## **Human Rights Foundation mulling forum in Taipei**

Written by Taipei Times Saturday, 13 August 2016 07:17 -



Human Rights Foundation chief strategy officer Alex Gladstein walks out of a hotel in an undated photograph.

**Photo: CNA** 

The Human Rights Foundation is seeking to hold one of its freedom forums in Taipei next year to highlight Taiwan's suppression in the international community and its democratic achievements, the New York-based group said.

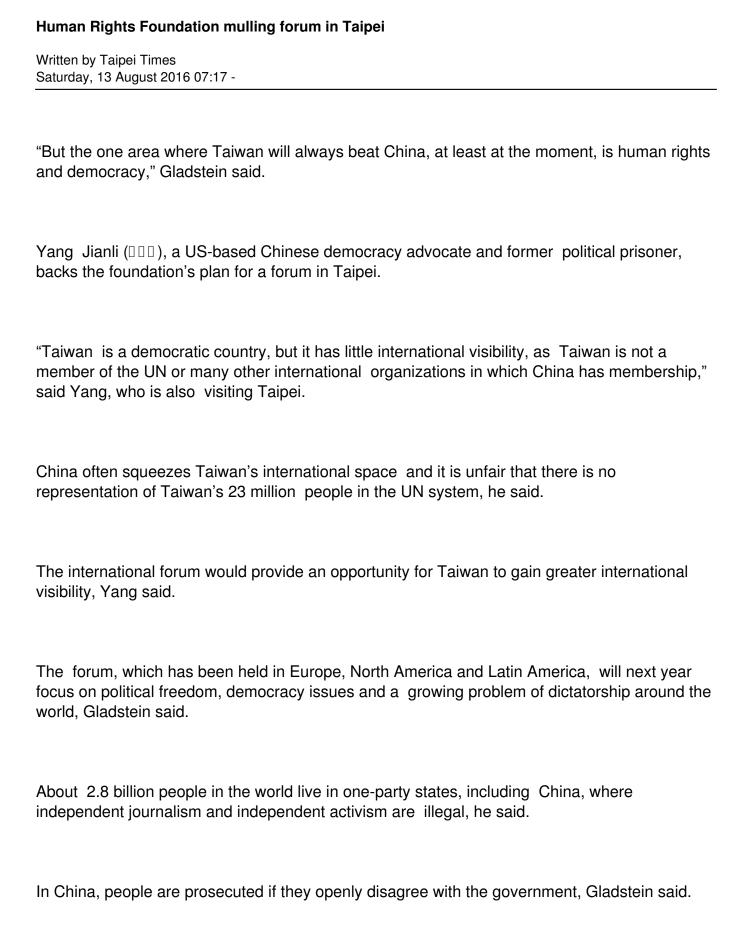
The forum usually brings the experience of the foundation's flagship annual conference — the Oslo Freedom Forum — to different regions of the world to discuss human rights, political freedom and democracy issues.

As the foundation is seeking to bring the forum to East Asia, Taipei is the host city of choice, chief strategy officer Alex Gladstein said in an interview in Taipei on Wednesday.

The aim is to inform activists around the world about Taiwan's transition to democracy, which is an example of democracy in a Chinese society, said Gladstein, who is in Taipei to plan for the forum.

He said Taiwan serves as a good example to the government of China, demonstrating that democracy is possible for Chinese nations.

Gladstein said that China has been crushing Taiwan internationally and can outdo the nation in many areas, from economy and investment, to food and culture.



"The status quo in China is not acceptable," he said.

## **Human Rights Foundation mulling forum in Taipei**

Written by Taipei Times Saturday, 13 August 2016 07:17 -

One of the goals of the forum will be to expose the problems in China in hopes of promoting greater awareness and encouraging people to help, Gladstein said.

Assistance to activists in China does not have to be in the form of financial resources, he said.

For example, software that allows activists there to contact each other safely would be of great help, he said.

The Human Rights Foundation is a non-profit organization that aims to promote and protect human rights globally. Its programs mainly support activists and civil society leaders working in tough environments like Cuba, China, North Korea and Saudi Arabia.

Since 2009, the foundation has been holding the annual Oslo Freedom Forum in Norway, bringing together dissidents and leaders from the business, technology, media and political sectors to discuss ways of promoting human rights and democracy.

Source: Taipei Times - 2016/08/13