

TAIPEI REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE UK

駐英國台北代表處



Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen delivers her National Day address.

IN THE NEWSLETTER

Key events featured in this issue include President Tsai's National Day address, the Overseas Taiwanese community's National Day celebration, Taiwan and SOAS signing an MoU, former Taiwan Deputy Defence Minister participating in a discussion panel in Parliament, a Taiwan delegation's visit to the UK to promote judicial exchanges, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy President's meeting with UK counterpart, Taiwan contributing to EBRD's Small Businesses Impact Fund, the Taiwan Film Festival UK pre-launch and Representative Lin attending the LEAFF opening gala.

President Tsai vows to build stronger Taiwan in National Day address

On 10 October, President Tsai Ing-wen vowed to build a stronger Taiwan by boosting the country's national security, economic competitiveness and social safety net in her National Day address. In the face of dramatic changes in international politics and economics and the expansion of China's influence, the country will pursue a strategy of stability, adaptability and progress rooted in national strength, the president stated. "The best way to defend Taiwan is to make it indispensable and irreplaceable to the world."

The president pointed out that China's diplomatic offensive and military coercion have seriously challenged the cross-strait status quo, and these actions have caused concern in the global community. Taiwan will not be provoked into confrontations that endanger cross-strait relations, but will remain composed and work to protect the nation's free and democratic way of live, safeguard its sustainable development and maintain peace and stability, she stated. "In facing changing international circumstances, our strategic choice is clear, and that is to staunchly defend freedom, democracy and the market economy," she added. President Tsai went on to stress the government's objectives in R&D, cooperation with New Southbound Policy countries and the economy and highlighted the positive results of key policies, including the five-plus-two industrial innovation program and forward-looking infrastructure development program.

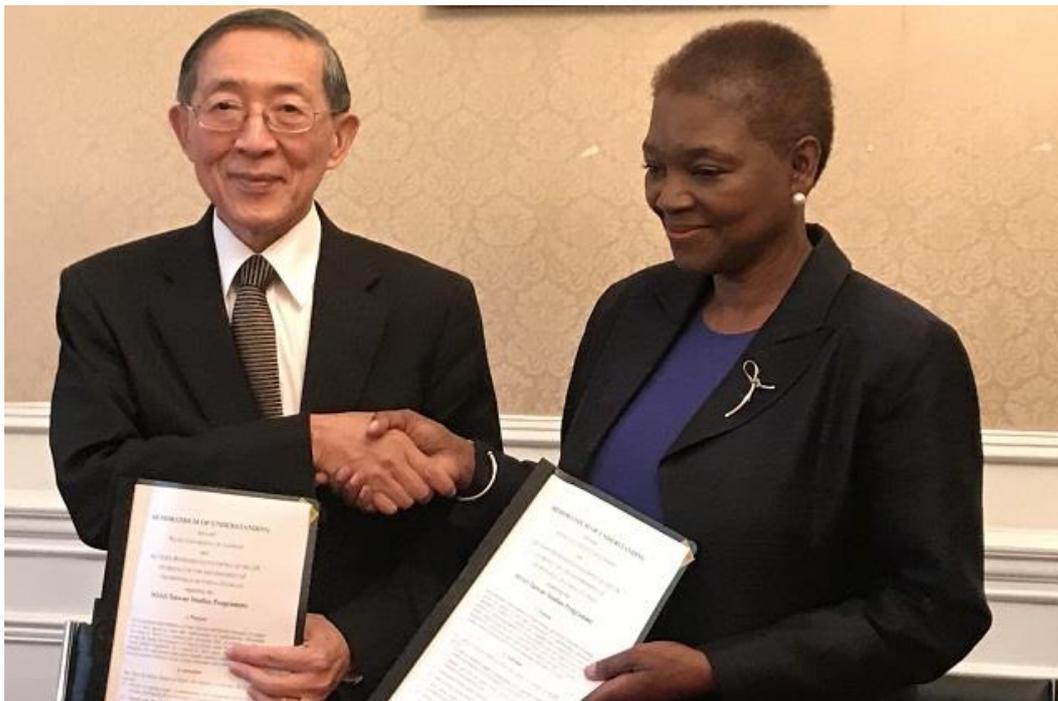
The address was delivered in front of the Presidential Office Building in Taipei City with several high-level local officials in attendance, including Vice President Chen Chien-jen, Legislative Yuan President Su Jia-chyuan and Premier Lai Ching-te. Many distinguished foreign guests were also present, including Paraguay President Mario Abdo Benitez, St Lucia Prime Minister Allen Chastanet and St Kitts and Nevis Governor-General Sir S.W. Tapley Seaton, as well as delegations from Germany, Japan, South Africa and the US.

Overseas Taiwanese in UK celebrate Taiwan's 107th National Day



On 6 October, the Taiwanese overseas community in the UK held a celebration in honour of Taiwan's 107th National Day at the Millennium Gloucester Hotel. Around 300 overseas Taiwanese attended the event, which featured several performances organised by the National Day Celebration Preparatory Committee, including Taiwanese singers, flautists and violinists. In his address, Representative Lin expressed gratitude for the patriotic spirit and enthusiasm of overseas Taiwanese living in the UK.

Taiwan and SOAS sign MoU promoting expansion of Taiwan Studies



On 4 October, Representative Lin signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) Director Baroness Amos to promote the university's Taiwan Studies Programme. The MoU marks yet another three-year collaboration between the government of Taiwan and the SOAS Centre of Taiwan Studies (CTS) to promote the expansion of Taiwan Studies. Deputy Representative Shyang-Yun Cheng and SOAS CTS Director Dr Dafydd Fell and Deputy Director Dr Bi-Yu Chang were also present to witness the signing of the MoU.

In his opening remarks, Representative Lin thanked Baroness Amos for her long-standing support of the Taiwan Studies Programme and Dr Fell for his contributions to its success. He highlighted the growing academic links between Taiwan and the UK and praised the CTS for maintaining and strengthening academic links between the UK and other centres of Taiwan studies across the globe. Representative Lin pledged on behalf of the government of Taiwan to continue contributing to the growing body of scholars in the field through scholarships and grants.

Former Taiwan Deputy Defence Minister discusses China's expansion in UK Parliament



On 16 October, former Taiwan Deputy Minister of National Defence Admiral Yeong-Kang Chen participated in a discussion panel on the geopolitical situation in the South China Sea, which was held by the Henry Jackson Society at the House of Commons. Admiral Chen addressed the issue of potential military conflict in the region, arguing that China is changing the status quo and seeking to control the South China Sea through island-building. On the subject of changing China's behaviour, the panel agreed on the need to act in a multilateral fashion while employing economic, military and diplomatic means.

Experts on the panel included prominent academics and researchers, including US Admiral Scott Swift, the MIT Center for International Studies Robert E. Wilhelm Fellow, Professor Peter Dutton at the US Naval War College and Research Fellow at the US-Asia Law Institute, Professor Peter Roberts, Director of Military Sciences at the Royal United Services Institute and Dr John Hemmings, the Director of the Asia Studies Centre at the Henry Jackson Society.

Taiwan delegation visits UK to promote bilateral judicial exchanges

From 22-29 September, a four-member Taiwan delegation visited the UK to further promote bilateral judicial exchanges and gain a deeper understanding of Britain's sentencing system. The delegation was composed of key members from Taiwan's Judicial Yuan, including Criminal Department Director General Mrs Su-E Su as well as Judges Shang-Yu Lin, Yuan-Yao Wu and Hsiao-Han Chiu.

During the visit, the delegation met with TRO Deputy Representative Shyang-Yun Cheng, members from the Sentencing Council for England and Wales and Criminal Case Review Commission and Lord President and Lord Justice General, Scotland, Lord Carloway, to exchange views on the UK's sentencing system, judicial reform and enhancing bilateral

judicial ties for the future.

TFD President meets UK counterpart to promote cooperation on human rights



From 10-12 September, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy (TFD) President Ford Fu-Te Liao visited the UK and met with Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD) Chief Executive Anthony Smith. During the meeting, the two sides discussed the possibility of co-funding projects to further promote human rights in the Asian region. President Ford welcomed the WFD to nominate candidates for the TFD's annual 'Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award' and invited Chief Executive Smith to attend the Asia Young Leaders for Democracy Program in Taipei, which will take place in June next year. The two also discussed the possibility of co-sponsoring visits from Southeast Asian legislators to Taiwan to observe the operations of the country's democracy. The TFD President also expressed hope that the WFD would co-host a forum in the UK focusing on human rights in China and Asia.

Taiwan contributes to EBRD's Small Businesses Impact Fund



On 17 October, Representative Lin and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Managing Director Alan Rousso signed an agreement in which Taiwan will contribute €600,000 to the Small Business Impact Fund (SBIF). The signing ceremony took place at the EBRD London headquarters, with US Director Judy Shelton, Managing Director for SME Finance & Development Claudio Viezzoli, Director of Donor Co-Financing Camilla Otto and EBRD project team members in attendance.

The EBRD established the SBIF in 2015 to raise donor funds to support small and medium-sized enterprises in the Bank's countries of operation. Since 2016, Taiwan has contributed more than €1 million to the SBIF, sponsoring several projects such as the Women in Business in Croatia and Business Development and Matching projects between the EBRD countries of operations and Taiwan's ICT sector.

Taiwan Film Festival Pre-Launch held across UK



From 11-22 October, a pre-launch programme was held to promote the inaugural Taiwan Film Festival UK, which is set to take place in April next year. A selection of critically-acclaimed Taiwanese films, including 'Goodbye, Dragon Inn' by Tsai Ming-liang and 'Seediq Bale' by Wei Te-sheng, were screened at eight universities across the UK, giving attendees an opportunity to experience the unique characteristics of Taiwan cinema. On 11 October, a special screening of 'Suming Carrying the Flag' was held at Rye Wax in London, and also featured a special musical performance by Suming Rupi and Ado Kailiting Pacidal.

Representative Lin attends LEAFF 2018 opening gala



On 25 October, Representative Lin attended the London East Asia Film Festival 2018 (LEAFF) opening gala, accompanied by Deputy Representative Shyang-yun Cheng and TRO Cultural Director Cheryl Lai. Distinguished guests from the international film community, such as Korean actors Han Ji-Min and Kim Yoon-Seok, as well as members of London's diplomatic corps, including the Ambassador of Indonesia to the UK, were also in attendance.

In his opening remarks, Representative Lin expressed his gratitude that through LEAFF's strong partnership with the Taipei Representative Office in the UK a specially curated strand titled 'Cinematic Journey Through Taiwan' could be screened for British audiences. He also commended the LEAFF team for curating a programme that represents the best of Taiwanese cinema, from classic films to the emerging talent of today.

Taiwan in the news:

- [Taiwanese astrophysicist awarded prestigious research chair](#)
- [German wind turbine-servicing firm to open office in Taiwan](#)
- [Taiwanese experts visit India to promote AI cooperation](#)
- [Taiwan weightlifter wins two gold medals, one silver at world games](#)
- [The Royal Blues Taipei wins immigrant soccer competition](#)



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