



TAEF BRIEF

August 14, 2020

No. 49

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TAEF UPDATES

Chairman Hsiao to Deliver Lecture on "NSP 2.0 in the Post-COVID-19 Era"

NEW SOUTHBOUND POLICY 2.0

擁抱
疫後
新南
視向
野疫後
新南向政策2.0
的挑戰與契機
 YouTube 直播

8.25 (二) 14:30 - 16:00

Youtube線上直播

主講人 蕭新煌

臺灣亞洲交流基金會董事長

主持人 鄒幼涵

科技部常務次長

 MOST 科技部
Ministry of Science and Technology

科技部科教發展及國際合作司

 NAR Labs 國家實驗研究院
National Applied Research Laboratories

Friday, August 13, 2020

As the New Southbound Policy (NSP) has accumulated fruitful results in regional and global collaboration since its establishment in 2016, it is time to consider its future developments and potential when the world has been transformed unprecedently due to the coronavirus outbreak. To address this issue, Dr. Hsin-Huang Michael Hsiao, Chairman of TAEF, is scheduled to deliver a lecture on "NSP 2.0" at National Applied Research Laboratories. This lecture would be situated particularly in the context of the

post-COVID-19 era, as a way to examine how strategies of NSP should be reconstructed to respond to diversified influences of the global pandemic. The way in which TAEF would re-position itself in this significant transition period is an equally important topic that Chairman Hsiao would engage with in this lecture.

The lecture would be livestreamed in the afternoon of August 25 (14:30-16:00). Please remember to visit the link if interested: <https://youtu.be/2Dh3QbRroqg>.

Read more in Chinese

AIT-TAEF Youth Dialogues Focused on "Closing the Gender Gap"



Thursday, August 13, 2020

The yearly event "AIT-TAEF Youth Dialogues" took place on August 13. "Taiwan is the No. 1 country in Asia and No. 9 in the world in terms of gender equality according to the UN," said Dr. Michael H. H. Hsiao, chairman of TAEF during his opening remarks this morning. This year, we received young participants from all over Taiwan to discuss "Closing the Gender Gap." The first session "Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Women in Politics" was kicked-off by Ms. Arati Shroff, Deputy Economic Chief, American Institute in Taiwan. Sharing her own story, Ms. Shroff started her career in Wall Street and was often the only woman among her colleagues. Being in such a male-driven industry, Ms. Shroff tried to bring more female voices in along with other female professionals. With

her perspective from public affairs, the Taipei city councillor Ms. Pei-Yi Wu suggested an inter-party female group in the parliament and strongly encouraged young women interested in public affairs to make internship proposals to policy makers.

Moving on to the social movement on LGBTQ+, the AIT-TAEF Youth Dialogue had Prof. Ta-Wei Chi from Cheng-Chi University and Jennifer Lu from Marriage Equality Coalition Taiwan presenting Taiwanese gay literature and the advocacy for LGBTQ+ in Taiwan. Prof. Chi pointed out that the Taiwanese gay literature in the period of martial law made itself outstanding from those of the US, Japan and China by reflecting an oppressed and resisting society. Today, according to a research conducted by Jennifer Lu's organization, most of the people in Taiwan don't think that the legalization of gay marriage in the country affects their life while there are still dissenting voices over gender equality. When it comes to communicating with those having different points of view, Jennifer shared that telling true stories or experience could be an effective way.

Read more I

Read more II

Forum on "Taiwanese NGO and NSP" Focused on Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Nepal



Wednesday, August 12, 2020

Followed by its first session held in June, a talk on Taiwanese NGOs' development actions in New Southbound countries took place again at TAEF. TAEF invited the following partners to talk about their experiences in Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia and Nepal: Taiwan Aid, Zhi Shan Foundation, Taiwan Fund for Children and Families, Taiwan Prevent Blindness Foundation, Ling Jiou Mountain Buddhist Society, The Field Relief Agency of Taiwan, Formosa Budding Hope Association, Calls over Ridges, Landsee Culture & Education Foundation.

The majority of development work provided by these NGOs are focused on medical service and education. Starting their work by helping the Chinese-speaking locals, most of the NGOs in this session overcame the cultural and language boundaries and make their work beneficial now to other groups of people in their located countries. The key to such an outcome is working closely with local partners.

Read more in Chinese

TAEF Celebrated 2nd Birthday!



Friday, August 7, 2020

Founded in 2018 as the first policy-oriented think tank in Taiwan with a focus on Southeast Asian and South Asian affairs, TAEF celebrated its second anniversary on August 7 with warm blessings from our distinguished partners in government sectors, civil society organizations, and foreign representatives in Taiwan. Dr. Hsin-Huang Michael Hsiao suggested that TAEF has positioned ourselves as the fifth arm along with the other 4 flagship programs of the New Southbound Policy and has been actively

promoting multilateral people-to-people exchanges among Taiwan, South and Southeast Asia, as well as Australia and New Zealand. Throughout the past two years, TAEF has been consecutively nominated as one of the internationally “Best New Think Tanks” by the University of Pennsylvania. This honor, as Chairman Hsiao emphasized, would never be possible without the support from our partners in the government and civil society.

Dr. Jaushieh Joseph Wu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, stated that the COVID19 pandemic is evidence that diseases know no borders and pointed out the urgent need for global and regional cooperation on public health, reinvigorating the economy and preventing future epidemics, as we move into the post-pandemic era. These will also be the main themes of this year’s Yushan Forum. Minister Wu added that in line with the “Taiwan helps Asia, and Asia helps Taiwan” spirit of the forum, Taiwan will continue to lend assistance to our partners in the Indo Pacific region in the fight against COVID-19.

Read more in Chinese

TAEF Initiated “New Southbound Cultural Salon” Series with Taiwan Panorama and CSEAS



Thursday, July 23, 2020

With an aim to review and deepen cultural exchanges among Taiwan and New Southbound partners, TAEF initiated “New Southbound Cultural Salon” series with

Taiwan Panorama and CSEAS. The first cultural salon of this series was held at Thinkers' Theater in Dadaocheng, a major historical tourist attraction and shopping area known for the local Taiwanese cuisine. Titled "Southeast Asia in Motion: Reviewing NSP from New Immigrants' Perspectives," the first salon invited speakers from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office of Trade Negotiations at Executive Yuan, Cultural Taiwan Foundation and TransAsia Sisters Association to discuss the strategic significance of NSP and multifaceted experiences of new immigrants in Taiwan (including their long-term pursuit of basic human rights, devotion to cultural interactions and artistic creation, among others.)

To continue the dynamics of this event, the second cultural salon would be held at Taitung Art Museum on August 22-23. The topic "From Tribes to Worlds: Rediscovering Indigenous Music and Image Productions" is meant to investigate how cultural exchanges among Austronesian peoples have stimulated worldwide artistic influences, a less-emphasized aspect of the NSP.

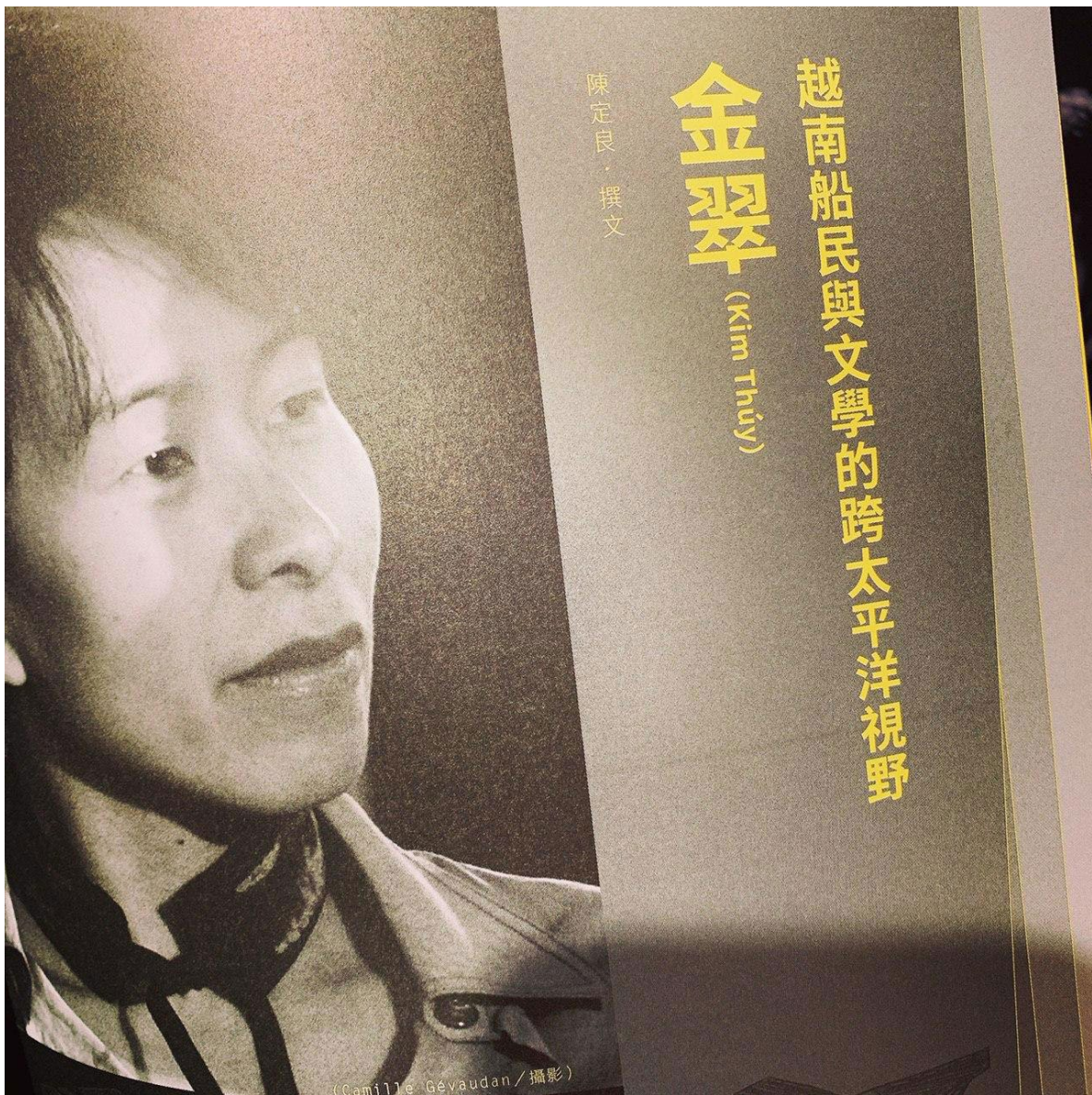
[Read more in Chinese](#)

[Registration for the second salon](#)

[Information about the second salon](#)

TAEF COMMENTARIES

Vietnamese Boat People and the Horizons of Transpacific Literature



- Ding-Liang Chen, Assistant Research Fellow, TAEF

Monday, August 3, 2020

Focusing on Vietnamese Canadian writer Kim Thúy's widely acclaimed novel *Ru*, Ding-Liang Chen, assistant research fellow at TAEF, argues that reading Southeast Asian literature with a specific concentration on palimpsest histories of colonization and continuing imperial governance could help establish a different and productive standpoint for us to engage with hidden processes of contemporary worldmaking projects. Different from diasporic literary works that often attach importance to simplistic if not rigidified linguistic and cultural barriers that immigrants have been faced with when setting foot on foreign soil, Thúy's writing historicizes heterogenous experiences of immigration by shifting our attention to transpacific crossings of Vietnamese boat people after the Vietnam War as a way to escape from the communist regime. In so doing, Thúy does not aim to reproduce the dichotomy of a liberal, progressive West vs. a conservative, backward East. Instead, her depiction of how Vietnamese boat people have been violently treated in refugee camps supported by the

US empire and discriminated in North America after their extradition lays bare precisely the ways in which both liberal and conservative ideologies are just problematic as their alleged enemies. The boat people, in this sense, have become the infrastructural constituents of such Cold War binarism.

Read more in Chinese

ASIA ENGAGEMENT CONSORTIUM UPDATES

Prospect Foundation

U.S. Secretary of State Pompeo's Statement on the South China Sea and Its Implications



Friday, August 7, 2020

The Prospect Foundation's newsletter included an article written by Dr. Cheng-yi Lin, Research Fellow at the Institute of European and American Studies of Academia Sinica. This article analyzes Pompeo's statement on the South China Sea from its rationale, China's reactions, and its implications.

The Trump administration is creating a united front strategy, at first among ASEAN. The U.S. is trying to build third-party capacity that will help the network scale expand

among ASEAN and non-ASEAN members in the region. While upholding a rules-based international order, the U.S. is providing more assistance to address contingencies and to strengthen interoperability between the U.S. and the claimants of the South China Sea in order to counteract Chinese military pressure. The U.S. also is expanding information sharing with like-minded countries and is pooling resources for common objectives. Naval presence by Australia, Japan, India, and the United Kingdom is welcome as a warning signal to frustrate China's excessive claims. One British aircraft carrier will be based in the Indo-Pacific region to counter “an increasingly aggressive China.”

In addition to accusing Beijing of a coronavirus cover-up, the Trump administration has begun adopting a containment approach to deal with a modern digital authoritarianism under Chinese Communist Party, depicted as a “new tyranny” in acting to unilaterally impose legislation known as the Hong Kong National Security Act. The South China Sea issue is the likely to be the first power play battlefield involving China, ASEAN, the U.S., and Taiwan. In addition to befriending ASEAN in the Spratly Islands, U.S. Secretary of Defense Mark Esper warned Beijing on July 21, 2020, that a Chinese “large-scale exercise to stimulate the seizure of the Taiwan-controlled Pratas Island is a destabilizing activity that significantly increases the risk of miscalculation.” Secretary Pompeo's message to Beijing is crystal clear that business as usual will no longer be the norm in the South China Sea.

[Read more](#)

NEW SOUTHBOUND POLICY NEWS

Taiwan News

Taiwan to Reopen Guam Office within One Month

Tuesday, August 2, 2020

Taiwan hopes to reopen its representative office in Guam in late August or early September after three years of absence from the United States territory, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) said Tuesday (Aug. 4).

The government was discussing with the U.S. the timing for MOFA's Office for Parliamentary Affairs Deputy Director General Paul Chen's (陳盈連) assuming his role in Guam, [CNA](#) reported. The only element still likely to influence his trip is the Wuhan coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Taiwan shut down its office on the Pacific island in 2017 due to budgetary restrictions. However, the improved relations with Washington since then, as well as the rising

strategic importance of the area and the development of a New Southbound Policy by Taipei and an Indo-Pacific strategy by the Trump Administration, have convinced MOFA to reopen the Guam posting.

[Read more](#)

REGIONAL HEADLINES

The New York Times

Protests Take On Thai Monarchy, Despite Laws Banning Such Criticism

Aug 13, 2020

Thailand's student-led anti-government protests, which have gained momentum this summer, have addressed everything from the disappearance of activists critical of the military and monarchy, to the enduring power of a 2014 coup leader who now serves as prime minister.

Over the last few days, however, they have

BBC

Indian apps soar after ban on China's TikTok, WeChat and Baidu

Aug 4, 2020

After June's deadly border clash in Ladakh, India is waging an economic war on China, with bans on almost everything from popular mobile apps to tenders on public projects.

ByteDance's TikTok, Tencent's WeChat, Alibaba's browser and Baidu map were among 59 Chinese apps banned by the Indian government in late June.

CNN

Sign of the times? Mumbai installs female figures on traffic lights to promote gender equality

Aug 4, 2020

The Indian financial capital, home to more than 12 million people, is changing some of its traffic lights to be gender inclusive. The new traffic light design will show red and green female figures, identified by the shape of a dress, instead of the generic male stick figure.

The project is part of a broader urban initiative known as "Culture

added a new element to the mix: direct criticism of a royal institution that, through decades of street and student protest, tried to position itself as floating above politics.

In a protest on Monday, Ms. Panusaya read a 10-point statement from a student group urging reforms to the royal institution. Among the demands were a call to end the punitive lèse-majesté law and a proposal to trim the royal budget.

The student group also called for the monarchy to refrain from politics. Thailand has undergone a dozen successful coups since 1932, and the monarch has formally endorsed those changes of government.

[Read more](#)

Ravi Shankar Prasad, India's information technology minister, called it "a digital strike" at a recent political rally.

According to Sensor Tower, an app market intelligence company, Roposo, Xiaomi's Zili and New York-based Dubsmash saw combined downloads increase by 155% in the three weeks following the blocking of TikTok compared to the preceding three weeks.

That same day, the government announced restrictions on national security grounds on bidders from China and other countries bordering India for public projects. There have also been media reports that New Delhi will exclude Chinese technology companies like Huawei and ZTE from India's forthcoming 5G network, and increase tariffs on Chinese-made goods.


[Read more](#)

Spine," which is headed by Aaditya Thackeray, cabinet minister for tourism and the environment in Maharashtra, the state in which Mumbai is located.

Sada Sarvankar, a local leader of Thackeray's political party, Shiv Sena, described the move on [Twitter](#) as a "significant step towards #WomenEmpowerment." Elsewhere, residents and social media users also praised the new lights as a symbolic step toward changing public perceptions, challenging gender norms and demanding representation for women in public spheres.

[Read more](#)

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