

# TAIWAN NEWSLETTER

## President Tsai welcomes US House delegation

President Tsai Ing-wen welcomed a bipartisan congressional delegation from the US House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party to the Presidential Office, February 22. Led by Chairman Mike Gallagher, the five-person group is in Taiwan on a three-day trip. It is the first time that the committee has formed a visiting delegation. In her remarks, President Tsai described the Congressmen as friends of Taiwan, and stated that their bipartisan delegation demonstrates staunch US support for Taiwan's democracy through concrete action. She also took the opportunity to thank the US government and Congress for continuing to assist Taiwan in strengthening its self-defence capabilities. Looking forward, the President expressed



her hope to see even more Taiwan-US exchanges on many issues, adding that Taiwan will work with even more like-minded countries to enhance the resilience of global supply chains.

Chairman Gallagher also delivered re-

marks at the meeting, during which he paid tribute to President Tsai for the leadership, vision, and strength that she has demonstrated for the past eight years, before stating that she has distinguished herself as a leader within the free world.

### President-elect Lai envisions deeper Taiwan-Japan relations

President-elect Lai Ching-te said that he looks forward to deepening Taiwan-Japan collaboration across the board while working together to preserve regional peace and stability, as he received members of the Japanese Diet, Tsuneo Kitamura and Iwao Horii, at the Presidential Office, February 19.

Addressing the legislators, Lai expressed his appreciation for the congratulatory messages he received from Japan after his election victory, and conveyed his condolences on the death of former

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's mother Yoko Abe. The President-elect also noted the upcoming launch of the Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co's new fabrication plant in Japan, and took the time to thank the Japanese government and legislature for facilitating its speedy completion.

In response, Tsuneo Kitamura voiced his hopes that Lai and his incoming administration will continue to promote exchanges between the legislative bodies of both countries.

### MOFA refutes China's erroneous claim over Taiwan

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) strongly denounced the false claims made by China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi at the Munich Security Conference (MSC) in a statement, February 19.

The ROC (Taiwan) is a sovereign and independent nation the Ministry solemnly reiterated, adding that neither the ROC nor the PRC is subordinate to the other, and that the PRC has never governed Taiwan for even a single day. Distorted statements can change neither the status quo

nor internationally recognized and objective facts, MOFA added.

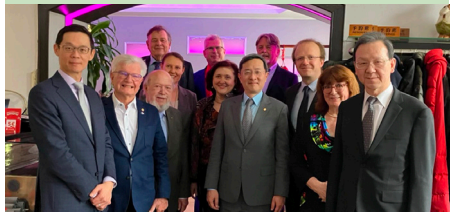
The Ministry's response came after an irresponsible misrepresentation of the situation made by Wang, and repeated in a press release after his meeting with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken on the sidelines of the MSC.

In its statement, MOFA further urged Beijing to stop acting as a troublemaker, malicious provoker, and disrupter of the status quo, and instead focus greater attention on addressing its own internal problems.

### Ambassador Lee attends Lunar New Year's Reception in Luxembourg

Ambassador Roy Lee, together with colleagues from the Taipei Representative Office, celebrated the Lunar New Year of the Dragon at a reception held by the Association Luxembourg-Taiwan R.O.C., February 18.

Speaking at the event, Ambassador Lee thanked the association for its long-term support for strengthening the bilateral relations and people-to-people exchanges between Luxembourg and Taiwan. He also affirmed that both sides will endeavour to strengthen and deepen exchanges in the economic, scientific, educational, and cultural fields in the future.



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