

## ■ Taiwan's 2018 International Holocaust Remembrance Day Event Was Held at NCL

An event commemorating Taiwan's 2018 International Holocaust Remembrance Day was held on Sunday, February 25 in the afternoon at National Central Library's auditorium. The purpose was to remember those who died in the Holocaust by the Nazis in World War II and to help prevent future genocide behavior. The event was hosted by the Israel Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei and the German Institute Taipei. NCL also assisted with the event.

Martin Eberts from the German Institute Taipei and Asher Yarden, the representative of the Israel Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei, spoke on how all mankind should learn from the Holocaust on how to face hardships, heal wounds, and imbue moral integrity and courage into the rising generation. During the event, the documentary "Schindler of the East: He Fengshan" was shown. Dr. He Fengshan was the ambassador of the Republic of China to Austria from 1938-1940. His sense of morality and bravery caused him to issue visas for thousands of Jews so that they could avoid death under the Nazis. In 2000, Israel named him one of the "Righteous among the Nations."

President Tsai Ing-wen attended the event in 2018 and spoke, just as she did the year before. She emphasized the fact that Taiwan is actively participating in the international community, but that it must remember this period of history and reflect deeply on it to ensure that it does not happen again. She also mentioned that the government in Taiwan is making preparations to build a National Human Rights Museum. In the future

related institutions in both countries will engage in exchanges to safeguard human rights and to ensure the freedom and righteousness of humanity.

Apart from the Remembrance Day activities, the Israel Economic and Cultural Office in Taipei also held an exhibition on 36 foreign diplomats from 20 countries known as the "Righteous among the Nations" and what they did to save the Jews. Their inspiring bravery and resilience should be remembered.



*President Tsai Ing-wen gives a talk at the International Holocaust Remembrance Day Event.*

## ■ The First EUTW Forum of 2018 Was Held at NCL

The first EUTW Forum of 2018 centered on the theme Reflections and Prospects of EU Politico-economic Development in 2018 and explored issues related to current political and economic issues in the EU. This forum was held on Friday, March 30 in the morning at NCL's 3rd floor meeting room. It was co-hosted by NCL, the EU Centre in Taiwan, and the National Cheng Chi University EU Jean Monnet Programme. NCCU Professor Chang Tai-lin hosted the forum and led the discussion. Invited to participate were Professor Der-Chin Horng from Academia Sinica's Institute of European and American Studies, Professor Chung-hung Cho from the Graduate Institute of European Studies

at TamKang University, Dr. Yung-Djong Shaw from Academia Sinica's Institutum Jurisprudentiae (post-doctorate research fellow), and Professor Wu Fu-cheng, assistant director of the National Economic Development Strategy Center at Taiwan Institute of Economic Research. Wu Chih-chung, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, served as the discussant.

Professor Chang Tai-lin pointed out at the beginning of the forum that the EU's politics and economy are being heavily influenced and assaulted by such issues as Brexit, the change in Italy's parliament, the Polish legal crisis, and Putin's reelection. As such, experts were invited to reflect on various aspects of EU politics, economy, international affairs, society, and regional safety during this year, as well as discuss future prospects.

The four speakers and their topics were:

Professor Der-Chin Horng "Current Conditions and Future Prospects of Brexit"

Professor Chung-hung Cho "The Influence of Italian Parliament Elections on EU Political Situation"

Dr. Yung-Djong Shaw "Protecting the Values of the People: How the EU Should Respond to the Polish Legal Crisis"

Professor Wu Fu-cheng "Russo-European Relations in the Age of Putin 4.0"

NCL has been co-hosting the EUTW Forum with the EU Centre in Taiwan since 2012, holding 5-6 sessions each year. Top experts and scholars are invited each time to share their deep and broad observations and analyses, allowing those who are interested in EU affairs and developments—especially experts in industry, government, and academia—to pool ideas and insights and enjoy a

platform for discussion and dialog. The recorded proceeds of past forums can be found on NCL's audio-visual services platform (<http://mdava.ncl.edu.tw/parts2.php?tid=53>).



*EUTW Forum host, presenters, and VIP attendees; fifth from the right is Deputy Minister Wu Chih-chung.*

### ■ Public Library Regional Resource Centers Begin Offering a Convenience Store Book Pick-up and Return Service

In June 2017, the National Central Library (NCL) began offering an interlibrary loan delivery service at city and county Public Library Regional Resource Centers (PLRRC) across Taiwan. In order to expand the scope of this service even further and maximize the benefits of the PLRRC collections, the NCL has partnered with a convenience store distribution network. From December 12, 2017, the public are now able to use the Public Library Resource Sharing Service Platform (<http://rrcils.ncl.edu.tw/nclrrcc/RRCrq>), which integrates a book selection facility with convenience store distribution, to pick up and return books at 7-11 convenience stores.

Readers need only hold a library card issued at any of Taiwan's city or county public libraries. After completing a simple application procedure, readers are then able to conveniently borrow or return a book from a Regional Resource Center collection. The service is free of charge, and greatly simplifies access to the collections.