

## TAIPEI REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE UK

駐英國台北代表處



“Walk with Taiwan” march in London calling for country’s inclusion in the 72<sup>nd</sup> WHA.

### IN THE NEWSLETTER

Key events featured in this issue include the “Walk with Taiwan” march in London calling for Taiwan’s inclusion in the 72<sup>nd</sup> WHA, Foreign Minister Joseph Wu’s interview with the *Telegraph* about Taiwan’s exclusion from the WHO and WHA, Representative Lin’s letter urging LSE to maintain Taiwan’s original depiction on a sculpture published in the *Economist*, Taiwan becoming the first Asian country to legalise same-sex marriage, Representative Lin leading a Taiwan delegation at the EBRD annual meeting to boost cooperation, a Taiwanese visually-impaired athlete competing in the London Marathon, the TRO Education Division visiting Taiwanese student societies at universities across the UK, a Taiwanese ceramics master’s debut UK exhibition at London Craft Week, a Taiwanese Dance Group performing at a Scottish festival, the upcoming Taiwan Studies Summer School at SOAS and Taiwan Studies Programme annual conference at the University of Nottingham.

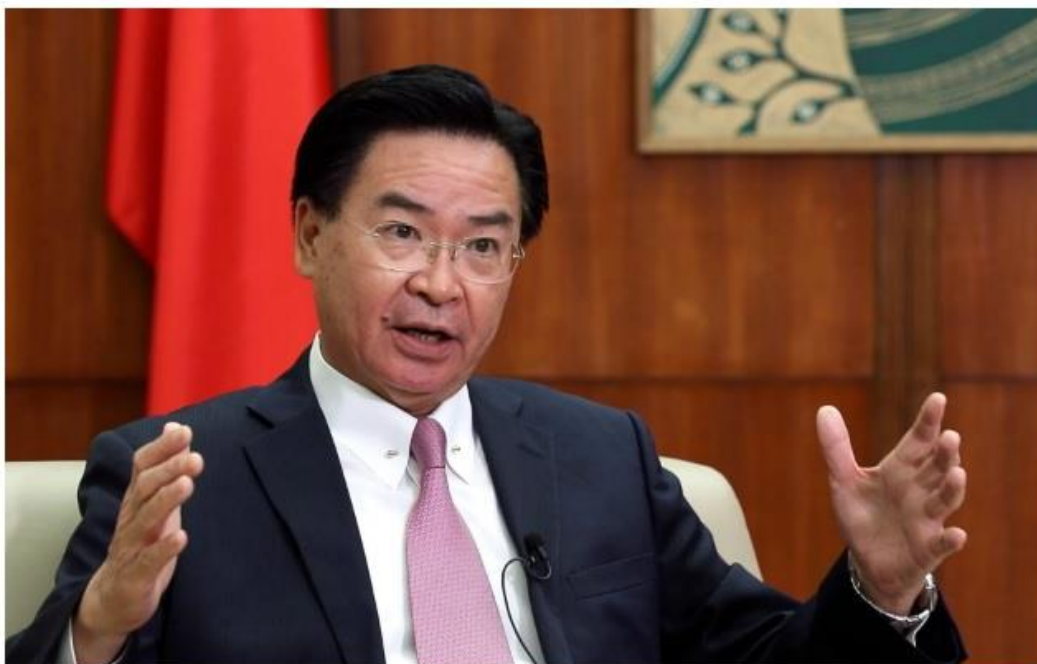
### “Walk with Taiwan” march in London calls for Taiwan’s inclusion in 72<sup>nd</sup> WHA

Organised by the Taiwanese Women’s Association in the UK, the “Walk With Taiwan” march was held on 16 May in central London from Trafalgar to Parliament Square. The

march called for Taiwan's inclusion in the 72<sup>nd</sup> World Health Assembly (WHA) from 20-28 May. Over 100 people participated in the event, including Representative Lin, TRO personnel and members of the Taiwanese overseas community as well as friends and supporters from the UK, including parliamentarians such as Taiwanese-British All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) Co-Chair Lord Rogan, Lord Foster of Bath, Lord Bethell, Lord Dholakia and Bob Stewart MP. Standing in front of the statue of Gandhi in Parliament Square, the parliamentarians expressed support for Taiwan's inclusion in the world health summit. Lord Foster of Bath stated "health and the problems of health know absolutely no boundaries. Taiwan is an independent, highly-developed country that has the capacity to help deal with those world health problems."

That same day, a letter calling for Taiwan's inclusion in the WHA co-signed by Former Prime Minister of Denmark and Secretary-General of NATO Anders Fogh Rasmussen, British-Taiwanese APPG Co-Chair Nigel Evans MP and EU parliamentarians from France, Denmark and Berlin was published in the *Telegraph*. The parliamentarians pointed out that the World Health Organization (WHO)'s constitution describes health as the fundamental right of every human being, and called for the global health body to "apply this principle without fear or favour and reinstate Taipei's invitation to its annual forum."

## **Taiwan Foreign Minister interviewed by the *Telegraph* about Taiwan's exclusion from WHO and WHA**



(Original Source: *Telegraph*)

On 9 May, Taiwan Foreign Minister Joseph Wu was interviewed by the *Telegraph* about the greater risk of pandemics posed by the country's exclusion from the WHO and 72<sup>nd</sup> WHA convening from 20-28 May. The Minister pointed out that Taipei's exclusion from the world health summit and WHO's technical meetings creates a loophole in the global health security network that could quicken the spread of pandemics in Taiwan, Asia and the world. According to the minister, as millions of passengers pass through Taiwan every

year, the country requires the most up-to-date information as soon as possible to prevent the spread of disease. He stressed that Taiwan needs the WHO's guidance in dealing with outbreaks, and excluding Taiwan puts neighbouring countries in great jeopardy as well. Citing the terrifying outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in Taiwan in 2003, the minister pointed out that Taiwan's ability to handle health emergencies was hampered by its ban from the WHA as well as its restricted access to potentially life-saving data from the WHO, leading some 150,000 people to be quarantined and 37 patients died.

Minister Wu also highlighted the building international support for Taiwan's inclusion in the WHO and WHA from several countries, including the UK, US, Canada, Australia and Japan. The Taiwan official stressed the country's determination to help the international community and contribute to the global fight against disease despite serious setbacks.

## Representative Lin urges LSE to maintain Taiwan's original depiction on sculpture in the *Economist*

### A cartographic clash

\* The possible change of the colour depicting **Taiwan** on "The World Turned Upside Down" sculpture at London School of Economics is of grave concern ("[Art attack](#)", April 13th). Since **Taiwan** has never been part of the People's Republic of China, changing the colour of **Taiwan** on the sculpture is erroneous as it simply does not reflect the fact. Moreover, it is Britain's longstanding government policy and position to refer to **Taiwan** simply as "**Taiwan**".

The LSE's citing United Nations delineations, rather than its own government's policy, as the authority to decide the content of public artwork, and more importantly, to represent its own perspective and position, will seriously damage its own reputation as one of the freest and most respected academic institutions in the world.

In this respect, it is important that the LSE will acknowledge the reality of the existence of democratic **Taiwan** and the democratically-elected president, Dr. Tsai Ing-wen, who, incidentally, is also a proud alumna of the LSE.

Following the announcement of the LSE's decision on the sculpture, we have received many messages of support both from politicians and members of the public regarding keeping the sculpture in its originally intended state, including an online petition that has garnered over 10,000 signatures, evidencing support against the aggressive moves of Chinese students to alter the status quo.

I therefore strongly urge the LSE not to bow to Chinese students' pressure and maintain the sculpture's original depiction of **Taiwan**.

DAVID LIN  
Representative  
Taipei Representative Office in the United Kingdom

On 3 May, Representative Lin's letter urging the London School of Economics (LSE) to maintain the original depiction of Taiwan on the "World Turned Upside Down" sculpture instead of changing its colour to match that of China was published in the *Economist*. Representative Lin pointed out that since Taiwan has never been part of the People's Republic of China, changing the colour of Taiwan on the sculpture is erroneous as it simply does not reflect the fact. The Taiwan Head of Mission in the UK also emphasised that the LSE's decision goes against the UK government's policy and position to refer to Taiwan as simply "Taiwan". He warned that the LSE's citing the United Nations delineations rather than the UK government's policy to represent its own perspective and position would seriously damage its reputation as one of the freest and most respected academic institutions in the world.

Representative Lin called on the LSE to acknowledge the reality and existence of

democratic Taiwan and its democratically-elected president, Dr Tsai Ing-wen, who is incidentally a proud alumna of the university. He highlighted the strong support from politicians and members of the public to keep the sculpture in its original state and stand against aggressive moves of Chinese students to alter the status quo, citing an online petition signed by over 10,000 people. He concluded by strongly urging the LSE not to bow to Chinese students' pressure and maintain the sculpture's original depiction of Taiwan.

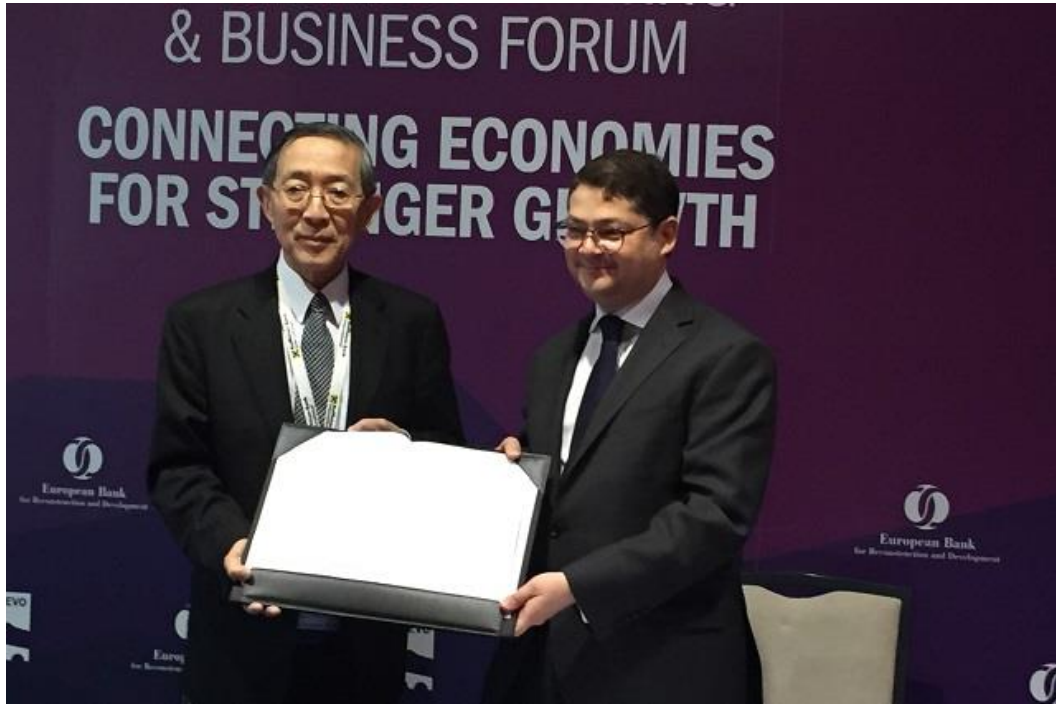
## **Taiwan becomes the first Asian country to legalise same-sex marriage**



On 17 May, Taiwan made history by becoming the first country in Asia to legalise same-sex marriage following a landmark vote by the parliament. Thousands of gay rights supporters awaiting the ruling outside the parliament shouted with joy and embraced when the result was announced. President Tsai lauded the outcome, stating “On May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in Taiwan, love won. We took a big step towards true equality, and made Taiwan a better country.” The legalisation of same-sex marriage in Taiwan also coincided with the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia 2019.

The UK government congratulated Taiwan on the historic development, with UK Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt tweeting that it is “another huge step forward for LGBT equality in Asia.” The news was published across all major UK news outlets, including the *BBC*, *Guardian*, *Financial Times*, *Telegraph* and *Times*.

## **Representative Lin leads Taiwan delegation at EBRD Annual Meeting to boost cooperation**



From 7-9 May, Representative Lin led a Taiwan delegation to participate in the EBRD's 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Business Forum in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina to boost cooperation with the Bank and its countries of operations. On 9 May, Representative Lin and EBRD Vice President Pierre Heilbronn signed an agreement providing US\$8,000,000 as replenishment to the TaiwanBusiness-EBRD Technical Cooperation Fund. During his visit, Representative Lin also held bilateral meetings with other heads of delegation from the EBRD's countries of operations to exchange views on how Taiwan, in partnership with the Bank, can strengthen economic ties and technical cooperation with their nations.

The delegation was comprised of representatives from Taiwan governmental agencies and NGOs, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Taiwan ICDF and Taiwan Office for EBRD Business Development. A number of Taiwanese companies also took part in the event, including MiTac Information Technology, Engineering Industry Globalization Office, International Climate Development Institute (ICDI) and Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA).

## **Taiwanese visually-impaired athlete competes in London Marathon**



On 28 April, Kuo-chan Hung became the first visually impaired runner from Taiwan to compete in the world-renowned London Marathon. The Taiwanese runner successfully gained entry to participate in the event by raising and donating £2,000 to the UK's Royal National Institute of the Blind. In addition, two other Taiwanese citizens completed the marathon, including Hung's guide Chung-ting Yang and Ministry of Defence Press Officer Peng-hsin Ko.

In an interview with Taiwan's Central News Agency following the race, Hung said one of the reasons he decided to compete was to let the world see visually impaired people's courage and how advanced Taiwanese society is, that even citizens with disabilities are able to stand with others at the forefront of the international community.

## **TRO Education Division visits Taiwanese Student Societies at universities across UK**



From 3-4 May, TRO Education Division Director Dr Nicole Yen-Yi Lee travelled to the University of York and University of Edinburgh to meet with Taiwanese student societies. During the visits, Director Lee spoke with the Taiwanese student society members about their experiences, aims and challenges, promoted the Yushan (Young) Scholar Programme and discussed establishing Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) centres at both universities. On 9 May, Director Lee attended the University of Leeds' "Taiwan Day", an annual event supported by the TRO, to assist the school's Taiwanese society in hosting exhibitions showcasing traditional Taiwanese culture and opportunities to study in Taiwan.

## **Taiwan ceramics master holds debut UK exhibition at London Craft Week**



Taiwan participated for the third consecutive year in the annual London Craft Week from 8-12 May, hosting the debut exhibition of Taiwanese engineer-turned-ceramics master Jui-fang Hsueh and his wife, renowned calligrapher Feng-zu Lin at Noho Studios. On 8 May, a reception was held to celebrate the exhibition launch and was attended by distinguished guests from the fields of politics, culture and business.

In his opening remarks, Deputy Representative Shyang-yun Cheng emphasised that ceramic-making is an integral part of Taiwanese culture, and that through Taiwan's continued collaboration with London Craft Week, British audiences are offered an opportunity to learn more about Taiwan's rich history and culture. Following the speech, Mr Hsueh discussed with the audience how he combines science and art to create unique ceramic works.

## **Taiwan Dance Group wows at Scottish Festival**





Taiwanese dance troupe Chang Dance Theatre were invited to participate in the Rise 2019 Festival in Findhorn, organised by Dance North Scotland, from 3-5 May. The four brothers performed their critically-acclaimed routine 'Bon 4 Bon', which tells the heart-warming story of their shared experience growing up in Taiwan. The show was well-received, with critics praising the performance as "laced with charm." Chang Dance Theatre will return to the UK to participate in the 2019 Edinburgh Festival Fringe with their new show 'Bout' at Dance Base Studios.

## Taiwan Studies Summer School set to take place at SOAS

### Centre of Taiwan Studies

#### 2019 Taiwan Studies Summer School

Brian Hioe, Tommy Kwan, Shen Ko-shang, Fu Yue, Lin Pei-yin, Leon Kunz, Sylvia Feng, Lucie Liu

Date: 17 June 2019 Time: 9:00 AM

Finishes: 21 June 2019 Time: 6:00 PM

Venue: Russell Square: College Buildings

Type of Event: Summer School

12th SOAS Centre of Taiwan Studies Summer School

SOAS Centre of Taiwan Studies

倫敦大學亞非學院臺灣研究中心

17th-21st June 2019

To register to attend this year's Summer School, please complete our [registration form](#)



(Original Source: SOAS Centre of Taiwan Studies)

The 12<sup>th</sup> Centre of Taiwan Studies Summer School will take place from 17-21 June at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London. The five-day event will cover the key themes of documenting Taiwan, family relations and social movements. Academics in the field of Taiwan Studies as well as prominent figures in the Taiwanese press and film industries will speak at the event, including *New Bloom Magazine* editor Brian Hioe, Golden Horse Award-Winning Film Director Fu Yue and acclaimed documentary director Ko-sheng Shen. The summer school will also feature screenings of Taiwanese films, including “Our Youth in Taiwan”, “Making of Island Nation” and “On Happiness Road”, as well as Q&A sessions with Taiwanese directors and film producers.

## Taiwan Studies Programme annual conference to kick off at University of Nottingham



The screenshot shows the University of Nottingham website. At the top left is the university logo with the text "University of Nottingham" and "UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA". To the right are three red icons representing the UK, China, and Malaysia. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links for "Study", "Research", "Business", "Global", "About", and "A-Z". A search bar with the placeholder "keyword(s)" and a magnifying glass icon is on the right. Below the navigation is a breadcrumb trail: "University of Nottingham > Asia Research Institute > Projects > Taiwan Studies Programme > Events > 2019 > TSP Conference 2019". The main heading is "Taiwan Studies Programme" with a link to "School Website". Below this is the title "TSP Conference 2019". A table provides details: "Location" is "Teaching and Learning Building, University Park" and "Date(s)" is "Thursday 27th (09:00) - Friday 28th June 2019 (17:00)". A section titled "Review and Prospective, Taiwan's future and past challenges and opportunities" follows, with a paragraph explaining the roundtable format: "A roundtable format is chosen, in line with that planned for year one, in order to provide as free a scope as possible for participants, including scholars, policy makers, and opinion leaders from various countries including those from the EU, North America and Taiwan to brainstorm and review the democratization process and social changes in Taiwan."

(Original Source: University of Nottingham)

The Taiwan Studies Programme (TSP) of the University of Nottingham will host its annual conference from 27-28 June under the theme of “Taiwan’s future and past challenges and opportunities”. The conference will feature prominent scholars, policy makers and opinion leaders from around the world, including Professor Harry Harding of University of Virginia, Dr John Hemmings of the Henry Jackson Society, Professor Kerry Brown of King’s College London as well as Professor Mei-chih Hu of National Tsinghua University. The registration deadline for the conference is 1 June. Please see the TSP conference [official page](#) for more details.

### Taiwan in the news:

- [Taiwan needs voice at WHA: U.S. health secretary](#)
- [Taiwan excels at Intel fair](#)

- [Steam locomotive tour to celebrate rail line's 100th anniversary](#)
- [Taiwanese javelin thrower wins silver, qualifies for Tokyo Olympics](#)
- [Taiwan, eSwatini set up joint economic committee](#)



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