

July 20, 2024

# SYLLOGE ON CHINA

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

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



## **Chinese Mission to EU slams NATO's smears and attacks**

CGTN, July 11, 2024

The Chinese Mission to the European Union (EU) lashed out at NATO's North Atlantic Council over the "Cold War mentality and belligerent rhetoric" reflected in its joint declaration released at a summit in Washington. In the declaration, leaders of NATO member countries allege that China's "ambitions and coercive policies" continue to challenge NATO's interests, security and values. The statement hypes up China-Russia relations for allegedly undercutting and reshaping the rules-based international order and claims that China has become a decisive enabler of Russia's war against Ukraine and poses systemic challenges to Euro-Atlantic security.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2024-07-11/Chinese-Mission-to-EU-slams-NATO-s-smears-and-attacks-1v8UVkax7va/p.html>

## **China issues white paper on marine eco-environmental protection**

The State Council Information Office, The People's Republic of China, July 11, 2024

China's State Council Information Office released a white paper titled "Marine Eco-Environmental Protection in China." Besides the preface and conclusion, the white paper consists of seven parts: "Improving Marine Eco-Environment for Harmonious Coexistence Between Humans and the Ocean," "Coordinating Marine Eco-Environmental Protection," "Systematic Governance of the Marine Eco-Environment," "Science-Based Conservation and Restoration of Marine Ecosystems," "Strengthening Supervision and Administration of the Marine Eco-Environment," "Advancing China's Green and Low-Carbon Maritime Development" and "Carrying Out All-Round International Cooperation on Marine Eco-Environmental Protection."

[http://english.scio.gov.cn/m/whitepapers/2024-07/11/content\\_117302409.htm#:~:text=The%20white%20paper%20said%20China,Chinese%20solutions%20and%20strength%20to](http://english.scio.gov.cn/m/whitepapers/2024-07/11/content_117302409.htm#:~:text=The%20white%20paper%20said%20China,Chinese%20solutions%20and%20strength%20to)

## **Chinese researchers see carbon fibre potential for submarine drones despite Titan tragedy**

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, July 11, 2024

Chinese scientists have unveiled an ultra-strong carbon fibre hull for the large-scale production of high-performance underwater drones. The hull is suitable for shallow seas and can easily withstand immense pressure at a depth of 6,000 metres (19,700 feet), boosting overall performance while

significantly cutting manufacturing costs, according to researchers behind the project. Their technological advance challenges the belief that carbon fibre cannot be used underwater, potentially granting China an advantage in the drone arms race in the Taiwan Strait and the South China Sea.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3269791/chinese-researchers-see-carbon-fibre-potential-submarine-drones-despite-titan-tragedy>

## **China's largest natural uranium production project starts construction**

Xinhua, July 12, 2024

China's largest natural uranium production project started construction on Friday in Ordos in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, according to China Atomic Energy Authority (CAEA). Part of CAEA's nuclear industry development plan, the project is being developed by China National Nuclear Corporation. It will become a natural uranium production base with the highest standards, featuring green, economical, intelligent and efficient operations. The project will adopt an advanced mining process that employs carbon dioxide and oxygen leaching. Unlike traditional underground mining methods, this technique can extract uranium through a closed-loop circulation of the uranium solution without lifting the ores to the surface for processing.

<https://english.news.cn/20240712/0c683adc4d6947ac923ef9d9a2035a65/c.html>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on Defence of Japan white paper**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, July 12, 2024

The Defense of Japan 2024 white paper gravely interferes in China's internal affairs, again seeks to play up the "China threat" narrative, and hypes up regional tensions. We deplore and reject this. China is committed to the path of peaceful development and a defense policy that is defensive in nature. China's defense development and military activities are legitimate and justified. Our joint patrols with other countries are consistent with international law and customary international practice. Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory. The Taiwan question is purely China's internal affair that brooks no external interference. In recent years, the root cause of the cross-strait tensions has been "Taiwan independence" separatists' reckless activities emboldened and supported by external forces. Japan invaded and exercised colonial rule over Taiwan and bears serious historical responsibilities for the suffering it imposed on the Chinese people. Japan is in no position to point its fingers on the Taiwan question.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202407/t20240712\\_11453150.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202407/t20240712_11453150.html)

## **NATO sets its sights on China**

Ishaan Tharoor

The Washington Post, July 12, 2024

At this week's summit, NATO leaders issued a joint communiqué that claimed China's "stated ambitions and coercive policies continue to challenge our interests, security and values" and said the "deepening" Russo-Chinese alliance was working "to undercut and reshape the rules-based international order." In remarks, Jens Stoltenberg, outgoing NATO Secretary General, cast China as the chief "enabler" of Russia's war in Ukraine — a reference to the transfer of dual-use goods and electronics from China that's helping Russia supply its war machine — and warned Beijing that it "cannot have a normal relationship" with the West if it "continues to fuel the war in Europe."

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/07/12/nato-summit-china-ukraine/>

## **As 6G race begins, West is still caught up with China's 5G**

Global Times, July 13, 2024

In recent days, two significant events have taken place in the global communication technology field. First, China has built the world's first field test network for 6G communication and intelligent integration, significantly enhancing the performance of the communication system. Second, Germany plans to remove Huawei, ZTE and other Chinese communication companies' technology and components from its 5G wireless networks by 2029, citing concerns about "espionage" and viewing this as a step in "de-risking." These two events form a stark contrast: while globally leading China continues to push forward with 6G technology research and development, some countries are still entangled in deciding which company's products to use for 5G technology.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202407/1315954.shtml>

## **Statement of the Spokesperson of the Chinese Embassy in the Philippines regarding South China Sea**

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Republic of the Philippines, July 13, 2024

The 2016 arbitral award regarding South China Sea is essentially a political circus dressed up as a legal action. The Philippines breached the common understandings with China on resolving the disputes in the South China Sea through consultation and negotiation, violated the article of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) which states that the disputes should be settled through peaceful means including consultations and negotiations between sovereign states directly concerned. It has abused the UNCLOS dispute settlement mechanism,

ignored China's declaration which, according to UNCLOS, excludes maritime delimitation from compulsory dispute settlement procedures, and insisted on initiating the arbitration.

[http://ph.china-embassy.gov.cn/eng/sgfyrbt/202407/t20240713\\_11453354.htm](http://ph.china-embassy.gov.cn/eng/sgfyrbt/202407/t20240713_11453354.htm)

## **China blasts U.S. over Tibet dispute bill, vows to defend interests**

Nikkei Asia, July 13, 2024

China expressed strong opposition to a U.S. law signed by President Joe Biden that presses Beijing to resolve a dispute over Tibet's demands for greater autonomy, vowing to "firmly defend" its interests. Biden signed into law on July 12 the Tibet dispute act, which seeks to push Beijing to hold talks with Tibetan leaders, stalled since 2010, to secure a negotiated agreement on the Himalayan region and spur China to address the Tibetan people's aspirations on their historical, cultural, religious and linguistic identity. The law "grossly interferes in China's domestic affairs, undermines China's interests, and sends a severely wrong signal to the 'Tibet independence' forces," China's foreign ministry said.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/US-China-tensions/China-blasts-U.S.-over-Tibet-dispute-bill-vows-to-defend-interests>

## **How Boeing's electronic war fighter runs into China's 'kill web' in the South China Sea**

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, July 14, 2024

Chinese media showed footage of two US jets buzzing the Nanchang destroyer, one of them widely believed to be an EA-18G Growler – the same electronic warfare aircraft that was used by Coulter's squadron. Now, for the first time, scientists with the PLA Navy have revealed the tactics and technology used by Chinese warships against the Growler aircraft, giving a glimpse into the invisible battle that is unfolding in the South China Sea between two of the world's biggest military powers. In a peer-reviewed paper published last month in the Chinese academic journal Radar & ECM, the scientists said that artificial intelligence (AI) gave the PLA's radar a critical edge over the Growler.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3270175/how-boeings-electronic-war-fighter-runs-chinas-kill-web-south-china-sea>

## **US chip equipment makers still rely on China despite restrictions, data shows**

Qi Xijia

Global Times, July 14, 2024

Despite US government restrictions on exports of advanced products, the country's chip equipment makers are still increasingly dependent on the Chinese market, with exports to China accounting for more than 40 percent of total sales. The dependence underscores the highly globalized semiconductor sector, which cannot be stopped by US technology restrictions, experts said. According to a report by Nikkei Asia, China accounted for 43 percent of sales at Applied Materials in the February-April period, up 22 points on the year. China's share of sales at Lam Research rose 20 points to 42 percent for the January-March period.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202407/1316006.shtml>

## **The Chinese base that isn't there**

Agnes Chang and Hannah Beech

The New York Times, July 14, 2024

In 2020, something curious happened at Cambodia's Ream military base, on the Gulf of Thailand. Not long after submitting — and then abruptly withdrawing — a request for the U.S. Defense Department to refurbish parts of the base, Cambodian officials proceeded to demolish the American-funded buildings that were already there, some only four years old. Then the Chinese got to work. Since December, two Chinese warships have docked nearly every day at the rapidly expanding port. And the work taking place at Ream is in keeping with a Chinese building spree that ranges from near the Red Sea to the South China Sea.

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2024/07/14/world/asia/china-cambodia-military-warship-base.html>

## **China's first all-electric propulsion telecommunication satellite begins operational services**

Xinhua, July 15, 2024

China's first all-electric propulsion telecommunication satellite officially commenced operational services following in-orbit and ground system technical review in Hong Kong, according to the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC), the satellite's developer. The APSTAR-6E satellite is a geostationary orbit satellite based on the DFH-3E satellite platform, with

a designed lifespan of 15 years. As the first bird of the DFH-3E series, it is the world's first telecommunication satellite to achieve fully autonomous orbit transfer from low Earth orbit to the geostationary orbit, the CASC said. The satellite was launched by a Long March-2C carrier rocket from the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre on January 13, 2023. After separating from its independent propulsion module, the satellite was transferred to the synchronous orbit by its two electric propulsion systems.

<https://english.news.cn/20240715/8a90d1446b3d4d2eaad1577a935bea81/c.html>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on Beijing's countermeasures against six US military companies and five senior executives**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, June 15, 2024

The US arms sale to China's Taiwan region seriously violates the one-China principle and the three China-US joint communiqués, especially the August 17 Communiqué of 1982, interferes in China's internal affairs, and undermines China's sovereignty and territorial integrity. In accordance with the law, China is taking countermeasures on principal US contractors that have recently sold arms to Taiwan and their senior executives, and on military companies that have engaged in US arms sales to Taiwan or attended the Taiwan-US Defense Business Forum in Taiwan in recent years. Let me stress that the Taiwan question is at the core of China's core interests, and the first red line that cannot be crossed in China-US relations.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202407/t20240715\\_11454179.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202407/t20240715_11454179.html)

## **Chinese team says it can track US warships using free low-resolution satellite images**

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, July 15, 2024

Chinese naval scientists have unveiled a method to identify and track US warships around the globe using low quality satellite images that are free and available to anyone. The satellite photos potentially have a resolution of tens, or even hundreds, of metres, meaning that a large ship may only occupy a single pixel, or even less, making it invisible to the naked eye. However, a team led by Hong Jun of the Dalian Naval Academy, said it had discovered a US Nimitz-class aircraft carrier, a Ticonderoga-class cruiser and an Arleigh Burke-class destroyer from these images.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3269955/chinese-team-says-it-can-track-us-warships-using-free-low-resolution-satellite-images>

## **China poses ‘deadly’ threat to UK, says former NATO boss**

Lucy Fisher

Financial Times, July 16, 2024

China is among the countries that pose a “deadly” threat to Britain, the peer leading the UK government’s strategic defence review has declared. Lord George Robertson, a former secretary-general of Nato and ex-Labour defence secretary, said that the new review would bring “fresh eyes” to the threats and challenges facing the UK in the coming years. “We’re confronted by a deadly quartet of nations increasingly working together,” he said, in a reference to China, Russia, Iran and North Korea. His language marked a stark pivot from rhetoric about Beijing deployed by the previous Conservative government, which described China as an “epoch-defining challenge” and only used the term “threat” in an economic context.

<https://www.ft.com/content/57333df7-dceb-4eab-a39a-971dfc112b6b>

## **Japan summit reveals hidden agenda to instrumentalise Pacific Island countries**

China Military Online, July16, 2024

China has no interest in competing with the US in the South Pacific, but its growing cooperation with Pacific Island countries has caused unease among certain US-led nations. Encouraged by the US, Japan has proactively acted as a pawn in Washington's anti-China strategies, demonizing China's normal and friendly cooperation with the Pacific Island countries and exploiting the region for its hegemonic interests. It is foreseeable that Japan will continue to court the Pacific Island countries economically while exerting political and military pressure on them at the Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/OPINIONS\\_209196/Opinions\\_209197/16324901.html](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/OPINIONS_209196/Opinions_209197/16324901.html)

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on China-Europe railway**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, June 16, 2024

Since early this year, the China-Europe Railway Express has run 10,000 trips and shipped over one million TEUs of goods, up by 11 percent year on year. The number of trips through the west, middle and east major routes rose by 13 percent, 20 percent and 5 percent respectively year-on-year. The number of trips on the south route saw a 15-fold increase from a year ago. The express



service has contributed significantly to the stability of the international industrial and supply chains and China-Europe trade and business ties.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202407/t20240716\\_11454788.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202407/t20240716_11454788.html)

## **Taiwan's blunt-talking leader faces China's backlash**

Chris Buckley and Amy Chang Chien

The New York Times, July 16, 2024

The long-smoldering tensions between China and Taiwan have been entering a more precarious phase. In recent months, Beijing has threatened to severely punish Taiwanese citizens who challenge China's claim to the island. More Chinese jets have buzzed the skies near it. Chinese Coast Guard ships have sailed near Taiwan's outer islands. And both sides have dug deeper into their opposing political positions. When Lai Ching-te became Taiwan's president in May, he vowed to stick with the China policies of his predecessor, Tsai Ing-wen. Ms. Tsai sought to avoid confrontation even as she defended Taiwan's right to self-rule and rejected Beijing's assertion of sovereignty.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/07/16/world/asia/taiwan-china-lai-ching-te.html>

## **Risch, Wicker demand the Biden administration present deterrence options amid China's aggression against the Philippines**

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee, July 17, 2024

U.S. Senators Jim Risch (R-Idaho), ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Roger Wicker (R-Miss.), ranking member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, sent a letter to President Biden asking that he immediately present response options to China's escalation against Philippine forces in the South China Sea. Specifically, they have requested the president provide a full list of military, diplomatic, and economic options from the Department of Defense and Department of State to deter further Chinese aggression. "We must respond with visible and concrete demonstrations of our support," the senators wrote. "Anything short of this risks our appearing unwilling to honor our bilateral commitments."

<https://www.foreign.senate.gov/press/rep/release/risch-wicker-demand-the-biden-administration-present-deterrence-options-amid-chinas-aggression-against-the-philippines>

## **China deploys censors to create socialist AI**

Ryan McMorrow and Tina Hu

Financial Times, July 17, 2024

Chinese government officials are testing artificial intelligence companies' large language models to ensure their systems "embody core socialist values", in the latest expansion of the country's censorship regime. The Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC), a powerful internet overseer, has forced large tech companies and AI start-ups including ByteDance, Alibaba, Moonshot and 01.AI to take part in a mandatory government review of their AI models, according to multiple people. Two decades after introducing a "great firewall" to block foreign websites and other information deemed harmful by the ruling Communist party, China is putting in place the world's toughest regulatory regime to govern AI and the content it generates.

<https://www.ft.com/content/10975044-f194-4513-857b-e17491d2a9e9>

## **China suspends arms control and non-proliferation consultations with U.S.**

CGTN, July 17, 2024

China has decided to suspend talks with the United States on holding a new round of consultations over arms control and non-proliferation, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs said. The responsibility for the suspension lies squarely on the U.S. side, said Lin Jian, a spokesperson for the ministry. Lin said China took the move because the political atmosphere in which the two sides continue to engage in arms control consultations has been undermined by the U.S. side. For some time, the U.S. has ignored China's resolute opposition and repeated representations, continued to engage in arms sales to China's Taiwan region, and taken a series of negative measures that undermine China's core interests and hurt the mutual trust between the two sides, he explained.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2024-07-17/China-suspends-arms-control-non-proliferation-consultations-with-U-S--1vjkeuRKMne/p.html>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on the US chip restrictions on China**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, July 17, 2024

China made clear its position more than once on the US's malicious attempts to block and suppress China's semiconductor industry. The US overstretches the concept of national security, politicizes trade and tech issues and uses them as weapons to tighten control over chip export to China and coerce other countries to go after China's semiconductor industry, which severely undermines international trade rules, destabilizes global industrial and supply chains, and serves no one's interests. China firmly opposes it. We hope relevant countries will do the right thing, firmly resist

coercion, and jointly uphold a fair and open international trade order to protect their own long-term interests.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202407/t20240717\\_11455424.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202407/t20240717_11455424.html)

## **Political drivers of China's changing nuclear policy: Implications for U.S.-China nuclear relations and international security**

Tong Zhao

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, July 17, 2024

For decades, China has sought to build and maintain a credible nuclear second-strike capability (that is, to be able to launch a devastating nuclear retaliation after absorbing a disarming first strike). It has done so to secure a relationship of mutual vulnerability with the United States. Many Chinese nuclear experts have largely accepted the Western term of “strategic stability” to describe such a relationship. They believe that mutual vulnerability reduces both the risk of a nuclear arms race (arms race stability) and nuclear use in a military crisis (crisis stability). But Chinese political leaders have never accepted the Western definition of strategic stability. Rather, they use the term to refer to the overall stability of a bilateral relationship. To Chinese political leaders, a stable U.S.-China relationship means, first and foremost, a U.S. willingness to accept the legitimacy of China's political system, coexist peacefully with China, and respect China's so-called core interests.

<https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2024/07/china-nuclear-buildup-political-drivers-united-states-relationship-international-security?lang=en>

## **China's Communist Party charts technology- and security-focused development for reviving the economy**

Elaine Kurtenbach

The Washington Post, July 17, 2024

In a year of major elections that will determine the destinies of many countries, China's ruling Communist Party is holding closed, top-level meetings in Beijing to set strategies for reviving its slowing economy. Since taking power in 2012, Xi has sought to strengthen the party's controls over business and society, launching crackdowns on corruption, the fast-growing technology sector and excess borrowing by property developers, and promoting his vision for a Chinese-style of “high-quality” development with heavy investments in advanced technology and clean energy. It follows a “Made in China 2025” initiative that began in 2015 and is meant to transform the country from a maker of toys, furniture and other labor-intensive products into the top producer of

high-tech goods. While China still lags the U.S. in many critical areas, it has made huge strides in catching up.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2024/07/17/china-economy-plenum-xi-jinping-reform/e345eb26-4403-11ef-83d0-9eaefdc988e8\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2024/07/17/china-economy-plenum-xi-jinping-reform/e345eb26-4403-11ef-83d0-9eaefdc988e8_story.html)

## **Propagating 'China space threat' cliché, US is primary driver of space weaponization**

Global Times, July 18, 2024

Once again, the US is rehashing the cliché of the "China threat theory" - this time in space. Jeffrey Kruse, director of the US Defense Intelligence Agency, said during the annual Aspen Security Forum in a panel discussion on space and national security on Wednesday that the US is seeing from China a heightened "intent to use counter-space capabilities to threaten space." The US' hyping of "China's space threat" seems to have become one of its routine practices. In February, Stephen Whiting, commander of the US Space Command, claimed that China is growing its military space and counter-space capabilities at a "breathtaking speed," listing China as the "pacing strategic competitor" in the space domain. In April, NASA Administrator Bill Nelson also mentioned his China-US "space race" rhetoric, claiming that China is militarizing its space program.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202407/1316311.shtml>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on Vietnam's submission on the Limits of the Extended Continental Shelf in the South China Sea to the United Nations Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS)**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, July 18, 2024

Viet Nam unilaterally presented to the CLCS its Submission on the Limits of the Extended Continental Shelf in the South China Sea. Its claims cover parts of China's Nansha Qundao, which infringes on China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests, violates international law, including the UN Charter and UNCLOS, and breaches the Agreement on Basic Principles Guiding the Settlement of Sea-related Issues between China and Viet Nam and the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) jointly signed by China and ASEAN countries, including Viet Nam. We firmly oppose it and have made serious protests to Viet Nam.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202407/t20240718\\_11456267.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202407/t20240718_11456267.html)

## **China's leaders warn of economic risks and call for stronger social controls**

Joe Leahy

Financial Times, July 18, 2024

China's leaders have warned of "risks" in areas such as the country's slumping property market, government debt and financial institutions at a top Communist party meeting, and called for tighter social controls to ensure stability. The party's Central Committee gave security the same level of importance as economic growth as it warned of geopolitical risks, saying China should "lead global governance" as it concluded the third plenum, one of its most important meetings, where it sets out medium- to long-term policies.

<https://www.ft.com/content/2d3af467-e8c8-45ca-84c0-7798b95b9bc7>

## **Why China is so interested in Kazakhstan**

Daisuke Wakabayashi

The New York Times, July 18, 2024

The world's transition to renewable energy, including electric cars, requires huge amounts of nickel, copper, lithium and other so-called critical minerals. Kazakhstan has many of them, and China, the biggest producer of electric vehicles and batteries, is right next door and eager to buy. A former Soviet Republic, Kazakhstan borders Russia to the north and China to the east and retains close trade ties to Russia. But China is a much larger customer for Kazakhstan's critical minerals, using them to feed the insatiable needs of its factories churning out electric vehicles, batteries and solar panels. Kazakhstan said that it was also courting buyers from the West and that it did not play favorites when it came to investors in mining.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/07/18/business/kazakhstan-china-electric-vehicles.html>

## **China's Communist Party drops ex-foreign, defence ministers from top body**

Business Standard, July 18, 2024

China's ruling Communist Party accepted the resignation of sacked foreign minister Qin Gang from its Central Committee and endorsed the decision to expel former defence minister Li Shangfu and two other top Generals from the party. The decision came during the top-level meeting of the party's Central Committee, which concluded in Beijing. According to the communique issued at the end of the four-day session called the third plenum of the Chinese

Communist Party (CPC) Central Committee convened to discuss measures to improve the economy has accepted Comrade Qin Gang's resignation.

[https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/china-s-communist-party-drops-ex-foreign-defence-ministers-from-top-body-124071800811\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/china-s-communist-party-drops-ex-foreign-defence-ministers-from-top-body-124071800811_1.html)

## **China releases report on implementation of Global Security Initiative**

CGTN, July 18, 2024

The Report on the Implementation Progress of the Global Security Initiative was released, providing a systematic review of the achievements since the initiative's inception. In a written speech delivered at the launch ceremony of the Center for Global Security Initiative Studies and the report's release, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that the report will assist all parties in better understanding the practical significance and unique value of the initiative as an international public good in the field of security. China established the Center for Global Security Initiative Studies, based at the China Institute of International Studies, to enhance research in relevant fields, support the initiative's implementation, and contribute more to world peace and security, Wang said.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2024-07-18/China-releases-report-on-implementation-of-Global-Security-Initiative-1v1pcBfNs5i/p.html>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on the latest progress and achievements of BRI cooperation?**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, July 18, 2024

From President Xi Jinping's announcing the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in 2013 to the establishment of the principle of "planning together, building together, and benefiting together," from calling for pursuing the BRI as a priority in the report of the 19th CPC National Congress to promoting the high-quality development of the BRI in the report of the 20th CPC National Congress, China has been working with various parties over the past 10 years and more to advance the BRI cooperation. China has signed BRI cooperation documents with over 150 countries and over 30 international organizations. Last year, China's trade with partner countries reached RMB 19.5 trillion, up by 2.8 percent, accounting for 46.6 percent of China's total import and export volume, a record high since the BRI was put forward.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202407/t20240718\\_11456267.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202407/t20240718_11456267.html)

## **China's leaders offer high hopes, but few details for road to recovery**

Keith Bradsher and Chris Buckley

The New York Times, July 18, 2024

Xi Jinping, China's top leader, called officials together this week to hammer out ideas to pull the country's economy out of its doldrums. But if the official summary of the meeting is a guide, Mr. Xi believes he already has many of the answers. His message to the 363 other officials who gathered in Beijing seemed to be: stick with his state-led, tech-focused strategy, only do it better. That is, make it cleaner, more fair and keep a careful eye on national security.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/07/18/business/china-economy-plenum-takeaways.html>

## **Chinese Embassy demands Philippines ensure safety, rights of detained Chinese nationals**

Global Times, July 19, 2024

The Chinese Embassy in the Philippines has sent consular officials to visit detained personnel from Chinese enterprises and actively provide consular assistance and Chinese Ambassador Huang Xilian required the Philippine authorities effectively guarantee the personal safety and legal rights of Chinese citizens, the Chinese Embassy in the Philippines said in a statement in response to reports that at least 79 Chinese citizens had been detained by the Philippine authorities. According to media reports, at least 79 Chinese citizens were detained by the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) in a factory in Bulacan Province. NBI Director Jaime Santiago was cited by local media as saying that at least 36 of them were undocumented, while 23 had tourist visas.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202407/1316348.shtml>

## **Third plenum exits show trust still an issue for Xi**

Daria Impiombato and Nathan Attril

The Strategist, ASPI, July 19, 2024

The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party has accepted the resignation of one of its own most highly ranked members, former foreign minister Qin Gang, highlighting Xi Jinping's continuing lack of trust in some of his own hand-picked officials. Xi's loss of trust in these senior officials, and allegations of corruption that underlie some of them, sit uncomfortably close to the centre of power in China. It is a situation that likely makes him doubt information and advice he

receives on the issues he cares about most. Some, such as military preparedness, leave little room for miscalculation.

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/third-plenum-exits-show-trust-still-an-issue-for-xi/>

## **China firmly opposes Japan's joint maritime drill with Taiwan region**

China Daily, July 19, 2024

China is strongly dissatisfied with and firmly opposes a recent joint maritime drill between Japan and the Taiwan region, and has lodged serious representation with the Japanese side, a Foreign Ministry spokesperson said. According to reports, Taiwan's "Patrol No. 9" inspection ship and Japan's aircraft-carrying inspection ship "Sagami" conducted a joint exercise in the southern tip of the Boso Peninsula and the waters near Izu Island. When answering a related query at a daily press briefing, Spokesperson Lin Jian said Japan has once made solemn commitment to the Chinese side with regards to the Taiwan question, including not seeking "two Chinas" or "one China, one Taiwan" and not supporting "Taiwan independence". These are the positions and principles that Japan must abide by.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202407/19/WS669a428da31095c51c50eff4.html>

## **Full-blown conflict in South China Sea not in US interests, say experts as US senators advise Biden to make 'visible' support to Philippines**

Global Times, July 19, 2024

Observers reached by the Global Times warned that the US should not be led by political forces who's only motive is to poison ties with China and provoke regional tensions. A full-blown conflict in the South China Sea does not align with interests of the US, adding that the Philippines is not the right chess piece to move against China with. In the US, there are long-standing political forces that view China with a deep-rooted sense of hostility. They oppose anything associated with China and push for increased pressure on the US government regarding Chinese affairs, Ding Duo, deputy director of the Institute of Maritime Law and Policy at the National Institute for South China Sea Studies, told the Global Times.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202407/1316329.shtml>



## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on the US Marine Corps' doctrine titled "Deception"—a tactic used to deceive enemy and create disinformation**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, July 19, 2024

To advance selfish agenda in the name of justice, to spread disinformation through deceptive propaganda, and to frame and suppress other countries through manipulating public opinion and perception have become the US's go-to tactics. The world knows what the US has been doing and is vigilant against them. Long gone are the days when the US could deceive the world into serving the US agenda. The US needs to quit those wrongful approaches at once, stop manipulating perceptions through lies, and stop smearing and vilifying other countries. The US should give a long-overdue explanation to the international community both for its dissemination of disinformation over the years for selfish reasons, and for the severe damage inflicted by the US "Deception" strategy on the developing countries.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202407/t20240719\\_11456966.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202407/t20240719_11456966.html)

## **Xi mourns Vietnam Communist Party chief at embassy**

Nikkei Asia, July 20, 2024

Chinese President Xi Jinping visited the Vietnamese Embassy to mourn the death of Vietnam's Communist Party chief Nguyen Phu Trong, the official Xinhua news agency said. Trong died after holding Vietnam's most powerful position for 13 years, overseeing fast economic growth, a years-long anti-graft crackdown and a pragmatic foreign policy. Trong hosted both Xi and U.S. President Joe Biden in Hanoi last year, boosting relations with both countries despite increasing tensions between the U.S. and China.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Xi-mourns-Vietnam-Communist-Party-chief-at-embassy-Xinhua>

## **China could attack Starlink-like satellites with submarine laser weapon: naval study**

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, July 20, 2024

Chinese submarines armed with lasers could take out SpaceX's Starlink satellites if China's security was at risk, according to a study by People's Liberation Army (PLA) scientists. In the study, a submarine with a megawatt-class, solid-state, laser weapon installed in its midsection could stay submerged while it raised a retractable, "optoelectronic mast" to fire at satellites, before diving back down to depth. This type of laser attack submarine could be mass-produced in the future and deployed in various oceans to counter military threats to China, said the project team led by Wang Dan, a professor with the Naval Submarine Academy, in a peer-reviewed paper published last month in the Chinese-language journal, Command Control & Simulation.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3270890/china-could-attack-starlink-satellites-submarine-laser-weapon-naval-study>

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

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