

Federation of Overseas Taiwanese Women's Association (FOTWA)

Established in 2002

Federation of Overseas Taiwanese Women's Association (FOTWA) is a network for Taiwanese women who reside in other countries. Our missions are as follows:

1. to enhance communication and support among overseas Taiwanese women,
2. to promote gender equality and advancement of democratic development in Taiwan,
3. to fully develop the potential of Taiwanese women and encourage their participation in public affairs,
4. to reach out and work with women's organizations worldwide to promote peace for all.

Encouraged by Taiwanese Vice President Ms. Annette Lu, a proposal to establish a coalition for overseas Taiwanese women was raised in April 2001 and the North America Taiwanese Women's Association (NATWA) was asked to aid in the creation of the coalition. The first preparation meeting (Sao Paulo, Brazil) was facilitated by then NATWA President, Ms. Susan Chang, in July 2001. More than 30 Taiwanese women from many different countries attended the meeting. Soon after, Taiwanese Women's Associations (TWA's) were established in Costa Rica, Japan and the United Kingdom. Representatives from these three organizations attended the 2002 NATWA annual convention in Florida, and together they announced the establishment of FOTWA.

FOTWA is a coalition of overseas Taiwanese women's groups from around the world. We sincerely hope to see more TWA's established and join us in the near future.

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Important events in FOTWA history:

1. 2002: The first FOTWA convention was held in Japan.
2. 2003: The second convention was organized by the TWA in the United Kingdom
3. 2003: A new group in Japan, the Taiwanese Hakka Women's Association, formed and joined FOTWA.
4. 2004: Taiwanese Women's Association in Europe was established and joined FOTWA.
5. 2005: The annual convention is scheduled for November and will be hosted by the TWA in Costa Rica.