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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

## **How far off are practical quantum computers? Maybe a decade, says China's leader in the field**

Ling Xin

South China Morning Post, November 21, 2022

A researcher known in China as the father of quantum computing says he and his team aim to be developing general-purpose quantum computers as soon as a decade from now, according to a Chinese media report. "We hope to build universal quantum computers through 10 to 15 years of hard work," Shanghai-based news outlet The Paper quoted Pan Jianwei as saying on Friday. "Once we solve quantum error correction within the next five years, we'll be able to manipulate hundreds or even thousands of qubits to build quantum simulators and address problems in physics, chemistry, and life sciences – problems that today's supercomputers can never solve," he said at the World Sound Expo in Hefei, Anhui province. Pan also said his team at the University of Science and Technology of China in Hefei aimed to realise applications in quantum cryptanalysis and large number decomposition within the same time.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3200297/how-far-are-practical-quantum-computers-maybe-decade-says-chinas-leader-field>

## **South Korea, Taiwan affected by growing U.S.-China high-tech tensions**

Nikkei Asia, November 21, 2022

When SK Hynix Vice President Kim Jin-hyock visited Dalian, China, in late September, the local Communist Party chief had a clear message for him: The South Korean memory chip maker should "deepen cooperation with the party by expanding investment and business without letting up." SK, the world's fourth-largest chipmaker, purchased Intel's NAND flash memory chip plant in Dalian in late 2021 and is now building an additional factory there. While cooperation with the party is indispensable for almost any foreign company in China, the party's calls for "collaboration" are starting to take on a more political tinge. Chinese President Xi Jinping, who recently began a historic third term as party leader, has vowed that China will "win the battle in key core technologies." Beijing, he said, will accelerate programs related to "independence and self-reliance" over the next five years in order to compete with the U.S. in the field of high technology.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/The-age-of-Great-China/South-Korea-Taiwan-affected-by-growing-U.S.-China-high-tech-tensions>

## **Harris' Philippines visit aims to fan conflicts surrounding South China Sea and Taiwan Straits**

Global Times, November 21, 2022

Pursuing an agenda of fanning conflicts surrounding the South China Sea and Taiwan questions and containing China, US Vice President Kamala Harris was in the Philippines for a three-day visit after

attending the APEC meeting in Thailand and met with President Ferdinand Marcos Jr, becoming the highest-ranking American official to visit the country since Marcos took power in June. But for officials in Manila and other countries in Southeast Asia, who loathe being caught in a big power rivalry, the US peddling of the "China threat" in the region will make them realize who is the real saboteur of regional security and stability, and alienate them further from the US. Harris' visit is seen by Chinese observers as a glimpse into US policy on China after the leaders of the two countries met in Indonesia. They believed that while the leaders' meeting ushered in a "remission" of conflict, Harris' visit, along with US politicians' recent remarks, serves as a reminder that Washington's antagonism and hostility toward China remain unchanged.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1280091.shtml>

## **Xi-Albanese meeting signals thaw in China-Australia ties, but experts say tensions remain**

Kawala Xie

South China Morning Post, November 21, 2022

The meeting between President Xi Jinping and Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese in Bali may signal a thaw in bilateral ties but experts say there will be no second honeymoon in the relationship because Canberra will continue to support US efforts, a position Beijing views as containment. After a long diplomatic freeze, Xi and Albanese met on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Indonesia in the first formal meeting between the leaders of the long-time trade partners in six years. Xi had not had a formal bilateral meeting with an Australian prime minister since 2016, and only had a brief discussion with Albanese's predecessor, Scott Morrison, during the G20 summit in Japan in 2019.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3200051/xi-albanese-meeting-signals-thaw-china-australia-ties-experts-say-tensions-remain>

## **Core components of China-made world's largest 'artificial sun' accomplished, new breakthrough in core technology**

Cao Siqi and Du Qiongfang

Global Times, November 22, 2022

Manufacturing of the core components of the next-generation "artificial sun," the full-size prototype of the enhanced-heat-flux (EHF) first wall (FW) panel, has been completed in China with its core indexes being significantly better than its design requirements and meeting the conditions for mass manufacturing, marking a new breakthrough by China in the scientific research of the core technology of EHF FW, the Global Times learned from its research team. Also known as the world's largest "artificial sun," the international thermonuclear experimental reactor (ITER) for the exploration and development of nuclear

fusion energy is one of the largest and most far-reaching international scientific projects in the world, and the largest international scientific and technological cooperation project that China participates in as an equal alongside with the EU, India, Japan, South Korea, Russia and the US.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1280184.shtml>

## **Kamala Harris slams China on Philippine ship near disputed sea**

Cliff Venzon

Nikkei Asia, November 22, 2022

U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris wrapped up her three-day visit to the Philippines by flying to an island that faces the disputed South China Sea, where she met Filipino fisherfolk and toured one of the country's largest and most modern patrol vessels. Harris became the highest-ranking U.S. official to visit Palawan, which has been at the front-line of the tense maritime feud between China and several Southeast Asian countries. Her historic visit symbolizes Washington's pledge of "unwavering" security commitments to its oldest Asian ally.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/South-China-Sea/Kamala-Harris-slams-China-on-Philippine-ship-near-disputed-sea>

## **Basic structure for Intl Lunar Research Station to be built by 2028: China lunar exploration chief designer**

Global Times, November 22, 2022

The basic structure for International Lunar Research Station (ILRS) will be built by around 2028 meaning it will be possible for Chinese astronauts to land on the moon within ten years, according to China's lunar exploration chief designer. The ILRS will be expanded from a basic structure which China's Phase-4 lunar probe mission aimed to build using lunar probes of Chang'e-6, -7, and -8, Wu Weiren, the chief designer of China's lunar exploration program, said in an interview with China Central Television (CCTV). According to Wu, the basic structure, which will be built by around 2028, will consist of lunar landers, rovers and leapers, as well as an energy system, communication infrastructure and human life support system.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1280123.shtml>

## **China and Japan Hold the 14th Round of Consultations under the High-level Consultation Mechanism on Maritime Affairs**

Zhang Han

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of People's Republic of China, November 22, 2022

On November 22, 2022, Director-General of the Department of Boundary and Ocean Affairs of the Foreign Ministry Hong Liang and Director-General of the Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs of Japan Takehiro Funakoshi co-chaired the 14th round of consultations under the China-Japan High-level Consultation Mechanism on Maritime Affairs via video link. Also attended the meeting were officials from China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office of the Central Commission for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of National Defense, Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of Ecology and Environment, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, National Energy Administration, and China Coast Guard, as well as Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cabinet Secretariat, Fishery Agency, Agency for Natural Resources and Energy, Japan Coast Guard, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and Ministry of Defense.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/wjbxw/202211/t20221124\\_10980401.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjbxw/202211/t20221124_10980401.html)

## **Red line over Taiwan question reiterated in talks between Chinese, US defense chiefs**

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, November 22, 2022

The defense chiefs of China and the US met face to face for the first time in Cambodia since US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's provocative visit to Taiwan island in early August, which was responded with large-scale military exercises around the island by the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA). Chinese State Councilor and Defense Minister General Wei Fenghe drew the red line of the Taiwan question to US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin once again after Chinese President Xi Jinping had done so to US President Joe Biden at the G20 summit in Bali, Indonesia. Aside from urging the US to honor the commitments made by Biden so that the China-US relations can resume healthy, stable development, the talks released a positive signal that would hopefully lower the risk of an unpredictable military confrontation and put the two countries' worsening military relations back on track, analysts said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1280125.shtml>

## **Shanghai to ramp up innovations of future industries, focusing on AI, 6G, new energies and materials: official**

Global Times, November 23, 2022

Shanghai plans to build 70 hydrogen refueling stations by 2025, with forecasted industrial scale of hydrogen energy to exceed 100 billion yuan (\$13.9 billion), in a bid to promote the development of future industries, Shanghai Municipal Commission of Economy and Information said. The digital economy, metaverse and intelligent terminals constitute the future of the city's industry, Wu Jincheng, a senior official from the Commission said, adding that the integration and evolution of the new industrial lines will inject new

dynamics to building a modern industrial system in Shanghai. Future industries are mainly oriented towards future needs and represent the vision of human breakthroughs in information computing, quality of life, resource utilization and space expansion, Wu noted.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1280234.shtml>

## **Inside the Trilateral Commission: Power elites grapple with China's rise**

Ken Moriyasu and Mariko Kodaki

Nikkei Asia, November 23, 2022

This year's meeting in Tokyo -- the first since the pandemic started -- is a moment of unprecedented glasnost for the secretive organization, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary next year. Created during the depths of the Cold War to steer the "trilateral" U.S.-Japan-Europe security partnership, its deliberations, and the influence it supposedly wields, has been the subject of much speculation. Emanuel implied that the days of trusting Beijing are over. He reminded participants that Chinese President Xi Jinping once looked U.S. President Barack Obama in the eye, and promised he would never militarize the islands in the South China Sea -- but went on to do just that. "At a certain point you either play the fool or get smart," Emanuel said.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/The-Big-Story/Inside-the-Trilateral-Commission-Power-elites-grapple-with-China-s-rise>

## **China's J-15 carrier-based fighter jet to get domestic engines: report**

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, November 23, 2022

A newly produced J-15 carrier-based fighter jet was fitted with what seems to be a pair of China's domestically developed engines, according to an official media report, which marked the 10th anniversary of the aircraft's first takeoff and landing on the Liaoning, China's first aircraft carrier. This means that the Chinese aero engine has become reliable and powerful enough under demanding environments on aircraft carriers, reflecting that the Chinese engine has become mature and has likely surpassed its foreign counterparts, experts said. Celebrating the J-15's first takeoff and landing on the aircraft carrier Liaoning 10 years ago, a report by China Central Television (CCTV) showed the carrier-based fighter jet's production line at Shenyang Aircraft Corp and a J-15 undergoing calibration for test flights.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1280290.shtml>

## **The cost of America's ban on Chinese chips**

June Yoon

Financial Times, November 24, 2022

The advice “dig two graves, before you set out” applies to anyone bent on revenge. An old aphorism is hardly going to divert the US from its mission to restrict Chinese access to its world-beating technology, slowing the progress of its rival towards self-sufficiency in high-performance chips. However, American policymakers are unlikely to have fully appreciated the corollary of splitting the world semiconductor supply chain in two: far higher costs for western manufacturers and their customers. Advanced chips and the factories making them have become a substitute for arms and armies in the east-west stand-off because they are a critical component of our modern lives. They are central to mobile devices, electric cars and gaming consoles. They are also the foundation of next-generation technology from self-driving cars and 5G internet to cloud services and artificial intelligence.

<https://www.ft.com/content/d3935b9a-a203-435d-b1a9-a22bcc9d79e7>

## **Xi Jinping is taking advantage of Biden's soft touch**

Brahma Chellaney

Nikkei Asia, November 24, 2022

The new export curbs U.S. President Joe Biden recently imposed on the Chinese chip industry to help slow Beijing's technological and military advances have obscured his administration's relatively conciliatory stance since taking office. Even the export curbs have been undercut by exemptions granted to major Taiwanese and South Korean companies for their chipmaking facilities in China. Chinese President Xi Jinping, meanwhile, wants Biden to live up to "Five Nos" which Beijing claims the U.S. president has committed to: No to changing China's authoritarian system; no to containing China; no to seeking U.S. economic decoupling from China; no to a policy of "one China, one Taiwan;" and no to conflict or a new Cold War with China.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Opinion/Xi-Jinping-is-taking-advantage-of-Biden-s-soft-touch>

## **Chinese envoy underscores nuclear facilities safety, support for Ukrainian refugees on UN emergency meeting**

Global Times, November 24, 2022

China had called for an on all-out effort to ensure the safety of nuclear facilities and avoid man-made nuclear accidents, emphasizing support for the Ukrainian people suffering from severe cold on a United Nations emergency meeting on Ukraine issue. The Chinese envoy expressed great concern that the ongoing

conflict in Ukraine has led to constant attacks on civilian facilities and the steady rise of civilian casualties and displaced persons on an emergency meeting of the United Nations Security Council held after Ukraine suffered from a barrage of missile and drone strikes against civilians and critical infrastructure.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1280336.shtml>

## **China's space station will run high-energy beam experiment for controversial solar power plant: chief scientist**

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, November 24, 2022

China's space station will join a controversial project to collect solar power from space and send it to Earth in a high-energy microwave beam, according to a senior scientist. The Chinese space station Tiangong – which means “heavenly palace” – became fully operational when the last major service module, Mengtian, docked this month. Some space scientists have suggested Tiangong – the largest infrastructure in orbit owned and run exclusively by a single country at present – can change the pace or direction of the space race. Yang Hong, chief designer of the space station, told a conference in Wenchang, Hainan, that Tiangong would play a key role in China's space solar power station (SSPS) project by providing a testing platform for high-voltage electric devices and in helping assemble ultra-large structures.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3200819/chinas-space-station-will-run-high-energy-beam-experiment-controversial-solar-power-plant-chief>

## **Xi no longer described as 'people's leader' in China**

Katsuji Nakazawa

Nikkei Asia, November 24, 2022

One month after the Chinese Communist Party's 20th national congress, Chinese state media have stopped calling President Xi Jinping "the people's leader." None of the newly published material on Chinese government websites contain the phrase. It is a surprising development, considering that the phrase was repeatedly used in the lead up to, and during, the national congress. A senior official at the Central Policy Research Office, a party organ, called Xi "people's leader" at a news conference. Chinese media used the term every day during the gathering. Even a song titled "people's leader" was sung. A source hinted that there has been an implicit agreement to refrain from promoting the phrase from here on.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Editor-s-Picks/China-up-close/Analysis-Xi-no-longer-described-as-people-s-leader-in-China>



## **China's intensive military diplomatic activities highlight cooperation**

Liu Xuanzun and Yu Xi

Global Times, November 24, 2022

China announced even more military diplomatic activities with neighboring Asian countries following the country's defense chief's attendance of the ninth ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus), in a move experts said will bolster trust, cooperation and joint defense capability in the region, and which will build immunity against external instigations and fears that a Ukraine-like crisis could happen in the Asia-Pacific in the form of the Taiwan question or the South China Sea issue. At the invitation of the Bangladesh Navy, the Chinese Navy will send the destroyer Changsha to participate in the International Fleet Review scheduled to be held in Bangladesh in early December and participate in related celebration activities, China's Ministry of National Defense said in a statement.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1280386.shtml>

## **China is ready to make a key component for the world's largest fusion reactor**

Ling Xin

South China Morning Post, November 25, 2022

China has taken a major step towards a key contribution to an international mega-project aimed at creating energy through fusion – a potentially unlimited source of future energy. Scientists said they have successfully built and tested the first panel of an ultra-heat-resistant component for the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER), the world's largest fusion reactor. The components, which must endure super hot gas – known as plasma – up to 150 million degrees Celsius (270 million Fahrenheit) inside ITER's doughnut-shaped chamber, “exceeded design performance and are ready for mass production,” its developer, the Southwestern Institute of Physics, said, according to the China National Nuclear Corporation. The institute's chief scientist, Chen Jiming, hailed the achievement as “a substantial breakthrough after thousands of experiments and 18 years of hard work”, and another example of China “fulfilling its commitments to ITER”.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3201015/china-ready-make-key-component-worlds-largest-fusion-reactor>

## **US push for hot war with nuclear powers a terrifying prospect**

Global Times, November 25, 2022

A lack of democracy in the US is dangerous as it increases the possibility that the US will pursue unpopular, brutal wars abroad as the views of the people are not listened to, said Fiona Edwards (Edwards), the No Cold War (a worldwide organization against the US-led New Cold War) British organizer. The US is

currently pouring tens of billions of dollars' worth of military aid into Ukraine in order to prolong NATO's proxy war against Russia. At the same time, there are many hawks in US foreign policy circles who are talking up the possibility of a hot war with China. To push the US toward hot wars with other nuclear-armed states is a truly terrifying prospect that could lead humanity to a total catastrophe.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1280446.shtml>

## **China intensifies disinformation, cyberattacks on Taiwan: report**

Ryo Nemoto, Hideaki Ryugen and Yu Nakamura

Nikkei Asia, November 26, 2022

China's armed forces are increasingly engaging in nonmilitary warfare on Taiwan that weaponizes disinformation and psychological manipulation, according to a report released by a Japanese Defense Ministry think tank. The annual China Security Report, published by the National Institute for Defense Studies (NIDS), focuses on the cognitive warfare being adopted by the Chinese Communist Party. That approach propagates information useful to the party through social media platforms and cyberspace. China is fielding highly diversified influence operations, according to the report. They include "public opinion warfare" to influence perceptions, "psychological warfare" that relies on intimidation, and "legal warfare" that takes the battle to the courts.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Taiwan-tensions/China-intensifies-disinformation-cyberattacks-on-Taiwan-report>

## **China's response to US VP's Philippines trip not a sign of compromise, analysts say**

Kawala Xie

South China Morning Post, November 26, 2022

China reacted with restraint after US Vice-President Kamala Harris visited an island that lies near contested waters in the South China Sea but Beijing will not compromise on its sovereignty claims in the region, according to observers. Harris visited Palawan, making her the highest-ranking US official to visit the Philippine island near the disputed Spratly Islands, also known as the Nanshas, an archipelago claimed by both Beijing and Manila. Asked about Harris' visit, Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said that China did not oppose normal communication between the United States and the Philippines but it should not harm the "interests" of other countries.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3201029/chinas-response-us-vps-philippines-trip-not-sign-compromise-analysts-say>

## **China successfully tests first high-thrust reusable liquid oxygen-kerosene engine**

Fan Wei

Global Times, November 26, 2022

China has successfully completed two-start tests of the 130-ton reusable liquid oxygen-kerosene secondary combustion cycle engine, the Global Times learned from its developer, the 6th Research Institute of China's Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation. The type of engine is designed for the repeated use of China's new generation of carrier rockets. The engines are notable for their high comprehensive performance, strong expansion capacity and high reliability. They are a key element in supporting the development of China's reusable space vehicles, and meet the needs of space activities such as the operation of China's space station, and improve China's ability to enter and leave space at scale and low cost.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1280492.shtml>

## **PLA Navy's another Type 055 large destroyer Anshan achieves operational capability, 'ready for far sea missions'**

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, November 26, 2022

Another Type 055 large destroyer of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy, the Anshan, has achieved operational capability after having recently passed an acceptance test, marking that the 10,000 ton-class warship is ready for voyages to distant waters, experts said. The Anshan, joined by Type 052D destroyers the Baotou and the Qiqihar, recently had the three-day full-course training acceptance test in the Yellow Sea, in which other vessels, submarines, fighter jets, early warning aircraft and helicopters acted as mock opponents, posing multiple threats simultaneously from the sea surface, underwater and in the air, China Central Television (CCTV) reported.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1280481.shtml>

## **To North Korea, from China: put fresh focus on regional peace**

Kawala Xie

South China Morning Post, November 27, 2022

Beijing is willing to work with Pyongyang on "regional and global peace and stability", China's president told North Korea's leader just days after international calls for Xi Jinping to help stop Pyongyang's aggressive nuclear and missile activities. Xi's message was part of a letter to Kim and stressing the importance of China-North Korea relations, Pyongyang's Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported.

The letter was an apparent reply to one from Kim congratulating Xi on gaining endorsement for a third term at the Communist Party's national congress. In his letter, Xi vowed to work with Kim to continue to strengthen their relations as the world changed in "unprecedented ways".

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3201109/north-korea-china-put-fresh-focus-regional-peace>

## **China's nuclear industry progresses steadily and safely under CPC leadership, safeguarding energy security, green development**

Wu Fang

Global Times, November 27, 2022

In the past decade, China's nuclear energy industry under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) has achieved and developed greatly. In November, 2021, Haiyang city in East China's Shandong Province bid farewell to its coal-burning days with the launch of its nuclear heating project, becoming the first Chinese city to have zero-carbon-emission winter heating. This is the epitome of China's nuclear power development achievements in recent years and its development orientation for the future. The nuclear heating project is run by the Shandong Nuclear Power Company under the State Power Investment Corporation Limited (SPIC).

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1280554.shtml>

## **China lodges stern demarches over Canada's hostile 'Indo-Pacific strategy'; 'further evidence of Ottawa being vassal of Washington'**

Global Times, November 28, 2022

China has lodged a solemn representation to Canada after its newly released "Indo-Pacific strategy" chided China on issues such as the Taiwan question and diplomacy, and urged Ottawa to show sincerity if it wants to improve ties. Observers also believed the bluntly hostile strategy serves as further proof that Canada is becoming bogged down deeper as the US' vassal in countering China in the region. They also warned Canada that whoever stands on the frontline of the US' anti-China plan will be first to bear the fire of a counterstrike. As Washington itself is finding it difficult to decouple from China in several areas and seeking help from Beijing when it becomes mired in economic crisis, how much Canada can bear the consequences of challenging China, remains to be seen, experts said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1280652.shtml>

## **U.K. Backs Giant Nuclear Plant, Squeezing Out China**

Stanley Reed

The New York Times, November 29, 2022

The British government threw its weight behind nuclear power, saying it will back a major new generating plant on the coast of the North Sea northeast of London. The government said it would invest 700 million pounds (\$839 million) for a 50 percent stake in the plant, known as Sizewell C. EDF, the French state utility, which will construct the plant, will hold the rest. The deal squeezes out a Chinese state-owned company, China General Nuclear, which had owned 20 percent of the project. CGN received an undisclosed sum for its share, reflecting its value and representing a commercial return on development work to date, the British government said.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/11/29/business/uk-nuclear-plant-china.html>

## **Starlink breaks space traffic safety rules and China may follow: study**

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, November 29, 2022

A team of Chinese space engineers has accused SpaceX's Starlink satellites of breaking the traffic rules of Earth's lower orbit and warned that China will be giving the US an upper hand if it does not follow suit. The researchers said two of Starlink's newest satellites, equipped with high-speed laser communication devices, came within 4.9km (3 miles) of each other on June 30. The commonly accepted – if unwritten – minimum distance to avoid collision is 10km (6.2 miles). In a study published by Chinese peer-reviewed journal Radio Engineering, the researchers said the unusually dense formation was no accident, but the result of a complex scheme by SpaceX to maximise the performance of its laser communications.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3201365/starlink-breaks-space-traffic-safety-rules-and-china-may-follow-study>

## **China could have 1,500 nuclear warheads by 2035: Pentagon report**

Oren Liebermann

CNN, November 29, 2022

China's stockpile of nuclear warheads has surpassed 400 in a fraction of the time previously estimated by the United States, a major Pentagon report revealed, with Beijing focusing on accelerating its nuclear expansion as it seeks to challenge the US as the world's top super power. In 2020, the US estimated that China had nuclear warheads numbering in the low-200s and expected the stockpile to double within a

decade. Just two years later, China has reached that mark and could have some 1,500 nuclear warheads by 2035 if they continue to expand their stockpile at the current pace, according to the 2022 China Military Power report. “What we’ve seen really in the past couple of years is this accelerated expansion,” said a senior defense official.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/11/29/politics/china-nuclear-arsenal-military-power-report-pentagon/index.html>

## **Xi Jinping faces stiffest challenge to rule as Covid outrage sparks mass protests**

Edward White, Thomas Hale and Ryan McMorrow

Financial Times, November 29, 2022

Xi Jinping faces one of his greatest challenges as president of China after tens of thousands of people took to the streets over Beijing’s strict coronavirus controls and suppression of freedom of speech. At least 10 cities, including Shanghai, Beijing, Wuhan and Chengdu, were shaken by rare political protests over the weekend, triggering clashes with police and security officers that led to a spate of detentions, including of two foreign journalists. The sudden outbreak of civil disobedience was sparked by outrage after a deadly apartment fire in Urumqi, Xinjiang, was partly blamed on coronavirus restrictions. While most of the protests appeared to have been stamped out, they followed months of frustration, especially among China’s young people, with relentless lockdowns, quarantines, mass testing and electronic surveillance under Xi’s zero-Covid policies.

<https://www.ft.com/content/0239ecd9-718b-42b2-9067-ab93df3ceb0f>

## **China, Vietnam wrap up 33rd joint patrol in Beibu Gulf**

China Military Online, November 29, 2022

The 33rd joint patrol in the Beibu Gulf conducted by China and Vietnam wrapped up successfully on November 25. The joint patrol has played a positive role in maintaining security, stability and good order of maritime operations in the Beibu Gulf waters and promoting the healthy development of bilateral military relations. On November 24, the participating vessels from both sides set out in formation along the maritime boundary between the two countries in the Beibu Gulf. During the joint patrol, the vessels shared information on hydrological and meteorological conditions, marine and air conditions, and the heading and speed information, which further enhanced bilateral information sharing and maritime communication. During the patrol, China and Vietnam also conducted a joint search and rescue drill and a light and signal drill.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-11/29/content\\_10202194.htm](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-11/29/content_10202194.htm)

## **China sends new trio of mysterious spy satellites into orbit**

Andrew Jones

SPACE, November 29, 2022

China's latest launch has put three new Yaogan spy satellites into orbit. A Long March 2D rocket blasted off from Xichang Satellite Launch Center in southwestern China on Sunday (November 27) at 07:23 AM. EST (1223 GMT; 08:23PM Beijing time). The Chinese space industry([opens in new tab](#)) and media reports ([opens in new tab](#)) suggest that the launch carried a single Yaogan 36 remote sensing satellite. However space tracking by the U.S. Space Force's 18th Space Defense Squadron, which focuses on space domain awareness, registered three payloads in orbit in roughly 300-mile-altitude (500 km) orbits. China's previous two launches involving Yaogan 36 satellites also saw satellite triplets sent into orbit, meaning the latest launch was a third group of three Yaogan 36 satellites.

<https://www.space.com/china-launches-three-spy-satellites-orbit>

## **Chinese military slams US warship's trespass into waters adjacent to China's Nansha Islands**

China Military Online, November 29, 2022

The guided-missile cruiser USS Chancellorsville trespassed into the waters adjacent to islands and reefs of China's Nansha Islands without the approval of the Chinese government on November 29, and the PLA Southern Theater Command organized air and naval forces to track, monitor and warn it off, said Air Force Senior Colonel Tian Junli, the spokesperson for the Chinese PLA Southern Theater Command, in a written statement. Senior Colonel Tian pointed out sternly that the USS Chancellorsville's illegal behavior seriously violated China's sovereignty and security, and served as a new irrefutable proof of the US military's practice of navigation hegemony and militarization of the South China Sea, which fully demonstrated that the US is a complete risk-maker for the security of the South China Sea.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-11/29/content\\_10202220.htm](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-11/29/content_10202220.htm)

## **Nato debates measures to confront 'challenge' from China**

Henry Foy and Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, November 30, 2022

Nato countries have discussed economic measures to contain the "challenge" posed by China to the western military alliance, as the US steps up pressure on its allies to take a tougher line towards Beijing. Foreign ministers from the alliance discussed potential action, including export controls and ways to protect strategic infrastructure from Chinese investment, in talks that the US said showed "growing convergence"

among Nato countries on the issue. “What we talked about today is . . . working to adapt in concrete ways to meet the challenge,” US secretary of state Antony Blinken told reporters after the meeting in Bucharest. “What we are seeing and what we are doing . . . is looking into the areas where China poses a challenge . . . and taking appropriate steps accordingly.”

<https://www.ft.com/content/6df14a27-4d0e-49ba-98eb-d9e7b3997486>

## **China launches Shenzhou-15 spaceship, aiming for first in-orbit crew rotation**

Xinhuanet, November 30, 2022

China launched the manned spaceship Shenzhou-15, with three astronauts onboard due to meet with their colleagues on the country's space station and conduct a work handover. The spaceship, atop the Long March-2F Y15 carrier rocket, blasted off from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China, according to the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA). About 10 minutes after the launch, Shenzhou-15 separated from the rocket and entered its designated orbit. The crew members are in good shape and the launch is a complete success, the CMSA declared. After entering orbit, the Shenzhou-15 spaceship will make a fast, automated rendezvous and dock with the space station combination. The Shenzhou-15 astronauts will, for the first time in China's space history, conduct an in-orbit rotation with the Shenzhou-14 crew, who were sent to the space station in June, said the CMSA.

<https://english.news.cn/20221130/89eb0fd6c2cd4272950688f019ca08ab/c.html>

## **China enlists Alibaba and Tencent in fight against US chip sanctions**

Anna Gross and Qianer Liu

Financial Times, November 30, 2022

China has enlisted tech giants Alibaba and Tencent to aid its efforts in designing semiconductor chips, as Beijing braces for further US-led sanctions aimed at suppressing Chinese computing power. The Chinese government has set up a consortium of companies and research institutes, including the Chinese Academy of Sciences, to create new chip intellectual property. Beijing wants to reduce its dependence on SoftBank-owned Arm, whose technology underpins the majority of semiconductors around the world. The group is using Risc-V — pronounced “Risc-five” — an open-source chip design architecture created in 2010 by the University of California, Berkeley. Risc-V has emerged as a competitor to Arm in recent years. Open-source code can be produced, accessed, used and enhanced by anyone.

<https://www.ft.com/content/1d017204-96e8-4d0a-a737-83cf091d41da>



## **UK urged to be fair with Chinese businesses after a Chinese company is forced out of power project**

Global Times, November 30, 2022

Chinese Foreign Ministry urged the UK to provide a fair, just and non-discriminatory environment for Chinese companies and create favorable conditions for China-UK cooperation after the British government squeezed Chinese investment out of a power project on so-called national security grounds. "The UK should abandon the Cold War mentality, stop spreading 'China threat' theory and view China and China-UK relations in an objective and rational way," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said. China is committed to developing relations with other countries on the basis of mutual respect and mutual benefit, while resolutely safeguarding its own sovereignty, security and development interests, Zhao added.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1280835.shtml>

## **The 6G showdown with China is coming**

Elisabeth Braw

Financial Times, November 30, 2022

Now that 5G, or fifth-generation mobile telephony, is being rolled out across the world, the race for 6G is on. This is not only a contest for technology, but also for geopolitical influence. China has grown in economic and political strength since the creation of 3G and 4G and its flagship telecoms firm Huawei is now intent on creating world-beating 6G technology. This puts the west at a crossroads: will companies and governments be able to set aside their doctrine of market competition in time to work collectively towards an alternative? The bruising battles of 5G deployment should serve as a cautionary tale. Initially, most western governments leaned towards allowing Huawei to compete for the contracts. But then concerns over the national security implications, led by the US, prompted countries such as the UK, France and Canada to ban or phase out Huawei equipment from their 5G infrastructure.

<https://www.ft.com/content/4a1eaf64-c956-45ab-9473-d1437e36d3a4>

## **Chinese, Russian air forces hold 2nd joint strategic patrol of the year with 1st warplane exchange visits**

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, November 30, 2022

Chinese and Russian militaries conducted a joint aerial strategic patrol in the Asia-Pacific region, the first time Chinese aircraft have landed in Russia and Russian aircraft have landed in China in such a joint patrol, and the first time the two countries have organized joint aerial patrols twice in a year. Analysts said it reflects a high level of increasing military cooperation and mutual trust that contributes to peace and

stability in the region and the world. According to the annual military cooperation plan between the Chinese and Russian militaries, the two countries' air forces organized and carried out a regular joint aerial strategic patrol over the Sea of Japan, the East China Sea and the West Pacific, reads a statement released by China's Ministry of National Defense on the day.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1280801.shtml>

## **China's tech suppliers brace for disruption after COVID protests**

Cheng Ting-Fang and Cissy Zhou

Nikkei Asia, November 30, 2022

Suppliers in China serving Apple, Google and other global brands are bracing for further disruptions amid uncertainty over how Beijing will respond to calls to end the country's strict zero-COVID measures. Demonstrators across China have demanded an end to the mass testing and widespread lockdowns imposed as part of the country's strategy for battling the pandemic. The central government warned local authorities against "arbitrarily expanding lockdowns" but local governments have so far shown few signs of heeding Beijing's directives. The emergence of an omicron wave of infections is also worrying suppliers.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Supply-Chain/China-s-tech-suppliers-brace-for-disruption-after-COVID-protests>

*Sylloge on China is compiled by Mr. Niranjan C. Oak with inputs  
from Mr. Aasi Ansari and Mr. Kushal Agrawal*

**Nuclear and Arms Control Centre, MP-IDSA  
And  
Indian Pugwash Society**