

November 30, 2024

# SYLLOGE ON CHINA

**Focus: Nuclear, Space, Missiles and other Security Issues**

**An Initiative by the Nuclear and Arms Control Centre,  
MP-IDSA**



## **China, Brazil decide to elevate ties in Xi, Lula meeting**

The National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, November 21, 2024

China and Brazil decided to elevate their ties to the community with a shared future for a more just world and a more sustainable planet. The decision was made during a meeting between Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Brazilian counterpart, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. Xi is paying a state visit to the country after he attended the 19th G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro. China and Brazil are two major developing countries in their respective hemispheres, he said, noting that in the past 50 years, they enjoyed a relationship that transcends mountains and seas, and found a right way for major developing countries to get along with each other, one that is based on mutual respect, mutual benefit and amity.

[http://en.cppcc.gov.cn/2024-11/21/c\\_1047150.htm](http://en.cppcc.gov.cn/2024-11/21/c_1047150.htm)

## **The true aims of China's nuclear buildup**

Kyle Balzer and Dan Blumenthal

Foreign Affairs, November 21, 2024

Since 2018, American defence analysts have repeatedly identified China as the greatest threat to U.S. national security. They have variously described Beijing as a “systemic challenge,” a “pacing threat,” and even a “peer adversary,” owing to China’s massive military buildup, belligerent behavior in the Asia-Pacific, and global campaign of economic coercion. These vague, buzzy phrases point to a growing consensus: that China’s ambitions greatly imperil American national interests. There is no consensus, however, on the intention behind China’s strategic moves, chief among them its rapid buildup of nuclear weapons.

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/china/true-aims-chinas-nuclear-buildup>

## **US should fulfill its special and priority responsibility for nuclear disarmament: FM**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, November 21, 2024

In recent years, the US has kept upgrading its nuclear triad, increasing the role of nuclear weapons in national security policies, strengthening nuclear sharing and extended deterrence with its allies, and promoting forward deployment of medium-range missiles and anti-missile systems. These moves seriously disturb global strategic balance and stability, intensify military competition and confrontation, and increase nuclear risks. The US should earnestly fulfill its

special and primary responsibility for nuclear disarmament, further make drastic and substantive cuts to its nuclear arsenal, create conditions for the ultimate realization of complete and thorough nuclear disarmament, and contribute to reducing strategic risks and upholding regional peace and stability.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202411/t20241121\\_11530614.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202411/t20241121_11530614.html)

## **China's Non-Proliferation Policy and Measures**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, November 21, 2024

China has always stood for the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), including nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, and is firmly against the proliferation of such weapons and their means of delivery. China does not support, encourage or assist any country in developing WMD and their means of delivery. China firmly supports international non-proliferation efforts, and stands for the attainment of the non-proliferation goal through political and diplomatic means. To this end, on the one hand, the international non-proliferation mechanism should be constantly improved and export controls of individual countries further strengthened; on the other hand, proliferation issues should be dealt with through dialogue and international cooperation.

[https://www.mfa.gov.cn/eng/wjb/zzjg\\_663340/jks\\_665232/kjlc\\_665236/fkswt\\_665240/202406/t20240606\\_11405135.html](https://www.mfa.gov.cn/eng/wjb/zzjg_663340/jks_665232/kjlc_665236/fkswt_665240/202406/t20240606_11405135.html)

## **Chinese espionage: Top senator calls Salt Typhoon ‘worst telecom hack in our nation’s history’**

Ellen Nakashima

The Washington Post, November 21, 2023

The Chinese government espionage campaign that has deeply penetrated more than a dozen U.S. telecommunications companies is the “worst telecom hack in our nation’s history — by far,” a senior U.S. senator told The Washington Post in an interview. The hackers, part of a group dubbed Salt Typhoon, have been able to listen in on audio calls in real time and have in some cases moved from one telecom network to another, exploiting relationships of “trust,” said Sen. Mark R. Warner (D-Virginia), chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee and a former telecom venture capitalist. Warner added that intruders are still in the networks.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2024/11/21/salt-typhoon-china-hack-telecom/>

## **China ‘willing’ to engage in Trump dialogue as it backs exporters**

Joe Leahy and Wenjie Ding

Financial Times, November 22, 2024

China is willing to engage in “positive dialogue” on trade with the US under a Donald Trump administration, senior trade officials said, a day after Beijing introduced a swath of measures to fortify its exporters ahead of anticipated higher tariffs imposed from Washington. At a press briefing, officials said Beijing would remain “steadfast” in resisting protectionist measures. They also pledged to maintain a stable exchange rate despite expectations that Trump’s policies, which include imposing 60 per cent tariffs on Chinese goods, could lead to a stronger dollar. “China and the United States share strong economic complementarities . . . China is willing to engage in positive dialogue with the US,” Wang Shouwen, international trade representative and vice-minister of commerce, said when asked about the expected Trump tariffs. “At the same time, it remains steadfast in safeguarding its sovereignty, security and development.”

<https://www.ft.com/content/c98b9d4b-ac76-4931-821c-ddf7a6283180>

## **China’s Nuclear Rise**

Lawrence J. Korb

The National Interest, November 22, 2024

Does the rise of China as a nuclear strategic superpower present a fundamental threat to deterrence, arms control, and arms race stability? Experts contend that China has set in motion an ambitious nuclear modernization program that could result in a world with three significant nuclear peer great powers by the mid-2030s. A potential Chinese nuclear superpower also contributes to arguments in favor of the widespread modernization of the entire U.S. nuclear enterprise. The following analysis first considers authoritative threat assessments of China’s potential nuclear modernization and its implications for future international security. The second section provides some futuristic scenario analysis relevant to the possible combination of Russian and Chinese deployed strategic nuclear forces compared to those deployed by the United States.

<https://nationalinterest.org/feature/china%E2%80%99s-nuclear-rise-213850>

## **US revises its nuclear strategy as China and Russia strengthen their capabilities**

RBC-Ukraine, November 22, 2024

The US Department of Defence is reviewing approaches to nuclear deterrence against the backdrop of China and Russia's growing nuclear capabilities, as well as the possible absence of

international arms control agreements after February, according to Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence for Nuclear Policy and Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Richard C. Johnson. He notes that in today's world, the United States faces numerous nuclear rivals that are actively modernizing their arsenals and assigning nuclear weapons an important place in national security strategies.

<https://newsukraine.rbc.ua/news/us-revises-its-nuclear-strategy-as-china-1732266236.html>

## **Chinese envoy: Pressure and power politics are not diplomacy, confrontation will not solve the Iran nuclear issue**

Permanent Mission of The People's Republic of China to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Vienna, November 22, 2024

On November 21, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors reviewed the Iranian nuclear issue. Ambassador Li Song, the Permanent Representative of China to the IAEA, attended the meeting. Ambassador Li pointed out that the fundamental solution to properly addressing non-proliferation hotspot issues lies in political and diplomatic efforts as well as constructive cooperation on multilateral platforms. China welcomes Iran's cooperation with IAEA on outstanding safeguards issues and highly commend the active interactions and positive outcomes during DG's visit to Iran last week. Several years ago, due to a reason known to all, the authority, effectiveness and smooth implementation of the JCPOA were seriously undermined.

[http://vienna.china-mission.gov.cn/eng/dbthd/202411/t20241122\\_11531365.htm](http://vienna.china-mission.gov.cn/eng/dbthd/202411/t20241122_11531365.htm)

## **Emerging details of Chinese hack leave U.S. officials increasingly concerned**

David E. Sanger Julian E. Barnes Devlin Barrett and Adam Goldman

The New York Times, November 22, 2024

Leaders of the top telecommunications companies were summoned to the White House to discuss a security problem that has been roiling the government: how to expel Chinese hackers from the deepest corners of the nation's communications networks. The meeting in the Situation Room came after weeks in which officials grew increasingly alarmed by what they had uncovered about the hack. They have learned that the Chinese hackers got a nearly complete list of phone numbers the Justice Department monitors in its "lawful intercept" system, which places wiretaps on people suspected of committing crimes or spying, usually after a warrant is issued.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/11/22/us/politics/chinese-hack-telecom-white-house.html>

## **PLA fires up world's first underwater boron ramjet for unstoppable anti-ship missiles**

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, November 22, 2024

Chinese scientists have built the dream engine they proposed just two years ago. The engine, originally meant for hypersonic weapons, has been modified so that it not only flies through the air, but can also then plunge into the sea to reach its target – at very high speeds and over long distances. It does this by not only inhaling air, but also water, as oxidising agents. In laboratory tests, the engine has achieved a nearly 90 per cent combustion efficiency while operating in submarine mode, meeting the requirements for practical use.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3287475/pla-fires-worlds-first-underwater-boron-ramjet-unstoppable-anti-ship-missiles>

## **Huawei aims to mass-produce newest AI chip**

Taipei Times, November 23, 2024

China's Huawei Technologies Co plans to start mass-producing its most advanced artificial intelligence (AI) chip in the first quarter of next year, even as it struggles to make enough chips due to US restrictions, two people familiar with the matter said. The telecoms conglomerate has sent samples of the Ascend 910C — its newest chip, meant to rival those made by US chipmaker Nvidia Corp — to some technology firms and started taking orders, the sources told Reuters. The 910C is being made by top Chinese contract chipmaker Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corp on its N+2 process, but a lack of advanced lithography equipment has limited the chip's yield to about 20 percent, said one source who was briefed on the results.

<https://www.taipetimes.com/News/biz/archives/2024/11/23/2003827334>

## **Singapore's Lee Hsien Loong starts China visit, 'to steady ties in changing world dynamic'**

Fan Anqi and Liang Rui

Global Times, November 24, 2024

Senior Minister of Singapore Lee Hsien Loong, also the former prime minister of the country, was set to kick off a six-day visit to China, which Chinese experts believe will further inject stability to bilateral ties amid rapidly changing world dynamic. Lee's visit to China reflects a smooth

transfer of power during the country's leadership transition from Lee to Lawrence Wong, said Gu Xiaosong, dean of the ASEAN Research Institute at Hainan Tropical Ocean University. This is Lee's first visit to China since stepping down as Singaporean prime minister in May and handing the leadership reins to Lawrence Wong, Channel News Asia reported.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202411/1323700.shtml>

## **Have China's plans for a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier taken another step forward?**

Seong Hyeon Choi

South China Morning Post, November 24, 2024

Reports that China has built a prototype nuclear reactor for its next aircraft carrier have prompted renewed focus on its supposed long-term ambition to project naval power far from its shores. Carriers powered by nuclear reactors do not need to refuel as often as conventionally powered ones. This gives them much greater range and also allows them to carry more fuel and weapons for their aircraft. Associated Press reported on November 11 that China had built a prototype reactor for a large surface warship on a mountain site outside the city of Leshan, in the southwestern province of Sichuan.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3287853/have-chinas-plans-nuclear-powered-aircraft-carrier-taken-another-step-forward>

## **Chinese researchers eye building egg-shaped house on the moon using traditional Chinese woodworking technique**

Global Times, November 25, 2024

With simulated lunar soil bricks sent to Chinese space station aboard the Tianzhou-8, the development team responsible said in an interview on Monday that it is considering shaping the bricks into mortise and tenon joints -- a traditional Chinese construction technique -- to build an egg-shaped house on the moon, China Central Television (CCTV) reported. As the only extraterrestrial body that humans have ever reached, the moon has always been a significant point of focus in scientific research. Around the world, major spacefaring nations have proposed plans for middle- and long-term human presence on the moon, sparking a new wave of lunar exploration enthusiasm.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202411/1323755.shtml>

## **China opposes using Taiwan question as excuse to strengthen military deployment**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, November 25, 2024

Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory, and the Taiwan question is China's internal affair. The key to upholding cross-Strait peace and stability is to remain committed to the one-China principle. China firmly opposes relevant countries using the Taiwan question as an excuse to strengthen military deployment in the region, heighten tensions and confrontation, and disturb regional peace and stability.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202411/t20241125\\_11532689.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202411/t20241125_11532689.html)

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on Biden administration's plans to unveil new export restrictions on China**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, November 25, 2024

China is firmly opposed to the US overstretching the concept of national security, abusing export control measures and making malicious attempts to block and suppress China. Such moves seriously violate the laws of market economy and the principles of fair competition, disrupt international economic and trade order and the stability of global industrial and supply chains, and will eventually harm the interest of all countries. China will take resolute measures to firmly defend the legitimate and lawful rights and interests of Chinese companies.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202411/t20241125\\_11532689.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202411/t20241125_11532689.html)

## **New coating can make China's stealth aircraft invisible to anti-stealth radar: study**

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, November 25, 2024

The Chinese military has unveiled a stealth material capable of blinding anti-stealth radars. Laboratory tests have demonstrated that it can effectively absorb low-frequency electromagnetic waves from various angles, with a thickness equivalent to just two sheets of printing paper – a feat previously deemed impossible. Anti-stealth radars emit electromagnetic waves with wavelengths reaching centimetres or even metres. Currently, due to their thinness, the materials coated on stealth aircraft are unable to effectively absorb these long-wave signals.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3287546/new-coating-can-make-chinas-stealth-aircraft-invisible-anti-stealth-radar-study>



## **China, the US, and Averting Nuclear Götterdämmerung**

Michael Sheridan

Centre for European Policy Analysis, November 25, 2024

Too much reckless talk of nuclear war (take a bow, Vladimir Putin) has shaken China and might, paradoxically, lead to serious engagement between the People's Republic and the West on strategic arms. That's if the new US administration is up to it, and if Europe can stay in the game. Here is a clue: the final meeting between Xi Jinping and Joe Biden produced a surprise agreement that control over nuclear weapons must rest with humans, not artificial intelligence (AI). China is uncommunicative in military affairs as a matter of principle and recently delivered a petulant snub to the US Defence Secretary to convey indignation over Taiwan.

<https://cepa.org/article/china-the-us-and-averting-nuclear-gotterdammerung/>

## **How to stop the United States and China from sliding into war**

Michael D. Swaine

War on the Rocks, November 25, 2024

As anyone who has been paying attention to the increasingly fraught Sino–American relationship knows, the chance that the two nuclear powers could end up in a serious crisis, and possibly a major war, is significant and growing. Most notably, increasing tensions between China and several of its neighbors — including U.S. allies and partners from Japan to Taiwan, the Philippines, and India — have resulted in escalating incidents involving military and paramilitary forces that threaten to draw Washington and Beijing into a direct confrontation.

<https://warontherocks.com/2024/11/how-to-stop-the-united-states-and-china-from-sliding-into-war/>

## **China slams US military aircraft's transit of Taiwan Strait**

China Daily, November 26, 2024

A Chinese military spokesperson slammed the United States for sending a P-8A anti-submarine patrol aircraft to fly through the Taiwan Strait and then hype it up publicly. Senior Colonel Cao Jun, spokesperson for the Eastern Theater Command of the People's Liberation Army, said the theater command had deployed its naval and air forces to closely track, monitor, and issue

warnings to the US aircraft that had trespassed the strait, effectively responding to the situation. Noting that the US remarks have distorted legal principles and misled international public opinion, he urged the United States to stop distorting and sensationalizing the issue and jointly safeguard regional peace and stability.

<https://www.chinadailyhk.com/hk/article/598732>

## **New rocket in China's Long March series to make maiden flight, laying foundation for reusability**

Fan Anqi

Global Times, November 26, 2024

After being transported to a launch pad at the Hainan Commercial Space Launch Site on Tuesday, a new member of China's Long March carrier rocket family, the Long March-12, has been scheduled to undertake its maiden flight in the next few days. Experts said due to its enhanced overall capacity, the new rocket, which is the country's first single-core liquid carrier rocket with a diameter of 3.8 meters, will gradually replace China's older 3.35-meter diameter series. With better reliability in attitude control, the Long March-12 is expected to become the basic model for future reusable rockets in China.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202411/1323828.shtml>

## **China urges U.S. to safeguard drug-control cooperation**

CGTN, November 26, 2024

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson said that the United States should cherish the goodwill of China and safeguard the hard-won positive situation of China-U.S. cooperation on drug control. The spokesperson made the remarks after U.S. President-elect Donald Trump threatened to slap an additional 10 percent tariff on all Chinese imports. China is one of the world's toughest countries on counter-narcotics, both in terms of policy and its implementation, the spokesperson noted. Considering that fentanyl is an issue for the U.S., the spokesperson said that China, in the spirit of humanity, has given support to the U.S. response to this issue.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2024-11-26/China-urges-U-S-to-safeguard-drug-control-cooperation-1yQDfH8gQzm/p.html>

## **Fentanyl rises again, this time as Trump's diplomatic weapon against China**

David Pierson

The New York Times, November 26, 2024

At the heart of President-elect Donald J. Trump's threat to slap China with new tariffs is a bitterly recurring issue: the flow into the United States of the potent opioid fentanyl, created using chemicals made in China. But cooperation on fentanyl — to some degree, at least — between the countries has already been happening, making it one of the few issues left that the two superpower rivals have been able to make progress on. In September, Chinese officials expanded the list of so-called precursor chemicals used in making the drug, imposing more oversight. The move was the result of renewed bilateral talks on narcotics that started after President Biden and China's top leader, Xi Jinping, met in Woodside, Calif., a year ago.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/11/26/world/asia/trump-china-tariff-fentanyl.html>

## **Chinese envoy reminds NZ of 'negative consequences' if it joins AUKUS**

Fan Anqi and Liang Rui

Global Times, November 27, 2024

Chinese ambassador to New Zealand Wang Xiaolong reiterated in a recent interview that there will be negative consequences for the bilateral relationship if Wellington were to join AUKUS. Expressing significant concerns about the trilateral security pact between Australia, the US and the UK, Wang said in an interview with Radio New Zealand that AUKUS entails the transfer of weapons-grade nuclear materials from a nuclear weapon state to a non-nuclear weapon state for the first time in history. "If that is allowed to happen, it will raise serious questions about the integrity of the [nuclear] Non-Proliferation Treaty regime," Wang said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202411/1323902.shtml>

## **China's defence minister placed under investigation for corruption**

Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, November 27, 2024

China has put its defence minister under investigation in the latest corruption-related scandal to hit the top of the People's Liberation Army, according to current and former US officials familiar with the situation. Admiral Dong Jun, who was named in December 2023 after his predecessor

was fired for corruption, is being investigated as part of a broader probe into graft in the PLA, the US officials said. He is the third consecutive serving or former defence minister to be investigated for alleged corruption. Dong succeeded General Li Shangfu, who was ousted after just seven months in the job. Both men were appointed by President Xi Jinping.

<https://www.ft.com/content/641446ed-71b1-42f6-a9d8-3bc4d7b7da23>

## **China highly concerned about nuclear risks arising from Ukraine crisis, Chinese FM says over reports of US considering giving Ukraine nuclear weapons**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, November 27, 2024

China is paying close attention to the nuclear risks triggered by the Ukraine crisis and has reiterated time and again that nuclear weapons should not be used and nuclear war must not be fought. Under the current circumstances, all parties need to remain calm and exercise restraint, and jointly seek to cool down the situation through dialogue and consultation to reduce strategic risks.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202411/t20241128\\_11534881.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202411/t20241128_11534881.html)

## **China has a new playbook to counter Trump: 'Supply Chain Warfare'**

Alexandra Stevenson and Paul Mozur

The New York Times, November 27, 2024

In the world of cheap drones, Skydio was the great American hope. Its autonomous flying machines gave the U.S. defence and police agencies an alternative to Chinese manufacturers, free from the security concerns tied to dependence on Chinese supply chains. But Skydio's vulnerabilities came into sharp focus days before the U.S. presidential election, when the Chinese authorities imposed sanctions and severed the company's access to essential battery supplies.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/11/27/business/china-retaliation-skydio.html>

## **Joint Statement between the People's Republic of China and the Independent State of Samoa**

China Daily, November 27, 2024

At the invitation of Premier Li Qiang of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, Prime Minister Fiame Naomi Mata'afa of the Independent State of Samoa paid an official visit to China

from November 20-28, 2024. During the visit, Prime Minister Fiame met with President Xi Jinping and held talks with Premier of the State Council Li Qiang. The two sides exchanged views and reached broad understanding on the bilateral relations as well as on international and regional issues of mutual interest.

<https://www.chinadailyhk.com/hk/article/598767>

## **China to build next-gen BeiDou system, planning test satellite launches in 2027 and system completion by 2035**

People's Daily Online, November 28, 2024

China Satellite Navigation Office (CSNO) released major plans for the next stage of Beidou Navigation Satellite System (BDS), featuring cutting-edge technologies and enhanced services. The plan includes the launch of three pilot test satellites around 2027 and the completion of the system by 2035. The BDS Development Plan for 2035 was announced at a symposium in Beijing to mark the 30th anniversary of the Beidou project. More than 100 participants attended the event, including representatives from national authorities, as well as key personnel from the project's engineering leadership and design teams. The timeline specifies that breakthroughs in key technologies are expected by 2025. By 2027, three pilot satellites will be launched to test new technologies, and by 2029, the deployment of the system's network satellites will begin. The full completion of the next-generation BDS is expected by 2035, according to the plan.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/1128/c90000-20247978.html>

## **China announces top military official is under investigation**

Christian Shepherd and Katrina Northrop

The Washington Post, November 28, 2024

One of China's highest-ranking military officials is under investigation for "serious discipline violations," Beijing announced, using a common euphemism for corruption. The announcement marks a notable escalation in Chinese leader Xi Jinping's campaign to tackle the long-standing graft that has reached the top rungs of the Chinese army. The Chinese Communist Party decided to suspend Admiral Miao Hua — who has headed the powerful political work department of its Central Military Commission since 2017 — pending an investigation, Wu Qian, a Defence Ministry spokesman, said at a news briefing.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/11/28/china-military-corruption-investigation-miao-hua/>

## **PLA naval and air forces launch exercises around Huangyan Island**

China Daily, November 28, 2024

The People's Liberation Army's Southern Theater Command organized naval and air forces to conduct combat readiness patrols in the sea and airspace surrounding China's Huangyan Island in the South China Sea, the command said. In a statement, the command said that since November, its forces have continuously strengthened patrols and vigilance in the sea and airspace around Huangyan Island, further enhancing control over the surrounding areas. The patrols are aimed at resolutely safeguarding national sovereignty and security, as well as maintaining peace and stability in the South China Sea region, it said.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202411/28/WS674836dba310f1265a1d01d8.html>

## **The Trump administration's China challenge**

Rush Doshi

Foreign Affairs, November 29, 2024

Predicting the incoming Trump administration's China policy—and China's likely response—is a guessing game. In his first term as president, Donald Trump's transactional approach often differed from his team's competitive approach. Those contrasting impulses will define his second term. But despite the uncertainty surrounding the Trump administration's approach, the central challenge it faces is clear: positioning the United States to outcompete China as a critical window in the competition begins to close.

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/united-states/trump-administrations-china-challenge>

## **J-20S vs F-22: how drones flip the battle of mighty stealth fighters**

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, November 29, 2024

China and the United States boast the most formidable stealth fighter jets in the world – but which one reigns supreme? A team of Chinese military experts decided to find out, so they conducted a simulated battle between a J-20 of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) and an F-22 of the US, setting the stage to the north of Taiwan. To be cautious, the Chinese jet's technical specs, including radar prowess and stealth capabilities, were deliberately set lower than its American counterpart.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3288501/j-20s-vs-f-22-how-drones-flip-battle-mighty-stealth-fighters>

## **PLA Air Force's H-6N bombers make cruise debut in 9th China-Russia joint strategic air patrol over Sea of Japan**

Liu Xuanzun, Guo Yuandan and Liu Xin

Global Times, November 29, 2024

China and Russia conducted their ninth joint strategic air patrol, which saw the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Air Force's latest H-6N bombers flying over the Sea of Japan for the first time on this kind of cruise mission. Capable of aerial refueling, the H-6N bomber can significantly expand the joint patrol's scope of deterrence and strike, said experts reached by the Global Times. Following the annual cooperation plan between the Chinese and Russian militaries, the two sides conducted their ninth joint strategic air patrol in airspace over the Sea of Japan, the Chinese Ministry of National Defence said in a statement. It is the ninth joint strategic air patrol between the two militaries since 2019, with the goal of effectively testing and enhancing the joint training and operating capabilities between the two countries' air forces, the PLA Air Force said in a press release.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202411/1324022.shtml>

## **Why China is probably on board with Putin's nuclear threats**

Gordon G. Chang

The Hill, November 29, 2024

“Under the current situation, all relevant parties need to remain calm and restrained and jointly seek de-escalation and lower strategic risks through dialogue and consultation,” said Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Lin Jian on Nov 20. China's comments came a day after Vladimir Putin approved a decree lowering the threshold for nuclear strikes. At first glance, it looks as if Beijing is worried that the war in Ukraine will escalate. It's sometimes hard to know for sure what the Chinese leadership actually thinks but leader Xi Jinping is almost surely comfortable with Vladimir Putin's threats to use his most destructive weapons against Ukraine.

<https://thehill.com/opinion/international/5012484-china-putin-nuclear-threats/>

## **Long March 12 makes debut flight at new commercial spaceport**

Zhao Lei

China Daily, November 30, 2024

China's newest type of carrier rocket, the Long March 12, made its maiden flight on Saturday night, which also marked the debut mission of the Hainan International Commercial Aerospace

Launch Center, the nation's first spaceport dedicated to facilitating commercial operations. After flying a short while, two satellites separated from the rocket and entered their preset orbit, marking the success of the launch mission. Designed by the Shanghai Aerospace System Engineering Institute, the Long March 12 is the 22nd member of the Long March family, the backbone of China's space sector, and the 17th in the operating fleet.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202411/30/WS674b28ffa310f1265a1d065b.html>

## **Chinese scientists create a ghost radar moving at ‘near-light-speed’ to detect submarines**

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, November 30, 2024

Chinese scientists have achieved a breakthrough in submarine detection by successfully creating a radio-emitting source in the sky using high-energy microwave synthesis technology. According to the researchers, this virtual signal source is capable of emitting electromagnetic waves continuously while travelling at close to the speed of light. For an observer on Earth, the wavelength of these electromagnetic waves, emitted by a source moving away at such high speeds, would significantly expand. This would result in a reduction of the signal frequency, similar to the redshift – the move towards the red end of the electromagnetic spectrum – of some distant stars.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3288634/chinese-scientists-create-ghost-radar-moving-near-light-speed-detect-submarines>

## **Taiwan’s President to rally tiny Pacific allies to counter China**

Chris Buckley and Amy Chang Chien

The New York Times, November 30, 2024

Taiwan’s president set off on a mission to shore up relations with some of his island democracy’s shrinking band of diplomatic allies: three tiny Pacific Island nations that have taken an outsize importance in Taiwan’s struggle against Chinese efforts to push it off the international stage. Lai Ching-te, the Taiwanese president, is scheduled to visit the Marshall Islands, Tuvalu and Palau, which amount to one-quarter of the dozen states that maintain diplomatic ties with Taiwan. Since the 1970s, dozens of countries have shifted ties to China. Beijing claims the self-governed island of Taiwan as its territory, and insists that governments end diplomatic relations with Taipei if they want full relations with China.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/11/30/world/asia/taiwans-president-pacific-islands-china.html>



*Sylloge on China is compiled by Mr. Niranjan C. Oak*

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