



NHK 詳細分析

2026-05-09_radio_news_0900

Broadcast: 2026-05-09 | Analyzed: 2026-05-13 09:27

Version 2.8-detail | Universal 2.8-detail | Konverter 3.4 (2026-05-20) | Standard: 放送法 第4条

OVERALL SCORE

3.4/10

Slight imbalance

0 = balanced, 10 = strongly biased/manipulative

POLITICAL SPECTRUM

Classification based on Chapel Hill Expert Survey (CHES) 2024

The Chapel Hill Expert Survey (CHES 2024) is an academic survey of 609 political scientists in 31 countries. Each party is rated on a scale from 0 (far left) to 10 (far right).

Party	JCP	CDP	DPP	Komeito	LDP	JIP
CHES	1.50	3.50	4.80	5.20	7.00	7.80
Spectrum	<i>Left</i>	<i>Left</i>	<i>Center</i>	<i>Center</i>	<i>Right</i>	<i>Right</i>

The overall tendency is presented on a 0–10 scale (0 = strongly left-favoring, 5 = balanced, 10 = strongly right-favoring). The calculation is based on the difference in average favoritism of left vs. right parties (grouping per CHES 2024).

TENDENCY (L – R)

5.8 / 10

Balanced

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

← Left

Right →

Source: Chapel Hill Expert Survey 2024 — chesdata.eu | [Jolly et al., Electoral Studies, 2022](#) | Thresholds: [Pew Research Center](#)

This section provides political context and does not contribute to the overall score.



POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

The current Japanese government is a coalition between the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and Komeito. In the House of Representatives election on 27 October 2024, the LDP won 191 seats (a significant reduction) and Komeito won 24 seats, barely maintaining a coalition majority. The main opposition parties are the Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan (CDP, 148 seats), Nippon Ishin no Kai (Ishin, 38 seats), the Democratic Party for the People (DPP, 28 seats), the Japanese Communist Party (JCP, 8 seats), and Reiwa Shinsengumi (Reiwa, 9 seats).

Party	Left-Right Score (0-10)	Seats	Government/Opposition	Key Policies
Japanese Communist Party (JCP)	1.5	8	Opposition	Uphold Article 9, immediate nuclear phase-out, anti-military expansion
Social Democratic Party (SDP)	2.5	1	Opposition	Pacifism, nuclear phase-out, constitutional preservation
Reiwa Shinsengumi (Reiwa)	2.5	9	Opposition	Abolish consumption tax, anti-military expansion, MMT
Constitutional Democratic Party (CDP)	3.5	148	Opposition	Constitutional preservation, redistribution focus, nuclear phase-out
Komeito	5.0	24	Coalition Government	Pacifism, social security, LDP restraint
Democratic Party for the People (DPP)	5.5	28	Intermediate	Consumption tax reduction, pragmatism
Liberal Democratic Party (LDP)	7.0	191	Ruling Party	Defence build-up, constitutional revision, economic growth
Nippon Ishin no Kai (Ishin)	7.0	38	Opposition	Deregulation, constitutional revision, administrative and fiscal reform
Sanseito	9.0	3	Opposition	Ultra-nationalism, anti-globalism

Japan's current major political axes of confrontation are: the dispute between constitutional preservationists and revisionists over constitutional amendment (particularly Article 9); the question of increasing defence spending (2% of GDP target); the issue of restarting nuclear power plants; and conflicts over social values such as separate surnames for married couples and LGBTQ rights. Following the LDP's heavy defeat in the October 2024 general election, a minority government situation has continued, making policy consultations with opposition parties unavoidable. There are also significant differences in the direction of security policy between the ruling and opposition parties regarding the Taiwan Strait situation and perceptions of threats from China and North Korea.

NHK is required by Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act to maintain political impartiality, accuracy in reporting, and presentation of multifaceted viewpoints. Because the 12 members of the Board of Governors are appointed by the Prime Minister (with the consent of the Diet), structural proximity to the government has been criticised, particularly since the Abe administration era (2012–2020). Japan ranks only 70th in the RSF Press Freedom Index (2024), and the press club system creates asymmetry in access to information.



CHAPTER 1 — PARTY-POLITICAL BIAS

Assessment by Party

Party	Score (-5 to +5)	Portrayal in Broadcast vs. Party Platform Position
LDP	0	This broadcast does not cover Japanese domestic politics; no mention of the LDP
CDP	0	This broadcast does not cover Japanese domestic politics; no mention of the CDP
Komeito	0	This broadcast does not cover Japanese domestic politics; no mention of Komeito
Ishin	0	This broadcast does not cover Japanese domestic politics; no mention of Ishin
JCP	0	This broadcast does not cover Japanese domestic politics; no mention of the JCP
DPP	0	This broadcast does not cover Japanese domestic politics; no mention of the DPP

Party Bias Summary

- Most accurate portrayal: Not applicable (Japanese domestic parties are outside the scope of this broadcast)
- Strongest distortion: Not applicable
- Average deviation from 0: 0.0
- Conclusion: This broadcast covers international news from Taiwan, the United States, and Bulgaria, and Japanese domestic party politics is not a direct subject. Therefore, party bias assessment through comparison with Japanese party platforms is not applicable. However, regarding Taiwan's political forces (DPP and Kuomintang), a tendency is observed in which the position of the DPP (ruling party) is treated more favourably, while the position of the Kuomintang (opposition) is diminished with the label "conciliatory towards China."

Overall Tendency on the Left-Right Spectrum

TENDENCY SCORE: -0.8

(Positive = favouring the left, Negative = favouring the right, 0.0 = balanced)

Classification: Mild right-leaning favouritism

Rationale: This broadcast frames Taiwan's defence enhancement (a conservative/right-wing position) as a self-evidently legitimate policy, and tends to problematise the conciliatory line (a left-wing/centrist position) as "conciliatory towards China." In the Bulgaria reporting as well, continuing military support for Ukraine (a Western conservative/right-wing position) is set as "the normal state of affairs," while reducing support and pursuing peace diplomacy (a left-wing/centrist position) are portrayed as "risks." However, a score of -0.8 remains a mild tendency and does not directly correspond to Japan's domestic left-right axis, so caution is required in interpretation.



CHAPTER 2 — PROGRAMME INFORMATION AND TOPIC FRAMEWORK

Broadcast Data

- Title: NHK News (NHK News at 9 o'clock)
- Date (from filename): Cannot be determined (estimated from content as 8 or 9 January 2025)
- Estimated broadcast duration: Approximately 4 minutes 46 seconds (00:00:00–00:04:48)
- Presenter/Reporter: Cannot be identified (audio only, no mention of announcer name)
- Interview subjects: None (breaking news format, no commentators or experts appearing)

Actors	Position	Party/Affiliation	Political Spectrum
Lai Ching-te (mentioned only)	President of Taiwan	Democratic Progressive Party (DPP Taiwan)	Centre-left to pro-independence
Mr Radev (mentioned only)	New Prime Minister of Bulgaria	We Continue the Change	Centre-left, pro-Russia
Market participant (anonymous)	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

Main Themes

This broadcast is an NHK fixed-schedule news bulletin conveying three independent news items in approximately 5 minutes: the confrontation between the ruling party and opposition over Taiwan's special defence budget, the updating of record highs on the New York stock market, and the election of a pro-Russia prime minister in Bulgaria.

Perspectives Necessary for Balanced Reporting

The following perspectives are listed based on world knowledge, regardless of the content of this broadcast:

- [A] The specific policy rationale of Taiwan's opposition (Kuomintang) for reducing the defence budget
- [B] Taiwan's fiscal situation and the economic sustainability of the special budget
- [C] China's reactions, statements, and military movements
- [D] US policy on arms sales to Taiwan and the influence of the Trump administration
- [E] Taiwanese public opinion and views for and against the increase in defence spending
- [F] Specific grounds of those expressing concern about overheating of semiconductor stocks on the New York stock market
- [G] Bulgaria's obligations as an EU and NATO ally and the consistency of the Radev administration
- [H] Ukraine's reaction to Bulgaria's change of government
- [I] Technical details of Taiwan's development of drone and AI defence systems and involvement of Japanese companies
- [J] The reaction of pro-Western forces within Bulgaria and political confrontation

Confirmation of Treatment of Each Perspective

[A] Omitted

Timestamp: 00:01:03–00:01:14

Quotation: "The Legislative Yuan, where the Kuomintang and other opposition parties described as conciliatory towards China hold a majority, yesterday reduced the scale by nearly 40%"



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Assessment: The opposition's position is only characterised as "conciliatory towards China," with no explanation whatsoever of the opposition's policy rationale (fiscal burden, prioritising diplomatic resolution, etc.).

[B] Omitted

Timestamp: 00:00:44–00:00:53

Quotation: "A special budget ordinance of 1.25 trillion New Taiwan dollars, equivalent to over 6.2 trillion yen"

Assessment: Although the budget figure is presented, no context is provided at all regarding Taiwan's GDP ratio or the impact on public finances.

[C] Omitted

Timestamp: Not applicable

Quotation: None

Assessment: China's official reactions, statements, and military movements are not mentioned at all, resulting in a one-sided framework.

[D] Omitted

Timestamp: 00:01:19–00:01:22

Quotation: "It is said that purchases include the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System HIMARS from the United States, but"

Assessment: Although the purchase of weapons from the United States is mentioned, the Trump administration's policy towards Taiwan and the conditions of arms sales are not touched upon.

[E] Omitted

Timestamp: Not applicable

Quotation: None

Assessment: Taiwanese public opinion and views for and against increasing defence spending are not covered at all.

[F] Partially mentioned

Timestamp: 00:03:18–00:03:33

Quotation: "Voices pointing to a sense of overheating in response to the sharp rise in semiconductor-related stock prices have become more prominent, but"

Assessment: Although concern about overheating is mentioned, it is immediately negated by the optimistic view that "valuations are not yet at an excessive level," and the specific grounds of those expressing concern are not shown.

[G] Omitted

Timestamp: Not applicable

Quotation: None

Assessment: The issue of consistency between Bulgaria's collective defence obligations as a NATO and EU member state and the Radev administration is not touched upon at all.

[H] Omitted

Timestamp: 00:04:28–00:04:42

Quotation: "The AP reports the view of experts that Mr Radev may weaken the support Bulgaria has hitherto provided, such as the supply of artillery shells to Ukraine"

Assessment: Concern is indirectly expressed as an "expert view" from the AP, but Ukraine's direct reaction is not included.

[I] Omitted

Timestamp: 00:01:25–00:01:32

Quotation: "The procurement of drones from Japanese companies and the development of operational systems incorporating AI (artificial intelligence) are not included"



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Assessment: Involvement of Japanese companies is mentioned, but specific company names, technical content, and the context of Japan-Taiwan defence cooperation are not explained.

[J] Omitted

Timestamp: Not applicable

Quotation: None

Assessment: The reaction of pro-Western and anti-Radev forces within Bulgaria is not covered at all.



CHAPTER 3 — 15 CRITERIA: DETAILED ANALYSIS

Hard Facts — 9 techniques that are countable and scientifically verifiable

1. Expert Selection									2/10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Expert 1: Market participant (anonymous)	
Timestamp	00:03:18–00:03:33
Statement	"Voices pointing to a sense of overheating in response to the sharp rise in semiconductor-related stock prices have become more prominent, but investors who believe valuations are not yet at an excessive level are actively buying, they say"

Positioning: An anonymous "market participant" whose affiliation, qualifications, and whether there are any conflicts of interest are unknown.

Missing opposing view: The view of an independent analyst presenting specific grounds for overheating concerns is absent.

Information Source Depth Check:

(a) Funding: Unknown (due to anonymity). As a market participant, there is a possibility of directly benefiting from rising stock prices.

(b) Mandate: Market participants may have an interest in maintaining market sentiment rather than providing neutral assessment.

D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — Market participants are likely to benefit from rising stock prices

D2 Personal risk: -1 — Personal risk unknown/low due to anonymity

D3 Competence: +1 — Practical knowledge as a market participant is presumed but qualifications unknown

D4 Consistency of opinion: 0 — Comparison with past statements not possible (anonymous)

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: 0 — No specific data, optimistic tone

D6 Source level: -1 — Secondary information (summary by NHK reporter)

TOTAL: -3 → Source traffic light: Yellow (-4 to +4)

(c) PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE: An anonymous "market participant" is presented as a neutral expert but may structurally have an optimistic bias. This falls under Technique 12 (source selection).

Missing expert groups:

- Independent equity analysts (could have presented specific grounds for overheating concerns)
- Taiwanese security experts (could have assessed the military effectiveness of the defence budget)
- EU diplomacy and security experts (could have analysed the impact of Bulgaria's change of government)

Source Credibility Overview:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
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Market participant (anonymous)	-2	-1	+1	0	0	-1	-3	Yellow
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Summary (matrix results):

- Market participant (anonymous): Source traffic light Yellow (-3), possible conflict of interest, cannot be verified due to anonymity

This broadcast is in breaking news format and does not include expert interviews, so the problem of expert selection is limited. The only "expert-like statement" is from an anonymous market participant, making it difficult to verify credibility.



2. Source Selection

5/10

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Claims without primary source = penalty points (rumour check)

Source 1: Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence

Timestamp 00:01:36–00:01:46

Statement

"Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence states that the schedule for building a structure to halt attacks by China's overwhelming military power with inexpensive and highly mobile equipment such as drones is significantly delayed"

(a) Funding and operating body: An administrative organ of the Taiwan government (Lai Ching-te administration, DPP)

(b) Structural conflict of interest: A party directly seeking an increase in the defence budget, making statements from a position opposed to budget reduction

(c) Missing opposing source: Views of national defence experts from Taiwan's opposition (Kuomintang) or independent security researchers are absent

Source 2: DPP (Taiwan ruling party) social media post

Timestamp 00:01:49–00:01:55

Statement

"posted that any delay increases security risks"

(a) Funding and operating body: The official social media account of Taiwan's ruling party (DPP)

(b) Structural conflict of interest: This is public relations activity of a party promoting increases in defence spending and is not a neutral source

(c) Missing opposing source: The Kuomintang's official statements or rebuttals are not cited

Source 3: AP (Associated Press)

Timestamp 00:04:28–00:04:37

Statement

"The AP reports the view of experts that Mr Radev may weaken the support Bulgaria has hitherto provided, such as the supply of artillery shells to Ukraine"

(a) Funding and operating body: A US private non-profit news agency

(b) Structural conflict of interest: The AP is generally a highly credible source, but the specific names and affiliations of the "experts" whose views are cited are not provided

(c) Missing opposing source: The views of experts supporting Mr Radev's policies are not cited

Source traffic light (AP):

D1 Conflict of interest: +1 — Private news agency, direct conflict of interest is low

D2 Personal risk: +1 — Reputational risk as a news organisation

D3 Competence: +2 — Internationally recognised news agency

D4 Consistency of opinion: +1 — Generally consistent reporting standards

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +1 — Based on factual reporting

D6 Source level: 0 — Secondary information (summary of expert views)

TOTAL: +6 → Source traffic light: Green (>=+5)



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Source Credibility Overview:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
AP (Associated Press)	+1	+1	+2	+1	+1	0	+6	Green

Summary: The sources in this broadcast are limited to Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence (a party to the issue), the DPP's social media (a party to the issue), and the AP (high credibility), with opposing sources such as Taiwan's opposition, China, and pro-Western forces in Bulgaria systematically absent.



3. Time Allocation									3/10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Estimated speaking time:

- Taiwan defence budget (ruling party/Ministry of National Defence position): Approximately 60 seconds (ruling party side explanation within 00:00:29–00:01:57), approximately 21% of total
- Taiwan defence budget (opposition position): Approximately 20 seconds (opposition proposal explanation within 00:01:03–00:01:32), approximately 7% of total
- New York stock market: Approximately 90 seconds (00:02:02–00:03:33), approximately 32% of total
- Bulgaria change of government: Approximately 60 seconds (00:03:39–00:04:42), approximately 21% of total
- Announcer (narration): Approximately 100% of total (due to reading format)

Summary: In the Taiwan defence budget reporting, the time devoted to the ruling party/Ministry of National Defence position (approximately 60 seconds) is three times that of the opposition position (approximately 20 seconds), and asymmetry in time allocation is observed. However, given the nature of breaking news, perfectly equal allocation is not realistic.



4. SELECTIVE OMISSION

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Omission 1:

Context

The policy rationale of Taiwan's opposition (Kuomintang) for reducing the defence budget by 40%

Relevant timestamp: 00:01:03–00:01:14

Impact

The opposition's actions are explained solely by the motive of "conciliation towards China" rather than as a policy judgement, without presenting fiscal or diplomatic grounds, thereby unfairly diminishing the opposition's position.

Omission 2:

Context

China's official reactions and statements

Relevant timestamp: 00:00:20–00:01:57 (entire Taiwan report)

Impact

By reporting Taiwan's defence issue in a state completely lacking the Chinese perspective, a one-sided security framework is formed.

Omission 3:

Context

Bulgaria's collective defence obligations as a NATO and EU member state

Relevant timestamp: 00:03:39–00:04:42 (entire Bulgaria report)

Impact

By reporting the possibility of the Radev administration "reducing support for Ukraine" without the context of its contradiction with obligations under the NATO treaty, the seriousness of the problem is underestimated.

Summary: In both the Taiwan and Bulgaria reporting, opposing perspectives (the grounds of Taiwan's opposition, China's position, Bulgaria's NATO obligations) are systematically omitted, which may be contrary to the requirement for multifaceted presentation of viewpoints demanded by Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act.

Missing Voices

- Representative of Taiwan's opposition (Kuomintang): Could have provided specific policy and fiscal grounds for reducing the defence budget
- Taiwanese security experts: Could have provided comparative analysis of the military effectiveness of the opposition and ruling party proposals
- Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesperson: Could have shown China's official position on Taiwan's increase in defence spending
- Pro-Western Bulgarian politicians: Could have represented domestic opposition to the Radev administration
- Ukrainian government officials: Could have shown a direct reaction to concerns about Bulgaria reducing its support
- Sceptical semiconductor market analysts: Could have provided specific grounds for warnings about stock market overheating



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- Japanese defence industry representatives: Could have explained Japan's position on the issue of drone supply to Taiwan
- EU diplomatic officials: Could have analysed the impact of Bulgaria's change of government on EU security policy



5. Numerical Manipulation

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Complete figures include: absolute value, proportion (%) and trend

Finding 1:

Timestamp 00:00:44–00:00:53

Figure: "A special budget of 1.25 trillion New Taiwan dollars, equivalent to over 6.2 trillion yen"

Missing context Taiwan's GDP ratio, comparison with the current defence budget, and the annual average over 8 years (approximately 775 billion New Taiwan dollars) are not presented.

Impact By presenting only the absolute amount, viewers are unable to judge whether the budget scale is appropriate, excessive, or insufficient.

Finding 2:

Timestamp 00:02:41–00:02:49

Figure: "The Nasdaq stock price index rose 1.7% from the previous day, closing above 26,000 for the first time and updating its record high"

Missing context The rate of increase over the past year and valuation metrics such as PER (price-earnings ratio) are not presented.

Impact By emphasising only the fact of "record high update" without presenting specific grounds for overheating concerns, an optimistic impression is formed.

Summary: No active manipulation of figures is observed in this broadcast, but in the figures for Taiwan's defence budget and the stock market, absolute values are presented without context, limiting viewers' ability to make judgements.



6. Guilt by Association

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Association 1:

Timestamp 00:01:03

Quotation: "The Legislative Yuan, where the Kuomintang and other opposition parties described as conciliatory towards China hold a majority"

Technique: By characterising Taiwan's opposition (Kuomintang) as "conciliatory towards China," the opposition's actions are implicitly associated with serving China's interests.

Impact

Viewers are guided to interpret the opposition's reduction of the defence budget not as an independent policy judgement but as an action under Chinese influence.

Association 2:

Timestamps: 00:03:44, 00:03:53

Quotation: "Former President Radev, known for his pro-Russia stance" (twice)

Technique: By repeatedly characterising Mr Radev as "pro-Russia," the association with Russia, which is conducting the invasion of Ukraine, is reinforced.

Impact

Mr Radev's policies (peace diplomacy, opposition to Ukraine support) are implicitly portrayed as complicity with an aggressor state.

Assessment of each individual:

Taiwan's opposition (Kuomintang):

- Work based on primary sources: Unknown (cannot be assessed in this broadcast)
- Falsifiability of core claims: Yes (policy positions are verifiable)
- Risk matrix: A party elected in democratic elections; its policy positions are a legitimate political choice
- Emotionalisation vs. data: Cannot be assessed as the opposition's claims are not directly quoted in this broadcast
- Result category: Insufficiently assessed (cannot be judged from this broadcast's framing alone)
- Important: The framing of "conciliatory towards China" in this broadcast is not itself Category C evidence. This is framing.

Mr Radev:

- Work based on primary sources: Unknown (cannot be assessed in this broadcast)
- Falsifiability of core claims: Yes (foreign policy positions are verifiable)
- Risk matrix: A prime minister elected in democratic elections; his policy positions are a legitimate political choice
- Result category: Insufficiently assessed (cannot be judged from this broadcast's framing alone)

Summary: This broadcast characterises Taiwan's opposition and Bulgaria's new prime minister with the labels "conciliatory towards China" and "pro-Russia" respectively, implicitly portraying these political positions as problematic deviations. However, it cannot be said that these labels are entirely without factual basis, and the problem lies in the lack of context.



7. Timing

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Finding 1:

Position: 00:00:00–00:01:57 (opening)

Content: "Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence states that the schedule for building a structure to counter China's overwhelming military power is significantly delayed"

Timing effect: By placing the Taiwan defence budget issue at the opening and presenting the sense of crisis of "significant schedule delay" first, the viewer's cognitive framework is set as "the crisis of declining defence capability."

Finding 2:

Position: 00:01:49–00:01:57 (end of Taiwan report)

Content: "posted that any delay increases security risks and once again appealed for the importance of strengthening defence capability"

Timing effect: By placing the ruling party's claim ("the importance of strengthening defence capability") as the conclusion of the Taiwan report, this position is impressed upon viewers as the final conclusion.

Summary: In the Taiwan reporting, a structure is observed where a sense of crisis is presented at the opening and the ruling party's claim concludes at the end, but given the nature of breaking news, it cannot be definitively concluded that this is intentional manipulation.



8. Selective Outrage

0/10

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Outrage = bias. Selective outrage amplifies the finding. Score = outrage level (0–5) + selectivity (0–5)

Methodological principle (v2.2): Record the triggering event before each assessment. A reaction can only be assessed as selective if an equivalent trigger in another position does not produce a similar reaction.

Finding 1:

Timestamp Not applicable

Triggering event: This broadcast is in a format of news reading by an announcer, and there are no scenes showing emotional reactions, outrage, or critical comments.

Reaction: Not applicable

Comparison No basis for comparison

Asymmetry: Cannot be confirmed

Summary: As this broadcast is a neutral news reading format containing no emotional reactions, no selective outrage is observed. A score of 0 means no problem.



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9. COMPLETENESS							7/10		
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The issue of Taiwan's defence budget is set within the dual context of increasing Chinese military pressure and internal political division within Taiwan. The Lai Ching-te administration (DPP) is pushing for enhanced defence, while opposition parties such as the Kuomintang are oriented towards reconciliation with China, and this confrontation relates to the very foundations of Taiwan's democracy and security. The surge in semiconductor stocks on the New York stock market indicates the coexistence of overheating concerns about the AI and semiconductor industries and economic optimism. Bulgaria's change of government is significant in the context of European security, namely the rise of pro-Russia forces within the EU and the sustainability of support for Ukraine.

Share of covered perspectives

Inverted: original value measures coverage (higher = better). Shown as deviation (higher = larger gaps).



Soft Facts — 6 qualitative techniques

10. Framing

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Finding 1:

Timestamp 00:00:20–00:00:29

Quotation: "Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence states that the schedule for building a structure to counter China's overwhelming military power is significantly delayed"

Manipulation

Only the position of Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence (the Lai Ching-te ruling party side) is presented as "fact," with no examination of the military rationality of the opposition's proposal.

Problem: Viewers are guided to automatically accept the causal relationship "opposition proposal = reduced defence capability = danger."

Finding 2:

Timestamp 00:01:03–00:01:06

Quotation: "The Legislative Yuan, where the Kuomintang and other opposition parties described as conciliatory towards China hold a majority"

Manipulation

Using the label "conciliatory towards China" as an explanation for the opposition frames the opposition's actions as subordination to China.

Problem: The expression "conciliatory" contains a value judgement, portraying the opposition's policy position not as diplomatic realism but as pro-Chinese subordination.

Finding 3:

Timestamp 00:03:44–00:03:47

Quotation: "Former President Radev, known for his pro-Russia stance, has been elected as the new Prime Minister"

Manipulation

Mr Radev's political position is defined by the single characteristic of "pro-Russia," discarding the complexity of his policies (maintaining EU membership, orientation towards peace diplomacy, etc.).

Problem: The "pro-Russia" framing positions Mr Radev's policies not as a legitimate diplomatic course but as a problematic deviation.

Summary: In both the Taiwan and Bulgaria reporting, this broadcast tends to frame a specific political position (Taiwan's ruling party's line of defence enhancement, the West's hardline stance towards Russia) as "normal," and to portray positions contrary to this as "problematic." However, given the nature of breaking news, it cannot be definitively concluded that this constitutes serious intentional manipulation.



11. Word Choice and Terminology

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Finding 1:

Timestamp 00:01:03

Quotation: "The Kuomintang and other opposition parties described as conciliatory towards China"

Manipulation

The expression "conciliatory" (friendly or accommodating towards China) carries the connotation of portraying the opposition's position not as diplomatic realism but as appeasement of China.

Problem: A neutral alternative expression would be "prioritising dialogue with China" or "pursuing a conciliatory line towards China"; "conciliatory" contains a value judgement.

Finding 2:

Timestamps: 00:03:44, 00:03:53

Quotation: "known for his pro-Russia stance" (repeated twice)

Manipulation

Repeating the same characterisation twice in a short period strongly imprints the label "pro-Russia" in the viewer's memory.

Problem: A neutral alternative expression would be "advocates improving relations with Russia"; "pro-Russia" suggests a question of loyalty.

Finding 3:

Timestamp 00:01:36–00:01:41

Quotation: "halting attacks by China's overwhelming military power with inexpensive and highly mobile equipment such as drones"

Manipulation

The expression "overwhelming military power" presents China's military superiority as a given fact, framing the necessity of Taiwan's defence enhancement as self-evident.

Problem: The adjective "overwhelming" reflects the position of Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence and is not an independent assessment.

Summary: In this broadcast, multiple terms containing value judgements that support a particular political position are used, such as "conciliatory," "pro-Russia," and "overwhelming military power," which is problematic from the standpoint of neutral reporting.



12. Presenter Behaviour

0/10

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Methodological principle (v2.2): Record the triggering event before each assessment. An intervention can only be assessed as asymmetric if an equivalent trigger in another guest does not produce a similar intervention.

Finding 1:

Timestamp Not applicable

Triggering event: This broadcast is in a format of news reading by an announcer, and there are no scenes involving interviews or dialogue formats.

Quotation (presenter): Not applicable

Comparison No basis for comparison, as there are no interview subjects

Asymmetry: Cannot be confirmed

Summary: As this broadcast is a purely breaking news format containing no studio guests or interview subjects, there is no subject for evaluating asymmetry in presenter behaviour. A score of 0 means no problem.



13. Question Asymmetry

0/10

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

Asymmetry 1:

As this broadcast is a breaking news bulletin that does not include an interview format, there is no subject for evaluating question asymmetry.

Summary: As this broadcast is a one-directional news reading format by an announcer with no scenes involving interviews or question-and-answer exchanges, question asymmetry cannot be evaluated. A score of 0 means no problem.



14. False Balance									2/10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Finding 1:

Timestamp 00:03:18–00:03:33

Construction: "Voices pointing to a sense of overheating in response to the sharp rise in semiconductor-related stock prices have become more prominent, but investors who believe valuations are not yet at an excessive level are actively buying"

Analysis

Although concern about overheating ("voices pointing to a sense of overheating") and optimism ("valuations are not yet at an excessive level") are juxtaposed, the specific grounds of those expressing concern are not shown, and optimism is presented as the conclusion. This is a false balance that, while appearing balanced, actually places optimism in a superior position.

Summary: In this broadcast, one instance of false balance is observed in the stock market reporting, where concern and optimism are formally juxtaposed while optimism is substantively placed in a superior position. In the Taiwan and Bulgaria reporting, not even an attempt at balance is observed.



15. Agenda Setting

5/10

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

Finding 1:

Agenda element set: Taiwan's defence enhancement is necessary and justified, and the opposition's budget reduction is a security problem

Timestamp 00:00:20–00:00:29

Basis: "Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence states that the schedule for building a structure to counter China's overwhelming military power is significantly delayed"

Alternative agenda: Taiwan's fiscal sustainability, the possibility of diplomatic resolution, the risks of an arms race

Finding 2:

Agenda element set: Continuing military support for Ukraine is the normal state of affairs in Europe, and reducing support is problematic

Timestamp 00:04:28–00:04:42

Basis: "The AP reports the view of experts that Mr Radev may weaken the support Bulgaria has hitherto provided, such as the supply of artillery shells to Ukraine"

Alternative agenda: The possibility of peace negotiations, the impact on Bulgaria's domestic economy, diverse positions within the EU

Finding 3:

Agenda element set: The rise in semiconductor stocks is fundamentally healthy and continued growth is expected

Timestamp 00:02:14–00:03:06

Basis: "These indices have risen for six consecutive weeks"

Alternative agenda: Bubble risk, divergence from the real economy, questions about the profitability of AI investment

Summary: This broadcast sets Taiwan's defence enhancement, continued support for Ukraine, and rising semiconductor stocks as "the normal state of affairs," positioning stances contrary to these (diplomatic resolution, reduction of support, overheating concerns) as "problems" or "risks" in its agenda setting.



CHAPTER 4 — OVERALL EVALUATION

OVERALL EVALUATION OF THE 15 CRITERIA

Individual Scores — All 15 Criteria

No.	Criterion	Score	Rating
1	Expert Selection	2/10	Unremarkable
2	Source Selection	5/10	Significant imbalance
3	Time Allocation	3/10	Slight imbalance
4	SELECTIVE OMISSION	6/10	Significant imbalance
5	Numerical Manipulation	3/10	Slight imbalance
6	Guilt by Association	4/10	Slight imbalance
7	Timing	2/10	Unremarkable
8	Selective Outrage	0/10	Unremarkable
9	COMPLETENESS	7/10	Pronounced imbalance
10	Framing	4/10	Slight imbalance
11	Word Choice and Terminology	5/10	Significant imbalance
12	Presenter Behaviour	0/10	Unremarkable
13	Question Asymmetry	0/10	Unremarkable
14	False Balance	2/10	Unremarkable
15	Agenda Setting	5/10	Significant imbalance

HARD FACTS SCORE (1-8)

3.6/10

Slight imbalance

SOFT FACTS SCORE (9-14)

3.2/10

Slight imbalance

OVERALL SCORE

3.4/10

Slight imbalance

Average of Hardfacts and Softfacts



KEY — Score Definitions

Individual Scores per Criterion (0–10)

0	No finding	No relevant anomaly detected.
1–2	Weak finding	Minor anomaly without substantial impact on balance.
3–4	Slight to moderate finding	Recognizable tendency; low to moderate impact relevance.
5	Moderate finding with impact	Relevant imbalance affecting the audience's opinion-forming potential.
6	Significant finding (threshold)	Scores of 6 and above are classified as 'significant findings.'
7	Significant finding	Clear, well-documented imbalance with distinct impact relevance.
8–9	Severe finding	Pronounced imbalance; multiple documented individual findings in this criterion.
10	Maximum severity	Systematic, pervasive imbalance in this criterion.

Aggregated Deviation Index — Interpretation Ranges

0.0 – 2.5	Unremarkable	No significant patterns detected; broadcast meets the impartiality standard.
2.6 – 4.0	Slight imbalance	Isolated anomalies; statistically visible but within tolerance range.
4.1 – 6.0	Significant imbalance	Multiple significant findings; relevant impairment of perspective diversity.
6.1 – 8.0	Serious deviation from the impartiality standard. High degree of deviation	Pronounced, cross-broadcast patterns; high impact relevance.
8.1 – 10	Fundamental systemic one-sidedness. Very high bias degree	Maximum severity across nearly all criteria; systematically one-sided reporting.

Party-Political Bias (-5 to +5)

-5 to -3	Strongly disadvantaged	Party is significantly underrepresented in framing, airtime, or presentation.
-2 to -1	Slightly disadvantaged	Recognizable but minor disadvantage.
0	Neutral	No detectable favoritism or disadvantage.
+1 to +2	Slightly favored	Recognizable but minor favoritism.
+3 to +5	Strongly favored	Party is significantly overrepresented in framing, airtime, or presentation.



CHAPTER 5 — LEGAL ASSESSMENT (BROADCASTING ACT ARTICLE 4)

Assessment Based on Broadcasting Act Article 4

Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act requires political impartiality, accuracy in reporting, and multifaceted presentation of viewpoints.

Violation Item 1:

Standard: Broadcasting Act Article 4, Paragraph 4 (multifaceted presentation of viewpoints)

Facts: In the Taiwan defence budget reporting, the policy grounds of the opposition (Kuomintang) are not presented at all, and they are characterised only with the label "conciliatory towards China."

Basis: Timestamp 00:01:03–00:01:14 — Quotation: "The Legislative Yuan, where the Kuomintang and other opposition parties described as conciliatory towards China hold a majority, yesterday reduced the scale by nearly 40%"

Assessment: Portraying the opposition's position as "conciliation towards China" without policy grounds may be contrary to the obligation to present multifaceted viewpoints. However, taking into account the time constraints of breaking news, it is difficult to determine a violation based on a single broadcast alone, and verification of continuous reporting patterns is necessary.

Violation Item 2:

Standard: Broadcasting Act Article 4, Paragraph 2 (political impartiality)

Facts: In the Bulgaria reporting, the expression "known for his pro-Russia stance" is repeated twice, and Mr Radev's policy position is portrayed one-sidedly and negatively.

Basis: Timestamps 00:03:44, 00:03:53 — Quotation: "Former President Radev, known for his pro-Russia stance, has been elected as the new Prime Minister" / "the centre-left party led by Mr Radev, known for his pro-Russia stance"

Assessment: Repeatedly characterising the position of a democratically elected politician as "pro-Russia" may be problematic from the standpoint of political impartiality, but there is also an aspect where it cannot be said to be factually incorrect, and it is assessed as a matter of expression.

Overall Assessment under Broadcasting Act Article 4

As a fixed-schedule breaking news bulletin of approximately 5 minutes, this broadcast exhibits mild problems from the standpoint of political impartiality and multifaceted presentation of viewpoints as required by Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act. Specifically, the problematic points are the absence of the opposition's perspective and use of terms containing value judgements in the Taiwan defence budget reporting, and the repetition of "pro-Russia" in the Bulgaria reporting. However, no active provision of false information or serious distortion of facts is observed, and taking into account the formal constraints of a breaking news format, verification of continuous reporting patterns is necessary before determining a violation of the Broadcasting Act at this point. In light of NHK's responsibilities as a public broadcaster, even within limited time, a minimum presentation of opposing perspectives and a more cautious approach to the use of terms containing value judgements are required.

Information Source Depth Check (Mandatory verification for all expert organisations, NGOs, and consulting bodies cited)

Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence

- 1. Funding:** Operated with public funds as an administrative organ of the Taiwan government (Lai Ching-te administration, DPP).
- 2. Mandate:** As the body for planning and implementing defence policy, it is structurally difficult to provide neutral assessment from a position seeking increases in the defence budget.
- 3. Conflict of interest:** It is a party organisation directly seeking an increase in the defence budget, making statements from a position opposed to budget reduction.
- 4. Credibility Matrix (6 dimensions):**



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- D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — Direct beneficiary of defence budget increases
- D2 Personal risk: +1 — Reputational risk as an institution
- D3 Competence: +2 — Specialist institution in defence and security
- D4 Consistency of opinion: +1 — The stance of defence enhancement is consistent
- D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: 0 — The specific claim of "schedule delay" but no supporting data
- D6 Source level: +1 — Primary source (official position of a government institution)

TOTAL: +3 → Source traffic light: Yellow (-4 to +4)

5. Opposing views: Views of national defence experts from Taiwan's opposition (Kuomintang) or independent security researchers are not cited.

Important: "Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence" has credibility as a specialist institution, but in the matter of the defence budget it is a party institution with a direct conflict of interest, and it is not appropriate to treat it as a neutral expert.

DPP (Taiwan ruling party) Social Media

- 1. Funding:** Official public relations activity of a Taiwanese political party (DPP).
- 2. Mandate:** Party policy communications, which is incompatible with neutral assessment.
- 3. Conflict of interest:** This is an official statement of a party promoting increases in defence spending, with a clear political conflict of interest.

4. Credibility Matrix (6 dimensions):

- D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — Directly linked to the party's political interests
- D2 Personal risk: 0 — Reputational risk as a party is moderate
- D3 Competence: 0 — Has policy-making capability but no neutral expertise
- D4 Consistency of opinion: +1 — The stance of defence enhancement is consistent
- D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: -1 — "Any delay is a security risk" is an emotional appeal
- D6 Source level: +1 — Primary source (official party statement)

TOTAL: -1 → Source traffic light: Yellow (-4 to +4)

5. Opposing views: The Kuomintang's official statements or rebuttals are not cited.

Important: A party's social media post has value as a primary source, but it is political public relations activity and is inappropriate to treat as a neutral source. In this broadcast it is cited without contrast with the Kuomintang's official statement, resulting in a lack of source diversity.

AP (Associated Press) (cited expert views)

- 1. Funding:** A US non-profit private news agency, operated through membership fees from member media.
- 2. Mandate:** An international news agency whose mission is neutral and objective reporting.
- 3. Conflict of interest:** Direct political conflict of interest is low, but because the specific names and affiliations of the "experts" whose views are cited are not provided, the conflict of interest of those experts cannot be assessed.
- 4. Credibility Matrix (6 dimensions):** (as cited above, total +6, Source traffic light: Green)
- 5. Opposing views:** The views of experts supporting the Radev administration's policies are not cited.

Important: The AP itself is a highly credible source, but because the "experts" cited are anonymous, their credibility cannot be independently assessed. An appeal to authority — "experts say" — itself becomes a source problem unless the identity of the experts is disclosed.

This analysis has been prepared from the standpoint of compliance with Article 4 of the Broadcasting Act and is based on the transcript of approximately 4 minutes 46 seconds of NHK News (estimated broadcast date: 8 or 9 January 2025). Visual elements such as video, audio, and captions are outside the scope of assessment. Legal determination requires additional evidence and verification of continuous reporting patterns.

Legal and Methodological Notes

No factual determination

The results presented do not constitute factual determinations about individual persons, editorial teams, or broadcasts. They are the product of a standardized operationalization, not a finding of individual responsibility.



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No legal judgment

The aggregated deviation index does not replace a legal assessment under 放送法 第4条. The determination of whether a specific broadcast violates legal requirements is exclusively the responsibility of the competent authorities (in particular 総務省).

No proof of causation

Statistical correlations are not to be interpreted as proof of causal relationships or editorial intent. Deviation values may be influenced by topic selection, news environment, political controversy, or format logic.

No judgment of intent

The analysis measures observable structural characteristics of broadcasts. A score of 7 means a significant imbalance was detected — not that the editorial team intended it. The methodology makes no claims about motives or strategic objectives.

Heuristic comparison tool

The index serves comparative pattern recognition across thousands of broadcasts, not precise metric measurement of individual segments. Threshold values serve heuristic orientation, not sharp legal qualification.



APPENDIX 1: NATIONAL BROADCASTING LAW

Legal Basis Japan — NHK

Legislation

- Broadcasting Act (放送法, Act No. 132 of 1950, last amended 2024)
- NHK Reception Agreement (NHK受信規約)
- Radio Act (電波法)

Broadcasting Act Article 4 (Editing Standards)

Original text (Japanese):

放送事業者は、国内放送及び内外放送の放送番組の編集に当たっては、次の各号の定めるところによらなければならない。

- 一 公安及び善良な風俗を害しないこと。
- 二 政治的に公平であること。
- 三 報道は事実をまげないですること。
- 四 意見が対立している問題については、できるだけ多くの角度から論点を明らかにすること。

Official English translation:

(1) A broadcaster must comply with the following when editing domestic broadcast programs:

- (i) It must not negatively influence public safety or good morals.
- (ii) It must be politically fair.
- (iii) Reporting must not distort the facts.
- (iv) It must clarify the points at issue from as many angles as possible where there are conflicting opinions concerning an issue.

Ref: e-Gov (laws.e-gov.go.jp/law/325AC0000000132), Japanese Law Translation DB

Four Pillars of Bias Analysis

No.	Provision	SVFAB Analysis Reference
1	Must not harm public safety or good morals	Editorial baseline
2	Must be politically fair	Core bias metric — analogous to Swiss RTVG Art. 4
3	Reporting must not distort the facts	Factual dimension
4	Controversial issues: as many angles as possible	Multi-perspective / balance

Comparison Switzerland — Japan

Aspect	Switzerland (SRG)	Japan (NHK)
Law	RTVG Art. 4	Broadcasting Act Art. 4
Independent regulator	UBI (binding)	BPO (non-binding)



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State regulator	BAKOM/UVEK	MIC (Ministry of Internal Affairs)
Enforcement	UBI can uphold complaints; BAKOM can sanction	BPO recommends; MIC can issue administrative guidance
Funding	Serafe fee	NHK reception fee (~1,100 JPY/month)
Self-regulation	Moderate (UBI independent)	Weak (BPO co-funded by NHK)

Regulatory Authorities

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (総務省)

- Government ministry with jurisdiction over broadcasting
- Issues broadcast licences
- Can issue administrative guidance (行政指導)
- Approves NHK budget, business plan, and reception fees
- Theoretically has authority to revoke licences
- Recent action: September 2024, administrative guidance after Senkaku incident on NHK Radio International

BPO (Broadcasting Ethics and Program Improvement Organization)

- Founded 2003, non-governmental, self-regulatory
- Jointly operated by NHK and JBA (Japan Commercial Broadcasters Association)
- Three committees: Ethics Verification, Human Rights, Youth Protection
- Decisions are NOT legally binding — rely on voluntary compliance
- NHK co-funds BPO — structural independence compromised

Key BPO Decisions Regarding NHK

Year	Case	Ruling
2015	Close-up Gendai — staging allegations	Serious breach of broadcasting ethics
2022	BS Olympic Documentary (Naomi Kawase)	Serious breach — false subtitles
2023	News Watch 9 — COVID-19 reporting	Breach — vaccine families misrepresented

International Reference

- RSF Press Freedom Index: Japan 2024 Rank 70 (far behind CH: 9, NO: 1)
- Freedom House: Japan classified as "free", but media freedom under pressure (kisha clubs, government proximity)

Structural Background

NHK is the world's largest public broadcaster by budget (~720 billion JPY / ~4.5 billion EUR). Formal independence is structurally limited through the Board of Governors (12 members appointed by the Prime Minister with parliamentary consent). The kisha club system restricts access to government information to accredited media and fosters proximity between journalists and government.



APPENDIX 2: SCIENTIFIC REFERENCES

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