

May 31, 2024

# SYLLOGE ON CHINA

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

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



## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on the inauguration ceremony of Taiwan President Lai Ching-te**

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

China strongly opposes official interaction of any form between China's Taiwan region and countries that have diplomatic relations with China. This position is consistent and clear. The wrongful words and actions of a handful of countries and political figures violate the one-China principle and basic norms governing international relations, constitute blatant interference in China's internal affairs, undermine the sovereignty and territorial integrity of China, and damage the peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait. China strongly condemns those words and actions. The one-China principle is the political foundation and prerequisite for China to grow ties with other countries.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202405/t20240521\\_11309207.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202405/t20240521_11309207.html)

## **China's latest answer to OpenAI is 'Chat Xi PT'**

Ryan McMorro

Financial Times, May 22, 2024

Beijing's latest attempt to control how artificial intelligence informs Chinese internet users has been rolled out as a chatbot trained on the thoughts of President Xi Jinping. The country's newest large language model has been learning from its leader's political philosophy, known as "Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era", as well as other official literature provided by the Cyberspace Administration of China.

<https://www.ft.com/content/43378c6e-664b-4885-a255-31325d632ee9>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on Foreign Minister Wang Yi's attendance at the meeting of the SCO Foreign Ministers Council**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, May 22, 2024

Foreign Minister Wang Yi noted that the Shanghai Spirit of mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for diversity of civilizations and pursuit of common development has become a fundamental guidance for the SCO to grow from strength to strength and a banner in building a new type of international relations. The more fluid and turbulent the world is, the more important that we stay committed to the Shanghai Spirit, keep to the right direction, and

safeguard common interests, respond to various challenges and uphold fairness and justice more effectively through making the SCO more substantive and stronger.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202405/t20240522\\_11309866.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202405/t20240522_11309866.html)

## **Future of China-US ties lies in effective management of common interests and differences**

He Lei

Global Times, May 22, 2024

This year marks the 45th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between China and the US. Today, China and the US have formed a situation of important common interests. However, due to differences in history, social systems, economic levels and development paths, there are disputes between China and the US in many aspects. If these differences are not effectively managed, conflict may follow.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1312808.shtml>

## **China has a point about Taiwan's new leader**

Kathrin Hille

Financial Times, May 22, 2024

The Chinese Communist party was never going to trust Lai Ching-te. Taiwan's new president has long viewed his homeland as an independent country — a stance irreconcilable with Beijing's insistence that the island is part of China and must come under its control sooner rather than later. Sure enough, after Lai delivered his inaugural address, Beijing lashed out at what it called a “dangerous signal of provocation”. State media thundered that Lai “revealed his true colours” and dismissed his calls for dialogue as “deceitful political lies”.

<https://www.ft.com/content/0e0ed54f-bc40-45b1-ac36-1d8d51035d7d>

## **World's first commercial small modular reactor powers up 'brain' in China**

CGTN, May 22, 2024

The main control room of China's "Linglong One," the world's first commercial small modular reactor (SMR) on land, officially went into operation in south China's Hainan Province, marking

the start of a peak system equipment installation period for the reactor. Just like the brain in the human body, the control room acts as the central nervous system for the plant. As the digital control network is gradually brought online, staff have begun testing equipment, monitoring its operation, and issuing commands from this critical hub. Zhao Long, deputy director of engineering management at China National Nuclear Corporation's (CNNC) Hainan branch, told China Media Group (CMG) that "compared with other nuclear power units, the Linglong One's main control room equipment is more integrated and streamlined, and its safety of various operations has been greatly upgraded."

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2024-05-22/World-s-first-commercial-small-modular-reactor-powers-up-in-China-1tOh34159Sw/p.html>

## **One-China principle reaffirmed widely across Pacific Island Countries**

Shan Jie

Global Times, May 22, 2024

In recent weeks, several Pacific Island Countries (PICs) have strongly reaffirmed their commitment to the one-China principle through various diplomatic engagements and public declarations. On the same day that Taiwan's regional leader delivered a speech, the Republic of Nauru issued a statement reiterating its adherence to the one-China principle. "The resumption of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Nauru and the People's Republic of China asserts the one-China principle and reunification of China. Nauru reiterates its firm support and adherence to the one-China principle, recognizing that there is but one China in the world, with the government of the PRC as the sole government representing the whole of China," read the statement.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1312770.shtml>

## **China to provide 'lethal aid' to Russia, says UK defence secretary**

John Paul Rathbone

Financial Times, May 22, 2024

UK defence secretary Grant Shapps accused China of providing or preparing to give Russia lethal aid for use by Moscow in its war against Ukraine. Shapps said that new US and British intelligence "can reveal that lethal aid is now or will be flowing from China to Russia and into Ukraine". He gave no details. The revelation follows a visit by Russian President Vladimir Putin to China last week for two days of talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping. At a defence

conference in London, Shapps said that China and Russia had developed a “deeper relationship” and the flow of weapons to Russia was “new intelligence which leads me to be able to declassify and reveal this today”.

<https://www.ft.com/content/b4fa017b-539b-4533-96dc-10d12aa43be9#post-c7c058c4-1af8-4447-bd9d-74f033255e1e>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on Japan’s stance on Taiwan issue**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, May 23, 2024

The Taiwan question is at the very core of China’s core interests. It bears on the political foundation of China-Japan relations and is a red line that must not be crossed. Some in Japan have been making negative moves on Taiwan, including repeating the preposterous and dangerous notion that “any contingency for Taiwan is a contingency for Japan”, which seriously violates the spirit of the four political documents between China and Japan and the commitments Japan has made.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202405/t20240523\\_11310632.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202405/t20240523_11310632.html)

## **PLA conducts joint military drills surrounding Taiwan island**

CGTN, May 23, 2024

The Eastern Theater Command of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) started joint military drills surrounding the island of Taiwan. The drills are being conducted in the Taiwan Straits, the north, south and east of the island of Taiwan, as well as areas around the islands of Kinmen, Matsu, Wuqiu and Dongyin. Li Xi, spokesperson for the theater command, said military services including the army, navy, air force and rocket force of the theater command are being organized to conduct the joint drills, code-named Joint Sword-2024A.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2024-05-23/PLA-conducts-joint-military-drills-surrounding-Taiwan-Island-1tPrPobLHS8/p.html>

## **Cambodia's planned canal isn't in its own interest, only China's**

Sam Rainsy

Nikkei Asia, May 23, 2024

Plans for a 180-kilometre canal to connect Phnom Penh with the Cambodian coast should be put on hold pending an independent review of the project's rationale and environmental impact.

Currently, state-owned China Bridge and Road Corp. is on track to begin construction of the Funan Techo canal later this year, with the \$1.7 billion project scheduled for completion by 2028. Significantly, the mouth of the canal lies about 70 kilometres east of Ream Naval Base, which appears to have become a de facto outpost of the Chinese Navy. Analysis of satellite imagery by the Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington has indicated that two Chinese warships have been effectively stationed at Ream since early December.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Opinion/Cambodia-s-planned-canal-isn-t-in-its-own-interest-only-China-s>

### **Addition of three US firms to unreliable entities list 'normal,' says MOFCOM**

Global Times, May 24, 2024

China's Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) said that China's move to add three US firms to the unreliable entities list is a normal law enforcement action, noting that US companies selling arms to Taiwan island harms peace and stability across the Taiwan Straits. He Yadong, spokesperson for MOFCOM, made the remarks after the ministry announced the inclusion of three US companies - Boeing Defence, Space & Security, General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, and General Dynamics Land Systems - to the unreliable entities list for selling arms to China's Taiwan region. They will be barred from engaging in China-related import or export activities, and are forbidden from making new investments in China.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1312959.shtml>

### **China's drills against Taiwan likely 'preordained' with 'room to escalate'**

Thompson Chau

Nikkei Asia, May 24, 2024

China's military exercises were only the latest step in a monthslong effort to build pressure on Taiwan's new President Lai Ching-te, analysts said, as Beijing's forces practiced mock missile attacks and other operations. The People's Liberation Army drills were "preordained, in that although Beijing is depicting them as a necessary reaction to President Lai's comments during his inauguration, the Chinese leadership was always going to find something that displeases it and therefore 'compels' it to react," said Taipei-based security analyst J. Michael Cole.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Taiwan-tensions/China-s-drills-against-Taiwan-likely-preordained-with-room-to-escalate>

## **China's balancing act between the U.S. and Russia**

Maxim Trudolyubov

Wilson Centre, May 24, 2024

Vladimir Putin's state visit to Xi Jinping last week was meant to showcase the growing bond between Russia and China. However, behind the pomp and ceremony lies the reality of Russia's increasing dependence on Chinese imports. Meanwhile, China is carefully balancing its policies to avoid excessively upsetting the United States and becoming too dependent on Russia. China is pocketing most of the profits from Moscow's increasingly dependent position vis-à-vis Beijing. Yet, on balance, Russia's economic standing remains remarkably robust.

<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/blog-post/chinas-balancing-act-between-us-and-russia>

## **Former CIA officer pleads guilty to spying for China, DOJ says**

Josh Campbell

CNN, May 25, 2024

A former CIA officer targeted in an FBI undercover operation pleaded guilty to providing national defence information to the People's Republic of China, the Justice Department said. Alexander Yuk Ching Ma, 71, of Honolulu, who served as a CIA officer over a seven-year period in the 1980s, worked with an unnamed co-conspirator in 2001 to provide Chinese intelligence "with a large volume of classified U.S. national defence information" in exchange for tens of thousands of dollars, DOJ said, citing the plea agreement.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2024/05/25/politics/cia-officer-china-spy-case-guilty-plea/index.html>

## **How a few muddled words during China's Chang'e-6 launch set off a flurry of faked moon landing rumours**

Mandy Zuo

South China Morning Post, May 25, 2024

Some of China's top research bodies have sought to quash an online flurry of conspiracy theories that the US' 1969 moon landing was faked – suggestions based on a lunar scientist's garbled sentence in a live interview with state television. The interview with state broadcaster CCTV took place during the launch on May 3 of the Chang'e-6 spacecraft to return the first samples from the far side of the moon.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3264099/how-few-muddled-words-during-chinas-change-6-launch-set-flurry-faked-moon-landing-rumours>

## **Japan expresses 'serious concern' over China's military expansion**

Nikkei Asia, May 26, 2024

Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said he asked China's Premier Li Qiang in their talks for an immediate lifting of its ban on Japanese seafood products, imposed after the discharge of treated radioactive water from the crippled Fukushima nuclear power plant. With Japan-China ties marred by several disputes, Kishida held the first formal bilateral meeting with Li, who took up the current post in March 2023, on the sidelines of a trilateral summit with South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol in Seoul.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Japan-expresses-serious-concern-over-China-s-military-expansion>

## **Shenzhou-18 crew continues space scientific experiments in China Space Station**

Deng Xiaoci

Global Times, May 26, 2024

Since entering the China Space Station on April 26, the crew of the Shenzhou-18 manned spaceflight mission has been adjusting themselves to the unique microgravity environment in space while carrying out a range of exciting space scientific experiments, the Global Times has learned from the mission insiders. Among them, the raising of four zebrafish and a bunch colony of hornworts in orbit in what is dubbed the first-ever fish tank ecosystem experiment at the China Space Station is no doubt getting gaining the most attention worldwide.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1313020.shtml>

## **China attempts to counter Japan and South Korea's closer ties with U.S.**

Michelle Ye Hee Lee

The Washington Post, May 26, 2024

Leaders from China, Japan and South Korea on Monday will hold their first trilateral meeting in more than four years, as Beijing seeks to counteract U.S. efforts to work closely with Tokyo and Seoul — two major American allies in the Asia-Pacific region. The meeting underscores the balancing act that Tokyo and Seoul are trying to strike as they try to navigate the economic and military competition between Washington and Beijing: Although Japan and South Korea are security allies of the United States and have stepped up joint military drills in the region, they also rely on China as their largest trading partner.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/05/26/china-japan-south-korea-summit-meeting/>



## **Chinese Defence Minister to attend Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore**

Li Aixin and Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, May 27, 2024

Chinese Defence Minister Dong Jun will attend Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore and outline China's global security concept, which experts said on Monday will reaffirm China's commitment to pursuing a path of peaceful development and its willingness to deepen international military cooperation despite Western accusations against China over the Taiwan question and South China Sea issue. Upon invitation, Dong will attend the 21st IISS Shangri-La Dialogue and visit Singapore till June 3, China's Ministry of National Defence announced in a press release. During the event, Dong will deliver a speech on China's global security concept and meet delegation leaders from related countries, the Chinese Defence Ministry said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1313080.shtml>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on The Wall Street Journal report on undersea cable being threatened by China**

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

We noted that relevant company has issued a response to the false claims, saying that the company strictly complies with relevant laws and regulations, international practices and industry standards, and daily operations are in line with the regulations set by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The Chinese government always encourages our companies to observe market principles and international rules in their operations. US officials' claims are completely baseless and constitute ill-intentioned vilification of Chinese companies.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202405/t20240527\\_11312506.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202405/t20240527_11312506.html)

## **Chinese premier urges China, Japan, S. Korea to reject external disruption**

China Daily, May 27, 2024

Chinese Premier Li Qiang said that China, Japan and South Korea should strive to reject external disruption and stay committed to harmonious coexistence and mutual support. Li made the remarks when attending the eighth business summit among China, Japan and South Korea together with South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida. Chinese President Xi Jinping uses the principles of amity, sincerity, mutual benefit and inclusiveness to concisely summarise China's neighbourhood diplomacy, Li said, adding that

China, Japan and South Korea, geographically separated by a narrow strip of water, should be peaceful and friendly neighbours.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/27/WS665465aea31082fc043c9658.html>

## **China has threatened trade with some countries after feuds. They're calling 'the firm' for help**

Didi Tang

The Washington Post, May 27, 2024

The eight-person team at the State Department is leading Washington's efforts to ease the economic blowback for countries targeted by China. It emerged in the scramble to help Lithuania during a spat with China over Taiwan two years ago. Today, "the firm" is helping growing numbers of nations cope with what diplomats call economic coercion from Beijing.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2024/05/27/china-trade-economic-firm-state-department/a406589e-1bde-11ef-becb-2cf8dbfd9eb9\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2024/05/27/china-trade-economic-firm-state-department/a406589e-1bde-11ef-becb-2cf8dbfd9eb9_story.html)

## **China's largest general-purpose precision survey telescope to be based in Qinghai**

Global Times, May 27, 2024

China's largest general-purpose precision survey telescope is expected to be based in Lenghu town, Northwest China's Qinghai Province, after a cooperation agreement was signed on Sunday between the Purple Mountain Observatory (PMO) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the government of the Haixi Mongolian and Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture in Qinghai. The 4.2-meter diameter ground-based specialized astrometric telescope is optimally designed for high-precision astrometric measurements of solar system objects, with an investment of about 300 million yuan (\$41 million), Ping Yiding, a senior engineer at the PMO explained, as reported by China News Service.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1313083.shtml>

## **U.S. lawmakers ignore China warning, meet with Taiwan's new leader**

Abigail Hauslohner, Michelle Ye Hee Lee and Vic Chiang

The Washington Post, May 27, 2024

A bipartisan delegation of U.S. lawmakers met with Taiwan's new leader Lai Ching-te, the first such visit since Lai's inauguration last week, in what the lawmakers and Taiwanese officials said

demonstrates the steadfastness of U.S. support for Taiwan at a time of escalating tensions with China. China, which claims Taiwan as part of its territory even though the Chinese Communist Party has never ruled the island, last week responded to Lai's inauguration with large-scale military drills, surrounding the island in a blockade-style exercise that involved more than a hundred aircraft and dozens of warships.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/05/27/taiwan-meeting-congress-china/>

## **Shenzhou XVIII crew conducts first spacewalk**

Zhao Lei

China Daily, May 28, 2024

The Shenzhou XVIII crew conducted their first spacewalk outside the Tiangong space station, completing several assignments, according to the China Manned Space Agency. The agency said in a news release that mission commander Senior Colonel Ye Guangfu and crew member Lieutenant Colonel Li Guangsu returned to the Wentian science module at 6:58 pm after floating nearly eight and a half hours outside the colossal orbital station. The third crew member, Lieutenant Colonel Li Cong, stayed inside Tiangong to provide support, it said. The Shenzhou XVIII trio, the seventh group of inhabitants of the Chinese space station, were launched on April 25 by a Long March 2F carrier rocket from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwestern China and arrived at the Tiangong station the next morning to take over from their peers in the Shenzhou XVII flight.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/28/WS6655bdf7a31082fc043c99ff.html>

## **China raises \$48 billion for semiconductor fund to bolster chip-making capabilities**

Liza Lin

The Wall Street Journal, May 27, 2024

China raised about \$48 billion in its third instalment of a national semiconductor fund, aiming to increase its chip-making capabilities in the face of escalating technology competition with the U.S. This latest financing round is the largest for the state-owned National Integrated Circuit Industry Investment Fund, created in 2014. Commonly known as the "Big Fund," it directs state support to build up the country's semiconductor supply chain and has played an outside role in its development.

<https://www.wsj.com/tech/china-unveils-48-billion-fund-to-bolster-chip-industry-10d7f1ce>

## **Chinese, Cambodian sailors conduct maritime live-fire drill during "Golden Dragon-2024" joint exercise**

China Military Online, May 28, 2024

Chinese and Cambodian sailors participating in the "Golden Dragon 2024" joint exercise conducted a maritime live-fire drill in the waters near Sihanoukville Autonomous Port, Cambodia, on May 27. This marked the first live-fire drill jointly organized by the Chinese naval ship formation and the Royal Cambodian Navy. Under the theme of "joint counter-terrorism operations and humanitarian relief," the drill was based on a scenario where terrorists hijacked a cargo ship in a certain sea area, and focused on such subjects as joint response, formation navigation and search, and armed rescue.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CHINA\\_209163/TopStories\\_209189/16311859.html](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CHINA_209163/TopStories_209189/16311859.html)

## **Philippines urges US and allies to boost inward investment to counter China**

A. Anantha Lakshmi

Financial Times, May 28, 2024

The Philippines is pressing the US and its allies to boost trade and investment in the country as escalating tensions between Manila and Beijing spark fears of a wider economic fallout. Economic security should become central to the strategic relationships that the Philippines is building with its allies, said Alfredo Pascual, trade and industry secretary, in an interview with the Financial Times. The disputed South China Sea has become a major flashpoint between the Philippines and China, its biggest trading partner. Chinese coast guard vessels have in recent months fired water cannons at Philippine boats and injured Filipinos, ratcheting up tensions.

<https://www.ft.com/content/9de2a04f-086f-488c-80ae-cf4c697f52f1>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on the China-Europe Railway Express (CRE)**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, May 28, 2024

As a flagship project and signature brand of Belt and Road cooperation, the China-Europe Railway Express (CRE) has reached 223 cities in 25 European countries, and linked more than 100 cities in 11 Asian countries. For the past 8 years, the annual trips have increased from 1,702 to over 17,000 with the value of annual freight up from USD 8 billion to USD 56.7 billion. The CRE has no doubt opened a "golden channel" for trade in Eurasia. Transport leads to prosperous industries. What the CRE carries are goods, but what it brings are opportunities and hope.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202405/t20240528\\_11313215.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202405/t20240528_11313215.html)

## **China's secret spaceplane ejects mysterious object into Earth's orbit. US hunts it down**

WION, May 29, 2024

A mysterious object was released into the Earth's orbit by China's top-secret spaceplane nearly 372 miles above the surface. The situation is being monitored by the US Space Force, however, the reason why the mysterious object was ejected on May 24 remains unknown. The mysterious object was first spotted by a Harvard astrophysicist who speculated that it could be a subsatellite deployment or perhaps a piece of hardware which was released by the spaceplane before its mission ended and it deorbited.

<https://www.wionews.com/science/chinas-secret-spaceplane-ejects-mysterious-object-into-earths-orbit-us-hunts-it-down-726732>

## **China's Ceres-1 pulls off second successful sea launch, demonstrating increased maturity and enhanced adaptability for commercial use**

Deng Xiaoci

Global Times, May 29, 2024

China's Ceres-1 solid rocket has successfully conducted a second sea launch afternoon off the coast of East China's Shandong Province. This milestone highlights the commercial rocket's increased maturity and enhanced adaptability, positioning it to meet diverse orbital launch mission requirements for commercial missions, according to space experts. The Ceres-1 sea launch model, developed by Galactic Energy based on the Ceres-1 rocket, is tailored for sea launches. Ceres-1 has a diameter of 1.4 meters, a length of about 20 meters, a mass at take-off of about 33 tons and a liquid propellant upper stage. It can deliver 400 kilograms to LEO or 300 kilograms to a 500-kilometer-altitude sun-synchronous orbit (SSO).

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1313233.shtml>

## **US seeks to choke off supplies via China for Russia's war machine**

Max Seddon and Christopher Miller

Financial Times, May 30, 2024

The US will urge Ukraine's allies and western businesses to choke off supplies for Russia's defence industry through China, a vital route to sustain President Vladimir Putin's war machine. In a speech to German business leaders in Berlin on Friday, US deputy Treasury secretary Wally

Adeyemo will urge western companies to stop Russia importing critical components from or via China. The US has threatened secondary sanctions against Chinese companies found to have supplied Russia's defence industry.

<https://www.ft.com/content/e4e79fd4-64da-44ff-917e-053ac20b467f>

## **How America inadvertently created an 'Axis of Evasion' led by China**

Ian Talley and Rosie Ettenheim

The Wall Street Journal, May 30, 2024

Western sanctions and export controls were meant to subdue America's enemies, leveraging the power of the dollar to strong-arm governments into submission without the bloodshed of military force. They have inadvertently birthed a global shadow economy tying together democracy's chief foes, with Washington's primary adversary, China, at the centre. Unprecedented finance and trade restrictions on Russia, Iran, Venezuela, North Korea, China and other authoritarian regimes have squeezed those economies by curbing access to Western goods and markets. But Beijing has increasingly foiled those U.S.-led efforts by bolstering trade ties, according to Western officials and customs data.

<https://www.wsj.com/world/how-america-inadvertently-created-an-axis-of-evasion-led-by-china-0a9bc477>

## **China, Japan, South Korea to hold further trade talks**

Wang Keju

China Daily, May 30, 2024

China, Japan and South Korea are set to engage in further discussions aimed at expediting negotiations for a trilateral free trade agreement, the Ministry of Commerce said. The goal is to reach a comprehensive, high-level, mutually beneficial and value-driven trade pact that encompasses principles of freedom and fairness, said He Yadong, spokesman for the ministry, at a news conference. The high degree of interconnectivity in the industrial chains and strong economic complementarity among China, Japan and South Korea sets the stage for significant advancements in regional economic integration, He said.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/30/WS66583a5ea31082fc043ca0d0.html>

## **Full text: President Xi's keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the 10th ministerial conference of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum**

China Daily, May 30, 2024

China-Arab relations have kept scaling new heights since the beginning of the new century. At the first China-Arab States Summit in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in December 2022, my Arab colleagues and I agreed unanimously to build a China-Arab community with a shared future in the new era. China is satisfied with the progress we have made in delivering on the Summit's outcomes. It will work with the Arab side to enhance the role of the Summit in providing strategic guidance for continued leapfrog growth of China-Arab relations. I am pleased to announce that we will host the second Summit in China in 2026, which will be another milestone in China-Arab relations.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/30/WS66580c93a31082fc043ca031.html>

## **China to impose export controls on aviation equipment, technology**

Jiahui Huang

The Wall Street Journal, May 30, 2024

China will impose export controls on billions of dollars of aviation equipment, technology and software, a move it said was aimed at enhancing national security. The controls, beginning July 1, will apply to dozens of products including aircraft engines, gas turbine engines, astronaut helmet visors and a polyethylene fiber commonly used in bulletproof jackets, as well as various technologies, software and data used to develop them, China's Commerce Ministry, customs agency and Central Military Commission said in a joint statement.

<https://wsj.com/economy/china-to-impose-export-controls-on-aviation-equipment-technology-29ac9d56>

## **China delivers advanced communication satellite to Pakistan following successful launch**

Deng Xiaoci

Global Times, May 30, 2024

China successfully launched a Pakistani communication satellite, codenamed PakSat MM1, on Thursday via a Long March 3B carrier rocket from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in

Southwest China's Sichuan Province. Mission insiders hailed the feat as a landmark in technological cooperation between the two countries. They expect the successful deployment of the satellite to significantly boost Pakistan's comprehensive social and economic development, ensure the security of its communications, and enhance its aerospace technology and industrial capabilities.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1313341.shtml>

## **China grants private aerospace firm license for satellite constellation radio business**

Tao Mingyang

Global Times, May 30, 2024

China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) announced the granting of a license for space radio business via satellite constellation to Beijing-based commercial aerospace firm Guodian Gaoke, after it sent four satellites into orbit. The move will further support the nation's commercial aerospace development. The four satellites are part of Guodian Gaoke's low earth orbit (LEO) Internet-of-things (IoT) satellite constellation Tianqi, which is being used to explore satellite IoT applications in areas such as transport, environmental protection, natural disaster detection and tourism, according to the MIIT.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1313364.shtml>

## **China denounces US deployment of mid-range missile system in Philippines**

China Daily, May 30, 2024

A Chinese defence spokesperson denounced the deployment of a mid-range missile system by the United States in the Philippines, saying the moves of the two countries have put the whole Asia-Pacific region under the threat of US weaponry. "The Chinese side is highly vigilant against and firmly opposed to this," said spokesperson Wu Qian in response to a media query regarding the deployment of the US Typhon Mid-Range Capability missile system in the Philippines under the excuse of military exercises.

<https://www.chinadailyhk.com/hk/article/584502>



## **China's state security authority warns against foreign espionage threat to rare-earth industry**

Global Times, May 30, 2024

China's Ministry of State Security issued an article warning of foreign espionage agencies targeting China's rare-earth industry, engaging in theft and sabotage, posing threat to the country's natural resource security. Authorities vowed to crack down on illegal activities to protect national security and promote the sustainable development in the industry. Rare earths, also known as "industrial gold," are important strategic mineral resources that are nonrenewable. China has abundant rare-earth resources, with reserves ranking first in the world.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1313302.shtml>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, May 31, 2024

This is Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's first visit to China after the new Pakistani government came into office this year. During his visit, President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Zhao Leji will meet or have talks with him. China and Pakistan are all-weather strategic cooperative partners and ironclad friends. Our friendship has stood the test of time and remained rock-solid and—to use a Chinese expression — “steady as Mount Tai.”

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202405/t20240531\\_11368425.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202405/t20240531_11368425.html)

## **Chinese private rocket firm completes milestone launch**

Global Times, May 31, 2024

Chinese private rocket startup Galactic Energy Co announced that its solid-fueled launch vehicle Ceres-1 Y12 has successfully launched into the space, carrying five satellites into an orbit 535 kilometers above the Earth. Marking a milestone moment, the launch is preceded by a sea launch in the Yellow Sea off the coast of East China's Shandong Province, marking the shortest interval between two commercial launches ever achieved by a Chinese private aerospace firm. The event demonstrated the vast potential and broad scope of the Chinese commercial aerospace market, according to a statement sent to the Global Times by Galactic Energy Co.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1313413.shtml>

## **Defence minister talks South China Sea issue with US counterpart**

Jiang Chenglong

China Daily, May 31, 2024

China's Defence Minister Dong Jun told the United States Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin that the Philippines' "perfidy" regarding the South China Sea issue is closely linked to the support of external forces, a spokesperson said. Dong held talks with Austin on the sideline of the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore. Following the meeting, Defence Ministry spokesperson Wu Qian revealed more details about the defence chiefs' talks in a news conference. Regarding the South China Sea issue, Dong stressed that the Philippines' "perfidy" and provocation in issues including the Ren'ai Reef, is closely related to incitement and support by external forces, according to the spokesman.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/31/WS6659bbb4a31082fc043ca4f6.html>

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

**Nuclear and Arms Control Centre, MP-IDSA**