

Taiwan's three-way presidential race

More than 23 million Taiwanese are preparing to choose their next president, as China steps up military pressure in its ongoing claim to sovereignty over the democratically-governed island



Hou Yu-ih

Kuomintang (KMT)

Mayor of New Taipei City and former criminal police chief, Hou hopes to appeal to voters outside KMT's traditional base of mainland immigrants and descendants. **Advocates dialogue with Communist Party to lower cross-strait tensions**

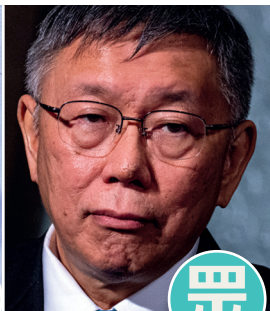


Lai Ching-te

Democratic Progressive Party (DPP)

Current Vice President and former mayor of southern city of Tainan, Lai appeals most to hardline independence supporters.

Beijing warns that voting for DPP is tantamount to voting for war across Taiwan Strait



Ko Wen-je

Taiwan People's Party (TPP)

Former Taipei mayor, Ko focuses on domestic matters that feed many voters' dissatisfaction with DPP – such as energy and housing. **Claims to offer “third choice” between provoking China and yielding to its demands**

