# China Newsletter

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## **China News**

#### 1. President Xi chairs China-Africa summit, calls for solidarity

#### to defeat COVID-19

On June 17th, Chinese President Xi Jinping called on China and Africa to defeat the novel coronavirus with solidarity and cooperation. The two sides should work together to build a China-Africa community of health for all and take their comprehensive strategic and cooperative partnership to a greater height.

Further reading on the following website: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-06/18/c\_139147317.htm http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-06/18/c\_139147084.htm https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\_eng/zxxx\_662805/t1789596.shtml

#### 2. President Xi sends message to conference on Belt and Road int'l

#### cooperation

On June 18th, President Xi Jinping said in a written message to the High-level Video Conference on Belt and Road International Cooperation that China will work with its partners to develop the Belt and Road into a model of cooperation for meeting challenges through unity.

Further reading on the following website: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-06/19/c 139149835.htm

#### 3. Chinese premier delivers speech at global vaccine summit

On June 4<sup>th</sup>, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said that China will continue to support the core role of the World Health Organization (WHO) in coordinating vaccine research, while making its contribution to ensuring vaccine accessibility and affordability in developing countries.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-06/05/c\_139114807.htm

#### 4. Hainan free trade port reaffirms China's commitment to

#### opening up

On June 1st ,Chinese authorities released a master plan for the Hainan free trade port, aims to building the southern island province into a globally-influential high-level free trade port by the middle of the century.

A free trade port system focusing on trade and investment liberalization and facilitation will be "basically established" in Hainan by 2025 and become "more mature" by 2035. The authorities expect to make Hainan, China's largest special economic zone, the frontline of China's integration into the global economic system.

Further reading on the following website: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-06/02/c\_139105980.htm http://english.scio.gov.cn/pressroom/2020-06/12/content\_76154666.

<u>htm</u>

### 5. National anthem law takes effect in Hong Kong

On June 12th, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government announced that the National Anthem Ordinance has been published in the Gazette and came into effect on the very day. The core legislative principle is to promote respect for the national anthem, which is the symbol and sign of the country, and provide guidance on the standard, etiquette, and occasions for playing and singing of the national anthem.

Further reading on the following website: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-06/12/c\_139134798.htm

#### 6. China's Civil Code adopted at national legislature

On May 28th ,Chinese lawmakers voted to adopt the country's long-expected Civil Code at the third session of the 13th National People's Congress. The Civil Code will take effect on Jan. 1, 2021.

In addition to general provisions and supplementary provisions, the Civil Code, the world's latest modern-day civil law, has six parts on real rights, contracts, personality rights, marriage and family, succession, and tort liabilities. The personal rights, property rights and other lawful rights and interests of the parties to civil legal relations shall be protected by law and shall not be infringed upon by any organization or individual, reads the Civil Code in its opening chapter.

Further reading on the following website: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-05/28/c\_139095109.htm

## 7. Online Canton Fair injects impetus into global trade amid

#### pandemic

On June 15th , the 127th China Import and Export Fair, or Canton Fair, kicked off online, a first for the decades-old trade fair, in south China's Guangdong Province. As the largest global trade event since the COVID-19 outbreak, this year's online fair, which lasts for 10 days, has attracted around 25,000 enterprises, hundreds of thousands of global buyers and millions of Chinese foreign trade workers, with 1.8 million products exhibited.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-06/15/c\_139140769.htm http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-06/15/c\_139141220.htm http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/PressandMedia/Spokeperso ns/t1788371.htm

Website of the Canton Fair: www.cantonfair.org.cn

## **China-UK Relations**

## 1. Wang Yi: Hope the United Kingdom (UK) Will Respect

## China's Legitimate Rights to Safeguard National Security in

## **Hong Kong**

On June 8, 2020, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi spoke on the phone at request with Dominic Raab, First Secretary of State and Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom (UK).

Wang Yi noted, Hong Kong affairs are purely China's internal affairs and brook no outside interference. Maintaining national security in Hong Kong concerns China's core interests, thereby a major issue of principle that must be adhered to. The national security legislation for Hong Kong aims to better implement "one country, two systems." The national security legislation for Hong Kong targets a very small number of "Hong Kong independence" separatists and violent elements, and the legislation will better ensure various rights and freedom of Hong Kong citizens, and also make all law-abiding foreigners feel more at ease working and living in Hong Kong. The Chinese side hopes that the UK will respect the Constitution of the People's Republic of China and the Basic Law enacted in accordance with the Constitution, respect China's legitimate right to safeguard national security on its territory, and respect the Chinese central government's administration of Hong Kong under the principle of "one country, two systems." The UK side must adopt a cautious attitude on this affair.

Dominic Raab expressed, the UK side is committed to developing a strong bilateral relationship with China. Within the framework of a mature UK-China relationship, the two sides can have a candid exchange of views on any topics. The UK side is willing to deliberate on the contents of today's in-depth exchanges, and continue to communicate with the Chinese side in the spirit of mutual respect.

Further reading on the following website:

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\_eng/zxxx\_662805/t1787509.shtml

## 2. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming: Confidence and Cooperation

#### Lead to New Prospects

On 29 May 2020, Ambassador Liu Xiaoming delivered a keynote speech entitled Confidence and Cooperation Lead to New Prospects at the 2020 Online Chinese Investment Roundtable.

The ambassador shared his confidence in China-UK relationship, China-UK business cooperation and economic globalization and open cooperation. He suggested on how to translate confidence into driving forces for cooperation and deliver more outcomes.

Further reading on the following website: http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/dshdjjh/t1784374.htm

## 3. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming: Strengthen the Foundation and

## Seize the Opportunities of Cooperation to Create A Brighter

#### Future

On 9 June, Ambassador Liu Xiaoming delivered a keynote speech entitled Strengthen the Foundation and Seize the Opportunities of Cooperation to Create A Brighter Future at the Briefing to Chinese and British Business Community on "Two Sessions".

The ambassador shared his opinions on the prospects of China's economic and social development amid Covid-19, the direction of China's s development after the pandemic and the prospects of China-UK business cooperation after the pandemic.

Further reading on the following website: http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/dshdjjh/t1787435.htm

## 4. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming: Shoulder Your Important

#### Missions and Contribute Your Youth and Talent

On 10 June, Ambassador Liu Xiaoming delivered a keynote speech entitled Shoulder Your Important Missions and Contribute Your Youth and Talent at the Award Ceremony of 2019 Chinese Government Award for Outstanding Self-financed Students Abroad.

The ambassador reminded young students of the three missions on their shoulders.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/dshdjjh/t1787799.htm

## **Policy Position**

## 1. Chinese Government Work Report of 2020

Following is the full text of the government work report delivered by Premier Li Keqiang at the third session of the 13th National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China on May 22, and adopted on May 28.

The full text is on the following website: http://english.www.gov.cn/2020special/govtworkreport2020

## 2. State Council Information Office (SCIO)released a white

## paper on Fighting COVID-19

On June 7, the SCIO released a white paper entitled "Fighting COVID-19: China in Action."

The full text is on the following website:

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-06/07/c\_139120424.htm

## 3. State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi Speaks with

## Minister of External Affairs Subrahmanyam Jaishankar of India

## on the Phone

On June 17, 2020, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi spoke with Indian Minister of External Affairs Subrahmanyam Jaishankar on the phone.

Further reading on the following website: https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\_eng/zxxx\_662805/t1789495.shtml

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Compiled by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the UK Web: <u>http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/</u>

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