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# **China News**

## **1. China, US applaud Comprehensive Economic Dialogue**

Senior Chinese and US government officials spoke positively of their first Comprehensive Economic Dialogue (CED) in Washington on Wednesday July 19 after they reached broad consensus.

Chinese Vice-Premier Wang Yang, US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross co-chaired the meeting held at the US Treasury Department, where the two sides discussed bilateral trade and investment, the 100-Day Action Plan and One-Year Plan, global economy and governance, and macroeconomic policy, finance and agriculture.

Wang said that cooperation is the only correct choice for China and the US, both being the largest trade partner and important source of foreign investment for each other.

Further reading on the following website:

[http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2017-07/20/content\\_30187725.htm](http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2017-07/20/content_30187725.htm)

**Wang Yang and Secretary of the Treasury and Secretary of Commerce of the US co-chair the first round of China-US Comprehensive Economic Dialogue**

[http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/zxxx\\_662805/t1479574.shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1479574.shtml)

## **2. President Xi Jinping holds group meeting with heads of foreign delegations for 7th Meeting of BRICS High Representatives for Security Issues**

On July 28, President Xi Jinping held a group meeting at the Great Hall of the People with Secretary of the Security Council Nikolai Patrushev of Russia, Minister of State Security David Mahlobo of South Africa, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval of India and Minister Sérgio Etchegoyen of the Office of Institutional Security of the Presidency of Brazil, who were in China for the 7th Meeting of BRICS High Representatives for Security Issues.

Expressing congratulations on the successful completion of the 7th Meeting of BRICS High Representatives for Security Issues, Xi Jinping affirmed the consensus reached and important political preparations made at the meeting for the BRICS Summit in Xiamen. Xi Jinping pointed out that BRICS cooperation has gone through a 10-year-long course, crossed the farthest distance in the world, overcome differences in development paths and social systems, and consolidated resolution and actions of the five countries in seeking stability, pursuing development and facilitating people's well-being. Enhancing BRICS cooperation not only protects and expands the interests of BRICS countries, but also carries out meaningful exploration for building a new type of international relations. In facing of the intertwined international political, economic and security situation and considering the common aspirations of the people of BRICS countries for exchange and cooperation, economic and financial cooperation, people-to-people and cultural exchanges and mutual learning, as well as communication and coordination on security issues should all be pushed forward. Only in this way, can BRICS's path ahead stretch broader and broader, and lead to the future stably.

Xi Jinping stressed that China proposes the international community to make joint endeavor in promoting world economy onto a sustainable development path, and advancing economic globalization to develop in a fair, inclusive and sustainable manner, as well as fundamentally addressing such global issues as terrorism by means of development. It is the common interests and goals that brought the BRICS countries together. As long as we follow the BRICS spirit of openness, inclusiveness, and win-win cooperation and build a closer BRICS partnership hand in hand, we will surely embrace the second golden decade of BRICS cooperation.

Further reading on the following website:

[http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/zxxx\\_662805/t1481661.shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1481661.shtml)

**7th Meeting of BRICS High Representatives for Security Issues held in Beijing**

[http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/zxxx\\_662805/t1481664.shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1481664.shtml)

**Yang Jiechi meets respectively with BRICS High Representatives for Security Issues of South Africa, Brazil and India**

[http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/zxxx\\_662805/t1481645.shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1481645.shtml)

### **3. President Xi Jinping holds talks with President Mahmoud Abbas of Palestine**

On July 18, President Xi Jinping held talks with President Mahmoud Abbas of Palestine, who was in China for a state visit.

Xi Jinping pointed out that the friendship between China and Palestine has a long history. China is one of the first countries to support the just cause of the Palestinian people, and recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization and the State of Palestine. In recent years, both countries have conducted close high-level exchanges, further consolidated political mutual trust, and achieved steady development from cooperation in various fields.

Xi Jinping put forward four propositions on promoting the settlement of the Palestinian issue.

Further reading on the following website:

[http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/zxxx\\_662805/t1478934.shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1478934.shtml)

### **4. President Xi calls for united efforts to deepen military reform**

Chinese President Xi Jinping has called for all-out efforts to push forward military reform with the support of the entire nation and the Communist Party of China (CPC).

Xi, also general secretary of the CPC Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC), made the remarks on July 24 at a group study attended by members of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee.

The group study focused on reform of the military in size, structure, and formation.

Carried out in a bold and resolute way, national defense and military reform has taken historic steps and achieved historic breakthroughs and achievements in major fields, pumping great power into building a strong army, Xi said.

Further reading on the following website:

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-07/25/c\\_136471884.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-07/25/c_136471884.htm)

**SCIO briefing on PLA construction and development**

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1559302/1559302.htm>

## **5. President Xi urges faster opening up, better business environment**

China should improve its investment and market environment, accelerate opening up to the outside world and lower operating costs, Chinese President Xi Jinping said on Monday July 17.

The country should "create a stable, fair, transparent and predictable business environment, and speed up efforts to build an open economy in a bid to promote the sustainable and healthy development of the Chinese economy," Xi said at a meeting of the Central Leading Group on Finance and Economic Affairs.

An important goal of building an open economy is to stimulate improvement of domestic institutions and laws for higher efficiency and greater competitive strength in the global market, said the President.

Further reading on the following website:

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-07/17/c\\_136450987.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-07/17/c_136450987.htm)

### **Premier Li says China to open wider to world**

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1558962/1558962.htm>

## **6. New committee key to financial sector reform and regulation**

China's decision to establish a committee to oversee financial stability and development will be key to reform and coordinated regulation of the financial sector, economists said.

"The reason why China has decided to launch a financial stability and development committee is that it could shore up weak links in supervision and strengthen comprehensive coordination," said Lian Ping, chief economist with Bank of Communications.

Further reading on the following website:

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-07/16/c\\_136447895.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-07/16/c_136447895.htm)

### **President Xi urges financial sector to better serve real economy**

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1558397/1558397.htm>

## **7. China's GDP grows 6.9 pct**

China's gross domestic product expanded 6.9 percent year-on-year in the first half of 2017 to about 38.15 trillion yuan (5.62 trillion US dollars), China's National Bureau of Statistics said on Monday July 17.

China's value-added industrial output expanded 6.9 percent year-on-year in the first half of 2017, compared with a 6.8-percent increase in the first quarter.

Investment in property development expanded 8.5 percent year-on-year for the first half of 2017, 0.6 percentage points lower than the first quarter.

Further reading on the following website:

[https://news.cgtn.com/news/3d4d6a4d3563444e/share\\_p.html](https://news.cgtn.com/news/3d4d6a4d3563444e/share_p.html)

**Industrial output sees best growth in three years**

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1559423/1559423.htm>

**China's foreign trade gains steam in H1**

[http://www.china.org.cn/business/2017-07/13/content\\_41208289.htm](http://www.china.org.cn/business/2017-07/13/content_41208289.htm)

**China's digital economy surges 18.9% in 2016, drives growth**

[https://news.cgtn.com/news/3d41544e3067444e/share\\_p.html](https://news.cgtn.com/news/3d41544e3067444e/share_p.html)

**Central SOEs reform will be done in 2017**

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/bizchina/2017-07/27/content\\_30260522.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/bizchina/2017-07/27/content_30260522.htm)

## **China-UK Relations**

### **1. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming: to experience the culture of west China is part of efforts to advance China-UK "Golden Era"**

On July 20, Ambassador Liu Xiaoming attended the opening ceremony of 2017 Experience China - Cultural Exploration of West China in the UK and delivered a speech entitled *Mutual Learning between East and West Will Boost China-UK "Golden Era"*.

Ambassador Liu pointed out that to experience the culture of west China is a part of the efforts to advance China-UK "Golden Era"; it helps form stronger people-to-people bond and enhance mutual understanding as both sides cooperate on the Belt and Road Initiative; and it contributes to

the broad exchange and mutual learning between the Eastern and Western civilizations.

Full text of the speech is at the following website:

<http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/ce/ceuk/eng/EmbassyNews/t1478816.htm>

### **Culture of West China on show in London**

[https://news.cgtn.com/news/3d6b544f786b444e/share\\_p.html](https://news.cgtn.com/news/3d6b544f786b444e/share_p.html)

### **UK to get insight into the vibrant west side of nation**

[http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2017-07/21/content\\_30192641.htm](http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2017-07/21/content_30192641.htm)

### **UK discovers a passion for west China experience**

<http://chinaplus.cri.cn/news/world/10/20170721/10754.html>

## **2. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming: Work together for world peace in China-UK "Golden Era"**

On July 27, the Embassy of China in the UK held a reception marking the 90th anniversary of the People's Liberation Army.

In his remarks at the reception, Ambassador Liu Xiaoming spoke highly of the extraordinary historic journey for the PLA, highlighting the latter's indelible historic contribution to the liberation of the Chinese nation, to safeguarding China's development and reforms and to upholding China's sovereignty, security and development interests. He stressed that China remains committed as ever to world peace and common development and the PLA remains a steadfast force to ensure world peace and stability. He called on all sectors in China and Britain to work together to ensure greater progress in the relations between the two countries and between the two armed forces, as well as to make more and greater contribution to world peace and prosperity.

Full text of the remarks is at the following website:

<http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/ce/ceuk/eng/EmbassyNews/t1480314.htm>

## **Policy and Position**

### **1. China issues guideline on artificial intelligence development**

The State Council has issued a guideline on developing artificial intelligence (AI), setting a goal for the country to become a global innovation center in this field by 2030.

The total output value of AI related industries should surpass 1 trillion yuan (\$147.80 billion). A mature theory and technology system should be formed.

Developing AI is a “complicated and systematic project” according to the guideline. An open and coordinated AI innovation system should be constructed to develop not only the technology, but also products and market.

Further reading on the following website:

[http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest\\_releases/2017/07/20/content\\_281475742458322.htm](http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest_releases/2017/07/20/content_281475742458322.htm)

## **2. Action plan approved to phase out waste imports**

The State Council has approved an action plan to ban trash imports and reform the solid waste import management system to protect the environment and improve people’s health.

The circular set a target of comprehensively banning imports of solid waste that cause serious pollution by the end of 2017. Imports of solid waste that can be substituted by domestic resources would be gradually phased out by the end of 2019.

The catalog of imported solid waste should be adjusted before the end of July, while an import ban on items such as waste plastics, unsorted scrap paper and discarded textile materials should be in place before the end of this year.

Further reading on the following website:

[http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest\\_releases/2017/07/27/content\\_281475756814340.htm](http://english.gov.cn/policies/latest_releases/2017/07/27/content_281475756814340.htm)

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