



# China Newsletter

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## **China News**

### **1. Chinese president calls for openness, inclusiveness and joint response to challenges**

Speaking at the annual summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in Astana, Kazakhstan on June 9, Chinese President Xi called on the SCO member states to strengthen solidarity and cooperation, urging them to join hands to tackle challenges, enhance people-to-people bonds, and uphold openness and inclusiveness.

Xi said China will contribute an additional 10 million yuan (1.47 million U.S. dollars) to the SCO Secretariat to facilitate its work, and proposed that the SCO draw up a five-year outline for implementation of the Treaty on Long-term Good Neighborliness, Friendship and Cooperation.

On security issues, the Chinese president said the SCO should continue to give priority to its commitment to maintain regional security and stability.

Further reading on the following website:

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2017xivisitkazakhstan/2017-06/10/content\\_29697705.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2017xivisitkazakhstan/2017-06/10/content_29697705.htm)

**Full text of Chinese President Xi's speech at 17th SCO summit**

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1554798/1554798.htm>

### **2. China-EU cooperation propelled to new height**

Within the context of growing global uncertainties, the 19th China-EU summit yielded fruitful results, sending out a positive signal that China-EU relations remain stable and is steadily forging ahead.

According to the list of outcomes of the summit, which took place in Brussels on June 1 and 2, the two sides raised a series of new cooperation initiatives on strengthening China-EU Comprehensive Strategic Partnership for mutual benefit and win-win results.

It's worth noting that the two sides at the summit discussed the EU's fulfillment of its obligations under Article 15 of China's WTO Accession Protocol and expanded common understanding on this issue.

Further reading on the following website:

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-06/04/c\\_136339476.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-06/04/c_136339476.htm)

**Full text: Premier's speech at 12th China-EU business summit**

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1554148/1554148.htm>

### **3. Premier Li pledges improved climate for businesses**

Premier Li Keqiang has pledged to make doing business in China more inviting by facilitating overseas investment and widening market access to the world's second-largest economy.

Li spoke on June 7 when meeting a group of multinational corporate leaders — including the CEOs of Goldman Sachs, Schneider Electric and Phillips Corp — attending the fifth Global CEO Council roundtable summit in Beijing.

He said China, with its huge market potential, wealth of talent and growing industrial strength, will not only offer multinational companies a good environment for their investment but also create opportunities for joint exploration of third-party markets and multilateral cooperation.

China will also provide more effective protection to intellectual property rights and further promote the use of negative lists to ensure a more convenient and equitable policy environment for overseas investors, the Premier stressed.

Further reading on the following website:

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1554633/1554633.htm>

**China on the way to cut corporate cost by 1 trillion yuan**

[http://www.china.org.cn/china/Off\\_the\\_Wire/2017-06/07/content\\_40984994.htm](http://www.china.org.cn/china/Off_the_Wire/2017-06/07/content_40984994.htm)

**China to set up pilot zones for green finance, cut red tape for industries**

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1555173/1555173.htm>

### **4. Support for green energy to continue**

China will continue to implement policies and measures to support clean energy development and promote harmony between man and nature, the nation's leaders said on June 8.

They also urged other countries to improve global mechanisms to address climate change; strengthen innovation and cooperation in clean energy, support social and business participation in green industries; and share technologies and experiences with developing countries.

China attaches great importance to developing clean energy because it plays a crucial role in reforming energy structure, maintaining energy security and building an ecological civilization, President Xi Jinping said in a letter to the opening ceremony of the eighth Clean Energy Ministerial and the second Mission Innovation Ministerial energy-related forums in Beijing.

Further reading on the following website:

[http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/epaper/2017-06/08/content\\_29670367.htm](http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/epaper/2017-06/08/content_29670367.htm)

**China launches week-long campaign to promote energy conservation**

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1554893/1554893.htm>

## **5. China launched its first X-ray space telescope to observe black holes**

China launched its first X-ray space telescope to observe black holes, pulsars and gamma-ray bursts, via a Long March-4B rocket from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China's Gobi Desert on June 15.

The 2.5-tonne Hard X-ray Modulation Telescope (HXMT), dubbed Insight, was sent into orbit 550 kilometers above the earth to help scientists better understand the evolution of black holes, and the strong magnetic fields and the interiors of pulsars.

Through the telescope, scientists will also study how to use pulsars for spacecraft navigation, and search for gamma-ray bursts corresponding to gravitational waves.

Further reading on the following website:

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-06/15/c\\_136367916.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-06/15/c_136367916.htm)

## **6. China's economy steadies on structural upgrade**

China's economic growth held steady in the first five months as key service indicators rose rapidly, suggesting that structural upgrades have cushioned long-term downward pressures.

"Led by supply-side structural reform and innovation-driven strategy, the national economy continued to grow steadily in May with increasing coordination of development," said Liu Aihua, spokeswoman of the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) on June 14.

The NBS reported May growth of 8.1 percent for the service sector on Wednesday, flat with April and extending the rally since the beginning of the year. The data confirmed the message that the ongoing shift of growth model was providing new impetus to the world's second largest economy.

Further reading on the following website:

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2017-06/14/content\\_29744422.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2017-06/14/content_29744422.htm)

**China's May exports up 15.5%, imports up 22.1%**

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1554687/1554687.htm>

## **China-UK Relations**

### **1. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming: unchanged confidence in China-Europe and China-UK business cooperation in time of changes**

On June 14, Ambassador Liu attended the Eighth Sino-European Entrepreneurs Summit and delivered a keynote speech entitled "Entrepreneurship will push China-Europe cooperation to a new high".

In his remarks, Ambassador Liu reiterated his confidence in China-Europe and China-UK business cooperation despite the many changes taking place internationally and regionally, citing China's steady economic growth, the increasingly mature China-Europe relations and fruitful China-UK cooperation as three main reasons for the confidence.

Ambassador Liu stressed that the Chinese side always approach the cooperation with the UK and the EU from a long-term, strategic perspective, and hopes that the Brexit negotiation between Britain and the EU will result in a win-win agreement for common development. He called on business leaders from both China and Europe to keep up the spirit of entrepreneurship, tap into the market vitality and deepen communication

and cooperation, so as to push China-Europe and China-UK business ties to a new high.

Full text of the speech on the following website:

<http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/ce/ceuk/eng/EmbassyNews/t1470361.htm>

## **2. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming commends the pioneering, practical and enterprising spirit of Guangdong Province**

On June 14, Ambassador Liu attended the China (Guangdong) - UK Economic and Trade Cooperation Conference and gave a speech entitled “Adopt a pioneering, practical and enterprising spirit and achieve new success in China-UK Cooperation”.

He spoke highly of Guangdong’s achievements in reform and opening-up, as well as its economic cooperation with the UK. On deepening China-UK and Guangdong-UK cooperation in the coming years, Ambassador Liu encouraged both sides to continue to explore new areas of cooperation, uphold the "Guangdong spirit", and enhance cooperation on the Belt and Road Initiative.

Full text of the speech on the following website:

<http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/ce/ceuk/eng/EmbassyNews/t1469832.htm>

## **3. Minister Zhu Qin attends the World Trade Symposium 2017 Live Dialogue hosted by the Financial Times: One Belt, One Road**

On June 6, Minister Zhu Qin attended the World Trade Symposium 2017 Live Dialogue on One Belt, One Road hosted by the Financial Times. The Dialogue was moderated by Stefania Palma, Asia Editor of The Banker, the Financial Times monthly magazine. The other panelists were from the HSBC and the Chatham House.

Minister Zhu briefed the participants on the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation and its outcomes. He noted that the Belt and Road Initiative aims to promote infrastructure construction and interconnectivity, dock the policies and development strategies of different countries, deepen pragmatic cooperation and promote coordinated development to achieve common prosperity. The open and inclusive Belt and Road Initiative sends a clear signal that China will work with all parties

to build an open, innovative and coordinated world economy, which will benefit not only China but also the whole world.

Further reading on the following website:

<http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/ce/ceuk/eng/EmbassyNews/t1470187.htm>

## **Policy and Position**

### **1. China issues five-year plan to develop border regions**

The State Council of China has issued a five-year plan for developing border regions and improving border residents' income.

It urged infrastructural development in border regions in various fields, including transportation, water conservancy, energy, information technology, and promote urban construction.

People's lives in border areas should be improved. Measures will be taken to help residents escape poverty, improve their living conditions and build better social welfare system, according to the plan.

Further reading on the following website:

[http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest\\_releases/2017/06/06/content\\_281475678653456.htm](http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest_releases/2017/06/06/content_281475678653456.htm)

### **2. Foreign Ministry Spokesperson's remarks on the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and Panama**

**Q: Yesterday, the announcement of the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and Panama grabbed international attention. The Chinese leaders and Foreign Minister Wang Yi have all spoken on this. I am wondering whether you as the Spokesperson have anything more to say.**

A: We have noted the extensive reports at home and abroad on the official establishment of diplomatic ties at the ambassadorial level between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Panama. The international media commented a lot on this, and the Foreign Ministry Spokesperson's Office also received a lot of inquiries on this issue. Here, I would like to reaffirm China's position.

On June 13, Foreign Minister Wang Yi and Isabel Saint Malo de Alvarado, Panama's Vice President and Foreign Minister, signed in Beijing

a joint communique on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Panama on behalf of their respective government. According to the communique, the Chinese and Panamanian governments have decided to recognize each other and establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level effective from the date of signature of the communique.

There is but one China in the world. The Government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legal government representing the whole of China, and Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory. These are historical facts as well as well-acknowledged norms guiding international relations.

Panama is an important Latin American country. The amicable exchanges between the Chinese and Panamanian people date back a long way. The Chinese people have profound friendship with the Panamanian people. The Panamanian government acknowledges the one China principle and promises to stick to it. It chooses to cut off the so-called "diplomatic ties" with Taiwan and establishes diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China, which is a right choice that meets the trend of our times and the wishes of our people. China highly commends that.

On the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and the one China principle, China stands ready to develop and deepen all-around friendly cooperation with Panama and deliver more benefits to the two countries and peoples.

**Q: Does the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Panama mean the end of the "diplomatic truce" across the Straits? Will the mainland establish or resume diplomatic relations with more countries which have the so-called diplomatic ties with Taiwan? Will there be any major adjustments in the policies of the Chinese central government towards Taiwan?**

A: As for your last question, I would refer you to the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council.

The one China principle is the major principled position which concerns China's core interests and the feelings of the 1.3 billion Chinese



people. It is also the prerequisite and the political basis for China to maintain and develop friendly cooperative relations with other countries in the world. The Chinese government stays committed to developing friendly cooperative relations with other countries in the world on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and the one China principle.

Looking around the world, China's circle of friends is growing bigger and bigger. Refusing to recognize the 1992 Consensus will end up nowhere. Only by coming back to the right track set in the 1992 Consensus and recognizing that both sides across the Taiwan Straits belong to the one and same China can there be preconditions and basis for the peaceful development of the cross-Straits relations and can the common aspiration of the people across the Straits for pursuing common development, sharing opportunities and jointly scoring glorious achievements be realized.

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Your comments are welcome.