

TAIWAN NEWSLETTER

President Tsai addresses Indo-Pacific Leaders Dialogue session

Taiwan will continue to work with like-minded partner Australia in order to promote peace, prosperity and stability throughout the Indo-Pacific region, President Tsai Ing-Wen pledged in her virtual address to the Indo-Pacific Leaders Dialogue session, August 27.

Organised by the Canberra-based think tank Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI), President Tsai was invited to deliver her remarks virtually, before answering prepared questions from other participants.

In her remarks, Tsai lauded the state of relations between the two nations, and highlighted their ongoing cooperation in a number of fields including education, tourism, trade, culture, science and security.

Australia and Taiwan continue to grow closer, the president noted, citing the shared values of freedom and democ-



racy as helping to propel the relationship. President Tsai also expressed her gratitude for Australia's continued support of Taiwan's participation in international organizations, specifically the World Health Assembly.

Tsai also took the opportunity to ad-

dress the ongoing situation in Hong Kong, describing it as "one of the biggest challenges we have to face", before commending Australia, along with the US, UK and Canada, for taking action to support Hong Kong and safeguard democracy.

MOFA thanks 70 global lawmakers for backing Czech senate delegation's visit to Taiwan

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) expressed its sincere appreciation, August 26, for the support offered by 70 global legislators for the upcoming visit of a delegation led by Czech Senate President Milos Vystrcil.

A joint statement, initiated by members of the European Parliament Alexandr Vondra and Miriam Lexmann, offers staunch support for the Czech delegation and resolutely condemns the pressure being imposed on them by the People's Republic of China. Addressing the MEPs on Twitter, MOFA thanked them for their support and said that it "values the friendship of Europe's freedom- & democracy-loving lawmakers". The letter was signed by a number of

high-profile politicians including MEP Michael Gahler, chair of the European Parliament-Taiwan Friendship Group, and US Senator Marco Rubio.

The visit by the Czech delegation is due to take place between August 30 and September 4, and will include more than 90 individuals including 1st Vice President of the Czech Senate Jiri Ruzicka, Prague May-



Taiwan to set up representative office in southern France

Taiwan is set to establish its representative office in the southern French city of Aix-en-Provence, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) announced August 25.

The ministry highlighted France's importance as a core member of the European Union and a key trade partner of Taiwan, and added that the move is expected to boost collaboration between the two na-

tions in a number of fields.

Southern France is already an increasingly popular tourist destination for Taiwanese travellers, between 2016 to 2019 the number of Taiwanese tourists in the region increased by 62%, the ministry stated.

Taiwan's Aix-en-Provence office will be its second in France, along with the already established office in Paris.

226 Taipei, Taichung eateries feature in 2020 Michelin Guide

A total of 226 restaurants in Taipei and Taichung were adjudged to be worthy of inclusion in the 2020 Michelin Guide, according to the Tourism Bureau under the Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MOTC), August 24. Of the 226 total, 170 can be found in Taipei, of which 26 received at least one Michelin star, while 56 are in the central city of Taichung, which boasts 4 starred restaurants.


The MOTC cited years of concerted efforts promoting Taiwan's distinctive cuisine in the international arena as leading to the strong result.

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