

TAIPEI REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE UK

駐英國台北代表處

MESSAGE FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE

Earlier this month we celebrated the 105th national day of the Republic of China (Taiwan), during which President Tsai Ing-wen delivered an important speech on transforming and renewing the country.

I would like to echo the sentiment expressed in this speech, and stress that besides pursuing domestic reform, Taiwan must persist in reaching out to play our international role wherever possible, regardless of the difficulties and challenges that lie before us.

The president rightly stressed that Taiwan has never been absent from the stage on important global issues, and will remain steadfast and committed to its path towards greater international participation.

During early November, COP22 to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the 85th General Assembly of Interpol will be held in Marrakech and Bali respectively. Though achieving meaningful participation in major international organisations remains a significant challenge for Taiwan, we are hopeful Taiwan will be permitted to participate in such organisations in the future, with the support of likeminded countries such as the UK.

Let us heed the words of President Tsai, and continue to aspire to peace, pursue democracy and engage with the wider world through fulfilling our responsibilities on the world stage, and ensuring the right of Taiwan's 23 million people to be represented at international levels.

Representative David Y. L. Lin

**PRESIDENT TSAI EMPHASISES 'ROAD OF REFORM' IN NATIONAL DAY
SPEECH**



At her first National Day address since her inauguration in May, President Tsai Ing-wen pledged the government's commitment to implementing a series of major reforms, heralding a 'new beginning' for Taiwan's domestic politics, and 'steadfast diplomacy' on the world stage.

In terms of steadfast diplomacy, the president stressed that Taiwan would continue its proactive engagement with world, pursuing meaningful participation in a wider range of major international organisations, while consolidating relations with allies and likeminded countries.

Much light was shed on the government's 'New Southbound Policy', which seeks to promote extensive engagement with the nations of Southeast Asia, South Asia, Australia and New Zealand in areas such as trade, technology, education and culture. Tsai stated that the new policy would see Taiwan 'build consensus for cooperation and reduce barriers through wide ranging negotiation and dialogue.

The president also called upon mainland China to 'face up to the reality' that Taiwan exists, pledging that a 'consistent, predictable and sustainable cross-strait relationship' that safeguards Taiwan's democracy would be established. President Tsai concluded by confirming her mission to 'instil in the people of Taiwan the belief that, through reform, [the] country will achieve greatness.'

AMBASSADOR LIN ATTENDS EBRD CONFERENCES IN CROATIA



Ambassador Lin visited Zagreb, Croatia from 11th-13th October, where he was invited to attend the opening ceremonies for two EBRD projects on women in business (WiB) and SME growth markets, both funded by Taiwan.

The ambassador delivered opening remarks at both conferences, in which he stressed Taiwan's commitment to continuing its longstanding partnership with the EBRD, as well as Taiwan's dedication to increasing capital market access for SMEs and female economic inclusion in the West Balkans.

As the EBRD's fourth largest donor country, the EBRD's Regional Head of Croatia, Vedrana Kašić paid tribute to Taiwan's contribution, stating that it was crucial to fostering the transition mandate of the EBRD.

Taiwanese donor support has contributed to the EBRD's work since 1991 and is especially directed towards information technology, the knowledge economy, business advice for SMEs, sustainable resource management, intelligent transport systems and women in business.

Taiwan also shares technical expertise and developmental experience with the EBRD's countries of operation, with Taiwanese experts being retained by the bank to engage in a wide range of projects.

FORMER TAIWAN FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS THE UK



Dr Mark Chen, a former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Taiwan and the current chairman of the Prospect Foundation, visited the UK from the 19th-20th October, where he called upon a number of British officials and UK-based think tanks.

While meeting with members of the British-Taiwanese APPG, including Co-chair Nigel Evans and Lord Faulkner of Worcester, currently the Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Taiwan, Dr Chen discussed the further development of UK-Taiwan relations.

Dr Chen also met with the UK's new Representative to Taiwan, Catherine Nettleton, where views were exchanged on subjects ranging from Taiwan's new southbound policy, cross-strait relations and Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organisations.

In addition to these meetings, Dr Chen attended a seminar held by the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) with experts specialising in East-Asian affairs, in which discussions were held regarding Taiwan's international relations and the ongoing South China Sea disputes. During the seminar Dr Chen emphasized the importance of Taiwan's voice amongst the nations of the South China Sea, as well as its continued international participation. To conclude the visit, Chen called on the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), before joining a seminar hosted by SOAS.

TAIWAN TECHNOLOGY DELEGATION HOLDS SEMINAR AT ROYAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH



A delegation of eight Taiwanese computer scientists visited Edinburgh from 18th-21st October, where they held a series of lectures on the Internet of Things (IoT) at the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE).

The team, which was led by Professor Yu-Chee Tseng, Dean of the College of Computer Science at the National Chiao Tung University, also attended a welcome dinner hosted by Professor Marian Scott, Vice President of the RSE, who praised the wide-ranging achievements made in UK-Taiwan science and technology collaboration.

Further to the seminar, the delegation visited the University of Edinburgh's School of Informatics and the Heriot-Watt University's School of Computer Science, where they discussed the potential for further co-operation between British and Taiwanese universities in the S&T field. The respective visits were organised by the TRO's Science and Technology division.

The computer science delegation was supported by Taiwan's Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) under the MOST-RSE memorandum of understanding (MOU) on scientific collaboration. Further to the existing MOU, MOST and the RSE are expected to announce a joint project on the IoT in early November.

MINISTER YING-YUAN LEE CALLS FOR TAIWAN'S UNFCCC PARTICIPATION



Taiwan's Minister of the Environmental Protection Administration, Ying-Yuan Lee has urged international support for Taiwan's participation in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Lee stressed that as a member of the international community 'Taiwan cannot be a mere spectator' of international efforts to combat climate change. The minister reiterated President Tsai's stance outlined in her inaugural address, making it clear that Taiwan will not 'be absent from global efforts to mitigate climate change' and that the government will continue to review its goals regarding cutting greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with the Paris Agreement.

While Taiwan takes its responsibility for managing climate change very seriously, with strong commitments to reducing domestic carbon emissions, its ability to partake in international efforts to pursue this cause is significantly restricted by its exclusion from the UNFCCC.

Lee urged the international community to recognise and support Taiwan's determination to gain meaningful participation in the UNFCCC and become part of the global climate network, stating 'Taiwan is willing to share [its] environmental protection experiences and contribute to international efforts. Together with friendly nations, we will join hands to safeguard a sustainable earth.'

TAIWANESE VIOLINIST YU-CHIEN TSENG PERFORMED WITH THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA IN LONDON



At a concert in London's Southbank Centre, the exceptional Taiwanese violinist Yu-Chien Tseng performed with the London Philharmonic Orchestra on 21st October.

Tseng, who was the winner of the respective Singapore International Violin and Tchaikovsky International competitions in 2015, played 'The Lark Ascending', written by the English composer Ralph Vaughn Williams, winning the hearts and the applause of the audience in so doing.

The performance was also attended by Ambassador David Lin, the Paraguayan Ambassador to the UK, Miguel Solano-Lopez, as well as Heather Wheeler, the Member of Parliament for South Derbyshire, who each extended their congratulations to the violinist.

The Lark Ascending piece is described as 'rooted in its own place' and speaking 'with a universal voice', with the piece forming part of the second of a series of four concerts in which Vänskä conducts all of Sibelius' symphonies.

Taiwan in the news:

- [President Tsai urges support and collaboration at global health forum](#)
- [Taiwan hostage released by Somalia pirates after four years](#)
- [Ex-U.S. vice president visits Taiwan](#)

- [2016 Taiwan KOM Challenge attracts nearly 400 cyclists](#)
- [China students to be covered by Taiwan's health insurance](#)



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