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# 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

## **U.S. 'ready' to aid Philippine resupplies in South China Sea: admiral**

Ryo Nakamura

Nikkei Asia, May 1, 2023

The U.S. is prepared to assist the Philippines as China interferes with Manila's efforts to resupply a grounded naval ship in the South China Sea, said Adm. Samuel Paparo, commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, vowing to curb Beijing's maritime provocations. China has "frequently interfered with those resupplies," and these acts are "clearly unlawful," Paparo told Nikkei in an online interview.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Editor-s-Picks/Interview/U.S.-ready-to-aid-Philippine-resupplies-in-South-China-Sea-admiral>

## **China Deploys New Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missiles**

Luke Caggiano

Arms Control Association, May 1, 2023

China is equipping its nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines with advanced JL-3 submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs) that are capable of targeting the continental United States, according to the U.S. Defense Department.

<https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2023-05/news/china-deploys-new-submarine-launched-ballistic-missiles>

## **Tibet's exiled government pushes China on sovereignty claims in bid for leverage**

Mure Dickie

Financial Times, May 2, 2023

Tibet's government in exile is stepping up challenges to China's claim of sovereignty over the Himalayan region in hopes of pushing Beijing to engage with it, the body's leader has said.

<https://www.ft.com/content/1268a5de-1344-419b-a893-6d9feecdc5d>

## **China chip tool makers see windfall from semiconductor investment boom amid US trade restrictions**

Che Pan

South China Morning Post, May 2, 2023

Major Chinese semiconductor equipment manufacturers have reported significantly high revenue and profit, according to their latest financial disclosures, as they filled the void left by American suppliers who suspended local operations to comply with US trade restrictions on the mainland.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/big-tech/article/3218899/tech-war-china-chip-tool-makers-see-windfall-semiconductor-investment-boom-amid-us-trade>

## **“China-led Asia rises in nuclear energy development amid the ongoing energy crisis”**

Ashutosh Patki

CNBC News 18, May 2, 2023

Globally 53 reactors were considered as under construction as of July 1, 2022, according to The World Nuclear Industry Status Report 2022 (WNISR2022). With 21 units, which account for 40 percent of total global construction, China tops the list of countries with the most reactors under construction. Out of 15 countries that are building nuclear plants, only four countries including China, India, Russia and South Korea are constructing more than one site.

<https://www.cnbctv18.com/world/china-led-asia-rises-in-nuclear-energy-development-energy-crisis-india-russia-uae-16550611.htm>

## **Embassy Spokesperson’s Remarks on Japan’s Disposal of Fukushima Nuclear-contaminated Water**

China Embassy in UK, May 2, 2023

The harm of the discharge of the nuclear-contaminated water into the ocean must not be neglected. The contaminated water had direct contact with the reactors’ cores melt during the Fukushima nuclear accident. It contains over 60 radionuclides, including tritium, carbon-14, cobalt-60, strontium-90, iodine-129, etc. The half-life of tritium is about 13 years, and that of carbon-14 is more than 5,000 years.

[http://gb.china-embassy.gov.cn/eng/PressandMedia/Spokepersons/202305/t20230503\\_11069531.htm](http://gb.china-embassy.gov.cn/eng/PressandMedia/Spokepersons/202305/t20230503_11069531.htm)

## **PLA spy drone circles Taiwan again as Beijing tests new tactics**

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, May 3, 2023

Taipei said it detected a long-range reconnaissance drone sent by the mainland to circle the island, the second time it has found Beijing carrying out such an operation around Taiwan. According to Taiwan's ministry of defence, the People's Liberation Army (PLA) sent a long-range reconnaissance drone to fly around the self-ruled island accompanied for part of the flight by a transport aircraft with an advanced jamming system.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3219247/pla-spy-drones-circle-taiwan-second-time-beijing-tests-new-tactics>

## **U.S. and Philippines to share real-time military intel on China**

Ryo Nakamura

Nikkei Asia, May 3, 2023

The U.S. and the Philippines are moving toward real-time sharing of military information and greater coordination to guard against any coercive behavior by China in the South China Sea. The Pentagon released a fact sheet covering the U.S.-Philippine defense cooperation guidelines after U.S. President Joe Biden and Philippine counterpart Ferdinand Marcos Jr. adopted them at their meeting in the White House.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Defense/U.S.-and-Philippines-to-share-real-time-military-intel-on-China>

## **Yoon confuses right and wrong by blaming China for his extreme foreign policy: analysts**

Global Times, May 3, 2023

South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol's latest remarks in which he accused China of not enforcing UN sanctions on North Korea, leaving South Korea with "no choice but to rely on the US' extended deterrence" are deemed to be groundless by Chinese analysts. They said that Yoon's remarks confuse right and wrong and his increasingly extreme pro-US foreign policy could destabilize the Korean Peninsula.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290060.shtml>

## **China finds threat in latest move by US-South Korea alliance**

Christy Lee

Voice of America, May 4, 2023

A declaration of intent by Washington and Seoul, South Korea, to boost nuclear deterrence against North Korea has prompted Beijing to lodge criticism that shows China views a stronger alliance as a threat to its sphere of influence, experts say. “We noted the relevant content of the Washington Declaration,” Liu Pengyu, a spokesperson for the Chinese Embassy in Washington, told VOA’s Korean Service.

<https://www.voanews.com/a/experts-china-finds-threat-in-latest-move-by-us-south-korea-alliance-/7079459.html>

## **Russia confirms enriched uranium supplies to China**

Echo Xie

South China Morning Post, May 5, 2023

Russia has confirmed it is supplying highly enriched uranium to two Chinese reactors. TVEL, a subsidiary of the state atomic energy corporation Rosatom, will be allowed to export the fuel to China over the next three years, Sputnik News reported. It will be sent to the CFR-600 power plant at Xiapu in the southeastern province of Fujian.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3219424/russia-confirms-enriched-uranium-supplies-china>

## **China-India relations: Qin Gang pledges better dialogue and cooperation to improve ties**

Khushboo Razdan and Kawala Xie

South China Morning Post, May 5, 2023

Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang has promised to improve dialogue and coordination in a meeting with his Indian counterpart as Beijing seeks to ease tensions between the two countries amid a border dispute.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3219439/hosting-shanghai-cooperation-organisation-indian-foreign-minister-meets-chinese-counterpart>

## **China stresses strategic autonomy, security cooperation at SCO meeting**

Wang Qi and Fan Anqi

Global Times, May 5, 2023

Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang called on the members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) to build a closer SCO community with a shared future at a time when the world faces challenges and crisis including the resurgence of the Cold War mentality, surging unilateral protectionism and rising hegemonism, while proposing a five-point suggestion at the SCO Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Goa, India.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290192.shtml>

## **Top U.S. Republican wants war game with Japan on China nuclear threat**

Ryo Nakamura

Nikkei Asia, May 5, 2023

The U.S. and Japan should conduct war game simulations for a Chinese nuclear threat to ensure they are prepared to respond, senior Republican lawmaker Michael McCaul told Nikkei in a recent interview.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Editor-s-Picks/Interview/Top-U.S.-Republican-wants-war-game-with-Japan-on-China-nuclear-threat>

## **Taiwan's undersea submarine base plan resurfaces as cross-strait tensions rise**

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, May 6, 2023

Taipei's government is being urged to reconsider a proposal to use underwater caves as part of a naval base for a new fleet of submarines that could begin commissioning in 2025. The island's mountainous east coast – with steep cliffs and deep sea terrain – would provide an ideal base for such warships, according to Taiwanese defence experts.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3219554/taiwans-undersea-submarine-base-plan-resurfaces-cross-strait-tensions-rise>

## **U.S. sees a new era of nuclear risk dawning in China-Russia cooperation**

The Japan Times, May 6, 2023

The deepening cooperation between China and Russia threatens to overturn decades of international stability in nuclear arms control, according to a top adviser to U.S. President Joe Biden. To avert miscalculations, nuclear-weapons states must engage on existing and potential threats, from Iran's atomic ambitions to the use of artificial intelligence for decision-making during crises, Pranay Vaddi, the National Security Council's senior director for arms control, said in an interview in Vienna.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2023/05/06/world/russia-china-cooperation-nuclear-weapons-us/>

## **Reported US' plans for \$500m worth weapons aid to Taiwan turn the island into a powder keg; reflect lack of sincerity to ease tensions: analysts**

Deng Xiaoci

Global Times, May 6, 2023

Analysts from the Chinese mainland warned that a reported US plan to send \$500 million worth of weapons aid to Taiwan using the Presidential Drawdown Authority (PDA) [the same emergency authority that has been used 35 times for Ukraine] would further turn the island into a powder keg. This provocative move further proves the US' intent of using the island as a pawn to contain China while neglecting the safety of local residents.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290213.shtml>

## **Chinese leader Xi Jinping urges country to seize opportunities in artificial intelligence to modernise industry**

Che Pan

South China Morning Post, May 6, 2023

Chinese President Xi Jinping has stressed the importance of developing China's ability in artificial intelligence (AI) for the second time in less than a fortnight, as the Sino-US tech race in AI and semiconductors ratchets up. During a key economic meeting, Xi said China should leverage its abilities in AI to help modernisation of the country's industrial system, state news Xinhua reported.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/tech-war/article/3219623/chinese-leader-xi-jinping-urges-country-seize-opportunities-artificial-intelligence-modernise>

## **Tianzhou-5 spacecraft detaches from China Space Station, makes room for upcoming cargo delivery mission**

Global Times, May 6, 2023

The Tianzhou-5 cargo spacecraft has detached from the China Space Station complex and entered an independent flight phase, the China Manned Space Agency announced, a move seen by experts as being part of preparations for the upcoming cargo supply run scheduled for early May.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290196.shtml>

## **China's Hualong One nuclear power demonstration project passes tests**

Cao Qingqing

CGTN, May 7, 2023

The demonstration project of Hualong One, China's homegrown third-generation nuclear power reactor design, passed the final acceptance tests, the China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) announced. The project includes two reactors – Unit 5 and Unit 6 – at Fuqing Nuclear Power Plant in Fuzhou City, southeast China's Fujian Province.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2023-05-07/China-s-1st-Hualong-One-nuclear-power-project-passes-acceptance-tests-1jBsQtg0xWg/index.html>

## **Where did China's belt and road plans go wrong in Italy?**

Kawala Xie

South China Morning Post, May 7, 2023

Four years after Rome signed up for Beijing's massive infrastructure project, the Belt and Road Initiative, Meloni will reportedly say where her country stands on the partnership. When Italy signed on in 2019, it was the first G7 country to join the initiative and did so even as the China-US rivalry began hitting its stride and wariness was emerging in the European Union over the bloc's economic ties with Beijing.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3219690/where-did-chinas-belt-and-road-plans-go-wrong-italy>



## **China's Shandong aircraft carrier group collaborates with Rocket Force, land-based aviation forces in 1st far sea exercise**

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, May 7, 2023

The Shandong aircraft carrier group of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy recently wrapped up its first far sea exercises in the West Pacific, in which it collaborated with the Rocket Force, land-based aviation forces and other surface combat units beyond the first island chain, as more details emerged to refute foreign media claims that Chinese carriers play only a "theatrical" role.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290247.shtml>

## **Long-delayed nuclear modernization more important than ever, AFGSC boss says**

Chris Gordon

Air and Space Forces Magazine, May 7, 2023

It's come a few decades later than perhaps it should have, but the U.S. is on the precipice of sweeping and much-needed modernization for its nuclear arsenal, the Air Force's top boss for strategic forces said May 4. Now, the need to modernize is acute, Bussiere said. The U.S.'s main adversaries, Russia and China, are not shy about their nuclear capabilities.

<https://www.airandspaceforces.com/long-delayed-nuclear-modernization-afgsc-boss/>

## **China's reusable experimental spacecraft successfully lands after 276 days in orbit**

Global Times, May 8, 2023

After 276 days in orbit, China's reusable experimental spacecraft landed at its planned site at the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in Northwest China's Gansu Province, and Chinese space watchers said it was a milestone in China's efforts to develop a fully reusable space transportation system.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290355.shtml>

## **‘Meet China halfway’: Foreign Minister Qin Gang and US envoy Nicholas Burns break ‘spy balloon’ diplomatic ice**

Kawala Xie

South China Morning Post, May 8, 2023

In his first public meeting with a US official since the “spy balloon” saga, Chinese Foreign Minister Qin Gang said the top priority for the two countries is to prevent a “downward spiral” in US-China relations. Qin told US ambassador to China Nicholas Burns in Beijing that China and the United States should maintain this bottom line and avoid further incidents.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3219779/meet-china-half-way-foreign-minister-qin-gang-and-us-envoy-break-spy-balloon-diplomatic-ice>

## **UAE signs nuclear energy cooperation agreements with China bodies**

India Today, May 8, 2023

The authorities at UAE's nuclear energy sector signed three agreements with Chinese nuclear energy organisations. UAE is hosting the COP28 climate summit this year and wants to get 6% of its energy needs from nuclear. The country has previously said China would be a key partner in its energy transition plan.

<https://www.indiatoday.in/world/story/uae-china-nuclear-energy-cooperation-agreement-2376185-2023-05-08>

## **China and Russia encourage Iran to go nuclear**

Reuel Marc Gerecht and Ray Takeyh

The Wall Street Journal, May 8, 2023

China’s need for Middle Eastern oil has also roiled the region. Xi Jinping has shown few signs that he has any problem with Mr. Putin’s war to absorb Ukraine, which destabilized China’s second-largest trading partner, the European Union. Just before his invasion, Mr. Putin visited Mr. Xi and then proceeded with his assault.

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/china-and-russia-encourage-iran-to-go-nuclear-eu-uranium-centrifuge-61ea86e9>

## **China-Australia economic and trade relations are facing an important window period: Chinese Ambassador**

Global Times, May 8, 2023

China-Australia economic and trade relations are facing an important window period. The two sides have important consensus on jointly maintaining the positive momentum of bilateral relations, Chinese Ambassador to Australia Xiao Qian told the Global Times in a written interview.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290312.shtml>

## **Australia expands defense budget ahead of submarines purchase**

Rurika Imahashi

Nikkei Asia, May 9, 2023

Australia's government on Tuesday proposed a defense budget for fiscal 2023 (July 2023 to June 2024), of 42.9 billion Australian dollars (\$29 billion), or 6.3% of its total public spending for the year, up from the 5.9% share estimated in October last year. Canberra plans to spend more on state-of-the-art equipment, including nuclear submarines and long-range missiles, in response to China's growing influence in the Indo-Pacific region.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Australia-expands-defense-budget-ahead-of-submarines-purchase>

## **China's Nuclear Weapons Explosion: Will they sign Disarmament Treaties?**

Peter Huessy

Hudson Institute, May 9, 2023

Dr. Richard Garwin and Professor Frank N. von Hippel in "How to Avoid a Nuclear War with China," (Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, March 13, 2023) believe the US community of military hawks has unnecessarily transformed China from a benign, "peaceful rise" strategic partner to a competitor, even an "adversary" of the United States, thus putting a kibosh on nuclear arms reductions.

<https://www.hudson.org/missile-defense/chinas-nuclear-weapons-explosion-will-they-sign-disarmament-treaties>

## **China's all-important Hualong reactor passes final test**

David Rogers

Global Construction Review, May 10, 2023

The first two units of China's Hualong One reactor design passed their final acceptance test, China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) announced this week. The country's future nuclear plans are based on this design. The Hualongs make up units five and six of the Fuqing Nuclear Power Plant, located in Fujian Province between Hong Kong and Shanghai.

<https://www.globalconstructionreview.com/chinas-all-important-hualong-reactor-passes-final-test/>

## **China, Italy could continue to seek more fruitful cooperation results under BRI: ministry spokesperson**

Global Times, May 10, 2023

China and Italy should further explore their cooperation potential under the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and strengthen mutually beneficial cooperation to seek more fruitful cooperation results, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said. Wang made the remarks at a regular press, responding to a media question over how the ministry views Italy's reported intention to exit BRI.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290463.shtml>

## **China says PLA Rocket Force joined Shandong carrier group in drills near US base in western Pacific**

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, May 10, 2023

State media disclosure of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Rocket Force joining the Shandong carrier group for drills near the US naval base of Guam is a show of force by the Chinese military, according to analysts.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3219989/china-says-pla-rocket-force-joined-shandong-carrier-group-drills-near-us-base-western-pacific>

## **China launches new cargo mission to space station**

Global Times, May 10, 2023

China launched a new cargo mission to transport supplies to its orbiting Tiangong space station, according to the China Manned Space Agency. Carrying the Tianzhou-6 cargo craft, a Long March-7 Y7 rocket lifted off from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in the southern island province of Hainan.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202305/1290487.shtml>

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