

July 10, 2023

# SYLLOGE ON CHINA

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

**An Initiative by Indian Pugwash Society and Centre for Nuclear Issues and Arms Control (MP - IDSA)**



INDIAN PUGWASH SOCIETY

## **China urges Netherlands not to abuse export control**

Xinhua, July 1, 2023

China has urged the Netherlands not to abuse export control measures regarding semiconductor products, a spokesperson with China's Ministry of Commerce said. In recent years, to safeguard its global hegemony, the United States has continuously generalized the concept of national security, abused export control measures, and even sacrificed the interests of its allies, coerced and wooed other countries to suppress and contain China's semiconductors, and artificially promoted industrial decoupling and chain breaking, said the spokesperson.

<https://english.news.cn/20230701/48491b8bf819433fb107bc80b20e9a9c/c.html>

## **Russia buying civilian drones from China for war effort**

Jacob Fromer

Nikkei Asia, July 1, 2023

Russia has for months been importing drones from Chinese companies explicitly for use in its invasion of Ukraine, despite denials from Beijing that such equipment is being deployed in the war, a Nikkei Asia investigation has found. Since the beginning of the invasion 16 months ago, Beijing has repeatedly denied providing weapons to Moscow for use in the invasion. And while previous reporting has shown that Russia stepped up its imports of Chinese drones after the war began, Beijing has denied that China is exporting drones to the battlefields of Ukraine.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Ukraine-war/Special-report-Russia-buying-civilian-drones-from-China-for-war-effort>

## **Chinese public boycotts Japanese imports over fear of radioactive wastewater dumping**

Global Times, July 2, 2023

Ahead of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief's visit to Japan to observe the final preparations for the dumping of nuclear-contaminated wastewater into the sea, the Chinese public is calling, across social media platforms, for a widespread boycott of Japanese products, while experts urge the IAEA to give a just and objective review of the dumping plan to prevent Japan from committing a crime against humanity.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202307/1293571.shtml>

## **China has been preparing for war with the US for decades and is racing ahead, claims Nikki Haley**

James Gordon

Daily Mail, July 2, 2023

'If you look at the military situation, they now have the largest naval fleet in the world,' Haley said to Fox News. 'They have 340 ships, we have 293. They're going to have 400 In two years, we won't even have 350 in two decades. They have started developing hypersonic missiles. We're just now getting started.' Haley said China's fleet is projected to expand to 400 ships within the next two years, while America's will not even reach 350 ships in the next two decades. China is also believed to have been busy developing hypersonic missiles, while the US still lags behind in that area.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12256939/China-preparing-war-DECADES-racing-ahead-Army-takes-gender-pronoun-class.html>

## **China's Tiangong space station begins hosting global experiments**

Ryosuke Matsuzoe and Satoshi Kawahara

Nikkei Asia, July 2, 2023

Scientific experiments from researchers around the world have started on China's Tiangong space station, part of Beijing's bid to appeal to the global scientific community. "We transported the first experimental equipment for joint projects with the United Nations to Tiangong on May 10," said China's Manned Space Agency project office at a United Nations-hosted online symposium on May 15.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Science/China-s-Tiangong-space-station-begins-hosting-global-experiments>

## **China's anti-espionage law raises foreign business risk**

Jill Goldenziel

Forbes, July 3, 2023

On July 1, updates to China Anti-Espionage Law came into effect, sending waves of anxiety through foreign business communities in China. The Anti-Espionage Law is the latest in a series of fifteen national security-

related laws passed in recent years to strengthen China's security state, but this one caused a U.S. intelligence agency to issue a public warning. The United States National Counterintelligence and Security Center, part of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, warned U.S. businesses about an increased risk of doing business in China, citing the revised law.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/jillgoldenziel/2023/07/03/chinas-anti-espionage-law-raises-foreign-business-risk/?sh=15ac23c769ee>

## **Taiwan military holds live fire drills on strategic southern coast**

Fabian Hamacher and Ann Wang

Reuters, July 3, 2023

Taiwan's military carried out live fire drills on its strategically-located southern coast, firing missiles from highly mobile armoured cars to destroy targets close to shore in a simulation of repelling invading forces. China, which views democratically governed Taiwan as its own territory, has ramped up military pressure over the past three years to try to assert its sovereignty claim, and the island's armed forces routinely practice seeing off a Chinese attack.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/taiwan-military-holds-live-fire-drills-strategic-southern-coast-2023-07-03/>

## **People's Liberation Army Rocket Force Order of Battle 2023**

Decker Eveleth

James Martin Centre for Nonproliferation Studies, July 3, 2023

The People's Republic of China is currently in the process of radically expanding its arsenal of conventional and nuclear land-based missile launchers. Over the past decade China has doubled the number of combat missile brigades in the People's Liberation Army Rocket Force (PLARF), and has unveiled a myriad of new capabilities, including missiles capable of firing both conventional and nuclear warheads, and missiles equipped with hypersonic glide vehicles designed to evade missile defences.

<https://nonproliferation.org/peoples-liberation-army-rocket-force-order-of-battle-2023/>

## **How should China deal with Japan's destructive policy?**

Global Times, July 3, 2023

Overall, Japan has severely destructed its strategic positioning toward China. In the past, it was believed that the main contradiction was between China and the US, and Japan was simply following the US. The reality is not so. In certain areas or issues, Japan is even leading the way, such as disputes over the Diaoyu Islands, where Tokyo requested the US to defend Japan. The concept of Indo-Pacific Strategy was first raised by Japan, and then the US made use of the idea and formulated the American version of the strategy.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202307/1293598.shtml>

## **China restricts exports of two minerals used in high-performance chips**

James T. Areddy and Sha Hua

The Wall Street Journal, July 4, 2023

China set export restrictions on two minerals the U.S. says are critical to the production of semiconductors, missile systems and solar cells, a show of force ahead of economic talks between two rivals that increasingly set trade rules to achieve technological dominance. The minerals—gallium and germanium—and more than three dozen related metals and other materials will be subject to unspecified export controls starting August 1, Beijing's Ministry of Commerce said.

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/china-restricts-exports-of-two-metals-used-in-high-performance-chips-a649402b>

## **China's envoy: IAEA report not 'license' for Japan to dump radioactive water**

Wang Xu

China Daily, July 4, 2023

Chinese Ambassador to Japan Wu Jianghao urged Tokyo to stop its ocean discharge plan, saying the assessment report of the International Atomic Energy Agency cannot be used as a "license". The IAEA assessment report cannot serve as a "license" for Japan's ocean discharge, Wu said, adding that the timing of Japan's decision, the function of IAEA and the wrongdoings of Japan had denied the plan's legitimacy and legality. According to Wu, the IAEA is an international organization that promotes the safe, reliable, and peaceful use of nuclear technology from a functional perspective.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202307/1293679.shtml>

## **Hypersonic War: Chinese YJ-21 vs. US HALO - Both China & US fast-track Air-Launched hypersonics**

Kris Osborn

Warrior Maven, July 5, 2023

The Navy is fast-tracking prototypes of a first-of-its-kind air-launched hypersonic weapon able to destroy enemy ships from F-35Cs and F/A-18s, an effort which may quickly close the gap with China's development of similar weapons. A recent essay in the Chinese-government-backed Global Times says its H6K bomber is capable of being armed with an air fired hypersonic weapon called the YJ-21. While this weapon has been fired from PLA-Navy ships in tests in recent years, it has not previously been cited as existing in an air-launched variant.

<https://wariormaven.com/china/china-us-fast-track-air-launched-hypersonic-weapons-who-is-ahead>

## **PLA dismisses fears over Rocket Force capability**

Zhao Lei

China Daily, July 5, 2023

The PLA Daily said in a short editorial on Wednesday the PLA Rocket Force is the core pillar of China's strategic deterrence capability, a foundation of the nation's status as a global power, and an important guarantee of national security. "The Rocket Force's hardware modernization is focused on the improvement of its strategic deterrence power and operational capacity, and is intended to better safeguard national security rather than to threaten any other country or specific target," the editorial said.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202307/05/WS64a5559fa310bf8a75d6d6c1.html>

## **China simulates 'Z-day' total sea war with the US**

Gabriel Honrada

Asia Times, July 5, 2023

China has just simulated a total war scenario at sea with the United States, an exercise that highlighted the People's Liberation Army-Navy's formidable challenges in a potential high-intensity conflict with an advanced, determined and highly-capable adversary. South China Morning Post (SCMP) reported that researchers from the PLA's Unit 91404 recently added a "total war" scenario when testing and evaluating

the performance of new weapons. Unit 91404 is responsible for the sea tests of some of China's latest and most potent naval weapons.

<https://asiatimes.com/2023/07/china-simulates-z-day-total-sea-war-with-the-us/>

## **China expresses 'regret' over IAEA safety report clearing Japan's nuclear-contaminated wastewater discharge plan**

Global Times, July 5, 2023

China expressed "regret" that the IAEA had hastily released the report, Deng said. China has urged Japan to face up to the legitimate and reasonable concerns of the international community, as well as the opinions of the IAEA and other international professional and authoritative agencies. The discharge of nuclear-contaminated wastewater should not be started without credible evidence of its legitimacy, and until effective corrective measures have been taken in response to the IAEA's assessment, according to CAEA.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202307/1293736.shtml>

## **The Chinese balloon carried a message: We need crisis communications**

The Washington Post, July 5, 2023

The Chinese balloon that crossed the United States from Alaska to South Carolina for a week early this year — before being shot down offshore by the U.S. military — stirred a blizzard of fears. NBC News reported on April 3 that the balloon had been collecting electronic signals from U.S. military sites and sending them in real time back to China. President Biden said in May that it “was carrying two freight cars’ worth of spying equipment.”

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2023/07/05/opinion-china-crisis-hotline/>

## **To deter China, the US should build rings of fire**

Mike Gallagher, Joni Ernst

Fox News, July 5, 2023

The Pentagon reports that China fields over 1,250 ground-launched theater-range ballistic and cruise missiles that can hit U.S. targets across the Indo-Pacific. In fact, in 2021, China tested more ballistic missiles

than the rest of the world combined. The PLA Rocket Force is central to China's "anti-access/area denial" strategy, designed to push U.S. forces out of the first and second island chains by demonstrating that they can, and will, hit U.S. forces inside it.

<https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/deter-china-us-build-rings-fire>

## **‘You can never become a Westerner:’ China’s top diplomat urges Japan and South Korea to align with Beijing and ‘revitalize Asia**

Nectar Gan

CNN, July 5, 2023

China's top diplomat has urged Japan and South Korea to foster a sense of "strategic autonomy" from the West and cooperate with Beijing to "revitalize Asia," amid rising tensions between China and the two neighboring American allies. The comments by Wang Yi come as Japan and South Korea forge closer relations with the United States – and mend ties with each other – driven by common concerns about Beijing's growing influence and assertiveness in the region.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2023/07/04/china/wang-yi-china-japan-south-korea-intl-hnk/index.html>

## **China puts advanced WS-15 engines through J-20 stealth fighter paces**

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, July 5, 2023

After two decades of development, China's most powerful engine has had its maiden flight in one of the country's most advanced stealth fighters, an upgrade that defence analysts say narrows the technology gap with the United States. According to a video circulating online since June 28, a J-20 prototype jet fighter fitted with two WS-15 engines took off from a test airfield in Chengdu, southwest Sichuan province.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3226562/china-puts-advanced-ws-15-engines-through-j-20-stealth-fighter-paces>



## **China accuses US of turning Taiwan into powder keg with latest sales to self-governing island**

Voice of America, July 5, 2023

China's Defence Ministry accused the United States of turning Taiwan into a powder keg Wednesday with its latest sales of military equipment to the self-governing island democracy worth a total of \$440.2 million. The U.S. State Department approved of the sale of 30 mm ammunition and related equipment, along with spare parts for Taiwan's vehicles, small arms, combat weapon systems, and logistical support items. Defence Ministry spokesperson Col. Tan Kefei responded that "the U.S. ignores China's core concerns, crudely interferes in China's internal affairs, and deliberately escalates tensions across the Taiwan Strait."

<https://www.voanews.com/a/china-accuses-us-of-turning-taiwan-into-powder-keg-with-latest-sales-to-self-governing-island-/7167743.html>

## **China urges Japan to stop pushing through the ocean discharge plan**

Xinhua, July 6, 2023

China once again urges Japan to act responsibly for marine environment and people's life and health, stop pushing through the ocean discharge plan and imposing unpredictable risks on the international community, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Wang Wenbin said. Wang made the remarks at a daily news briefing when asked to comment on opposition in Japan and other parts of the world towards Japan's plan to discharge nuclear-contaminated water into the ocean. It is reported that Japan's fisheries cooperative and other associations will submit another petition signed by 33,000 people to the Tokyo Electric Power Company in opposition of the discharge plan.

<https://english.news.cn/20230706/73b83ad58bfb4ac0b74a0c9381b29ad1/c.html>

## **China asserts AI development goals at Shanghai conference as Beijing braces for potential new US tech restrictions**

Tracy Qu, Lilian Zhang, Ben Jiang and Ann Cao

South China Morning Post, July 6, 2023

China's Vice-Minister for Industry and Information Technology, Xu Xiaolan, said in a keynote speech at the conference, that the country is moving to develop a complete AI value chain that covers "smart chips

and algorithm frameworks to industry-specific large language models (LLMs)”. She said the Chinese government will increase its support for the domestic AI industry, which is estimated to consist of more 4,300 companies at present.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/big-tech/article/3226808/china-asserts-ai-development-goals-shanghai-conference-beijing-braces-potential-new-us-tech>

## **Russian naval ships visit Shanghai**

Qian Xiaohu and Ni Zhiyuan

China Military Online, July 6, 2023

A pair of corvettes, Gromkiy and Sovershenniy attached to the Russian Pacific Fleet, called at the Shanghai port on July 5 for a seven-day friendly visit. It is the first visit by the two corvettes to Shanghai, and also the 7th by a warship detachment of Russian Navy. During the visit, Chinese and Russian sailors will carry out mutual ship visits, professional and technical exchanges, and friendly sports games. Following the port call, the Russian ships will conduct joint drill with their Chinese counterparts focusing on maneuver in formation, ship-to-ship communication, and maritime search and rescue.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CHINA\\_209163/TopStories\\_209189/16235367.html](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CHINA_209163/TopStories_209189/16235367.html)

## **Buoys over troubled water: Chinese tech helps researchers monitor ‘pulse of Pacific Ocean’**

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, July 6, 2023

The US is a leader in ocean monitoring, but China has been catching up. In recent years, Chinese researchers have deployed a growing number of high quality monitoring devices, particularly in marine areas where the strategic interests of the two nations overlap. “By 2022 the CKEO buoys had been conducting continuous observations in situ for more than three years. An enormous amount of data has been collected,” said the Chinese research team led by professor Chen Zhaohui, from the Ocean University of China in Qingdao, Shandong in the paper.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3226558/buoys-over-troubled-water-chinese-hi-tech-helps-researchers-monitor-pulse-pacific-ocean>

## **China controls minerals that run the world—and it just fired a warning shot at U.S.**

Jon Emont

The Wall Street Journal, July 7, 2023

Around two-thirds of the world's lithium and cobalt—essential for electric cars—is processed in China. The country is the source of nearly 60% of aluminium, also used in EV batteries, and 80% of polysilicon, an ingredient in solar panels. It has an even tighter grip on rare-earth minerals that go into crucial technologies, like making smartphone touch screens and missile-defence systems, accounting for 90% of their refining, according to the International Energy Agency.

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/china-controls-minerals-that-run-the-worldand-just-fired-a-warning-shot-at-u-s-5961d77b>

## **China's expanded anti-espionage law threatens business consultants and advisers**

Chad de Guzman

TIME, July 7, 2023

The revised anti-espionage law adds to these difficulties by threatening to ensnare consulting firms that businesses rely on to work in China. The law has expanded the definition of spying beyond the sharing of “state secrets” to include the sharing of “intelligence and other documents, data, materials, and items related to national security and interests.” Like many of China's laws, however, it is intentionally broad and open to Beijing's loose interpretation.

<https://time.com/6292785/china-foreign-investment-national-security-revised-espionage-business-consultants/>

## **Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to military base puts concern over US intervention in Taiwan conflict in spotlight**

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, July 8, 2023

Chinese President Xi Jinping's recent visit to the Eastern Theatre Command, which oversees the Taiwan Strait, highlights Beijing's concerns that the United States and Japan would intervene in the event of an

attack on the island, analysts have said. Xi, who also chairs the Central Military Commission, praised the command's "significant contribution" to safeguarding China's territory sovereignty and national unity when visiting headquarters of the command in Nanjing, a city in the eastern province of Jiangsu.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3226969/chinese-president-xi-jinpings-visit-military-base-puts-concern-over-us-intervention-taiwan-conflict>

## **JCC Meeting to explore new avenues of China-Pakistan cooperation, chart future course for CPEC**

Liu Caiyu

Global Times, July 8, 2023

The Special Commemorative 12th Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) meeting of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is to be held in Beijing, as the two countries celebrate a decade of achievements linked to the project, the Global Times learnt from the Pakistani Embassy in Beijing. Ahsan Iqbal, Pakistan's Federal Minister for Planning and Development who will lead Pakistani delegation, said before his departure for China that the two sides will explore new avenues of cooperation and chart the future course for the CPEC in emerging sectors during the meeting.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202307/1293973.shtml>

## **China is preparing for war**

Tom Sharpe

The Telegraph, July 8, 2023

Tensions between the West and China show no sign of easing. Interdependence and mistrust continue to mix uneasily. Triggers are many and varied including; human rights, relations with Russia vis-à-vis Ukraine, microchip manufacturing and the big one, Taiwan. In the longer term, is war with China inevitable? General Mike Minihan of the US Air Force says it is; a hawkish stance that I suspect is shared by quite a few in the US military. But, as is the way, there are plenty who believe that the situation will continue to be managed by ongoing diplomatic efforts and the deterrent effect of our combined militaries.

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2023/07/07/china-preparing-for-war/>

## **China launches new satellite to test satellite internet technologies**

Xinhua, July 9, 2023

China on Sunday sent a new test satellite into space from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China. The satellite was launched by a Long March-2C carrier rocket at 7:00 p.m. (Beijing Time) and entered the planned orbit. It will carry out test missions for satellite internet technologies. The launch was the 478th flight mission of the Long March carrier rocket series.

<https://english.news.cn/20230709/94ae180655ec4b1fb2cff8fc7ca7bd1e/c.html>

## **China plans massive listening programme at the North Pole after declaring success in Arctic test of underwater device**

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, July 9, 2023

China has completed the field testing and evaluation of an underwater listening device that will be deployed on a large scale in the Arctic Ocean, according to the Polar Research Institute of China. The move is expected to bring further tension to the Arctic region, which is becoming increasingly important in global power plays because of its strategic location, natural resources and the potential for new shipping routes.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3226755/china-plans-massive-listening-programme-north-pole-after-declaring-success-arctic-test-underwater>

## **China, Solomon Islands set up comprehensive strategic partnership**

Nikkei Asia, July 10, 2023

China and the Solomon Islands announced a comprehensive strategic partnership, a Chinese state broadcaster reported, as they bolster relations four years after the Pacific nation switched ties from Taiwan to China. Chinese President Xi Jinping and Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare announced the partnership in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, CCTV reported. "China and Pacific island countries are both developing countries and should strengthen mutual assistance within the framework of South-South cooperation," Xi said in his meeting with Sogavare, CCTV reported.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/China-Solomon-Islands-set-up-comprehensive-strategic-partnership>

## **Sharing Rockets: China opens first auction for Long March 'carpooling'**

CGTN, July 10, 2023

China will open access to its Long March rocket to Chinese commercial satellites for the first time via an open auction system on July 13, in a move experts believe will reduce the cost of commercial access to space and boost high demand for space applications. The bidding will start at 80,000 yuan (around \$11,078) per kilogram, and the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC) will handle the information and transactions related to the auctioned rocket launch service.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2023-07-10/China-bids-first-auction-of-Long-March-carpooling-launch-opportunity-1ljXuzrjCnu/index.html>

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