

STUDY IN TAIWAN

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AUSTRALIA-TAIWAN EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

By the Education Division of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in Australia



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The task of the Education Division of TECO in Australia is to facilitate cooperation between Taiwan and Australia in areas of education.



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Taiwan-Australia Youth Dialogue at ANU

On 18 August, the 2025 Australia–Taiwan Youth Dialogue was successfully held at the Australian National University (ANU). Co-hosted by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) Education Division, the Taiwanese Student Association (TSA) and the Asia–Australia Youth Association (AAYA), the event brought students together to debate the topic:

“AI will make foreign language skills obsolete. Therefore, people should not bother learning foreign languages.”

Teams debated both for and against the motion, offering a range of insightful perspectives. Their thoughtful arguments explored the implications of AI for language learning, cultural identity, and human connection in an increasingly digital world. The Q&A session saw enthusiastic engagement from the audience, who posed thoughtful questions and sparked dynamic exchanges with the debaters. Many attendees shared that the dialogue deepened their understanding of the role of language in AI and human society.

The evening fostered greater understanding between Australian and Taiwanese youth on issues of mutual importance.

The Education Division also took the opportunity to promote opportunities to Study in Taiwan, such as the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship, Taiwan Scholarship and the National Cheng Kung University Short Term Language Exchange Program.

The Education Division encouraged all present to continue their language studies and come study in Taiwan!





Miaoli “Bridge to Success” Student Group visits TECO Canberra!

On 13 August, TECO was delighted to welcome the Miaoli “Bridge to Success” student group to their office! Comprised of high-achieving students from a range of Miaoli high schools and junior high schools, the group is currently undertaking a short-term exchange program at Evelyn Scott School in Canberra.

Representative Douglas Hsu warmly welcomed the students and accompanying teachers — Angela Lee, Principal of Chiao Yu Elementary School; Eric Chuang, Principal of Houlong Elementary School; Amanda Kuo, Teacher at Shinnan Elementary School; and Yu-Hsiu Peng, Deputy Convener at Miaoli English Education Resource Centre. Representative Hsu introduced life in Australia and shared insights from his own journey as a student deciding on a career, as well as his experiences working in diplomacy. Deputy Representative Regine Chen then took student questions on topics ranging from studying at Australian universities, living in Australia, and Canberra’s history.

The Education Division then invited students to share their own exchange experiences in Australia. The students responded enthusiastically, highlighting the positive learning environment, hands-on teaching approach and the valuable cultural immersion from staying with local host families.

This visit not only deepened mutual understanding between Taiwan and Australia, but also gave the Miaoli students a meaningful international experience that will stay with them for years to come.





2025 Taiwan Update

The 2025 Taiwan Update opened on 9 September at The Australian National University, marking the beginning of a dynamic program of keynote lectures, panel discussions, and student dialogues. This year's Update also achieved a new milestone by expanding beyond Canberra, with a special session held in New Zealand for the first time, broadening the reach of Taiwan-focused scholarship across the region.

The opening ceremony at ANU began with a Welcome to Country by Ngambri-Ngunnawal Elder Paul House Girrawah. He addressed the audience in traditional language and performed music on the didgeridoo, inviting participants to keep rhythm with clap sticks. Professors Matt Tomlinson and Benjamin Penny followed with introductory remarks, situating the Update as an important opportunity to understand Taiwan on its own terms, rather than solely through its relations with others.

Ms. Regine Chen, Deputy Representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Australia, warmly welcomed attendees, noting the challenges Taiwan faces in today's global environment. She emphasized the value of academic exchange in deepening international understanding of Taiwan's democratic resilience and diverse development.

The keynote address was delivered by Associate Research Fellow Christina Lai of Academia Sinica's Institute of Political Science. Dr. Lai examined Taiwan's response to China's economic statecraft and reflected on the broader implications for the liberal international order. Her analysis sparked a lively Q&A session, with participants probing how Taiwan could leverage its unique position to contribute to regional stability.

Day two featured three well-attended sessions: Professor Alex Tan (University of Canterbury) examined Taiwan's two-level politics and legislative gridlock; Professor Chyungly Lee (National Chengchi University) analyzed Taiwan's multidimensional energy security challenges; and Professor Wu Chia-rong (University of Canterbury) presented research on the revitalization of Indigenous knowledge systems. The Update concluded with a screening of Gaga 《哈勇家》 and a Q&A with Atayal director Laha Mebow.

Across both days, the Taiwan Update fostered rich academic exchange and deepened public and scholarly understanding of Taiwan's politics, society, and culture, stimulated interest in Taiwan-related research and strengthened mutual understanding between Australia and Taiwan; affirming the Update's role as a flagship event of the ANU Taiwan Studies Program.



Study in Taiwan at University of Queensland

On 1 August 2025, the TECO Education Division in collaboration with the University of Queensland Taiwan Graduate and Undergraduate Taiwanese Students Association (UQGUTS), hosted the Study in Taiwan Workshop at the University of Queensland. Nearly 40 students attended, including Australian, Malaysian, and Vietnamese participants, eager to learn about opportunities to study in Taiwan.

Ms. Flora Lee from the Education Division introduced Taiwan's education environment, the Huayu Enrichment Scholarship, Taiwan Scholarship, and encouraged students to apply for the Mandarin study tour co-organised by Macquarie University and the University of Auckland later this year. Additionally, Ms. Lee introduced attendees to life in Taiwan and shared a number of practical survival tips.

If you missed out, don't worry! The Education Division is holding a Study in Taiwan Online Seminar on 30 Sept!

SIGN UP



Following, the workshop featured guest speaker Arwen, a 2024 Huayu Enrichment Scholarship recipient and UQ alumna, who shared her inspiring experiences learning Mandarin and immersing herself in Taiwanese culture at Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages in Kaohsiung.

Two Mandarin Language Teaching Assistants, Rita Weng and Joyce Chen, also led interactive mini-lessons with the audience, giving participants a taste of Taiwan's language and classroom atmosphere.

Attendees actively engaged with the Education Division to learn more about scholarship application procedures, reflecting strong interest in studying in Taiwan. The event concluded with Taiwanese night market games, including ring toss, and sampling authentic Taiwanese snacks such as fried chicken, creating a lively atmosphere for networking and cultural exchange.

The workshop not only provided practical information on studying in Taiwan but also strengthened cultural links and inspired participants to explore Taiwan as a destination for academic and personal growth.