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**民主進步黨**  
Democratic Progressive Party, Taiwan

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## Taiwan's New Defense Innovation Unit: Harnessing Civilian Tech to Counter Emerging Threats

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*July 11th, 2024*

Drawing lessons from ongoing wars in Ukraine and the world, Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense (MND) is creating Taiwan's Defense Innovation Unit to help the military respond to new threats with innovation and emerging technology. On July 10, Minister of Defense Wellington Koo reported the issue of establishing the Defense Innovation Unit (DIU) and answered legislators' questions in the Foreign and National Defense Committee of the Legislative Yuan (LY).

Under the Armaments Bureau of the MND, the DIU will coordinate acquiring mature, civilian technology to satisfy the military's needs and strengthen overall defense capabilities. Its tasks include developing innovative concepts, confirming strategic demand, and applying civilian technologies.

Specifically, the DIU will evaluate mature techniques and products of Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 7 to 9 to expand equipment sources. Also, support from the DIU and the National Science and Technology Council will allow universities to conduct basic and applied research and develop critical techniques focusing on TRL 1 to 5. The National Chung-Shan Institute of Science & Technology will integrate civilian

sectors, speed up the equipment supply, and develop critical techniques of TRL 6 and above. The DIU will also publicly request solution proposals from innovative domestic and foreign companies.

By integrating the defense demand into civilian industries, the DIU will help the military gain access to innovative technologies, enhancing battle effectiveness and creating the advantage of asymmetry. Also, by introducing mature techniques and equipment to improve C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance), the military will become more capable of responding to new threats.

Taiwan has a robust civilian technology ecosystem that has the energy to develop drones, counter-drone systems, artificial intelligence, communications systems, and more. Wellington Koo emphasized that Taiwan has to focus on introducing mature technology to rapidly build defensive capabilities.

[Link to Minister Wellington Koo answering legislators' questions \(CH\)](#)

[>>>](#)

[Related News \(CH\) >>>](#)

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**HAPPY HOUR**

 民主黨團總部

 **MISSION DUPONT CIRCLE (UPSTAIRS LOFT)**  
1606 20th St NW, Washington, DC

**FRIDAY, JULY 26**  
**5:30-7:30 PM**

Hi &lt;&lt;First Name>>>,

We are thrilled to invite you to welcome a DPP delegation from Taiwan at our upcoming Happy Hour, hosted by the DPP US Mission! The DPP Diplomacy Empowerment Program aims to cultivate the next generation of Taiwan's

policymakers and experts and build lasting connections with their American counterparts. Led by Deputy Secretary-General Andrea Yang, the delegation is composed of senior legislative aides, local elected officials, think tank experts, and party & campaign managers.

We sincerely invite you to meet with this group of rising stars and learn about their journey in DC. There will be beverages and appetizers to enjoy.

**Event Details:**

**Date:** July 26, Friday

**Time:** 5:30 - 8:00 PM

**Venue:** Mission Dupont Circle, Upstairs Loft (1606 20th St NW, Washington, DC)

[Register Here](#)

Please **RSVP by July 24, to secure your spot** and contact Calvin Chu at [dpp.dc.office@gmail.com](mailto:dpp.dc.office@gmail.com) with any questions or requests. This event is by invitation only.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Best regards,

Taiwan DPP US Mission

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