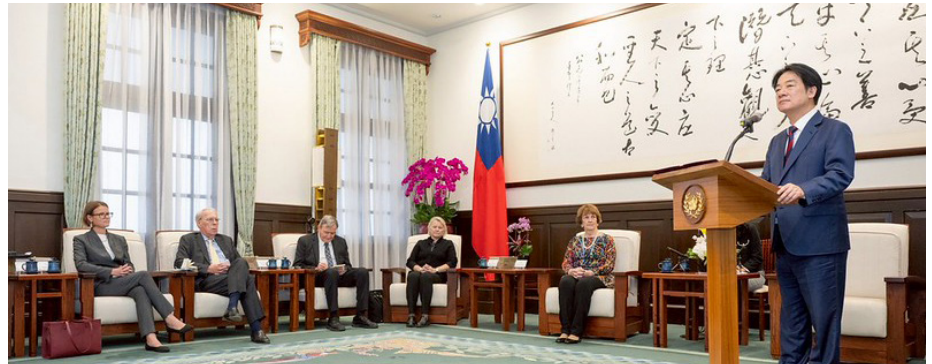


TAIWAN NEWSLETTER

President Lai receives American Foreign Policy Committee delegation

President Lai Ching-te met with a delegation from the National Committee on American Foreign Policy led by Ambassador Susan M. Elliott, December 5, highlighting Taiwan's recently proposed eight-year, US\$40 billion (€34.33 billion) supplementary defence budget for military procurement from the US, indigenous defence, and asymmetric capabilities reinforcement.

In his remarks, the President emphasised that defence spending will exceed 3 percent of GDP next year, before reaching 5 percent by 2030, demonstrating Taiwan's resolve to defend itself. He stated Taiwan will continue reforming national defence while enhancing whole-of-society resilience and deepening cooperation with the



US and other like-minded democracies. President Lai thanked successive US administrations for supporting Taiwan in accordance with the Taiwan Relations Act and Six Assurances, and Congress for its bipartisan backing, including the recently signed Taiwan Assurance Implementation Act. He

also highlighted that Taiwan and the United States are important strategic and trade partners, sharing ideals and values.

Ambassador Elliott noted the delegation hopes to discuss regional security, prosperity, and Taiwan-US relations during their visit.

Taiwan, Denmark, Finland, and Sweden hold energy meeting

The Ministry of Economic Affairs, Trade Council of Denmark, Finland Trade Center, and Swedish Trade and Invest Council staged the 2025 Nordic-Taiwan Sustainable Energy Forum, December 3, with over 200 experts, industry representatives and researchers participating.

Vice Economic Minister Lai Chien-hsin stated the government is committed to renewable energy development and will expedite green energy expansion to meet increasing power demands from economic growth and emerging tech-

nologies like artificial intelligence.

Peter Sand, head of the Danish trade council, noted that over 50 per cent of Taiwan's offshore wind capacity was installed by Denmark, emphasising the need for multinational cooperation to address climate challenges. Finland Trade Center Representative Lauri Raurio highlighted the importance of energy resilience and grid stability, while Helena Reitberger of the Swedish Trade and Invest Council emphasised innovative technology and public-private collaboration for green transition.

Formosat-8's first satellite makes orbit

The first satellite of Taiwan's domestically produced Formosat-8 constellation was successfully launched from California, November 29, according to the National Science and Technology Council.

The satellite, FS-8A, is one of eight high-resolution optical remote-sensing satellites in the constellation, which will be fully operational by 2031. Named Chi Po-lin in honour of the director of the 2013 documentary "Beyond Beauty: Taiwan from Above," the satellite communicated

with mission control at 10:42 a.m., reporting nominal operations.

President Lai Ching-te stated that the launch marks a milestone in Taiwan's space industry.



"Left-Handed Girl" premieres in Brussels

The Left-Handed Girl, directed by filmmaker Shih-Ching Tsou, held its Brussels premiere at Cinefage, December 3, drawing over 100 attendees, including overseas Taiwanese and Belgian audience members.

Ambassador Shieh Jhy-Wey introduced the film, telling the audience he hoped it might inspire them to visit Taiwan if they have never been, or if they have, give them the perfect reason to return. The critically acclaimed feature, which will represent Taiwan at the Academy Awards, is also now showing in cinemas across Belgium.



Editorial: Taipei Representative Office in the EU and Belgium

Website: http://www.roc-taiwan.org/be_en/index.html

E-mail: infobel@mofa.gov.tw

Tel: +32(0)2/287.28.16 or +32(0)2/287.28.11



駐歐盟兼駐比利時代表處

TAIPEI REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE EU AND BELGIUM