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TAEF UPDATES

TAEF Dialogue with Germany Journalist Network Group



Monday, November 25, 2019

The Germany Journalist Network Group visited TAEF and was welcomed by Director Dr. Alan Hao Yang. Dr. Yang not only explained the important features of the New Southbound Policy and the success that has been achieved, but also answered questions such as how Taiwan enhances its relations with the neighboring countries and the current

projects implemented in the New Southbound countries. With regard to future prospect, Dr. Yang highlighted the importance of contextualizing Taiwan in Asia, so that Taiwan can diversify its relations and share its warm power with other countries.

[Read more](#)

The Council of Indigenous People Visited TAEF



Wednesday, Nov 20, 2019

The Council of Indigenous People visited TAEF to discuss potential collaborations with TAEF. They were warmly welcomed by Chairman Dr. H.H. Michael Hsiao and Executive Director Dr. Alan Hao Yang.

The Council of Indigenous People established the Austronesian Forum in Palau this September. The Austronesian Forum consists of 13 member states/territories, including not only Pacific Island countries such as Solomon Islands and Republic of Marshall Islands but also New Southbound countries such as New Zealand, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Indonesia.

Both Dr. Hsiao and Dr. Yang expressed that TAEF is pleased to collaborate with the Austronesian Forum, for this kind of collaboration is in line with TAEF's mission of furthering New Southbound Policy. Dr. Hsiao welcomed the Austronesian Forum to

participate in the Asia Engagement Consortium initiated by TAEF, which can be a starting point for future cooperation. The current network built by the Council of Indigenous People can also be linked with TAEF's network to facilitate the development of the Austronesian Forum.

The Austronesian Forum will hold its General Assembly next year in Hawaii during the Festival of Pacific Arts & Culture, which could also be a chance for Taiwan to join the Pacific Community. TAEF looks forward to future collaborations with the Austronesian Forum.

[Read more](#)

TAEF COMMENTARIES

Taiwan Insight

The Yushan Forum: Demonstrating Taiwan's Flexible Approach to Public-Private Partnerships in Asian Development

Tuesday, Nov 26, 2019

-Dr. Alan H. Yang | Executive Director, TAEF

-Ding-Liang Chen | Assistant Research Fellow, TAEF

Taiwan has lost several of its diplomatic allies in recent years. These setbacks have prompted Taiwan's government to devise new approaches to improving its international presence and foreign relations strategy. At the forefront of these contemplations are questions as to how Taiwan can consolidate its contribution to, and partnership with, the global community, and find a more integral place for itself that fits in with Asian and global development agendas. Only by doing so can Taiwan improve its public's trust in the nation's capacity to foster meaningful forms of engagement in the spheres of international relations and development. The 2019 Yushan Forum, held on October 8-9, was an important test-case of how this can be achieved – it put on display the new international partnerships recently formed by Taiwan's government and civil societies, and foregrounded new models that Taiwan could implement to participate more actively in global engagements/forums and regional integration.

[Read more](#)

ASIA ENGAGEMENT CONSORTIUM UPDATES

Taiwan Foundation for Democracy

Diplomacy Training Program Wins Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award



Thursday, Nov 28, 2019

Taiwan Foundation for Democracy (TFD) announced Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) as the winner of this year's Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award at a press conference on November 28. DTP was co-founded in 1989 by José Ramos-Horta, Former President of East Timor and laureate of the 1996 Nobel Peace Prize, and Garth Nettheim, emeritus professor at The University of New South Wales. Since January 1990, the DTP has provided practical human rights training to over 3000 human rights defenders and community advocates in the Asia-Pacific and MENA region.

At the press conference, Ford Fu-Te Liao, President of TFD, said that TFD and DTP can learn a lot from each other in the areas of advocating for democracy and human rights, and providing training and resources for advocates. He concluded by expressing his hope for further cooperation between the two organizations.

[Read more in Chinese](#)

NEW SOUTHBOUND POLICY NEWS

Focus Taiwan

GOLDEN HORSE: Malaysian Yeo Yann Yann Wins Best Lead Actress

Saturday, Nov. 23, 2019

Malaysian Yeo Yann Yann won the Golden Horse Award for best lead actress Saturday for her performance in "Wet Season" (熱帶雨), playing the part of a Chinese language teacher whose marriage and career are falling apart.

It was Yeo's second Golden Horse Award, after she won best supporting actress in 2013 for her role in the Singaporean drama "Ilo Ilo."

The judges praised Yeo's acting as close to perfect in portraying a woman who reflects dignity and resilience.

[Read more](#)

Taiwan News

Art Exhibition in Thailand Reveals Natural Beauty of Taiwan

Monday, Nov. 25, 2019

The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) launched artist Lin Li-yen's (林麗燕) solo exhibition titled "Life in Color" on Nov. 28 at the TECO office in Bangkok, Thailand.

The Taiwanese artist lives in Bangkok and the show is intended to help strengthen the implementation of Taiwan's New Southbound Policy, in addition to promoting cultural exchanges between Taiwan and Thailand, according to TECO.

"Life in Color" features 20 color ink paintings that portray Taiwan's unique flowers and birds. Lin has also experimented with eastern gouache in recent years.

[Read more](#)

REGIONAL HEADLINES

CNBC

Singapore Tells Facebook to Correct Post under New

VOA

Vietnam Gets Double Dose of US Waterway Diplomacy

The Guardian

Fears Raised for Safety of Defecting Chinese Spy

Fake News Law

Nov. 28, 2019

Singapore said on Friday it had instructed Facebook to correct a post on its social media platform under a new “fake news” law, after a user declined a government request to do so.

The move, coming as the Asian city-state gears up for an election, is the first real test of a measure that took effect last month, stoking fears it could stifle free speech and chill dissent. But government officials have rejected such concerns.

Facebook has previously said it was “concerned with aspects of the new law which grant broad powers to the Singapore executive branch to compel us to remove content they deem to be false and to push a government notification to users”.

Rights groups such as New York-based Human Rights Watch have also warned the law could undermine internet freedoms, not just in Singapore, but elsewhere in Southeast Asia.

Nov. 26, 2019

Vietnam got a double dose of waterway diplomacy from the United States last week.

In the north, in Hanoi, U.S. Defense Secretary Mark Esper announced his nation would provide Vietnam with a second coast guard cutter ship to use in the South China Sea, where it has a dispute with China.

In the south, in an unrelated event around the same time, a U.S. consul general toured the Mekong Delta in a dinghy as part of a series of visits related to education, environment, and culture.

The two separate events, one a display of hard power, the other a show of soft power, indicate the different ways Vietnam and the United States are getting closer, decades after fighting an exhaustive war.

[*Read more*](#)

Wang Liqiang

Nov. 25, 2019

The Australian minders of the Chinese defector Wang Liqiang have been urged to “double up” protection duties as experts raise significant fears about his safety.

Chinese state media have sought to discredit Wang as a convicted “fraudster”, liar and a fake after he publicly revealed his role within Chinese intelligence and his bid for Australia’s protection on Saturday in the Sydney Morning Herald and Age newspapers.

The Chinese government released a notice from the Shanghai public security bureau stating it was investigating him for fraud, and released an online court record suggesting a fraud conviction was recorded in 2016. Wang’s lawyer in Australia, George Newhouse, told Guardian Australia: “He denies those allegations.”

Wang is staying in an undisclosed location in Sydney. He is in the country on a tourist visa and has formally applied for asylum. Guardian

[Read more](#)

Australia has been told he holds significant concerns for his own and his family's safety.

[Read more](#)

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