

MESSAGE FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE

Since my arrival in London less than two months ago, I have been greatly encouraged by the breadth, depth and diversity of the Taiwan-UK bilateral relationship.

Trade and investment continues to expand year by year; while the number of bilateral agreements has increased; exchanges between our peoples have flourished; and mechanisms for dialogue have grown stronger.

The recently concluded celebrations for the 105th National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan) provided us with a good opportunity to express our gratitude to those who have worked hard to ensure the continued development of our relations, while also allowing us to reflect upon what has been achieved this year, and what we must continue to strive towards.

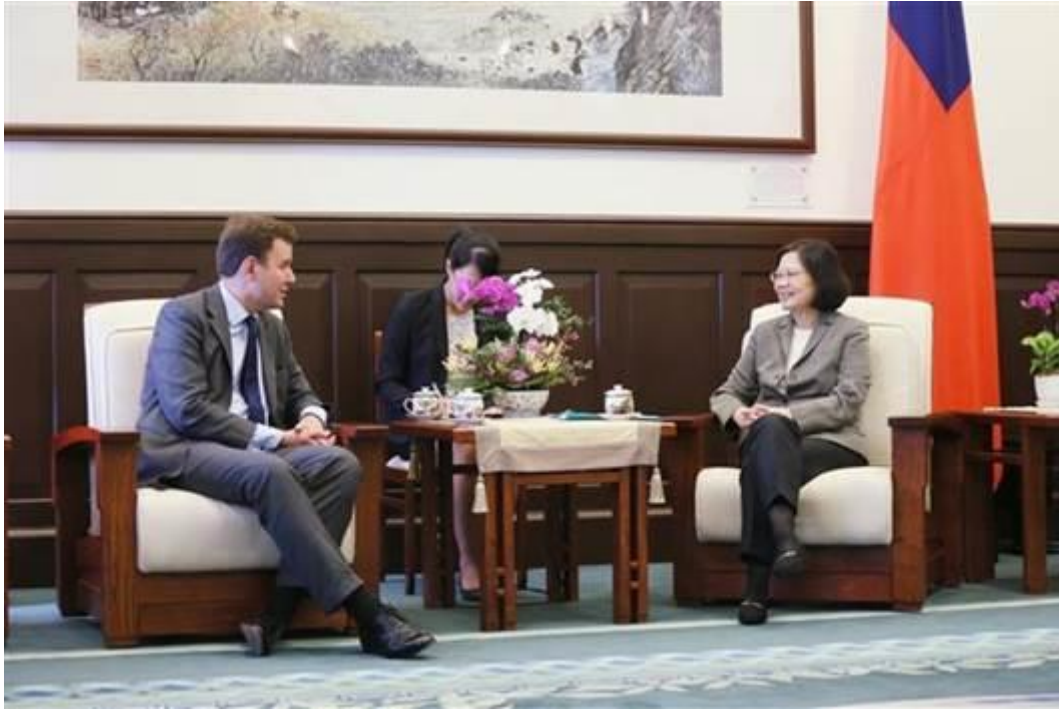
As we proceed into 2017, I hope to further strengthen economic co-operation between our countries and pursue a free trade agreement (FTA) and bilateral investment agreement (BIA) with the United Kingdom. I also aim to enhance bilateral collaboration, for instance, on renewable energy, especially offshore wind power, so that Taiwan can learn from the UK's successful experience and world-class achievements in this area.

I am delighted to be serving here in the United Kingdom at such an interesting time, and I very much look forward to continue utilising the many opportunities that lie before us, while also working consistently to create new ones.



Representative David Y. L. Lin

**UK TRADE & INVESTMENT MINISTER VISITS TAIWAN TO STRENGTHEN
BILATERAL LINKS**



From 25-28th September the UK Minister of State of the Department for International Trade, Greg Hands MP visited Taiwan, accompanied by the Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Taiwan, Lord Faulkner.

During his visit, the Minister met with President Tsai Ing-Wen, the Minister of Economic Affairs Lee Chih-Kung and the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Wu Chih-Chung to discuss UK-Taiwan bilateral relations and the opportunities for growth.

The Minister held the annual UK-Taiwan bilateral trade talks with Taiwan's Vice Minister of Economic Affairs, Wang Mei-Hua, focusing on building stronger trade and investment links and resolving market access issues. Mr Hands also met with UK Businesses in Taiwan and Taiwanese investors with investments in the UK.

NIGEL EVANS LEADS BRITISH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO TAIWAN



Nigel Evans, the Conservative MP for the Ribble Valley led an 11 member delegation to Taiwan from 26th September – 2nd October.

The group, which consisted of members from both houses of the UK Parliament, including members from numerous prominent select committees ranging from defence to health, visited the country to gain a better understanding of Taiwan's international relations, cross-strait ties and political and economic developments, while also working to promote greater economic and trade co-operation between Taiwan and the United Kingdom.

The delegation attended an audience with the Vice-President, while meeting with the heads of the Mainland Affairs Council, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the National Security Council, as well as the President of the Legislative Yuan. Topics discussed ranged from national security, defence and cross-strait relations to healthcare and co-operation in green energy.

The delegation marks the third British parliamentary delegation to Taiwan in 2016.

AMBASSADOR LIN VISITS INTERNATIONAL GRAINS COUNCIL



On 19th September Ambassador Lin Called on Mr Etsuo Kitahara, the Executive Director of the International Grains Council (IGC), during which they exchanged ideas regarding Taiwan's participation in international organisations.

Ambassador Lin stated that attending the sessions is greatly beneficial to Taiwan's efforts to engage with the international community, while also reiterating Taiwan's commitment to the organisation.

Taiwan has been attending IGC sessions with observer status under the name of Taipei (Chinese) Separate Customs Territory for a number of years, with the IGC being among the most important international organisations that Taiwan regularly participates in.

TAIWAN EDUCATION DELEGATION ATTENDS EAIE EDUCATION CONFERENCE HELD IN UK



From 13th to 16th September 2016, a number of Taiwan's universities participated in the 28th European Association for International Education (EAIE) held in Liverpool, in an effort to promote educational relations between Taiwan and the UK.

The Taiwanese delegation was led by Dr Min-Ling Yang, Director General of the Department of International and Cross-Strait Education, Ministry of Education in Taiwan, who was accompanied by Mr Yen-Heng Ouyang, Director of the Education Division, Taipei Representative Office in the UK. Over 40 representatives from Taiwan attended the conference, mostly consisting of deans and directors of International Affairs Offices.

In addition to setting up an on-site 'Study in Taiwan' pavilion, Taiwan was involved in two sessions regarding summer schools and regional collaboration networks.

This year's conference was considered very successful for the Taiwanese delegation in terms of helping to attract greater numbers of international students to study in Taiwan and strengthening co-operation with higher education institutions across Europe.

AMBASSADOR LIN CALLS ON INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR TAIWAN'S PARTICIPATION IN ICAO



Ambassador Lin has expressed his concern at the International Civil Aviation Organisation's (ICAO) failure to invite Taiwan to its 39th assembly meeting in Montreal, calling for international support for Taiwan's participation in ICAO.

In a letter issued during the ICAO meeting, Ambassador Lin stated that Taiwan's exclusion from the assembly due to political considerations did not just constitute unfair treatment to Taiwan, but also a great loss to the international community. The Ambassador proceeded to state that as Taiwan has full responsibilities for administering the Taipei Flight Information Region (FIR), its exclusion from participating in ICAO would be detrimental to aviation safety.

In his call for support, Ambassador Lin concluded by stressing that ‘aviation safety is beyond borders and a basic human right which should not be affected by any political factors; the need for Taiwan’s involvement in ICAO should therefore be recognised and supported by ICAO, as well as the international community’.

The Taipei FIR covers 180,000 square nautical miles and borders Fukuoka, Manila, Hong Kong and Shanghai FIRs. Given this, the Taipei FIR is considered one of the busiest air transport hubs in Asia, providing services to nearly 1.53 million controlled flights, carrying some 58 million passengers travelling through Taiwan in 2015.

BRITISH MPs DECLARE SUPPORT FOR TAIWAN’S PARTICIPATION IN ICAO

On 3rd October the British-Taiwanese All-Party Parliamentary Group issued a statement of support for Taiwan’s participation in the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), following the organisation’s decision not to invite Taiwan to the 39th assembly meeting in Montreal.

In a statement undersigned by the Co-chairs of the APPG, the MPs stated that they were ‘dismayed’ to learn that Taiwan was not invited, and ‘support Taiwan’s continued attendance at the ICAO Assembly and other regional meetings’. The statement proceeded to stress that Taiwan ‘cannot be allowed to become a “gap”, and be left outside the global aviation networks’.

APPG Co-chair Nigel Evans was present in Taiwan as part of the British delegation when it was revealed that Taiwan had not been invited to the assembly. During an interview with Taiwan’s Central News Agency, Mr Evans described Taiwan’s omission as ‘incredibly regrettable’ stating that he would be raising the issue with the UK Secretary of State for Transport.

Ambassador David Lin has since stated that he appreciates the efforts made by the UK, including its government, parliament, academia, and the general public, to encourage ICAO’s support for Taiwan’s professional, pragmatic and constructive participation.

JU PERCUSSION GROUP PERFORMS IN LONDON



On 5th October 2016, Taiwan's internationally renowned percussion ensemble, the Ju Percussion Group performed at London's Barbican Hall.

The performance, which was attended by Ambassador David Lin amongst other TRO staff, featured a number of new works by the 14 talented percussionists and offered the spectators a stunning mix of beats. It has since been described by critics as a thrilling and novel performance, featuring a group of pioneering percussionists at their very best.

The Barbican Hall performance, which was the group's only London date, forms part of a European tour across cultural capitals (including London, Brussels, Amsterdam and Berlin) to celebrate the group's three decades together.

The group was formed in 1986 and combines a fusion of traditional Asian, Western classical and contemporary drumming. To date, The Ju Percussion Group has played in 28 countries and given more than 2,800 performances worldwide.

TRO HOSTS RECEPTION FOR 105TH ROC NATIONAL DAY



On 10th October 2016, the TRO hosted a reception for the 105th National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan) at the Gladstone Library. The event was attended by more than 450 people, including Ambassadors/High Commissioners, parliamentarians, academics, businessmen and overseas Taiwanese.

During the reception, Ambassador Lin delivered a speech on recent developments in Taiwan and the future of Taiwan-UK bilateral relations. The speech began by highlighting the third successful peaceful transfer of governmental powers in Taiwan's democratic history, and the accession of the first female President of Taiwan.

The Ambassador also stated that while Taiwan's foreign policy remains fundamentally unaltered, new momentum has been injected with the adoption of the 'New Southbound Policy'. He proceeded to affirm that the government remains committed to bringing Taiwan closer to the international community and pursuing meaningful participation in international organisations.

Ambassador Lin was followed by the three guest speakers from the British-Taiwanese All-Party Parliamentary Group, Lord Steel of Aikwood (Co-chair), Graham Brady (Chairman of the 1922 Committee) and Andrew Rosindell (President of Conservative Friends of Taiwan).

The reception also featured a number of exhibitions ranging from Taiwan manufactured mobility scooters, high-quality tools for vehicles and Taiwan's internationally acclaimed Kavalan whisky.

Taiwan in the news:

- [Beijing urged to honor Taiwan's rights to join international bodies](#)
- [Taiwan looks forward to working with next U.S. administration: Tsai](#)
- [Tsai sees through Xi's game plan for Taiwan](#)
- [The absurd face of China's censorship: Bookstore tears out Taiwan page from Webster's](#)



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