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民主進步黨
Democratic Progressive Party, Taiwan

Dispatch from Chicago: Day 1



August 20th, 2024

The 2024 Democratic National Convention kicked off in Chicago on August 19. A bipartisan delegation organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is attending, with the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) represented by Legislators Wang Ting-yu (王定宇) and Fan Yun (范雲), Kaohsiung City Councilor Tang Yung-yu (湯詠瑜), Central Executive Committee Member Lee Yen-hui (李妍慧), and Spokesperson Han Ying (韓瑩).

The delegation had a packed schedule on the first day. In the morning, they attended a briefing at the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago. DPP Spokesperson Han Ying mentioned that this is the first in-person Democratic National Convention in eight years, making tickets and accommodations highly sought after. The DPP expressed gratitude to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the staff at the Taipei Office for arranging the visit and allowing Taiwan's bipartisan delegation to participate in this historic event.

The delegation attended a welcome reception hosted by Representative Alexander Tah-ray Yui (俞大瀟). During the event, Delegation Leader Wang Ting-yu delivered a speech, inviting legislators from the KMT and the TPP to speak as well, demonstrating Taiwan's bipartisan unity in U.S. relations and national interests. Guests at the reception included Rep. Gerald Connolly (D-VA), Co-Chair of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus; Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA), Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus; Rep. Judy Chu (D-CA) and Rep. Tim Kennedy (D-NY), along with co-chairs and members of the "Taiwan Friendship Caucus" from various state legislatures; and Democratic Party state chairpersons from more than ten states. All attendees reaffirmed their continued support for Taiwan and their alignment with Taiwan's interests. Wang Ting-yu also extended personal invitations to several lawmakers to visit Taiwan, with Representative Tim Kennedy promising to do so soon.

In the evening, the delegation attended the Democratic National Convention, where they watched President Joe Biden's speech. Legislator Fan Yun, attending her second Democratic National Convention, was reminiscing her first DNC visit with the DPP (as an opposition party) was in 1992 when she was still a student. She noted the tremendous political changes in both Taiwan and the world between these two DNC conventions, and she intends to use this visit to the U.S. as an opportunity for keen observation.

On the 19th, the Democratic Party also adopted its [2024 platform](#), which for the first time includes the Six Assurances to Taiwan*. Delegation Leader Wang Ting-yu stated that this is a significant declaration of U.S. policy towards Taiwan. The DPP also stated that this resolution further reinforces the bipartisan consensus in the U.S. to support Taiwan, which will be of great benefit to the deepening of

Taiwan-U.S. relations and the peace and stability of the Taiwan Strait.

*The excerpt from Democratic Party 2024 Platform [note: drafted before Biden stepped aside, but will remain the guiding document for the Democratic Party going forward] (P81):

“In his second term, President Biden will remain focused on actions at home and abroad to outcompete China. He will continue to stand up to unfair economic practices, restrict the PRC’s access to advanced technologies that could be used to harm American interests, and reshore supply chains for materials and technologies critical for the 21st century.

The Administration will continue to invest in our alliances and partnerships to ensure China cannot coerce its neighbors or overturn the international rules that keep America secure and prosperous. President Biden will also remain steadfast in America’s commitment to peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait consistent with the U.S. One China policy –guided by the Taiwan Relations Act, the three Joint Communiques, and the Six Assurances –in order to continue to ensure that there are no unilateral changes to the status quo from either side.”



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