



## Tsai: Taiwan will achieve greatness

President Tsai Ing-wen said October 10 that the government is committed to promoting social justice for Taiwan's young people, boosting the nation's participation in international affairs, and maintaining peaceful, stable cross-strait relations.

According to the president, her administration is working to transform and renew the country, with a focus on expanding economic opportunities and social support programs for young people. "This has been at the core of every reform we have initiated in the recent months."

Tsai made the remarks in an [address](#) delivered as part of the Double Tenth National Day celebrations outside the Office of the President in Taipei City. The event, which was broadcast live on the internet and television, was attended by numerous dignitaries from home and abroad, including Vice President Chen Chien-jen, President of the Legislative Yuan Su Jia-chyuan and Premier Lin Chuan as well as foreign representatives.

The president said that since she took office in May, the government has developed initiatives to reduce the pressures on the youth of Taiwan, including broadening access to social housing, promoting day care services and strengthening the long-term care system. She

added that after pension reform, "young people will bear a relatively lighter burden ... This country will, in a fair manner, guarantee a post-retirement life of dignity for every citizen."

Tsai pointed out the government is striving to create job opportunities and boost salaries for young people through the advancement of the "5+2 innovative industries." The five sectors are biotech and pharmaceuticals, sustainable energy, national defense, smart machinery, as well as the Internet of Things and other smart technologies, while the two are the promotion of the circular economy as well as a new paradigm for agricultural development.

The president said that these plans and related regulatory adjustments are being launched one after another, fostering the nation's industrial transformation and setting the stage for a new era of economic growth.

Tsai also noted Taiwan is working to bolster cooperation with its international



partners through the promotion of “steadfast diplomacy,” which advocates mutual assistance for mutual benefits.

“Our hope is that diplomacy will not be about one-way giving, but about mutually beneficial cooperation that we plan and build together with our allies for the good of both.”

The president emphasized Taiwan would never be absent on important global issues and expressed gratitude to partners including the United States, the European Union and Japan for supporting Taiwan’s international participation more strongly than ever.

“Although the path to participation in international organizations is not easy, we will remain steadfast and march on,” she said. “Even under pressure, we still stand with all major democratic countries in our desire to contribute meaningfully to humanity.”

Taiwan is seeking to redefine its role in the Asia-Pacific region and create a new driving force for growth, she stressed, highlighting in this regard the government’s New Southbound Policy, an initiative that aims to expand ties between Taiwan and countries in South and Southeast Asia as well as Australia and New Zealand across a broad range of fields including business, culture, education and tourism.

With regard to cross-strait relations, Tsai said the government will maintain the status quo and conduct ties based on the

Constitution of the Republic of China, the Act Governing Relations between the People of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area, and other relevant legislation.

Tsai said the government respects the fact that institutions representing the two sides met in 1992, and called for the outcomes of more than two decades of cross-strait interactions and negotiations to be jointly maintained. She urged the two

sides to set aside the baggage of history and engage in dialogue.

“Although cross-strait relations have seen certain ups and downs in the past months, our position remains consistent and firm. Our pledges will not change,

and our goodwill will not change,” she said. “But we will not bow to pressure, and we will of course not revert to the old path of confrontation.”

Tsai emphasized the government will take proactive, forward-looking steps to promote constructive dialogue across the Taiwan Strait. “Leaders on both sides should jointly display wisdom and flexibility, and with a calm attitude, bring together a divided present toward a win-win future.” The president said that while the government has set Taiwan on a path toward renewed prosperity, there is no shortcut to reform. She vowed that her administration would transform the nation by moving forward with pragmatism and unwavering purpose.

“Our mission now is to instill in the people of Taiwan the belief that, through reform, this country will achieve greatness.”





The Taipei Representative Office in Hungary is pleased to announce the second edition of Taiwan Documentary Festival in Budapest to be held from October 20 to 22 at Toldi Mozi and DocuArt Cinema. The event, co-organized with Palantír Film Foundation, brings seven films covering an extensive range of topics: the indigenous community, nature and man, the media landscape, sports and boyhood, and connection of family.

This year, Dr. Robert Chen, associate dean of College of Communication at National Chengchi University, has been invited to take part in a workshop on Taiwan's film development. Salome Ishahavut, director of the opening film *Alis's Dreams*, and the film's producer Mayaw Biho will be on hand for the Q&A session on October 20. Please visit the event's Facebook page and join us for the annual feast of films from Taiwan.



#### Program (free of charge)

##### 2016.10.20. csütörtök / Thursday

18:00 Megnyitó / Opening ceremony  
18:30 *Alis álmai* / *Alis's Dreams*, 2011, 60'  
19:30 Beszélgetés / Q&A Session  
19:45 Fogadás / Opening Reception

##### 2016.10.21. péntek / Friday

11:30 Háttérbeszélgetés / Workshop, 90'  
18:00 *Az őserdő éneke* / *Song of the Forest*, 2010, 60'  
19:00 Beszélgetés / Q&A Session  
19:15 *Jégtörés* / *Breaking Ice*, 2013, 35'  
19:50 Beszélgetés / Q&A Session  
20:00 *Az alma íze* / *The Taste of Apple*, 2015, 118'  
22:00 Beszélgetés / Q&A Session

##### 2016.10.22. szombat / Saturday

17:00 *Óceán* / *Ocean*, 2015, 58'  
18:00 Beszélgetés / Q&A Session  
18:15 *Ugorj, Ashin!* / *Jump! Ashin*, 2011, 128'  
20:15 Beszélgetés / Q&A Session  
20:30 *Ugrás, fiúk!* / *Jump! Boys*, 2005, 85'  
21:50 Beszélgetés / Q&A Session  
22:00 Záró esemény / Closing Ceremony

Dr. Robert Chen will also host a [lecture series on Taiwan cinema](#) in Budapest. He will lead discussions on three films at three universities. Schedules as follows (free entrance):

##### 18:00 on October 17, 2016

Film: *Terrorizers* (1986, 109 mins.)  
Topic: Modernism and Taipei  
Venue: University of Theatre and Film Arts Budapest  
Address: Bp 1088, Szentkirályi út 32/a.

##### 15:00 on October 18, 2016

Film: *Parking* (2008, 112 mins.)  
Topic: Urban Jungle and Film Noir  
Venue: Room 402 at Kodolányi János University of Applied Sciences  
Address: Bp 1139, Frangepán utca 50-52.

##### 17:00 on October 19, 2016

Film: *Sunflower Occupation* (2014, 120 mins.)  
Topic: Documentary Tradition and Taiwan Cinema  
Venue: Pázmány Péter Catholic University  
Address: Bp 1088, Mikszáth Kálmán tér 1.





## Taiwan's white gold

There's a large tree in the second-floor exhibition area of the Taiwan Salt Museum. Many objects dangle from its branches: light globes, CDs, objects of ceramic and glass, plastic bottles, containers of dye and bottles of soy sauce. While these objects may seem at first glance totally unrelated to salt, it is the one essential component used in the manufacture of each and every one.

*Taiwan Panorama*  
*By Chang Chiung-fang*  
*Photos courtesy of Jimmy Lin*



Salt is not only an essential seasoning used in kitchens worldwide, but it also has more than 14,000 other uses in agriculture and other industries. In recent years, certain innovative enterprises have found ways to augment the value of common salt by adding a cultural element, instantly transforming the image of this everyday mineral. In 2009, Taiyen Biotech launched a project called

“Yan Ru Yu” (“salt like jade”), creating sculptures made of salt. Among the works, their take on the National Palace Museum’s famous Jadeite Cabbage is the most appealing. The color and silky feel of the carved salt is just like that of real jade – the work is quite amazing, so much so that the one-meter-high sculpture has attracted a number of orders from mainland China.



### Taiyen Biotech art

“Taiyen Biotech works with resources from the ocean,” says vice president Bobby Chen. After privatization, the company diversified and branched out into cultural undertakings. Salt is important in Chinese culture, bringing good fortune, so Taiyen Biotech decided to work with renowned sculptor Luo Guang-wei to develop salt sculptures.

Taiyen Biotech has launched three series of salt sculptures to date: classical Chinese zodiac signs, the Boutique Collection, and Culture and Creation. The works include the Jadeite Cabbage, pixiu (a Chinese mythical hybrid creature), the wind-lion god, the 12 Chinese zodiac signs, and the Bodhisattva Guanyin.

To manage the creative side of the business, the Taiyen Museum was established in one of the company’s salt plants in Tongxiao Township, Miaoli County. Lin Xi-hong, a manager at the plant, points out that the museum has been attracting an average of 300,000-plus visitors annually since it opened in December 2011.

Salt sculptures are the main attractions of the museum’s displays. One of the teachers of salt sculpture at the mu-

seum, Liu Su-yan, says that salt blocks (originally produced as animal feed supplements) were utilized as carving material in the past, but they weren’t really suitable and the quality of the sculptures suffered as a result. So these days Taiyen Biotech employs refined salt bound with a unique Japanese compound as a material for sculptures.

The process of creating a salt sculpture is quite complex. As well as the creative inspiration necessary for any artwork, the process includes carving the form, making the molds and melting and mixing the salt with the Japanese binder under pressure at high temperatures. Then the mixture is poured into molds, and after removal, the work is finished off, painted and coated with a protective layer. The entire process involves no less than a dozen manual operations.

Liu also teaches salt painting at the museum, which has in fact become one of the venue’s greatest attractions.

They use salt rejected from the refining process, adding food colorings to create multicolored salt. “The skills required are similar to those of sand painting,” explains Liu as she demonstrates her technique. With some de-





gree of skill, adding colored salt layer by layer, one can easily create a salt painting in a glass.

### Birthday blessings

Colored salt as a birthday gift is another popular item in their range of cultural and creative products.

Lin Guo-ming, who retired last year from his position as district director of Tainan City's Anping District, is now the vice chairman of Hwang Sun, a creative enterprise. Lin says, "Sprinkling salt about is a common custom in folk tradition, such as in groundbreaking ceremonies and to ward off evil. With such a positive image, salt is a great source material for creative work."

When visitors enter one of Hwang Sun's Sio stores they are immediately fascinated by the range of colorful salt products. Known as "the salty shops," branches can be found in Sio House in Anping, in the Songshan Cultural and Creative Park in Taipei, and in the National Center for Traditional Arts in Yilan County. Sio has the same pronunciation as the word for "salt" in Japanese. In the past five years, Hwang Sun has set up seven Sio stores across Taiwan, focusing on colored salt for birthdays. Among the stores, the first branch in Anping has the most character due mainly to its location in one of the area's historic buildings.

Constructed in 1922, Sio House is one of Tainan's historic sites, and was originally the Anping branch office of the monopoly bureau under the Office of the Taiwan Governor-General during Japanese colonial rule (1895-1945). Salt was one of the commodities subject to a state monopoly. "The creative salt enterprise being conducted in Sio House links up this historic site with Tainan's



traditional salt industry," says Lin. Sio stores carry 366 different shades of birthday salt, creating a spectacular display. Each day has a different color, with one extra for leap years.

### Sunset in Jingzaijiao

In February this year, Hwang Sun took over management of the Taiwan Salt Museum in Tainan and began restoration of the Jingzaijiao salt fields in the city's Beimen District.

With an average of 30,000 visitors per month, the museum maintains a complete collection displaying the history of the salt industry in Taiwan, as well as holding occasional salt sculpture exhibitions. Jingzaijiao is famous for its beautiful sunsets. Maka Kao, personal assistant to the chairman of Hwang Sun, says that an annual sunset event is held there at the end of each year to watch the sun disappearing below the horizon for the final



time of the year. Tainan is the most westerly city in Taiwan.

The region is also loved by birdwatchers. Every winter, a group of black-bellied terns fly from mainland China to the Beimen Lagoon. Jingzaijiao possesses many classic country scenes like withered vines, old trees, crows, little bridges, streams and smooth sand, but the region also boasts Taiwan's oldest paved salt fields which continue to use traditional methods of drying salt in the sun. Tu Ding-xin, a retired Taiyen Biotech specialist, is currently working in these fields to provide technical assistance and advice.

"Fleur de sel ("flower of salt") is a precious commodity – like caviar," says Zheng Gui-lian, manager of Hwang Sun's Sio store in Jingzaijiao. Fleur de

sel is harvested only once a year. In the northeast monsoon season, when the wind blows across the salt fields, fleur de sel is formed as a thin, delicate crust on the surface of the salt fields. This variety of salt contains least sodium but the greatest variety of minerals, so it's generally regarded as the preeminent salt product. Hwang Sun has introduced a number of other salt-related products, including colored salt-coated eggs, fleur de sel coffee, and fleur de sel icy pops.

If oil is the "black gold" of the Middle East, then salt can be regarded as "white gold" for Taiwan. As salt is integrated into cultural pursuits through a range of innovative ideas, it is being transmuted into white gold. The allure of this common but charismatic mineral continues to grow.

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## Tsai calls for calm, rational approach to cross-strait relations

**President Tsai Ing-wen said October 4 that when it comes to cross-strait relations, the government's commitment to maintaining the status quo remains unchanged, its goodwill is unchanged, it will not succumb to pressure from mainland China and it does not want a return to past practices of confrontation.**

Tsai made the remarks during an interview with The Wall Street Journal at the Office of the President in Taipei City. "I hope both sides can sit down to talk," she said.

According to the president, mainland China is again taking the relationship backward, as illustrated by the country's exclusion from the International Civil Aviation Organization's trienni-

al assembly underway in Montreal. "I hope that this – and the overall situation – is not misinterpreted by mainland China to the degree where they believe pressure can force Taiwanese people to yield," she said. "I believe that as a democratic society, the Taiwanese people will stand up against this pressure together. The government will never enact measures that



defy public opinion in Taiwan.”

The president said Taiwan’s meaningful, proactive and substantive participation in international organizations is a positive contribution to the

world. “We must do our very best to let the world ... take Taiwan seriously. We also hope the international community can speak up for us and right the wrongs for us.”

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## The Taipei Representative Office in Hungary celebrates ROC National Day

Even though the international situation for Republic of China (Taiwan) has been difficult for decades, the country has persevered, Representative Tao Wen-lung of the Taipei Representative Office in Hungary said October 10, 2016.



Tao made the remarks at a reception celebrating the ROC’s 105th National Day at the Pesti Vigado Restaurant in Budapest.

Taiwan continues “to hold our own in the international arena, thanks to our optimism and dedication. We have grown from a state in need of foreign aid, to one that contributes to helping the troubled corners of the world,” Tao said to a crowd of well-wishers and friends of Taiwan. “The friendship and support we have received from countries all over the world have only helped to make us stronger.”

The ROC was established thanks to a group of dedicated intellectuals, who at the turn of the century were fed up

with the Qing dynasty’s corruption and weakness in the face of foreign powers, and this “is a sentiment that the Hungarian people can relate to, especially as this year marks the 60th anniversary of the 1956 uprising,” Tao said.

Since the ROC government relocated to Taiwan, Tao said, “successive administrations have built Taiwan into an economic powerhouse and a functioning democracy – one that recently saw its first female president elected to office,” adding that “the progress the country has made is also in great part due to the freedom that people enjoy.”

In terms of Hungary-Taiwan relations, the representative stressed that bilateral trade as well as cultural and educational exchanges have grown steadfastly. In September, education officials from both countries gathered in Budapest for the second Taiwan-Hungary Roundtable on higher education; later this month, the second edition of Taiwan Documentary Festival will be held, and Taiwan’s National Central Library will be co-organizing an exhibition with





National Széchényi Library, bringing ancient Chinese classics to Hungary.

Tao stressed that there is a huge potential for growth in bilateral relations and he hopes for closer collaboration in various areas in the future.

The ceremony opened with the singing of the Hungarian and ROC national anthems by Hungarian chorus singers and the guests were treated to traditional Hungarian and Taiwanese dishes as well as Kavalan whisky, which is distilled in Taiwan and which have won several international whisky competitions over the past few years.

Guests who attended the reception included Dr. Aradszki András, minister of state in charge of energy at the Min-

istry of National Development; Dr. Sulyok Tamás, vice president of the Con-



stitutional Court; dr. Szabó Attila, chef de Cabinet of the Constitutional Court; the Taiwan Friendship Association's Chairman Potápi Árpád János, and its former Chairman József Ékes; Deputy Secretary of State Secretariat for Hungarian Communities Abroad Dr. Szilágyi Péter, Secretary General of the Taiwan Friendship Association Juhász István; several members of the Hungarian Parliament, including Béla Dankó, Tiba István, Révész Máriusz, and Gábor Fodor; members of the media, diplomatic corps, higher education and cultural institutes, as well as Taiwanese expatriates and visiting students.

Source: Taipei Representative Office in Hungary, Photo: David Horungoz

## E-visa program expanded to attract Muslim visitors

**Nine countries, including six in the Middle East, have been added to Taiwan's e-visa program with immediate effect, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced October 7.**

Passport holders from Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates as well as Montenegro and Dominica can now apply online for visas to Taiwan. The Philippines has also been added to the program on a 12-month trial basis.

"This initiative is primarily aimed at attracting high-end Muslim tourists," the MOFA said. "Going forward, the minis-

try will consider adding further nations to the program based on the results of regular implementation reviews."

The Tourism Bureau under the Ministry of Transportation and Communications welcomes the policy change, since simplified visa procedures can help significantly bolster foreign visitor numbers, according to Eric K.Y. Lin, director of the bureau's International Affairs Division.

Source: Taiwan Today



## Tommy Chen wins Chilean desert ultra marathon

Taiwanese runner Tommy Chen won the Atacama Crossing ultra marathon in San Pedro de Atacama in Chile on October 9 in a time of 28 hours 58 minutes and 20 seconds.

The win moved Chen a step closer to winning the overall title for the 4 Deserts Race Series this year, putting him in the lead position after three of the year's four desert races.

Chen took second in the Sahara Race in Namibia in May and fifth in the Gobi March in China in June before fighting to first in Chile.

He hopes to claim the title when he competes in the Last Desert Antarctica ultra marathon, to be held six weeks from now between November 18 and 29.

Chen struggled in the second-to-last stage in the Chilean desert, a 73.4 kilometer test that saw him vomit when

he pushed himself to the limit at about the 50-kilometer mark.

He said on his Facebook page that his will wavered at that point, but he recovered to finish third in the stage in a time of 8 hours 53 minutes and 8 seconds.

Neill Weir of Northern Ireland took second place in the 6-stage 250-kilometer race in the northern Chilean desert with a time of 29 hours 51 minutes and 39 seconds, according to the competi-

tion's official website.

Some 130 competitors from more than 30 countries took part in the Atacama Crossing race.



Source: Focus Taiwan, Photo: Tommy Chen Facebook

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Should you have any question, please contact us at [taiwaninfo.hungary@gmail.com](mailto:taiwaninfo.hungary@gmail.com)

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