

The ties that bind

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- **ECFA**: Economic Co-operation Framework Agreement
- Signed in June 30, 2010
- ECFA is an FTA agreement

- Over the next two years China will lower tariffs for 539 categories of imports, worth \$13.8 billion a year
- Taiwan will lift tariffs for only 267 categories of imports from China, worth \$2.9 billion.
- \$13.8 billion is 3.2% of Taiwan's GDP:
Taiwan's GDP (2010): 430.45 billion

A stepping stone?

A DPP spokeswoman says her party fears

- ECFA will strengthen interdependence
- China will use it as a stepping stone toward political integration
- What would you do if you are a DPP member?

Other FTAs?

- a Chinese spokesman gave a seemingly negative response to Mr Ma's oft-stated hope that the ECFA might encourage other countries to sign FTAs with Taiwan.

A plebiscite in Taiwan?

China recoils at any hint of a plebiscite in Taiwan, fearing one might one day be used to justify a formal declaration of independence or to block reunification.