

## TAIPEI REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE UK

駐英國台北代表處



President Tsai delivers a speech at Columbia University.

### IN THE NEWSLETTER

Key events featured in this issue include Taiwan's President giving a speech at Columbia University on her Journey of Freedom, Democracy and Sustainability, Vice President, MOHW and TRO Deputy Representative urging *The Lancet* to remove a study incorrectly designating Taiwan, Foreign Minister highlighting the country's commitment to press freedom, FSC Chairman Wellington Koo leading a delegation to the UK, Representative Lin attending a victory dinner hosted by British-Taiwanese APPG Vice Chair Andrew Rosindell MP, Taiwan ranking number 1 in the Worldwide Broadband Speed League 2019, Taiwanese tennis players triumphing at Wimbledon 2019, Taiwan MOE Scholarship recipients' orientation event in London and a Taiwanese artist participating in the 42nd Galway International Art Festival.

### President Tsai gives speech at Columbia University on JFDS

On 12 July, President Tsai Ing-wen delivered a speech at Columbia University in New York City as part of her Journey of Freedom, Democracy and Sustainability (JFDS). In her remarks, she addressed Taiwan's path to democratisation, Hong Kong, the global disinformation challenge and the choice between democracy and economic development. Commenting on Taiwan's transition into a thriving democratic society and political system,

President Tsai said “many call Taiwan a ‘democratic miracle’, but I don’t believe in miracles” and stressed her belief in the will of the people and their vision of a better world. Regarding the situation in Hong Kong, the President pointed out the region’s experience under “one country, two systems” has shown the world once and for all that authoritarianism and democracy cannot coexist.

President Tsai also raised the issue of disinformation, stressing that the greatest challenge in combating this threat is finding the balance between national security and freedom of speech, and called for stronger intelligence sharing with other countries. Addressing the challenge democracy faces in the form of economic enticements with hidden strings attached, the President pointed out that Taiwan has continually shown the world that democracy and economic growth are not only beneficial, but irrevocably intertwined. President Tsai emphasised that Taiwan stands as a rare example of a country that has both experienced authoritarianism and championed democracy in the modern age. She stressed that now it is more important than ever for the international community to support a free and democratic Taiwan.

## Vice President, MOHW and TRO urge *The Lancet* to remove study incorrectly designating Taiwan

THE LANCET

CORRESPONDENCE | ONLINE FIRST

### Taiwan's health-care system and administration are independent of China

Dai-Hua Tsai · Mei-Hsuan Lee · Ding-Shinn Chen · Yun-Fan Liaw · Pan-Chyi Yang · Yi-Hao Huang · et al.

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References

Article info

Linked Articles

Zhou and colleagues<sup>2</sup> compare mortality, morbidity, and risk factors in China and its provinces, between 1990 and 2017. Data from the Global Health Data Exchange clearly showed Taiwan and China are two distinguished countries. Including Taiwan in the analyses makes this Article misleading, biased, and flawed.

The government and health-care system in Taiwan are totally unrelated to China. The disease patterns and risk factors in Taiwan and China are very different.<sup>2</sup> Taiwan has had an independent national health insurance system since 1995. Taiwan has also implemented a series of public health programmes to reduce mortality and morbidity, which are not launched in China.<sup>3, 4</sup> Taiwan has its own cancer registration and death certification system, and the data were not collected by the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, as stated in the Article.<sup>3</sup> The health data collected by different mechanisms should not be included in the same hierarchical models.

The inclusion of Taiwan in the analyses biases the mortality, morbidity, and risk factors in China. In a similar Article published in 2016,<sup>3</sup> Taiwan was not included in the analyses. We urge Zhou and colleagues to re-run the analyses by excluding Taiwan to yield unbiased and correct data for China. *The Lancet*, as an esteemed medical journal, should publish accurate and precise research

(Original source: *The Lancet*)

On 15 July, Taiwan Vice President Chien-Jen Chen, Minister of Health and Welfare (MOHW) Shih-Chung Chen and TRO Deputy Representative Moses Cheng’s letters urging the international medical journal *The Lancet* to remove a study incorrectly designating Taiwan and its healthcare system as a part of China were published. Vice President Chen pointed out the Global Health Data Exchange clearly shows Taiwan and China are two distinguished countries and therefore, including Taiwan in the analyses makes the article misleading, biased and flawed. The VP stressed that Taiwan’s government and healthcare system are totally unrelated to China, citing Taiwan’s

independent national health insurance system, public health programmes as well as cancer registration and death certification systems. He urged the article's authors to exclude Taiwan from their analyses and pointed out *The Lancet*, an esteemed medical journal, should publish accurate and precise research findings. Taiwan's MOWH Shih-Chung Chen also expressed his formal protest against the study's erroneous designation of Taiwan. He pointed out Taiwan is a sovereign democratic country with its own democratically elected president and parliament. Minister Chen stressed that since the study used biased and academically unethical methodologies, the results, therefore are of no value to the field of public health.

In another letter to *The Lancet*, TRO Deputy Representative Moses Cheng pointed out that unlike China, Taiwan's national health insurance system is world-renowned, ranking 14th in the Global Access to Healthcare Index and ninth in the 2018 Health Care Efficiency Index. Deputy Representative Cheng stressed that depicting Taiwan as a part of China is not only inaccurate but also contrary to the UK Government's longstanding policy to refer to Taiwan as simply "Taiwan". He also pointed out that other international scientific journals, including *Science* and *Cell*, simply use the designation "Taiwan". The Deputy Representative joined Taiwan's Vice President and MOWH in urging the authors to remove Taiwan from the analysis.

## Taiwan Foreign Minister highlights country's commitment to press freedom prior to global conference



On 3 July, Taiwan Minister of Foreign Affairs Joseph Wu issued a statement highlighting the country's strong commitment to press freedom in the run-up to the Global Conference for Media Freedom in London from 10-11 July, co-hosted by then UK Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt and Canadian counterpart Chrystia Freeland. Minister Wu stressed the government of Taiwan is glad to join British and Canadian friends to defend freedom of press, stating "We firmly believe that a vibrant free press promotes freedom of speech and

helps ensure the safety of journalists.” The Minister pointed out that Taiwan ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in Asia for freedom of press by Reporters without Borders (RSF) and Freedom House. Minister Wu emphasised that Taiwan is ready to share its experience in support of a future where no journalist fears persecution for doing their job. The video of Minister Wu’s statement was published on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Facebook page.

## **Taiwan FSC Chairman Wellington Koo leads delegation to UK to promote financial cooperation**



On 8 July, Taiwan’s Chairman of the Financial Supervisory Commission (FSC), Wellington L. Koo led a delegation to the UK to further strengthen Taiwan-UK bilateral cooperation in the financial field. Chairman Koo paid a visit to the UK Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) and met with its CEO Sam Woods to exchange ideas on recent supervision issues and reinforce supervisory cooperation between the FSC and the PRA. Accompanied by Representative Lin, Chairman Koo visited then Minister of State for Trade Policy at the Department for International Trade (DIT) George Hollingbery to exchange ideas on boosting bilateral collaboration in green finance and FinTech. During his stay, Chairman Koo also met with managers of the branches of Taiwanese financial institutions in London to discuss their risk management and operational resilience.

## **Representative Lin attends victory dinner hosted by British-Taiwanese APPG Vice Chair**



On 13 July, Representative Lin, Deputy Representative Cheng and TRO personnel were invited by British-Taiwanese All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) Vice Chair Andrew Rosindell MP to attend a victory dinner and celebration of the friendship between the UK and Caribbean allies. Over 150 guests attended the dinner, including then Foreign Secretary and candidate for Leader of the Conservative Party Jeremy Hunt, UK parliamentarians Lord Northbrook MP, APPG Vice Chair Bob Stewart MP and Paul Scully MP, as well as Jamaica's Minister of Foreign Affairs Kamina Johnson Smith, High Commissioner H.E. Seth George Ramocan and members of London's diplomatic corps. Representative Lin and TRO personnel met and exchanged views with several guests, including Jeremy Hunt, on Taiwan-UK relations, Brexit and UK politics.

In his remarks, Andrew Rosindell MP thanked Representative Lin for his long-standing friendship and support. At the invitation of Andrew Rosindell MP, Representative Lin also gave a toast thanking the UK parliamentarian for his service as Vice Chair of the APPG and wishing him every success in the future. In addition, Jeremy Hunt delivered a speech highlighting the longstanding and deep friendship between the UK and its Caribbean allies and emphasising his commitment to working with likeminded countries to promote the value of democracy and freedom in the international community.

## **Taiwan ranks number 1 in Worldwide Broadband Speed League 2019**

## Highlights

Here is a quick look at the fastest countries or territories in the world according to the study



### #1. Taiwan

Taiwan comprises a mixture of broadband technologies, and broadband growth in terms of subscriber numbers has stalled. Speed increases are driven by mass migration from ADSL to fibre.



### #2. Singapore

A vibrant digital economy and diminutive landmass offer Singapore significant advantages when it comes to infrastructural development and FTTP (pure fibre) availability.



### #3. Jersey

Jersey is the first jurisdiction in the world to make pure fibre (FTTP) available to every broadband user. Jersey's shift from tenth to third shows that uptake has been healthy.



### #4. Sweden

Sweden's decision to focus on FTTP (pure fibre) means around 60% of Swedish homes and businesses now have access to speeds of up to 1Gbps (1,000Mbps).

(Original source: Cable.co.uk)

On 2 July, Taiwan ranked number 1 in the Worldwide Broadband Speed League 2019 by Cable.co.uk, moving up 13 places from 2018. Taiwan's mean download speed reached 85.02, with the estimated time to download a 5GB movie a mere eight minutes and 2 seconds. Cable cited Taiwan's mass migration from ADSL to fibre and the economy's reliance on digital infrastructure as the reasons for the country's increased broadband speed. The news was reported in the *Financial Times* as well as the *Digital TV Europe Report*.

## Taiwanese tennis players triumph at Wimbledon 2019



(Original Source: AP)

On 14 July, Taiwan tennis star Hsieh Su-Wei clinched the women's doubles title at Wimbledon while fellow Taiwanese player Latisha Chan won the mixed doubles competition. In the women's doubles final, Hsieh and partner Barbora Strycova of the Czech Republic won 6-2, 6-4 in a 66-minute game on Centre Court. The victory marks the second Grand Slam title for Hsieh, who previously lifted the trophy for the women's doubles title at Wimbledon in 2013. In the mixed doubles final, Taiwan's Latisha Chan and Croatian partner Ivan Dodig secured a victory of 6-2, 6-3 on No.1 Court. The win came off the heels of the pair's success at the French Open mixed doubles event on 7 June.

## **Taiwan MOE Scholarship recipients' orientation event held in London**



On 5 July, an orientation event for recipients of the Taiwan Ministry of Education (MOE)'s Huayu Enrichment Scholarship and Taiwan Scholarship was hosted by TRO Education Division Director Dr Nicole Yen-Yi Lee. During the event, the TRO Education Division provided support and information to scholarship students whilst also emphasising the value of the scholarship as both an educational opportunity and a vehicle for personal enrichment.

In addition, an alumnus of the nine-month Huayu Enrichment Scholarship, who had completed her Mandarin studies in Taiwan just one month previously, was present to discuss her experiences and answer attendees' questions. The new scholarship recipients received advice on finding accommodation, converting visas, managing finances and other practical matters.

## Taiwanese artist participates in Ireland's Leading Arts Festival



Award-winning Taiwanese artist Annlin Chao was invited to participate in the 42nd Galway International Art Festival from 15-28 July. Warmly received by visitors, her exhibition 'The Paralleled Mind' explores the subconscious of three disguised minds, prompting the audience to question where the boundary of surreal and reality begins and ends. Annlin Chao is an award-winning artist who specialises in multimedia animation and film. With works ranging from video art to performance and installation, her previous clients include Channel 4 and the National Palace Museum Taiwan and Twinings.

The Galway International Arts Festival is one of Europe's most prominent international art events. 600 artists have been invited to participate this year, and the festival is expected to attract an audience of over 250,000.

### Taiwan in the news:

- [Taiwan bags recurve mixed team gold at Universiade](#)
- [FormoSat-7 transmits first data back to Earth](#)
- [Taiwanese artist showcases mural at graffiti festival in California](#)
- [Lion King! musical back in Taiwan after 11-year hiatus](#)
- [Jeremy Lin's biggest dream is to play with brother on same team](#)





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