

FAPA NEWS

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台灣人公共事務會 Formosan Association for Public Affairs

IMPORTANT!

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President's Corner



Dear FAPA members and friends,

I hope that you and your family are healthy and well, especially during this pandemic. As the United States continues to gradually reopen from lockdown, I also wish all of you an early return to normal life.

However, since Taiwan's domestic coronavirus outbreak in mid-May, how to get enough vaccines for Taiwan as soon as possible has become an urgent issue of public concern. In view of this, FAPA immediately promoted a joint letter led by Congressman Andy Barr, which was eventually signed by over 60 bipartisan U.S. Representatives and sent to Secretary of State Antony Blinken on May 21, urging the U.S. government to prioritize Taiwan in its Global Vaccine Sharing program.

Just days after Japan delivered 1.24 million doses of vaccine donation to Taiwan on June 4, a delegation of 3 bipartisan U.S. Senators arrived in Taiwan on a U.S. Air Force aircraft on June 6, announcing that the U.S. would donate 0.75 million vaccines to Taiwan. FAPA and other Taiwanese American organizations jointly sent letters to U.S. President Joe Biden and Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga to express our gratitude and also to encourage the U.S. and Japan to donate more vaccines to Taiwan. By September 7, the U.S. and Japan have respectively donated 2.5 million and 3.40 million doses of vaccines, demonstrating their strong support to and deep friendship with Taiwan. In addition, FAPA also sent letters to President of Lithuania and President of Slovakia to thank these two European countries' vaccine donations to Taiwan.

In recent months, bilateral relations between the United States and Taiwan have made remarkable advances and breakthroughs. First, the U.S. State Department issued new "contact guidelines concerning relations with Taiwan," which formally allow and encourage U.S. and Taiwanese officials to hold "regular" meetings in each other's government offices (such as U.S. federal buildings and Taiwan's overseas representative offices), and also allow U.S. officials to participate in common events at the "Twin Oaks." Second, after a five-year hiatus, the U.S. and Taiwan held trade talks in late June under the "Trade and Investment Framework Agreement" (TIFA) mechanism, focusing on various issues such as the strengthening of supply chains resilience, and seeking to negotiate a bilateral free trade agreement (BTA or FTA). On the eve of the resumption of TIFA talks, a bipartisan group of 42 U.S. Senators also sent a joint letter to U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai, urging her to lay the groundwork for negotiation of a FTA, or other preliminary agreement, with Taiwan. Third, in early August, the Biden administration announced its first arms sale to Taiwan. This \$750 million deal includes 40 M109A6 "Paladin" self-propelled howitzers and other related equipment, aiming to boost Taiwan's precision strike capability to meet current and future military threats from China.

As China continues to intensify military threats to Taiwan, the U.S. government has constantly reiterated that the U.S. commitment to Taiwan is "rock solid" and will continue to support a peaceful resolution of cross-strait issues, "consistent with the wishes and best interests of the people on Taiwan." In August, National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan reaffirmed that the U.S. commitment to Taiwan "remains as strong as it's ever been" amid concerns that the U.S. could abandon Taiwan to Chinese aggression after the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan. And despite that the Biden administration's official later said the U.S. policy on Taiwan had not changed, President Joe Biden himself during an interview clearly expressed that the U.S. would defend Taiwan if it were attacked, an unusual deviation from a long-held U.S. position of "strategic ambiguity."

In addition, by issuing the U.S.-Japan, U.S.-South Korea, and G7 joint statements since April, the United States and its allies also continue to "internationalize" and "regionalize" Taiwan's security issue, repeatedly emphasize the importance of peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait, and firmly oppose to any unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force. Moreover, the United States has also held a number of joint military exercises with its allies to suppress China's military expansion and aggressive ambitions in the Indo-Pacific region.

Meanwhile, Japanese official also repeatedly expressed their support for Taiwan. For examples, Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga publicly referred to Taiwan as a "country"; Deputy Prime Minister Taro Aso said that if China invades Taiwan, Japan and the U.S. must defend Taiwan together; Japanese State Minister of Defense Yasuhide Nakayama questioned the validity of the "One China Policy" and urged to protect Taiwan "as a democratic country"; and for the first time, Japan's defense white paper mentioned that "stabilizing the situation surrounding Taiwan" is crucial for Japan's security and the stability of the international community.

In recent months, the U.S. Congress also continued to move forward and introduce various pro-Taiwan legislations. In June, the Senate passed the "U.S. Innovation and Competition Act" (S.1260), which incorporates several Taiwan-related bills and provisions from the "Strategic Competition Act," such as the "Taiwan Fellowship Act," the "Taiwan Symbols of Sovereignty Act," and the sections of "Enhancing the United States-Taiwan partnership" and upgrading the "Treatment of Taiwan government." In July, the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee passed the "Ensuring American Global Leadership and Engagement Act" or "EAGLE Act" (H.R.3524), which also includes various pro-Taiwan bills and elements, such as the "Taiwan Diplomatic Review Act" (which, in part, calls for the negotiations to rename the "Taipei Economic and Cultural

Representative Office" or "TECRO" in the United States to the "Taiwan Representative Office" or "TRO"), the "Taiwan Peace and Stability Act" (which aims to advance U.S.-Taiwan economic ties, expand Taiwan's meaningful participation in the international community, and enhance Taiwan's self-defense capabilities), the "Taiwan International Solidarity Act" (which, in part, seeks to clarify that the UN's recognition of the PRC did not address the "Taiwan representation" and "Taiwan sovereignty" issues), and the "Taiwan Fellowship Act." The Senate and House must pass identical versions of the above "countering-China and pro-Taiwan" legislative packages before it can be sent to the president to be signed into law.

In late July, the House passed an appropriations bill (H.R.4373) with an amendment prohibiting the funding for "dishonest" maps that depict Taiwan as part of China. In August, the Senate passed a bill (S.812) directing the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to help Taiwan regain its observer status at the World Health Organization (WHO). Furthermore, some other recently proposed pro-Taiwan bills include the "Taiwan PLUS Act," the "Taiwan Defense Act," the "Taiwan Partnership Act," and so forth.

As for the FAPA events, the headquarters collaborated with several local chapters to invite Taiwan's Digital Minister Audrey Tang in April and Legislator Ting-yu Wang in May to be this year's virtual Speech Tour speakers to conduct "Q&A on U.S.-Taiwan relations" and discuss "Taiwan's international importance." In June, under the planning of our Vice President Anny Hsiao and others, we held a very successful online "Advocacy 101 Workshop." Regarding "The View from Capitol Hill" series, we invited Congressional aides and Taiwan specialists in May to discuss three pro-Taiwan bills, and we invited longtime Taiwan supporter, U.S. Rep. Brad Sherman, in July to speak and answer questions with our members. We held our National Advocacy Conference virtually on September 11, and were honored to have Rep. Steve Chabot to join us that afternoon.

Finally, I want to thank you for your support to FAPA, and hope that you can actively participate in all our events, petitions, and grassroots initiatives. Please do not hesitate to provide your feedback and advice. We will continue to work together with you to bring more breakthroughs and progress in promoting U.S.-Taiwan exchanges and cooperation, and expanding Taiwan's international space.

Minze V. Chien, Ph. D.

Minze V. Chien

FAPA National President 2021.09.05



親愛的 FAPA 會員與朋友:

希望您與家人在疫情期間都健康順利。此外,隨著美國各地逐步解封,亦祝福大家能早 日回歸正常生活。

然而,自5月中旬台灣爆發武漢肺炎本土疫情以來,如何使台灣盡速取得足夠疫苗已成 為眾所關心的急迫議題。有鑑於此, FAPA即時推廣眾議員巴爾(Andy Barr)所發起的 聯名信,最後共計 60 多位跨黨派美國聯邦眾議員於5月21日聯名致函國務卿布林肯 (Antony Blinken),呼籲美國政府將台灣納入其全球疫苗援助計畫的優先分配名單。

在日本捐贈台灣的 124 萬劑疫苗於 6 月 4 日送達後,跨黨派的 3 位美國聯邦參議員亦 於 6 月 6 日搭乘美國軍機訪台,並宣布美國將贈與台灣 75 萬劑疫苗。FAPA 隨即與其 他台美人社團聯合致函美國總統拜登及日本首相菅義偉,感謝並期盼美日兩國能持續捐 贈疫苗給台灣。截至 9 月 7 日,美日已各自追加贈與疫苗達 250 萬及 340 萬劑,展現 兩友邦對台灣的高度支持與深切情誼。此外,FAPA 亦致函立陶宛與斯洛伐克總統,感 謝他們所領導的這兩個歐洲國家也加入捐贈台灣疫苗的行列。

在最近幾個月,美台雙邊關係有著顯著的進展與突破。首先,美國國務院於4月公布新版《對台交往準則》,正式允許並鼓勵美台雙方官員在對方官署(例如美國聯邦機構、以及台灣駐外代表處)進行「常態性」的會晤,而美方官員也得以赴「雙橡園」參加一般性活動。其次,中斷近5年的台美「貿易暨投資架構協定」(TIFA)對話於6月底 復談,聚焦強化供應鏈韌性等議題,並推動洽簽「雙邊(自由)貿易協定」(BTA或 FTA)。在TIFA復談前夕,跨黨派的42名美國聯邦參議員亦聯名致函美國貿易代表戴 琪(Katherine Tai),要求為美台洽簽FTA或其他初步協議的工作做準備。再者,拜登 政府於8月初宣布其上台以來的首次對台軍售。這筆總額約7億5000萬美元的軍售案, 包括40門M109A6(Paladin)帕拉丁型自走砲等裝備,將有助於提升台灣的精準打擊 能力,以因應當前與未來的中國軍事威脅。

在中國對台軍事威脅不斷升高之際,美國政府數度重申美國對台承諾「堅若磐石」,並 將持續在「符合台灣人民意願與最大利益」的前提下,支持和平解決台海爭議。8月, 美國撤軍阿富汗引發美國恐遺棄台灣於中國侵略之疑慮;對此,美國國家安全顧問蘇利 文(Jake Sullivan)特別重申,美國對台承諾「一如既往地堅實」。此外,儘管拜登政府 官員於事後表示美國對台政策並未改變,拜登總統本人則是不尋常地偏離美國長久以來 的「戰略模糊」立場,於受訪時清晰表態,若台灣遭受攻擊,美國將會保衛台灣。 另外,美國亦與其盟邦接連透過4月以來的美日、美韓、以及G7聯合聲明,將台灣安 全議題持續「國際化」與「區域化」,強調維持台海和平穩定的重要性,並堅決反對以 武力片面改變現狀。此外,美國與友邦亦多次舉行聯合軍演,意在壓制中國在印太區域 的軍事擴張與侵略野心。

同時,日本官方也多次表態挺台,例如日本首相菅義偉公開稱呼台灣為「國家」;副首 相麻生太郎主張,如果中國侵台,美日必須共同防衛台灣;防衛副大臣中山泰秀質疑「一 中政策」的合理性,並呼籲保護台灣這個「民主國家」;而日本的新版防衛白皮書則首 度明載「台灣周邊局勢的穩定」對日本的安全與國際社會的穩定至為重要。

近月來,美國國會亦持續推動並提出多項友台法案。參議院在6月所通過的《美國創新 暨競爭法》(S.1260)則整併了《戰略競爭法》所納入的許多挺台法案與規範,諸如 《台灣獎學金法》、《台灣主權象徵法》、以及「強化台美夥伴關係」與提升「台灣政 府待遇」等節。眾議院外交委員會於7月所通過的《確保美國全球領導地位及參與法》 (H.R.3524)或簡稱《老鷹法》(EAGLE Act)亦併入多部友台法案或其部分規定,例 如《台灣外交檢討法案》(包括就駐美「台北經濟文化代表處」更名為「台灣代表處」 展開協商)、《台灣和平與穩定法案》(呼籲美台擴大經貿關係、支持台灣有意義參與 國際社會、增進台灣自我防衛能力等)、《台灣國際團結法案》(澄清聯合國對中華人 民共和國之承認並未處理「台灣代表權」及「台灣主權」等問題)、以及《台灣獎學金 法》。參眾兩院在各自通過以上包裹式的兩部「抗中友台」大型法案後,仍須協商為同 樣版本,才能遞交總統簽署生效。

7 月底,眾議院通過一部撥款法案(H.R.4373),其中納入一項修正案,禁止將政府 經費花費在將台灣畫成中國一部分的「不誠實」地圖。8 月,參議院亦通過一部法案 (S.812),要求美國國務卿應制定策略,協助台灣重獲在世界衛生組織(WHO)的觀 察員身分。此外,近期被提出的挺台法案還包括《台灣+法》(Taiwan PLUS Act)、《台 灣防衛法》、以及《台灣夥伴關係法》等等。

在 FAPA 的活動方面,總部協同諸分會於 4 月及 5 月分別邀請台灣的唐鳳政委與王定宇 立委擔任今年 Speech Tour 的講者,透過線上方式進行「台美關係問與答」並探討「台 灣的國際重要性」等議題。6 月時,在副會長 Anny Hsiao 等人的規劃下,我們舉辦了一 場相當成功的線上「Advocacy 101 Workshop」。至於「 The View from Capitol Hill 」 系列活動,我們在 5 月邀請幾位美國國會助理與台灣議題專家來探討三項友台法案,並 在 7 月邀請到長期大力挺台的聯邦眾議員薛曼 (Brad Sherman)來跟會員們進行演說與 問答。我們在 9 月 11 日以線上方式舉辦「全國倡議大會」, 並邀請聯邦眾議員夏波 (Steve Chabot)與我們一同參與這一年一度的草根活動。

最後,感謝各位對 FAPA 的支持,也期盼大家能踴躍參與各項活動、請願連署、及草根 倡議。請不吝提出您的建議與指教。我們將持續與您共同努力,盼能在促進台美交流與 合作、擴大台灣國際空間等方面,見到更多的突破與成果。

Minzel. Chien

FAPA 總會長簡明子 敬上



SENATE BILL WITHHOLDS WHO FUNDING UNTIL TAIWAN GRANTED MEMBERSHIP

Senators Josh Hawley (R-MO) and Rick Scott (R-FL) introduced the World Health Organization Accountability Act on February 9, which would withhold U.S. government funding from the WHO until it replaces its leaders and grants Taiwan full membership status.

FAPA President Minze Chien reacts: "Let's be clear that there are no legal obstacles for Taiwan to join the WHO as a full member. There is only one obstacle and it is a political one and it is called 'China.' What it boils down to is that by withholding Taiwan WHO membership China is playing politics not just with the lives of the people of Taiwan, but with the lives of its own people and of all people around the world as well."

SENATOR COTTON: "GIVE CHINA CRYSTAL CLEAR WARNING NOT TO INVADE TAIWAN!" - STRATEGIC CLARITY

It's time for the United States to be "crystal clear" that it will not allow China to invade Taiwan and will end its longstanding "strategic ambiguity" about whether it would come to the island's defense, said Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AK), a senior Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee at a Reagan Institute event on February 18.

FAPA President Minze Chien reacts: "China seems hell bent on creating chaos and confusion in the Taiwan Strait enhancing the chances that an accident/incident could take place. It is therefore of critical importance that the U.S. explicitly commits the U.S. to Taiwan's defense. Such a commitment would bring China's shenanigans to a screeching halt."

U.S. REPS. KIM/SHERMAN INTRODUCE "WHO FOR TAIWAN" LEGISLATION

Nearly 40 U.S. lawmakers launched a bipartisan effort on February 18 to help Taiwan regain its observer status in the World Health Organization (WHO).

Led by representatives Young Kim (R-CA) and Brad Sherman (D-CA), the lawmakers introduced a bipartisan bill that directs the secretary of state to implement strategies that will restore Taiwan's observer status in the WHO and the World Health Assembly (WHA).

FAPA President Minze Chien reacts: "We are grateful for the ongoing congressional support to get observer status for Taiwan in international organizations. We at FAPA believe however that Taiwan deserves full membership in these organizations. Case in point: the WHO charter states that 'membership shall be open to all states.' Reality dictates that Taiwan IS a state; despite China's claims to the contrary. And year after year the rest of the international community is succumbing to China's bullying and is going along with China's lies..."

In related news, on March 17, U.S. Senators Robert Menendez (D-NJ) and James Inhofe (R-OK) introduced a bipartisan bill directing the State Department to develop a strategy to help Taiwan obtain observer status at the World Health Assembly (WHA).

Also, on May 7, the U.S. Department of State issued a statement by U.S. Secretary of State Anthony Blinken: "Beginning on May 24, the world will gather virtually for the 74th annual World Health Assembly (WHA). [I]t sets the agenda for strengthening international cooperation to end the COVID-19 pandemic and advancing global health and global health security — issues that affect us all. And yet, unless the Organization's leadership takes appropriate action, the Assembly will once again exclude the vital participation of Taiwan. There is no reasonable justification for Taiwan's continued exclusion from this forum."



Rep. Young Kim (R-CA) Official Headshot, Desaturated from original



Rep. Brad Sherman (D-CA) Official Headshot, Desaturated from original

"TAIWAN INVASION PREVENTION ACT" REINTRODUCED

Senator Rick Scott (R-FL), along with Rep. Guy Reschenthaler (R-PA), on February 18 reintroduced a bill that would authorize the U.S. to use military force if China attacks Taiwan.

It authorizes the president of the U.S. to use force to protect Taiwan under the following circumstances:

- 1. A direct attack by China's military.
- 2. The seizure of Taiwan territory by Chinese forces.
- 3. The endangering of Taiwan's military forces or civilians.

The bill also encourages the U.S. president, or Secretary of State, to meet with the Taiwan president on Taiwan soil. And it welcomes Taiwan's president to address a joint session of Congress.

U.S. REPRESENTATIVES INTRODUCE LEGISLATION TO SCRAP "ONE CHINA POLICY, CONCLUDE U.S.-TAIWAN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS — "TAIWAN IS AN INDEPENDENT COUNTRY"

On March 1, U.S. Reps. Tom Tiffany (R-WI) and Scott Perry (R-PA) introduced legislation calling for the U.S. to resume formal diplomatic relations with Taiwan and end the outdated and counter-productive "One China Policy."

Tiffany stated: "The resolution (H. Con. Res. 21) also directs the Biden administration to support Taiwan's membership in international organizations, and to initiate negotiations with Taipei on crafting a U.S.-Taiwan Free Trade Agreement."

"Taiwan is an independent country, and has been for over 70 years," said Perry. And "Despite the TRA and the "Six Assurances," the U.S. still lacks formal ties with Taiwan, inexplicably treating the island's democratically elected government the same way it treats brutal regimes in North Korea and Iran from a diplomatic perspective – and in a category worse than that of Cuba's dictatorship, which President Obama and Vice President Biden recognized during their second term."

Petition: H.Con.Res.21

https://fapa.org/petition-h-con-res-21/



SENATE UNANIMOUSLY PASSES "C.O.N.F.U.C.I.U.S ACT" - S590

On March 4, the Senate unanimously passed the "Concerns Over Nations Funding University Campus Institutes in the United States" (CONFUCIUS) Act. Sen. John Kennedy (R-LA) introduced the bill to address concerns about Confucius Institutes suppressing free speech on American college campuses.

In related developments, on March 17, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Tufts University James Graser announced that the school is closing its Confucius Institute.

FAPA President Minze Chien reacts: "The Confucius Institutes are a scourge on the American educational system. It is highly encouraging that CI's are gradually being shut down all over the nation. This bill is another step in the right direction of CI's being completely shut down and disappearing from the American educational scene."

SENATORS MARKEY (D-MA) AND RUBIO (R-FL) REINTRODUCE TAIWAN FELLOWSHIP ACT - AMI BERA (D-CA) AND STEVE CHABOT (R-OH) IN THE HOUSE

Members of both Houses reintroduced the Taiwan Fellowship Act, which would establish a program allowing U.S. federal government employees to study and work in Taiwan for up to 2 years.

In the Senate, the bill was jointly introduced on March 17 by Ed Markey, who is chairman of the East Asia Subcommittee on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Marco Rubio, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

The bill was introduced in the House by Bera and Chabot on May 11, who serve as the chairman and ranking member, respectively, of the House Foreign Affairs Committee Asia Subcommittee.

In a press release issued by Senator Markey's office, FAPA President Minze Chien is quoted as follows: "With Taiwan's growing importance as a beacon for democracy in the Western Pacific and with its critical importance as a strategic asset to the United States the Taiwan Fellowship Act will have a profound impact on US-Taiwan relations. The undoubted success of the Taiwan Fellowship Act will emulate the success the Mansfield Fellowship program has brought to the forefront in helping foster closer US-Japan relations over the past three decades."

Petition: Taiwan Fellowship Act

https://fapa.org/petition-taiwan-fellowship-act/



REP. SHERMAN CALLS FOR APPEARANCE OF TAIWAN FOREIGN MINISTER AT FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - VIRTUAL EVENT

In a March 19 Congressional hearing in the House Asian Subcommittee, Rep. Brad Sherman (D-CA) asked witness Richard Haass (President of the Council on Foreign Relations) whether he thought it was a good idea to invite Taiwan's foreign minister virtually to a full committee or subcommittee hearing.

Haass answered that it would be another sign of normalization of relations between the U.S. and Taiwan.

LEGISLATION INTRODUCED (H.R.2103) CALLING FOR CLOSER U.S.-TAIWAN DEFENSE COOPERATION AND "NATO PLUS" STATUS FOR TAIWAN

On March 19, Representative Scott Perry (R-PA) introduced the "Taiwan PLUS Act" "to improve defense cooperation between the United States and Taiwan, and for other purposes."

Noting that support for defense cooperation with Taiwan is critical to the national security of the U.S., the bill, if enacted, would include Taiwan into the so-called "NATO Plus" group, which currently includes Japan, Australia, South Korea, Israel and New Zealand.

FAPA President Minze Chien reacts: "It is highly encouraging that the bipartisan drumbeat of concern about Taiwan's defense and about strategic clarity is getting louder and louder."

Petition: Taiwan Plus Act



https://fapa.org/taiwan-plus-act/

SENATOR TOM COTTON: "WHEN AND WHY WILL CHINA ANNEX TAIWAN?"

The threat of a Chinese invasion of Taiwan is "much closer to us than most think," Admiral John Aquilino, who was nominated to lead the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, said on March 23.

Aquilino made the comments at his nomination hearing held by the Senate Armed Services Committee, in response to questions by Senator Tom Cotton (R-AK.)

Asked why Beijing has such a strong desire to annex Taiwan, Aquilino said that China's leaders view the issue as "their number one priority" and see it as critical to the "rejuvenation of the Chinese Communist Party."

FAPA President Minze Chien reacts: "It is highly gratifying that the Senator called a spade a spade during the hearing and talked about China's plans of 'annexing' Taiwan. The often used 'reunification' is a complete misnomer for Taiwan was never part of the PRC/China."

RUBIO, MERKLEY REINTRODUCE BILL TO STRENGTHEN U.S.-TAIWAN RELATIONS

Senators Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Jeff Merkley (D-OR) reintroduced the Taiwan Relations Reinforcement Act on March 26, which seeks to update U.S. policy toward Taiwan to better reflect U.S. values and the realities on the ground.

The bipartisan bill would strengthen the relationship between the U.S. and Taiwan by

- creating an interagency Taiwan policy task force,
- elevating the U.S. Representative to Taiwan to a Senate-confirmed position,
- establishing a U.S.-Taiwan Cultural Exchange Foundation,
- requiring a report on the Taiwan Travel Act (PL 115-135),
- promoting Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations,
- mandating strategies to protect U.S. businesses and non-government entities from Chinese government coercion, and

- responding to China's sharp power operations targeting Taiwan.

FAPA President Minze Chien adds: "The time for assertive Taiwan Travel Act implementation is now. China continues to obstruct Taiwan's full membership in the WHO. It therefore behooves the United States to dispatch HHS Secretary Becerra or Secretary of State Blinken to Taiwan to study Taiwan's success in handling the Corona pandemic."

Petition: Taiwan Relations Reinforcement Act

https://fapa.org/s-1054/



FAPA/NATMA URGE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION TO SUPPORT FULL AND UNCONDITIONAL MEMBERSHIP FOR TAIWAN IN THE WHO AND OVERTURN "THREE NOES" POLICY

In a letter to President Biden dated March 26, FAPA President Minze Chien and NAT-MA President Pofu Hsieh urge the U.S. President to support FULL and UNCONDI-TIONAL membership for Taiwan in the World Health Organization (WHO.)

They write: "Taiwan and China are two separate, sovereign, independent countries ruled by their own respective central governments. Moreover, Taiwan meets all four criteria of statehood as laid down in the 1933 Montevideo Convention: namely, (1) a permanent population; (2) a defined territory; (3) government; and (4) capacity to enter into relations with the other states."

They add: "Finally, we ask that you overturn the Clinton Administration's decades-old "Three Noes" policy which stipulates that the United States only supports Taiwan's "meaningful participation" (but not "membership") in any international organization where statehood is a requirement. That policy has resulted in the U.S. only supporting Taiwan's observer status in the WHO's annual weeklong World Health Assembly (WHA) held in Geneva."

They conclude: "Taiwan deserves better."



State Department Spokesperson Ned Price Photo by Dcwashguy1789, licensed under CC BY 2.0, Desaturated from original



STATE DEPARTMENT AFFIRMS U.S. COMMITMENT TO TAIWAN: "ROCK-SOLID"

In the April 7 State Department Press Briefing, State Department Spokesperson Ned Price affirmed the U.S. commitment to Taiwan as "rock-solid" when answering a reporter's question about what Price says to China in light of ever increasing military PRC harassment of Taiwan.

U.S. ISSUES NEW GUIDELINES ON RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN

The State Department said on April 9 it had issued new guidelines that will enable U.S. officials to meet more freely with Taiwanese officials, a move that deepens U.S. relations with Taiwan.

"These new guidelines liberalize guidance on contacts with Taiwan, consistent with our unofficial relations," State Department spokesman Ned Price said in statement.

The aim, he said, was "to encourage U.S. government engagement with Taiwan that reflects our deepening unofficial relationship."

FAPA President Minze Chien says: "We welcome all loosening and lifting of restrictions in U.S.-Taiwan relations. Each and every move to further normalize this bilateral relationship, that is so critical to both the U.S. and Taiwan, will contribute to fulfilling the aspiration of the people of Taiwan to see their beloved Taiwan become a more normal country."

TAIWAN SOLIDARITY ACT INTRODUCED IN HOUSE -"CHINA'S BOGUS SOVEREIGNTY CLAIMS" -"ONE CHINA PRINCIPLE IS A BIZARRE FICTION"

U.S. Representatives from both parties introduced a bill on April 19 -- the Taiwan International Solidarity Act -- to step up U.S. efforts to counter Beijing's growing attempts to isolate Taiwan from international organizations.

The bill is sponsored by Ami Bera (D-CA), John Curtis (R-UT), as well as the co-chairs of the Taiwan Caucus -- Gerry Connolly (D-VA), Albio Sires (D-NJ), Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL) and Steve Chabot (R-OH).

REP. TIFFANY TWEETS "THANK YOU" TO FAPA -CALLS FOR TAIWAN'S INCLUSION IN THE WHO

On May 7, Congressman Tom Tiffany (R-WI) tweeted a thank you note from his official Congressional Twitter account thanking #FAPA for having helped get 50,000 face masks from Taiwan to his Wisconsin district earlier this year:

Rep. Tom Tiffany @ @RepTiffany · May 7

Sending a thank you to @FAPA_HQ for helping to coordinate a donation of 50,000 face masks from the Taiwanese people to medical providers in WI-07.

#TaiwanIsHelping and could help even more if @WHO would stop excluding Taiwan to appease China.

THE ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF TAIWANESE AMERICAN HERITAGE WEEK

Every year, the month of May is designated as Asian Pacific Heritage Month.

Since 1999, when President Clinton dedicated the week after Mother's Day as Taiwanese American Heritage week (TAHW), Taiwanese Americans have annually joined hands to reach out to the general American public to share their heritage.

This year, TAHW was held from Mother's Day May 9 until May 16, 2021.

Miscellaneous elected U.S. officials issued proclamations honoring the contributions Taiwanese Americans have made to the diversity and prosperity of American society, and their contributions to the promotion of democracy and security of their country of birth -Taiwan.

Proclamations were issued by Oregon governor Kate Brown, Washington State governor Jay Inslee, Missouri Governor Michael Johnson, Vancouver WA mayor Anne McEnerny-Ogle, the mayor and city council of Rockville MD, the town council of Wappingers Falls NY, mayor of Camas WA Ellen Burton, mayor of Westerville OH Kathy Cocuzzi, mayor of Malden MA Gary Christenson, and mayor of Revere MA Brian Arrigo.

The Massachusetts "Revere Journal" dedicated an article to the TAHW starring FAPA's own Joe McHugh and Chia-chun Chung.



See all Proclamations



https://fapa.org/2021-taiwanese-american-heritage-week/

60 U.S. REPRESENTATIVES URGE SECRETARY BLINKEN TO SHARE VACCINES WITH TAIWAN

In a joint letter dated May 21, a bipartisan group of U.S. Representatives urged Secretary of State Blinken to share the U.S.' surplus of COVID-19 vaccines with Taiwan.

US AMBASSADOR IN TOKYO VISITS TAIWAN COUNTERPART'S RESIDENCE - FIRST TIME SINCE 1979

On May 26, the US' top diplomat in Japan on visited the official residence of his Taiwanese counterpart, the first time since formal ties between the U.S. and Taiwan were severed in 1979.

In a Facebook post on Tuesday, Frank Hsieh, head of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in Japan, said he hosted Joseph Young, chargé d'affaires ad interim at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, and Japanese friends for a dinner at his official residence.

"We exchanged views on issues relating to regional peace and prosperity. This was a first, a new beginning that carried important implications for our tripartite cooperation," wrote Hsieh.

FAPA President Minze Chien adds: "We are glad that the 2018 Taiwan Travel Act is enabling these meetings at the highest level."

U.S. REPRESENTATIVES CALL FOR TECRO NAME CHANGE, SENATE CONFIRMATION OF AIT DIRECTOR, NEW VISA CATEGORY FOR TECRO STAFF

U.S. lawmakers introduced the "Taiwan Diplomatic Review Act" (H.R.3634) on May 28 to rename the "Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office" (TECRO) in the United States to the "Taiwan Representative Office (TRO), see the AIT Director confirmed by the Senate, and give Taiwanese diplomats diplomatic visas in a move they say will bolster ties between Washington and Taipei.

Representatives Brad Sherman (D-CA) and Taiwan Caucus co-chair Steve Chabot (R-OH) jointly introduced the act joined by Taiwan Caucus co-chairs Gerry Connolly (D-VA), Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL), Albio Sires (D-NJ) plus Colorado Republican Ken Buck.

Sherman and Chabot said in a statement that it is U.S. policy to refer to Taiwan as "Taiwan", not "Taipei" or "Chinese Taipei."

"The Taiwan Diplomatic Review Act directs the Secretary of State to enter into negotiations with the Taiwan Council for U.S. Affairs to rename the Council's office in Washington, D.C., the Taiwan Representative Office in the United States," the congressmen said.

In addition, Sherman and Chabot said the Taiwan Diplomatic Review Act also includes the Taiwan Envoy Act, which was introduced by the two congressmen in the last U.S. Congress to require Senate confirmation of any individual appointed to serve as the Director of the AIT.

Petition: Taiwan Diplomatic Review Act

https://fapa.org/taiwan-diplomatic-review-act-h-r-3634/



JOINT TAIWANESE AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS THANK BIDEN/SUGA FOR VACCINES DONATIONS TO TAIWAN – CALL FOR CONTINUED SUPPORT

In letters to U.S. President Joe Biden and Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga dated June 21, the joint Taiwanese American organizations express their gratitude for the two countries' recent "timely and generous vaccines donations to Taiwan, and more broadly, [their] support for Taiwan and its 23 million people."

In a similar letter to Lithuanian President Gitanas Nausėda dated June 23, the joint Taiwanese American organizations expressed their gratitude for Lithuania's recent "timely and generous vaccines donations to Taiwan, and his support for Taiwan and its 23 million people."

Cosponsored Organzations:

- Minze Vincent Chien, President, Formosan Association for Public Affairs (FAPA)
- Kueiling Chen, President, Taiwanese Association of America (TAA-USA)
- Pofu Hsieh, President, North American Taiwanese Medical Association (NATMA)
- Bill Wu, President, North American Taiwanese Professors' Association (NATPA)
- Mei-Shi Chu, President, North America Taiwanese Women's Association (NATWA)
- Mark Kao, President, Taiwanese American Association of Biotechnology (TAAB)
- Pey-Fen Fuh, President, World Federation of Taiwanese Associations (WFTA)
- Susan Chang, President, World Taiwanese Congress (WTC)

U.S. REPRESENTATIVES INTRODUCE "TAIWAN PEACE AND STABILITY ACT"

On June 17, chairman of the Asian Subcommittee of the House Foreign Affairs Committee Rep. Ami Bera (D-CA) and founding co-chair of Congressional Taiwan Caucus Rep. Steve Chabot (R-OH) jointly introduced the "Taiwan Peace and Stability Act" (H.R.3972) to "support the diplomatic, economic, and physical space of Taiwan, and for other purposes."

The bill has three sections:

- 1. Supporting Taiwan's meaningful participation in the international community,
- 2. Advancing Taiwan's economic space,
- 3. Enhancing deterrence over Taiwan.

The bill states that the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act and the 1982 Six Assurances are the cornerstones of U.S.-Taiwan relations. It adds that UN Resolution 2758 does not address Taiwan's representation issue or the PRC's claim over Taiwan, and calls for an assessment of the methods of the PRC to coerce actors to adhere to its "One-China Principle."

GERMAN PARTY REMOVES "ONE CHINA POLICY" FROM PARTY PLATFORM

In May, the Free Democratic Party (FDP) in Germany removed the "one China" policy from its campaign ahead of general elections on September 26 and announced its support for the right of the Taiwanese people to decide their own future.

CANADIAN PARLIAMENT UNANIMOUSLY PASSES FIRST READING OF CANADIAN "TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT" -- TECO --> TRO

The Canadian House of Commons on June 17 unanimously passed the first reading of a proposal to create a legal framework for efforts to strengthen relations with Taiwan. The "Canada-Taiwan Relations Framework Act" includes a provision that would change the name of the "Taipei Economic and Cultural Office" (TECO) in Canada to the "Taiwan Representative Office" (TRO).

42 SENATORS URGE USTR TO LAY GROUNDWORK FOR US-TAIWAN FTA

42 US senators across party lines urged US Trade Representative Katherine Tai to lay the groundwork for negotiating a free-trade agreement (FTA) with Taiwan.

In a letter dated June 29, the Senators highlighted the importance of such dialogue with Taiwan.

"We respectfully request that you prioritize these talks and take steps to begin laying the groundwork for negotiation of an FTA, or other preliminary agreement, with Taiwan," read the letter, initiated by US senators Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Mark Warner (D-VA).

HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE INCORPORATES TECRO NAME CHANGE PROVISION IN "EAGLE ACT"

Several pro-Taiwan bills such as the Taiwan Diplomatic Review Act, Taiwan Peace and Stability Act, and the Taiwan International Solidarity Act have been, partly or completely, incorporated into the "Ensuring American Global Leadership and Engagement Act" or "EAGLE Act," aiming at countering China's growing global influence. The legislative package was reviewed by the House Foreign Affairs Committee (HFAC) on June 30 and July 1.

The act was introduced by committee chairman Gregory Meeks (D-NY) on May 25 to "revitalize and reassert U.S. leadership, investment, and engagement in the Indo-Pacific

region and globally" to counter China's growing ambitions.

The Taiwan Diplomatic Review Act asks the U.S. secretary of state to seek negotiations with the Taiwan Council for U.S. Affairs to rename the "Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office" (TECRO) in the United States to the "Taiwan Representative Office" (TRO).

FAPA President Minze Chien says: "The incorporation of the TECRO name change provision into the EAGLE Act is highly encouraging. The time is now to change TECRO's name to "Taiwan Representative Office." This new name, which can eventually be used all over the world, will lend more dignity and respect to Taiwan and its 23 million people."

Petition: EAGLE Act

https://fapa.org/eagle-act-h-r-3524/



JAPAN VICE PREMIER: "JAPAN AND THE U.S. MUST DEFEND TAIWAN TOGETHER"

If China invades Taiwan, Tokyo may interpret the move as a "threat to Japan's survival" and deploy the Self-Defense Forces to exercise collective self-defense, Deputy Prime Minister Taro Aso said July 5.

"If a major incident happened [over Taiwan], it would not be strange at all if it touches on a situation threatening survival [of Japan]," Aso said during a speech in Tokyo. "If that is the case, Japan and the U.S. must defend Taiwan together."

Japan's deputy prime minister noted that "the situation over Taiwan is becoming extremely intense," referring to Chinese President Xi Jinping's comments about the self-ruled island during a speech last week to commemorate the Communist Party's 100-year anniversary.

Chapter Activities



CA-LA

Los Angelos California Chapter 李賢群會長 (Tony Lee)

FAPA Los Angeles Chapter was honored to join protest event at Santa Monica Beach with Hong Konger against CCP " Security Laws" on March 8, 2021.

On April 24, 2021, FAPA Los Angeles Chapter members participated in the Ted Lieu online meeting to discuss the hatred against immigrants and Anti-Asian. Hate crimes are often difficult to prosecute because the court interprets federal regulations that require prosecutors to prove that the victim's race, religion, gender, or other protected characteristics are the only reasons that trigger hate crimes.



Congressman Ted Lieu and Georgian Congresswoman Lucy McBath jointly proposed the "Stop Hate Crimes Act' to enable the community to enjoy justice and prevent those who commit hate crimes from escaping the law. On May 2, 2021, FAPA Los Angeles Chapter joined the "Milk Tea Alliance" at the City Hall of Los Angeles to hold the "Unity Against Tyranny" demonstration to protest against authoritarianism and advocating democracy. On June 26, 2021, FAPA Los Angeles Chapter participated Taiwanese American Junior Chamber of Commerce to present FAPA and to invite more young Taiwanese Americans to join FAPA.



CA-OC

Orange County, California Chapter 黄河芬會長 (Josephine Yang)

A. 2021 April 27 FAPA Speech Tour: Dr. Audrey Tang 唐鳳, 數位創新與台美關係問

B. 2021年4月30日出席「橙縣僑界聲援臺灣參與世界衛生大會」

C. 2021 May.7 (Fri) FAPA 線上講座 王定宇委員《從邊陲到中心 台灣的國際重要性及台灣人的自信心》

D. 2021 May 2-22 FAPA-OC joined 2021 橙縣臺灣傳統週 4 events.





Maryland Chapter 許辰沼會長 (Chen Hsu)

FAPA MD Chapter held the 2nd quarter virtual meeting on 22 May 2021. The Chapter President welcomed all members joining the meeting, including the guest speaker Dr. Chih-Jung Huang (黃 致 榮), and FAPA HQ President Minze, HQ staff members of Cosette, Coen, and Chih-Yun. He introduced the new Chapter Treasurer Ms. Mei-Chi Yang and thanked Ms. Mei-Jung Lee for her contribution and dedication to Chapter's finance matters.

He conducted the election for the next Chapter president. Due to the low member attendance and with the HQ's suggestion, the election was postponed before 1 October 2021.

FAPA Policy researcher Dr. Chih-Jung Huang (黃 致 榮) delivered a speech entitled "The US Policy and Commitment toward Taiwan Will Continue Shifting to 'Strategic Clarity' (美國對台政策與承諾將趨向「戰略清晰」)." He focused on three areas: (1) Deepening and normalization of Taiwan-US relations. (2) Taiwan's international status and space. (3) Taiwan-US-China interaction and influence.

Dr. Huang pointed out that after Xi Jin-Ping was elected Chairman of Chinese Communist Party on 15 November 2012, he adopted the policy of strategic expansion in his administration. In 2018 the trade war between the US and China took place and thereafter the coronavirus pandemic was rampant, the tension of the US-China relationship has been drastically worsen, while the relationship between Taiwan and the US becomes closer and deepened.

The US former president Trump signed and become effective of "Taiwan Travel Act", "Taiwan Fellowship Act", "Taiwan Assurance Act", and declassified the US's Six Assurances to Taiwan. Furthermore, President Trump's administration normalized the Taiwan Arms Sales, openly challenged the "One China Principle", and "Elimination of US-Taiwan Official Visit Restriction", etc. He strongly supported Taiwan with high profiles. For such reasons, the concern was evolved as to whether President Biden would carry on President Trump's US-Taiwan close relationship after he took over the White House.

When we take a close look after President Biden's inauguration, there is no question that he continues the former President Trump's "Pro-Taiwan Policy Legacy" and "Counter-China Hard Line," even including the search for the breakthroughs for US-Taiwan diplomatic relations. In addition, the new Congress has proposed "Taiwan Invasion Prevention Act", "A Resolution Calling for U.S.-Taiwan Diplomatic Relations", "Taiwan International Solidarity Act", "Strategic Competition Act of 2021", etc., among many other Pro-Taiwan and Counter-China bills. The outcomes of these bills depend on the efforts of FAPA members and Taiwan supporters. Considering the increasing elevation of Chinese "Strategic Competition against the US" and "Threats to Suppress Taiwan," it is vitally important to continuously strengthen the US-Taiwan ties for "Shared Values and Benefits of Taiwan and the US" and "Peace, Stability, and Development in the Indo-Pacific region." From this perspective, the US policy and commitment to Taiwan under Biden's administration will continue to shift to "Strategic Clarity" as well as deepen and normalize the US-Taiwan relations, which is worth looking forward to and continuing to promote.

Dr. Huang earned double majors Bachelor Degrees in Political Science and Laws from National Taiwan University. Afterwards he attended the University of Virginia and earned both the Master of Laws (LL.M.) and Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.). During his studies in the US, he majored in International Law. His research interests include: The Legal Status of Taiwan, Creation of States, Territorial Changes and Conflicts in East Asia and Inner Asia, and the US-China-Taiwan Relationship, etc.

NJ

李鎧宇會長 (Leo Lee) New Jersey Chapter

Since the beginning of the year of 2021, the second year of COVID-19, the NJ Chapter has continuously hosted online events. We plan and hope the upcoming Chapter annual meeting in September will be an in-person meeting.

新的 2021 年,武漢肺炎第二年,NJ Chapter 繼續舉辦線上演講座談。希望在九月的 分會年會,我們可以舉辦實體會議。

At the end of April, we co-hosted the national speech tour featuring Dr. Audrey Tang. That was a record-breaking online event, we had hundreds of people in the audience joining across the country. Dr. Tang addressed and covered a wide variety of topics via his Q & A session.



六月,我們邀請新台灣國策智庫的研發長一李明峻教授,與我們分享日本在制定未來 日版台灣關係法的背景及展望。由台灣東突厥斯坦協會理事長一何朝棟律師主持會議。 李教授指出,由於日本憲法第九條的限制,日本莫非為了保衛自身,無法出兵。不過, 2005年10月,在東京財團主辦的研究發表會,淺野和生表示希望研究日本版的「台 灣關係法」。2018年,日本智庫「日美台關係研究所」針對制定「日本版台灣關係法」 舉辦研討會,提出改名【日台交流基本法】。



In July, the online advocacy was led by Dr. Su-Mei Kao, and the following was her report:

After Advocacy 101 workshop some NJ chapter members took the tasks to heart! We divided work among ourselves to reach out to nine representatives' office and were able to arrange two virtual meetings.

Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill is a member of the Armed and Services Committee. Her military legislative assistant, Mr. Bagwell, appears to be very knowledgeable about the dynamics of US-Taiwan-China relations and the threat China poses to the international community. He informed us Ms. Sherrill and Ambassador Bi-Khim Hsiao will be having conversations. We pointed out that Ambassador's parents are Ms. Sherrill's constituents, which he promised to let Ms. Sherrill know. Overall, we felt that we have establish a closer relationship and understanding between the second term representative's office and the Taiwanese American community. It is our goal to build upon that.

Congresswoman Bonnie Watson-Coleman's new legislative director, Alex Huang, turned out to be a Taiwanese American born in Michigan, as he acknowledged. We found out Pennsylvania Scott Perry's FAA is also a Taiwanese American during the co-advocacy efforts with Pittsburg team last year. It became very clear that he is anti-communist as well as anti-Taiwan independent. With that experience, we were careful not to assume Mr. Huang is pro Taiwan. He is also very aware of the Taiwan issues and from reading between lines, appears to be sympathetic of Taiwan Independence. More work to be done on this front, obviously. TX-C

Texas-Central Chapter 楊碧珠會長 (Pearl Wu)

· Received 2020 "Excellent Chapter" award

我参加了 12/5-12/6 /2020 兩天的全美 FAPA 40th Board of Directors Meeting, web meeting, 在 44 個 FAPA 分會中我們中德州分會再度榮獲了「2020 傑出獎」。謝謝 每 位 會 員 的 参 與 ! TX-C 中 德 州 分 會 連續 2019、2020 得 「Excellent Chapter」-membership Growth Achievement 獎, 確是每位會員的榮幸!





· Congressman John Carter's Email

簽 petition:H. Con. Res. 21 決議案 (表達 (1), 台美建交 (2) 談判台美簽訂 FTA,(3) 支 持台灣參加國際組織) 給我們的衆議員們 。

3-20-2021 District 31 Congressman John Carter,他曾經是衆議院「台灣連線」主席, 回覆會員郭文盛的 petition。Congressman Carter 說:"As you may know, H.Con.Res.21 expresses Congress's belief that the United States should resume normal diplomatic relations with the nation of Taiwan and that we stop support of the One China Policy. Supporters of this legislation believe that it would send a clear message to the world that the American people recognize Taiwan's sovereignty and value the longstanding relationship between our nations."

· UT-Austin [Taiwan Study] upgrade to [Taiwan Study Center]

3-24-2021 UT-Austin [Taiwan Study] upgrade to [Taiwan Study Center]. 將 [Taiwan Study] 成為一個獨立 Center。全美國大學有設 [Taiwan Study] 的不多,實在是欣慰這裡的 UT-Austin 設有 [Taiwan Study Center]。讓我們一有機會就會加以宣傳。希望多些學生去選修或旁聽。

Promoting "TAIWAN" at Austin School

我們的會員 Angela 在她兒子學校, Spice Wood Elementary School,經過數年來的努力及堅持,終於爭取到學校的 'Multicultural Event Country Name List '國家名冊上有 "TAIWAN"。她不顧來自中國的家長們的打壓,自己主辦著[台灣] 攤位的擺設。

另 Angela 去打疫苗時,幫她打的老醫生知道她是由台灣來的,老醫生一直誇讚台灣防疫,還強調若世衛聽台灣的警訊,今天我們不會在此見面了。 真令我們欣慰在 Austin 有人對台灣這樣的認知及肯定。

我們的財務淑德為了在孫子的學校的 International Day 宣傳台灣,也讓孫子們能認識 母國而能互相更親近,她特地去訂購台灣山地服裝來給孫子及同學們穿。





· Attending FAPA HQ web meeting

FAPA HQ 今年幾乎每個月或自己主辦或協辦視訊會議。我也參加了 2-20、3-20、 4-27、5-15、6-5、6-12、7-17 等的各種視訊會議,得到不少知識。謝謝 FAPA 總 會長 Minze 及所有 HQ 的工作人員。

July 17, FAPA HQ 舉辦的 "Open House with Rep. Brad Sherman"。我們年輕、熱心的 會員 Angela 也在場。

Congressman Brad Sherman 是加州的 Democrat 衆議員, 他是 Chairman of Asian Subcommittee。他 25 年來都非常支持台灣。2019 曾經出訪台灣,他問當時的馬英久 總統:什麼時候阿扁可以出獄?

今年 Jan 18 他和共和黨籍眾議員 Young Kim(R-CA) 日聯合提案 - 要幫助台灣重新獲得世界衛生組織(WHO) 觀察員的地位。





Update to aging TRA long overdue

By Minze Chien 簡明子 | FAPA President

Article

Sunday last week marked the 42nd anniversary of the enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA). The act was signed then-US president Jimmy Carter on April 10, 1979, after passing both chambers of the US Congress to ensure that the US' "commercial, cultural and other relations" with Taiwan would continue smoothly despite Washington's decision to recognize the People's Republic of China over the Republic of China.

Congress at the time insisted that the act be drafted "to help maintain peace, security and stability in the western Pacific and to promote the foreign policy of the United States by authorizing the continuation of commercial, cultural and other relations between the people of the United States and the people on Taiwan, and for other purposes."

In 1982, then-US president Ronald Reagan, fearing that the Carter administration had overlooked many explicit security commitments to Taiwan, which Congress enumerated in the TRA, promulgated new instructions on US policy toward Taiwan.

These "six assurances" were augmented in a Reagan memo to the secretaries of state and defense on Aug. 17, 1982. It declared that the US' defense commitment and arms sales to Taiwan are "conditioned absolutely upon the continued commitment of China to the peaceful solution of the Taiwan-PRC differences."

Last year, the US declassified this once-secret memo together with the full texts of the "six assurances."

Today, the TRA and the "six assurances" form the cornerstones of US-Taiwan relations.

For four decades, the act has been the law of the land and the "six assurances" have been reaffirmed by every successive US presidential administration since Reagan, but much has changed in 40 years.

When the TRA was enacted, Taiwan was still under martial law and ruled by the authoritarian Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT). More than 140,000 Taiwanese were imprisoned during the nearly 40-year period of martial law from 1949 to 1987.

Over the past decades, Taiwan has evolved into a vibrant democracy, having peacefully transitioned power several times between political parties. The country stands as a progressive beacon of democracy for others in the region to emulate.

Yet the TRA has been frozen in time, never amended and never extended.

There is a consensus in Washington that the TRA should not be amended or that it should not be opened up. Doing so would give all elements — friendly and hostile — opportunities to muddle and detract from the law, which, after all, does indeed treat Taiwan as a "country" or a "state" distinct from China. What more is needed?

Do the US' new strategic realities in the western Pacific demand a new law that preserves the full TRA and enshrines in it some of the "six assurances," as well as elements of recent pro-Taiwan legislation passed in the past three years, even incorporating language of pending congressional bills?

Exactly what new components might a new "TRA 2.0" as an addendum to the 1979 TRA contain as a US law that reflects the relationship between the US and Taiwan of this day and age?

First, the law could codify several of the "six assurances" — especially the ones that prohibit the executive branch from ever consulting with China on arms sales to Taiwan, playing a mediation role between Taipei and Beijing, or exerting any pressure or influence on Taiwan to enter into negotiations with China.

Surely, these already are consistent with the TRA, but past US administrations have pushed the boundaries of the act.

Second, a "TRA 2.0" should more clearly define the US commitment to Taiwan's defense. The policy of "strategic ambiguity" no longer suffices. With daily and ever-escalating Chinese incursions into Taiwan's air defense identification zone (ADIZ) over the Taiwan Strait and East China Sea the time for "strategic clarity" is now.

Third, a "TRA 2.0" might consolidate and reinforce some important elements of pro-Taiwan legislation efforts passed or introduced over the past few years.

These efforts would include: the Taiwan Travel Act of 2018, which allows high-level Taiwan and US officials to make corresponding visits; the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative Act of 2019, which was designed to bolster Taiwan's diplomatic status and participation in international organizations; the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2019, which promotes arms sales to Taiwan and its participation in international organizations; the reassurance for official contacts act, introduced last month, which allows Taiwanese diplomats and service members to display their flag and wear their uniforms while on official business; and the Taiwan relations reinforcement act, also introduced last month, which aims to improved military-to-military cooperation, prioritize trade agreement negotiations, and require the director of the American Institute in Taiwan to be confirmed by the US Senate.

While a "TRA 2.0" is being contemplated, Chinese bombers are entering Taiwan's ADIZ in increasing numbers and with increasing frequency. For believing in democracy, Taiwanese continue to suffer under their neighbor's bullying and intimidation.

So far, the US has not formally recognized Taiwan's statehood. Taiwanese Americans dream of the day the US will officially and diplomatically recognize Taiwan as an independent sovereign state.

By enacting a "TRA 2.0," the US would reaffirm Taiwan's dedication to democracy, and announce to the world that Taiwan has the right to exist and must be free from outside intimidation and interference.

This article is first published in Taipei Times (2021/4/18)

坎貝爾的弦外之音:尊重台灣人自決權 實質維護台獨現狀

作者:簡明子博士 (FAPA 會長)

7月6日,美國白宮印太事務協調官坎貝爾(Kurt Campbell)在智庫活動上回答提問時表示:「我們(美國)不支持台灣獨立(we do not support Taiwan independence)」。這番話在台灣引發熱烈討論,甚至被扭曲成是美國在警告「台獨之路走不通」且批評蔡政府操弄兩岸對立。其實,坎貝爾當天的整段談話,不僅符合美國支持兩岸「維持現狀」的既定政策,致力維護台海和平穩定,他甚至表達多項挺台言論,間接呼應美國尊重台灣人自決權的長期立場。

首先,坎貝爾該段發言的主要目的,在於對中國傳遞清晰的「威懾」 (deterrence)訊息,警告中方若武力犯台將面對「災難性」(catastrophic) 的後果。他強調美國在處理對台事務上必須保持「非常微妙及危險的平衡」, 並且美方在維持台海和平穩定上擁有「極端重要的利益」;而日本、英國等 其他國家也已逐漸意識到並承認,維護台海和平攸關國際局勢穩定的深切利 益。

其次,坎貝爾當時絕無警告「台獨走不通」之意,亦非針對台灣地位提 出任何重大宣示;他反倒是要指責中國近期無端升高對台威脅,且表明美國 並未改變對台政策。早在1998年,美國總統柯林頓於上海提及對台「三不」 政策時,即已公開說過「我們(美國)不支持台灣獨立」。然而,該政策從 不等於美國「反對」台獨,遑論美國「承認」台海兩岸同屬一個中國。事實上, 自二戰終戰以來,美國即維持「台灣法律地位未定」的官方立場,亦不時表 態「台灣不是中國的一部分」。

所謂「美國不支持台灣獨立」,頂多只是美方重申對台灣主權爭議之最 終解決「不採取特定立場」。雖然就台獨支持者來說,美方的那句話不僅聽 來刺耳,也絕無重述之必要;但從另一方面來說,「美國不支持台獨」其實 也同時反映了美國尊重「台灣人民的自決權」,並認同「台灣前途應由台灣 人自行決定」的看法。換言之,是否要追求並堅持「台灣獨立」,其實是屬 於台灣人自己的事情。美國無權也無意代為決定台灣前途與最終地位,僅一 貫堅持台海紛爭必須以和平方式解決。

這也是為何柯林頓總統在提出「三不」而造成政策困惑後,要刻意於 2000 年澄清對台政策時強調,美國將持續「反對」(reject)以武力解決 台灣問題,且重申美國明確主張兩岸紛爭「必須和平解決,並得到台灣人 民的同意(must be resolved peacefully and with the assent of the people of Taiwan)」。其實,自拜登政府今年初上台以來,美國國務院亦多次(包括

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在坎貝爾談話之次日)公開表明,美國將持續在「符合台灣人民的意願與最大利益」(consistent with the wishes and best interests of the people on Tai-wan)之前提下,支持和平解決台海爭議。

探其表裡,美國雖在「口頭上」主張台灣地位未定、支持兩岸維持現狀, 但「實際上」卻深知台灣與中國係互不隸屬的兩個主權國家。也就是說,「台 灣獨立」早已是數十年來的客觀既成事實,而美方的所謂「維持現狀」實質 上無非就是「維持台灣獨立存在的現狀」,在為「台灣繼續作為一個主權國 家而生存」創造積極有利的條件。

其實,坎貝爾在當天智庫活動上亦提及,「我們(美國)的確相信 台灣擁有和平生存的權利」(We do believe Taiwan has a right to live in peace),而且「我們的確支持台灣尊嚴」(we do support Taiwan's dignity)。其弦外之音即是,美國承認台灣人民擁有決定台灣前途的自決權,且 尊重台灣人的自由意志與維持台獨現狀的長期意願與堅持。對美國來說,其 實早無「是否支持台灣獨立」的問題,只剩做出「何時正式承認台灣國家地 位」、「何時與台灣建立邦交」等國際政治上之決斷。

而總部位於華府的「台灣人公共事務會」(FAPA),也將持續為台灣和 平穩定發展以及台美共同利益來發聲,盼能早日完成「台美關係正常化」, 並促使台灣的國格與尊嚴能儘早獲得應有的國際承認與對待。

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Furthering Taiwan-US Military Ties

By Brandon Chen 陳俊偉 | FAPA Summer Intern

The Taiwan-US defense relationship is a cornerstone of the partnership between the two nations, and plays a crucial role in ensuring peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait and the Indo-Pacific region at large.

Recent actions and statements by the US and other international actors in support of Taiwan have initiated a much-needed increase in its global presence, demonstrating to China that forcible annexation of the country is absolutely unacceptable. To further emphasize this tenet of the US' Taiwan policy, parallel developments in defense policy are a natural and effective means of furthering a peaceful cross-strait environment.

By enacting the following measures, the US could directly counter the instabilitysown by China's aggression and military posturing through tangible and effective bolstering of Taiwan's defense capabilities.

The threat of annexation by the People's Republic of China (PRC) is at an all-time high, thanks to heightened nationalism and militant rhetoric under Chinese President Xi Jinping's (習近平) government and large advancements in China's military capabilities.

This shift in the power balance means strategic ambiguity is no longer enough to maintain peace in the Taiwan Strait — a goal codified in US policy under the Taiwan Relations Act and subsequent documents — as evidenced by China's increased military planning against Taiwan.

The policy uptick in demonstrating Taiwan's strong international backing, evident in unprecedented gestures such as the G7 and US-Japan statements of support, should continue in an even more overt manner. A clear US commitment to defending Taiwan in the event of a Chinese invasion would be a powerful mechanism to preserve peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait.

Strategic clarity increases stability by raising the cost of invasion. Taiwan's strategic position for the Indo-Pacific region and in global semiconductor supply chains means its annexation would dangerously empower China, cripple key US objectives and allies, and severely damage the overall balance of power against US priorities.

The Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercises — US-led maritime war drills held every two years around Hawaii — are meant to increase high-level military cooperation among Pacific nations, as well as to establish and ensure a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

Taiwan, as one of the most strategically important actors in the region, is an essential part of upholding these goals. China's increased naval aggression, especially in the South China Sea, threatens peace and stability in the region, and Taiwan specifically faces naval threats from Chinese sand dredgers near the Matsu Islands and the threat of amphibious invasion.

China's naval aggression and contraventions of international law have already led to its expulsion from RIMPAC, and the inclusion of Taiwan in the exercises would be beneficial to all participants.

In terms of precedence and policy, military coordination between the US and Taiwan is highly encouraged in US policy, such as the Taiwan Travel Act, and an early version of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) 2021 that specifically mentioned RIMPAC.

Taiwanese participation would not be purely defense oriented, and Ministry of National Defense spokesman Major General Shih Shun-wen (史順文) emphasized this by highlighting the benefits to humanitarian assistance operations through cooperative training. Taiwan's participation in RIMPAC would be beneficial for Taiwan, for the US' policy goals and for the Indo-Pacific region at large.

Taiwan constantly faces the existential threat of annexation by China. The PRC has and will not swear off using force to take over Taiwan. As such, a reliable and realistic defense strategy is vital to Taiwan's survival as a democratic partner in the Indo-Pacific region.

Under Taiwan's Overall Defense Concept, large amounts of asymmetric weapon systems are necessary to realistically counter a Chinese attack. The likeliest method of a Chinese assault would be a naval blockade combined with various priority target airstrikes on Taiwan's chain of command and infrastructure, as well as cyberwarfare destabilization.

However, Taiwan lacks sufficient asymmetric capabilities to defend itself from such an attack. In the event of an invasion, physical distance and China's highly advanced capabilities mean that US military assistance would be late and unlikely to arrive unscathed.

A "war reserve stocks for allies" program would ameliorate this problem. Similar to ongoing initiatives with Israel and the EU, this program would store US military equipment in Taiwan to be readily available by the US or Taiwan. This stockpile would consist mostly of asymmetric equipment such as unarmed aerial vehicles, short-range munitions, mobile missile systems and sea mines, which could be used by Taiwan with explicit permission from the US Department of Defense.

These systems would be highly effective and efficient in the context of cross-strait tensions, and less likely to provoke a strong Chinese reaction due to their defense-oriented and understated nature. A "war reserves" stockpile program with Taiwan would greatly increase the capability to defend Taiwan in a smart, low-cost manner — increasing the level of peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait through stronger deterrence.

Military exchanges between the US and Taiwan, especially at high levels, are an effective and pragmatic means of bolstering security ties. US policy objectives under NDAA 2021 emphasize exchanges and coordination between the Taiwan and the US — specifically with senior defense officials.

These exchanges improve the efficiency and morale of bilateral military relations, strengthen each military's ability to preserve peace in the Indo-Pacific region, integrate joint Taiwan-US military cooperation, and increase communication and coordination effectiveness — decreasing the likelihood of miscalculation during a crisis.

High-level exchanges are explicitly outlined in NDAA 2021 as a means of fulfilling US defense commitments to Taiwan under the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act, and would effectively increase the

capacity of US and Taiwanese armed forces, while signaling deterrence through strength and coordination.

The US Navy's longstanding use of Hong Kong as a port of call is now forbidden, thanks to the Chinese government's disapproval over US legislation condemning the breakdown of democracy in the territory.

Kaohsiung would be a perfect choice to succeed it. Attempting to plead with the PRC for Hong Kong port-of-call privileges would be futile and damaging for US interests, given China's actions there fundamentally conflict with US strategic values.

Hong Kong's utility as a "liberty port" (mainly for rest and relaxation) could easily be filled by Kaohsiung, a city with a similar climate and an equally unique culture. Kaohsiung also offers advantages as the largest port city in Taiwan, and is strategically placed along the Maritime Silk Road with geographic opportunities comparable to Hong Kong's.

Additionally, Kaohsiung allows naval fleet planners to expand US-Taiwan naval agreements, engage more with a vital democratic partner in the region, and demonstrate commitment to Pacific allies that share the US' values of free navigation and democracy.

This idea is not new. The 2017 Taiwan security act bill proposed it as a means of ameliorating the loss of Hong Kong and of increasing Taiwan's international significance to combat Chinese diplomatic warfare.

The five measures outlined above are simple and realistic ways of strengthening the Taiwan-US defense relationship — and with it, the robustness of the overall partnership. These policy objectives directly align with previously established US goals and guidelines for Taiwan, do not offend diplomatic sensitivities and, most importantly, firmly demonstrate US commitments to Taiwan, its people and government.

As China continues to push its single-minded narrative, endangering countless lives through aggressive and simply unrealistic politicized rhetoric, the US and its international partners must stand firm for universal values by unequivocally backing Taiwan — which starts with enhancing the Taiwan-US defense relationship.

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Internship Experience



Brandon Chen FAPA 2021 Summer Intern

I was born in Boston, Massachusetts, and have lived here my entire life. All four of my grandparents were born and grew up in Taiwan, and came to the United States for graduate school. My mother's side is Hakka from Yangmei, my father's side is Taiwanese from Chiayi. My paternal grandfather, Chia Ming Chen, was the one who introduced me to FAPA, as he had been involved with the Georgia chapter many years ago. I am currently a senior at Harvard studying government with a focus on public policy, and am in the process of writing a thesis on the unofficial diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Taiwan.



At FAPA, I've worked with the HQ team on a number of important efforts, including researching and briefing congressional staff on the issues for upcoming Taiwan-related bills, writing legislation for their offices, drafting news updates for Taiwan This Week, and attending Taiwan policy events from a number of think tanks. My largest project has been working on a series of five defense policy objectives for U.S.-Taiwan military relations: originally a memo for John Cornyn's staff, it has since turned into a congressional brief, multiple advocacy essays, and an op-ed published in the Taipei Times.

I am incredibly grateful for the time I've spent with FAPA and especially the welcoming, wonderfully supportive team. As I intend to pursue a career in Taiwan-related policy, I know I will continue to stay involved with the issues central to FAPA's mission, and I hope to stay in touch with everyone I've been lucky enough to call my coworkers this summer.



Proposed Procedures for Suspension and Termination of Membership

The Standing Committee has proposed to amend the FAPA Bylaws: "Article III: Membership" to include a section on suspension and termination of membership.

Background Information

The existing FAPA bylaws provide no procedure to suspend memberships or remove members from FAPA. However, if there is concern that a FAPA member exerts conduct detrimental to FAPA's mission, FAPA should have a mechanism to explore the possibility of membership suspension or termination.

If the proposal is passed, FAPA will have procedures to suspend or terminate memberships for reasons like failing to pay membership dues. This bylaws amendment is necessary for FAPA to maintain and define its memberships consistent with FAPA's mission.

Basis for Suspension and/or Termination of Membership

Basis for Suspension: A membership may be suspended based on any one or more of the following:

- 1. Provision of false information on the membership application;
- 2. Failure to pay membership dues timely or perform on membership requirements;

- 3. Act, conduct, or statement, whether written or oral, contradicting or opposing the missions of FAPA;
- 4. Act, conduct, or statement in violation of FAPA bylaws, operational guidelines, and/or internal policies; and
- 5. Act, conduct, or statement adversely affecting the operations, reputation, goodwill, management, financial welfare or legal standing of FAPA.

Basis for Termination by Expulsion: A membership may be terminated by expulsion based on any single basis for suspension mentioned above plus the failure to timely cure, correct and/or cease such basis after written warning or demands by FAPA.

Procedures for Suspension

Suspension Petition: A written petition (which shall set forth the basis for suspension, supporting evidence, proposed length of suspension and effective date of suspension) could be initiated by:

- 1. The FAPA President or Executive Director;
- 2. Chapter President of the Chapter of the member at issue; or
- 3. Five current members of the Board of Directors.

Notification: The petition shall be provided to the member(s) at issue no less than 21 calendar days in advance of the Suspension Meeting.

Written Rebuttal & Oral Arguments: The member(s) at issue shall be offered the opportunity to present written rebuttal (and may be permitted to present oral arguments) opposing the suspension to the Board of Directors or the Standing Committee holding the Suspension Meeting.

Suspension Meeting: A membership may be suspended by a majority vote of a duly noticed and quorum meeting ("Suspension Meeting") of the Board of Directors or the Standing Committee.

Procedures for Termination by Expulsion

Termination Petition: A written petition (which shall set forth the basis for termination, supporting evidence, and proposed effective date of termination) could be initiated by:

- 1. The FAPA President or Executive Director;
- 2. Chapter President of the Chapter of the member at issue; or
- 3. Ten current members of the Board of Directors.

Notification: The petition shall be provided to the member(s) at issue no less than 45 calendar days in advance of the Expulsion Meeting.

Written Rebuttal & Oral Arguments: The member(s) at issue shall be offered the opportunity to present written rebuttal and oral arguments opposing the termination by expulsion to the Board of Directors or Standing Committee holding the Expulsion Meeting.

Expulsion Meeting: A membership may be terminated by expulsion upon a two-thirds vote of a duly noticed and quorum meeting ("Expulsion Meeting") of the Board of Directors or the Standing Committee.

Appendix: Proposed Amendment

To add section 3.8 to the Bylaws as follows:

3.8 SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP. Notwithstanding other provisions of Article III, any membership in FAPA may be suspended and/ or otherwise terminated on the basis of death, resignation, expulsion, expiration of a term of membership, dissolution and liquidation of the organization, or as otherwise permitted by law.

3.8.1. Suspension. A membership may be suspended by a majority vote of a duly noticed and quorum meeting ("Suspension Meeting") of the Board of Directors or the Standing Committee, after a written petition by the FAPA President or Executive Director, Chapter President for the Chapter of the member at issue, or five current

members of the Board of Directors in good standing at the time of the petition.

3.8.1.1 The suspension petition shall set forth the basis for suspension, supporting evidence, proposed length of suspension and effective date of suspension. The petition shall be provided to the member(s) whose membership is/are under consideration for suspension, by certified mail or other reliable methods of mailing with tracking confirmation to his/her/their last recorded or known mailing address on record with FAPA, no less than 21 calendar days in advance of the Suspension Meeting and such members shall be offered the opportunity to present written rebuttal opposing the suspension to the Board of Directors or the Standing Committee (as applicable) at least 5 days prior to the Suspension Meeting. The Board of Directors or Standing Committee who is meeting to discuss and vote on the petition may permit the member(s) at issue to present oral arguments opposing the suspension.

3.8.1.2 Effect of Suspension. A suspension of membership shall mean that all rights, benefits, and privileges associated with or arising from the membership for the member(s) at issue are suspended for the entire duration of the suspension. Upon expiration of the suspension period, the membership will resume if all obligations and requirements for a membership in good standing have been fulfilled and the basis for the suspension has been cured or redressed to the satisfaction of FAPA consistent with all applicable FAPA by-laws, operational guidelines, policies and rules and regulations.

3.8.2 Termination by Expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion upon a two-thirds vote of a duly noticed and quorum meeting ("Expulsion Meeting") of the Board of Directors or the Standing Committee, after written petition by the FAPA President or Executive Director, Chapter President for the Chapter of the member at issue, or ten current members of the Board of Directors in good standing at the time of the petition.

3.8.2.1 The petition to terminate by expulsion shall forth the basis for termination, supporting evidence, and proposed effective date of termination. The petition shall be provided to the member(s) whose membership is/are under consideration for termination by expulsion, by certified mail or other reliable methods of mailing with tracking confirmation to his/her/their last recorded or known mailing address on record with FAPA, no less than 45 calendar days in advance of the Expulsion Meeting and such members shall be offered the opportunity to present written rebuttal and oral arguments opposing the termination by expulsion to the Board of Directors or Standing Committee (as applicable).

3.8.2.2 Effect of Termination by Expulsion. A termination of membership by expulsion shall mean that all rights, benefits, and privileges associated with or arising from the membership shall cease and all persons whose membership are terminated by expulsion shall not longer be a member of FAPA.

3.8.3. Notice of Decision to Suspend or Terminate by Expulsion. The decision of the Board of Directors or Standing Committee (as applicable) shall be served on the person(s) whose membership is so affected by personal service, certified mail, or any other reliable methods of delivery with tracking confirmation to the such person(s)' last recorded or known mailing address on record with FAPA.

3.8.4. Power of Investigation. The Board of Directors or Standing Committee (as applicable), at its sole discretion, may undertake all reviews, discussions, interviews, and investigations that it deems necessary prior to voting on any petition for suspension or termination of membership by expulsion.

3.8.5. Basis for Suspension and/or Termination by Expulsion.

3.8.5.1 Suspension. A membership may be suspended based on any one or more of the following: a) provision of false information on the membership application; b) failure to pay membership dues timely or perform on membership requirements; c) act, conduct, or statement, whether written or oral, contradicting or opposing the missions of FAPA ; d) act, conduct, or statement in violation of FAPA bylaws, operational guidelines, and/or internal policies; and e) act, conduct, or statement adversely affecting the operations, reputation, goodwill, management, financial welfare or legal standing of FAPA.

3.8.5.2 Termination by Expulsion. A membership may be terminated by expulsion based on any single basis for suspension above plus the failure to timely cure, correct and/or cease such basis after written warning or demands by FAPA.