1987

Taiwan began allowing residents to visit Mainland China, and both countries established institutions to deal with governmental relations. Interestingly, since there has never been a formal declaration of peace from either side, both countries are technically still at war today

1992

the two governments came to a Consensus acknowledging that there was only one China and that each believed themselves to be it. They agreed to disagree, which has let the two discuss negotiation without being bogged down on this primary issue. The opposition to this consensus has been the movement to make Taiwan an independent country with it's own, separate, national identity. A third solution called "One Country, Two Systems" would establish Taiwan as one of China's autonomous regions, like Hongkong and Macau. However, in 2005, the PRC passed a law to prevent Taiwan from "seceding" by authorizing "non-peaceful" means to unify Taiwan back into the Mainland China

1992

Since a number of groups in Taiwan want to establish independence, this law could cause amilitary showdown between the two countries, something Taiwan is eager to avoid. At the same time, many in Taiwan are content with the status quo of mutually denying each other legitimacy.

2014

meeting between officials from both countries marked the first direct government contact since 1949. From this meeting, and several high profile negotiations in the late 2000's, the two countries have attempted to increase their economic, trade, healthcare, and travel relations. However the two countries still seems far from reconciliation due to the complicated, and sometimes paradoxical nature of their dispute.

2021

China has warned Taiwan that any attempt to seek independence "means war".

The warning comes days after China stepped up its military activities and flew warplanes near the island.

It also comes after new US President Joe Biden reaffirmed his commitment to Taiwan, and set out his stance in Asia.

The US has called China's latest warning "unfortunate", adding that tensions did not need to lead to "anything like confrontation".

China sees democratic Taiwan as a breakaway province, but Taiwan sees itself as a sovereign state, with its own constitution, military, and elected leaders.

