

TAIPEI REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE UK

駐英國台北代表處



President Tsai delivers speech on the Republic of China (Taiwan)'s 108th Double Tenth National Day.

IN THE NEWSLETTER

Key events featured in this issue include President Tsai highlighting Taiwan's resilience in the National Day Address, the TRO hosting a reception in honour of Taiwan's 108th National Day, the overseas Taiwanese community and friends in the UK celebrating National Day and the TRO co-hosting the Taiwan Golf Tournament.

President Tsai highlights Taiwan's resilience in National Day Address

On 10 October, the Republic of China (Taiwan)'s 108th Double Tenth National Day, President Tsai Ing-wen delivered an address entitled "Nation of Resilience, Forward into the World". The president highlighted Taiwan's resilience in the face of serious challenges, both present and historical, as well as the country's goals in the future. Commenting on China's threat to impose its "one country, two systems" on Taiwan as well as its diplomatic and military pressure, the president stated "when our freedom and democracy are challenged...we must stand up and defend ourselves." President Tsai reiterated the overwhelming consensus among Taiwan's 23 million people to reject "one country, two systems". The president highlighted Taiwan's resilience over 70 years in facing serious

obstacles without ever backing down, from the August 23 Artillery War of 1958 to the Asian financial crisis of 1997. “These shared memories exemplify the resilience of Taiwan’s people, a resilience that led us to become one of the Four Asian Tigers, a resilience that led us down the arduous path of democratization to become an important global democracy,” she said.

The president pointed out the challenges for Taiwan in the future, including China’s sharp power and challenges to free, democratic values and the global order. “As the strategic forefront of the Indo-Pacific region, Taiwan has become the first line of defence for democratic values,” the president stated. President Tsai stressed the government’s commitment to working with like-minded countries to ensure that the peaceful and stable cross-strait status quo is not unilaterally altered. Looking to the future, President Tsai highlighted three goals: first, ensuring Taiwan’s people remain united under the banner of freedom and democracy, second, building a stronger Taiwan and bolstering its economic capabilities, and third, actively engaging with the world to overcome challenges. “We will face the future with optimism and overcome challenges with determination,” the president said. “Let’s go, Taiwan.” Several distinguished guests were in attendance, including Prime Minister Ambrose M. Dlamini of Eswatini, Prime Minister Allen M. Chastanet of St. Lucia, Guatemala Vice President Jafeth Ernesto Cabrera Franco and Paraguay Vice President Hugo Adalberto Velazquez Moreno.

TRO celebrates Taiwan’s 108th National Day



On 9 October, the TRO hosted a reception in celebration of the 108th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of China (Taiwan) at the National Liberal Club in London. In his remarks, Representative Lin underlined the steady growth of bilateral relations between the UK and Taiwan over the past year and thanked the UK for its support of Taiwan’s meaningful participation in international organisations. He cited the rising number of official exchanges, including Taiwan’s Science and Technology Minister Dr Liang-gee Chen’s visit to the UK in late March as well as Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Mei-Hua Wang

co-chairing the 22nd bilateral trade talks with UK Trade Policy Minister Conor Burns on 1 October. Representative Lin pointed out that in 2018 Taiwan was the 2nd fastest growing market for UK exports worldwide with growth up 40%. He also expressed hope that both sides can explore the possibility of pursuing a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) or Bilateral Investment Agreement (BIA) in the near future.

In addition to Representative Lin, British-Taiwanese All-Party Parliamentary Group Co-Chairs (APPG) Lord Rogan and Nigel Evans MP, APPG member Baroness D'Souza as well as Ambassador of Honduras and Dean of the Latin American Diplomatic Corps H.E. Ivan Romero-Martinez delivered speeches of support for Taiwan. A total of 450 people attended the reception, among who included prominent figures from UK politics, press and academia as well as members of London's diplomatic corps. Several British parliamentarians, including Lord Bethell, Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords Baroness Garden of Frognal, APPG Vice Chairmen Lord Arbuthnot of Edrom and Andrew Rosindell MP were in attendance. Representatives from the embassies of Paraguay, Guatemala, Nicaragua, St Kitts & Nevis, the Holy See and other nations were also present. Councillor Ruth Bush, the Lord Mayor of the City of Westminster, as well as representatives of other local governments, including the City of London, York, Greenwich, Portsmouth, Peterborough and Southwark also joined the event.

Overseas Taiwanese Community and friends in the UK celebrate Taiwan's 108th National Day



On 4 October, the overseas Taiwanese community in the UK celebrated Taiwan's 108th National Day at the Millennium Gloucester Hotel in London. British parliamentarian Sir Graham Brady also participated in the dinner. Former British Office Taipei Representatives Derek Marsh and Michael Reilly as well as Professor of International Relations at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) Christopher R. Hughes also partook in the celebration. Approximately 400 guests were present at this year's dinner,

which also featured performances by Taiwanese musicians as well as songs by the Hua Yun choir.

In his remarks, Representative Lin expressed his gratitude to the Taiwanese overseas community in the UK for organising the National Day dinner. He praised the establishment of several emergency hotlines around the UK providing Taiwanese living in Britain with the support they need and efforts to promote the use of traditional characters among overseas Taiwanese. He also welcomed the widespread participation of young people in Taiwanese overseas community events and activities. Representative Lin emphasised that Taiwan-UK relations have continued to strengthen over the past year, citing Taiwan Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Mei-Hua Wang's participation in bilateral trade talks on 1 October as a primary example. In addition to trade, Representative Lin highlighted growing cooperation with the UK in culture, science, tourism and other sectors.

TRO co-hosts Taiwan Golf Tournament in run-up to country's National Day



In the run-up to Taiwan's 108th National Day, the TRO and Formosa Golf Society jointly held the Taiwan Golf Tournament at Essendon Country Club on 29 September. Taiwan Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Mei-Hua Wang, who was visiting London to chair the UK-Taiwan Trade Talks in early October, also participated in the event. In addition to senior Taiwanese officials, the tournament was also attended by House of Lords Labour Party Whip Lord McNicol of West Kilbride as well as distinguished entrepreneurs from various UK industries and members of the Taiwanese community in the UK.



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