



# In the time it takes you to read this page, someone will have made a new post on **Forumosa.com**

## Help support Taiwan's largest and fastest growing web community for foreigners

- On average, 600 posts per day and 400 distinct logins per day
- Nearly 400,000 posts, up from 250,000 posts in Jan 2005
- 4,742 active members, up from 3,700 in Jan 2005 (*active means members in the past 3 months with at least 1 post*)
- Monthly happy hours, weekly clubs for Games, Movies and Hiking
- Mostly long-term residents – average 4 years stay in Taiwan
- A critical resource for new arrivals to Taiwan

## Types of donation

Zone	Campaign Weighting	Sitewide	Specific Forums		
			Food + Restaurants, Bars and Clubs	Teaching English, Learning Chinese	Travel
Premium	3	<b>NT\$ 20,000</b>	NT\$ 6,000	NT\$ 6,000	NT\$ 6,000
Regular	2	<b>NT\$ 16,000</b>	NT\$ 5,000	NT\$ 5,000	NT\$ 5,000
Non Profit	1	-	-	-	-

## How to manage your banners

### CHOOSE YOUR FORUMS, CHOOSE YOUR WEIGHTING

- **2 banner sizes:** Leaderboard (728x90 pixels) and Vertical Tower (160x600 pixels)
- **Choose weighting:** Regular or Premium
- **Choose your scope:** Sitewide banners appear in all forums; Specific Forum donations can be combined, ie. Food/Restaurants + Travel forums = NT\$ 10,000
- Banners automatically expire 365 days from the time we activate them

### MONITOR YOUR STATS

You can check how often your banners are displayed and how many times they are clicked whenever you want.

- Visit the ad server at <http://ads.forumosa.com>
- Login with a special "Forumosa Donor ID" and password

### TAKE FULL CONTROL OF YOUR MESSAGE

You can e-mail us your banner files for us to upload on our ad server. Or send links (URL) to your banners instead:

- **Then you can update them whenever you want** – to highlight specials or seasonal offers – without waiting on us
- **And make sure your banners fit inside our Leaderboard and Vertical Tower zones** – our ad server is very strict and will not display banners larger than these sizes
- **GIF, JPG, PNG and FLASH formats are accepted**

# 台灣老外「網路」獨立建國【記者鍾蓮芳／專訪】

台灣除了外省人、原住民、客家人，還有另一個族群叫「外國人」。他們有的新來乍到，有的則已是住了 20、30 年的「老外國人」；過去，他們分散各地，近年他們則開始集會、結社，建立了一個自己的「社區王國」……。

不必緊張，這些外國人的「福爾摩沙」其實只是在虛擬網際網路裡的網站——forumosa；網主是加拿大人 Anthony Van Dyck(潘龍泉)，來台近十年，耕耘網站幾年下來，竟成台灣外國人的網站「盟主」。

和馬英九相比，Anthony 高帥、健康、親和力高，外形毫不遜色；和陳水扁比較，他則溫暖、正直、有禮，公信力高出很多；和李登輝比較，他絕對是網站靈魂人物，如果這個網站已為台灣外國人的網路國度，稱其為「國父」也絕不為過。

Anthony 說，他大學時休學一年周遊列國，去過 31 個國家，對台灣留下深刻印象，1989 年曾到台灣短暫教過英文，返回加拿大完成學業後，被台灣快速成長的步伐吸引，再次回到台灣，就這樣留了下來。

當時他除了教英文，發現到一個提供台灣外國人相關生活資訊的網站

「ORIENTED.ORG」，他因為「愛吃」很快就將台北好吃、好喝的地方摸熟了，在網上發表了不少有用資

訊，站主乾脆委託他管理其中一個飲食生活的網頁，想不到吸引愈來愈多的造訪者，維持網頁成了他業餘的「正職」；前年，他並成為網站的主要管理者。

網站後來改為「forumosa」，取 forum 中文為論壇之意，而討論內容為在 Formosa 台灣的生活點滴，也因為造訪的外國人愈來愈多，目前已是台灣最大的外國人網站；同時間通常有百餘人掛在網上，造訪網站的人數已超過了 20 萬人次。

他說，光去年一年，因為太多人上網而塞車、當機，維持網站的頻寬就升級了三次，流量大、網路升級，也使他們的網站維持費用大為提高，由一開始每個月 20 美元，到去年的每個月 200 餘美元，換算成台幣每個月網路費高達 7000 元，因為這個網站原本就是開放的公益網站，所有維持費用完全由站主自付。

Anthony 的台灣妻子潘蕙欣說，雖然她猶如「電腦寡婦」，Anthony 一回家就迫不及待坐到電腦前面，擔心愈來愈高的網路費，他們並決定開設「北美英語」補習班，打算為維護網站長期作戰。不過，網路社區的外國朋友「好可愛」，擔心站主關掉網站，紛紛主動捐錢，去年雖然網路費大增，他們竟然沒有花到一毛錢。

網上什麼神奇的事都可能發生，除了捐錢，連準備來台灣的外國人都找到 forumosa 尋找協助，還沒來到台灣、就已安頓好一切的吃住；Anthony 也意外發現外國人在台灣的足跡廣布，連阿里山上都住有外國人；去年桃園大停水，網站更「救」了許多已經好幾天憋尿、不敢洗澡的外國人。

透過網路，台灣的「外國人」也現出原形，台灣的外國人絕不只白皮膚、藍眼睛的西方人，也不是泰國、印尼、菲律賓等外籍勞工這些「刻板印象」，而是歐、亞、美、非四大洲，各國人都有，猶如一個「國際村」。至於透過網路，尋求居留問題、課稅問題、交通問題等等疑難雜證，在網上找到了另一伴，志同道合的人定期約出來「網聚」，一起去露營、遛狗、郊遊「發現新台灣」，甚至對台灣社會、政治問題，國際政治、社會新聞，高談闊論，更是常事……；外國人在台灣的各種適應問題，交給「forumosa」就對了。

Anthony 說，台灣外國人終於建立了自己的社區王國……；他們不只是外國人，也是台灣人。

管理台灣外國人網站多年，加拿大人 Anthony Van Dyck 潘龍泉（右為其台灣妻子潘蕙欣）諷口：北台灣有那些好餐廳？比他清楚的人恐怕不多

## An online kingdom for Taiwan's foreign community

Minsheng Daily: 14 Jan 2005 - Besides Minnan people, Hakka people, mainlanders and aborigines, there's yet another group of people living in Taiwan. Most people here refer to them as "foreigners". Some of them are right off the boat, while others are "old hands," having been in Taiwan for decades. They are scattered all around the country, but in recent years, they've begun to come together, setting up their own little community online.

This foreigners' Formosa, a website, is spelled a bit differently, i.e. "Forumosa". Site co-owner and Canadian Anthony Van Dyck, or Pan Longquan as he's known in Chinese, has been in Taiwan for nearly 14 years and has been building the site for several years along with Filipino-American Gus Adapon. Together they now head up the Web site. Anthony has also established a language school called "North American English", located off Heping East Road in the southeastern part of the city. Anthony's Taiwanese wife Vanessa says that she still feels like an "Internet widow," with Anthony unable to resist the temptation of sitting down at the computer the moment he gets in the door.

Back in the 1980's, Anthony took a year off during his college studies to travel the world. His wanderings took him to 31

countries, but it was Taiwan that left a lasting impression on him. In 1989, he did a stint on the island teaching English, and after completing his studies in Canada, he found himself once more attracted to Taiwan's fast growth, so he decided to return to Taiwan. This time, it was for keeps.

When he arrived back in Taiwan, Anthony was teaching English when he came upon a Web site called ORIENTED.org offering information to foreigners living in Taiwan. Because he loves good food, he quickly became familiar with the best places to eat and drink in Taipei, and posted a considerable amount of useful information to the site. Anthony was first tapped by the site owner to moderate the "Restaurants, Bars and Clubs" forum. Gradually, the site drew more and more visitors, and keeping the site up became a full-time unpaid job for Anthony. The year before last, he formally became co-manager of the site, along with Adapon, one of the site's original founders.

Later, the site's name was changed to "Forumosa," a takeoff on the word "forum" and the fact that the site discussed Formosa - the "beautiful island" of Taiwan. More and more visitors, both foreign and Taiwanese, joined the site, and today, Forumosa stands as the premier English-

language Web site in Taiwan. It is not uncommon for the discussion boards to host over 100 users at the same time, and Forumosa has already seen over 200,000 visitors.

Anthony says that during 2004 alone, the site experienced slowdowns because of excessive traffic. The site has been upgraded three times to provide more bandwidth, but the increased traffic and web upgrades also meant higher costs for maintaining the site. From an initial cost of US\$20 a month, costs rose to over US\$200 per month last year, the equivalent of an NTS\$7,000 a month price tag. Because the site was originally an open, public-service site, all the costs were borne by the owners.

Concerned friends in the Forumosa community were worried that the site might close down. One after another they offered financial support, and last year although the cost of running the site continued to rise, Forumosa did not cost Anthony and his wife a cent.

The donations were amazing enough, but consider this: foreigners who have not even arrived in Taiwan yet can use Forumosa to arrange everything they'll need when they get here. Anthony has also gotten a better idea of just how many foreigners are in Taiwan. Some of them even live on Alishan.

During last year's big water outage in Taoyuan, the site served to succor numerous users who had gone days without daring to use the toilet or take a shower.

Via the Internet, these foreigners in Taiwan now have a face, and that face isn't just the stereotypical white-skinned, blue-eyed Western one. Nor is it the equally common stereotype of the Thai, Indonesian, or Filipino foreign worker. These foreigners hail from around the world and include people from just about every country in the world. It's truly a global village.

Now, thanks to the Internet, finding answers to questions about studying abroad, tax issues, traffic and transportation problems or any other conundrum is a matter of hooking up with others who have the same ambitions or challenges. Forumosans go camping together, walk their dogs, go on trips to "discover Taiwan," and even talk about Taiwanese society and politics, international politics, and news items. Anyone in the foreign community can count on Forumosa for help in adjusting to life in Taiwan.

Forumosa is located at Forumosa.com