

2018 Indo-Pacific Security Dialogue Speech

Good morning everyone. It's a great pleasure to be here for the first time in my capacity as Foreign Minister.

Before I begin, there is a few people with us today I want to acknowledge:

Admiral James Stavridis and former Deputy National Security Adviser Nadia Schadlow, thank you for flying all the way to Taiwan.

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, whom we just saw in Houston, Member of the Diet Suzuki and Member of the House of Councillors Rui Matsukawa.

Members of our Legislature, Legislators Chih-cheng Lo 羅致政, Lou Shih-fang 劉世芳 and more to come.

Executive Director of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation Junko Chano, Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security Daniel Klimen, Prospect Foundation Chairman Mark Chen 陳唐山, and President I-Chung Lai 賴怡忠.

As well as all the moderators, panelists, and distinguished members of the diplomatic corps:

Thank you all for participating and making this event possible. I also want to express my appreciation for the Prospect Foundation, the Center for a New American Security, and the Sasakawa Peace Foundation for holding this forum and choosing a topic that is so relevant to our times. While we may not be the first country to talk

about the Indo-Pacific, we have given this a lot of thought, and we look forward to discussing it with all of you today.

The Indo-Pacific has never been more relevant. It's a region that has been at the center of trade, power, and culture for millennia. And today, it is a region home to the majority of the world's population and many of the world's fastest growing economies. How this region develops – whether it will remain free and prosperous, with countries interacting with each other on the basis of equality and respect – will shape the security of four billion people and the future of our world.

How do we define the Indo-Pacific? As one U.S. official once suggested to me: it's a region that stretches from the heart of the Pacific, Hawaii, all the way to the Indian subcontinent. It includes everything from the emerging economies of Southeast Asia to the South Pacific, home to six of Taiwan's diplomatic allies. It is a region that on the surface, bears little in common, but in fact has shared the same dividends of peace, and fruits of a rules-based order, that has existed for the past 70 years.

How we maintain peace and a rules-based order will be key questions going forward. I believe these are questions all like-minded democracies are struggling to answer. And certainly they are driving countries like the United States, Australia, Japan, India, and Taiwan to come up with our own forms of an Indo-Pacific strategy. Given that all of us are striving to answer the same questions and respond to the same set of emerging challenges, I know there is ample opportunity to work together.

To start, I want to share Taiwan's perspective on the Indo-Pacific.

Our view towards the Indo-Pacific is guided by our values. We see democracy as one of the most important factors underlying a free and open Indo-Pacific. It is what will keep the region peaceful,

stable, and prosperous for many years to come. Therefore, there is a need for like-minded countries to strengthen democratic institutions around the region. In this area, Taiwan can help. Our experiences in democratization and building a robust civil society can serve as a model for others. We are ready and prepared to lend a helping hand.

We also see a tangible component to greater cooperation in the Indo-Pacific. Countries like the United States and Japan are working to drive greater public and private investment into the region. Under our New Southbound Policy, we are able to complement those efforts. Our policy has given us a two year head start in building a commercial and industrial presence in South and Southeast Asia. We are eager to work with all willing partners to form industrial partnerships and engage in experience sharing.

We also see tremendous potential in infrastructure. The deficit in infrastructure spending across South and Southeast Asia is well documented. To address this, we have put aside 3.5 billion US dollars to support infrastructure and development projects in countries covered by our New Southbound Policy. This represents our belief that Taiwan – with our expertise in transportation, logistics, and construction – can play a bigger role in the future development of this region.

Finally, we believe there is also a security dynamic to the idea of an Indo-Pacific region. As many have pointed out, we do not intend to inhibit the rise of any particular country. But for many of us, it is an opportunity to strengthen our sense of collective security. It is a reminder for like-minded countries to come together and stand as one, if we are to defend the rights for countries to be treated with equality and respect, and remain free from coercion.

In many respects, Taiwan is an ideal partner for like-minded countries in their pursuit of an Indo-Pacific strategy. We have much to offer, in terms of our trade, investment, and expertise. We also have much to share. We are on the front lines in the defense of freedom, democracy, and all the values that we so deeply cherish. The threats we face are the same fundamental challenges posed to the freedom, openness, and prosperity of the region as a whole.

We view a free and open Indo-Pacific as a collective effort – and an idea only possible if like-minded countries are willing to work together in the spirit of dialogue and cooperation. In this regard, this forum today is an ideal opportunity to look at Taiwan’s place in the Indo-Pacific, and a free and open Indo-Pacific region as a whole.

I want to again thank you all for spending time outside your busy schedules to be here. I look forward to this event being a great success. I know it will. Thank you.

外交部長吳釗燮印太安全對話英文演說中譯文

107年8月30日

各位貴賓早安，此為本人首度以外交部長身分參加，至感榮幸。

在進入正題前，我想先特別感謝在場幾位貴賓蒞臨：

美國的史塔福上將、前副國安顧問薛德麗，感謝兩位遠道而來。

還有我們最近在休士頓見過面的美國聯邦眾議員強森。在座還有日本眾議員鈴木馨祐，以及參議員松川琉依。

我國立法委員羅致政、江啟臣與劉世芳委員。

笹川平和財團常務理事茶野順子，新美國安全中心資深研究員丹尼爾·克里曼，遠景基金會董事長陳唐山與執行長賴怡忠。

還有主持人、各位與談人與使節團的各位貴賓：

感謝大家的參與，讓本次論壇順利展開。感謝遠景基金會、新美國安全中心以及笹川平和財團共同舉辦本次論壇，並擇定一個適時適所的主題。台灣雖然不是第一個討論印太區域事務的國家，但是我們對這個主題已有諸多想法，並期待今日與各位進行深入討論。

印度太平洋的概念當今再重要不過。幾千年來，此區域為貿易、權力與文化之中心。在當今此為全球多數人口與成長最快速的經濟體所在地。此區域的情勢發展、維持開放與繁榮、各國間能否在平等及相互尊重的前提下進行交流，均關乎高達四十億人口的安全及全球人類的共同未來。

要如何界定印太戰略？一位美國官員曾這樣告訴我：印太區域是從太平洋中心的夏威夷，一路延伸至印度次大陸。範圍包含東南亞及南太新興經濟體，其中台灣有六個邦交國位於南太平洋地區。表面看來，區域內各國鮮有共通點，然而根據過去七十年來的經驗，各國均有賴區域和平以及各方遵守法制秩序，才享有今日的果實與成就。

如何維護此區域的和平與法治秩序將會是未來的主要課題。我相信這也是所有理念相同的民主國家試圖想要回答的問題。同時也是促使美國、澳洲、日本、印度、及台灣等民主國家，勾勒出各自印太戰略的動力。鑒於我們都想試圖解決同樣的問題，並面臨同樣的挑戰必須回應，我相信各國間有很多合作的機會。

首先，我要分享台灣對印太的觀點。

我們對印太的觀點奠基在我們的價值理念。民主是自由開放的印太地區中最不可或缺的要素。民主促使此區域在未來繼續維持和平、穩定與繁榮。因此，理念相近的國家有必要強化印太區域的民主機制，台灣可在此方面提供協助。我們在民主化過程及建立健全公民社會方面的經驗，可做為其他國家的典範。台灣已做好準備隨時伸出援手。

我們也看到在印太地區，合作為具體重要的要素。美國和日本正努力提高對此區域的公營與民營投資，正好與台灣所努

力的新南向政策相輔相成。新南向政策讓我們在兩年的時間內，領先參與南亞及東南亞的商業與產業活動。台灣樂意與任何有意願的夥伴建立產業關係、分享經驗。

我們也看到在印太地區的基礎建設有很大的發展潛力。許多證據顯示，整個南亞和東南亞呈現基礎建設支出逆差的情形。為解決此問題，台灣已準備 35 億美金支持新南向政策夥伴國家發展基礎建設。此代表我們深信台灣憑藉其在交通，物流和建設等方面的技術與經驗，可在印太地區的未來發展扮演更重要的角色。

最後，我們認為印太地區有其安全層面考量。就像很多人所言，我們並不想壓制任何特定國家的崛起。但對許多國家來說，現在是加強集體安全意識的機會。現在是提醒理念相近國家必須團結一致的時候，捍衛各國應受到平等對待，彼此尊重，各國有免於遭受壓迫的權利。

在許多方面，台灣是理念相近國家在追求印太戰略的理想夥伴。在貿易、投資及技術方面，我們有許多能貢獻之處。台灣也有許多能分享的地方，我們站在捍衛自由、民主及所有共同珍貴價值理念的最前線。台灣所面臨的挑戰正是對整體區域自由、開放及繁榮的最大挑戰。

我們認為，自由和開放的印太區域需集體努力，唯有理念相近國家願意攜手同工，秉持對話與合作的精神方能達成。因此，今日的論壇提供一個適切的機會，探討台灣在整體印太戰略，以及自由和開放的印太地區可扮演的角色。

再度感謝各位今天撥冗前來與會。本人預祝也深信論壇將圓滿成功！謝謝大家！