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**TAIWAN SAYS WILL NEVER BE 'SACRIFICED OR TRADED AWAY,' AFTER TRUMP URGED SIDES TO COOL DOWN**

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Saadet Gokce

Taiwanese leader William Lai Ching-te on Sunday said that the island "will never be sacrificed or traded away" after US President Donald Trump said that he wants Taiwan and China to "cool down" amid tensions between the two sides.

"I'm not looking to have someone go independent, and we have to travel 9,500 miles to fight a war. I want Taiwan to cool down; I want China to cool down," Trump said in an interview with Fox News on Friday.

Lai said in a post on the US social media platform Facebook on Sunday that "maintaining peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait has long been a broad consensus and shared interest of Taiwan, the United States and all democratic countries around the world," reported Focus Taiwan.

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