topics regarding my topic, particularly the US-China geopolitical and technological competition, which captivated me and gave me inspiration to deepen my research.

During the session on irregular warfare, the panelist were interested in the conditions in Taiwan and invited me to share my views on the current cross-strait tensions and Taiwan's preparedness to counter China's irregular warfare. I am glad that I can join in their discussion and share my views also. It shows that the panel is very open-minded and welcoming.

Although there are few audiences in my panel, I manage to deliver my presentation smoothly. The discussant and chairperson also applauded my effort and gave me suggestions to deepen my research. I also discussed my paper and shared my opinion of their presentations with my fellow presenters as our topic circles around the US-China geopolitical competition and its influence on other countries. Our panel was fruitful in the end.

In sum, I had an eye-opening and fruitful conference. Although I was anxious in the beginning, the

conference is welcoming and comfortable. This trip also gave me inspiration to do better research. I would prepare better topics aligning with my doctoral dissertation for presentation in future international conferences.

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