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Spanish and Latin American Studies on the Economy of Contemporary Taiwan: A Bibliographical Survey

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Abstract: The paper surveys the state of the art of Taiwanese economic studies in Spain and Latin America. It lists the researchers, institutions and publications dealing with Taiwan's contemporary economy in the main Universities and Institutions.

At present the degree of organization of Taiwanese studies is much less developed in Spain and Latin America than in France, Germany, and, of course, UK and USA. Nevertheless, after belated and uneasy beginnings, these studies have recently matured. But they are still an emerging field, which should be vigorously developed in order to encompass them to the much more advanced activities of other European and North American researchers.

Finally, the paper offers a few suggestions directed to consolidate and develop Taiwanese studies in Spain. A closer relationship between Spanish and Taiwanese research institutions is surely needed in order to attain this goal.

1. Main researchers, institutions and publications on the economy of contemporary Taiwan in Spain and Latin America.

The main topics of research related to the economy of Taiwan may be broadly divided in four sections: (a) general studies on the Asian Newly Industrializing Countries (ANICs), that is, Taiwan, South Korea, Hong Kong and Singapore; (b) comparative analysis of the industrialization process in East Asia and Latin America; (c) the Taiwan case; and (d) the 'Chinese Economic Area' or 'Greater China' (Taiwan, Hong Kong and the southern provinces of Mainland China).

1.1. Research by Spanish Scholars.

Spanish studies on the economy of the ANICs began rather recently. A short descriptive pioneer work was FERNANDEZ-MANERA, 1985. In the following years, a book of Joaquín Arriola (University of the Basque Country) and an article by Javier Martínez Peinado (University of Barcelona) were published: both featured a radical view on the subject, related mainly to the so-called Dependency School (ARRIOLA, 1988; MARTINEZ PEINADO, 1988). José Antonio Nieto Solís (Complutense University of Madrid) provided also in 1988 a paper dealing with the trade flows between Spain and the ANICs (NIETO SOLIS, 1988). Ernest Reig (University of Valencia) reviewed the same year (in Catalan) the trade policies of the NICs (REIG, 1988). Far reaching works were those of Carlos Berzosa, Dean of the Faculty of Economics (Complutense University of Madrid), which featured

both a broader scope and a more assertive view (BERZOSA, 1988 and 1991). Pablo Bustelo (Complutense University of Madrid) published in 1990 an abridged version of his Ph.D. Dissertation and afterwards several articles and books dealing with the ANICs (BUSTELO, 1990, 1994d, 1994g). The first articles published in English by Spanish scholars were written by Manuel Castells (Autónoma University of Madrid and Berkeley University), a well-known sociologist and a former lecturer at Taiwan National University, on the four "dragons" (CASTELLS, 1991) and by Pablo Bustelo on the lessons of the ANICs for the post-socialist transitions in Eastern Europe (BUSTELO, 1994f).

The comparison between the different paths of industrialization in Latin America and East Asia was explored by BUSTELO, 1992b (published in an Argentinian journal) and BUSTELO, 1994b. The latter, comparing Brazil and Taiwan, received a prize by the Casa de América (House of America), an institution sponsored by the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was subsequently published by Editorial Complutense. BUSTELO, 1995 is a more general review of the Asian and Latin American NICs.

The specific case of Taiwan was treated in BUSTELO, 1992a (focusing on the relations between economic development and political transition in Taiwan and Spain). Gustavo Matías (Autónoma University of Madrid) published a newspaper article after a travel to Taipei (MATIAS, 1992). BUSTELO, 1993a dealt with the technology policy in Taiwan. Several papers delivered

at the **1st Spain-Taiwan (ROC) Conference** in Madrid, the Proceedings of which were edited in English by BUSTELO and HERNANDEZ ANDREU, 1994, compared the industrial structure of both countries (MARTINEZ PEINADO, 1994) and the different demographic transitions (a paper by Francisco Bustelo, of Complutense University) (BUSTELO, F., 1994). Another paper was BUSTELO, 1994a (on the adjustment of the Taiwan's economy since the first oil shock in 1973). Juan Pérez-Campanero, VicePresident and Chief Economist of JP Morgan (Madrid Office), delivered at the Conference a paper on the recent evolution of the economy of Taiwan (PEREZ-CAMPANERO, 1994). Eduardo Aznar (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), who studied at Chengchi University, published in late 1994 an article on the market opportunities of the Taiwanese economy (AZNAR, 1994). A very interesting work was a paper published by a Ph.D. student at Complutense University, dealing with the environment, a pioneering study as far as Spain is concerned (RODRIGUEZ-CARMONA, 1994).

Finally, the Chinese Economic Area and the growing integration between the economies of Taiwan, Hong Kong and Southern Mainland China was examined in BUSTELO, 1993b, 1993c, 1994c and 1994e. Agustín Maraver (a Sociologist at UNED, the Open National University) published a long article stressing the political, economic and social changes in Greater China (MARAVER, 1994).

1.2. Research by Latin American scholars.

A very suggestive and pioneering work was an article published in 1981 by Fernando Fajnzylber (Chile), of the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA–United Nations) (FAJNZYLBER, 1981). Fajnzylber published more articles and books on the subject until his regrettable death in 1991. Also from Chile, Larraín and Vergara published in 1993 an article on the role of investment in the adjustment process in East Asia (LARRAIN and VERGARA, 1993). In Argentina, the main researcher is Carlos J. Moneta, formerly in SELA (Sistema Económico Latino Americano), and presently director of the Institute of Asian–Pacific International Research (IRIAP) and chairman of the Asian Center (Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of Foreign Affairs), in Buenos Aires (MONETA, 1990). Marta Bekerman, Pablo Sirlin and María Luisa Streb, of the Center for Studies of the Economic Structure (CENES), Faculty of Economics, University of Buenos Aires, published in early 1995 an article in a Mexican journal dealing specifically with Taiwan and other dynamic Asian economies (BEKERMAN et al., 1995). Bekerman had previously published several articles on South Korea. In Brazil, as far as I know, the main institution dealing with the ANICs is related to the University of Campinas (see, for instance, CANUTO and DE MOURA, 1987). In Mexico, only a short article on the four ANICs has been published, according to my knowledge (KIM, 1992).

Fajnzylber and Moneta have also researched on the lessons for Latin America of the experience of the ANICs (FAJNZYLBER, 1987; MONETA, 1988, 1989). Fajnzylber stressed the trade–off

between growth and equity in Latin America, which contrasted sharply with the growth-with-equity industrializing countries of East Asia. In Mexico, Ernesto Marcos Giacomán, a banker from Nacional Financiera, delivered an interesting paper dealing with the role of exports as an industrializing device in East Asia and the lessons for Mexico (GIACOMAN, 1988). In Chile, Manuel R. Agosín (Universty of Chile and UNCTAD) published in 1993 an article on the lessons for Latin America of the trade policy of the ANICs (AGOSIN, 1993).

In Peru, Alcázar and Tremblay published and article on the lessons from South Korea and Taiwan (ALCAZAR and TREMBLAY, 1990). As far as I know, no other articles dealing specifically with Taiwan have been published in Latin America by local researchers, apart of a short notice of Marcelo Lasagna (an Argentinian lecturing at the Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona) on the investment relations between Argentina and Taiwan (LASAGNA, 1994).

The Chinese Economic Area has been studied by a Sinologist living in Barcelona, Augusto Soto Alvarez, who is the editor of the quarterly **Asia-Latin America**, published in Chile in Spanish, English and Chinese by FLACSO (Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences) (SOTO ALVAREZ, 1994).

2. An appraisal of Spanish studies on Taiwan in comparison with other European countries.

-Pablo BUSTELO, "Spanish and Latin American Studies...", 1995.

Unfortunately, there is no equivalent in Spain of the amount of research done in other Western European countries on the economy of contemporary Taiwan[1]. In **France**, important works are those of Pierre Judet and Jean-Raphaël Chaponnière (Asian Center, University of Grenoble), Eric Bouteiller (HEC Eurasia Institute, Jouy-en-Josas), André Gamblin (University of Lille), Jean-Pierre Cabestan (CNRS), Michel Fouquin and Françoise Lemoine (CEPII), Claude Collin Delavaud (University of Paris VIII), Françoise Mengin (Institut d'Etudes Politiques), Lucien Bianco (EHESS), François Godement (IFRI), Catherine Paix and Michèle Petit (STRATES), Ricardo Paseyro, Jean Chardonnet and René Dumont, among others. In **Switzerland**, Philippe Régnier (Modern Asia Research Center, Geneva) has extensively researched on Taiwan, especially on the role of small and medium-sized enterprises. In **Denmark**, Laurids S. Lauridsen (Roskilde University), who was a guest at Academia Sinica (Taipei), has reviewed the labour regime in Taiwan. In **Sweden**, Claes Alvstam (University of Gothenburg) has examined the contribution of foreign investment in Taiwan. In **Germany**, Jurgen Dömes (Saarbrücken University) is of course a leading specialist.

Research in the **United Kingdom** is much more developed. Ajit Singh (University of Cambridge), Gordon White and Robert Wade (IDS, University of Sussex), Nigel Harris (University of London), Jeffrey Henderson and Peter Dicken (University of

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[1] See the **Directory of Contemporary Asian Studies in Europe**, coordinated by Eric Bouteiller, 2nd edition, April 1992.

Manchester), Denis Dwyer (University of Keele), Chris Dixon (City of London Polytechnic), David Shambaugh (SOAS, University of London), David Drakakis-Smith (University of Keele), Aidan Foster-Carter (University of Leeds), Rhys Jenkins (University of East Anglia), and Simon Long (BBC World Service), among others, have extensively researched and published on the subject.

Spain (and also the rest of Western Europe) lacks the equivalent of the magnificent series of books dealing with **Taiwan in the Modern World** (M. E. Sharpe, Armonk, New York). Although a new bi-annual **Review of Asian Studies** is beginning to be published by the Complutense Institute for Asia (Madrid), there is no equivalent in Spain of the British journals such as **The Pacific Review** (Routledge) or **The Journal of Far Eastern Business** (Frank Cass), and, of course, of **Asian Survey** (University of California) and of **Asian-Pacific Economic Literature** (Australian National University).

3. Some suggestions for the development of Taiwanese studies and further researh in Spain.

A multidisciplinary research project on contemporary Taiwan is in the design stage in the Spanish University. At present, only one post-graduate course on the ANICs and another on mainland China are being offered to students at the Faculty of Economics in Complutense University of Madrid. There are several

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young scholars interested in the project, such as Yolanda Fernández Lommen, Sergio Plaza or Antonio Rodríguez-Carmona.

The Complutense Institute for Asia (ICA) and the Ortega Foundation, both in Madrid, would develop such a project. A series of conferences on Taiwan, by Taiwanese scholars and specialists visiting Europe, could be organized in Madrid as a first step in this direction. Other possibilities are a bulletin on Taiwanese issues, published periodically at ICA and a bibliographical database on Taiwan, in order to facilitate research by scholars and students. Moreover, Ph.D. work on Taiwan should be greatly encouraged.Articles on Taiwan should be published more regularly in the **Revista de Estudios Asiáticos** [Review of Asian Studies], of ICA, and in the **Revista Española del Pacífico** [Spanish Review of the Pacific], of the Spanish Association for Pacific Studies (Madrid).

In order to encompass such initiatives, both a direct link with Taiwanese institutions, such as Chung-hua Institution for Economic Research, the Institute of Economics (Academia Sinica), or the Department of Economics of leading Universities, and also financial support from the Pacific Cultural Foundation are surely needed.

The **First Conference Spain-Taiwan (ROC): Economy and Trade**, held in Madrid in October 1993, was a landmark in Spanish research on Taiwan. The **Second Conference** will surely be an

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-Pablo BUSTELO, "Spanish and Latin American Studies...", 1995.

opportunity to develop links between Taiwanese and Spanish scholars and to enhance research on Taiwan in Spain.

The economy of contemporary Taiwan is a subject of great interest for Spanish scholars. Taiwan's impressive economic and political record over the past four decades and during the late 1980s and early 1990s, respectively, should be addressed more assertively in Spain. Apart from the theoretical and intellectual interest of the Taiwanese experience, there is of course also a more practical dimension of this interest. In 1993, total trade between Spain and Taiwan amounted to US$ 844 million.

-Pablo BUSTELO, "Spanish and Latin American Studies...", 1995.

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