

The National Library of Turkey boasts a rich collection that includes biblical and Qur'anic manuscripts written over a thousand years ago. The library also houses documents and manuscripts from the Eastern Roman and Ottoman empires, providing excellent opportunities for manuscript exchanges.

In his speech, Representative Tai-hsiang Chang mentioned that, in the past five years, Taiwan and Turkey had signed ten MoUs establishing areas cooperation between the two countries. He eagerly anticipated further academic exchanges between the two national libraries in future. Representative Murat Baklaci expressed how gratifying it was to witness the signing of the first cooperative MoU between Taiwan and Turkey of his term of office, while also wishing the two libraries well in developing a multifaceted partnership.



Representative Murat Baklaci (from left), Director-General Tseng, and Representative Tai-hsiang Chang at MoU signing ceremony.

■ NCL Director-General Tseng Led a Benchmarking Delegation of Taiwan Public Librarians to the U.S.

The Ministry of Education, in a desire to expand the vision of those in charge of overseeing and managing public libraries in Taiwan and to promote a deeper understanding of international library

developments, organized a delegation of fifteen public librarians led by NCL Director-General Tseng Shu-hsien. On September 9, the delegation traveled to the U.S. for seven days of learning and touring.

The aim of the trip was to understand the operations and innovative services of the two large public library systems in New York City, as well as to engage in professional exchanges with and learn from each of the following libraries: the Central Library in Queens, the Flushing Library, the Elmhurst Branch Library, the Forest Hills Branch Library, the Stephen A. Schwarzman Building (New York Public Library), the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, the Hamilton Grange Library, the 53rd Street Library, the Grand Central Library, and the Free Library of Philadelphia-Parkway Central Library. The understanding and experience gained on this visit will be used in the preparations for a project starting next year—Creating a Collaborative and Sharing-friendly Library System. This will aid efforts in reorienting libraries in their socio-educational roles and services.



The delegation takes a group photo at the Central Library in Queens.