

July 20, 2025

SYLLOGE ON CHINA

Focus: Nuclear, Space, Missiles and other Security Issues

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



Chinese Foreign Ministry on the Irish government's data privacy concerns over the transfer of European users' personal data to servers in China

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, July 11, 2025

Chinese government takes data privacy and security very seriously and protects it in accordance with the law. The Chinese government has never asked and will never ask any company or individual to collect or store data against laws. We hope the EU will earnestly respect the principles of market economy and fair competition, and provide a fair, just and non-discriminatory business environment for companies from all countries.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250711_11669674.html

US commander says China has failed to coerce rivals in South China Sea

Jim Gomez

Defence News, July 11, 2025

China has failed to intimidate rival claimant states into surrendering their sovereign interests in the disputed South China Sea despite its intensifying “bullying tactics,” and the United States and other allied countries are ready to further boost deterrence against Beijing’s aggression, the U.S. Pacific Fleet commander said. China’s tactics have “grown steadily and more aggressive with rammings, water cannons, lasers and sometimes worse,” Koehler said. “But despite these bullying tactics ... China has failed to intimidate Southeast Asian claimants into surrendering their sovereign rights.”

<https://www.defensenews.com/global/asia-pacific/2025/07/11/us-commander-says-china-has-failed-to-coerce-rivals-in-south-china-sea/>

For smuggled drones, China wouldn't be as soft a target as Russia

David Axe

The Strategist, ASPI, July 11, 2025

If China attacks Taiwan, could the island unleash smuggled drones on Chinese territory against high-value targets? Maybe, but China has long been aware of the potential of small, cheap drones, so it's likely to be on guard. Also, China wouldn't present Taiwan with a concentration of vulnerable, valuable equipment that Russia did for Ukraine on 1 June. Taiwan may have much better way to use drones in the event of a Chinese attack.

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/for-smuggled-drones-china-wouldnt-be-as-soft-a-target-as-russia/>

China's largest natural uranium project produces first barrel

CGTN, July 12, 2025

China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) announced that the country's largest natural uranium project has produced its first barrel of uranium, marking a new phase of sustainable and smart uranium mining in China. Located in Ordos in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, the "National No.1 Uranium" demonstration project, the country's largest natural uranium production base by capacity and built to the highest standards, has also set a new record for construction speed, having been completed just one year after breaking ground.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2025-07-12/China-s-largest-natural-uranium-project-produces-first-barrel-1EX1UcDnBMk/p.html>

US demands to know what allies would do in event of war over Taiwan

Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, July 12, 2025

The Pentagon is pressing Japan and Australia to make clear what role they would play if the US and China went to war over Taiwan, in an effort that has frustrated the two most important American allies in the Indo-Pacific. The push is his latest effort to convince US allies in the Indo-Pacific to enhance deterrence and prepare for a potential war over Taiwan.

<https://www.ft.com/content/41e272e4-5b25-47ee-807c-2b57c1316fe4>

ADF watches for Chinese spy ships monitoring Talisman Sabre exercises as PM heads to Shanghai

Tom Lowrey and Stephen Dziedzic

Australian Broadcasting Corporation, July 12, 2025

As Prime Minister Anthony Albanese heads north to China for a week-long visit, Australia's defence force says it is watching for Chinese spy vessels heading south. Defence has confirmed it expects Chinese surveillance vessels to monitor the biannual Talisman Sabre war games taking place off the Queensland and Northern Territory coastlines in the coming weeks. The Chinese military has sent surveillance ships to the past four Talisman Sabre exercises, and a Defence spokesperson says it is likely to happen again.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-07-12/adf-watching-for-chinese-spy-ships-as-pm-heads-to-shanghai/105523778>

China delivers its first intelligent ocean-class research vessel

CGTN, July 13, 2025

China delivered its first intelligent ocean-class comprehensive scientific research vessel in Shanghai, China Media Group reports. Dubbed "Tongji," the vessel is a domestically designed and built next-generation research ship featuring green, low-noise, and intelligent technologies. It integrates capabilities across marine geology, ocean chemistry, and marine biology and will serve primarily as a "floating campus" for Tongji University, supporting both academic research and engineering training at sea.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2025-07-13/China-delivers-its-first-intelligent-ocean-class-research-vessel-1EYnns2Bbtm/p.html>

Chinese FM on meeting with US Secretary of State: Strengthening contact, preventing misjudgment

China Daily, July 13, 2025

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi briefed reporters on his meeting with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio. Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, met with Rubio on the sidelines of the ASEAN Plus foreign ministers' meetings. Both sides are aware that the China-US relationship is the most important bilateral relationship in the world, concerning both countries and influencing the entire globe, Wang said. A common focus of both sides is to translate the important consensus reached by the two heads of state into specific policies and actions, to ensure that the two giant ships of China and the United States do not deviate from their courses, lose speed, or collide, Wang added.

<https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202507/13/WS68731928a31000e9a573bb0b.html>

How China's military is flexing its power in the Pacific

Austin Ramzy and Emma Brown

The Wall Street Journal, July 13, 2025

China's military is extending its reach deeper into the Pacific, sending ships and aircraft into new territory in a push that has spurred the U.S. to strengthen defenses and alliances in the region. Beijing has long resented what it sees as interference by the U.S. and its allies in its traditional sphere of influence in the Asia-Pacific region. Now, it is asserting itself more aggressively in its backyard while also pushing well beyond longstanding geographical limits of its military.

<https://www.wsj.com/world/asia/how-chinas-military-is-flexing-its-power-in-the-pacific-17e6e280>

China lags in chip lithography, influential DC think tank says

Debby Wu

Bloomberg, July 14, 2025

China faces significant challenges advancing its semiconductor lithography, a key hurdle for its drive toward technological self-sufficiency and superiority in the trade war with the US. Shanghai Micro Electronics Equipment Group Co., the country's leading provider of such technology, has been able to carve out only a 4% share of the market for older-generation lithography, according to the Centre for Security and Emerging Technology. The CSET researchers found Chinese firms "have made notable gains in equipment used in fabrication," including achieving parity with Japan in one particular segment of that business. But chipmaking gear maker SMEE is still far behind advanced lithography leader ASML Holding NV and its smaller Japanese peer Nikon Corp.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2025-07-14/china-lags-in-chip-lithography-influential-dc-think-tank-says>

‘Greatest strategic challenge’: Japan reiterates China threat in annual defence review

Walter Sim

The Straits Times, July 15, 2025

China's repeated intrusions into Japanese territorial airspace and waters, coupled with a series of dangerous manoeuvres, mark a relentless campaign to change the status quo by force, Tokyo asserted in its annual defence review released on July 15. Such actions mean China poses "an unprecedented and the greatest strategic challenge" to Japan's security – a descriptor that was first adopted in 2022 in revised National Security Strategy documents. This demands a response rooted in "comprehensive national power", the Defence Ministry said in its White Paper, which has been chronicling security developments yearly since 1976.

<https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/east-asia/greatest-strategic-challenge-japan-reiterates-china-threat-in-annual-defence-review>

Taiwan's military takes preparation for Chinese invasion to civilians' doorsteps

Kathrin Hille

Financial Times, July 15, 2025

Taiwan's armed forces have taken the annual Han Kuang training exercise to civilians' doorsteps this year, as part of efforts to better prepare for the realities that would follow a feared Chinese

attack — and raise public awareness of what such a crisis would entail. The drills this year drove home a stark message to the Taiwanese public. “If there ever is war, they will be fighting right here,” said an elderly local resident, surnamed Lu. China claims Taiwan as part of its territory and threatens to take it by force if Taipei refuses to submit under its control indefinitely. Over the past decade, Beijing has raised the pressure on Taipei, conducting regular military operations of increasing scale and scope near the island.

<https://www.ft.com/content/4dcc9154-a50d-4877-88f9-3921e3994ebc>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on the US President’s sanction threats on countries buying Russian oil unless Russia agrees to a peace deal within the next 50 days

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People’s Republic of China, July 15, 2025

China’s position on the Ukraine crisis is consistent and clear. We always believe that dialogue and negotiation is the only viable way out of the crisis. China firmly opposes any illicit unilateral sanctions and long-arm jurisdiction. Tariff wars have no winners. Coercion and pressuring will lead nowhere. We hope parties will help create the atmosphere and conditions for a political settlement of the Ukraine crisis, and act in ways conducive to promoting talks for peace.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250715_11671030.html

Xi meets heads of foreign delegations attending SCO council of foreign ministers meeting

CGTN, July 15, 2025

Chinese President Xi Jinping met in Beijing with foreign ministers and heads of standing bodies of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), who are in China for the Meeting of the Council of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of SCO Member States. He noted that over the past 24 years since its founding, the SCO has always upheld the Shanghai Spirit, grown into a mature and robust organization, and demonstrated strong vitality. China has always prioritized the SCO in its neighborhood diplomacy, and is committed to making the organization more substantive and stronger, safeguarding regional security and stability, promoting the development and prosperity of member states and building a closer community with a shared future, Xi said.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2025-07-15/Xi-meets-heads-of-foreign-delegations-attending-SCO-FMs-meeting-1F1DUUpP5p4Y/index.html>

India, China must move forward on de-escalation, Jaishankar tells Wang

Suhasini Haidar

The Hindu, July 15, 2025

India and China must move forward on de-escalation at the Line of Actual Control, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar told Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, indicating that the next step after disengagement achieved nine months ago has still not been followed up by the withdrawal of troops. Mr. Jaishankar, who travelled to China for the first time since 2019 as well as the Galwan clashes in 2020, met with Mr. Wang, and also called on Chinese Vice President Han Zheng in Beijing, discussing both the positive momentum in ties and outstanding issues between them.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-and-china-need-to-avoid-restrictive-trade-measures-eam-jaishankar-in-talks-with-wang-yi/article69810746.ece>

China launches Tianzhou-9 cargo craft to send space station supplies

Xinhua, July 15, 2025

China launched the cargo spacecraft Tianzhou-9 to deliver supplies for its orbiting Tiangong space station, according to the China Manned Space Agency. The Long March-7 Y10 rocket, carrying Tianzhou-9, blasted off from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in the southern island province of Hainan, the agency said. Tianzhou-9, measuring 10.6 meters in length and 3.35 meters at its maximum diameter, is tasked with delivering supplies to the crews of the Shenzhou-20 and Shenzhou-21 missions. It is loaded with essential supplies, totaling approximately 6.5 tonnes, including consumables for the orbiting crew, propellant, and equipment for application experiments and tests. This is the largest amount of cargo since Tianzhou-6.

<https://english.news.cn/20250715/647e2631a3e0435e91ba46a1c9a21826/c.html>

China, Pakistan deepen cooperation ahead of SCO Summit

Zhao Jia

China Daily, July 16, 2025

China has expressed willingness to make joint efforts with Pakistan to ensure the success of the upcoming Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit, as Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar in Tianjin. Describing the bilateral friendship as unique and enduring, Wang called on Beijing and Islamabad to strengthen strategic cooperation and implement the important consensus reached by the two countries' leaders to promote the building of an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future.

<https://www.chinadailyhk.com/hk/article/616049>

Taiwan Affairs Office spokesperson slams DPP authorities for posing threats to anti-Japanese war veterans and smearing commemorative events

Global Times, July 16, 2025

Responding to media questions regarding the threats posed by the Mainland Affairs Council in the Taiwan region to Kuomintang (KMT) anti-Japanese war veterans invited by the mainland to participate in events marking the 80th anniversary of the victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War, Chen Binhua, spokesperson for the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council, slammed the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) authorities for not only refusing to commemorate the war but also for intimidating these veterans. The Taiwan region's "defense authorities" warned residents and retired military personnel not to be "lured," and the island's Mainland Affairs Council stated that any participants in such events deemed to "undermine Taiwan's dignity" would have their retirement benefits revoked.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202507/1338490.shtml>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on the SCO Foreign Ministers Meeting held in Tianjin

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, July 16, 2025

Foreign Minister Wang Yi chaired the meeting and made a five-point proposal for the future development of the SCO: first, staying true to SCO's founding mission and carrying forward the "Shanghai Spirit"; second, sharing responsibility and laying a solid foundation for security; third, seeking mutual benefit and win-win results and creating engines for development; fourth, upholding amity and good neighborliness and building a beautiful homeland; fifth, staying the course and defending fairness and justice.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250716_11671731.html

Chinese defense spokesperson comments on Japan's 2025 defense white paper

China Military Online, July 16, 2025

"Japan, in an attempt to justify its move to loosen the restraints on its military, has been fabricating false narratives, grossly hyping up the "China threat" rhetoric, and blatantly interfering in China's internal affairs. China is strongly dissatisfied with and firmly opposed to such actions, and has lodged solemn representations with the Japanese side," said Senior Colonel Jiang Bin, spokesperson for China's Ministry of National Defense. According to reports, Japan has recently released the Defense of Japan 2025 white paper, which continues to label China as "an

unprecedented and the greatest strategic challenge", falsely accuses China of making "unilateral changes to the status quo by force," and makes inappropriate remarks on the Taiwan question.

http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CHINA_209163/TopStories_209189/16397268.html

Japan rejects China's explanation over warplane's close approaches

Inquire.net, July 16, 2025

Japanese Defense Minister Gen Nakatani rejected China's account of unusually close approaches made by Chinese military aircraft toward a Japanese Air Self-Defense Force plane in two separate cases last week. "China's assertion that the flight of the SDF aircraft was the cause is utterly wrong," Nakatani said at a press conference. According to Japan's Defense ministry, a JH-7 fighter-bomber of the Chinese military approached a YS-11EB intelligence-gathering plane of the ASDF, which was engaged in surveillance activity over the East China Sea, coming as close as 30 meters to the ASDF plane horizontally on July 9 and vertically the following day.

<https://globalnation.inquirer.net/284999/japan-rejects-chinas-explanation-over-warplanes-close-approaches>

China's cyber sector amplifies Beijing's hacking of U.S. targets

Joseph Menn

The Washington Post, July 16, 2025

Undeterred by recent indictments alleging widespread cyberespionage against American agencies, journalists and infrastructure targets, Chinese hackers are hitting a wider range of targets and battling harder to stay inside once detected, seven current and former U.S. officials said in interviews. Hacks from suspected Chinese government actors detected by the security firm CrowdStrike more than doubled from 2023 to more than 330 last year and continued to climb as the new administration took over, the company said.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2025/07/16/china-hacking-us-targets/>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on the Russia-India-China dialogue restoration efforts

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, July 17, 2025

China-Russia-India cooperation not only serves the respective interests of our three countries, but also helps uphold peace, security, stability and progress in the region and in the world. China

stands ready to maintain communication with Russia and India on advancing the trilateral cooperation.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250717_11672396.html

China's Ministry of State Security urges crackdown on space espionage

Global Times, July 17, 2025

China's Ministry of State Security warned that as great-power rivalry rapidly extends into outer space - with nations racing to develop and exploit space assets and some openly advocating space hegemony and an arms race - it will, in accordance with the law, severely punish any infiltration, espionage or sabotage targeting China's key space technologies and data, forging a robust security shield for the country's ambition to become a leading spacefaring nation.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202507/1338562.shtml>

Beijing's dominance of the South China Sea is not inevitable

Ben Bland and William Matthews

Foreign Policy, July 17, 2025

As a heavily laden, Danish-owned container ship leaves Singapore's port and enters international waters, it pings China's Zheng He vessel identification system, providing an update on its cargo and intended route through the South China Sea to Shanghai. Despite long-standing fears about China's threat to freedom of navigation, Beijing still allows all commercial ships unrestricted access to these critical global trade routes, so long as they adopt Chinese monitoring technology. Foreign navies, by contrast, are severely curtailed in these waters, with control maintained through China's unrivalled navy and coast guard, plugged into a sprawling network of unmanned ships, drones, sensors, and satellites.

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2025/07/17/south-china-sea-disputes-southeast-asia/>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on a report released by the Democratic members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee of the US on China's strategic challenge

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, July 18, 2025

The report is filled with Cold War thinking and peddles major country confrontation and the false narrative of "China threat". The real aim of the report is to go after and suppress China. China firmly opposes that. China follows an independent foreign policy of peace and always acts as a

positive and stable force for good. China has no intention to and will not engage in a contest with any country for influence. China follows the principles of mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation in viewing and handling its relations with the U.S.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202507/t20250718_11673038.html

China's spy agency attacks foreign efforts to 'steal' rare earths

Reuters, July 18, 2025

China's Ministry of State Security said foreign spy agencies had tried to "steal" rare earths and pledged to crack down on infiltration and espionage targeted at its critical mineral sector. Foreign intelligence agencies and their agents had colluded with "domestic lawbreakers" to steal rare earth-related items from China, posing a serious threat to China's national security, the spy agency said in a statement on its WeChat account without naming any specific country. The ministry said it had detected attempts by an unnamed country to bypass export restrictions by forging labels, falsifying cargo manifests and transshipping cargoes, where products are routed through third countries before going to their final destination.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/china/chinas-spy-agency-attacks-foreign-efforts-steal-rare-earths-2025-07-18/>

China discovers deepest sandstone industrial uranium mineralization

CGTN, July 18, 2025

China has discovered world's deepest sandstone industrial uranium mineralization at a depth of 1,820 meters underground in Tarim Basin in northwest Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, the China Atomic Energy Authority (CAEA) announced. Industrial uranium mineralization is a direct and reliable clue for finding industrial uranium deposits.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2025-07-18/China-discovers-deepest-sandstone-industrial-uranium-mineralization-1F6PuIrgRIk/p.html>

China-linked scam centres target U.S., congressional commission warns

Cate Cadell

The Washington Post, July 18, 2025

A bipartisan commission that advises Congress on China warned Friday that “fragmented and under-resourced” U.S. efforts to counter a multibillion-dollar scam industry, backed by Chinese

criminal organizations, could see it increasingly aimed at Americans and escalate rapidly with new technologies. The U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission (USCC) said in a report released that U.S. losses from China-linked fraud probably far exceeded \$5 billion in 2024 — up 40 percent from the previous year — with Americans emerging as the top targets for Chinese criminal organizations since the covid pandemic.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2025/07/18/china-scam-pig-butcherer-congress/>

PLA Navy's aircraft carrier Shandong drives away foreign aircraft with J-15 fighter jets in recent mission: official media

Liu Xuanzun and Guo Yuandan

Global Times, July 18, 2025

The aircraft carrier Shandong of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy launched J-15 fighter jets and drove away foreign aircraft attempting close-in reconnaissance during a recent far seas training operation, official media revealed. According to a report by China Central Television (CCTV) News, not long ago, during a far seas combat training mission, the aircraft carrier Shandong suddenly encountered foreign aircraft conducting close-in harassment. Facing the tense situation, the officers and sailors of Shandong's aircraft takeoff and landing support squadron ensured fighter jets were scrambled at maximum speed, successfully driving away the target.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202507/1338673.shtml>

China urges U.S. to remove more trade restrictions following Nvidia chip nod

Xinhua, July 18, 2025

China believes that the United States should abandon zero-sum thinking and continue to remove a series of unreasonable economic and trade restriction measures against China, the Ministry of Commerce said. China has noted that the United States has recently taken the initiative to announce the approval of Nvidia's H20 chip sales to China, a spokesperson for the ministry said in response to a media inquiry. China has approved qualified export applications for controlled items in accordance with the law, and the United States accordingly lifted relevant restrictions on China in early July, as discussed in the talks, according to the spokesperson.

<https://english.news.cn/20250718/99b517b117604909a0b34d12403800c8/c.html>

Nvidia CEO meets China's commerce minister to discuss AI cooperation, foreign investment

Wency Chen

South China Morning Post, July 18, 2025

Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Wentao met Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang to discuss artificial intelligence (AI) cooperation, days after the chipmaker said it was resuming sales of its H20 chips to the country. Wang said China's policies for attracting foreign investment remained unchanged, and its doors would only open wider, according to a statement issued by the ministry. Highlighting the country's vast market, Wang encouraged multinational firms, including Nvidia, to continue providing high-quality and reliable products and services to Chinese customers.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/big-tech/article/3318801/nvidia-ceo-meets-chinas-commerce-minister-discuss-ai-cooperation-foreign-investment>

China seeks to control Southeast Asia via ploy to back nuclear weapons treaty, analysts say

Indo-Pacific Defence Forum, July 18, 2025

China reportedly agreed in July 2025 to sign a Southeast Asian treaty banning nuclear weapons in the region. Analysts say China's recent pledge to sign the protocol has little to do with limiting nuclear proliferation. Instead, it is a strategic move to increase Beijing's leverage over Southeast Asian states and self-governed Taiwan, and to weaken U.S. ties to the region. Mohamad Hasan said China agreed to sign the treaty as soon as the documents can be prepared, Reuters reported. China has expressed interest in signing the treaty since 1999 and now is offering to "lead" the effort to establish the zone and persuade other NWS to join the treaty.

<https://ipdefenseforum.com/2025/07/china-seeks-to-control-southeast-asia-via-ploy-to-back-nuclear-weapons-treaty-analysts-say/>

Chinese army scientists propose a super X-rail gun much more powerful than the navy's

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, July 19, 2025

The Chinese navy's rail gun has shocked the world. It was mounted on a ship as early as 2018 – the first ever on the planet – and was widely viewed as a coup for China's future weapon technology. But power has become its curse. When the current is too strong, metal liquefies. Shells

are capped at 15kg (33lbs). It is too light to sink a ship. Too weak for war. Now the army has stepped in. Their solution: cross-stacking two rail guns into one. This will nearly double the force. As bore pressure jumps, shells can hit 30kg at Mach 7, according to the project team led by Professor Lyu Qingao, associate professor with the Army Engineering University of PLA in Shijiazhuang.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3318687/chinese-army-scientists-propose-super-x-railgun-much-more-powerful-navys>

Philippine tourism sector bears cost of US-induced geopolitical tension with China

Herman Tiu Laurel

Global Times, July 19, 2025

Recently, a viral social media post lamenting the Philippines' seventh-place ranking in tourist arrivals among Southeast Asian nations has sparked introspection among Filipinos. Some analysts argue that the decline in tourism is closely linked to the ongoing tensions between the Philippines and China. In 2019 the Philippines attracted 1.74 million Chinese tourists to enjoy its scores of warm, beautiful beaches and unique natural sights like the Chocolate Hills of Bohol and Banaue Rice Terraces in cool, up mountain Baguio, spending \$1,000 to \$1,200 each totaling up to \$2 billion. In 2024 Chinese tourist arrivals to the country plunged to a little over 300,000, a precipitous 80 percent drop despite post-Covid tourism recovery in other ASEAN countries.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202507/1338730.shtml>

How China built a global port network

James T. Areddy, Daniel Kiss and Ming Li

The Wall Street Journal, July 19, 2025

When a Hong Kong conglomerate set plans this year to sell its global network of shipping ports to an American-led investment group, two facilities in Panama got most of the attention. But the real action is in Europe, where Chinese business interests have spent decades accumulating port holdings. Hong Kong-based CK Hutchison agreed in March to sell more than 40 ports in 23 nations to an investor group led by American financial firm BlackRock, and the parties had aimed to reach a definitive agreement on the \$23 billion deal at month-end. Now, Beijing is trying to muscle into the deal and carve out a stake for its giant shipping group Cosco, The Wall Street Journal reported Thursday.

<https://www.wsj.com/business/logistics/how-china-built-a-global-port-network-09288159>

How to stop US bunker busters? Chinese scientists have an idea

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, July 19, 2025

Precision-guided bunker busters fly slowly but carry massive warheads wrapped in thick armour. Small nations without air power watch helplessly as bombs fall. Chinese researchers have offered a countermeasure: strike the weak flank. Although the bomb's nose armour is thick, its steel sides are thin and measure just a few centimetres, meaning one or two anti-aircraft shells could crack it open. Low-cost anti-aircraft guns can be deployed around key sites. But the guns must survive, radar must track and electronic warfare must be countered.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3318518/how-stop-us-bunker-busters-chinese-scientists-have-idea>

Chinese arms firm displays arsenal of unmanned ground warfare equipment

Liu Xuanzun, Fan Wei and Liang Rui

Global Times, July 20, 2025

A top Chinese arms firm released a video displaying an arsenal of drones and anti-drone tech in the ground domain, with an expert saying that China has successfully developed a complete system in unmanned warfare equipment, focusing on manned-unmanned integration, forming an even more complete system of coordinated combat. The video, released by the state-owned Norinco Group, showed multiple types of unmanned equipment in action, including robot dogs, unmanned vehicles of different sizes equipped with different weapons and equipment, fixed-wing drones and unmanned helicopters.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202507/1338789.shtml>

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