



Headline News

ROC President Ma praises Taiwan-US relations

On 13 August, ROC President Ma Ying-jeou received US Senator Tom Cotton at the Presidential Office in Taipei. President Ma said that the ROC government's low-key, 'no-surprises' approach to Taiwan-US ties has boosted bilateral collaboration and has paid handsome dividends for both sides across an array of areas. In terms of trade, he said Taiwan became the US' 10th largest trading partner in 2014, while the US replaced Japan as Taiwan's second largest partner. He hopes to see Taipei and Washington fast-track a bilateral investment agreement to further bolster economic ties. President Ma also said Taiwan is committed to taking part in the Trans-Pacific Partnership, given that its members currently account for 35% of Taiwan's foreign trade.



In response, Senator Cotton said Taiwan is an important trade partner sharing core values such as democracy, equality, freedom and the rule of law. He also commended the East China Sea Peace Initiative in promoting regional stability and helping create a global security mechanism.

EU-Taiwan Relations

Taiwan scholars win Jean Monnet Actions grants

Nine projects from Taiwan scholars were recently awarded Jean Monnet

grants from the European Commission's Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Over the next three years, recipients will receive between €40,000 and €130,000, to conduct studies on EU-related issues.



The Taiwan scholars receiving the JM Module grants focus on political sciences, business management, and geography. According to the Agency, this year's JM Actions Program attracted more than 850 applications from higher education institutions worldwide. A total of 108 and 33 projects earned JM Module and Centre of Excellence grants, respectively.

Cross-Strait Relations

Taipei Mayor visits Shanghai, signs Cooperation Agreements

On 18 August, Taipei Mayor Ko Wen-je and his Shanghai counterpart Yang Xiong signed 4 MOUs promoting two-way exchange and collaboration at the 2015 Twin City Forum. Heading the raft of accords is an enhanced partnership on electronic ticketing services. "Much has changed in this world, but longstanding friendship between the two cities remains a constant over the years. The forum has made significant contributions to mutual understanding in the past, and I believe it augurs well for further advances in the years ahead", Ko said. Launched in 2010, the annual forum is hosted reciprocally by the

two cities and has led to the signing of 19 previous memorandums.



Information

Youth Ambassadors come to Luxembourg

Since 2009, the ROC Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) has conducted the 'International Youth Ambassadors Exchange Program'. It allows talented Taiwanese youth to participate in international affairs and broaden their horizons. Through international exchange, the Youth Ambassadors have demonstrated Taiwan's role as a provider of humanitarian aid and peace-maker. The Youth Ambassadors will give several interpretive dance shows to demonstrate the main characteristics of their country, and present its natural environment and cultural heritage. A reception will be given by the Taipei Representative Office in the EU and Belgium, after the performance.



When: Wednesday 2 September, 19:30

Where: Conservatoire de la Ville de Luxembourg, 33 rue Charles Martel, 2134 Luxembourg

Entry tickets: please mail to therese-saidi@taipei-office.be before 28 August