

Cross Party Group on Taiwan
The meeting minute for 7th of October 2015

MSPs in Attendance: Colin Keir (Convener); Dr Richard Simpson

Other attendees: Henry McLeish, Ian McKee, Mike Robbins, Mark Su (Director General), Selena Chang, Ian Irvin, Philip Chan, Shahjahan Mir, Ling-Chu Su, Craig Miller, Toni Taylor, Jen Hau Wu, Chia Lug Wu, Hsinyen Lai, Rob Munn, Emma McKenzie

Opening Remarks/ Order of business

The meeting is the 3rd session of CPG on Taiwan for 2015. In his opening remarks, Co-convenor Colin Keir MSP welcomes our guest and members to join, especially Henry McLeish, ex-First Minister of Scotland. Today's topic is mainly the discussion on the President Ma's Videoconference with Members of the European Parliament (MEP) on 29th of September, which is followed by an introduction to Cryptic, Scottish Artist group from Glasgow, and their up and coming dance theatre performance in Taipei between 13th and 15th November, 2015.

In the beginning of the meeting, the Taipei Representative Office in the UK, Edinburgh Office, plays the clips of President Ma's videoconference with MEP that includes President Ma's remarks and the Q&A session. President Ma's remarks begin with how Republic of China (Taiwan) has been inspired from the European Experience, namely the peace progress in Europe after World War Two. In the past seven years during his presidency, the inspiration from the European Experience has been embodied in President Ma's policy toward the improvement of cross-strait relationship and the proposal of the East China Sea Peace Initiative. In turn, President Ma reviews the multifaceted exchange between Europe and Taiwan in the past few years. As President Ma says, 'Taiwan has signed 79 official agreements and memorandums of understanding with the EU and European countries, covering cooperative relationships on various levels, and in various areas including technology, education, customs and tariffs, telecommunications, judicial assistance, youth working holiday programs, food safety, innovation, and R&D'. In his concluding remarks, President Ma reiterates his policy 'the path of viable diplomacy' that has been delivered over the past seven years, and thanks the EU 'for their continuing support for Taiwan in our quest for meaningful participation in international organizations'. (See Appendix A, the transcript of President Ma's

remarks and Q&A session with MEP)

Video Conference link <https://hievent.hinet.net/2015oopeur/index.html>

Cryptic/Taiwan exchange

In the second part of the meeting, Ms Cathie Boyd, Artistic Director, and Ms Claire Moran, Produce, give a thorough introduction of Cryptic and its achievements in the past few years, e.g. 'Sound to Sea' in 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. They in turn give a specific introduction of their up and coming dance theatre performance, *Hui*, in Taipei in November, and welcome our members to share this information to their friends in Taiwan. On behalf of the CPG on Taiwan, Colin Kier MSP welcomes Cathie and Claire to come back to the meeting next year and share their experience in Taiwan, and also wish their performance a great success.

Date of Next Meeting 6pm 10th February 2016