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TAEF UPDATES

TAEF was selected as one of the Global Best New Think Tanks in 2018

Best New Think Tanks 2018 (Alphabetical Listing; Not Ranked) Table 35
Advocata Institute (Sri Lanka), www.advocata.org (2016)
Agora Verkehrswende (Germany), www.agora-verkehrswende.de (2016)
ATM Policy Institute (Ireland), www.atmpolicy.aero (2017)
Austrian FP9 Think Tank (Austria), www.era.gv.at (2016)
Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement, http://global.upenn.edu/penn-biden-center (2018)
Center for ESG Research (Denmark), esgresearch.dk (2017)
DC Policy Center (United States), www.dcpolicycenter.org (2016)
Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity (United States), freopp.org (2016)
Institute for Investigation of Equal Development (Mexico), www.iberomx.org (2016)
Institution of International Relations and Commerce (Brazil), irice.com.br (2017)
MGM Resorts Public Policy Institute (United States), www.unlv.edu/mgmppi# (2017)
National Institute of Amazon Research (Brazil), portal.inpa.gov.br (2016)
One Belt One Road 100 (China), www.obor100.com (2016)
Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Brazil), portal.fiocruz.br (2016)
Pegasus Institute (United States), www.pegasuskentucky.org (2016)
International Institute for Iranian Studies in Saudi Arabia, FKA Arabian Gulf Center for Iranian Studies (Saudi Arabia), rasanah-iiis.org (2018)
Sanders Institute (United States) www.sandersinstitute.com (2017)
São Paulo Research Foundation (Brazil), www.fapesp.br (2017)
Scottish Centre on European Relations (United Kingdom), www.scer.scot (2017)
St Michael Centre for Faith and Action (Barbados), saintmichaelscathedral.bb (2017)
Strategic Development Center (Uzbekistan), www.strategy.uz (2017)
Suomi Sauna Think Tank (Finland), www.ttu.ee/projects/mehtory-eng/mehtory-center/suomi/ (2017)
Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation (TAEF), www.taef.org (2018)
Think Tennessee (United States), thinktennessee.org (2017)
Venezuelan Institute of Scientific Investigation (Venezuela), www.ivic.gob.ve (2016)
WiseEuropa (Poland), wise-europa.eu (2016)
World Resources Institute Brazil (Brazil), wricidades.org (2016)

Thursday, January 31th, 2019

TAEF has been selected as one of the Best New Think Tanks in 2018 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report by the University of Pennsylvania.

27 international new think tanks are selected and TAEF is the youngest one (established in 2018) among them and the only one from Taiwan.

[Read more](#)

Conducting an Annual Dialogue

每年和新南向國家對話



Part of President Tsai Ing-wen's vision for the New Southbound Policy was for Taiwan to host an annual conference of thought leaders from the target countries to provide guidance regarding regional concerns and how the New Southbound Policy could best address them. Organizing the event – to be held each year on October 11 and 12, right after Taiwan's "Double Ten" National Day – became one of the flagship projects under the program.

To reflect Taiwan's aspirations for

excellence, the event was named the Yushan Forum after Taiwan's highest mountain peak. The first conference, in 2017, was attended by some 800 public and private sector participants from more than 20 countries and featured sessions on Economy and Trade, Human Resources, Technological Innovation, NGO Engagement, Think Tank Collaboration, and Youth Dialogue.

Starting from 2018, responsibility for organizing the conference rests with the Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation

(TAEF), established last year with government funding. The highlights of the 2018 forum were speeches by two Nobel Peace Prize laureates — former President of South Africa F.W. de Klerk and Indian children's rights activist Kailash Satyarthi.

Besides the Yushan Forum, TAEF is tasked with five other missions:

- Collaborating with think tanks around the region and serving as the pilot organization for a Taiwan-based think tank to specialize on topics of regional interest.

蔡英文總統的新南向政策願景之一，就是由台灣每年主辦會議，針對區域所關切的議題，以及新南向政策如何以最妥善方式處理這些問題，邀請新南向目標國的思想領袖與會提供指導。這項會議定在每年10月11到12日，緊接在台灣雙十國慶日後舉行，成為新南向政策的旗艦計畫之一。

為了反映台灣追求卓越的抱負，這項會議根據台灣第一高峰名稱，命名為玉山論壇。首屆會議在2017年舉行，共有來自逾20國約800位公共與民間部門人士與會，議程主軸涵蓋經貿交流、人力資源、科技創新、公民團體參與、智庫合作與青年對話。

自2018年起，玉山論壇主辦責任交由政府去年資助成立的台灣亞洲交流基金會（簡稱台亞會）負責。該年論壇活動的亮點，就是兩位諾貝爾和平獎得主——前南非總統戴克拉克和印度兒童權益運動人士沙提雅提，應邀發表演說。

除了主辦玉山論壇，台亞會還肩負其他五項任務：



TAEF welcomes a group of Asian Young Leaders to a banquet in their honor.

PHOTO: TAEF

[Wednesday, February 20th, 2019](#)

Taiwan Business TOPICS, a business magazine published by American Chamber of Commerce in Taipei, quoted information and photos from TAEF in an in-depth coverage on Taiwan's New Southbound Policy.

[Read more](#)

Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation Representative Attended the US-ASEAN Partnership Forum



Tuesday, February 19th, 2019

Jointly organized by the Pacific Forum, the Habibie Center, YSEALI, and the U.S. Mission to the ASEAN, the US-ASEAN Partnership Forum was recently held in Jakarta, Indonesia from February 11 to 13, 2019, which brought together over 70 Southeast Asian and US foreign policy specialists, subject matter experts, and next-generation scholars from across the globe.

Yuri Baral, the assistant research fellow of TAEF, was invited to participate in the US-ASEAN Partnership Forum in Jakarta. During the stay in Jakarta, he also delivered lectures on Taiwan's New Southbound Policy to students and faculty of the University of Indonesia (UI) and BINUS University on February 14 and 15 respectively.

[Read more](#)

TAEF COMMENTARY

Taipei Bar Association

Looking at South Korea's New Southern Strategy from Taiwan's New Southbound Policy: Re-exploring the Regional Strategy on People-Centered

-Dr. H.H. Michael Hsiao | Chairman, TAEF

-Dr. Alan Hao Yang | Executive Director, TAEF

Taiwan has been developing the “New Southbound Policy” since 2016, and the New Southbound Policy has also attracted the attention of neighboring countries such as the United States, Japan, and South Korea. These states have also been promoting their own strategy on regional development or security in Southeast Asia.

For example, the United States has gradually strengthened the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy" since 2017, South Korea proposed "New Southern Strategy" in 2017 and Japan relaunched the "New Tokyo Strategy" in 2018. These policies are similar to Taiwan’s New Southbound Policy.

However, what is the difference between Taiwan’s “New Southbound Policy” and South Korea’s “New Southern Strategy”?

[Read the article in Chinese](#)

The National Interest

The Risky Game of Jenga Being Played in the Taiwan Strait

-Dr. Alan Hao Yang | Executive Director, TAEF

-Jeremy Huai-Che Chiang | Managing Editor of TAEF Brief, TAEF

Many policy-makers and spectators have now found out that this Taiwan Strait “relational” tower is actually a Jenga game. They have realized that instead of being a steady one-direction construction job, both sides had always been poking wooden blocks from the existent tower to build up the tower.

Some may ask, what can Taiwan do to ease the tension? While Taiwan has been abiding by the rules, and Tsai’s administration acting with caution and restraint, this Jenga game is still a game played by two. Bilateral peace cannot be achieved when one side is constantly unilateral changing the status quo and shooting for farfetched dreams.

[Read more](#)

ASIA ENGAGEMENT CONSORTIUM UPDATES

TAEF X NCCU CSEAS

"China's Footprints in Southeast Asia" Book Launch



[Friday, February 15th, 2019](#)

TAEF hosted the book launch of "China's Footprints in Southeast Asia" (National University of Singapore Press, 2018) in Taipei International Bookfair on February 15th. And the event has been crowned with complete success!

[Read more](#)

Asia Engagement Consortium Welcomed New Member Organizations



Wednesday, February 13th, 2019

Two new member organizations of the Asia Engagement Consortium (AEC), Taiwan Foundation for Democracy and Center for Vietnamese Studies, NCKU, signed Cooperation Declaration.

[Read more](#)

Taiwan's Literary Diplomacy in Vietnam



Saturday, February 16th, 2019

The Vietnamese government held the opening ceremony of the 4th International Conference on Vietnamese Literature and the 3rd International Poetry Festival in Hanoi on February 16 with the participation of nearly 200 poets, writers, and translators from 46 countries and territories around the world.

This event was attended by 14 representatives of the Taiwanese Pen. Opposing the Taiwanese presence at the event, the Chinese representatives refused to attend the opening ceremony and had the flag of China removed.

[Read more](#)

NEW SOUTHBOUND POLICY NEWS

Taipei Times

Canberra urged to join against China

[Sunday, February 17th, 2019](#)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs pledged to continue to deepen ties with like-minded nations, while expressing gratitude to a former Australian deputy defense minister, Paul Dobb, who called on Australia to join the US in countering China should Beijing mount a major attack on Taiwan in an article on the Strategist, the Web site of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute, a Canberra-based think tank.

“This article takes a different line and argues that if China were attacking US forces in a major military conflict across the Taiwan Strait and Australia refused to be involved, the very existence of the ANZUS alliance would be at risk,” Dobb said, referring to the Australia-US-New Zealand defense treaty signed in 1951 to maintain security in the Pacific.

[Read more](#)

Taipei Times

Delta to boost stake in Thai subsidiary

[Monday, February 18th, 2019](#)

Delta Electronics Inc (台達電), Taiwan’s leading power and thermal solutions provider, has obtained approval from antitrust authorities to pursue a conditional voluntary tender for its Thailand-listed subsidiary. In a regulatory filing on Wednesday, Delta said it would comply with Thai regulations to begin acquiring Delta Electronics (Thailand)

PCL's remaining 986,269,024 shares, or a 79.07 percent stake, at 71 baht (US\$2.27) per share. Delta presently holds a 20.93 percent stake in the Thai unit.

The deal, a transaction estimated to total US\$2.14 billion, should increase the company's global manufacturing reach and improve its sales support in Southeast Asia and nearby regions, Delta said.

[Read more](#)

Focus Taiwan

Taiwan Education Center, Philippines school promote study in Taiwan



Monday, February 18th, 2019

The Taiwan Education Center Philippines, and St. Paul University Quezon City held an event Monday to encourage students and faculty from the university to study in Taiwan and to even apply for scholarships to pursue doctoral degrees.

Lee Cheng-han (李政翰), the education secretary at Taiwan's representative office in Manila, briefed students and faculty at the event on Taiwan's higher education system and the quality of instruction.

Whether students want to develop academically or develop practical skills, Taiwan can provide appropriate courses, and scholarships are also available from Taiwan's government, Lee said.

[Read more](#)

SOUTHEAST ASIA / SOUTH ASIA / AUS / NZ NEWS

*NHK World-
Japan*

Kono: Japan supports peace process in Philippines

[February 10th, 2019](#)

Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono met with Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte in Davao, Duterte's hometown, on February, 9th. Davao is located on the island of Mindanao.

Five years ago, the government and Muslim militants, who had fought each other for more than four decades, signed a peace agreement. It called for the creation of an autonomous government for Muslim residents in the region.

Kono told Duterte that Japan welcomes the progress that was made during the peace process.

[Read more](#)

The Straits Times

Invincible, first of Singapore's biggest and most advanced submarines, launches in Germany

[February 18th, 2019](#)

Singapore's acquisition of four new Type 218SG submarines, which offer more firepower and combat options, is a timely move as maritime security challenges evolve and countries beef up their submarine fleets, said Defence Minister Ng Eng Hen.

"[As Singapore sits astride two of the busiest sea lines of communication in the world] I think that most people will receive this development by the RSN with assurance that it is able to do its part in keeping our sea lines of communication open not only for Singapore, but the world." he added.

[Read more](#)

BBC News

Kim Jong-un's 'butler' in Vietnam ahead of Trump-Kim summit

[February 19th, 2019](#)

The "butler" of North Korean leader Kim Jong-un is in Vietnam ahead of a summit meeting with US President Donald Trump set for next week.

During his visit to the capital city of Hanoi, the de-facto chief of staff Kim Chang-son, has been seen checking out potential summit venues.

Kim Jong-un will meet Mr Trump on 27-28 February for a planned second meeting.

[Read more](#)