



Headline News

ROC President Tsai Ing-wen outlines 4 priorities under 'New Southbound Policy'

On 7 November, ROC President Tsai Ing-wen outlined four major priorities for the government's "New Southbound Policy", which focuses on strengthening exchanges with countries in South Asia and Southeast Asia, as well as Australia and New Zealand. First of all, Taiwan should promote high-level exchanges and visits with those countries with which it has already built cooperative ties. The second task aims to speed up the collection of information by the government and private think tanks and step up cooperation with foreign think tanks. The third task will be to sign or renew bilateral investment and tax agreements with related countries to better protect Taiwanese investment in those economies. The fourth task focuses on major projects that will see tangible results in a short time, such as hosting exhibitions on Taiwan in major cities in Southeast Asia, strengthening the role of the Taiwan Agriculture Development Co. and attracting more foreign and overseas Chinese students.

International News

International water pollution workshop staged in Taipei

From 8-10 November, the 'Strategies and Practices for Water Pollution Enforcement Workshop' was held in Taipei, bringing together around 70 officials, experts and scholars from 15 countries including Indonesia, the Maldives, Mongolia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. The forum was jointly organized by the Taiwan Environmental Protection

Administration (EPA), the US Environmental Protection Agency and the Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network. It focused on methods to tackle water pollution such as applied technologies, control policies, inspection practices and law enforcement.



EPA Minister Lee Ying-yuan said in his opening address that the government has been working to implement water pollution control measures and has developed comprehensive strategies: "Taiwan is willing to share its experience in environmental protection and facilitate technical exchanges with other countries."

EU-Taiwan Relations

ECCT urges Taiwan to improve regulatory system

On 10 November, the European Chamber of Commerce in Taiwan (ECCT) released its 2017 position paper, calling for improvements to the regulatory system in order to revive the domestic economy. According to the report, Taiwan needs to speed up its major infrastructure projects, and the approval process for drugs and medical devices. A total of 143 issues were raised in the annual paper, including 87 unresolved matters from previous years and 57 new issues. In particular, ECCT Chairman Bernd Barkey stressed that investing in the right infrastructure can speed up

economic growth. Many infrastructure projects in Taiwan take too long to complete, Barkey said, citing as an example the long delayed airport metro link. Regarding Taiwan's efforts to promote renewable energy, he said liberalizing the electricity market is a crucial step in the industry's accelerated development.

Information

Recital by Taiwanese soprano in Gent

On Wednesday 16 November, Taiwanese soprano singer Lu Yu-cheng will give a recital in Gent on the sidelines of the 'Taiwan Spotlight Project' at Gent University. Ms. Lu is a member of the Taroko tribe of Taiwan. Surrounded by music and singing from a very young age, she decided to study music at Taiwan Normal University. Keen to learn more about Western music, she arrived in Europe in 1994 and continued her studies in Amsterdam, Paris and Brussels. She currently teaches at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels. Mr. Ivo Piscevic will accompany her on the piano.



16 November 2016 – 19:00
Convention Center "Het Pand"
Onderbergen 1, 9000 Gent

Free entry – online registration required
<https://webapps.ugent.be/eventManager/events/TaiwanSpotlightProject>