

May 20, 2025

SYLLOGE ON CHINA

Focus: Nuclear, Space, Missiles and other Security Issues

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



China takes another concrete action to maintain global strategic stability

Global Times, May 11, 2025

Chinese President Xi Jinping returned to Beijing after wrapping up a state visit to Russia and attending celebrations in Moscow marking the 80th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet Union's Great Patriotic War. During the visit, China and Russia released a joint statement on global strategic stability, which emphasizes that states and their associations should not seek to ensure their own security at the expense of other states. According to the statement, nuclear-weapon states should reject Cold War mentality and zero-sum games and resolve contradictions via dialogue on an equal footing and mutually respectful consultations. Nuclear weapons are the "Sword of Damocles" hanging over mankind

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202505/1333815.shtml>

China and US agree to slash tariffs

Joe Leahy, Demetri Sevastopulo, Aime Williams and Mercedes Ruehl

Financial Times, May 12, 2025

The US and China have agreed a ceasefire in their trade war, fuelling a global market rally over hopes the deal will contain the damage to the world's largest economies. After talks in Geneva, the two countries said they would slash tariffs on each other's goods for at least the next 90 days, with the extra levies the US imposed on China this year falling to 30 per cent and China's declining to 10 per cent. The moves amounted to a de-escalation from a confrontation that had threatened to fuel inflation and empty supermarket shelves in the US and stoke unemployment in China.

<https://www.ft.com/content/92887b83-1b99-4d69-ba70-6bc812e23dbe>

China releases white paper on national security

The State Council Information Office, The People's Republic of China, May 12, 2025

China's State Council Information Office released a white paper on the country's national security in the new era. The move aims to provide a comprehensive explanation of the innovative concepts, practices, and achievements in China's national security efforts, and enhance the international community's understanding of China's national security. The white paper emphasized China's pursuit of national rejuvenation strategy amid global changes of a scale unseen in a century, noting that the country has maintained overall stability and steady progress in national security.

http://english.scio.gov.cn/m/whitepapers/2025-05/12/content_117870467.html#:~:text=The%20white%20paper%20emphasized%20China's,uphold%20regional%20peace%20and%20development.

New way to pull uranium from water can help China's nuclear power push

Jeremy Hsu

NewScientist, May 12, 2025

Chinese researchers have developed an extremely energy efficient and low-cost technology for extracting uranium from seawater, a potential boon to the country's nuclear power ambitions. China currently leads the world in building new nuclear power plants, and shoring up its supply of uranium will help these efforts. The world's oceans hold an estimated 4.5 billion tonnes of uranium – more than 1000 times that available to mining – but it is extremely dilute. Previous experimental efforts have harvested uranium from seawater by physically soaking it up with artificial sponges or a polymer material inspired by blood vessel patterns, or by the more efficient and more expensive electrochemical method of trapping uranium atoms with electric fields.

<https://www.newscientist.com/article/2479709-new-way-to-pull-uranium-from-water-can-help-chinas-nuclear-power-push/>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on the India-Pakistan cessation of hostilities

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, May 12, 2025

China hopes that India and Pakistan will cement and continue the ceasefire momentum, avoid further conflict, properly handle differences through dialogue and negotiation, and return to the track of political settlement. China is ready to stay in communication with India and Pakistan and play a constructive role in realizing a full and lasting ceasefire between the two countries and keeping the region peaceful and stable.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202505/t20250512_11619489.html

China claims to have hypersonic missiles that can strike any location on earth in 30 minutes

Satyaki Baidya

News18, May 12, 2025

In a significant advancement in missile technology, Chinese scientists claim to have developed the capability to launch hypersonic missiles from space, a move that could alter global defence dynamics. According to a report in Chinese academic journal Acta Aeronautica et Astronautica Sinica, these missiles are equipped with a re-entry glide vehicle (RGV) capable of travelling at speeds up to Mach 20, or 13,000 km per hour. This suggests that China could potentially strike any location on Earth within just 30 minutes.

<https://www.news18.com/world/china-has-hypersonic-missiles-that-can-strike-any-location-on-earth-in-30-minutes-report-ws-dekl-9333716.html>

Chinese scientists achieve high-resolution imaging of millimeter-scale targets from 1.36 km away

People's Daily Online, May 12, 2025

Chinese scientists, in collaboration with international researchers, have successfully achieved high-resolution imaging of millimeter-scale targets at a distance of 1.36 kilometers, a breakthrough that opens up new possibilities for applications such as long-range, high-precision remote sensing applications, as well as space debris detection. Scientists from the University of Science and Technology of China, together with collaborators from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Xi'an Institute of Optics and Precision Mechanics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) published their achievement titled "Active Optical Intensity Interferometry" in the international academic journal Physical Review Letters.

<https://en.people.cn/n3/2025/0512/c90000-20313548.html>

What is China-made PL-15 missile which is used by PAF?

Hindustan Times, May 12, 2025

PL-15 is a radar-guided long-range air-to-air missile developed by the People's Republic of China. It is used by the country's air force. The Pakistan Air Force also uses the weapon. The PL-15 has a maximum range of 200 kilometres. It is guided with a combination of inertial, satellite navigation, datalink and active radar, the Global Times, China's state mouthpiece, reported in 2021. It was developed by the Luoyang-based China Airborne Missile Academy (CAMA). It was test-fired in 2011. It entered China's military in 2015. It was seen on China's Chengdu J-10C, the Shenyang J-16 and the Chengdu J-20 platforms.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/what-is-china-made-pl-15-missile-which-is-used-by-paf-5-facts-101747028732470.html>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on the China-U.S. talks on fentanyl issue

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, May 13, 2025

China has made it clear more than once that fentanyl is the U.S.'s problem, not China's. It's the U.S.'s responsibility to solve the issue. Despite the goodwill China has shown, the U.S. wrongly slapped tariffs on Chinese imports by citing the issue of fentanyl. The move has dealt a heavy blow to China-U.S. dialogue and cooperation on counternarcotics, and gravely hurt China's interests. If the U.S. truly wants to cooperate with China, it should stop vilifying and shifting the blame on China, and seek dialogue with China based on equality, respect and mutual benefit.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202505/t20250513_11621984.html

PLA troops participating in China-Cambodia Golden Dragon 2025 joint exercise arrive in Cambodia

Ministry of National Defence, the People's Republic of China, May 13, 2025

The Chinese PLA troops participating in the China-Cambodia Golden Dragon 2025 joint exercise, aboard the PLAN amphibious dock landing ship Changbaishan (Hull 989), arrived at the Ream Naval Base in Cambodia on the morning of May 12. The Cambodian side held a welcoming ceremony at the dock. During the course of navigation, the Chinese participating troops familiarized themselves with the structure of the warship, the basic performance of the equipment involved, and precautions for loading and unloading. They also conducted training on joint damage control, emergency evacuation, and other subjects.

http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/Videos/16385830.html

China launches new communication technology test satellite

Xinhua, May 13, 2025

China sent a new communication technology test satellite into space from the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in southwest Sichuan Province. Launched at 2:09 a.m. (Beijing Time) aboard a Long March-3C rocket, the satellite has entered its planned orbit successfully, the launch centre said. The satellite will be used mainly to carry out multi-band and high-speed communication technology validation tests. The launch was the 575th mission of the Long March carrier rocket series, according to the centre.

<http://english.news.cn/20250513/38d49f65caac4a6a9628149c1d2fc046/c.html>

Chinese Defence Minister meets with French counterpart in France; carries positive significance in bilateral military ties: expert

Liu Xuanzun, Guo Yuandan and Liang Rui

Global Times, May 13, 2025

China's Defence Minister visited France and held talks with his French counterpart. Experts told the Global Times that the visit holds positive significance for the continued development of bilateral military relations, reflecting the evolving new perceptions, thinking and policies that European countries have developed toward China in the field of defence and security. The two sides engaged in in-depth exchanges of views on bilateral military relations, international and regional situations, and issues of mutual concern, reaching a consensus on enhancing practical exchanges and cooperation between the two militaries, per the Chinese statement.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202505/1333945.shtml>

Full Text: President Xi's keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the fourth ministerial meeting of the China-CELAC Forum

Xinhua, May 13, 2025

Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the fourth ministerial meeting of the China-CELAC (the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States) Forum. The following is the full text of the speech: China appreciates the long-standing commitment of Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries that have diplomatic ties with China to the one-China principle. China firmly supports LAC countries in pursuing development paths suited to their national conditions, safeguarding sovereignty and independence, and opposing external interference.

<https://english.news.cn/20250513/2d9c7e8de4eb40ec873c314793ec880b/c.html>

China, Singapore launch live-action maritime drill in South China Sea

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, May 14, 2025

China and Singapore launched a two-day live-action maritime drill in the South China Sea in a move a Chinese expert said is conducive to regional security and stability, given Singapore's location by the Strait of Malacca. Participating warships from the Chinese and Singaporean navies set out from Singapore's Changi Naval Base, rendezvousing at a preset training area to kick off the two-day live-action maritime drill, reported China Bugle, an official media account affiliated with the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) news media centre.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202505/1334068.shtml>

China begins building space-based computing centre with satellite launch

Zhao Chenchen

CGTN, May 14, 2025

China successfully launched a group of 12 satellites aboard a Long March-2D carrier rocket, marking the debut deployment of a space computing satellite constellation, dubbed the "Three-Body Computing Constellation." The constellation is designed to perform real-time data processing in orbit, addressing efficiency issues in traditional satellite systems and accelerating the integration of artificial intelligence into space-based applications.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2025-05-14/China-launches-first-batch-of-space-computing-satellite-constellation-1DmXIysPKww/p.html>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on the China-U.S. Economic and Trade Meeting in Geneva

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, May 14, 2025

China and the U.S. reached multiple positive common understandings at the economic and trade meeting in Geneva. Both sides agreed to slash tariffs on each other's goods. The U.S. committed to remove 91 percent in tariffs, and suspend 24 percent in "reciprocal tariffs." China would accordingly remove 91 percent in counter tariffs and suspend 24 percent in counter tariffs. The two countries respectively retain the remaining 10 percent in tariffs. Right after the U.S. groundlessly levied two rounds of tariffs on Chinese goods under the pretext of the fentanyl issue, China responded with tariffs and non-tariff countermeasures to firmly safeguard its legitimate rights and interests. These countermeasures remain in force.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202505/t20250514_11622840.html

China uses bionic robotic fish in Yangtze River protection

Global Times, May 15, 2025

China has deployed a bionic robotic fish that can swim like a real fish to support Yangtze River protection; it can help collect ecological data, providing key support for water environment governance. According to reports, the robotic fish is an "intelligent underwater robot" using bionics principles, demonstrating the integration of interdisciplinary innovation and engineering practice. Its core technology lies in simulating fish movement mechanisms to achieve efficient swimming, with potential applications in underwater exploration, water quality monitoring, and ecological protection.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202505/1334111.shtml>

China, US to maintain communication based on Geneva consensus: MOFCOM

Ministry of Commerce, the People's Republic of China, May 15, 2025

China is always open to addressing economic and trade concerns through dialogue and communication. Based on the consensus reached in Geneva between China and the United States, both sides agreed to establish an economic and trade consultation mechanism to maintain communication on their respective concerns in the economic and trade fields. China will release relevant information in due course.

https://english.mofcom.gov.cn/News/PressConference/art/2025/art_2822201e74a844859550521c782253b6.html

Taiwan sees spike in PLA military activity as island stages defence drills

Hayley Wong

South China Morning Post, May 15, 2025

Taiwan has reported an increase in activity by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) near the self-ruled island over the past four days, as its own military has conducted a series of live-fire drills to test its amphibious defences. The island's defence ministry reported that 29 aircraft and nine vessels were operating near the island in the 24 hours. A total of 18 aircraft crossed the median line in the Taiwan Strait between Taiwan and mainland China, patrolling on the northern and southwestern side of the island, it said.

https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3310348/taiwan-sees-spike-pla-military-activity-island-stages-defence-drills?module=top_story&pgtype=subsection

China's "Orbital" nuclear missiles that could hit the U.S. from space rattles Pentagon; Why U.S. fears FOBS?

Sakshi Tiwari

The Eurasia Times, May 15, 2025

China could amass dozens of orbiting missiles with nuclear warheads in about ten years, the Defence Intelligence Agency warned on May 13. These missiles would be able to get to the US in significantly less time than conventional intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), the DIA said, as reported by Bloomberg. Of the many advanced missile threats listed in the chart, the most significant is the prospective expansion of orbiting, nuclear-armed space-based missiles in a "Fractional Orbital Bombardment System," or FOBS, in China and, to some extent, Russia.

<https://www.eurasiantimes.com/chinas-orbital-nuke-missiles-that-may-hit-the/>

Chinese university unveils new DeepSeek-based simulated military scenario generator

Yu Xi and Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, May 15, 2025

A research team led by Professor Fu Yanfang from the School of Computer Science and Engineering, Xi'an Technological University, has recently achieved automatic generation of simulated military scenarios using the DeepSeek artificial intelligence (AI) large model, the Global Times learnt from the research team. While human commanders take 48 hours to plan simulated

military scenarios conventionally, AI can reconstruct 10,000 possibilities in just 48 seconds. AI has become a producer of combat strategies on various operational environments, troop deployments, and event logic.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202505/1334151.shtml>

US Space Force's 'orbital carrier' risks escalating arms race, China's PLA warns

Enoch Wong

South China Morning Post, May 16, 2025

China's military has warned that a plan by the US Space Force to deploy "orbital carriers" will accelerate an arms race in space. In a commentary published by the PLA Daily, an expert from the People's Liberation Army Space Engineering University pointed to a recent US\$60 million contract awarded by the US Space Force to develop an orbital transport craft. The article said the project would "boost US war-fighting strength, yet intensify the two nations' military rivalry and threaten space security". The article, published under the name Wang Tiantian, appeared to refer to a contract granted to the Seattle-based space infrastructure company Gravitics.

https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3310658/chinas-pla-warns-us-space-force-orbital-carrier-risks-escalating-cosmic-arms-race?module=top_story&pgtype=subsection

"China's Nuclear Sites Could Be Attacked": These Future War Threats from the PLA Spark Global Fear and Urgency

Rosemary Potter

Sustainability Times, May 16, 2025

As global tensions rise, the safety of nuclear power plants (NPPs) has become a pressing concern, especially in China, where the rapid expansion of nuclear energy presents both opportunities and challenges. The People's Liberation Army (PLA) has issued a stark warning that these facilities could become potential targets in future conflicts. With 102 commercial reactors either operational or under construction, China's atomic energy sector is the largest in the world.

<https://www.sustainability-times.com/energy/chinas-nuclear-sites-could-be-attacked-these-future-war-threats-from-the-pla-spark-global-fear-and-urgency/>

China's first ocean-class intelligent research vessel completes sea trial

Global Times, May 16, 2025

China's first intelligent oceanographic research vessel, the Tong Ji, has successfully completed its maiden sea trial. The vessel is scheduled to embark on its first scientific expedition in the South China Sea this August, which will last for nearly a month, according to a report published on the website of the local government in Shanghai. The Tong Ji is Tongji University's first oceanographic research ship, which marks a significant milestone in the country's marine science and technology capabilities. Weighing 2,500 tons with a length of 81.5 meters, the vessel is classified for unlimited navigation zones, excluding polar ice areas.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202505/1334219.shtml>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on the US' concerns regarding the use of Chinese chips

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

The U.S. overstretches the concept of national security, abuses export controls and long-arm jurisdiction, and groundlessly and maliciously blocks and suppresses China's chips and AI industry, which severely violates market rules, destabilizes global industrial and supply chains, and undermines Chinese businesses' legitimate rights and interests. China firmly opposes this and absolutely does not accept it. China urges the U.S. to drop its protectionist acts and unilateral bullying, and stop its egregious suppression on China's tech businesses and AI industry. China will take firm measures to defend its right to development and Chinese businesses' legitimate rights and interests.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202505/t20250516_11627314.html

China on track to become top nuclear power generator by 2030

Shunsuke Tabeta

Nikkei Asia, May 16, 2025

China has approved plans for building 10 nuclear reactors for 200 billion yuan (\$27.7 billion), putting the country on track to push its nuclear power generation capacity past the U.S. to become the world's largest by 2030. The plan to build the reactors was approved at a State Council executive meeting last month. Eight will be third-generation Hualong One reactors, which China's state-owned China National Nuclear Corp. and China General Nuclear Power Group claim to have independently developed based on U.S. and French pressurized water reactors (PWR).

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Energy/China-on-track-to-become-top-nuclear-power-generator-by-2030>

Trump administration considers adding Chinese chipmakers to export blacklist

Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, May 16, 2025

The Trump administration plans to put a number of Chinese chipmaking companies on an export blacklist, but some officials want to delay the move to avoid hurting efforts to strike a long-term trade agreement with China. The commerce department has compiled a list of Chinese companies — including memory chipmaker ChangXin Memory (CXMT) — to add to the “entity list,” according to five people familiar with the matter.

<https://www.ft.com/content/be1b8bb2-364b-4f02-a952-93579f40c837>

China’s plasma drive can nearly double high-altitude drone efficiency, study says

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, May 17, 2025

Wind tunnel tests conducted by Chinese scientists have shown significant advances in plasma excitation technology that can significantly enhance the aerodynamic performance of high-altitude drones, enabling them to fly a lot longer than before. The study found that plasma generated by high-voltage currents could boost an aircraft wing’s lift-to-drag ratio by nearly 88 per cent – a critical metric where higher values indicate superior flight efficiency.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3310757/chinas-plasma-drive-can-nearly-double-high-altitude-drone-efficiency-study-says>

Chinese firm’s enhanced version of world’s first liquid methane rocket nails first mission this year, launching six satellites into orbit

Deng Xiaoci and Tao Mingyang

Global Times, May 17, 2025

ZQ-2E, an enhanced version of the ZQ-2 - world's first liquid methane launch vehicle to reach orbit - lifted off from Dongfeng Commercial Space Launch Site in Northwest China for its first flight this year. The mission successfully delivered a batch of six Tianyi commercial satellites into their preset orbits, marking a complete success. According to its developer, the Beijing-based space startup LandSpace, the ZQ-2E model is China's first dual-cryogenic liquid-fueled launch vehicle to utilize fully subcooled propellant loading.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202505/1334264.shtml>

Chinese defence scientists seek to turn old rocket artillery into plane-killing glider

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, May 17, 2025

The Chinese military marked the world's first recorded use of rockets in combat nearly eight centuries ago, when they deployed fire arrows and possibly gunpowder-launched grenades against Mongol invaders in the Battle of Kaifung-fu in 1232, according to Nasa. Today, Chinese scientists and engineers are pursuing technological upgrades to transform the affordable, mass-producible traditional rocket artillery into a system capable of striking aerial targets. A research team led by professor Zhang Shifeng at the National University of Defence Technology's College of Aerospace Science and Engineering has developed a small rocket named Tianxing-1 or "Sky Star-1".

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3310201/chinese-defence-scientists-seek-turn-old-rocket-artillery-plane-killing-glider>

China showcases latest anti-stealth technologies at radar expo

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, May 17, 2025

The 11th World Radio Detection and Ranging Expo (World Radar Expo) commenced in Hefei, East China's Anhui Province. The expo showcased some of China's leading radar equipment, with a particular focus on technologies designed for anti-stealth capabilities amid the rapid development of stealth warplanes around the world. A highlight of the event is the JY-27V high-mobility meter-wave air surveillance radar. This next-generation meter-wave anti-stealth radar incorporates three advanced technologies: a low-frequency band, a high-power aperture and sophisticated intelligent algorithms.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202505/1334265.shtml>

Welcome to the new nuclear age. It's even more chaotic: China's rise, Russia's aggression and America's unreliability could fuel a wave of atomic-weapons proliferation

Hal Brands

Bloomberg, May 18, 2025

For one thing, nuclear rivalry has gone tripolar. As the nuclear-armed great powers struggle to shape the international system, three-way dynamics make those struggles more perilous and

complex. China's Xi Jinping is surely taking notes. Under Xi, China's nuclear inventory is growing from perhaps 200 warheads in 2020 to more than a thousand by the early 2030s — all mounted on increasingly diverse, flexible delivery systems. Xi probably sees a stronger nuclear arsenal as a way of deterring US intervention in a Western Pacific crisis, which would give China greater leeway to take Taiwan or otherwise batter its neighbors.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/features/2025-05-18/welcome-to-the-new-nuclear-age-between-china-russia-and-the-us>

What China's spies are doing in the U.S., and what happens when they're caught

Norah O'Donnell

CBS News, May 18, 2025

According to the latest assessment from America's intelligence agencies, China "remains the most active and persistent cyber threat to [the] U.S." Its hackers have infiltrated the U.S. government, the private sector, and critical infrastructure, like water systems and power grids. Hacking, however, has not replaced Beijing's pursuit of old-fashioned human intelligence. China's Communist Party remains intent on leveraging a worldwide network of covert agents to monitor and influence events outside its own borders, and to surveil and intimidate Chinese dissidents right here in America.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/what-chinas-spies-do-in-the-us-what-happens-when-theyre-caught-60-minutes-transcript/>

Chinese firm's rocket launch completes first phase of nation's low-Earth orbit IoT satellite constellation

Global Times, May 19, 2025

Chinese commercial space firm Galactic Energy successfully conducted a sea-based launch of its CERES-1 carrier rocket, completing the first phase of the Tianqi constellation, the country's low-Earth orbit Internet of Things (IoT) satellite constellation, a move hailed as a milestone in enabling global device connectivity. Launched from the coastal area of East China's Shandong Province by the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre, the CERES-1 sea-launched variant carried a group of four satellites into their planned orbits.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202505/1334412.shtml>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on China's stance on the India-Pakistan conflict

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, May 19, 2025

Both India and Pakistan are China's important neighbors. China attaches high importance to its relations with both countries, and is committed to fostering an amicable, secure and prosperous neighborhood, the principle of amity, sincerity, mutual benefit and inclusiveness and the vision of a shared future in developing relations with all neighboring countries. Since tensions started to rise between India and Pakistan, China has followed an objective and just position, urged the two countries to exercise calm and restraint, and avoid escalation. We support and welcome the realization of ceasefire between India and Pakistan and stand ready to continue to play a constructive role for securing a full and lasting ceasefire and upholding regional peace and stability.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202505/t20250519_11628322.html

China exhibits world-class anti-drone, long-range, anti-stealth radars at expo

Liu Xuanzun and Ma Jun in Hefei

Global Times, May 19, 2025

The 11th World Radio Detection and Ranging Expo (World Radar Expo), which is being held in Hefei, East China's Anhui Province, is displaying some of China's top radar equipment, such as low-altitude anti-drone radars, long-range radars, and anti-stealth radars, as the Global Times visited the event to learn about China's world-leading radar technologies. Having achieved multiple successes in counter-drone operations, the JY-11 S-band three-faced array low-altitude surveillance radar on display at the expo is a perception hub in low-altitude anti-drone system, the Global Times learned from the radar's maker, the state-owned China Electronics Technology Group Corporation (CETC).

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202505/1334390.shtml>

China and Russia plan to build nuclear power station on moon

Fred Schwaller

DW, May 19, 2025

China and Russia plan to build an automated nuclear power station on the moon by 2035. A memorandum of cooperation for the project was signed between Russia's space agency Roscosmos and the China National Space Administration (CNSA). The power station will be part of the proposed ILRS lunar base and will provide energy to enable long-term lunar exploration and

scientific research. ILRS is seen as a rival to the US-led Artemis program, which plans to build an orbital lunar space station called "Gateway" from 2027. Artemis involves NASA and the space agencies of 55 other countries, including European Space Agency member states.

<https://www.dw.com/en/china-and-russia-plan-to-build-nuclear-power-station-on-moon/a-72565465>

Queqiao-2 relay satellite achieves ‘multiple firsts’ in scientific explorations

Global Times, May 19, 2025

As part of China’s moon probe project, the Queqiao-2 relay satellite has completed a series of scientific explorations for the first time with its onboard payloads, the China Lunar Exploration Project (CLEP) said on its official WeChat account. According to CLEP, phased progress in scientific research with the Queqiao-2 has been made as the onboard payloads completed in-orbit testing and carried out various scientific explorations.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202505/1334410.shtml>

China to extend UAV combat range as first mission nears for ‘drone mother ship’ Jiu Tian

Hayley Wong

South China Morning Post, May 19, 2025

China’s “drone carrier” Jiu Tian will take off for its first mission by the end of June, laying the groundwork for expanding the Chinese air force’s operational reach in unmanned aerial combat. Chinese media reports at the weekend commented on the coming launch, and state broadcaster CCTV confirmed the mission. The first mission flight will mark the beginning of a series of tests before the “drone mother ship” UAV is deployed by the People’s Liberation Army (PLA).

https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3310879/china-extend-combat-range-uavs-jiu-tian-drone-carrier-prepares-first-mission?module=top_story&pgtype=subsection

China is opening a new front in its supply chain war

Rob Wittman and Nadia Schadlow

The Washington Post, May 20, 2025

The Chinese Communist Party’s recent decision to restrict exports of rare earth elements and magnets stunned many pundits and analysts. But for those who have observed China’s decades-

long campaign to consolidate and control the rare earth industry, it was entirely predictable. Beijing has played this card before: In 2010, it shut off rare earth exports to Japan amid a fishing dispute. The Chinese government saw what many in Washington didn't: Rare earths are one of the most critical supply chain vulnerabilities for the United States and its allies. This is particularly relevant to the production of magnets, which in turn are critical to virtually all advanced electronics.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2025/05/19/us-china-rare-earth-magnets/>

Chinese defence minister set to skip security forum in Singapore

Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, May 20, 2025

China's defence minister is not expected to attend the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore next week, in what would be an unusual absence after years of attendance at the meeting. China has signalled to Singapore that Admiral Dong Jun would not attend the annual forum run by IISS, a think-tank, according to five people familiar with the matter. The people familiar with the matter said it was unclear why Dong would not attend. In recent years, the Chinese delegation to the Shangri-La Dialogue has come under heavy pressure, with US and other Indo-Pacific officials criticising the increasingly assertive activity by the People's Liberation Army around Taiwan and other parts of the South China Sea.

<https://www.ft.com/content/bfd45455-0abe-41d7-9b2a-19ee3b25fafb>

Mysterious bacteria with 'unique abilities' discovered on Chinese space station

Shane Galvin

New York Post, May 20, 2025

Chinese scientists discovered a novel strain of bacterium with "unique abilities" that allowed it to thrive on the Tiangong Space Station, according to a report. The newly named Niallia tiangongensis was isolated by taikonauts from surface hardware on the China Space Station, according to a paper from the Beijing Institute of Spacecraft System Engineering published in the International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology.

<https://nypost.com/2025/05/20/science/mysterious-bacteria-with-unique-abilities-discovered-on-chinese-space-station/>

How could China's military use AI? An expo gives some hints

Yuanyue Dang

South China Morning Post, May 20, 2025

Chinese defence firms showcased AI's potential to improve combat decisions at an annual military expo in the capital, giving a glimpse of what could be available to the armed forces. Vendors at the China (Beijing) Military Intelligent Technology Expo also showed how artificial intelligence could be applied to daily training, intelligence gathering, and even physical training for soldiers. Among them was Beijing-based start-up EverReach AI, which presented an AI-assisted military training model with a flight map of an area near the Taiwan Strait as a "product case".

https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3310949/how-could-chinas-military-use-ai-expo-gives-some-hints?module=top_story&pgtype=subsection

The 2025 White Paper on the Development of China's Satellite Navigation and Positioning Industries

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, May 20, 2025

The BeiDou Navigation Satellite System is an outstanding achievement of China's satellite navigation and positioning industries and a technological innovation for the world recognized by the UN. China's technological innovation and industrial development never targets anyone, still less challenges anyone. Beidou is developed by China as a global good for the world. We will continue working with other countries in the spirit of open cooperation and mutual benefit to provide more advanced tech innovations that will serve and benefit humanity.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202505/t20250520_11629150.html

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