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Indo-Pacific and European Leaders to Meet in Taipei to Address Democratic Challenges

The Forum 2000 Foundation, in collaboration with the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of China (Taiwan)**, will convene the **Forum for Democratic Cooperation (FDC) in Taipei from 26 to 28 May 2026**, bringing together leading policymakers, parliamentarians, experts, civil society representatives, and public intellectuals from across the Indo-Pacific, Europe, and other democratic partner countries.

At a time when democratic systems face growing internal fragility alongside increasing external pressure, the Forum for Democratic Cooperation aims to create a space for strategic exchange and practical cooperation among actors committed to democratic governance and open societies. The initiative responds to the need for more structured, cross-regional dialogue capable of addressing shared challenges while identifying concrete avenues for collaboration.

The conference will focus on **four main thematic areas**: supporting democratic actors operating in authoritarian and challenging contexts; strengthening institutional resilience and democratic governance; countering authoritarian influence and enhancing the security of democracies; and advancing cooperation between Europe and the Indo-Pacific.

A public-facing forum on 27 May will bring together around **250** participants, including students, civil society representatives, media, and members of the diplomatic and policy communities. The discussions will address key questions related to democratic performance, public confidence, and the role of democratic actors beyond traditional geopolitical frameworks.

The Forum will also feature remarks from senior representatives of Taiwan and other high-level speakers, and address how democracies can become stronger, more resilient, and more effective in responding to public distrust, technological disruption, and authoritarian pressure. It will also explore the role of middle and smaller democracies in shaping international cooperation beyond great-power rivalry, asking how democratic actors can work together more strategically in a changing geopolitical environment.

As part of the Forum 2000 Foundation's initiatives, the FDC seeks to strengthen democratic resilience by connecting actors across regions, fostering trust-based dialogue, and advancing practical forms of cooperation in an increasingly contested global environment.

Filip Šebek – Media Coordinator, filip.sebek@forum2000.cz, +420 776 160 952