

July 10, 2025

# SYLLOGE ON CHINA

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

**An Initiative by the Nuclear and Arms Control Centre,  
MP-IDSA**



## **China's Tianwen-3 Mars sample-return mission targeted for 2031; drone to be deployed for remote sampling: chief scientist**

Global Times, July 1, 2025

China aims to launch the Tianwen-3 Mars mission by 2028, with sample return targeted for 2031, according to chief scientist Hou Zengqian. Unlike Tianwen-1, which used a rover, this mission will deploy a drone for collecting samples remotely, minimizing contamination risks from the probe's landing. Hou, who is also an academician from the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) shared the information in a recently published interview with the China Science Daily. According to Hou, the mission's preliminary design includes three sampling methods: surface soil shoveling, deep drilling, and drone-assisted grabbing, to ensure sample diversity and scientific value of the samples.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202507/1337385.shtml>

## **Pentagon reliant on Chinese suppliers and ‘not prepared’ for war, report warns**

Liu Zhen

South China Morning Post, July 1, 2025

The US defence industrial base remains dependent on Chinese suppliers despite efforts to decouple – and that raises concerns over war readiness, according to a report by data analytics firm Govini. Chinese firms still made up 9.3 per cent of the primary contractors, or Tier 1 suppliers, involved in major US defence programmes across nine critical sectors in 2024, Govini said in its annual National Security Scorecard. “The United States is not prepared for the war that we may have to enter if China said, ‘today is the day’,” said Tara Dougherty, chief executive of the Washington-based defence acquisition information firm.

[https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3316475/pentagon-reliant-chinese-suppliers-and-not-prepared-war-report-warns?module=top\\_story&pgtype=subsection](https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3316475/pentagon-reliant-chinese-suppliers-and-not-prepared-war-report-warns?module=top_story&pgtype=subsection)

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on Human Rights conditions in Hong Kong**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People’s Republic of China, July 1, 2025

Over the past five years since the promulgation and implementation of the Law on Safeguarding National Security in Hong Kong, Hong Kong’s legal framework has been improved, the society enjoys greater stability and solidarity, and the rights and freedoms Hong Kong residents enjoy in accordance with the law have been fully protected. Certain Western politicians and anti-China

organizations' groundless and malicious smears against One Country, Two Systems, as well as their attacks on Hong Kong's rule of law, fully reveal their ill intention of destabilizing Hong Kong.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250701\\_11662827.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250701_11662827.html)

## **China's Tianwen-2 probe sent back images of Earth and Moon**

CGTN, July 1, 2025

China's asteroid probe Tianwen-2 has captured images of the Earth and moon, which the China National Space Administration (CNSA) released. The CNSA said that the narrow-field-of-view navigation sensor equipped on the probe recently captured the images of Earth and the moon, demonstrating good functional performance. The images released include a photograph of Earth obtained by Tianwen-2 when it was approximately 590,000 kilometers away from the planet, as well as a new photograph of the moon captured when it was about the same distance from the moon. After the images were transmitted back to the ground, they were processed and produced by scientific researchers.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2025-07-01/China-s-Tianwen-2-probe-sent-back-images-of-Earth-and-moon-1EE7lwWOXCg/p.html>

## **'Acting as opposing forces' first mentioned in China's dual carrier drills, shows expansion of China's maritime defence capabilities: experts**

Fan Wei, Liu Xuanzun and Zhang Changyue

Global Times, July 1, 2025

The Liaoning and Shandong aircraft carrier formations of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy recently completed their far seas combat training and returned to port, Xinhua News Agency reported. According to Xinhua, during the training, the Liaoning and Shandong carrier formations conducted operations in the Yellow Sea, the East China Sea, the South China Sea and the Western Pacific, coordinating with relevant military arms and branches to conduct realistic combat drills where they acted as both opposing forces and support units. The exercise included reconnaissance and early warning, defence and counterstrike, maritime assault, air defence, and cross-day-night tactical flight operations of carrier-based aircraft.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202507/1337345.shtml>

## **China's 3D-printed micro turbojet engine completes maiden flight**

Zhang Changyue

Global Times, July 2, 2025

The 3D-printed Minimalist Lightweight Micro Turbojet Engine, which was developed independently by the Aero Engine Corporation of China (AECC), successfully completed its first flight test in North China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, AECC announced on its official WeChat account. According to the AECC, the engine is the first of its kind in China to complete a flight test, with a thrust level of 160 kilograms. The engine, which utilized multidisciplinary topological optimization and additive manufacturing technology, represents a revolutionary integration and innovation in aviation engine design and manufacturing processes, filling a domestic gap in the full-scale engineering application of this technology.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202507/1337491.shtml>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on Israel Consul General in Shanghai Ravit Baer's comments urging China to use its political and economic sway to encourage Iran to rein in its military and nuclear ambitions**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, July 2, 2025

The ins and outs of the recent spikes of conflict in the Middle East are very clear. China hopes to achieve a sustainable and effective ceasefire and realize peace and stability in the Middle East. As regard to the Iranian nuclear issue, it should be resolved peacefully through political and diplomatic means. We hope all parties will work together to bring the issue back to the track of political settlement.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250702\\_11663695.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250702_11663695.html)

## **2 Chinese nationals charged with spying inside the US for Beijing, Justice Department says**

Eric Tucker

Associated Press, July 2, 2025

Two Chinese nationals have been charged with spying inside the United States on behalf of Beijing, including by taking photographs of a naval base, coordinating a cash dead-drop and participating in efforts to recruit members of the military who they thought might be open to

working for Chinese intelligence. The case, filed in federal court in San Francisco, is the latest Justice Department prosecution to target what officials say are persistent efforts by the Chinese government to secretly collect intelligence about American military capabilities — a practice laid bare in startling fashion two years ago with China's launching of a surveillance balloon that U.S. officials ultimately shot down over the coast of South Carolina.

<https://apnews.com/article/fbi-china-espionage-navy-5514ba4d565f19f52dac1820b04ca343>

## **How China is challenging Russia's nuclear dominance in Central Asia through Kazakhstan**

Yunis Sharifli

China Global South Project, July 2, 2025

Having reshaped Central Asia's oil and gas infrastructure and challenged Russia's long-standing dominance of the region's traditional energy sector, China is now setting its sights on nuclear power as the next frontier. This next step is not just about energy diversification. It's about locking in long-term influence. Unlike oil or gas deals, nuclear power projects tie countries together for decades through fuel supply, technology transfer, and operational oversight. For Beijing, that means a chance to deepen its strategic foothold in Central Asia for generations.

<https://chinaglobalsouth.com/analysis/china-kazakhstan-nuclear-power/>

## **China could be about to attempt a landmark satellite refuelling test**

Liu Zhen

South China Morning Post, July 2, 2025

China's first satellite-to-satellite refuelling test appears to be imminent after a second round of close-proximity operations between two probes in high orbit. The landmark Chinese mission will be one of the most ambitious attempts at autonomous satellite servicing in geostationary orbit, which rival the United States has yet to achieve. On June 30, the Shijian-21 and Shijian-25 spacecraft – both orbiting at an altitude of 35,786km (22,236 miles) above the equator – came within extremely close range after days of closing in on each other, according to Swiss space surveillance firm s2a Systems.

[https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3316605/china-could-be-about-attempt-landmark-satellite-refuelling-test?module=top\\_story&pgtype=subsection](https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3316605/china-could-be-about-attempt-landmark-satellite-refuelling-test?module=top_story&pgtype=subsection)

## **China criticises Donald Trump's trade deal with Vietnam**

Joe Leahy, Nian Liu in Beijing and A. Anantha Lakshmi

Financial Times, July 3, 2025

China has hit out at the US-Vietnam trade deal, amid concerns in Beijing that the US president is using his “liberation day” tariff negotiations with third countries to curb its export machine. The deal with Vietnam lowers tariffs on Hanoi’s exports from a threatened 46 per cent to 20 per cent, but retains a 40 per cent levy on “trans-shipping” of goods — widely believed to be aimed at Chinese re-exports to the US. The agreement, announced, is the second seen as targeting China since President Donald Trump outlined his “liberation day” increases in tariffs on April 2.

<https://www.ft.com/content/2bccd9db-bc8f-4563-a5da-7ca1fe7e9596>

## **Chinese FM responds to inquiry about signing the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People’s Republic of China, July 3, 2025

As ASEAN’s comprehensive strategic partner and friendly neighbor, China firmly supports establishing the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ). We have said more than once that China is ready to take the lead in signing the Protocol to the SEANWFZ Treaty. We will maintain communication with ASEAN countries on this matter.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250703\\_11664465.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250703_11664465.html)

## **'China setting up military base in Pacific' false narrative, Chinese Embassy refutes Australian media's hype over Fiji PM's China-related remarks**

Liu Xin

Global Times, July 3, 2025

In response to some Australian media outlets recently hyping China-related remarks made by Fiji's Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka while he was answering reporters' questions at the National Press Club of Australia, the Chinese Embassy in Fiji said in a statement that the claims about "China setting up a military base in the Pacific" are false narratives. They are baseless and driven by ulterior motives. Some media outlet, including Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), has highlighted Fiji's Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka's remarks on "not welcome" any Chinese military bases in the region in the headline. While in the news, ABC

also noted that Rabuka told the Press Club that he didn't believe China was actively looking for a military base in Pacific.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202507/1337548.shtml>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on the official recognition of Afghanistan's Taliban government**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, July 4, 2025

As a traditional friend and close neighbour of Afghanistan, China has always believed that Afghanistan should not be excluded from the international community. China supports the international community in enhancing engagement and exchanges with the Afghan interim government. No matter how Afghanistan's domestic and external situation has changed, the diplomatic ties between China and Afghanistan have never been interrupted. Since the Afghan interim government has been established, the two sides' diplomatic missions in each other's country have kept normal operation and played a positive role in the development of bilateral ties.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250704\\_11665452.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250704_11665452.html)

## **Photos of China's J-20A stealth fighter spark speculation about military parade debut**

Enoch Wong

South China Morning Post, July 4, 2025

New images of China's J-20A stealth fighter have begun circulating on Chinese social media, with the photographer claiming the jet, also known as the Mighty Dragon, is rehearsing for a September military parade debut. The photos of the J-20A were shared alongside photos of the J-35, another fifth-generation Chinese stealth fighter. In recent weeks, advanced aircraft have repeatedly been seen flying in formation across the country, including several identified as J-20A jets, according to social media posts. China will hold a grand military parade on September 3 in Beijing to mark the 80th anniversary of its victory in World War II. It is expected to unveil new weapons at the event, including aircraft not seen in public before.

[https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3317018/photos-chinas-j-20a-stealth-fighter-spark-speculation-about-military-parade-debut?module=top\\_story&pgtype=subsection](https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3317018/photos-chinas-j-20a-stealth-fighter-spark-speculation-about-military-parade-debut?module=top_story&pgtype=subsection)

## **China, Russia and the ‘Dragon-Bear’ embrace**

Peter Frankopan

Financial Times, July 5, 2025

Although Xi has told his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin that “now there are changes that haven’t happened in 100 years” and that “when we are together, we drive these changes”, others too are adamant that the future of the world is up for grabs. For many, however, it is the relationship between China and Russia that is central to the shape of the 21st century. Some leading Chinese scholars are also willing to look beyond the constant expressions of solidarity between Putin and Xi — whose personal relationship seems genuinely warm — to express more critical views of Russia.

<https://www.ft.com/content/52507a7a-5c47-417a-b3cc-d56bb6384665>

## **China’s rare earth origin story, explained**

Keith Bradsher

The New York Times, July 5, 2025

Rare earth metals were an afterthought for most world leaders until China temporarily suspended most exports of them a couple of months ago. But for almost half a century, they have received attention from the very top of the Chinese government. During his 27-year rule in China, Mao Zedong focused often on increasing how much iron and steel China produced, but seldom on its quality. The result was high production of weak iron and steel that could not meet the needs of the industry.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/07/05/business/china-rare-earth-history.html>

## **Is China gearing up for World War III? New Beijing mega military city with nuclear bunker raises alarms**

The Economic Times, July 6, 2025

China is making headlines once again — this time, not for trade or diplomacy, but for a massive military city being built in southwest Beijing. Dubbed the “Beijing Military City,” this sprawling fortress has left global analysts on edge. Covering nearly three miles, the facility includes a nuclear-proof bunker, prompting speculation that it may serve as a future wartime command center. With satellite images showing major progress since early 2022, many now believe this



could be part of China's 2027 military reform goals amid rising global tension.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international/us/is-china-gearing-up-for-world-war-iii-new-beijing-mega-military-city-with-nuclear-bunker-raises-alarms/articleshow/122271666.cms?from=mdr>

## **Inside China and Tanzania's 'very special relationship' – found nowhere else in Africa**

Jevans Nyabiage

South China Morning Post, July 6, 2025

Over the past two decades, China has considerably broadened its military and security diplomacy throughout Africa, establishing ties with 53 of the continent's 54 countries, with eSwatini the only exception. Observers say that among those countries, Tanzania stands out as an exceptionally strong and enduring military partner for Beijing, with more than 90 per cent of its military arms coming from China. According to a study released last month by the Africa Centre for Strategic Studies, Tanzania has "a very special relationship" with China's People's Liberation Army, "one you will not find in any other African country".

[https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3316933/inside-china-and-tanzanias-very-special-relationship-found-nowhere-else-africa?module=top\\_story&pgtype=subsection](https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3316933/inside-china-and-tanzanias-very-special-relationship-found-nowhere-else-africa?module=top_story&pgtype=subsection)

## **The coder 'Village' at the heart of China's A.I. frenzy**

Meaghan Tobin

The New York Times, July 6, 2025

In January, DeepSeek shook the tech world when it released an A.I. system that it said it had made for a small fraction of the cost that Silicon Valley companies had spent on their own. Since then, systems made by DeepSeek and Alibaba have ranked among the top-performing open source A.I. models in the world, meaning they are available for anyone to build on. Graduates from Hangzhou's Zhejiang University, where DeepSeek's founder studied, have become sought-after employees at Chinese tech companies. Liangzhu is a quiet suburb of the southern Chinese city of Hangzhou, which is a hot spot for entrepreneurs and tech talent lured by low rents and proximity to tech companies like Alibaba and DeepSeek.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/07/06/technology/china-artificial-intelligence-hangzhou.html>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on active support to Pakistan during the India-Pakistan conflict**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, July 7, 2025

China and Pakistan are close neighbors enjoying traditional friendship. Defence and security cooperation is part of the normal cooperation between the two countries and does not target any third party. India and Pakistan are and will always be each other's neighbors. They are important neighbors of China as well. Over the past weeks and months, China has closely followed the developments between India and Pakistan, actively promoted talks for peace, and worked to maintain regional peace and stability. China welcomes and supports India and Pakistan in properly settling differences and seeking fundamental solutions through dialogue and consultation. China stands ready to continue playing a constructive role to this end. The China-India relations are at a crucial stage of improvement and development. We stand ready to work with India to move bilateral relations forward on a sound and steady track.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250707\\_11666693.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250707_11666693.html)

## **Italy arrests alleged Chinese hacker wanted by US for industrial espionage**

Amy Kazmin and Stefania Palma

Financial Times, July 7, 2025

Italian authorities have arrested a Chinese citizen suspected of being linked to a state-sponsored hacking group that sought to steal Covid-19 vaccine secrets from the US at the height of the pandemic in 2020. Xu Zewei was arrested at Milan's Malpensa airport on July 3 after an international warrant was issued by the US, Italian police confirmed. The 33-year-old Chinese national was suspected of being linked to a Chinese government-backed hacking group known as Hafnium that was accused of penetrating Microsoft email software in 2021 in a mass espionage campaign, a person familiar with the matter said.

<https://www.ft.com/content/f7299b6f-2b58-46c0-bbe5-e650357e8f48>

## **China is making rapid space tech gains. Here's how the military could use them**

Liu Zhen

South China Morning Post, July 7, 2025

The new space race is heating up, with the United States warning that its major rival, China, is narrowing the gap as it makes rapid technological gains. While China says its ambitious plans

remain peaceful and that it rejects the weaponisation of space, some of the technologies it has developed in recent years also have military uses. Here are some of them. The Chinese navigation satellite system provides positioning, navigation and timing services worldwide. Its network of 60 satellites has been in full global operation since 2020, with the final backup satellites launched in 2024. Besides its civilian applications, BeiDou provides navigation and positioning services to all branches of the Chinese military with even higher precision in the Asia-Pacific than GPS offers the US military.

[https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3317258/china-making-rapid-gains-space-tech-heres-how-military-could-use-it?module=top\\_story&pgtype=subsection](https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3317258/china-making-rapid-gains-space-tech-heres-how-military-could-use-it?module=top_story&pgtype=subsection)

## **Remarks by Chinese Premier Li Qiang at the session on peace and security and global governance reform of the XVII BRICS Summit**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, July 7, 2025

All parties have come to see the growing necessity and urgency to reform the global governance system. And all are participating in and promoting the reform of global governance through various means, either on their own initiative or otherwise. China believes that in this process, one must firmly safeguard the shared interests of the international community and always stand on the right side of history. This is the only way to avoid taking a wrong turn or backpedaling, and to march forward in big strides toward peace, security, prosperity and sustainable development. Over the years, Global South countries have grown stronger and become champions of and contributors to the reform and improvement of the global governance system.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/xw/zyxw/202507/t20250707\\_11666502.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/xw/zyxw/202507/t20250707_11666502.html)

## **International deep space group founded in Anhui**

Zhao Lei

China Daily, July 8, 2025

The International Deep Space Exploration Association, the world's first sci-tech organization dedicated to deep space exploration, came into being in Hefei, capital of Anhui province. According to a media statement published after the ceremony, the IDSEA was jointly proposed by four Chinese entities — the Deep Space Exploration Laboratory, the Lunar Exploration and Space Program Center of the China National Space Administration, the Chinese Society of Astronautics and the Chinese Society of Space Research — and the French initiative "Planetary Exploration, Horizon 2061".

<https://www.chinadailyhk.com/hk/article/615454>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on the BRICS summit in Brazil**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, July 8, 2025

Greater BRICS cooperation should safeguard and practice multilateralism. It should be committed to building an open world economy, enhancing international financial cooperation and unlocking new, promising areas in economic growth. It should unequivocally oppose unilateralism and protectionism, and keep the industrial and supply chains stable and smooth. The meeting adopted the Rio de Janeiro Declaration, the Statement on Global Governance of Artificial Intelligence and the Climate Finance Framework Declaration. China will take this meeting as an opportunity to continue to uphold the BRICS spirit, work hand in hand with BRICS partners to promote our shared values, safeguard our common interests and facilitate solidarity-driven collective advancement, make global governance more just, equitable, effective and orderly, and join hands in building a better world shared by all.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250708\\_11667376.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250708_11667376.html)

## **Prototypes of key lunar devices supporting long-term research facilities on the moon make new progress: developer**

Deng Xiaoci

Global Times, July 8, 2025

The prototypes of the in-situ lunar soil 3D printing system and the lunar soil water ice thermal extraction system, which are key devices to support the country's future long-term research facilities on the surface of moon, have made new progress, according to the Deep Space Exploration Lab (DSEL). Dubbed the "lunar soil brick-maker," the in-situ lunar soil 3D printing system works by using concentrated solar energy to melt lunar soil at high temperatures and form bricks, Yang Honglun, a member of the development team with the DSEL, said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202507/1337896.shtml>

## **China's 'telepathy' radio could make combat units invisible for electronic warfare edge**

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, July 8, 2025

Since they debuted in World War I, military radios have played a vital role in sending strategic messages via electromagnetic waves, but it has always been a deadly game of hide-and-seek. The

devices present a dilemma: crucial communication at the risk of simultaneously broadcasting the location of their users to adversaries, exposing forces to interception, jamming and missile strikes. But the cat-and-mouse game may soon be over. Chinese researchers have claimed a breakthrough that enables high-speed battlefield communication while ensuring the units sending signals remain in absolute radio silence.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3317392/chinas-telepathy-radio-could-make-combat-units-invisible-electronic-warfare-edge>

## **China's weaponisation of rare earths is a new kind of trade war**

Chris Miller

Financial Times, July 8, 2025

Shortly after Beijing announced new restrictions on exporting rare earth minerals and the specialised magnets they make, the world's auto industry warned of shortages that could force factory closures. China's skilful deployment of rare earth sanctions this spring was probably the key factor in forcing Washington to reverse its tariff rises on the country. They represent a new era of Chinese economic statecraft — evidence of a sanctions policy capable of pressuring not only small neighbours but also the world's largest economy. China has been a prolific user of economic sanctions in recent years, but many of its efforts have been blunt and only partially effective.

<https://www.ft.com/content/77eabb2b-e422-4863-86e1-1a6948ecf368>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on Germany's assertions that Chinese military employed a laser targeting a German aircraft in the Red Sea**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, July 9, 2025

From what we have learned from the competent authorities, the information posted by Germany does not match the facts that China has gathered. The Chinese navy's escort missions in the Gulf of Aden and the waters off Somalia are aimed at fulfilling China's responsibility as a major country and contribute to the safety and security of international shipping lanes. They maintain sound communication with Germany and the EU. It is important to increase communication in a timely way and be fact-based to avoid misunderstanding and miscalculation.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250709\\_11668073.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250709_11668073.html)

## **Tianzhou-8 cargo craft re-enters atmosphere**

Xinhua, July 9, 2025

China's Tianzhou-8 cargo craft has re-entered the atmosphere in a controlled manner, according to the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA). Most of the spacecraft's components burned up during the re-entry, and a small amount of its debris fell into the scheduled safe waters, said the CMSA. Launched on Nov. 15, 2024 from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in the southern island province of Hainan, the Tianzhou-8 was loaded with supplies for astronauts, propellants, and devices for applications and experiments. The Tianzhou-8 separated from the orbiting Tiangong space station combination and then entered its independent flight phase.

<https://english.news.cn/20250709/ffe5a042066d416b8f200e790af55303/c.html>

## **China denies giving Iran air defence systems after conflict with Israel**

Hayley Wong

South China Morning Post, July 9, 2025

China has denied transferring surface-to-air missile batteries to Iran following Israel's attacks on the Islamic Republic last month. Citing an Arab official familiar with the intelligence, the British-based platform Middle East Eye reported that Chinese air defence equipment had been sent to Iran after it struck a truce with Israel last month. One source told the platform that China – the biggest recipient of Iran's oil exports – had received payment in oil shipments, but the report did not say how many surface-to-air missile systems Iran had received since the end of the fighting.

[https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3317538/china-denies-giving-iran-air-defence-systems-after-conflict-israel?module=top\\_story&pgtype=subsection](https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3317538/china-denies-giving-iran-air-defence-systems-after-conflict-israel?module=top_story&pgtype=subsection)

## **Ukraine detains Chinese father-son duo for alleged espionage**

South China Morning Post, July 9, 2025

Ukraine said it had detained a Chinese father and son, both suspected of spying on its prized Neptune anti-ship missile programme, a key part of Kyiv's growing domestic arms industry critical to its defence against Russian invaders. The announcement by the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) follows assertions by Kyiv in recent months that Beijing, which has sought to project an image of neutrality, is helping the Kremlin's war effort. Counter-intelligence officials

arrested a 24-year-old former student in Kyiv after they provided him with “technical documentation” related to Neptune production, it said in a statement.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/world/europe/article/3317570/ukraine-detains-chinese-father-son-duo-alleged-espionage>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on the Ukrainian charge that it had detained two Chinese citizens attempting to smuggle missile technology out of the country**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People’s Republic of China, July 10, 2025

China is verifying the information. If any Chinese nationals are involved, we will safeguard their lawful rights and interests in accordance with the law.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250710\\_11668844.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250710_11668844.html)

## **CAS unveils findings from lunar samples retrieved by Chang’e-6 mission, sheds light on evolutionary history of moon's far side**

Deng Xiaoci

Global Times, July 10, 2025

The Global Times learned from the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) that four studies on the lunar samples from the far side of moon returned by China's Chang'e-6 mission have revealed respectively the lunar far side's magmatic activity, ancient magnetic field, mantle water content and mantle evolution characteristics, unveiling the evolutionary history of moon's far side for the first time. The findings of the four studies were published as cover articles in the international academic journal Nature, according to the CAS. Chinese scientists achieved several "first-ever" key breakthroughs using the Chang'e-6 samples, according to the CAS.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202507/1338031.shtml>

## **China says 3 foreign spy plots foiled, including "honey trap" that relied on foreign agent's "seductive beauty"**

CBS News, July 10, 2025

China said it had cracked three spying plots, including one in which a public servant was lured by the "seductive beauty" of a foreign agent, urging government workers to remain vigilant against

overseas threats. Beijing has stepped up espionage warnings in recent years as relations with the United States and other Western nations have worsened. Its Ministry of State Security (MSS) said that foreign spies "have been increasingly active in infiltrating and stealing secrets from China" and were targeting public officials. "Individual officials have caused the damaging effects of leaking secrets due to a lack of belief, a weakened sense of discipline and a loosened awareness of rules... harming national security and interests," the MSS said.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/china-spy-plots-honey-trap-espionage-arrests/>

## **China willing to promote strategic coordination with Russia: FM**

Xinhua, July 10, 2025

China is ready to work with Russia to continuously promote strategic coordination and safeguard the security and development interests of both countries, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said. Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, made the remarks when meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov. Wang said that the heads of two states have maintained strategic communication, providing steady and long-term guidance for China-Russia relations amidst the profound global changes unseen in a century.

<https://english.news.cn/europe/20250710/e652cd73d0964ce2b85b7aab0dfdc996/c.html>



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

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