



FAPA NEWS

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Capitol Watch

50 Representatives Call for US-Taiwan Diplomatic Relations

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear FAPA members and friends:

Greetings! Much has happened since I became FAPA President on January 1, 2024.

First and foremost, my overall experience of the past three months genuinely touched my heart wherever I go and whomever I talk to. That is how much love and appreciation I have for our esteemed organization.

One family stressed the importance for them to honor their parents' love for FAPA. Another family, while facing tremendous challenges with their child's health, still remembered to send me a check along with encouraging messages. It brought me to tears. And the check is priceless. The truth is, there are many more similar stories out there in our FAPA community!

During my chapter visits, meetings, and exchanges with new and long-time FAPA members, I have been so inspired by our Taiwanese American community, their willingness to step up to the plate to fight for full independence for our beloved Taiwan, and their willingness to personally contribute and participate in this historic and righteous mission.

When the very talented, dedicated, and young Boston-based Chia-Chun Chung and I were elected Vice President and President during the FAPA annual Board meeting in December 2023, I was fully aware of the formidable task she and I were putting our shoulders under.

Leading an organization with 2,700 members, 44 chapters, and an annual budget of one million dollars is an enormous responsibility.

When I accepted the nomination to become FAPA's 15th President, I not only recognized its historical implication that Chia-Chun and I would be the first female President-Vice-President in FAPA's 42-year history, I also knew that - being the grassroots organization that FAPA is - the adage that an organization is as strong as the combined strength of its members is a statement that very much applies to FAPA, one that represents FAPA in its purest form.

Case in point: Just days before writing this President's Corner, FAPA members all over the nation came together in 24 hours (!) to send petition letters to their elected Representatives urging them to vote in favor of a bill that would effectively ban the vilified TikTok app in the United States. (You will find the FTV report on our actions in this newsletter.)

The result was that the bill passed overwhelmingly with 352-65.

After the historic vote, we thanked members of Congress as follows: “We Taiwanese Americans thank the House of Representatives for your support for Taiwan through your unwavering protection of U.S. interests.”

Speaking of armies, French writer Victor Hugo famously wrote: “No army can stop an idea whose time has come.” De Jure Taiwan Independence is such an idea whose time has come!

One of our American scholar friends once said, “Taiwan’s future will be decided in Washington, D.C.”

It is a formidable task we have as Taiwanese Americans. But we can do it, and we WILL do it! Because we are passionate and dedicated to keeping Taiwan free, sovereign, and independent.

Rain, sleet, or snow, we step up to the plate, contribute to FAPA, and do whatever is within our capability to help forward our collective dream of Taiwan’s Independence. I see sunshine. I hope you do, too.

I look forward to working with you.

With warmest wishes and appreciation,



Su-Mei Kao, Ph.D.
FAPA National President



會長的話

親愛的FAPA會員及朋友：

大家好！自從我於2024年1月1日成為FAPA會長以來，已有許多值得回顧的點滴。

首先，過去三個月的經歷讓我感動萬分。無論我身在何處，與何人交談，都感受到大家對我們這個大家庭的熱愛與敬意。

有一對兄弟告訴我，對他們來說，尊重、承諾其父母畢生對FAPA的愛有多麼重要。另一對夫婦，即使面對孩子健康方面的巨大挑戰，仍然寄來了一張支票和勉勵的話語，使我深受感動；這張支票的意義是無法用言語表達的。實際上，我們FAPA大家庭中還有更多類似的故事！

在訪問分會、召開會議以及與新舊會員交流的過程中，我對我們台美人社群感到非常振奮。我們願意挺身而出，為我們珍愛的台灣爭取完整的獨立，積極參與此具有歷史意義並合乎正義的使命。

當我和來自波士頓的年輕、充滿才華和敬業精神的鍾佳君，在2023年12月的FAPA年度Board Meeting上當選為新任會長和副會長時，我充分意識到我和她肩負著多麼艱鉅的任務。

帶領一個擁有2700名會員、44個分會，年度預算達百萬美元的組織，是一項巨大的責任。當我接受提名成為FAPA第15任會長時，我不僅體會到我和佳君將成為FAPA四十二年歷史中的首次女性會長與副會長搭檔的歷史意義，同時也深深了解，作為一個草根組織的FAPA，「組織的強大取決於其成員的綜合實力」這句格言對FAPA 尤為貼切，它代表著FAPA最純粹的型態。

舉個例子：就在撰寫「會長的話」的幾天前，FAPA會員們在短短二十四小時內聚集動員，向各自選區的美國國會眾議員發出請願信，敦促他們投票支持一項旨在有效禁止TikTok（抖音海外版）應用程式在美國境內營運的法案。（您將在本期刊中找到有關我們此次倡議與動員行動的民視報導。）

最後，該法案以352票贊成、65票反對的壓倒性多數通過。在這一歷史性的投票之後，我們向國會議員表達了感謝之情：「我們台美人感謝眾議院透過您對美國利益的堅定保護，同時展現您對台灣的大力支持。」

談到軍隊，法國作家維克多·雨果（Victor Hugo）有句名言：「沒有一支軍隊能夠阻擋一個時代理念的來臨。」而法理台獨正是這樣一個時機已到的理念！

我們的一位美國學者朋友曾說過：「台灣的未來將在美國華府決定。」身為台裔美國人，我們肩負一項艱鉅的任務，但我們可以做到，而且一定會做到！因為我們充滿了熱情，致力於維護台灣的自由、主權和獨立。無論風雨，我們挺身而出，為FAPA做出貢獻，並竭盡所能，以實現我們對台灣獨立的共同理想。我看到了光明的未來，希望您亦是如此。

我期待著繼續與您攜手合作。致以最熱情的祝福和感激。

會長 林素梅博士

CAPITOL WATCH *News on The Hill & Beyond*



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50 REPRESENTATIVES CO-SPONSOR U.S.-TAIWAN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS RESOLUTION, CALLING FOR END TO U.S. “ONE CHINA POLICY”

A resolution calling on the U.S. to put an end to the “One China policy” and restore diplomatic relations with Taiwan gained 50 supporters in Congress. Congressman Tom Tiffany (R-WI), the bill’s original sponsor, issued a press release on November 13, 2023, announcing the bill’s introduction. Tiffany described it as a milestone demonstrating the growing congressional support in recognizing Taiwan as a free, democratic, and independent country.

Congressman Tiffany had introduced H.Con.Res.10 in January 2023 calling on the U.S. to abandon its antiquated “One China policy,” resume formal relations with Taiwan, and begin negotiations on a U.S.-Taiwan free trade agreement.

U.S. ANNOUNCES US\$300 MILLION ARMS SALES TO TAIWAN

According to a Pentagon statement on December 15, 2023, the State Department had approved a US\$300 million Foreign Military Sale (FMS) to Taiwan that includes follow-on life cycle support and related equipment to maintain the C4 (Command, Control, Communications, and Computers) capabilities of its military forces.

The Pentagon's Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) delivered the required certification to the U.S. Congress, notifying it of the possible FMS. It was the 12th arms sale package to Taiwan approved by the Biden administration.

PRESIDENT BIDEN SIGNS 2024 NDAA WITH TAIWAN PROVISIONS INTO LAW

On December 22, 2023, President Biden signed into law the finalized bill for the 2024 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The NDAA authorized the Secretary of Defense to create a comprehensive training program for Taiwan's military and required a status report on the delivery of defense weapons and services that the U.S. has agreed to sell Taiwan.

Provisions in the 2024 NDAA relevant to Taiwan include measures to help strengthen Taiwan's defense capabilities, counter Chinese influence campaigns, and support Taiwan's participation in international organizations.

One of those provisions requires the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with "appropriate officials in Taiwan," to establish a comprehensive training, advising, and institutional capacity-building program for Taiwanese military forces, consistent with the "Taiwan Enhanced Resilience Act."

LAWMAKERS COMMEND TAIWAN AHEAD OF ELECTIONS, EXPRESS CONCERN ABOUT CHINA THREATS AND INTIMIDATION

On January 10, 2024, dozens of House representatives introduced a bipartisan resolution (H.Res.955) commending Taiwan for its commitment to democratic elections and institutions despite ongoing threats from China on the eve of Taiwan's elections on January 13.

The resolution was introduced by the four co-chairs of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus: Representatives Gerry Connolly (D-VA), Ami Bera (D-CA), Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL), and Andy Barr (R-KY). The resolution was cosponsored by 80 other House representatives.

On January 11, a companion Senate resolution (S.Res.521) was introduced by Senators Dan Sullivan (R-AK) and Tim Kaine (D-VA). It received 48 cosponsors and was agreed to in the Senate.

HOUSE PASSES 2 PRO-TAIWAN BILLS

On January 12, 2024, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the "Taiwan Non-Discrimination Act of 2023" (H.R.540), which will require the U.S. to advocate for Taiwan's membership in the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

On the same day, the House also passed the "PROTECT Taiwan Act" or the "Pressure Regulatory Organizations to End Chinese Threats to Taiwan Act" (H.R.803), which seeks to isolate the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) from the international financial system if it were to invade Taiwan.

U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE CONGRATULATES TAIWAN PRESIDENT-ELECT LAI CHING-TE

On January 13, 2024, U.S. Secretary of State Blinken issued the following press statement:

“The United States congratulates Dr. Lai Ching-te on his victory in Taiwan’s presidential election. We also congratulate the Taiwan people for once again demonstrating the strength of their robust democratic system and electoral process.

“The United States is committed to maintaining cross-Strait peace and stability, and the peaceful resolution of differences, free from coercion and pressure. The partnership between the American people and the people on Taiwan, rooted in democratic values, continues to broaden and deepen across economic, cultural, and people-to-people ties.

“We look forward to working with Dr. Lai and Taiwan’s leaders of all parties to advance our shared interests and values, and to further our longstanding unofficial relationship, consistent with the U.S. one China policy as guided by the Taiwan Relations Act, the three Joint Communiques, and the Six Assurances. We are confident that Taiwan will continue to serve as an example for all who strive for freedom, democracy, and prosperity.”

JOINT T.A. ORGS. URGE KEY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO SPEED UP IMPLEMENTATION OF TAIWAN FELLOWSHIP ACT PROVISIONS

In a letter dated January 20, 2024, to selected members of Congress, Taiwanese American organizations jointly wrote:

“Dear Member of Congress,

As American supporters of stronger U.S.-Taiwan ties we write to draw your attention to the Taiwan Fellowship Act that President Biden signed into law in 2022 and to urge you to see that the State Department takes the immediate necessary actions to implement this law and to launch the Taiwan Fellowship program this year.

Collectively, our organizations represent most of the private bilateral infrastructure between the U.S. and Taiwan, and of the Americans concerned with U.S.-Taiwan ties.”

U.S. REPRESENTATIVES CONGRATULATE TAIWAN PRESIDENT- ELECT AND VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT

In a letter dated January 25, 2024, Congressman Lance Gooden (R-TX) and seven of his colleagues extended congratulations to President-elect Lai Ching-te and Vice President-elect Hsiao Bi-khim on their electoral victory in Taiwan’s presidential election.

Congressman Gooden emphasized the significance of Taiwan’s democratic process and Taiwan’s role as a beacon of liberty in a region often overshadowed by authoritarianism.

U.S. ANNOUNCES US\$75 MILLION ARMS SALES TO TAIWAN

On February 21, 2024, the Pentagon announced that the State Department had approved a US\$75 million arms sale to Taiwan that includes a “Taiwan Advanced Tactical Data Link System Upgrade Planning” system. It was the 13th arms sales package to Taiwan during the Biden administration.

REP. GALLAGHER LEADS U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO TAIWAN, PRAISING “ROCK-SOLID” PARTNERSHIP

On February 22, 2024, visiting Congressman Mike Gallagher (R-WI), Chairman of the House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), told Taiwan’s President Tsai Ing-wen that the purpose of his visit was to show bipartisan support from the U.S. Congress for Taiwan.

Gallagher led a five-member congressional delegation to Taiwan for a three-day visit. The delegation also included Ranking Member Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL), and Representatives John Moolenaar (R-MI), Dusty Johnson (R-SD), and Seth Moulton (D-MA) — all of whom are on the House Select Committee on the CCP.

SENATORS INTRODUCE BILL TO DETER CHINESE INVASION OF TAIWAN

On March 5, 2024, four U.S. senators introduced bipartisan legislation (S.3861) that would require the Treasury Department to terminate the U.S.-China Tax Treaty within 30 days after the President determines that China had initiated an armed attack against Taiwan.

The original cosponsors for this bill are John Cornyn (R-TX), Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Chris Coons (D-DE), and Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV).

“The United States must make it crystal clear the Chinese Communist Party will face dire consequences if it moves to invade Taiwan,” said Sen. Cornyn.

HFAC CHAIRMAN MCCAUL TO ATTEND MAY 20 INAUGURATION

On March 6, 2024, Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs Michael McCaul (R-TX) announced that he would attend the inauguration of President-elect Lai Ching-te on May 20 and voiced concerns about delays in the delivery of weapons to Taiwan.

TAIWAN MENTIONED IN PRESIDENT BIDEN’S STATE OF THE UNION

During his State of the Union address on March 7, 2024, President Joe Biden vowed to support peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait and stand up against China’s unfair economic practices.

The U.S. is “standing up ... for peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait,” said Biden at the U.S. Capitol. It was the first time that Taiwan’s security was mentioned during Biden’s State of the Union address since taking office in 2021.

HOUSE OVERWHELMINGLY PASSES “TIKTOK BAN” BILL

On March 13, 2024, the U.S. House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed the “Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act” (H.R.7521), which would ban the TikTok app in the United States if TikTok’s parent company, the Chinese Communist Party-controlled “ByteDance,” does not sell the app.

As Taiwanese Americans who care deeply about Taiwan’s sovereignty and independence, we are very concerned that TikTok could manifest itself as a very valuable tool for China if it decides to invade and annex Taiwan.

Since this issue affects both Taiwanese and Americans, we (FAPA HQ and other grassroots organizations) are putting our full weight behind seeking passage of the bill with as wide a margin as possible.

FAPA’s President, Dr. Su-Mei Kao, wrote to over 50 members of Congress for their support and urged our membership to send petition letters to their elected officials.

The final vote for the bill in the House was 352-65, an impressive achievement!

Please see Pg. 38 for the Formosa TV report on the TikTok campaign.

POURQUOI

展望 2024 台美關係：美國應明確 承認台灣自決權與獨立國格

BY 林素梅

2024-01-03



Photo by [John Bakator](#) on [Unsplash](#)

值此 2024 新的一年到來之際，回顧過去 2023 年台美關係，在軍事、經貿等方面無疑有許多重大成果與進展，但在增進台灣國際地位與空間上雖有所著墨，卻仍待未來持續加強與突破。

長期以來，總部位於美國華府的「台灣人公共事務會」(FAPA) 不斷呼籲美國政府應更積極公開挑戰北京的「一個中國原則」，明確重申「台灣不是中國的一部分」。我們很高興見到，美國國務卿布林肯 (Antony Blinken) 在去年 (2023 年) 2 月特別強調，台海危機「並非中國基於其主權所聲稱的內政事務」，而是全世界都關切的國際議題。

■ 台美關係一年內取得重大突破 下一步應積極破除疑美論

去年 4 月初，台灣總統蔡英文與時任美國眾議院議長麥卡錫 (Kevin McCarthy) 在加州進行了一場歷史性會晤。這是台灣總統與美國眾議院議長在美國本土進行的首次會晤，亦是 2018 年《台灣旅行法》(Taiwan Travel Act) 的進一步落實。

去年 7 月底，美國政府首度宣布動用「總統撥款權」(Presidential Drawdown Authority)，將撥用美國自身既有軍事庫存，提供台灣 3.45 億美元的即時軍事援助。8 月底，美國亦首度宣布將透過通常用於援助主權獨立國家的「外國軍事融資」(Foreign Military Financing, FMF) 計畫，提供台灣 8,000 萬美元的軍援。

去年 8 月 7 日，《美台 21 世紀貿易倡議首批協定實施法》經拜登總統簽署生效，確認美國國會批准美台雙方於 6 月初在「21 世紀貿易倡議」架構下所達成的「首批協定」(First Agreement)。我們期盼，此首批協定及隨後的貿易談判，能為全面性的「美台自由貿易協定」(FTA) 奠定扎實基礎。

去年底，美國參眾兩院通過《2024 財政年度國防授權法》(FY24 NDAA)，並於 2023 年 12 月 22 日經拜登總統簽署生效，正式成為美國法律。該法案納入許多友台條款，要求擴大美台軍事合作，改善對台軍售交付進程，並授權美國國防部為台灣軍隊建立全面性的培訓計畫，以強化台灣自我防衛能力。

■ 期盼美國清楚認知 多數台灣人希望維持主權獨立的現狀

在過去短短一年之內，台美兩國在軍事、經貿合作上取得如此重大突破，令人振奮。但我們亦認為，要更積極對抗中國對台灣的外交戰、資訊戰，更為有效破除「疑美論」，美國應同時逐步推動台美關係正常化，強化承認台灣的獨立國格，以最終實現台美建立正式邦交。

去年 5 月，美國參眾兩院提出跨黨派的《台灣代表處法》(Taiwan Representative Office Act)，要求將台灣的「實質上」駐美大使館由「台北經濟文化代表處」(TECRO) 更名為「台灣代表處」(TRO)。此外，美國眾議院在去年 7 月通過《台灣國際團結法》(Taiwan International Solidarity Act)，力圖澄清 1971 年聯合國大會第 2758 號決議並未涉及台灣主權爭議與國際代表權問題，藉以對抗中國對台主權聲索，保障台灣的國際空間與參與。

在這新的一年，FAPA 將持續為以上兩部友台法案推動倡議與請願，期盼美國國會能在今年順利完成立法，以更加尊重台灣的國家尊嚴與台灣人的國家認同。我們相信，美國政府與社會大眾必須正確地認識到，絕大多數的台灣人選擇並希望能維持「台灣主權獨立」的現狀，且堅決反對民主台灣淪為共產中國的一部分。

我們亦主張，美國總統或國務卿應正式訪問台灣，並簽署美台聯合公報或發表共同聲明，清楚表明美國承認並支持台灣人民的自決權，否認中國毫無根據的對台主權宣稱，且明確承諾美軍將在中國侵台時共同保衛台灣。

■ 「姑息政策」助長中國對台霸凌 美台正式外交關係才能真正威懾中國

在 1954 年，美國總統艾森豪（Dwight Eisenhower）執政時，美國與台灣正式簽署共同防禦條約，在國際法上承諾美軍將保衛台灣，以遏制共產中國的武力擴張。艾森豪更於 1960 年訪問台灣，使他成為歷史上首位（也是至今唯一一位）訪台的在任美國總統。

1972 年，即便美國於當時仍與台灣保持正式外交關係，時任美國總統尼克森（Richard Nixon）與國務卿羅傑斯（William Rogers）卻依然訪問共產中國，並與之簽署上海公報，為美國與中華人民共和國的關係正常化鋪下道路。

其後，美國與台灣維繫邦交直到 1979 年 1 月 1 日，並維持共同防禦條約至 1980 年 1 月 1 日才終止。這清楚證明，美國與台灣之間的正式外交關係與明確軍事承諾，實際上能有效威懾中國侵略台灣，而非導致其全面武力犯台。

四十多年來，美國為了安撫、綏靖專制的共產中國，不但一直避免正式承認台灣，並採取對台「戰略模糊」，且美國總統與國務卿亦總是刻意迴避訪台。然而，華府的此種對中「姑息政策」只會更加鼓舞中國的「戰狼外交」及對台霸凌，並助長其侵略行為與擴張野心。

我們深信，為了更有效嚇阻中國吞併台灣，美國做為民主自由陣營的領袖，應對台採取「戰略清晰」，明確支持台灣人民的自決權，並早日外交承認台灣是個主權獨立國家的「真實現狀」。這不僅符合台灣與美國的共同國家利益，且唯有如此，才能有效抑制日益崛起的威權主義擴張。

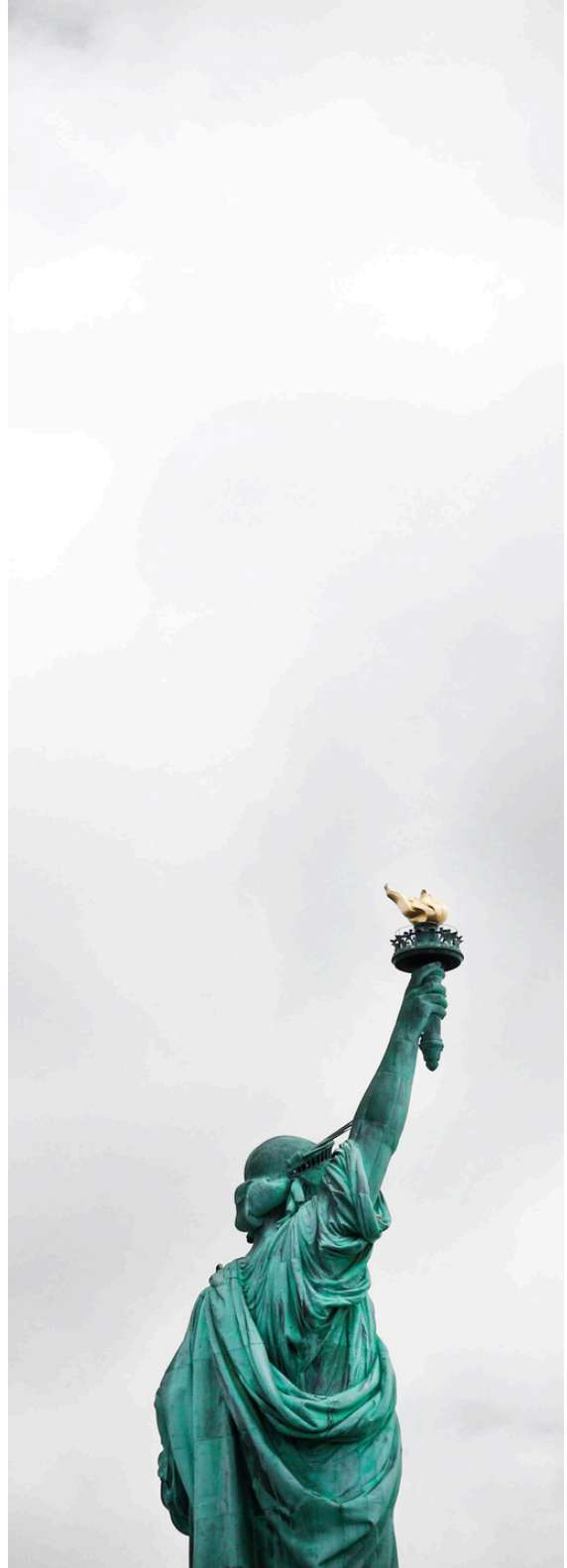


Photo by [Aaron Burson](#) on [Unsplash](#)

TAIPEI TIMES RENAMING TECRO LONG OVERDUE

BY DR. SU-MEI KAO

2024-03-13



Photo by Jenny Li, HQ staff

To counter China's increasing threats and aggression toward Taiwan, the US should continue to reinforce its support for and normalize its relations with Taiwan. To that end, a good and long-overdue next step would be renaming the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO), Taiwan's de facto embassy in the US, to the more accurate and respectful "Taiwan Representative Office," and encourage other allies to follow suit.

After Taiwan and the US severed diplomatic ties in 1979, Taiwan established the oddly named Coordination Council for North American Affairs (CCNAA) as the counterpart to the US' American Institute in Taiwan. Taiwan's former embassy in Washington was then transformed into the CCNAA Office in the United States of America.

In 1994, as a result of the Taiwan Policy Review completed by then-US president Bill Clinton's administration, the CCNAA Office in the US was renamed TECRO — a name that is also nondescript. However, the CCNAA headquarters in Taipei maintained its original name until 2019, when it was renamed the "Taiwan Council for US Affairs" to include the word "Taiwan" in its name.

The US should agree to rename TECRO to the more straightforward and correct Taiwan Representative Office for the following reasons:

First, TECRO is a misnomer because the word "Taipei" creates the strong inaccurate impression that the office only represents the capital, Taipei, and its residents, rather than the independent country of Taiwan and its people.

Surveys in recent years show that the overwhelming majority of people in Taiwan consider themselves primarily Taiwanese and believe that Taiwan is already an independent, sovereign country. By containing the word "Taipei," the name TECRO falls short of paying due respect to the national identity and sovereign dignity of Taiwan.

Second, calling Taiwan's de facto embassy in the US an "economic and cultural" representative office fails to accurately reflect the robust and comprehensive relations between the two nations. The US' partnership with Taiwan encompasses far more than just economic and cultural ties. The US not only provides Taiwan with defensive arms, but has bolstered cooperation in science, technology, public health, energy and the environment, to name just a few.

And third, the name TECRO is inconsistent with the longstanding US policy of referring to Taiwan as "Taiwan." Its renaming is thus long overdue.

Those opposed to the name change argue that renaming TECRO to include the word "Taiwan" would substantially change the US' policy and position toward Taiwan. Their assumption ignores the simple fact that the US Congress and government have consistently referred to Taiwan as "Taiwan" for decades, especially after 1979.

This is evident in the titles of several US laws concerning US relations with Taiwan, such as the Taiwan Relations Act, the Taiwan Travel Act, the Taiwan Assurance Act and the Taiwan Enhanced Resilience Act.

Furthermore, the US' de facto embassy in Taiwan is called the American Institute in Taiwan.

Since Taiwan and the US severed diplomatic ties in 1979, the US Department of State has maintained a secretive set of "Taiwan Guidelines" — a lengthy and closely held memo originally written in 1979 and 1980, and circulated within US government agencies to regulate US officials' interactions with their Taiwanese counterparts.

In a memorandum on the Taiwan Guidelines dated Oct. 3, 1990, the department wrote: "Consistent with the unofficial nature of U.S.-Taiwan ties, the U.S. Government no longer refers to Taiwan as the 'Republic of China'... We refer to Taiwan simply as Taiwan, and to its leadership as 'the Taiwan authorities.'"

Fourth, changing the name TECRO to the Taiwan Representative Office would not merely be a symbolic gesture, but a substantive move that would lend more respect to Taiwan's national dignity and strengthen US leadership among democratic allies to support Taiwan against Chinese bullying and aggression.

Those who contend that renaming TECRO would merely be symbolic should understand that in the realm of diplomacy, symbolism — such as ceremony and protocol, including the proper use of titles and names — serves a crucial communicative function and is often employed to achieve something substantive and meaningful in international relations.

It has often been said that, regarding complex and sensitive Taiwan issues, symbolism is substance. In the absence of Taiwan-US diplomatic ties, changing TECRO's name would be particularly meaningful for Taiwan. It could also signal more robust US support for Taiwan's distinct existence in the global community in the face of increasing military and diplomatic aggression from China.

Renaming TECRO is an objective that Taiwanese Americans have been striving for for many years, and it is gaining support from members of Congress. The chance of changing TECRO's name with help from Congress looks better than ever.

In December 2020, 78 members of the US House of Representatives wrote to then-US secretary of state Mike Pompeo to ask, among other things, that the name TECRO be changed to the Taiwan Representative Office.

Moreover, the Ensuring American Global Leadership and Engagement Act, passed by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs in July 2021, and the America COMPETES Act, passed by the House in February 2022, also called for negotiations to rename TECRO.

In May last year, the Taiwan Representative Office Act was reintroduced in the US Senate and House simultaneously, urging the renaming of TECRO to the Taiwan Representative Office.



The bill also states that it would be the policy of the US, consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act and the Six Assurances, to provide Taiwanese with “de facto diplomatic treatment” equivalent to foreign countries, nations, states, governments or similar entities.

Reality dictates that Taiwan possesses all the qualifications of statehood under international law — including a permanent population, a defined territory, a central government and the capacity to enter into relations with other states — and has been an independent sovereign country for decades. Taiwan deserves formal diplomatic ties with all other countries.

The US, as a leading democratic country, should guide the free world in normalizing relations with Taiwan and eventually recognize it diplomatically. It is time for the US to start negotiating a name change for TECRO to better reflect the mission’s actual purpose. If there was a Taiwan Representative Office in Washington, it would be a powerful display of US support for its longtime friend and democratic ally.

As Taiwan continues to stand firm against aggression from China, the name change would bolster the US’ commitment to Taiwan and inspire other democratic allies to do the same. Hopefully then, “Taiwan” representative offices would become a new normal the world over.

TAIPEI TIMES

TAIWAN'S HISTORY AND STATUS: TAIWAN HAS NEVER BEEN A PART OF CHINA

BY DR. CHIH-JUNG HUANG

2023-11-28



Photo by [Chinh Le Duc](#) on [Unsplash](#)

On Nov. 15, US President Joe Biden reiterated the US' commitment to maintaining cross-strait peace and the "status quo" during a meeting with Chinese dictator Xi Jinping (習近平) on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit in San Francisco, California.

However, Biden refrained from making clear to Xi what Taiwan's "status quo" exactly is (as the US defines it).

It is not the first time Taiwan's legal status has become an issue of contention.

In September, Tesla CEO Elon Musk caused a media storm after he referred to Taiwan as "an integral part of China" during an interview. This ignorance about Taiwan's history and status came after his suggestion in October last year to make Taiwan a "special administrative zone" of China, similar to that of Hong Kong.

Musk's comments on Taiwan are in line with the propaganda of the People's Republic of China (PRC), which continues to threaten to annex Taiwan by force, and to promote its "one China principle" internationally to suppress Taiwan's international recognition and participation.

To correct some popular misunderstandings and to more effectively counter the PRC's disinformation on Taiwan's history and status, this article argues that: (1) Historically speaking, Taiwan has never been a part of "China"; and (2) legally speaking, both the Republic of China (ROC; 1912–1949) and the People's Republic of China (PRC; 1949–present) have never acquired territorial sovereignty over Taiwan.

The PRC government has no right to represent Taiwan, and only Taiwan's democratically elected government can represent the 23 million Taiwanese people in the international arena. It has been long overdue for the free world to stand up together and counter China's increasing bullying and aggression against Taiwan.

Taiwan up to 1895: From Indigenous Island to Conquered Colony

Contrary to the PRC's claim that "Taiwan has belonged to China since ancient times," Taiwan's indigenous peoples have inhabited the island for at least six thousand years, with various political entities exercising control over parts of it until colonial powers conquered increasingly large portions of Taiwan beginning in the 17th century.

The pre-modern Han Chinese empires knew very little about Taiwan, and had long regarded Taiwan as a "savage" island "beyond the seas." That is why when the Dutch temporarily occupied the Penghu Islands (ie, the Pescadores) in 1622, an official of the Chinese Ming Empire (1368–1662) asked the Dutch forces to withdraw from Penghu and move to Taiwan, showing clearly that the Chinese then considered Taiwan to be a remote island outside the Chinese civilization and domain.

Dutch Formosa (1624–1662) in southwestern Taiwan and Spanish Formosa (1626–1642) in northern Taiwan were the first colonial endeavors that exercised control over some parts of the island. The Dutch promoted agriculture in Taiwan and encouraged Han Chinese peasants to move from coastal China to the island.

In 1662, former Ming loyalist general Koxinga, also known as Cheng Cheng-kung (鄭成功), ended Dutch rule of Taiwan. He established a new independent kingdom in Taiwan, known as the Tungning Kingdom (1662-1683) or the Kingdom of Formosa, which ruled parts of the island until it was conquered in 1683 by the Manchu Qing empire.

The Manchu Qing Empire (1616-1912) was in essence a “non-Chinese” empire that was originally founded in what would later be known as “Manchuria,” outside of China. When the Manchus captured the Ming’s principal capital at Beijing in 1644, the Qing Empire had already existed outside China for 28 years, starting in 1616. It was not until 1681 that the Manchu Qing conquered all of China (ie, China Proper).

The Manchu Qing Empire conquered the Tungning Kingdom in 1683, and officially annexed the former Tungning territory in 1684. The Qing later expanded its colonial rule over western Taiwan, but that did not make Taiwan a part of “China.” Just as the British Empire had colonized India and Sri Lanka at the same time, doing so did not make Sri Lanka a part of “India.”

The number of Han Chinese settlers in Taiwan was still very small at the beginning of the 17th century, but steadily increased during the Dutch, Tungning and Qing periods for over 200 years, creating a primarily Han society in western Taiwan.

Nevertheless, at least until the 1870s, the Qing Empire still regarded most of central and eastern Taiwan as the “savage territory” of the Taiwanese “raw barbarians” outside the Qing domains.

Moreover, despite the Manchu Qing designating western Taiwan as administratively a prefecture of Fujian Province in 1684, and created Taiwan Province in 1885, Taiwan continued to be perceived as a remote and often “rebellious” island, instead of an integral part of the Chinese “inner lands” or China Proper.

Having been defeated by the Japanese, the Manchu Qing Empire signed the Peace Treaty of Shimonoseki with the Japanese Empire on April 17, 1895, and agreed to cede the island of Formosa (Taiwan) and the Pescadores (Penghu) “in perpetuity and full sovereignty” to Japan.

On May 25, 1895, the political elites and local gentry in Taiwan established the Democratic Republic of Taiwan (also known as the Republic of Formosa). However, lacking competent leaders and international support, the short-lived republic was destroyed by Japanese troops in October 1895. Thereafter, Taiwan remained under Japanese colonial rule for 50 years until 1945.

Modern China's Early Support of Taiwan Independence

Seeking to overthrow the Manchus’ alien rule over China, the Han Chinese revolutionaries officially established the Republic of China (ROC; 1912-1949) on Jan. 1, 1912, in the 14 seceding provinces in China Proper that had proclaimed independence in late 1911. That was followed by the end of the Manchu Qing Empire on Feb. 12, 1912, and the annexation of the former Qing Empire’s remaining territories by the ROC in March 1912.

Since Taiwan had already been legally ceded by the Qing to Japan in 1895, it was impossible for the newly-established ROC to claim and inherit territorial sovereignty over Taiwan as a successor to the Qing Empire.

Until 1942, the ROC government and the Chinese people had generally considered and recognized that Taiwan was a Japanese colony and outside of modern China's national territory. Both the Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) even initially supported Taiwan independence.

In 1926, a declaration from the KMT's Second National Party Congress commented on Taiwan's "national revolution," along with those in Korea, Vietnam and the Philippines, expressing the KMT's support for independence for the Taiwanese nationality.

In 1938, during a speech to the KMT's Provisional Party Congress, Chiang Kai-shek (蔣介石) said: "We must enable the brethren in Korea and Taiwan to restore their independence and freedom so as to solidify the national defense of the Republic of China, and to establish peace in East Asia."

In a 1936 interview with American journalist Edgar Snow, Mao Zedong (毛澤東) stated: "If the Koreans wish to break away from the chains of Japanese imperialism, we will extend them our enthusiastic help in their struggle for independence. The same thing applies to Formosa [Taiwan]."

In an essay published in 1941, then-Chinese premier Zhou Enlai (周恩來) restated a well-established CCP position and wrote that:

"We should sympathize with independence-liberation movements of other nation-states. We will ... assist the anti-Japanese movements of Korea or Taiwan."

Until the early 1940s, the ROC government and modern Chinese had never regarded and claimed Taiwan as "an integral part of China." Instead, before 1942, the KMT and the CCP elites were generally indifferent to Taiwan and categorized Taiwanese and Chinese as distinct nationalities. Whenever they did mention Taiwan, it was always coupled with Korea, and they encouraged the Taiwanese and the Koreans to seek their own independence from Japanese imperialism.

The 1945 "Retrocession of Taiwan" to China Was Illegal and Invalid

Sometime in 1942, the ROC government and Chinese elites suddenly reimagined and expanded their "mental map of China" and began to claim that Taiwan should be "returned to China." This was only because the defeat of Japan suddenly became possible after the US had declared war on Japan in December 1941.

The Cairo Declaration of 1943, and the Potsdam Proclamation of 1945 were merely "non-legally binding" wartime "statements of intention," which expressed or reaffirmed, in part, the major Allied Powers' "intention" that "Formosa [Taiwan], and the Pescadores [Penghu], be restored to the Republic of China" that, however, could not (and did not) make a cession of Taiwan from Japan to the ROC.

On Oct. 25, 1945, the ROC forces began to militarily occupy Taiwan at the direction of the "General Order No. 1," issued by the Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers, General Douglas MacArthur. However, right after Japanese forces in Taiwan surrendered, the ROC immediately and unilaterally proclaimed that Taiwan was "restored" and became a province of "China."

Nonetheless, the ROC should not and could not convert its military occupation of Taiwan into what it called the "Retrocession of Taiwan," which was a blatant violation of international law, because: (1) The law of belligerent occupation had long held that territorial sovereignty would not be transferred by military occupation; and (2) the ROC's unilateral and forcible annexation of Taiwan would violate the Declaration by the United Nations of 1942 (hereinafter, the UN Declaration) and the Charter of the United Nations of 1945 (hereinafter, the UN Charter), both of which incorporated the principles of "self-determination" and "no territorial aggrandizement by force" (or prohibition of aggression and conquest).

The ROC's military occupation of Taiwan did not constitute a transfer of sovereignty over Taiwan from Japan to China, and the so-called "Retrocession of Taiwan" to the ROC was illegal and should not be recognized by any other States and international organizations.

Under the ROC's military occupation, Taiwan remained *de jure* a Japanese territory, normally pending a peace treaty to finalize Taiwan's post-WWII status, which, according to the UN Declaration and the UN Charter, should accord with the freely expressed wish of Taiwanese.

Neither the San Francisco Peace Treaty, nor UNGA Resolution 2758 made or recognized Taiwan as a part of China

Following the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) on Oct. 1, 1949, the end of the ROC government in China on Dec. 8, 1949, and the establishment of the so-called "ROC" government in Taipei, Taiwan on Dec. 9, 1949, the status of Taiwan became a more complicated international political and legal issue.

The Treaty of Peace with Japan (also known as the San Francisco Peace Treaty, or the Treaty of San Francisco) was signed between 48 Allied Powers and Japan on Sept. 8, 1951, and entered into force on April 28, 1952. Neither the "ROC" on Taiwan nor the PRC was a party to this treaty.

Article 2(b) of the treaty simply stated that "Japan renounces all right, title and claim to Formosa and the Pescadores." The treaty intentionally did not transfer sovereignty over Taiwan to China, nor did it provide any other settlement for the status of Taiwan. The PRC, therefore, refused to recognize the Treaty of San Francisco, asserting that the treaty was illegal and invalid.

Subsequently, the position that Taiwan's legal status remained "undetermined" was commonly shared by many countries such as the US and the UK, and the international community, at least in the immediate years after 1952.

On Oct. 25, 1971, United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 2758 was passed to resolve the issue of "China's representation" in the UN. The resolution recognized the representatives of the PRC government as "the only lawful representatives of China" to the UN.



Photo by [Mathias Reding](#) on [Unsplash](#)

UNGA Resolution 2758, however, said nothing about Taiwan being “an integral part of China,” nor did it give the PRC government the right to represent the people of Taiwan. It did not address the issue of “Taiwan’s representation” in the UN system, and did not touch upon the question of Taiwan’s sovereignty. In fact, it did not even include the word “Taiwan.”

At that time, the PRC knew clearly that UNGA Resolution 2758 did not contain the wordings it wanted to claim Taiwan, and was worried that Taiwan’s status would be left undetermined in the UN. For example, just a few days before the passing of the resolution, on Oct. 21, 1971 in Beijing, then-PRC premier Zhou Enlai told then-assistant to the US President for National Security Affairs Dr. Henry Kissinger that: “In that [Albanian draft] resolution it is not possible to put in a clause concerning the status of Taiwan, and if it is passed, the status of Taiwan is not yet decided.”

Earlier, on Aug. 21, 1971, the PRC even issued a statement expressing its unwillingness to join the UN if “a situation of ‘two Chinas,’ ‘one China, one Taiwan,’ or ‘the status of Taiwan remaining to be determined,’ or any other similar situation occur in the UN.” However, given that the PRC was not as internationally influential as it is today, it did not reject the UN resolution when it passed. Instead, the PRC took over the UN seat from the ROC on Taiwan.

It was only some time later that the PRC began to distort the meaning of UNGA Resolution 2758, misrepresenting the resolution to promote its “one China principle” and its claim of sovereignty over Taiwan, and to suppress Taiwan’s international recognition and participation.

The Free World Should Counter China’s Fabricated Claim to Taiwan’s Sovereignty

History and international law clearly show that Taiwan has never been an integral part of China, and also that since its founding in 1949, the PRC has never acquired sovereignty over Taiwan by any treaty or UN resolution, nor has it ever ruled Taiwan for a single day.

Despite the CCP not regarding Taiwan as a part of China’s national territory until 1942, and even supporting Taiwan independence, and despite the PRC in 1971 worrying that UNGA Resolution 2758 would leave Taiwan’s status undetermined in the UN, the PRC went on to fabricate its historical and sovereignty claims over Taiwan regardless. Those claims are simply lies.

Unfortunately, along with its growing economic power and global influence, the PRC has highly succeeded in altering and manipulating the language used by other countries, international organizations (such as the UN), and private companies and individuals (such as Elon Musk) when referring to Taiwan's status. Now, many of them, including internal UN references, no longer refer to Taiwan as just "Taiwan," but rather "Taiwan, Province of China" or "Taiwan, China."

To counter the PRC's efforts to "internationalize" and "institutionalize" its "one China principle" and its fabricated claims over Taiwan, the free world should make it very clear that Taiwan is not a part of China, and support Taiwan's right to self-determination and participation in international organizations.

This past July, the US House of Representatives unanimously passed the Taiwan International Solidarity Act, which aims to counter China's claims over Taiwan and its efforts to exclude Taiwan from participating in international organizations. The bill, in part, clarifies that UNGA Resolution 2758 did not address the issues of Taiwan's international representation and territorial sovereignty. Hopefully, this bill might soon pass the US Senate and become law.

One month later, the UK House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee issued a new report in which it expressed its firm support for Taiwanese's right to self-determination, and stated that "Taiwan is already an independent country."

"Taiwan possesses all the qualifications of statehood, including a permanent population, a defined territory, government, and the capacity to enter into relations with other states — it is only lacking greater international recognition," the report said.

Since China has accelerated its military buildup and disinformation campaigns in preparation for a conquest of Taiwan, it is now more important and urgent than ever for the US and its allies to stand up to the PRC's coercive diplomacy and reject Beijing's complete lies about Taiwan's history and status.

Without a doubt, the most direct and effective way to challenge the PRC's "one China principle" and counter its fabricated claim over Taiwan's sovereignty is to officially recognize and establish diplomatic relations with democratic Taiwan, and support Taiwan's full membership in the UN and all other international organizations.

The US, as the leading democratic country, should have the courage and determination to lead the free world to diplomatically recognize Taiwan as an independent, sovereign country. It is not only the right thing to do. It is long overdue.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

CA-LA

President Tony Lee 李群賢

2023/11/09

The FAPA CA-LA Los Angeles Chapter held a symposium with the FBI, during which the FBI introduced that the FBI's most important work is to protect the safety of American citizens. They hope to recruit young generations to join the FBI. Today, with global internationalization, the form of crime is more transnational, so Asian young people with bilingual or multilingual abilities are more welcome to join the FBI.

This symposium attracted more than 20 young Taiwanese Americans to attend. Some of these young people who participated are members of FAPA. After the meeting, three or four Taiwanese young people also joined FAPA. They also hoped that FAPA could hold such kind of symposiums with federal or local government agencies in the United States. Young people can know more about the operations of federal and local governments in the United States.



NOVEMBER 19 SUNDAY

JOB OPPORTUNITIES THAT BENEFIT YOUR COMMUNITY

FBI JOBS

LANGUAGE CAREERS & MORE

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) aims to protect and serve your community with the best people possible, so your proficient language abilities and other valuable skills may be what the bureau needs to help our diverse communities safer and better. *Help the FBI help you.*

TAIWAN CENTER
3001 WEALNUT GROVE AVE, ROSEMEAD CA 91770

10:30AM (check-in)
11AM-12:30PM (event)

Speakers:
FBI West Covina Office (Eastern LA County)
Dalida, Foreign Language Program manager
Jerry, Linguist
Kevin, Special Agent
Austin, Special Agent

Questions? Contact -
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DC

President Kevin Huang 黃凱峰

2023/10/29

Annual Meeting

In the meeting, we discussed:

- (1) Board of Directors Election;
- (2) Chapter President Election; and
- (3) FAPA HQ Report.

Election Results:

- Two Regional Boards: Gerrit van der Wees & Richard Wu
- Chapter President: Kevin Huang

2023/12/08 ~ 2023/12/10

FAPA Annual Board Meeting

Minze Chien, Gerrit van der Wees, Richard Wu, and Kevin Huang participated in the 2023 FAPA Board Meeting. The DC chapter also participated and voted in the 2024-2025 President Election.



(From Left to Right) Kevin Huang, FAPA DC Chapter President, Su-mei Kao, FAPA National President, and Richard Wu, FAPA DC Regional Board member at the 2023 FAPA Board Meeting



Gerrit van der Wees,
FAPA DC Chapter
Regional Board member



FAPA DC Chapter members
participated in the 2023 Board
Meeting on December 9, 2023

FL-S

President Ming-Lon Young, MD, MPH, FAAP, FACC, FHRS, CCDS 楊明倫

FAPA 造訪美國國會議員辦公室 FAPA Congress Visits Advocacy for Taiwan FAPA 南佛州分會會長楊明倫林素芬夫婦及FAPA前會長高龍榮、新當選會長林素梅、副會長鍾佳君 (Massachusetts Chapter)、Associate Policy Director陳虹宇Harper一行六人，於12/11/23 早上，前往國會山莊拜見佛州國會參眾議員，討論他們在近期國會能為台灣做什麼。

Florida Senator Rick Scott

與Paul Bonicelli (National Security Advisor), Sarah Salas (legislative aide), Matthew Harmon (military legislative assistant) 等四人會面。Since being elected to the U.S. Senate, Senator Scott has introduced dozens of bills to punish Communist China for its increased military aggression, continued cyberattacks on both private companies and U.S. government agencies, unfair trade practices, and stealing of data and intellectual property from American citizens and businesses. Senator Scott visited Taiwan and met President Tsai based on 7/8/22.

Paul Bonicelli 非常了解台灣現況，也很高興召來三位助理與我們對話。(還好我們來六人)。我本來要先以佛州選民身份發言，但他搶先把台灣現狀向我們說明，並問我們對1/13/24大選的預測，還擔心綠營當選總統、國會不過半的朝小野大問題。We asked him to push Senator Scott to co-sponsor S.1513 (將TECRO 改名為TRO Taiwan Representative Office)，以及S.3110 (AIT 主任須由參議院同意)。他很驚訝台灣公民無法進入聯合國參訪。會讓Senator Scott 知道敦促美國駐聯合國大使解決。我有一封信給美國聯合國大使，會送給議員讓他們打電話給大使。The senator thinks the U.S. needs a different kind of relationship with the U.N.。The U.N. consistently mistreats Taiwan and Israel. He supports more sister cities and school connections between the U.S. and Taiwan. We talked about NDAA and the Taiwan Fellowship Act. 他很支持加強台灣防衛力量，支持台灣與環太平洋國家聯合軍演，此議題已被放入2024 NDAA (National Defense Authorization Act)，但尚未通過。He is concerned that even extends Taiwan compulsory military service from the ridiculous 4 months to 1 year is still too short. He urges Taiwan to further extend it to at least 2 years. In 2025, he wants to revisit Taiwan. Paul 說明Senator Scott 不參加任何caucus。Paul asks that we share any news that demonstrates Taiwan's resolve for self-defense with him。

Senator Marco Rubio

與Alex Moree (Legislative Aid) 一人會面。我們很謝謝過去Senator Marco Rubio對台灣的支持。Alex直接問我們有何指教，並未與我們多做寒暄。對於Senator Marco Rubio 在參議院提出的兩項法案S.1513 (將TECRO 改名為TRO Taiwan Representative Office)，以及S.3110 (AIT 主任須由參議院同意)，因為兩項法案都由共和黨參議員提出，他希望我們先努力找到民主黨參議員sponsor，讓法案變成bipartisan bills，否則相當困難通過參議院。Arms need more prompt delivery (\$18 billion arms delay)。Alex 不知道台灣公民無法進入聯合國參訪，我們也會送相關的信給他請他打電話給美國駐聯合國大使。He recommended that we talk to committee members: Sen. Coons, Sen. Graham, Sen. Collins, Sen. Murray。Alex 說明Senator Marco Rubio 不參加任何國會Caucus (No Caucus policy)。

Congresswoman Maria Elvira Salazar

與Howard Senior (Scheduler) 及Joshua Gonzalez (Press Secretary) 兩人對話，兩位助理都不很了解，但希望多認識台灣。他們在會中提問了許多問題，包括台灣歷史, KMT, self-determination, indigenous people的問題。我們應該提供他們書面和網路上有關台灣的資訊，希望Maria將來支持台灣成為新的Ileana。Rep. María Elvira Salazar (R-Fla) 是楊明倫會長的選區議員，去年擊敗Democrat新任眾議員，取代過去台灣的好朋友Ileana Ros-Lehtinen（已於2019退休）。She is a supporter of freedom and democracy and stands with the Taiwanese community。她是Western Hemisphere Subcommittee Chairwoman專注中南美問題。去年Central American Parliament (PARLACEN) voted to expel Taiwan's parliament and admit China's parliament as a permanent observer of the organization。她曾說 If China goes into Taiwan, then the U.S. should disrupt Chinese operations in Cuba。6/21/23 她說 China and Cuba are negotiating building a training facility on the island: "The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is using Cuba to spy on the United States and actively train the People's Liberation Army just 90 miles away from our shores. This development cannot be ignored and must be immediately addressed by the Biden Administration," said Salazar and Kim。 "The Biden Administration ordered a delay in 'competitive actions' against the People's Republic of China to resume dialogue with the CCP。Appeasement and ceding leverage to adversaries does nothing to protect our national security or project U.S. global strength。The CCP is clear-eyed on its goal to surpass the United States as the world's top economic and military superpower...."。我們希望她加入Congressional Taiwan Caucus (目前已有超過160位眾議員加入)。以上的國會山莊訪問會由Harper 及FAPA 幾星期後會做follow-up visits。

感想：美國人的支持與否可以決定台灣的民主前途，國際地位。台美人只有繼續透過FAPA持續努力下去，才能抵抗中共侵略併吞，困難還要做，在此鼓勵大家做伙打併，這能有多困難呢！

NY-Hudson

President Chi-Lin (Mike) O'Young 歐陽吉林

2023/12/03

Rep. Mike Lawler (R, NY 17) Fundraising with Special Guest Speaker Johnson

A group of local Taiwanese Americans jointly supported Rep. Lawler's campaign with an opportunity to meet the newly elected Speaker in Bronxville, NY. A cover letter with a list of petitions, including TECRO name change to TRO, AIT Director confirmation by Senate, and U.S.-Taiwan Free Trade Agreement, was handed to the Speaker. During the photo section, a painting gift donated by Taiwanese artist 黃建和教授 was presented to the Speaker to express our gratitude (photo).



2023/12/08 ~ 2023/12/10

FAPA Annual Board Meeting

Chapter President O'Young attended the annual meeting in Washington, D.C. Some of the Board Members attended it in person, and a few joined it online or with proxies. The agenda included the HQ Reports, Financial Report, National President Election, SCM Election, Budget, By-Laws Amendments, and Award Ceremony. Su-Mei Kao and Chia-Chun Chung were elected as the new President and Vice President for two years, 2024-2025. The Hudson Chapter was honored to be awarded the 2023 Outstanding Chapter for Congressional Advocacy Achievement with a plaque. The Chapter has been awarded consecutively for the past few years. All the honors belong to the chapter members.

2024/01/13

Taiwan General Election

A group of Chapter Members has flown back to Taiwan to vote and campaign for the general election. The election drew tremendous global attention because of the growing tensions in the Taiwan Strait. Lai Ching-te/Bi-Khim Hsiao of DPP won an unprecedented third-straight presidential term. But it lost its majority in the legislature; no party secured a majority in the legislature. The election outcome has received congratulations and praise from worldwide leaders disregarding the PRC's rebuke.

TX-C

President Pearl Wu 楊碧珠

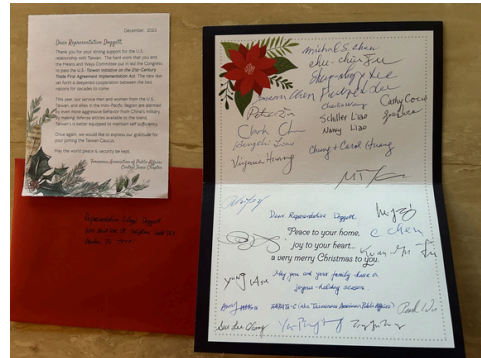
2023/12/16

Annual Meeting

參加年會的人簽名給 Senator Cornyn、Senator Cruz、Rep. McCaul、Rep. Carter 和 Rep. Doggett 的結日卡片；副會長 Angela 將要寫給議員們的內容，印成很美的紙條，用來夾在卡片內。感謝財務淑德由 2018 年 TX-C reactivate 以來，熱心的財務服務，現在她退休。歡迎林怡秀 (Tina) 是我們的新財務。



簽名給國會議員的卡片



聖誕卡片



FAPA TX-C 2023/12/16 年會

2024/01/12

中午我們在台北圓山飯店聚餐，晚上參加凱道的造勢活動

全球關注台灣這次重要的總統大選。我們 TX-C 有 20 幾位回台灣。住在台北附近的人 1/12 中午在台北圓山飯店聚餐，晚上參加凱道的造勢活動。副會長 Angela 做的看牌更被送上大銀幕！



1/12 中午在台北圓山飯店聚餐



Angela 做的看牌被送上造勢的大銀幕

2024/01/15

在台南特地採訪台灣無人機國家隊「經緯航太科技公司」(GEOSAT Aerospace and Technology Inc) 羅正芳執行長

羅正芳博士是1998年拿了UT-Austin 航太工程博士。他回台灣後創辦了「經緯航太科技公司」(GEOSAT Aerospace and Technology Inc)。「經緯航太科技公司」現在是台灣無人機國家隊，對台灣的國防有著相當的貢獻。

2022年 8月蔡英文總統親自在嘉義主持無人機創新中心的開幕, 並宣布成立台灣國家無人機工業協會 (Taiwan National Drone Industry Association), 羅博士被選為主席。1月5日, 在「經緯航太科技公司」台南的辦公室, 我以 FAPA TX-C 會長身分特地採訪羅正芳執行長(CEO). 分別以國語, 英語錄了兩個 mini video。

英語部分是準備給美國國會議員看, 讓他們知道台灣無人機的防衛、製造能力。也希望能替「經緯航太科技公司」爭取到美國的量產, 對台灣的經濟、國防更上一層。



在「經緯航太科技公司」台南的辦公室, Pearl Wu採訪羅正芳執行長

WA

President Ying-Po Liao 廖英博 (香菇)

FAPA WA President and Vice President Election

FAPA WA convened its annual meeting on Oct 28, 2023, in Seattle, with attendees including the Director of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Seattle, Kou-Ching Chen, and the Director of the Culture Center of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Seattle, Hsiao-Chu Wu. Former President Cheng-Min Lin appealed to young members to courageously step forward, shoulder responsibilities, and continue the mission. Following a spirited discussion, the election for President and Vice President was successfully conducted, resulting in the selection of the new President, 香菇, and Vice President, Albert Chen.

香菇 expressed gratitude for the support of all members and outlined future work plans. These plans include organizing delegations to Washington, D.C., for congressional lobbying, seeking support from local political figures, fostering cooperation with other chapters, and enhancing the internal capabilities within the association. The ultimate goal is to advance FAPA's objectives and missions through multi-dimensional and comprehensive development and integration.



**National Advocacy Conference
Sharing Session**

FAPA WA hosted the 『我要參與美國政治!』系列活動: 民主鬥陣來~議員聽我講! Event on November 18, 2023. During this event, members of the FAPA Washington Chapter (Judy/Albert) and members of US Taiwan Watch (Wendy/Jenny/Henry/芃瑄) shared their insights and accomplishments from their advocacy efforts at NAC 2023. Moreover, the WA chapter welcomed 9 new members (5 RC + 4 R, totaling 14 members) during the event. This influx of new members comes after a prolonged period of stagnation, bringing fresh energy and enthusiasm to the organization.



2023 FAPA Board Meeting

FAPA WA President, 香菇, attended the BOD Meeting in Washington, D.C., in Dec 2023.



HQ ACTIVITIES

FAPA CAFÉ

Commemorating the February 28 Massacre

In an event jointly hosted by the FAPA DC Chapter, HQ held a “FAPA Café” event to commemorate the 228 Massacre.

On February 27th, HQ invited Dr. Kuang-Far Lin to share his observations of the 228 Massacre and discuss how the next generation should remember this history so that 228 is no longer “just a political tool” but an impetus for Taiwan’s further democratic development.

The event consisted of a talk by Dr. Lin, following by a memorial ceremony that encouraged participants to reflect on the meaning of 228.

Kuang-far Lin is a FAPA DC member and co-founder of the Global Taiwan Institute (GTI). Born in 1948 in Xiluo Township, Yunlin County, he grew up in Pingtung City. After years of frequent commuting between Taiwan and the United States, he now resides in the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. area.



Event banner by Vanessa Chen, HQ staff
Photos by Harper Chen, HQ staff

FAPA NEW FACES



Chiao-Yun Anny Hsiao
Executive Director

Born in Taiwan and raised in Oregon, Chiao-Yun Anny Hsiao is the Executive Director of the Formosan Association for Public Affairs. She has been active with the organization for over a decade, from being a chapter president to becoming the first female National Vice President of FAPA. She brings over fourteen years of experience working in the nonprofit and public sectors, focusing on policy-making, advocacy, leadership development, and grassroots organizing. As a lifelong activist, she is passionate about defending human rights, democracy, and social justice through systems change.

Prior to her position at FAPA, Anny was appointed by Oregon Governor Kate Brown to be the Governor's Economic and Business Equity Policy Advisor. Anny was instrumental in developing key statewide policies and the passage of new legislation, such as a \$3.8 million funding package for the first statewide disparity study. In her portfolio, she addressed systemic issues relating to contracting equity within Oregon's biennial \$8 billion procurement spending budget to provide more economic opportunities for Oregon's small business community.

Anny also has substantial experience in Taiwanese American community building. From 2013 to 2022, she was involved in the Taiwanese Association of Greater Portland, during which she was a Board member between 2013 and 2016 and President of the Board between 2014 and 2016. Further, between 2017 and 2018, she was Secretary General of the Taiwanese American Association of U.S.A.

Anny received a Public Service Scholarship and holds a Master of International Public Policy (MIPP) from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, hiking, and being in the great outdoors.

New FAPA HQ Initiative!

FAPA SUSTAINING SUPPORTER DRIVE

APRIL 25, 2024 - AUGUST 31, 2024

To support FAPA's operations in carrying out its missions, we are launching a Sustaining Supporter Drive! The purpose of the drive is to recruit FAPA members and supporters who will make a pledge via the newly launched FAPA-50, FAPA-100, or FAPA-200.

For more information, please check the back cover of this FAPA News, or scan the QR code:



FAPA NEW FACES



Yung-Hsin Vanessa Chen
*Communications & Event
Planning Specialist*

Vanessa Chen is a Taiwanese curator/artist currently based in Washington, D.C. She holds a BA in Italian and an MFA in Social Practice from the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design at the George Washington University.

With a background in languages and interest in linguistics, Vanessa uses sociolinguistic concepts to create exhibitions about ordinary people's life experiences that are subtle and often obscured or not told. Some of her past curatorial work includes *What Is Your Name?* which looks at how a name shapes a person's identity, *Silently, I am still here*, which explores how silence acts as a form of presence, and *Until The Sun Rises*, which is also her thesis research that probes Taiwan's colonial history and its complicated status quo. As a multimedia artist, she is passionate about making interventions in public spaces. By creating public installations, Vanessa aims to foster discussions and create spaces for community engagement.

Outside of the art world, Vanessa is a human rights advocate and a multilingual translator for refugees, asylum seekers, victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse, and many more who are experiencing crises.

"Let the unheard be heard; let the unseen be seen" is the core of her life practice.

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CELEBRATING 45 YEARS *of the* *Taiwan Relations Act*

“April 10, 2024, marks the 45th anniversary of the enactment of the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act (TRA). Together with President Ronald Reagan’s 1982 Six Assurances, the TRA is the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwan relations. If it were not for the TRA, Taiwan would not be the free, sovereign, and independent country that it is today,” says FAPA Executive Director Chiao-Yun Hsiao.

Enacted on April 10, 1979, the TRA (Public Law 96-8, H.R. 2479, 93 Stat. 14) is an Act of the United States Congress, signed by the President. Since its enactment, the Act has defined the official and substantial relations between the U.S. and Taiwan.

This year, on April 10, FAPA is running a full-page ad in the Washington Times newspaper headlined, “The TRA has been the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwan relations for 45 years, keeping Taiwan sovereign and independent amid China’s growing aggression and threats.”

The ad then juxtaposes how, since the 1979 enactment of the TRA, the U.S. has been crucial in keeping Taiwan free, such as rejecting China’s baseless claims over Taiwan, supporting a peaceful resolution of cross-Strait relations, opposing unilateral changes to the status quo in the Taiwan Strait, helping maintain Taiwan’s diplomatic allies, supporting Taiwan’s inclusion in international organizations, and providing Taiwan with weapons for its self-defense.

On the other hand, the People’s Republic of China (PRC) does whatever lies in its capacity to isolate Taiwan internationally, threatens to annex Taiwan, falsely claims Taiwan as its territory, poaches Taiwan’s diplomatic allies, and is preparing its military to be ready to invade Taiwan by 2027.

The ad then calls upon Congress to take three important actions for the near future: (1) rename the unofficial Taiwan “Embassy” in Washington, D.C., the “Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office” to “Taiwan Representative Office”; (2) conclude a U.S.-Taiwan bilateral trade agreement; and (3) move toward establishing U.S.-Taiwan diplomatic relations.

FAPA President Su-Mei Kao, Ph.D., adds: “In our ad, we are pointing out how critical the U.S. is for Taiwan and how China’s aggressive bullying flies in the face of the interests of the 24 million people of Taiwan. The choice is clear: If you love Taiwan, you appreciate the United States.”

Dr. Kao concludes: “All 535 House and Senate offices receive a complimentary copy of the Washington Times and so do the State Department, the Pentagon and other government agencies. So, this ad will reach the exact decision makers that we want to reach.”

On April 10, FAPA published a full-page ad in the *Washington Times* to commemorate 45 years of the TRA. We thank the United States and its partners for their unwavering support for Taiwan’s freedom and democracy.



45TH ANNIVERSARY THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

The Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) has been the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwan relations for 45 years, keeping Taiwan sovereign and independent amid China’s growing aggression and threats.

SINCE THE TRA’S PASSAGE IN 1979...



USA

Signed into law the “**Taiwan Travel Act**,” lifting all restrictions on high-level visits to and from Taiwan

Firmly **rejects China’s baseless claim** of sovereignty over Taiwan, and **treats Taiwan as a sovereign country** and its governing authorities as a government

Supports a peaceful resolution of cross-Straits differences, consistent with the wishes and best interests of the people of Taiwan

Opposes unilateral changes to the status quo in the Taiwan Strait by force or coercion

Helps **maintain Taiwan’s diplomatic allies**

Supports Taiwan’s inclusion in international organizations such as the UN, the WHO, and the ICAO

Provides Taiwan with the arms necessary for its **self-defense**



PRC

Opposes all official visits between Taiwan and the United States

Falsely **claims Taiwan** as part of its territory, and despite **never ruling Taiwan**, treats Taiwan as a “renegade province” and its government as a “rebel group”

Threatens to annex Taiwan by force, violating the Taiwanese people’s right of self-determination

Takes **aggressive actions to unilaterally change the status quo** in the Taiwan Strait

Poaches Taiwan’s diplomatic allies through financial incentives

Blocks Taiwan from joining international organizations, even the WHO during a pandemic

Ordered China’s military to be **ready to invade Taiwan by 2027**

CONGRESS ACT NOW!

1. RENAME Taiwan’s office in Washington from “TECRO” to “Taiwan Representative Office” by passing H.R.3171 in the House & S.1513 in the Senate
2. CONCLUDE a U.S.-Taiwan bilateral trade agreement
3. MOVE TOWARD U.S.-Taiwan diplomatic relations

In March 2024, FAPA HQ initiated a campaign to urge House Representatives to pass H.R. 7521, a bipartisan bill that would ban TikTok unless the Chinese Communist Party-controlled Byte Dance sells the app. The bill was passed overwhelmingly in the House. FAPA members across the nation were instrumental in the success of this campaign. Below is a news article by Formosa TV (FTV) reporting on the campaign.

Original article: <https://www.ftvnews.com.tw/news/detail/2024313129M1>



快新聞／美眾院通過禁TIKTOK法案 FAPA會長：感謝捍衛美國利益並支持台灣

2024-03-14 06:13:44
即時中心／綜合報導

美國眾議院以352票贊成、65票反對的壓倒性票數，通過了跨黨派支持的法案，要求中國企業「字節跳動」在6個月內，從TikTok撤資，否則將在美國境內被禁止。對此，台灣人公共事務會（FAPA）會長林素梅博士表示，「我們台美人感謝美國眾議院堅定捍衛美國利益，並同時大力支持台灣」

美國眾議院3月13日以352票贊成、65票反對的壓倒性票數通過了跨黨派支持的《保護美國人免受外國敵對勢力控制之應用程式侵害法案》（Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act）（H.R. 7521）。該法案一旦正式生效，TikTok將在美國被禁用，除非其中國母公司「字節跳動」（ByteDance）將TikTok應用程式出售。

台裔美國人以身為美國人為榮，非常關心TikTok所形成的美中之間國家安全議題；它不僅對美國利益構成普遍威脅，也對美國網路安全造成高度危害。他們認為有必要制定一項政策，一方面來平衡資訊分享的能力，並同時須防範敵對勢力（例如中國）藉機對美國進行有害行動。

台灣人公共事務會（FAPA）會長林素梅博士於聲明中表示，「作為台美人，我們深切關心我們的出生國，並持續關切中國對台灣不斷升高的侵略行為。我們非常擔心，TikTok有朝一日將成為中國侵略吞併台灣時的有力工具」。

美國聯邦調查局（FBI）局長瑞伊（Christopher Wray）在去年的參議院聽證會上坦言，TikTok確實給予北京相當廣泛的控制能力，且能在中國侵台時成為極具影響力的利器。隨著拜登政府對H.R. 7521法案的支持，台美人期盼該法案亦能迅速在聯邦參議院通過，並正式成為美國法律。

FAPA會長林素梅博士更說道，「我們台美人感謝美國眾議院堅定捍衛美國利益，並同時大力支持台灣」。自3月5日該法案在美國眾院提出以來，全美的FAPA會員無不積極聯繫其聯邦眾議員，在敦促他們投票通過該法案上，發揮了極為關鍵的作用。

3月8日，FAPA林會長逐一函眾議院能源暨商業委員會的50名成員，感謝他們在3月7日一致投票通過該法案。3月11日，林會長致函該法案的提案人 — 聯邦眾議員蓋拉格（Mike Gallagher, R-WI）以及聯邦眾議員克利胥納莫提（Raja Krishnamoorthi, D-IL），感謝他們在推動此法案中所扮演的重要領導角色。

3月11日，FAPA發起了一項請願活動，全力動員其全美會員與支持者，力促眾議員們在兩日後的表決時，能投票支持H.R. 7521法案。3月12日，林會長致函所有聯邦眾議員，敦促他們能投票通過該法案。3月14日，FAPA也在其臉書專頁上發布了由台美人組織及友好團體的一封聯名信，感謝並讚揚美國眾議院於3月13日壓倒性通過H.R. 7521的歷史性投票。

COEN BLAAUW

From the Blacklist to a Brilliant Star

By Bob Yang & Mark Kao

As longtime “friends of Coen,” we can genuinely say that Coen Blaauw needs no introduction. Some years ago, when he spoke at a seminar, the MC introduced him as “The Heart of FAPA.” He has been with FAPA for so long that some Taiwanese Americans believed his first name was “FAPA,” as in “FAPA Blaauw.”

It should also be known by now that, after spending the past 35 years of his life at FAPA’s headquarters, Coen, who turned 65 this past November, is retiring on May 1, 2024.

We are sad to see him leave, but the good news is that once he retires, he will immediately start writing a book about his three and a half decades fighting for Taiwan with us at FAPA, about what an amazing organization FAPA is, and how FAPA continues to create magic for Taiwan despite its limited resources and staff.

We would like to highlight some of his accomplishments and contributions to Taiwan’s democracy, human rights, and independence over the years.

Coen joined FAPA in August 1989. He came to D.C. with his then-girlfriend, who soon wanted them to return to Holland together, “You need to choose between me and Taiwan,” she said.

But Coen chose Taiwan.



Coen's first few years at FAPA were tough. Just four months into his job as FAPA's only staffer, he was put on the KMT blacklist. He also had to endure difficult working conditions — at the time, FAPA had minimal funds and occasionally did not have enough money to pay for gas to heat its office building.

A high-level visitor from Taiwan once visited FAPA's office and asked why it was so cold. The truth was that the office had set the thermostat at 60 degrees, and Coen was wearing a thick sweater to save money on the energy bill. Fortunately, when Vice President Hsiao Bi-khim interned at FAPA in 1991, it was during the summer, so she was spared that freezing ordeal.

Coen now describes those early years fighting for Taiwan's independence as a "lonely battle," a situation much different from today, where Taiwan enjoys much support in Washington. At the time, the Chinese would attack and obstruct Taiwan and FAPA on Capitol Hill every which way they could, but so would the KMT-run embassy in Washington, D.C.

You might have heard one of his many stories about the humiliations he endured on Capitol Hill while fighting for Taiwan's human rights, democracy, and independence. It was difficult seeking slivers of congressional support for Taiwan.

Former AIT chairman Nat Bellocchi always said that one of FAPA's main strengths was its ability to write Taiwan-related legislation. Coen has been responsible for writing 90% of the dozens of bills that FAPA has introduced over the past decades, all of which aimed at promoting Taiwan's independence and making Taiwan a more normal country.



Coen with DPP chairman Huang Shin-Chieh and then FAPA President Kenjohn Wang in 1989



Coen with Ted Kennedy, a member of the "Gang of Four," a nickname for the four members of Congress who were the most supportive of Taiwan in the 1980s



Coen with Stephen and Nina Solarz in their home in McLean, Virginia, in 1991. Congressman Stephen Solarz was also a member of the "Gang of Four"



Coen Blaauw (first row) with a young Su Jia-chyuan who was visiting the old FAPA office in 1990



Coen with Al Gore



Coen's name is on a wall in the Jingmei National Human Rights Museum in Taipei, along with other names of foreigners and overseas Taiwanese who contributed to Taiwan's democratization.

The first bill Coen ever wrote was H.C.R. 210 in 1991 calling for full United Nations membership for Taiwan. It was introduced by then Michigan congressman Dennis Hertel, whose staff Coen had befriended early in his career.

Over the years, the introduction of these bills positioned FAPA as a prominent “Opinion Leader” on Capitol Hill.

FAPA was, for instance, the first to call for the abolition of restrictions on high-level visits to and from Taiwan, United Nations and WHO membership for Taiwan, a U.S.-Taiwan free trade agreement, a TECRO name change to Taiwan Representative Office, U.S.-Taiwan diplomatic relations, Senate confirmation of the A.I.T. Director, and other central issues to the Taiwan independence movement.

One of Coen's most important early accomplishments was pushing Congress in 1994 to pass legislation that would allow Taiwanese Americans to list “Taiwan” as their birthplace in their U.S. passports instead of “China.” During the annual Board meeting in December of that year, he received a standing ovation from the FAPA Board for this accomplishment. But he, as he often does, humbly brushed it off by saying, “That’s what I do. That’s my job.”

In 2000, then FAPA President Wen-yen Chen asked staff members if they had any good suggestions for new issues for FAPA to take up. Coen established Dutch American Heritage Day in 1991 with an act by Congress and suggested a “Taiwanese American Heritage Day” to clearly distinguish ourselves from the Chinese Americans. But Wen-yen replied, “Let’s do a whole week since we have so many Taiwanese Americans.”

With the introduction and passage of the resolution by the Taiwan-born Oregon congressman David Wu in 1999, President Clinton announced and issued a proclamation establishing the week after Mother's Day every year as "Taiwanese American Heritage Week."

"I have to fight for Taiwan because I care. And it is my dream to see full Taiwan independence become a reality during my lifetime. So, I do whatever I can to make that dream a reality."

Coen Blaauw

In 2004, Coen wrote the Taiwan Travel Act. It would take 14 years for both Houses of Congress to pass the bill and for the president to sign it into law in March 2018. Coen calls it the most important legislation since the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act. Even the Chinese seemed to agree. A Chinese government spokesperson wondered why floodgates had opened in U.S. support for Taiwan after the enactment of the Taiwan Travel Act. Clearly, the passage of the Taiwan Travel Act had not only lifted all restrictions on high-level visits but had opened the door for Taiwan to enjoy the best U.S.-Taiwan relations ever!

In 2016, Coen initiated and wrote legislation determining that the 1979 "Taiwan Relations Act" and President Reagan's 1982 "Six Assurances" are the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwan relations, not the vilified three U.S.-China Communiqués, which harbor the even more vilified "One China Policy." Both the House and the Senate unanimously passed legislation containing similar language.

Since then, the U.S. administration has officially proclaimed the Taiwan Relations Act and the "Six Assurances" as the cornerstone of U.S.-Taiwan relations. However, the communiqués still linger.

Coen believes it is time for the U.S. to ditch the three communiqués. The Taiwan government has already done so in its official communications.

There are many more of Coen's accomplishments and anecdotes to share, but you can read about them in his upcoming book.

We asked Coen why he has worked for Taiwan's independence for so many decades. He said:

"Nobel Peace Prize winner Betty Williams once said that if you care deeply about something but don't do anything about it, you are not much better than the person who does not care at all. I do not want to be like that. I have to fight for Taiwan because I care. And it is my dream to see full Taiwan independence become a reality during my lifetime. So, I do whatever I can to make that dream a reality."

On September 30, 2023, Coen received the Presidential "Order of the Brilliant Star" (景星勳章) from now Vice-President Bi-khim Hsiao to honor his outstanding contributions to the development of Taiwan's democracy. He said he was "honored, humbled, and happy" to receive the medal. He added that he shares the medal with all FAPA members because it was a recognition of everything FAPA and its members have done for Taiwan over the past forty years. He "could not have done it without all FAPA members."

Now that Coen is leaving FAPA, we must continue to fight for Taiwan's independence with a vengeance. Coen will be missed.



Coen and his wife, Iris, with Tsai Ing-Wen during her first visit to Capitol Hill



Coen and Barack Obama



Coen and DPP Legislator and former FAPA Emerging Leader, Wang Ting-Yu

In the early 1990s, Coen wrote an Op-Ed for the California-based Pacific Times in which he concluded that if Holland's government did what Taiwan's government and the China Communist Party were doing to Taiwan to the people of Holland, he would be so angry that he would not be able to sleep and would do whatever he could to right that wrong and undo such injustice.

So, he constantly urges fellow Taiwanese activists to be more outraged about the injustices faced by the Taiwanese people and encourages them to stand up for Taiwan. One must be proud of being Taiwanese, for there is no room for being "pháinn-sè" (shy in Taiwanese).

Coen says that his heart will always be with the Taiwan independence movement and that he will never waver from doing what is within his capacity to make Taiwan a more normal country. We, too, must continue the mission that he has carried for so long.

Thank you, Coen, for everything you have done for Taiwan and everyone at FAPA. A mentor to young staff, a guide to all Taiwan activists, and a cheerleader for Taiwan, you are truly a bright star in the world.

Long Live Taiwan Independence!





Thank you, Coen, for everything you have done for Taiwan and FAPA. Long live Taiwan independence. Hope you enjoy your retirement!



In 2021, Jenny Li, then a student at Columbia University, interviewed Coen about his thirty years of pro-Taiwan advocacy for New Bloom Magazine. To listen to the interview, please visit <https://newbloommag.net/2021/12/14/radio-new-bloom-19/> or scan the QR code:





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² In memory of Zui Tai Cheng, MD

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⁷ In memory of Mei R Chen

⁸ In memory of Mei R Chen

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TX-N	陳國成 潘秀蘭	500	DO-IND		
TX-N	陳欣集	250	DO-IND		
TX-N	陳莉莉	200	DO-IND		
TX-N	陳鳳求	100	DO-IND		
TX-N	魏康成 洪 朋	100	DO-IND		
TX-N	黃子偉 李美霞	100	DO-IND		
TX-S	Dong-Yu Yang	50	DO-IND		
TX-S	Roger S Chen	1000	DO-IND		
TX-S	Teresa & Stephen Family Foundation	7000	DO-IND		
TX-S	Toshi & Tsu-Fen Chang	100	DO-IND		
TX-S	余 信 許良美	200	DO-IND		
TX-S	余宏仁	100	DO-IND		
TX-S	余燦旺 王美瑛	200	DO-IND		
TX-S	卓秋澤 郭錦鳳	100	DO-IND		
TX-S	台塑德州廠	2000	DO-IND		
TX-S	吳振成 劉秀綾	500	DO-IND		
TX-S	吳玉敏	100	DO-IND		
TX-S	呂精次 何國琳	100	DO-IND		
TX-S	宋明琇	300	DO-IND		
TX-S	廖懋榮	100	DO-IND		
TX-S	廖正雄 王文綺	300	DO-IND		
TX-S	恆豐銀行	1000	DO-IND		
TX-S	戴照發 郭和珠	100	DO-IND		
TX-S	曾昆聯 吳美惠	1000	DO-IND		
TX-S	李健源 于方勻	350.32	DO-IND		
TX-S	李學明 王秀春	300	DO-IND		
TX-S	林以文 陳丹蓉	100	DO-IND		
TX-S	林其甫 李秀英	100	DO-IND		



Donations 捐款芳名錄

Thank you for your support!

TX-S	林正益 林秀娥	100	DO-IND
TX-S	林義洋 黃育芳	100	DO-IND
TX-S	林財瑟 王雪娟	100	DO-IND
TX-S	林重光 王淑香	400	DO-IND
TX-S	林金龍 鄭美惠	100	DO-IND
TX-S	柳再生 鄭麗華	250	DO-IND
TX-S	楊朝詔 駱麗敏	100	DO-IND
TX-S	潘冠洲 潘必芳	400	FAPA-100
TX-S	王凱平 曾淳嘉	2000	DO-IND
TX-S	王清穆 邱淑蓉	100	DO-IND
TX-S	王錦瑛	300	DO-IND
TX-S	王麗娟	400	DO-IND
TX-S	田聰勇 楊雪麗	100	DO-IND
TX-S	盧文雄 林和姬	100	DO-IND
TX-S	程佳永 葉智秋	100	DO-IND
TX-S	葉明霞	100	DO-IND
TX-S	葉錦如	200	DO-IND
TX-S	蔡炳庸 陳淑蘭	100	DO-IND
TX-S	藍森生 張淑珠	200	DO-IND
TX-S	蘇宏彥	200	DO-IND
TX-S	詹宏達 詹恩內	100	DO-IND
TX-S	詹德勝 林麗年	400	DO-IND
TX-S	詹松峰 曾月	100	DO-IND
TX-S	謝兩參 連淑琴	300	DO-IND
TX-S	賴洋洲	100	DO-IND
TX-S	趙偉宏 徐秋蓉	200	DO-IND
TX-S	邱繡鸞	150	DO-IND
TX-S	郭文政 蔡桂	600	DO-IND
TX-S	郭文星 張貴香	100	DO-IND
TX-S	郭正光 曾秀華	200	DO-IND
TX-S	鄭世謙 莊馥瑜	100	DO-IND
TX-S	鄭金蘭	1000	DO-IND
TX-S	陳欣南	100	DO-IND
TX-S	陳清亮 陳美芬	1000	DO-IND
TX-S	陳睦邦	200	DO-IND
TX-S	陳老摺 蘇萃華	100	DO-IND
TX-S	魏主成 林喜美	100	DO-IND
TX-S	黃家修 黃謝淑慧	300	DO-IND
TX-S	黃尚武 孫千惠	500	DO-IND
TX-S	黃榮富 林美玲	100	DO-IND
TX-S	黃瑤明 許月芳	500	DO-IND
TX-S	黃金堂 潘玉鎗	100	DO-IND
TX-S	黃鈺婷	515.09	DO-IND
UT	王進賢 黃麗蓉	350	DO-IND
VA	李昭德 黃愛蘭	100	DO-IND
VA	魏綸言 周芙蓉	500	DO-IND

WA	Show S. Weng	100	DO-IND
WA	廖晁偉	500	DO-IND
WA	廖英博 林奕宏	2400	FAPA-100
WA	江滋松 陳麗香	200	DO-IND
WA	溫碧謙 蔡明珠	100	DO-IND
WA	王國照	100	DO-IND
WA	莊邑平 蔡青珊	1000	DO-IND
WA	蘇元安 林明珠	250	DO-IND
WA	詹前祐	200	DO-IND
WA	邱俊雄	100	DO-IND
WA	邵惠音	200	DO-IND
WA	陳以安 柯涵容	100	DO-IND
WA	陳時奮	500	DO-IND
WA	陳翔容 盧彥廷	100	DO-IND
WA	陳龍夫 陳雪鷺	100	DO-IND
WA	黃美玲	100	DO-IND
WA	黃邦雄 林美代	250	DO-IND
WI	Donald Hierl	100	DO-IND
WI	周東輝 林蕙英	500	DO-IND
WI	張其山 游登美	700	DO-IND
WI	曹沛瑜	100	DO-IND
WI	洪輝舜 方幼人	100	DO-IND
WI	洪麗娜	500	DO-IND
WI	王宇莉 鍾佳諺	100	DO-IND
WI	鄭麗伶 小林博仁	200	DO-IND

Note:

*1-*6, *12-*13: In memory of Zui Tai Cheng, MD

*7-*9: In memory of Mei R Chen

*10: In memory of Mayyun Chyi

*15: In memory of Strong C Chuang

*11, *14 In support of FAPA Emerging Leaders Workshop

FAPA LAUNCHES TAIWAN “INDEPENDENCE” PHOTO CONTEST!



With Taiwan being the sovereign, independent country it is today, the time has come for us to celebrate this proud, historic achievement and status! We are looking for your photo with the word “Independence” appearing in it – a photo that represents and celebrates Taiwan’s current status, including an explanation/caption for the photo.

Age: All ages are welcome (young people are especially encouraged!)

Deadline: June 10, 2024

Requirements:

- The submitted photo should be in JPG format.
- Submissions must include your name, contact information, the time and place the photo was taken, and an explanation/caption for the photo.
- Photos should be original. AI-produced images are NOT allowed.
- Each participant may submit one photo.

Please submit your photo to home@fapa.org. We will announce the winners on July 4, Independence Day, at the Taiwanese American East Coast conference (TACEC-TANG) at West Chester University in Pennsylvania. The winner will receive a cash prize of **\$500**, the **runner-up \$250**, and **third place \$100**.

We hope to see your submission! Good luck!



Membership Application

Applicant Hanji Name _____ English Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Tel. (home) _____ (cell) _____
 Email _____
 Signature _____

Spouse Hanji Name _____ English Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Tel. (home) _____ (cell) _____
 Email _____
 Signature _____

Chapter _____ Referred by (1) _____ (2) _____

Membership Plans

Please make the check out to "FAPA" and specify the type of membership. **Mailing address: FAPA HQ, 552 7th St. SE, Washington, DC 20003.** All applications are subject to final approval by the FAPA Executive Director.

Annual Membership

**Membership dues are not tax-deductible.*

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| (a) Regular Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Couple \$70 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$50 |
| (b) Student Membership (undergrad or below) | <input type="checkbox"/> Couple \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$25 |

Sustaining Membership: FAPA-50, FAPA-100, or FAPA-200

**All below options are tax-deductible. Members receives a complimentary permanent membership upon completion of the total pledged amount.*

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| (a) FAPA-50 (individual only) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1200 or | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 / month in 24 installments |
| (b) FAPA-100 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$2400 or | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 / month in 24 installments |
| (c) FAPA-200 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$4800 or | <input type="checkbox"/> \$200 / month in 24 installments |



FAPA SUSTAINING SUPPORTER DRIVE



Scan this QR code to access the donation page or visit fapa.org/donation_programs/

APRIL 25, 2024 - AUGUST 31, 2024

Become a FAPA Sustaining Supporter today with a monthly contribution via our recurring donation program!

To support FAPA's operations in carrying out its missions, we are launching a Sustaining Supporter Drive! The purpose of the drive is to recruit FAPA members and supporters who will make a pledge via the newly launched FAPA-50 (new initiative starting 2024!), FAPA-100, or FAPA-200.

Program	Contribution
FAPA-50*	\$50/month for 24 months
FAPA-100	\$100/month for 24 months
FAPA-200	\$200/month for 24 months

*Note: Enrollment into FAPA-50 is exclusively for individuals and not available for those who wish to contribute as a couple.

The campaign aims to recruit at least 25 donors who pledge to commit to FAPA-50, 100, or 200. Any donation level is welcome. Supporters and their chapters will be publicly recognized on FAPA's social media (supporters may remain anonymous if they wish).



GET A LIMITED EDITION JACKET!



sustain... sustain...
sustain... sustain...

HOW TO GET A FAPA JACKET

When you join as a sustaining supporter with a monthly contribution during the drive period, you will receive a *limited edition FAPA bomber jacket* as a thank you gift. Sizes are subject to availability.

Steps to receive a jacket

1. Scan the QR code above or visit fapa.org/donation_programs/
2. Enroll in a recurring donation program (FAPA-50, FAPA-100, or FAPA-200) by clicking on "donate" to become a sustaining supporter!
3. Remember to check the box next to "Make this a monthly donation."
4. Click "Donate with PayPal."
5. Email us at home@fapa.org with a screenshot of the donation confirmation page with the subject line: I'm a FAPA sustaining supporter now!

Eligibility

You will be eligible for a jacket after completing the aforementioned steps during the drive period between April 25, 2024 and August 31, 2024.

Collection & Shipping

Jackets will be distributed at the National Advocacy Conference in September 2024 or shipped to eligible Sustaining Supporters upon request.

Please contact us if you have any questions regarding the Sustaining Supporter program or Sustaining Supporter Drive.

From:
FAPA
552 7th Street, S.E.
Washington, DC 20003
United States of America

First-Class Mail
U.S. Postage Paid
Washington, DC
Permit No. 354

To:



**Become a Sustaining Supporter
today and receive a limited
edition jacket!**

More information inside back cover



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