

**TAIPEI REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE UK**

駐英國台北代表處



President Tsai meets with Lord Faulkner of Worcester, UK Trade Envoy to Taiwan.

**IN THE NEWSLETTER**

Key events featured in this issue include Taiwan President's meeting with Lord Faulkner of Worcester, Foreign Minister Wu calling on the UN to stop excluding Taiwan, Taiwan honouring the last wish of a British WWII veteran, *The Times* calling on the West to resist China's bullying of Taiwan, Reporters Without Borders urging the UN to accredit Taiwan journalists, former BBC foreign correspondent calling for greater recognition of Taiwan, Taiwan pavilion in London Design Biennale, Taiwan's musicians' performance at St Martin-in-the-fields, TRO's concert showcasing Taiwanese music and tea as well as Taiwan highlight in the 2018 London East Asia Film Festival.

**President Tsai meets UK Trade Envoy to strengthen bilateral relations**

On 20 September, President Tsai Ing-wen welcomed UK Trade Envoy to Taiwan Lord Faulkner of Worcester at the Presidential Office to discuss further enhancing bilateral relations in the field of renewable energy. During the meeting, President Tsai highlighted Taiwan's commitment to developing renewable energy and building a nuclear free homeland. She cited the UK's successful experience in energy transformation and power industry reform as a potential model for Taiwan to achieve its goal of becoming nuclear

free by 2025. The President remarked on the positive results achieved in the first "Taiwan-UK Energy Dialogue" held in London in June this year, in which both nations exchanged views on offshore wind power, renewable energy and energy storage. Following the success of the dialogue, the President expressed her hope to further explore opportunities for bilateral cooperation in the field of renewable energy.

At the invitation of Taiwan's Ministry of Economic Affairs, Lord Faulkner attended the opening ceremony of the 'Energy Taiwan 2018' forum on 19 September. Representing the British government, Lord Faulkner and 6 UK businesses participated in the forum from 19-21 September to enhance Taiwan-UK cooperation in the renewable energy sector. On 20 September, the UK Trade Envoy to Taiwan also spoke at the 'Hydrogen Energy Industry Trend Forum'.

## **Taiwan Foreign Minister calls on UN to stop excluding the nation**



As the United Nations General Assembly convened in New York in mid-September, Taiwan Foreign Minister Jaushieh Joseph Wu highlighted how the nation can help achieve UN goals and called on the international organisation to stop excluding Taiwan from participation. "While Taiwan's valuable contributions have been widely acclaimed around the globe, the UN continues to ignore what Taiwan can offer," the Foreign Minister said. He detailed Taiwan's contributions to UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the national and international levels, including zero hunger, reducing low-income households to under 2 per cent and providing development assistance to other countries.

Despite these contributions, Taiwanese are denied entry into UN premises "simply because the UN does not accept the Republic of China (Taiwan)'s passport, which is recognised by almost every country in the world," Minister Wu pointed out. The UN has also refused to accredit Taiwan's journalists to cover its activities, though its work "is in the

interests of the people of Taiwan and the world,” he stressed. Minister Wu also expressed disappointment at the organisation’s use of the so called One-China principle to justify Taiwan’s exclusion and isolation. “It is wrong of the UN, an organization created to serve all of humankind, to unilaterally define Taiwan’s status”, the Minister stated.

Citing Article 1 of the UN’s own charter, Minister Wu argued that by excluding a willing and able partner like Taiwan, the UN not only violates the fundamental human rights of Taiwan’s 23 million citizens but also greatly harms human welfare. “To ensure the UN remains relevant to all people, the organization should stand up to external pressures and open its doors to Taiwan,” he concluded.

## **Taiwan honours last wish of British WWII veteran by draping its national flag over coffin**



The funeral of British veteran Gerald Fitzpatrick, who was rescued by the Republic of China (Taiwan)’s Nationalist troops in Burma during World War II, was held in Leeds on 20 September. Taiwan’s Representative in the UK David Y.L. Lin, along with four military officers from Taiwan, attended the funeral and draped the country’s flag over the coffin at the ceremony to fulfil the wishes of the former British soldier.

Mr Gerald Fitzpatrick served as a captain in the King’s Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and had repeatedly requested to have his coffin draped in the Taiwanese flag at his funeral as a tribute to the rescue mission carried out by the country’s troops in 1942.

In his remarks at the World War II veteran’s funeral, Representative Lin expressed condolences to Captain Fitzpatrick’s family on behalf of the government of Taiwan. “Mr Fitzpatrick was a true friend to Taiwan...The government of Taiwan attaches great importance to Mr Fitzpatrick’s last wish and by fulfilling it, we’ve paid him our high tribute,” said Representative Lin.

# **The Times calls on the West to resist China's bullying of Taiwan**

THE  TIMES

LEADING ARTICLE

SEPTEMBER 7 2018, 12:01AM, THE TIMES

## **Solidarity with Taiwan**

The West needs to unite in resisting China's bullying of Taiwan



**A**s Washington wonders who is in charge in the White House, China may be wondering who is in charge in Washington. A key part of the answer is the US Congress, where four senators have introduced a bill to punish countries that downgrade their relations with Taipei in order to curry favour with Beijing. This bill deserves support from both main parties in the United States, and from America's allies assuming it becomes policy.

On 7 September, *The Times* published a leader titled 'Solidarity with Taiwan' calling on Western democracies to unite and stand against China's bullying of the nation. The piece highlighted the reasons why the West should do more to support Taiwan. "Taiwan is a prosperous independent democracy"; "It seeks and deserves solidarity from other democracies on the simple moral basis that democracies have a right to self-determination," *The Times* stated. The piece stressed the US's recent measures in support of the country, including Congress passing legislation which makes high-level contact between Taiwan and the US more convenient as well as the new Senate bill which discourages other countries from cutting diplomatic relations with Taipei. The article pointed out other countries that maintain close ties with Taiwan, such as Japan and the UK, are noticeably absent from the international debate on the nation's future. "Washington should not be left to hold the line alone," *The Times* concluded.

## **Reporters Without Borders urges UN to accredit Taiwanese journalists**



As the 73rd annual United Nations General Assembly opened on 18 September, Reporters Without Borders (RSF) called on the UN to authorise Taiwanese journalists to cover its events. RSF specifically urged the UN to allow Taiwan's press to report on the General Assembly itself as well as the World Health Assembly (WHA) in Geneva next spring. "Accrediting Taiwanese journalists is not a political move, and it avoids unacceptable discrimination that contradicts all's fundamental right to free information," said RSF Secretary-General Christophe Deloire in an official statement. The Secretary-General also stressed that preventing Taiwanese journalists from covering UN events goes against Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The statement concluded by calling on the UN "to accredit journalists of good faith, regardless of their nationality or the place of origin of their media."

The NGO also pointed out that over the past years, "China has been lobbying in every possible way to isolate Taiwan on the international stage, including journalists from doing their job." RSF cited two other instances in which Taiwanese journalists were denied accreditation due to Chinese pressure, including the WHA earlier this May as well as the 2016 triannual Assembly hosted by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The nation's journalists, previously able to cover WHA events, have been barred access since 2017.

**Former BBC foreign correspondent calls for greater recognition of Taiwan**



On 5 September, the launch of author Humphrey Hawksley's latest book *Asian Waters: The Struggle Over the Asia-Pacific and the Strategy of Chinese Expansion* took place at the National Liberal Club. The former BBC foreign correspondent's most recent work contains a chapter on Taiwan which details the country's important role in the South and East China Seas, Western-style democracy and relationship with the US and China. At the launch event, the author gave a talk in which he argued that China is issuing its global challenge through military expansion in the East and South China Seas. In his speech, Mr Hawksley discussed each one of the five flashpoints in Asia that make up the core themes of his book, including the relationship between China and Taiwan. He also stressed the significance of the nation: "Taiwan is about bringing democracy to a non-western culture, but Taiwan has not received recognition for its achievement," he said.

At the author's invitation, Representative Lin also spoke at the launch event. He pointed out that despite China's pressure, Taiwan has continued to play a proactive role in maintaining peace, stability and security in the Asia Pacific. Representative Lin also stressed that with its geopolitical importance, Taiwan aims to contribute to building a framework for peace, stability and prosperity in the region in partnership with the US, Japan and other like-minded countries.

## **Taiwan Pavilion participates in London Design Biennale 2018**



On September 5, the celebration for the Taiwan Pavilion's opening at the London Design Biennale 2018 was held at Somerset House. The launch of the Taiwan Pavilion - titled "Invisible Calls" - was attended by representatives from UK and European organisations including the London Festival of Architecture, London Craft Week and the Finnish Cultural Institute. In his remarks, Representative Lin said he was very grateful to people from all walks of life for attending the celebration, and that the Taiwan Pavilion offers members of the public the opportunity to garner a greater understanding of Taiwanese society as well as Taiwan's art and culture.

London Design Biennale Executive Director Sumantra Ghose also gave special mention to the Taiwan Pavilion in his opening address, stating that the Taiwan's participation offers the opportunity to the artists to share ideas with other participants from around the world. "Invisible Calls" attracted critical praise, with design magazine *Dezeen* highlighting the exhibit as one of the ten best installations of the entire biennale.

## **Taiwan's musicians perform at St Martin-in-the-fields in London**



On 18 September, distinguished pianist Wei-lun Su and her troupe of talented musicians represented Taiwan at the St Martin-in-the-fields' Embassy and Cultural Institute Series to perform Taiwanese folk music. Representative Lin gave an opening speech in which he expressed gratitude to the performers and the St Martin-in-the-fields staff for their efforts in organising the event, which marks the second year in a row that Taiwan has participated in the series. The concert, titled "Enchanting music of Taiwanese Folk & Art Songs", showcased the best of the island's folk music and compositions, including such classics as "Longing for the Spring Breeze" and "Forever Homeland". The event attracted over 100 audience members, who gave the musicians a standing ovation following the end of their tremendous performance.

**TRO concert showcases Taiwanese music and tea culture**



On 19 September, the TRO hosted a concert titled “Oriental Beauty Tea meets Taiwanese Folk & Art Songs” highlighting Taiwan’s folk music and tea culture at the National Liberal Club. Representative Lin opened the event with a speech in which he remarked positively on Taiwan’s unique cultural identity and its growing cultural exchanges with the UK. Pianist Wei-Lun Su and her troupe of musicians showcased some of the nation’s finest folk music, including “Jasmine in June” and “Longing for the Spring Breeze”. Tea master Chin-Yu Li and her team also exhibited the island’s illustrious tea culture by serving Taiwan’s famous ‘Oriental Beauty’ Oolong in a special ceremony. The event attracted an audience of approximately 100 people, including former Deputy Chairman of the Taiwan-Britain Business Council Peter Kent as well as members of the Taiwanese community in the UK.

## **Taiwan highlighted in 2018 London East Asia Film Festival**



(Original source: London East Asia Film Festival)

On 19 September, the official programme launch was held for the London East Asia Film Festival (LEAFF) 2018, which is set to take place from 25 October to 4 November. To mark the recent surge of domestic and foreign attention surrounding Taiwanese cinema, LEAFF announced that Taiwan would be highlighted in its third annual film festival. This year's programme features "Cinematic Journey Through Taiwan", which will include film screenings, panel discussions and in-depth conversations. In total, ten films from Taiwan will be screened ranging from classics such as 'A City of Sadness' to more recent releases including the Golden Horse Award-winning 'Great Buddha+'.

At the invitation of LEAFF, Representative Lin gave introductory remarks in which he praised the festival for its role in giving visibility to East Asian cinema and expressed hope that Taiwan's central role in the year's festival would allow British audiences gain a deeper understanding of the nation. TRO Cultural Director Cheryl Lai was also in attendance.

#### Taiwan in the news:

- [Taiwan team finds cure for hair loss from chemo, radiation therapies](#)
- [Taiwan climbs to 5th in world baseball rankings](#)
- [32 Taiwanese universities included in world university rankings](#)
- [Kaohsiung looks to share experience, knowledge at cities forum](#)
- [Typhoon Trami causes Taiwan-Japan flight disruptions](#)

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