

June 10, 2024

# SYLLOGE ON CHINA

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

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



## **China silent on U.S. risk reduction proposals**

Xiaodon Liang and Shizuka Kuramitsu

Arms Control Association, June 1, 2024

China has not provided a “substantive response” to three U.S. strategic risk-reduction proposals and has declined to schedule a follow-on meeting to a November 2023 bilateral meeting on arms control and nonproliferation matters, U.S. officials said. But diplomatic engagement continues on other tracks. Chinese and U.S. delegations met in Geneva on May 14 to begin a dialogue on strategic risks associated with artificial intelligence (AI).

<https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2024-06/news/china-silent-us-risk-reduction-proposals>

## **China's secret space plane has released another unknown object over Earth**

Joanna Thompson

Live Science, June 1, 2024

China's mysterious Shenlong space plane released an unidentified flying object 372 miles (600 kilometers) above Earth's surface. Experts outside China don't know exactly what the object is, but they believe it may be a small satellite or a piece of hardware ejected before the craft is scheduled to deorbit. The U.S. Space Force has been tracking the space plane since it launched aboard a Long March 2F rocket from Jiuquan Launch Center on Dec. 14. Little is known about the craft, although it appears to be similar to the clandestine Boeing X-37B space plane developed by the U.S., which is capable of making years-long excursions into orbit.

<https://www.livescience.com/space/space-exploration/chinas-secret-space-plane-has-released-another-unknown-object-over-earth>

## **Xian H-20: China has big plans to build a stealth bomber like the B-2**

Brent M. Eastwood

The National Interest, June 1, 2024

While the United States is excited about the B-21 bomber it unveiled to the public in early December of last year, China has plans for a rival stealth bomber. The H-20, seen as a competitor to the B-2 or maybe even in some respects B-21 stealth bomber, will likely be nuclear-capable and could attack targets in U.S. allied nations or the U.S. The aircraft will be a key piece of China's nuclear triad in the coming decades and can place China at the forefront of the world's air forces.

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/xian-h-20-china-has-big-plans-build-stealth-bomber-b-2-208137>

## **Anyone who dares to separate Taiwan from China is engaging in self-destruction: Chinese Defence Minister**

Global Times, June 2, 2024

Chinese Defence Minister Dong Jun reiterated China's firm stance on the Taiwan question during a speech delivered at the Shangri-La Dialogue, warning that anyone who dares to separate Taiwan from China will be engaging in an act of self-destruction. Dong stressed that the Taiwan question is at the very core of China's core interests, and that the one-China principle has long become a universally recognized international relations norm.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1313460.shtml>

## **U.S. and China lay out competing security visions for Asia-Pacific**

Abigail Hauslohner and Christian Shepherd

The Washington Post, June 2, 2024

Defence leaders from the United States and China laid out their competing visions of a modern security order in the Indo-Pacific, with the American side championing Washington's expanded network of security partnerships, while Chinese officials promoted their own such alliances and cast the United States as a foreign aggressor meddling in Asian affairs. Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin and his Chinese counterpart, Dong Jun, each delivered addresses at the Shangri-La Dialogue, an annual international security conference in Singapore. Austin and Dong also met on the summit's sidelines, their first meeting in two years.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2024/06/02/us-china-taiwan-shangri-la-dialogue/>

## **China emphasizes non-proliferation efforts at Shangri-La Dialogue**

Jiang Chenglong

China Daily, June 2, 2024

Chinese Defence Minister Admiral Dong Jun reaffirmed China's unwavering commitment to preventing nuclear war during his keynote speech at the Shangri-La Dialogue security forum. "Nuclear war has no winners and must not be fought," declared Admiral Dong. He emphasized the stability, consistency, and predictability of China's nuclear policy. Dong reiterated China's adherence to the principle of "no first use" of nuclear weapons, pledging to never initiate a nuclear attack under any circumstances.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/02/WS665bf060a31082fc043ca6c4.html>

## **China makes history as it nails second landing on Moon's far side**

Fan Anqi and Xu Keyue

Global Times, June 2, 2024

China has successfully landed its second spacecraft - the Chang'e-6 unmanned probe - on the Moon's far side on Sunday, when no other country has done it once. The feat marks a key milestone in achieving its mission to bring home, for the first time in human history, samples from an unexplored region from Earth's natural satellite, as stargazers around the world hold their breaths for this epic moment. Chinese experts said while the US is setting unrealistic, grand goals but giving it a tight schedule in order to outpace China, China is steadily moving forward step by step, achieving concrete and rich results.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1313487.shtml>

## **Chinese defence minister addresses Shangri-La Dialogue on China's approach to global security**

China Military Online, June 2, 2024

Chinese Defence Minister Dong Jun delivered a speech on China's approach to global security at the 21st Shangri-La Dialogue held in Singapore. Dong highlighted the concept of building a community with a shared future for humanity, the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative, and the Global Civilization Initiative in his address. People in the Asia-Pacific are committed to pursuing harmony, are peace-loving, independent, self-reliant, and have always supported each other through thick and thin, he said.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CHINA\\_209163/TopStories\\_209189/16313280.html](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CHINA_209163/TopStories_209189/16313280.html)

## **Chinese probe lands on 'dark' side of the moon to collect rare samples**

Kelly Kasulis Cho

The Washington Post, June 2, 2024

An unmanned Chinese spacecraft touched down on the far side of the moon, China's space agency said, marking its second mission to a lunar region that no other country has landed on amid a growing international rivalry over space exploration. If successful, it will be the first mission in history to retrieve samples from the far side of the moon. For China and the United States, in particular, a rivalry is escalating over scientific frontiers in space; both nations are gunning for the accolade of having sent humans to the moon for the second time in history, with the United States planning to do so as soon as 2026 and China planning the same by 2030.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/06/02/china-space-change-6-moon-dark-side/>

## **Russia-China gas pipeline deal stalls over Beijing's price demands**

Max Seddon, Anastasia Stognei, Henry Foy and Joe Leahy

Financial Times, June 3, 2024

Russia's attempts to conclude a major gas pipeline deal with China have run aground over what Moscow sees as Beijing's unreasonable demands on price and supply levels, according to three people familiar with the matter. Beijing's tough stance on the Power of Siberia 2 pipeline underscores how Russia's invasion of Ukraine has left President Vladimir Putin increasingly dependent on Chinese leader Xi Jinping for economic support.

<https://www.ft.com/content/f7a34e3e-bce9-4db9-ac49-a092f382c526>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on the US, Japan and the ROK trilateral meeting in Singapore**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, June 3, 2024

The US, Japan and the ROK used their trilateral defence ministers' meeting and trilateral vice foreign minister-level dialogue to advance the so-called "Indo-Pacific Strategy," point fingers on the Taiwan question, grossly interfere in China's internal affairs, once again deliberately attack and vilify China on maritime issues and sow discord between China and neighboring countries. Such moves seriously violate basic norms governing international relations. China strongly deplores and opposes this.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202406/t20240603\\_11375936.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202406/t20240603_11375936.html)

## **Marcos's remarks on South China Sea disregard history and truth; China to continue defence its territorial sovereignty and maritime rights: FM spokesperson**

Global Times, June 3, 2024

China's normal patrol, law enforcement and productive activities in waters under its own jurisdiction are consistent with international law, including the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and such activities are beyond reproach; the so-called arbitral award on the South China Sea is illegal, null and void, a spokesperson from China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said, rebuking claims made by Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. that treaties including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the South China Sea arbitration ruling both recognize the Philippines' legal rights, which are the cornerstone of the Philippines' South China Sea policy.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1313519.shtml>

## **Biden's science adviser explains the new hard line on China**

Eva Dou

The Washington Post, June 3, 2024

For three decades, the United States threw itself headlong into globalization, backed by the confidence that while a rising tide lifts all boats, America's vessel would rise the highest. China's technological ascent has shaken that self-assurance and prompted a broad policy reversal. Kevin Wolf, a former assistant commerce secretary for export administration, says the Biden administration has enacted the strictest technology export controls against China in recent memory, adopting the policy position that China having the capability to produce advanced computing systems indigenously is a "per se national security threat" to the United States.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2024/06/03/arati-prabhakar-china-tech/>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on Josep Borrell's take on EU-China decoupling**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, June 4, 2024

The Chinese side always believes that China-EU economic ties are mutually beneficial, protectionism has no future, and open cooperation is the right way forward. China and the EU are each other's second largest trading partners with average trade per minute approaching US\$1.5 million. The stock of two-way investment between China and the EU has exceeded US\$250 billion, and businesses from both sides are investing more in each other's markets. The China-Europe Railway Express (CRE) has made over 90,000 trips in total, which makes it a "golden route" for trade in Eurasia. The supply, industrial and value chains between China and Europe have become deeply integrated and mutually embedded.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202406/t20240604\\_11376597.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202406/t20240604_11376597.html)

## **Why a substantive and verifiable no-first-use treaty for nuclear weapons is possible**

Li Bin

Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, June 4, 2024

Since conducting its first nuclear detonation in 1964, China has pledged to never be the first to use nuclear weapons and has urged other nuclear weapon states to make the same commitment by proposing that they negotiate a no-first-use treaty. In the United States, critics of the credibility of the no-first-use policy see two shortcomings. The first is that, in their view, China's commitment may not be real.

<https://thebulletin.org/2024/06/why-a-substantive-and-verifiable-no-first-use-treaty-of-nuclear-weapons-is-possible/>

## **China's lunar leap and US' cycle of anxiety**

Ding Gang

Global Times, June 5, 2024

China's National Space Administration announced a milestone that would have made Chang'e, the moon goddess in Chinese mythology, beam with pride: Chang'e-6, the lunar lander, successfully touched down on the moon's far side, bringing humanity one step closer to unraveling the mysteries of the lunar dark side. The Western media is quick to frame Chang'e-6 as another chapter in the long-standing rivalry, with a chilly cold war undertone that sends shivers down the spine. Ever the skeptic, Washington warns that China's space ambitions are a smokescreen for "military dominance."

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1313679.shtml>

## **Unpacking China's naval buildup**

Alexander Palmer, Henry H. Carroll, and Nicholas Velazquez

CSIS, June 5, 2024

China's rapid military buildup has left the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) poised to overtake the U.S. Navy in several measures of maritime might more quickly than sometimes assumed. If China continues to expand its fleet at the current pace and the United States does not revitalize its shipbuilding industry, China will grow increasingly likely to emerge victorious from interstate war, especially a prolonged great power war. The result is a China that will grow more confident projecting power, threatening its less powerful neighbors, and disregarding U.S. efforts to deter such behavior.

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/unpacking-chinas-naval-buildup>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on Biden's remarks about Taiwan**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, June 5, 2024

Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory. The Taiwan question is purely China's internal affair that brooks no external interference. No pressure or threat will erode the determination, will and ability of the Chinese government and people to defend China's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Both sides of the Taiwan Strait belong to one and the same China, and Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory. This is the real status quo in the Taiwan Strait.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202406/t20240605\\_11377158.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202406/t20240605_11377158.html)

## **Pro-reunification groups in Taiwan issue joint statement to oppose separatists' collusion with US**

Global Times, June 6, 2024

Pro-reunification groups in the island of Taiwan opposed the collusion between separatist forces in the island and the US, saying that the US arms sales and visit of American arms dealers to the island aims to escalate cross-Straits tension and buying American weapons will only lead to more severe casualties and drag Taiwan island into war. As the situation in the Taiwan Straits becomes increasingly tense due to Taiwan regional leader Lai Ching-te's attempts to seek "Taiwan independence" by relying on the US, representatives of 27 American arms dealers in recent days visited Taiwan to attend a forum aimed at "strengthening cooperation on defence technologies."

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1313733.shtml>

## **Pakistani PM hails strong, fruitful bilateral relations**

Zhou Mo and Zhao Jia

China Daily, June 6, 2024

Pakistani Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif lauded the "visionary leadership" of President Xi Jinping and the ironclad ties between China and Pakistan, while urging his country's businesses to seize the "golden opportunities" brought by bilateral cooperation. Speaking at the China-Pakistan Business Conference in Shenzhen, Guangdong province, Sharif attributed the miraculous transformation of Shenzhen — from a small fishing village to a modern metropolis — to the forward-looking vision of great Chinese statesmen, from Deng Xiaoping to Xi. He called Xi "one of the world's greatest leaders".

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/06/WS6660eccfa31082fc043cb1d4.html>

## **Advantage over parity: assessing China's expanding nuclear arsenal**

Robert Peters and Andrew Harding

The Heritage Foundation, June 6, 2024

China is the fastest growing nuclear power on the planet, building 100 new nuclear warheads every year. While many assume that China's nuclear arsenal will be the same size as that of the United States' by 2035, this is mere speculation in absence of evidence. Indeed, there is ample historical reason to believe that China will seek to grow a nuclear arsenal that is substantially larger and more advanced than the United States' in the coming two decades. Accordingly, the U.S. may need a nuclear arsenal that is larger and more diverse than the one it has now if it hopes to deter simultaneously Russia and China.

<https://www.heritage.org/asia/report/advantage-over-parity-assessing-chinas-expanding-nuclear-arsenal>



## **Chang'e-6 bags precious lunar sample in Earth-returning vehicle**

Deng Xiaoci

Global Times, June 6, 2024

Two days after lifting off from the moon's surface, the ascender of China's Chang'e-6 lunar probe completed a rendezvous and docking with the orbiter-returner combination, delivering the world's first lunar samples collected from the far side of the moon to the Earth-returning vehicle. After undergoing key steps such as the lunar-to-Earth transfer and the separation of the orbiter and returner, the returner is scheduled to land with the lunar samples at the Siziwang Banner landing site in North China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1313761.shtml>

## **'Short of war,' China's grey zone strategy on Taiwan is gathering in intensity**

Kevin Rudd

The Washington Post, June 6, 2024

The central question for our time, if we are to avoid war across the Taiwan Strait, is to understand how Chinese President Xi Jinping actually interprets the deterrence strategies of the United States, Taiwan itself, and U.S. allies and strategic partners. What strategy is China now embarking upon, short of preparation for an actual invasion, to achieve its political objectives in relation to Taiwan? And what is the role of deterrence in responding to such a strategy?

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2024/06/06/kevin-rudd-china-taiwan-deterrence/>

## **PLA Navy holds maritime response drills in South China Sea amid Philippine provocations**

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, June 6, 2024

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy's maritime border defence forces stationed in Nansha Qundao (also known as Nansha Islands) in the South China Sea recently conducted a maritime response exercise amid repeated provocations by the Philippines in the region. The exercise was held by a patrol boat unit affiliated with the PLA Navy's Nansha Qundao garrison, which is stationed at the frontier of the South China Sea responsible for the defence of China's southern maritime border, China Central Television (CCTV) reported.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1313743.shtml>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on Biden's remarks on Chinese EV dumping**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, June 6, 2024

The popularity of Chinese electric vehicles and other new energy products in the global market is the result of persistent tech innovation, well-established industrial and supply chains and full market competition. This is what happens when our comparative advantages provide exactly what the market needs. Subsidies do not generate competitiveness. Protectionism protects nothing but backwardness with the future as its cost. The US discriminatory practices against Chinese electric vehicles violate WTO rules, destabilize global industrial and supply chains and will eventually undermine the US's own interests. China urges the US to earnestly abide by market principles and international trade rules, and create a level playing field for companies from all countries. China will firmly defend its lawful rights and interests.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202406/t20240606\\_11405886.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202406/t20240606_11405886.html)

## **China and Russia now dominate the global nuclear trade**

Ariel Cohen

Forbes, June 7, 2024

Russia is not alone in surpassing the US. China is also far ahead of the US in the nuclear energy industry. China's nuclear power industry has retained its domestic focus, with twenty-three power plants under construction in China as of July 2023. This is due to increasing energy demand, as China continues to develop its economy. The United States is constructing a single nuclear power plant. While China has refined its nuclear power production process, the last plant built in the US arrived 7 years late and 17 billion dollars over budget, as a testament to America's byzantine permitting and environmental review system.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/arielcohen/2024/06/07/china-and-russia-now-dominate-the-global-nuclear-trade/>

## **Pakistan and China cooperation has reached space, even higher than sky: Pakistani planning minister**

Global Times, June 7, 2024

From June 4 to 8, 2024, Pakistani Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif made an official visit to China. This was Sharif's first visit to China since being re-elected as Prime Minister this year. He was accompanied by several members of the Pakistani cabinet and businessmen. Ahsan Iqbal (Iqbal), Pakistani minister for planning, development and special initiatives was among the delegation.

Due to his strong promotion of cooperation under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Ahsan Iqbal is known as "Mr. CPEC." In an exclusive interview with the Global Times, Iqbal said that over the past decade, the CPEC has transformed Pakistan's energy and infrastructure landscape, greatly advancing the country's socio-economic development.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202406/1313792.shtml>

## **U.S. considers expanded nuclear arsenal, a reversal of decades of cuts**

Julian E. Barnes and David E. Sanger

The New York Times, June 7, 2024

A senior Biden administration official warned that “absent a change” in nuclear strategy by China and Russia, the United States may be forced to expand its nuclear arsenal, after decades of cutting back through now largely abandoned arms control agreements. The comments from Pranay Vaddi, a senior director of the National Security Council, were the most explicit public warning yet that the United States was prepared to shift from simply modernizing its arsenal to expanding it.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/06/07/us/politics/us-nuclear-russia-china.html>

## **Diplomat calls for revival of nuke deal**

China Daily, June 7, 2024

A Chinese envoy said that confrontation will not solve the Iran nuclear issue, and the only correct solution is to revive the Iranian nuclear deal. Li Song, China's permanent representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency, made the remarks after the agency's 35-nation board of governors passed a resolution earlier that day to pressure Iran on its nuclear issue. The resolution was proposed by France, Britain and Germany. Among the 35 countries on the board, China and Russia voted against the resolution, while 12 other developing countries, including South Africa, India, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia and Turkiye, abstained.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/07/WS66626e4da31082fc043cb674.html>

## **US tech sector pressures Chinese venture capital to divest**

Eleanor Olcott

Financial Times, June 7, 2024

US venture capital firms are putting pressure on tech start-ups to cut ties with Chinese backers as they anticipate tighter controls on foreign ownership from Washington. In one example, HeyGen,

a generative artificial intelligence start-up that was founded in Shenzhen during the pandemic but has since moved to Los Angeles, asked its Chinese investors — IDG Capital, Baidu Ventures, Sequoia Capital's former Chinese venture capital arm HongShan and ZhenFund — to sell shares to US counterparts, according to multiple people familiar with the matter.

<https://www.ft.com/content/4fb99b07-159f-4539-8e50-e85d66c585e6>

## **Chinese Foreign Ministry on Wang Yi's attendance at the SCO meeting**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, June 7, 2024

Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs Wang Yi together with foreign ministers of other BRICS member states and countries invited to the dialogue will exchange views on BRICS cooperation, the current international and regional landscape, and other issues of mutual interest, and prepare the ground for the 16th BRICS Summit. As an important platform for cooperation among emerging markets and developing countries, BRICS is committed to upholding multilateralism, taking an active part in global economic governance, and working for a more just and equitable international order.

[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw\\_665399/s2510\\_665401/2511\\_665403/202406/t2024060711415335.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202406/t2024060711415335.html)

## **Beijing's new world order**

James Kynge

Financial Times, June 8, 2024

Just over 30 years since the cold war ended, commentators are struggling to describe a new era of great power competition, this time between China and the US-led west. The problem is that so much about this new era is unclear. Is the growing estrangement between the west and China being driven by America or by China itself? With so many of Europe's leading companies deeply embedded in the Chinese market, is Europe in danger of falling hostage to Beijing's will? How should the US counter China's magnetism to many countries in the global south?

<https://www.ft.com/content/050701cd-b5fb-4a4b-8887-97abdf274b8>

## **Chinese premier holds talks with Pakistani PM**

China Daily, June 8, 2024

Premier Li Qiang and Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif held talks in Beijing, agreeing to enhance the all-weather, strategic cooperative partnership to achieve more fruitful results. Li said

that China has always prioritized Pakistan in its neighborhood diplomacy and stands ready to work with Pakistan to carry forward their traditional friendship, expand mutually beneficial cooperation, and accelerate the construction of a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era to bring greater benefits to the two peoples.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202406/08/WS6663cab5a31082fc043cb94e.html>

## **Joint Statement between the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan**

The State Council, the People's Republic of China, June 8, 2024

The two sides agreed that China and Pakistan are All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partners and ironclad friends, and the two countries have always understood, trusted and supported each other. Since the establishment of diplomatic ties 73 years ago, China-Pakistan relations have stood the test of changing international environment and have been as solid as a rock, and as unshakable as a mountain. The Chinese side reiterated that the China-Pakistan relationship is a priority in its foreign relations.

[https://english.www.gov.cn/news/202406/09/content\\_WS666500fcc6d0868f4e8e7f17.html](https://english.www.gov.cn/news/202406/09/content_WS666500fcc6d0868f4e8e7f17.html)

## **China has thousands of missiles it could use in a war against America**

Brandon J. Weichert

The National Interest, June 8, 2024

A Pentagon assessment last summer showed that China “possessed more than 500 operational nuclear warheads” and found that the regime “will probably have over 1,000 operational nuclear warheads by 2030.” But the nuclear weapons threat is ancillary to the threat that China’s conventional missile and even hypersonic weapons arsenals pose to U.S. and allied military forces operating in the Indo-Pacific, especially in the waters closest to China.

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/china-has-thousands-missiles-it-could-use-war-against-america-211358>

## **Nuke water discharge: China urges long-term international supervision**

Xinhua, June 8, 2024

China urges long-term international supervision over Fukushima wastewater discharge and also calls on Japan to show sincerity to seriously address the legitimate concerns from home and

abroad. A Chinese envoy called for strict, independent and effective long-term international supervision over Japan's discharge of nuclear-contaminated wastewater from the crippled Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the ocean. Japan's wastewater discharge has continued to raise deep concerns among the international community, and the strong opposition from Japan's neighboring countries has never subsided, Li Song, China's permanent representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), told a meeting of the agency's board of governors.

<https://english.news.cn/20240608/69a969f714a64616898372434b7e22cc/c.html>

## **US tariffs trigger race to build non-Chinese supply chain**

Christian Davies

Financial Times, June 9, 2024

Graphite has become the latest resource to cause trade tensions between the US and China, with Washington putting pressure on EV and battery makers to build a new non-Chinese supply chain for graphite anodes, a crucial component in electric vehicle batteries. The US trade representative has announced that 25 per cent tariffs on natural and synthetic graphite anodes from China will be applied from this month, despite Chinese production accounting for 97 per cent of global anode output after years of under-investment in the material by the west.

<https://www.ft.com/content/9117e5e6-baf9-4bdf-8080-9aa019ef1bfc>

## **China urges US to 'reflect' on nuclear arms policy**

Dewey Sim

South China Morning Post, June 9, 2024

China has suggested the United States should “reflect” on its behaviour and reduce its nuclear arsenal after a senior official said Washington may need more warheads. Pranay Vaddi, senior director for arms control disarmament and non-proliferation at the National Security Council, recently warned that Russia, China and North Korea were expanding their nuclear arsenals at a “breakneck pace” and showed “little or no interest in arms control”. “Absent a change in the trajectory of the adversary arsenal, we may reach a point in the coming years where an increase from current deployed numbers is required,” he told an annual forum organised by the Arms Control Association, a group advocating limits on nuclear weapons.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3265973/china-urges-us-reflect-nuclear-arms-policy>

## **European companies step up efforts to decouple from China**

William Langley and Chan Ho-him

Financial Times, June 9, 2024

European buyers are seeking to reduce their dependence on China, sourcing executives say, as Brussels increases its scrutiny of goods from the world's largest export economy. Brussels has launched probes investigating Chinese government subsidies for manufacturing, and the European Commission is expected to soon disclose any further tariffs on Chinese electric vehicle imports. "The big trend right now is for companies to reduce their dependence on China," said Richard Laub, chief executive of Belgium-based Dragon Sourcing.

<https://www.ft.com/content/fb448978-e4ff-4f3e-b650-13fda73f58a9>

## **Obama tried to pivot to Asia in 2011. We must succeed this time**

Robert Blackwill and Richard Fontaine

The Washington Post, June 10, 2024

In 2011, President Barack Obama announced that the United States would, after centuries of preoccupation with Europe and decades of Middle East wars, put the Asia-Pacific region first. Washington would increase its military presence there, step up diplomacy, secure a regionwide trade deal and more. Pivoting — or rebalancing — to Asia quickly won support among policymakers in both parties and across subsequent administrations. Meanwhile, China stepped up its diplomacy, forged new partnerships and increased its global engagement as U.S. attention wandered, depending on events and policymakers' personal preferences.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2024/06/10/trump-obama-biden-asia-pivot/>

## **China will not give up on Myanmar's military**

Yun Sun

Nikkei Asia, June 10, 2024

China looms as the most consequential external party that could affect developments in Myanmar. Many who seek a solution to Myanmar's crisis have urged Beijing to use its influence to curb the military, to support the resistance or, at least, to help the Burmese people. Beijing has yet to respond to such calls and is unlikely to do so. Since the Myanmar military's February 2021 takeover, China's attitude toward the ruling State Administration Council has been both ambiguous and ambivalent.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Opinion/China-will-not-give-up-on-Myanmar-s-military>

## **The U.S. military plans a ‘Hellscape’ to deter China from attacking Taiwan**

Josh Rogin

The Washington Post, June 10, 2024

President Xi Jinping has called on China’s People’s Liberation Army to be ready to take Taiwan by force by 2027. The United States, together with regional partners, must ensure a Chinese invasion can’t succeed. That plan hinges on quickly building and deploying thousands of new drones that would swarm the Taiwan Strait and keep China’s military busy until more help can arrive, according to the top U.S. military official in the Pacific. But time is running out to turn these plans into a reality.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2024/06/10/taiwan-china-hellscape-military-plan/>



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

**Nuclear and Arms Control Centre, MP-IDSA**