

Taiwan Policy Centre Press Release: Taiwan Policy Centre welcomes visit by UK Trade Minister, Greg Hands MP

For immediate release

Following the quietly released news that UK Trade Minister Greg Hands MP is visiting Taiwan, Taiwan Policy Centre Chief Executive, David Spencer, commented:

"Greg Hands is a long-standing friend of Taiwan. He was the last Minister to visit back in 2016 and it is great to see him back. The UK currently lags far behind our allies when it comes to sending officials to Taiwan and we firmly hope that this is the first of many Ministerial exchanges between the UK."

"The UK's commitment to an Indo-Pacific tilt means there is a real opportunity to forge a strong trading relationship with a true democratic ally in region."

"The Taiwan Policy Centre urges Mr Hands to go further than previous trading dialogues between the two countries and explore the prospect of a full free trade agreement."

"The UK should also be explicit in their support for Taiwan to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) as and when they accede themselves."

"This meeting offers an opportunity for some much-needed strategic clarity on the UK's support for Taiwan. We hope that Greg seizes that opportunity with both hands."

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Media Inquiries

For any media enquiries, please contact:

UK:Taiwan:David SpencerBen GorenChief ExecutiveDirector of CommunicationsEmail – ds@taiwanpolicycentre.comEmail – bg@taiwanpolicycentre.com

Notes to Editors

About the Taiwan Policy Centre

The <u>Taiwan Policy Centre</u> is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to boosting political, cultural, and trading relations between the UK and Taiwan. We aim to increase the knowledge and understanding that policy-makers, the media, and the British public have about Taiwan through a combination of research, educational events, and outreach. We further aim to highlight the threats and injustices that Taiwan faces at the hands of the Chinese Communist Party and lobby the UK Government to take a stronger and more proactive stand in support of Taiwan on the global stage.

