

TAIPEI REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE UK

駐英國台北代表處



President Tsai returns to Taiwan after finishing her JFDS visits.

IN THE NEWSLETTER

Key events featured in this issue include President Tsai concluding her successful visits to diplomatic allies, Taiwan's VP Chen reaffirming the country's commitment to combating human trafficking, a delegation from Taiwan's Legislative Yuan visiting Britain, a UK parliamentary delegation's visit to Taiwan, Representative Lin's interview in London's *City AM*, the former NATO Secretary-General and Prime Minister of Denmark calling on Europe to defend Taiwan, the TRO supporting young Taiwanese at two international competitions in the UK, a Taiwanese film being shown at LEAFF Open Air Screening and Taiwanese artists exhibits at London's V&A Museum.

President Tsai concludes successful visits to diplomatic allies

From 11-22 July, President Tsai visited Taiwan's Caribbean allies Haiti, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and St. Lucia on her "Journey of Freedom, Democracy and Sustainability" (JFDS). The 12-day presidential visit, which included US stopovers in New York and Denver, helped to expand the country's international space, create mutually beneficial opportunities for the people as well as highlighted how Taiwan Can Help promote the UN Sustainable Development Goals. On 22 July, the president completed her JFDS state visits and issued remarks upon her return to Taiwan. Commenting on her visits

to Taiwan's diplomatic allies in the Caribbean, the president praised the success of these countries in establishing democracy and gave them a special mention for actively speaking up for Taiwan in the global community. President Tsai stated that "we need to emphasise once again that Taiwan has the ability to help other countries, and needs other countries to speak up on our behalf on the international stage". She stressed this is the essence of steadfast diplomacy and mutual assistance for mutual benefits.

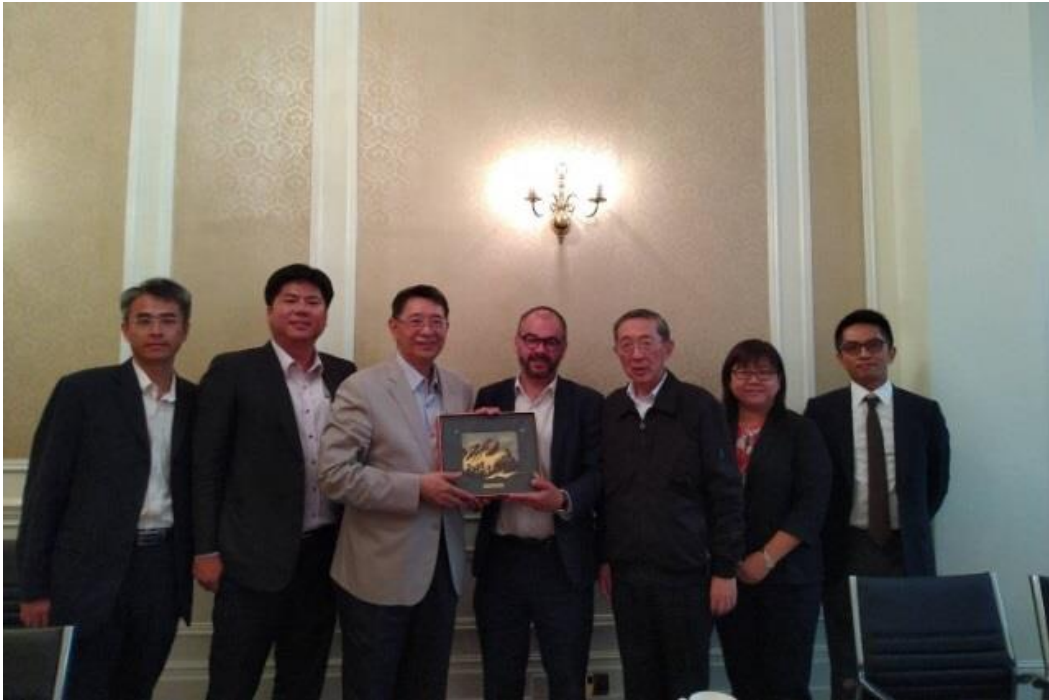
The president also pointed out that her stop-overs to the US were longer than in the past, and she had more opportunities to exchange thoughts with friends in political and academic circles, think tanks, scientific research organisations, and the business and industrial communities. "Some say this means our bilateral relations have been 'upgraded', but I think it would be more accurate to say our relations have been 'deepened'," she said. The president concluded by expressing hope that the Taiwanese people can all unite and work together to engage with the world.

Taiwan VP Chen reaffirms country's commitment to combating human trafficking



The International Workshop on Combating Human Trafficking, organised by Taiwan's Ministry of the Interior, took place in Taipei City from 25-26 July. In his opening remarks, Taiwan Vice President Chen Chien-jen reaffirmed the country is willing and able to work with like-minded partners around the world to combat human trafficking and ensure the well-being and safety for all. The VP stressed that Taiwan's achievements in this regard are best evidenced by its 10 consecutive years of Tier 1 status in the Trafficking in Persons Report by the US Department of State. Over 250 experts and officials from nearly 40 countries participated in the two-day event, including Head of Modern Slavery Prevention at the UK Home Office Mr Michael Drew. The UK official was a speaker at the forum "How governments and businesses can work together to tackle modern slavery in supply chain."

Delegation from Taiwan's Legislative Yuan visits UK to strengthen bilateral relations



From 20-21 July, a 9-member delegation from Taiwan's Legislative Yuan led by Secretary General Chih-chia Lin visited the UK in an effort to strengthen bilateral relations. Accompanied by Representative Lin, the delegation met with UK parliamentarian Paul Scully MP to exchange views on Taiwan-UK relations, recent developments in Brexit and the UK's political situation. During the meeting, Paul Scully MP discussed his last trip to Taiwan and expressed hope to visit the country again in the future. The parliamentarian stressed he will continue to support Taiwan and the TRO. During the trip, the delegation also met with prominent members of Taiwan's overseas community in the UK.

UK parliamentary delegation visits Taiwan to boost bilateral cooperation



From 30 July to 4 August, a delegation of UK parliamentarians, including British-Taiwanese All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) member Baroness D'Souza, UK House of Lords Deputy Speaker Baroness Garden of Frognal as well as Lord Best, visited Taiwan on a six-day cultural, economic and political fact-finding trip. On 30 July, the delegation met with President Tsai, who thanked them for their long-term support for Taiwan's international participation and expressed hope that their visit will create even more opportunities for collaboration in the future. The president highlighted the government's commitment to expanding Taiwan-UK exchanges across artificial intelligence, renewable energy and trade. She also pointed out the increasing number of reciprocal visits by senior officials and lawmakers from Taiwan and the UK illustrates the healthy state of bilateral relations. In addition to growing official exchanges, President Tsai highlighted strengthening trade ties, citing the 40 per cent surge in British shipments to Taiwan last year.

During their visit, the delegation also met with President of Taiwan's Legislative Yuan Chia-chyuan Su, Foreign Minister Joseph Wu and Chair of the Taiwan-UK Parliamentary Friendship Association Mei-Nu Yu to exchange views. The UK parliamentarians called on several government departments, including the Ministries of Justice, Science and Technology and Economic Affairs.

Representative Lin interviewed by London's City AM



On 19 July, Representative Lin's interview with *City AM* Editor Christian May was published in the London newspaper under the title "Why Taiwan thinks that freedom is contagious". The interview covered Taiwan's relations with the UK, China as well as developments in Hong Kong. Commenting on Taiwan's status and diplomatic relations, Representative Lin stated that Taiwan is an independent country and stressed the importance of substance in terms of its relations with the UK and other nations. Representative Lin also commented on Taiwan's growing commercial relationship with Britain, pointing out that five Taiwanese banks and Taiwan's central bank as well as the Taiwan Trade Centre (TAITRA) all operate in London. Regarding China blocking Taiwan's participation in this year's Lord Mayor's Show, Representative Lin expressed concern over China's increasing influence and pressure on the City. He also pointed out that the Foreign Office made it clear that the UK government felt that Taiwan should be involved in the show.

Representative Lin also highlighted Taiwan's support for pro-democracy protestors in Hong Kong. He stressed that "we want China to understand that their so-called 'one country, two systems' model is not good," adding that Taiwan cannot accept one country, two systems. Remarking on Taiwan's upcoming elections in 2020, Representative Lin expressed concern over disinformation campaigns and political influence from the Chinese side. The Taiwan Head of Missions in the UK also emphasised the importance of maintaining cross-strait relations, stressing that "China is still our economic partner, our trading partner." Commenting on the possibility of political reform in China, Representative Lin stated that "I feel Taiwan and Hong Kong can really serve as a good example for China to see how freedom works."

Former NATO Secretary-General and Danish Prime Minister calls on EU to defend Taiwan

Hong Kong showed China is a threat to democracy. Now Europe must defend Taiwan

Anders Fogh Rasmussen

Beijing is bullying another democratic neighbour. The EU must stop ignoring authoritarianism for the sake of stability and cash

Hong Kong's administration has backed down over the controversial extradition bill, but the canary in the coalmine of China's tacit acceptance of democracy is already dead.

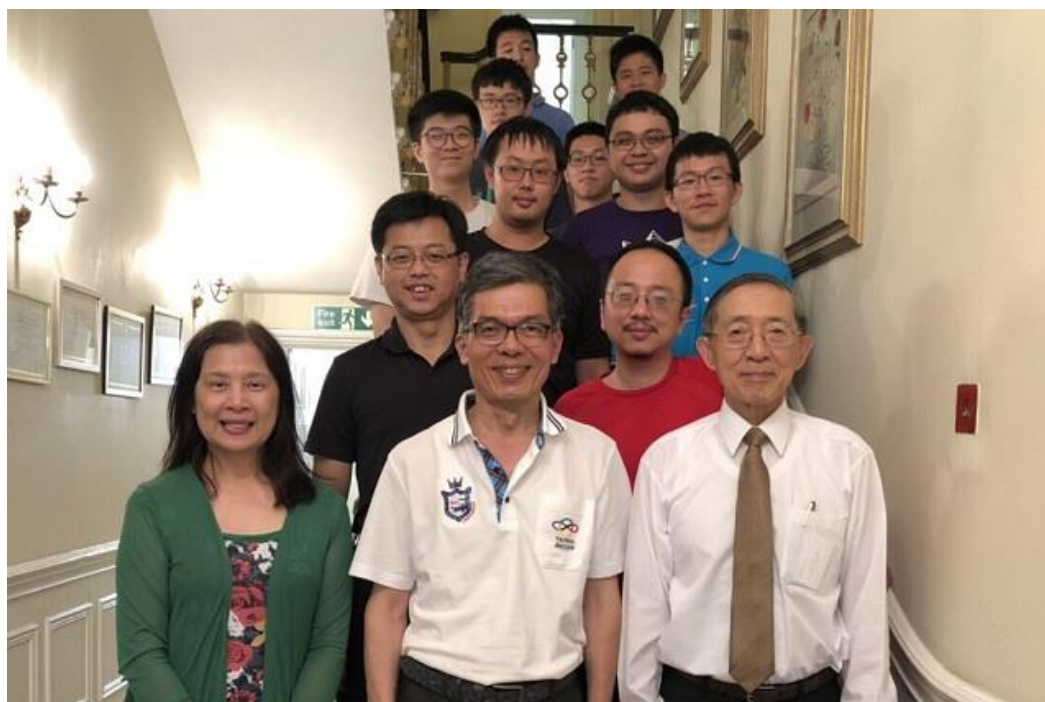
Under China's "one country, two systems" model, Hong Kong was given the guarantee that the freedoms of its citizens would be preserved and respected. Meanwhile, for a long time in the west, the consensus was that, as its economy grew, China would start to look more like Hong Kong.

(Original Source: *The Guardian*)

On 16 July, former NATO Secretary-General and Prime Minister of Denmark Mr Anders Fogh Rasmussen urged Europe to defend Taiwan following protests in Hong Kong over the proposed extradition bill. The article was published in *The Guardian* under the title "Hong Kong showed China is a threat to democracy. Now Europe must defend Taiwan". Citing Beijing's bullying of its democratic neighbour, Mr Rasmussen urged the EU to stop ignoring authoritarianism for the sake of stability. The former NATO Secretary-General stressed that developments in Hong Kong show the canary in the coalmine of China's tacit acceptance of democracy is already dead. Mr Rasmussen pointed out that "for democracy activists in Hong Kong and beyond, there is a shining city on the hill: Taiwan," adding that the country is the one clear example of a Chinese liberal democratic project that has thrived in recent years.

The former Danish Prime Minister highlighted the threats posed by China, including its strengthening military presence in the South China Sea, violations of Taiwanese air and sea space, and stressed Taipei's serious concerns over Chinese interference in the presidential election next January. In addition, Mr Rasmussen pointed out that China is also bullying European capitals into accepting its warped viewpoint that Taiwan is just a rebel province. Mr Rasmussen called on the new EU leadership to change its approach and make a stand for democratic self-determination by meeting Taiwan's leaders, moving forward with an investment partnership and no longer being silent when China takes an aggressive stance.

TRO supports young Taiwanese at two international competitions in the UK



IMO Taiwan team meets Representative Lin (front right) and Director Lee (front left) at the TRO.

The TRO Education Division supported Taiwanese students participating in two global competitions held in the UK, the 60th International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) in Bath from 11-22 July and the 61st London International Youth Science Forum (LIYSF) from 24 July-7 August. The Taiwan team performed strongly in the IMO, with one member winning a gold medal, two clinching silver and three obtaining bronze. Overall, Taiwan ranked 21st out of over 100 participating countries.

TRO Education Division Director Dr Nicole Yen-Yi Lee also attended the LIYSF to greet Taiwanese participants, including a team of high school pupils chosen and sponsored by the Taipei and Kaohsiung local governments, as well as congratulate them on their achievement. Approximately 500 renowned young scientists from over 70 countries around the world compete in the forum each year.

Taiwanese film shown at LEAFF Open Air Screening in Leicester Square



The award-winning Taiwanese animated film 'On Happiness Road' was one of eight movies selected for the London East Asia Film Festival (LEAFF) First Open-Air Screening event held in Leicester Square on 28 July. Dozens of people braved the bad weather to attend the screening as well as take part in free family-friendly cultural activities. The film was shown alongside Chinese-language movies from Hong Kong and China, which were complemented by Korean film screenings the day before. Founded in 2015, the LEAFF champions growing collaboration in East Asian film-making. Taiwan was a central theme of the 2018 festival, and will take part again in the event later this year.

Taiwanese artists delight visitors at London's V&A Museum



On 26 July, thousands of visitors to the Victoria & Albert (V&A) Museum in London were intrigued and delighted by the works on display by two Taiwanese artists as part of the museum's renowned "Friday Late" event. The theme for their most recent event, "Pick of the Litter", explored how our infatuation with pets has become part of a generational identity. Taiwanese choreographer and dancer Yu-hsien Wu performed her piece "Dirty PawS", which focuses on the interconnected movements between animals and human beings. Meanwhile, Taiwanese bio-artist Kuang-yi Ku presented his exhibition "Pet's Pettings", which asked the question: are pets entitled to their own romantic lives, and does the concept of sexuality and sexual desire apply equally to pets as it does to humans?

Taiwan in the news:

- [Taiwan's Hsieh Su-wei advances at Western & Southern Open](#)
- [12 firms to host Taiwan pavilion at ChinaJoy](#)
- [At Taiwan education fair in Manila, tech sector draws Filipinos](#)
- [Design change for 3rd terminal of Taoyuan airport vital: minister](#)
- [Creative Taiwanese product brands featured at NY NOW](#)

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