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TAEF UPDATES

Join the Webinar of 2021 Yushan Forum



October 8, 2021

H.H. Michael Hsiao
Chairman of Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation

Cordially invites you to the

**2021 Yushan Forum: Asian Dialogue for Innovation and Progress
(Theme: Resetting Priorities of Progress with Resilience)**

9:00am-6:00pm, Friday, October 8, 2021 (GMT+8)

[Click here to register for this event](#)

*The webinar link and password will be sent three days before the forum.

Agenda

Japan-Taiwan Online Symposium: Ten Years of Progress and Lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake



Register here

14:00-17:00 (Tokyo Time)
Thursday 30-Sept 2021

Simultaneous Interpretation in
Japanese / English / Mandarin



Japan-Taiwan Online Symposium

September 30, 2021

Ten years have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake (GEJE). The swift support from Taiwan for Japan is strongly etched in our memories. In the past ten years, both Japan and Taiwan have suffered from repeated earthquakes and metrological disasters, making people realize the true meaning and the importance of helping each other.

Society for the Study of Disaster Risk Management Policy (SSDRMP) of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), Japan Weather Association (JWA), and Taiwan-Asian Exchange Foundation (TAEF) co-host the “Japan-Taiwan Symposium: Ten Years of Progress and Lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake.”

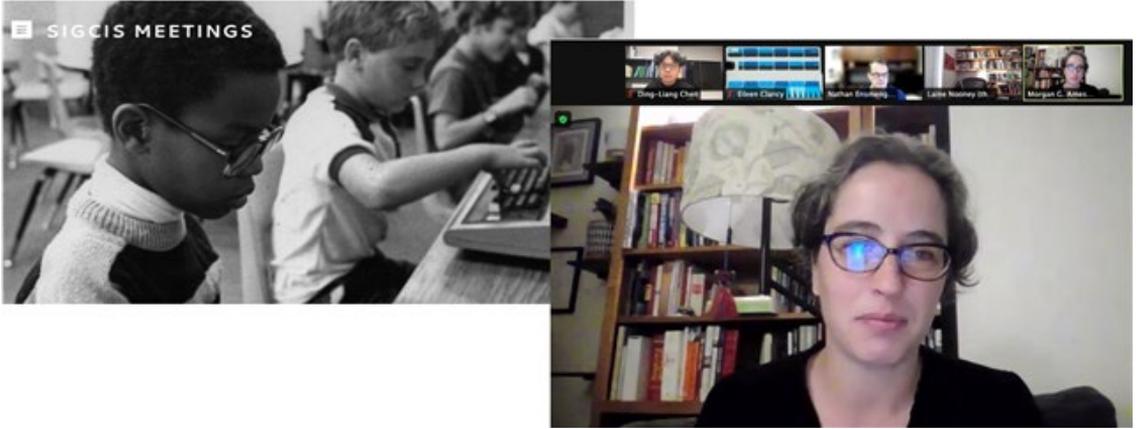
The symposium will be held online with simultaneous interpretation in Japanese, English, and Mandarin. This event will bring together key figures in disaster risk management policy research from Japan and Taiwan.

Participation at the event is free of charge, but registration is compulsory. We hope that many of you will be able to attend. Thank you for your cooperation.

◆◆ Date/Time: 30 September 2021/ 13.00-16.00 (GMT+8/Taiwan)

Agenda & Registration

Culture | Toward Alternative Histories of Technology: The 2021 SIGCIS Annual Conference Features Non-Western Contexts and Multi-faceted Topics



September 25, 2021

The Special Interest Group for Computing, Information, and Society (SIGCIS), part of the Society for the History of Technology, US, held the 2021 annual conference from September 23 to 25. This year's annual conference featured more than 50 presentations regarding non-Western histories of technology in East Asia, Southeast Asia, and South Asia, and other regions. Topics included empire, global history, gender studies, digital humanities, ethics, and visual culture, among others.

TAEF's assistant research fellow Mr. Ding-Liang Chen participated in the panel "Global Computing Infrastructures: Empire, Materiality, and Connectivity." Focusing on contemporary Philippine literature and Southeast Asian new media artworks, Chen's paper "Weak Signals: Wired Mediation and Transpacific Infrastructures of Communication" aimed to decolonize the histories of transpacific informatics. This session also included researchers in South and Southeast Asian contexts whose presentation probed into pressing issues such as algorithms, coding systems, and environmental governance.

This year's conference also invited Professors Rayvon Fouché (Purdue), Lisa Nakamura (Michigan), Jason Edward Lewis (Concordia), and Lucy Suchman (Lancaster) to discuss in the keynote panel.

Founded in the mid-1980s, SIGCIS is the leading international group for historians with an interest in the history of information technology and its applications. Its primary activities include meetings held in connection with our parent society, the Society for the History of Technology. While it traditionally holds the annual conference as a one-day, in-person event immediately following SHOT, this year's edition was held virtually.

To know more about SIGCIS

TAEF COMMENTARIES

New Southbound Policy Should Take Root in Cultural Exchange



September 19, 2021

- Hsin-Huang Michael Hsiao, Chairman of Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation
- Alan H. Yang, Executive Director of Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation
- Ding-Liang Chen, Assistant Research Fellow of Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation

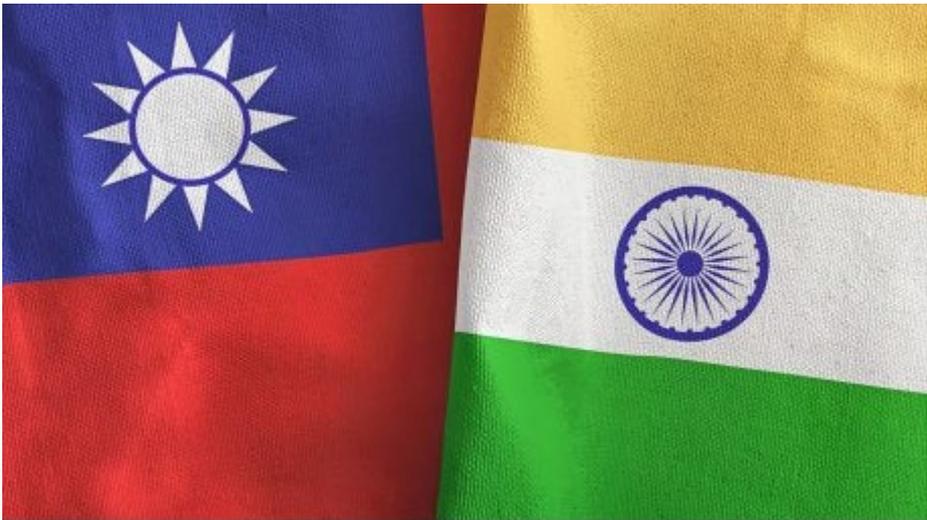
TAEF's Chairman Dr. Hsin-Huang Michael Hsiao, Executive Director Dr. Alan Yang, and Assistant Research Fellow Mr. Ding-Liang Chen pointed out that, since the launch

of New Southbound Policy (NSP) in 2016, Taiwan has actively cultivated mutually beneficial collaboration with South Asia, Southeast Asia, Australia, and New Zealand. It is a pity that numerous reviews of NSP focused primarily on economic performance in the past five years and neglected how NSP has gradually consolidated the sense of community between Taiwan and Asian partners through the significant mechanism of cultural exchange.

This article emphasized that NSP should take root in cultural exchange to not only eliminate hostility between different cultures but deepen the sense of identity among the Asian cultural communities. When envisioning the new post-pandemic era, we should not invest in economic recovery only. Instead, it is necessary to grasp the chance to build a more resilient foundation for cultural exchange and develop institutionalized mechanisms to facilitate these activities.

[Read more](#)

Taiwan's New Southbound Policy Needs to Focus More on India



September 24, 2021

- Sana Hashmi, Visiting Fellow of Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation

This year marks the fifth anniversary of Taiwan's New Southbound Policy (NSP). Often lauded as the Tsai administration's flagship foreign policy initiative, the NSP expands the scope of countries covered in the Go South Policy, which was in practice under former Presidents Lee Teng-hui and Chen Shui-bian. Through the policy, Taiwan has extended engagement with Australia, New Zealand, India, and its five South Asian neighbors. Adding India into Taiwan's foreign policy agenda is big.

The NSP is not just an effort to reach out; it is also a response to the looming crisis of Taiwan's shrinking diplomatic space. Of late, China has driven away several of Taiwan's diplomatic partners, especially in the South Pacific. President Tsai Ing-wen's government understands that if this Chinese attack is not deflected, it might turn into a diplomatic recognition crisis for Taiwan.

Compared to the previous government, the Tsai administration has put in more effort to engage India. While outcomes still lag behind expectations, it cannot be denied that India-Taiwan relations have improved, particularly in the case of people-to-people connections. But beyond the hype, it is also clear that within Taiwan's strategic discourse, India is yet to figure in the main list.

[Read more](#)

CONSORTIUM UPDATES

Prospect Foundation

Cross-Strait Relations - The Prospects and Challenges



September 16, 2021

The international community has always had a high interest in the continued peace and stability of the Taiwan Strait and in Taiwan's participation and contributions to global organizations. Deterrence on various fronts is, therefore, necessary to prevent conflict in the area. Moreover, like-minded countries should be encouraged to support Taiwan's participation in international organizations.

The Prospect Foundation in conjunction with the Center for a New American Security co-hosted on September 16 a discussion on proposals for reducing tensions in the

Taiwan Strait and necessary measures for deterrence.

This panel featured opening addresses by Chiu-Chen Chiu, Deputy Minister, Mainland Affairs Council of Taiwan, and Ingrid D. Larson, Managing Director of American Institute in Taiwan - Washington Headquarters.

Watch the full discussions

NEW SOUTHBOUND POLICY NEWS

Financial Times

Taiwan Follows China with Bid to Join Transpacific Trade Pact

September 22, 2021

Taiwan has applied to join a major transpacific trade pact just after a week after China filed its own membership bid, pitting the two adversaries against each other in a race to join. The formal request by Taiwan to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) will force other members of the pact into a delicate political balancing act.

“We submitted the formal application this afternoon,” an official in Taiwan’s presidential office told the Financial Times on Wednesday. A senior Taiwanese trade policy official confirmed that the application had been sent to New Zealand’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, which handles CPTPP membership requests.

The almost simultaneous requests by China and Taiwan create more rivalry at a time of high tension between the two. Beijing claims Taiwan as part of its territory and threatens to invade it if Taiwan refuses unification indefinitely. The Chinese government frequently pressures third countries as well as international organisations, non-governmental bodies and commercial enterprises to help isolate Taipei and deny it any participation in international affairs in its own right.

Trade experts in Taiwan and Japan said that although the membership of both China and Taiwan in the World Trade Organization was a precedent for having both countries participate in a trade agreement, Beijing’s power and political assertiveness was now much greater, making a CPTPP deal for both more politically complex.

Read more

Reuters

'Quad' Countries to Agree On Secure Microchip Supply Chains

September 18, 2021

Leaders of the United States, Japan, India and Australia will agree to take steps to build secure semiconductor supply chains when they meet in Washington next week, the Nikkei business daily said on Saturday, citing a draft of the joint statement.

U.S. President Joe Biden will host a first in-person summit of leaders of the "Quad" countries, which have sought to boost co-operation to push back against China's growing assertiveness.

The draft says that in order to create robust supply chains, the four countries will ascertain their semiconductor supply capacities and identify vulnerability, the Nikkei said, without unveiling how it had obtained the document. The statement also says the use of advanced technologies should be based on the rule of respecting human rights, the newspaper said on its web site.

The draft does not name

The Economist

What Does the Australian Submarine Deal Mean for Non-Proliferation?

September 17, 2021

Only once in its history has America handed over a nuclear submarine propulsion plant, the crown jewels of military technology, to another country. That was 63 years ago when America helped the Royal Navy to go nuclear. Now it will take that dramatic step again.

A new trilateral defence pact, aukus, announced on September 15th, will involve far-reaching defence co-operation between America, Australia and Britain. The group's first initiative, and its most important, will be American and British assistance to Australia in building a fleet of at least eight nuclear-powered submarines. The precise form of assistance will be worked out over the next 18 months; it may involve Britain actually supplying the technology, with America's blessing and support.

"This technology is extremely sensitive," acknowledged an

Aljazeera

Japan, Vietnam Sign Defence Transfer Deal Amid China Worries

September 12, 2021

Japan and Vietnam have agreed to step up cooperation amid worries about China's growing military influence, signing a new deal that enables the export of Japanese-made defence equipment and technology to Hanoi.

Japan's Defence Minister Nobuo Kishi said the deal, signed on Saturday, elevates the two countries' defence partnership "to a new level" and that Japan and Vietnam plan to deepen defence ties through multinational joint exercises and other means.

Details about the transfer of specific equipment, including naval vessels, will be worked out in subsequent talks, the Japanese Defence Ministry said in a statement.

Kishi's meeting with his Vietnamese counterpart, Phan Van Giang, in

China, but the move is aimed at preventing China's way of utilising technologies for maintaining an authoritarian regime from spreading to the rest of the world, the Nikkei said.

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American official, speaking anonymously on September 15th. "This is, frankly, an exception to our policy in many respects...We view this as a one-off."

[Read more](#)

Hanoi coincided with a two-day visit to the Vietnamese capital by Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

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