



# TAIWANinfo

## Tsai Ing-wen wins 2016 ROC presidential election

Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) Chairwoman Tsai Ing-wen declared victory Jan. 16 in the 2016 ROC presidential election, making her the first woman to hold the nation's highest office in its 104-year history.



Garnering 6.89 million votes, or 56.12 percent, Tsai defeated Eric Chu of the ruling Kuomintang (KMT) by 3.08 million votes. James Soong, representing the People First Party (PFP), collected 1.58 million votes. According to the Central Election Commission, the turnout rate was 66.27 percent, the lowest since the commencement of direct ROC presidential elections in 1996.

During a post-election international news conference, the 59-year-old Tsai vowed to strengthen the unity of the country and build a consistent, predictable and sus-

tainable cross-strait relationship. "We will work toward maintaining the status quo for peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait in order to bring the greatest benefits and well-being to the Taiwanese people," she said.

Chu, 54, conceded defeat and congratulated Tsai on her win. "The KMT has failed its supporters and the country," he said, before resigning as chairman of the party to take responsibility of the loss.

Running for the third time, 73-year-old PFP Chairman Soong said he was pleased with the peaceful election as it reaffirms the value of Taiwan's democracy. During a congratulatory call to Tsai, President Ma Ying-jeou said the election is testament to the democratic achievement of Taiwan and the ROC's solid constitutional framework. "I expect the new president to continue upholding the current state of the peace and prosperity enjoyed across the Taiwan Strait," he said. Tsai will be sworn in as the 14th president of the ROC during a ceremony May 20 in Taipei.

Meanwhile, the DPP became the majority in the Legislature for the first time after winning 68 of the 113-seat ninth ROC Legislative Yuan in the parliamentary elections held concurrently with the presidential one. The DPP took 49 electoral district seats, 18



at-large seats and one lowland indigenous seat, up from 27, 13 and zero, respectively, in the 2012 elections. This victory relegated the KMT to main opposition party status with 35 legislative seats.

With a record low turnout of 66.58 percent, voters cast ballots for 73 district legislators. Among them, the runner-up KMT won 20 seats, followed by the New Power Party (NPP) with three seats and an independent with one seat. For both the three lowland and highland indigenous seats, the KMT garnered two in each, with the remaining highland one going to the Non-Partisan Solidarity Union.

The party vote nationwide for the 34 at-large seats also saw a low turnout of 66.25 percent. Only the DPP, KMT, PFP and NPP passed the 5 percent threshold for seat allocation. They gained 18, 11, three and two seats, respectively, for public support of 44.06 percent, 26.91 percent, 6.52 percent and 6.11 percent.

These outcomes saw the NPP—a rising political force formed by young reformers—replace the PFP as the third largest party with five seats in the next Legislature. NPP Chairman Huang Kuo-chang was closely associated with the 2014 student protests over the Cross-Strait Agreement on Trade in Services. The ninth ROC Legislature is set to be sworn in Feb. 1 in Taipei.

## Profiles of the President-elect and Vice President-elect

### Tsai Ing-wen

Born - 1956

#### Political Affiliation

Democratic Progressive Party

#### Education

Ph.D. in Law, London School of Economics and Political Science, 1984

LL.M., Cornell University Law School, 1980

LL.B., National Taiwan University, 1978

#### Experience

Chairperson, Democratic Progressive Party, 2014-present

Chairperson, DPP, 2008-2012

ROC Vice Premier, 2006-2007

Legislator, 6th Legislative Yuan, 2005-2006

National Policy Advisor to the President, 2004-2005

Minister, Mainland Affairs Council, Executive Yuan, 2000-2004

Senior Advisor, National Security Council, 1999-2000

Commissioner, Fair Trade Commission, Executive Yuan, 1995-1998

Senior Advisor, Mainland Affairs Council, Executive Yuan, 1994-1998

Professor, National Chengchi University and Soochow University, 1984-2000

### Chen Chien-jen

Born - 1951

#### Political Affiliation

None

#### Education

Sc.D. in Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins University, 1982

M.P.H., National Taiwan University, 1977

B.S., National Taiwan University, 1973

#### Experience

Vice President, Academia Sinica, 2011-2015

Distinguished Research Fellow, Genomic Research Center, Academia Sinica, 2006-2015

Professor, National Taiwan University College of Public Health, 1986-2015

Minister, National Science Council, Executive Yuan, 2006-2008

Minister, Department of Health, Executive Yuan, 2003-2005

Deputy Minister, National Science Council, Executive Yuan, 2002-2003

Dean, College of Public Health, National Taiwan University, 1999-2002

Director-General, Division of Life Sciences, National Science Council, Executive Yuan, 1997-1999

Director, Graduate Institute of Epidemiology, National Taiwan University College of Public Health, 1994-1997

Director, Graduate Institute of Public Health, National Taiwan University College of Public Health, 1993-1994



Research Fellow, Institute of Biomedical Sciences, Academia Sinica, 1988-1994

## Seeking to Light Up Taiwan

**Born in 1956, Tsai Ing-wen chairs the main opposition Democratic Progressive Party (DPP). She holds a Ph.D. in law from the London School of Economics and Political Science.**

A former university professor and government trade negotiator, Tsai served as minister of the Mainland Affairs Council from 2000 to 2004 and vice premier from January 2006 to May 2007. She represented the DPP in the 2012 Republic of China (ROC) presidential election.

Upon accepting her party's nomination to run in the 2016 presidential race on April 15 last year, Tsai delivered a speech titled "Restore Confidence and Light Up Taiwan" outlining her campaign platform and vision for domestic affairs and the cross-strait relationship. As wages have regressed to the levels of 15 years ago and youth unemployment has reached 13 percent, she stated, the people of Taiwan have lost their self-confidence and younger generations have given up hope. She added that weak economic growth and an unequal distribution of wealth are impeding upward mobility. "When young people cease to dream, it becomes a nightmare for the whole country," Tsai said. "What Taiwan needs in 2016 is not just another transfer of power between parties. The old model of governance from the previous era must also be changed."

In addition to housing prices, food safety and land conservation, the DPP chairwoman called for comprehensive reform in areas such as bureaucratic efficiency, the education system, fiscal policy and regional development. She said that, above all, the country must establish a government that "puts the people first."

According to Tsai, the nation must embark on a new path that "holds the people's

needs and dignity as the starting point for determining the country's policy direction." In terms of economic development, she advocated a model centered on innovation, employment and the equitable distribution of wealth, stating that "innovation will be the driver of economic growth, with the creation of employment opportunities being the ultimate goal of economic development, while the fruits of economic success should be shared fairly among all citizens."

In order to promote thorough reforms in domestic affairs, Tsai said, the country will require a peaceful, stable external environment, especially with regard to relations across the Taiwan Strait. Insisting that cross-strait ties are neither solely between the Kuomintang (KMT) and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) nor will they become solely between the DPP and CCP, she said her party will promote the enactment of an oversight law in order to establish a comprehensive framework for subsequent talks between Taiwan and mainland China. "With regard to the cross-strait agreements that are currently under negotiation or review, when we return to government they will be monitored on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the oversight legislation," Tsai remarked. Thus, interactions with the mainland will be guided toward a more sustainable, democratic track based solidly on the will of the people, she added.

While outlining her approach toward cross-strait relations, the DPP chair reiterated that the party's basic principle for managing ties between the two sides is to maintain the status quo. "When changes of government have become a normalized part of Taiwan's democracy, cross-strait relations must always be in accordance with the public will no matter who governs in the future," she said. "Therefore, the next president must take up the mission of normalizing cross-strait relations by taking them beyond the KMT-CCP framework."

Tsai again articulated her position of maintaining the status quo when she delivered





a speech on June 3 last year at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C. “If elected president, I will push for the peaceful and stable development of cross-strait relations in accordance with the will of the Taiwanese people and the existing ROC constitutional order,” she stated. “The two sides of the Taiwan Strait should treasure and secure the accumulated outcomes of more than 20 years of negotiations and exchanges. These accumulated outcomes will serve as the firm basis of my efforts to further the peaceful and stable development of cross-strait relations.”

Expressing her views on national defense, the presidential candidate indicated that, in order for Taiwan to be a reliable partner on regional security, the nation must commit to proper investment in a credible deterrence. “In light of the increasing military and security threat that Taiwan faces, developing asymmetric capabilities that involve enhanced military relations with friendly forces, well-trained military personnel in a modern force structure, and acquisition of necessary defense equipment are essential components of our deterrent strategy,” Tsai said. In addition, she pledged to promote greater spending on indigenous defense programs, including research and development, in order to meet the nation’s long-term defense needs. Eventually, she added, such investments would prove beneficial to both national defense and the economy.

## **ROC Cabinet announces 2016 carbon emissions goal**

**Carbon emissions by Taiwan’s five major economic year as part of government efforts to fulfill the national reduction commitment.**

“Cutting annual output to the average of 2012 to 2014 levels is in line with the goals set

out in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Management Act promulgated in July last year,” Minister without Portfolio Yeh Shin-cheng said Jan. 5.

“It also follows the roadmap to achieving the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions unveiled by the Environmental Protection Administration in September 2015.”



*File photo*

Among the five major emissions contributors, Yeh said, industrial activities will account for 48.76 percent of the total, followed by residential and commercial at 25.44, transportation at 14.18 percent, energy production at 10.53 percent and agriculture at 1.08 percent. The goals serve as the benchmark for the respective sectors before the EPA releases the country’s statutory carbon emissions targets between 2016 and 2020 by the end of the year, he added.

According to the Cabinet, the Council of Agriculture and Ministries of Economic Affairs, Communications and Transportation, and the Interior have been directed to spearhead the efforts.

Under Taiwan’s INDC, greenhouse gases are to drop to 214 million tons by 2030. This is 20 percent lower than the 2005 level, and will bring the national total in 2050 to half that of 2005.



## Over 100 Taiwanese companies showcase products at CES

A total of 186 Taiwanese companies are taking part in the annual Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas, including MSI Computer Corp. and Asustek Computer Inc., both of which have been honored by the organizers for their gaming products.

Text: [www.focus taiwan.tw](http://www.focus taiwan.tw), Photos: [www.facebook.com/taiwanexcellence](http://www.facebook.com/taiwanexcellence)



Asustek is showcasing a wide range of products, including projectors, routers, computer mainboards, screens, and desktop and notebook computers designed specifically for gaming. The company received five CES Innovation Awards this year, including three for a desktop, a laptop and a curved screen from its ROG gaming product line. Asustek also unveiled along with Google Inc. a smart home bridge designed for the Internet giant's Internet of Things platform called Brillo, which can connect smart home products to a phone. MSI also won CES Innovation Awards for its desktop and laptop computers designed for gamers, including its compact desktop Gaming Vortex and all-in-one model Gaming 27XT.

Electronic paper maker E Ink Holdings Inc. garnered a CES Innovation Award for the Joan Meeting Room Assistant, a room-booking device developed jointly

with Slovenian firm Visionect. Smartphone maker HTC, meanwhile, unveiled its HTC Vive Pre developer kit for its virtual reality gear at the CES fair, and showcased the application of the product in areas such as gaming, education and retail. HTC said the HTC Vive will be introduced in auto marketer Audi's flagship stores around the world this year, offering car buyers a new way to browse different models.

Delta Electronics Inc. unveiled several new power-charging products under its Innergie brand, along with projectors and an electronic car charger. Delta is also displaying two ventilation fans -- one kitted out with bluetooth speakers, the other with LED lighting -- both of which are energy-saving products for the home.



Memory card and disk maker Transcend Information Inc. is exhibiting a dashboard cam that comes with two lenses to record the situation both on the road and in the car.

A Taiwan Excellence Pavilion has been set up to showcase 45 award-winning products from the country, including the H-Tower computer chassis by In Win Development Inc. The chassis, which can open up or close automatically in 25 seconds, also received a CES Innovation Award.





## Essential Brew

*Tea, together with firewood, oil, rice, salt, soy sauce and vinegar, is known as one of the seven daily necessities in Chinese culture.*

*Jim Hwang, Taiwan Review  
Photos by Huang Chung-hsin*

While Westerners say an apple a day keeps the doctor away, in Chinese culture people believe a cup of tea a day keeps the pharmacy at bay. According to *The Classic of Tea* written by Tang dynasty scholar Lu Yu (733-804), Chinese people discovered tea some two and half millennia ago. Though originally utilized as an ingredient



*^ Taiwan is home to unique tea cultivars that are disease-resistant and fast-growing.*





in medicine, tea leaves were later used to. Immigrants from mainland China's Fujian province brought *Camellia sinensis*, the plant species used to produce tea, to Taiwan in the early 18th century. Over the hundreds of years since, unique local cultivars have been bred that are more resistant to disease, faster growing and better tasting.

Once harvested, leaves undergo a lengthy process of withering, shaking, panning, rolling and drying with the goal of achieving a specific level of fermentation that will give the tea a par-

ticular color and flavor. Taiwan has long been famous for its semi-fermented varieties such as *baozhong*, which is mainly produced in the northern part of the island, and *oolong*, which is predominantly grown in the country's central mountains.

The varieties of tea that people drink today are very different from those enjoyed by the Chinese thousands of years ago or early immigrants who first brought *Camellia sinensis* to Taiwan. What remains the same is that at the end of a long day, nothing beats a refreshing cup of tea.



< *Picking tea leaves by hand is a time-consuming and labor-intensive task.*

*A worker at a tea farm in New Taipei City's Pinglin District begins the process of turning harvested leaves into baozhong tea. >*







*Tea leaves undergo a lengthy process of withering, shaking, panning, rolling and drying, with each step having a major influence on the quality of the final product.*







*< Originally used as an ingredient in medicine, tea leaves later became a daily necessity in Chinese culture.*



*^ Special processing methods that produce specific levels of fermentation in the leaves are used to create different varieties of tea.*

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