



MACAU SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT

AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment

Analysis Period: March 14, 2026 - March 21, 2026

This report was produced using open-source intelligence analysis. The assessment is grounded in publicly available reporting and should be cross-referenced with primary sources. RSS feed articles are listed in the annex for reference.

Security Analysis Report for Macau: March 14, 2026 - March 21, 2026

Executive Summary

During the period of March 14 to March 21, 2026, Macau's security landscape was primarily shaped by significant legislative developments aimed at strengthening national security. The most notable event was the unanimous passing of a new national security law by Macau's Legislative Assembly, which permits closed-door trials in cases deemed to affect national security. This move significantly enhances the powers of the Committee for Safeguarding National Security and raises concerns among observers regarding legal transparency and civil liberties. Concurrently, Macau's leadership emphasized the region's strategic role within China's 15th Five-Year Plan and the Greater Bay Area, highlighting efforts towards economic diversification amidst global geopolitical shifts and potential supply chain disruptions. The focus remains on maintaining stability and aligning Macau's development with Beijing's broader national security and economic objectives.

Key Security Developments

- New National Security Law Passed

On March 19, 2026, Macau's Legislative Assembly unanimously passed a new national security law that allows for closed-door court proceedings in cases where authorities determine that public hearings could harm national security. This legislation, which will take effect a day after its publication in the official gazette, grants the Committee for Safeguarding National Security the ultimate authority to make such decisions, which are not subject to appeal or judicial review.

Significance: This development represents a significant tightening of national security controls in Macau, mirroring similar trends in Hong Kong. Critics express concerns about the potential erosion of legal transparency, civil liberties, and the rights of defense lawyers, who will now require official clearance to participate in national security cases. The Macau government, however, stated that the bill is crucial for safeguarding national sovereignty, security, and development interests, and for the successful implementation of the "patriots governing Macau" principle.

- Strengthening of the Committee for Safeguarding National Security

The newly passed national security law significantly buttresses the authority and legal foundation of Macau's Committee for Safeguarding National Security (CDSE), which was established in 2018. The legislation refines provisions regarding the committee's nature, duties, powers, composition, and operations, and expands its membership to include officials from cultural affairs and education and youth development.

Significance: This expansion of power centralizes considerable authority within a government body whose decisions are final and not subject to judicial review. It reflects Beijing's increased political control over Macau, aiming to ensure the city's national security efforts align with the central government's directives and overall jurisdiction.

- Geopolitical Shifts and Economic Challenges

On March 16, 2026, Macau's Chief Executive, Sam Hou Fai, warned of "supply chain disruptions" and other challenges to the city's economic development stemming from recent geopolitical shifts and international conflicts. He highlighted Macau's vulnerability as a small, open economy highly dependent on external factors, urging business leaders to prepare for these uncertainties and to encourage economic diversification away from its heavy reliance on the gaming industry.

Significance: This statement underscores the awareness within Macau's leadership of external geopolitical pressures impacting its economic stability. It signals a strategic imperative to diversify the economy and build resilience against global uncertainties, aligning with China's broader economic strategies.

- Alignment with China's 15th Five-Year Plan and Greater Bay Area Integration

Throughout the reporting period, Macau's integration into the national development agenda, particularly China's 15th Five-Year Plan (2026-2030) and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA), was a recurring theme. The Chief Executive stressed the importance of aligning Macau's own Third Five-Year Plan with the national blueprint, focusing on strengthening cooperation with mainland China in trade, science and technology, and cultural exchanges.

Significance: This emphasis indicates Macau's continued strategic importance within China's national development framework. The integration aims to leverage Macau's unique position to boost service industries, facilitate cross-border flows of people, information, and capital, and enhance its role as a platform for China's high-standard opening-up, particularly with Lusophone countries.

- Diplomatic Engagement and "Diplomacy Benefitting Macau"

On March 18, 2026, Bian Lixin, the newly appointed Commissioner of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in the Macau SAR, outlined her office's commitment to "diplomacy benefiting Macau." She affirmed that the office would fully leverage diplomatic

resources to serve Macau's high-quality development and lasting prosperity, aligning with the nation's 15th Five-Year Plan.

Significance: This highlights Macau's unique diplomatic role under the "One Country, Two Systems" framework, where it maintains autonomy in economic and commercial relations while its defense and broader diplomatic relations are the responsibility of the central Chinese government. The focus on "diplomacy benefitting Macau" aims to enhance its international competitiveness and influence, particularly in fostering ties with Portuguese-speaking countries.

- **Cybersecurity Concerns and Past Incidents**

While no specific cybersecurity incidents were reported for Macau within the March 14-21, 2026 period, broader regional and global trends remain relevant. In July 2024, several Macau government websites, including those of the Secretary for Security and public security police, were hacked in a significant targeted cyberattack, believed to originate from overseas. More recently, in February 2026, a report indicated that China-linked hackers breached over 50 telecommunications companies and government agencies in 42 countries, utilizing sophisticated techniques.

Significance: These past incidents and ongoing regional threats underscore the persistent and evolving cybersecurity challenges faced by Macau. The reliance on digital infrastructure for governance and economic activities necessitates continuous vigilance and robust cybersecurity measures, especially given the sophisticated nature of state-sponsored hacking groups.

- **Crime Statistics (Previous Period)**

Macau's overall public security situation remained stable and favorable in the first three quarters of 2025, with a 7.1 percent decrease in criminal investigations compared to the previous year. Crimes concerning civil society, such as serious violent crime, theft, robbery, fraud, and cybercrime, showed a downward trend. However, gaming-related crimes saw a significant increase of 70.1 percent in the first nine months of 2025, largely due to new legislation targeting illegal currency exchange activities. Drug trafficking cases also increased by 37.1 percent, with 48 cases recorded.

Significance: While these statistics predate the reporting period, they provide a baseline for Macau's internal security situation. The rise in gaming-related and drug trafficking crimes indicates specific areas requiring ongoing law enforcement focus, despite an overall decrease in general crime.

Geopolitical Impact and Regional Dynamics

Macau's recent security developments, particularly the new national security law, are deeply intertwined with its status as a Special Administrative Region of China and Beijing's broader strategic objectives. The unanimous passing of the law allowing closed-door trials reinforces the central government's increasing influence over Macau's legal and political landscape, aligning it more closely with mainland China's national security framework. This move, similar to actions taken in Hong Kong, is likely to be viewed by major Western powers (US, EU) as a further erosion of the "One Country, Two Systems" principle, potentially leading to diplomatic criticism regarding human rights and legal autonomy.

Regionally, Macau's enhanced national security posture contributes to China's overall strategy of maintaining stability and control within its perceived sovereign territories. The emphasis on integrating Macau into the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) is a key component of Beijing's economic and geopolitical vision, aiming to create a dynamic economic hub and a demonstration zone for high-quality development. This integration seeks to leverage Macau's unique cultural and economic ties, particularly with Portuguese-speaking countries, to expand China's global reach and influence, especially within the context of the Belt and Road Initiative.

The Chief Executive's warning about "supply chain disruptions" and geopolitical shifts highlights Macau's vulnerability to global economic turbulence and its interconnectedness with international markets. While Macau's defense and diplomatic relations are ultimately the responsibility of the central Chinese government, its economic autonomy and international engagements, particularly with Lusophone countries, position it as a unique bridge. The ongoing economic and trade talks between China and the United States, as reported in March 2026, also form part of the broader strategic landscape that indirectly affects Macau's economic stability and its role in facilitating international trade and investment.

Military and Defense Analysis

Macau, as a Special Administrative Region of China, does not possess an independent military or defense force. Its defense is the responsibility of the central government of China. The People's Liberation Army (PLA) maintains a garrison in Macau, primarily for ceremonial purposes and to assist in disaster relief, rather than active defense operations. Therefore, there are no independent military activities, exercises, defense policy shifts, or defense acquisitions to report for Macau itself.

The security focus within Macau is predominantly on internal security, law enforcement, and maintaining social stability, which falls under the purview of the Secretariat for Security. The recent passing of the national security law, while not a

military development, significantly impacts the internal security apparatus by strengthening the legal framework and powers of the Committee for Safeguarding National Security. This legislative enhancement is a key component of Beijing's "holistic approach to national security," which integrates legal, economic, and social aspects to ensure overall stability and control within the SAR. Modernization programs and defense spending trends are determined at the national level by Beijing, with Macau's contribution primarily being economic integration and adherence to national security directives.

Outlook and Forecast

Short-term trends (1-3 months): In the immediate future, Macau will likely focus on the implementation of the newly passed national security law. This will involve the publication of the law in the official gazette, followed by its enforcement, which could lead to increased scrutiny of political expression and civil society activities. The government will continue to emphasize the "patriots governing Macau" principle and the importance of safeguarding national security. Economically, Macau will continue efforts to diversify its economy, with particular attention to its role within the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA) and fostering ties with Portuguese-speaking countries. The Chief Executive's upcoming working visit to Portugal and Spain in April 2026 underscores this diplomatic and economic outreach.

Critical flashpoints and risk areas: The primary flashpoint remains the potential for international criticism and scrutiny, particularly from Western nations, regarding the implications of the new national security law on Macau's autonomy and civil liberties. Any high-profile cases tried under the new closed-door provisions could draw significant international attention and diplomatic pressure. Internally, while the democratic opposition in Macau has historically been less prominent than in Hong Kong, the expanded security powers could lead to increased self-censorship and a chilling effect on political discourse. Economic vulnerabilities, particularly "supply chain disruptions" and global geopolitical shifts, also pose risks to Macau's economic stability and diversification efforts.

Indicators to monitor: Key indicators to monitor include the specific application and interpretation of the new national security law, particularly in court cases and its impact on freedom of expression and assembly. Observing the composition and decision-making processes of the Committee for Safeguarding National Security will be crucial. Economically, tracking Macau's progress in diversifying its economy, its trade relations with Lusophone countries, and the implementation of projects within the Hengqin Cooperation Zone will provide insights into its resilience against external pressures. Any shifts in rhetoric or policy from Beijing regarding Macau's autonomy or its role in the GBA should also be closely watched.

Strategic recommendations: For businesses and international organizations operating in Macau, it is recommended to conduct thorough due diligence on the implications of the new national security law on legal and operational risks. Understanding the expanded powers of the Committee for Safeguarding National Security and the requirements for legal representation in national security cases is paramount. Companies should review their data handling practices and ensure compliance with evolving cybersecurity regulations, given past incidents and broader regional threats. For governments, maintaining diplomatic engagement with Macau, while also expressing concerns regarding human rights and legal transparency, could be a balanced approach. Supporting initiatives that promote economic diversification and cultural exchange, in line with Macau's stated goals, could also be beneficial.

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## ANNEX: COLLECTED ARTICLES BY SOURCE

### Source: Macau Daily Times

- [MGM COTAI' s Five Foot Road and Aji Retain One MICHELIN Star](#) (2026-03-20 05:23)

MGM COTAI has once again been recognized in the newly released MICHELIN Guide Hong Kong & Macau 2026. Two of its acclaimed restaurants, Five Foot Road and Aji, both retained their one MICHELIN star, reaffirming MGM' s commitment to delivering exceptional dining experiences for guests. “The continued recognition for Five Foot Road and Aji reflects our [...] The post MGM COTAI' s Five Foot Road and Aji Retain One MICHELIN Star appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [National Security Committee given authority to rule on security-related cases](#) (2026-03-20 01:10)

The Legislative Assembly (AL) yesterday unanimously passed the bill establishing the Committee for Safeguarding National Security, paving the way for a new body empowered to determine whether cases involve national security and to decide whether such proceedings should be disclosed once the law takes effect the day after its publication in the Official Gazette. The [...] The post National Security Committee given authority to rule on security-related cases appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Lawmakers seek tighter safety rules after humanoid robot startles pedestrian](#) (2026-03-20 01:08)

A promotional humanoid robot for an education center startled a female pedestrian on Macau streets early this month, prompting local legislators to call for stricter safety rules at a Legislative Assembly session yesterday. The episode took place on March 5 outside a residential building on Rua Sul do Patane. Police said the robot – being [...] The post Lawmakers seek tighter safety rules after humanoid robot startles pedestrian appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Vibrant Flavours of Spring](#) (2026-03-20 01:06)

This Spring, One Michelin-starred Ning Bo restaurant Yong Fu Hong Kong welcomes the arrival of spring with the debut of its new Set Lunch and Dinner Menus. Crafted by Ning Bo native Executive Chef Liu Zhen, the seasonal menus celebrate the delicate freshness and vibrant flavours of spring while remaining deeply rooted in the [...] The post Vibrant Flavours of Spring appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Lawmakers push new stimulus measures to revive economy](#) (2026-03-20 01:04)

Amid soaring international oil prices, legislators Ella Lei and Chan Hao Weng urged the government at a Legislative Assembly session yesterday to stimulate the local economy, with Lei calling for a fresh round of consumer incentives and Chan pressing for the introduction of a MOP10,000 universal consumption card. In her opening remarks at yesterday's plenary [...] The post Lawmakers push new stimulus measures to revive economy appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Housing market hits 15-month price high in February](#) (2026-03-20 01:02)

The housing market in February saw a rebound in prices, reaching MOP77,713 per square meter, compared to its previous highest point in December 2024. The chair, Ung Choi Kun of the Association of Property Agents and Realty Developers of Macau, affirmed the new record and described it as a “little spring.” Newly built homes were [...] The post Housing market hits 15-month price high in February appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Macau's Michelin-starred total reaches 21 with two new additions](#) (2026-03-20 01:00)

The 18th edition of the Michelin Guide Hong Kong & Macau, unveiled Thursday, marked the guide's 100th anniversary of awarding stars globally since 1926 and celebrated 59 Macau establishments among 278 total selections across Star, Bib Gourmand, and Selected categories. This year, the guide recognized 21 starred restaurants overall in Macau, while in Hong Kong, [...] The post Macau's Michelin-starred total reaches 21 with two new additions appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Firmly uphold and support the Legislative Assembly for passing second reading of the 'Macao Special Administrative Region Committee for Safeguarding National Security' bill](#) (2026-03-20 00:58)

The Legislative Assembly unanimously passed on 19 March 2026 the second reading of the “Macao Special Administrative Region Committee for Safeguarding National Security” bill (hereinafter referred to as the “committee law”). Such move is of great significance for Macao to strengthen its national security shield and enhancing Macao's national security mechanism. The Macau Lawyers Association [...] The post Firmly uphold and support the Legislative Assembly for passing second reading of the ‘Macao Special Administrative Region Committee for Safeguarding National Security’ bill appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Police bust suspected illegal currency exchange](#) (2026-03-20 00:56)

The Judiciary Police uncovered a 42-year-old mainland man suspected of conducting illegal currency exchanges, with the case now handed to the Public Prosecutions Office. On March 17, officers patrolling the New Port area intercepted the man, who allegedly agreed with a gambler to exchange RMB4,800 for HKD5,000. Police seized RMB1,200, HKD155,000, and two mobile phones [...] The post Police bust suspected illegal currency exchange appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Police enforce dedicated drop-off zones at Hengqin Port](#) (2026-03-20 00:54)

The Public Security Police Force announced new measures to improve traffic and passenger flow at the Macau section of Hengqin Port. Separate drop-off zones have been designated for light vehicles, taxis, buses, and heavy coaches. Drivers must use the appropriate area or face prosecution, with fines of MOP600 for unauthorized entry. Police will also remove [...] The post Police enforce dedicated drop-off zones at Hengqin Port appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Friday, March 20, 2026 – edition no. 4915](#) (2026-03-20 00:01)

\* National guard — National Security Committee granted authority to rule on security-related cases by Legislative Assembly \* Society | Lawmakers seek tighter safety rules after humanoid robot startles pedestrian \* Taste of Edesia \* Consumption Card: Lawmakers push new government stimulus measures to revive the city’ s economy \* Real Estate: Housing market hits 15-month [...] The post Friday, March 20, 2026 – edition no. 4915 appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Four injured in three-vehicle collision on Avenida da Amizade](#) (2026-03-19 00:42)

Four people were injured in a serious traffic accident involving two private seven-seater vehicles and a bus on Avenida da Amizade near the racing paddock last night, authorities confirmed. The incident occurred at 7:30 p.m, injuring three male drivers and one female bus passenger. Speaking to the media, Wong Chi Wang, director of the Public [...] The post Four injured in three-vehicle collision on Avenida da Amizade appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Exhibition marks 100 years of firecracker industry](#) (2026-03-19 00:40)

Over a century’ s worth of archives from Macau’ s firecracker industry was revealed at the opening ceremony of “A Century of Iec Long Firecracker Factory in Radiance – An Exhibition on the Resonant History and Aesthetic Memory of Macao Firecrackers.” The exhibition at Sands Gallery at Four Seasons Macao features more than 400 exhibits, including original [...] The post Exhibition marks 100 years of firecracker industry appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Explosion in an apartment under renovation leaves worker with serious burns](#) (2026-03-19 00:38)

Neighbors in an apartment building in Taipa heard an explosion yesterday morning. Upon deployment to the location, the Fire Services Bureau (CB) reported that the explosion was related to an incident during the renovation of an apartment unit in the building. According to the report, the explosion and the fire that followed left a worker [...] The post Explosion in an apartment under renovation leaves worker with serious burns appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [CE pledges real industrial growth, not flashy façade](#) (2026-03-19 00:36)

Chief Executive Sam Hou Fai has vowed to direct science and technology funding toward authentic economic transformation, steering clear of a “superficially attractive ‘technological’ image” as Macau pursues its diversification from gaming. The CE, speaking at the First Plenary Meeting of the Science and Technology Council in 2026, emphasized that public investments must fuel industrialization [...] The post CE pledges real industrial growth, not flashy façade appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Beijing ignores Trump’ s Hormuz request as the Iran war deepens](#) (2026-03-19 00:34)

China won’ t help the United States reopen the Strait of Hormuz as requested by President Donald Trump, but it is probably welcoming the delay in Trump’ s highly anticipated trip to Beijing as the U.S. risks getting bogged down in the Middle East, analysts say. The latest developments are unfolding as Trump’ s Iran war, in its [...] The post Beijing ignores Trump’ s Hormuz request as the Iran war deepens appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Local youth show strong preference for engineering and tech studies](#) (2026-03-19 00:32)

An education non-governmental organization has analyzed the final admission list for the 2026 joint recruitment of Macau students by mainland universities, revealing a strong interest among local students in pursuing engineering and technology studies, along with a growing enthusiasm for the development of the technology industry and new, high-quality productive forces. The Macau Youth Elite [...] The post Local youth show strong preference for engineering and tech studies appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Authorities find 50 suspected illegal workers in February](#) (2026-03-19 00:30)

The Public Security Police Force and the Labour Affairs Bureau apprehended 50 people in February on suspicion of working illegally in Macau. The suspected illegal workers were found during joint inspections at 417 locations, including construction sites, private buildings, and commercial and industrial establishments. The number represents a return to the results seen in December [...] The post Authorities find 50 suspected illegal workers in February appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Gov’ t launches tender for another six car parks](#) (2026-03-19 00:28)

The Transport Bureau (DSAT) has opened a public tender for the concession of six public car parks. The tender includes the parking lots at Jardim das Artes, Bairro da Ilha Verde Building, Cheng Tou Building, Iat Seng Building, and the east and west parking lots of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge Port. According to the announcement, [...] The post Gov’ t launches tender for another six car parks appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Gov’ t pledges to build a smoke-free Macau despite enforcement challenges](#) (2026-03-19 00:26)

The government acknowledged recent challenges in tobacco control, while civic leaders warned of enforcement difficulties with some local laws, and authorities said they will proceed step by step toward the long-term goal of a smoke-free Macau. Public consultation on amendments to the Tobacco Control Law is currently under way. Ahead of the 32-day consultation period, [...] The post Gov' t pledges to build a smoke-free Macau despite enforcement challenges appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Former public prosecutor Kong Chi sentenced to 24 years in prison](#) (2026-03-19 00:24)

The Court of Second Instance (TSI) has delivered the sentence in the second stage of the trial involving Assistant Prosecutor-General Kong Chi. In the new sentence, the court found Kong Chi guilty of additional charges, increasing his jail time to a total of 24 years. The second-stage trial also found the defendant Ho Kam Meng [...] The post Former public prosecutor Kong Chi sentenced to 24 years in prison appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Thursday, March 19, 2026 – edition no. 4914](#) (2026-03-19 00:01)

\* Dangerous driving — Four injured in three-vehicle collision on Avenida da Amizade, apparently caused by reckless driving \* City History | Sands exhibition marks 100 years of the firecracker industry \* Society: Explosion in Taipa apartment under renovation leaves worker with serious burns, causes havoc among neighbors \* Sam Hou Fai pledges real industrial [...] The post Thursday, March 19, 2026 – edition no. 4914 appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [High-speed rail project to begin this year, marking Macau' s first in national network](#) (2026-03-18 00:42)

The Macau delegation to the National People' s Congress (NPC) has urged Beijing to expedite the construction of the Shenzhen-Zhuhai-Macau high-speed rail line, with Zhuhai authorities confirming plans to begin construction this year. Local NPC deputies have called on the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), the National Railway Administration, and China State Railway Group to [...] The post High-speed rail project to begin this year, marking Macau' s first in national network appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Water use expected to rise 3% this year](#) (2026-03-18 00:40)

Overall water consumption is expected to increase around 3% this year, driven by residents gradually moving into public housing units in Zone A and buildings in Lot P, as well as the upcoming operation of several hotels in Cotai and continued development in Zone A, Macao Water executive director Nacky Kuan said on the sidelines [...] The post Water use expected to rise 3% this year appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Owners of 'three-nil' buildings urged to discuss tailored management models](#) (2026-03-18 00:38)

In response to ongoing public concerns about “three-nil” buildings – those lacking management, maintenance, and security – local authorities have announced that property owners can discuss and agree on suitable management models tailored to their buildings’ specific conditions, including the option for “joint building management” to address issues related to public order, sanitation, and noise. [...] The post Owners of ‘three-nil’ buildings urged to discuss tailored management models appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Customs arrests two attempting to leave Macau illegally by boat](#) (2026-03-18 00:36)

The Customs Service (SA) intercepted a wooden sampan carrying two men who were attempting to exit Macau illegally. According to an SA report, the men were caught engaging in unlawful conduct on the evening of March 14. The Customs said the case came to light after it received a communication from the Public Security Police [...] The post Customs arrests two attempting to leave Macau illegally by boat appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Beijing tightens the IPO gate to Hong Kong](#) (2026-03-18 00:35)

China is quietly tightening one of the most lucrative pipelines feeding Hong Kong’ s capital markets, and the ripple effects could be felt from boardrooms in Beijing to trading desks in Central. According to Bloomberg, regulators are now discouraging a long-standing workaround used by Chinese companies to list offshore while keeping their operations at home. “Beijing [...] The post Beijing tightens the IPO gate to Hong Kong appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Trump team applying pressure to media: Tell the war’ s story the way we see it](#) (2026-03-18 00:33)

Through lectures, scoldings and outright threats, President Donald Trump and his aides are ratcheting up the pressure on journalists to cover the war in the Middle East the way the administration wants. The Republican president has fumed on social media about stories he doesn’ t like and berated a reporter on Air Force One. The government’ s [...] The post Trump team applying pressure to media: Tell the war’ s story the way we see it appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [CE, Guangdong CPC Secretary discuss cooperation](#) (2026-03-18 00:32)

Chief Executive (CE) Sam Hou Fai led a Macau Special Administrative Region (MSAR) government delegation to Guangzhou to meet with the Secretary of the Guangdong Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), Huang Kunming, and Deputy Secretary of the CPC Guangdong Provincial Committee and Governor of Guangdong Province, Meng Fanli. During the meeting, [...] The post CE, Guangdong CPC Secretary discuss cooperation appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [JD.com expands Macau push with RMB200 million voucher campaign](#) (2026-03-18 00:30)

Chinese e-commerce giant JD.com is stepping up its expansion in Macau, rolling out a RMB200 million consumer voucher campaign aimed at attracting local shoppers and boosting market share. A representative for JD.com's Hong Kong and Macau operations said the city's strong consumer spending power, combined with millions of annual visitors, presents "significant growth potential" for [...] The post JD.com expands Macau push with RMB200 million voucher campaign appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Macau sees nearly 60% decline in births over past decade](#) (2026-03-18 00:28)

The number of newborns in Macau has fallen by nearly 60% over the last decade, prompting pressure on local legislators and labor groups to enact expanded family support measures. According to figures reported by the Health Bureau (SSM), only 2,871 babies were born in 2025, marking a stark contrast to a decade ago, when Macau [...] The post Macau sees nearly 60% decline in births over past decade appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Melco Resorts announces soft opening for REM luxury suites](#) (2026-03-18 00:26)

Melco Resorts & Entertainment Ltd. announced Tuesday plans for a soft opening in the second half of 2026 for REM, its new luxury hotel project at the City of Dreams flagship resort in Cotai. The announcement, first posted on City of Dreams' social media platforms with an artist's rendering, was followed by a press release [...] The post Melco Resorts announces soft opening for REM luxury suites appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Chief Executive signals key role for Macau in regional development initiatives](#) (2026-03-17 00:56)

Chief Executive Sam Hou Fai has credited the Chinese government's "firm" leadership for the region's steady economic growth last year, highlighting a record-high number of visitors. The Chief Executive made these remarks during the first plenary session of the Economic Development Committee yesterday morning, where he acknowledged that the city's economy has effectively risen to [...] The post Chief Executive signals key role for Macau in regional development initiatives appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Population inches up as elderly share grows](#) (2026-03-17 00:54)

Macau's population saw only a slight increase last year, rising 0.1% to 688,900 at the end of 2025, according to the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). In 2025, youth aged 0-14 accounted for 11.7% (80,300) of the population, while those of working age, 15-64, made up 73.1%. The elderly, aged 65 and above, represented 15.3% [...] The post Population inches up as elderly share grows appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Customs seizes 138 kilograms of silver granules worth MOP3 million](#) (2026-03-17 00:52)

The Customs Service (SA) has conducted an operation to crack down on people transporting silver granules illegally across the border. According to an SA report, between March 6 and 12, the Customs intercepted 42 cases of suspected silver smuggling at the Border Gate and

Qingmao border crossings, seizing approximately 138 kilograms of silver with a [...] The post Customs seizes 138 kilograms of silver granules worth MOP3 million appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [AMCM warns about risks of mobile phone screen-sharing fraud](#) (2026-03-17 00:50)

Authorities have flagged a growing number of incidents in which residents are deceived through screen-sharing on their phones into transferring funds to unfamiliar accounts. These scams typically begin with an unsolicited call, during which fraudsters pose as legitimate entities to build trust before manipulating victims into granting remote access to their devices. According to the [...] The post AMCM warns about risks of mobile phone screen-sharing fraud appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [New medical association to tackle rising obesity](#) (2026-03-17 00:48)

A newly established medical association aims to curb the city's growing obesity problem, emphasizing advancing research, improving clinical practices, and promoting healthier lifestyles to prevent chronic diseases among residents. In the 2030 goals of the "Healthy Macau Blueprint," priority is given to the need to strengthen obesity prevention and management, as reports show that over [...] The post New medical association to tackle rising obesity appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Trump may delay China trip as he pressures Beijing for help with Strait of Hormuz](#) (2026-03-17 00:46)

President Donald Trump is suggesting he may delay his much-anticipated visit to China at the end of the month as he seeks to ramp up the pressure on Beijing to help reopen the Strait of Hormuz and calm oil prices that have soared during the Iran war. In an interview yesterday [Macau time] with the [...] The post Trump may delay China trip as he pressures Beijing for help with Strait of Hormuz appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [FAOM proposes labor law changes to boost maternity and annual leave](#) (2026-03-17 00:44)

The Federation of Trade Unions of Macau (FAOM) submitted its proposal Monday to amend the Labor Relations Law to better support worker protections and work-life balance. Following the proposal submission, Kelvin Choi Kam Fu, FAOM vice chairman, highlighted the federation's support for the government's plan to extend maternity leave to 90 days from the current [...] The post FAOM proposes labor law changes to boost maternity and annual leave appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Confidence in economy strengthened by 15th Five-Year Plan](#) (2026-03-17 00:42)

The Macau Economic Association's (ACEM) latest report on the region's economic sentiment index highlights that the 15th Five-Year Plan has bolstered confidence, projecting a stable local economy for the second quarter. The ACEM first reported that Macau's tourism and gaming sectors are showing promising signs of recovery, despite some uneven performance across the

industry. Official [...] The post Confidence in economy strengthened by 15th Five-Year Plan appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Police record surge in phone scams targeting residents](#) (2026-03-17 00:40)

The Judiciary Police (PJ) have reported nine cases of local residents falling victim to a scam impersonating Taobao customer service, resulting in combined losses of MOP1.11 million. Individual losses ranged from MOP20,000 to MOP600,000. According to PJ, the victims recently received calls or messages claiming that their “cross-border insurance plan” was about to expire. They [...] The post Police record surge in phone scams targeting residents appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Residential prices slightly dip](#) (2026-03-17 00:38)

Macau's residential property price index fell by 0.6% for November 2025 to January 2026, reaching 190.6, according to recent data from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC). This marks a reversal from the slight 0.1% uptick in the prior period, October–December 2025, when the index stood higher before the decline. The decline hit existing residential [...] The post Residential prices slightly dip appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Tuesday, March 17, 2026 – edition no. 4912](#) (2026-03-17 00:01)

\* National Express — Sam Hou Fai outlines project plans that will serve as ‘catalysts for industry growth’ as he signals Macau’s role in regional development \* Aging Trend | Elderly Population Hits 15% \* Cross-border | Customs seizes 138 kilograms of silver granules worth MOP3 million \* Authorities warn of rising scams in which [...] The post Tuesday, March 17, 2026 – edition no. 4912 appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [‘One Battle After Another’ triumphs at the Oscars, K-pop enters Hollywood](#) (2026-03-16 03:09)

LOS ANGELES – Paul Thomas Anderson’s “One Battle After Another” was crowned best picture at the 98th Academy Awards, handing Hollywood’s top honor to a comic, multi-generational American saga of political resistance. The ceremony Sunday, which also saw Michael B. Jordan win best actor and “Sinners” cinematographer Autumn Durald Arkapaw make Oscar history as the [...] The post ‘One Battle After Another’ triumphs at the Oscars, K-pop enters Hollywood appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Grassroots group claims job fairs have failed to improve employment situation](#) (2026-03-16 00:46)

Macau is currently grappling with local employment issues, cited as its most pressing social challenge, with claims that the numerous job fairs organized by authorities have had little impact on improving the employment situation, particularly as individuals with disabilities face increasing challenges in finding work. The local association Macau People Power recently submitted a letter [...] The post Grassroots group claims job fairs have failed to improve

employment situation appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Macanese became anglicized after early Hong Kong move, author says](#) (2026-03-16 00:44)

British author Mark O’ Neill reveals in his books that when Macanese people moved to Hong Kong for “more economic opportunities” in the early 1840s, they became anglicized and gradually lost the Portuguese language. The two books the author presented yesterday at a talk held at Casa Garden were titled “Europeans in Hong Kong” and “The [...] The post Macanese became anglicized after early Hong Kong move, author says appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [FAOM seminar backs annual leave boost for long-serving employees](#) (2026-03-16 00:42)

Participants in a seminar organized by the Macau Federation of Trade Unions (FAOM) voiced support to the labor bill that would include a mechanism to automatically grant workers additional annual leave days based on years of service. According to FAOM, participants debated and proposed granting workers one additional day of annual leave for each full [...] The post FAOM seminar backs annual leave boost for long-serving employees appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Asfaw and Ndinda dominate African charge at Macao International 10K](#) (2026-03-16 00:40)

African runners dominated the Macao International 10K event held yesterday morning. In the men’ s race, Ethiopian Akilu Gebremariam Asfaw crossed the finish line first after a final sprint with Kenya’ s Ezekiel Letaya. Asfaw completed the distance in 28 minutes and 47 seconds, just one second ahead of Letaya. Third place went to another Kenyan, Martin [...] The post Asfaw and Ndinda dominate African charge at Macao International 10K appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Macau told to capitalize on ‘once-in-a-generation’ opportunities in 15th Five-Year Plan](#) (2026-03-16 00:38)

The Liaison Office of the Central People’ s Government in Macau has called on the city to fully align with the national 15th Five-Year Plan, stressing that Macau stands at a once-in-a-generation crossroads to diversify its economy and deepen integration with mainland China. The Liaison Office held the briefing on the afternoon of March 13 to [...] The post Macau told to capitalize on ‘once-in-a-generation’ opportunities in 15th Five-Year Plan appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Calls for new community spending incentive emerge amid slow season](#) (2026-03-16 00:36)

Recent calls have emerged to launch another community spending incentive program aimed at boosting local consumption, with the restaurant industry reporting average sales increases of 20 to 30 percent during such campaigns. In a recent interview with public broadcaster TDM, the Macao Catering Industry Association highlighted that the period from this month through next month [...] The post Calls for new community spending incentive emerge amid slow season

appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [22 bids received for pedestrian flyover A3-Peninsula](#) (2026-03-16 00:34)

The Public Works Bureau (DSOP) has received a total of 22 bids for the public tender to construct the pedestrian flyover connecting Zone A of the new landfills (A3) to the Macau Peninsula. According to the DSOP, construction is scheduled to begin in the third quarter of this year. After the bid opening procedures held [...] The post 22 bids received for pedestrian flyover A3-Peninsula appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [No transition period established for e-cigarette possession ban](#) (2026-03-16 00:32)

The Health Bureau (SSM) has stated that Macau “can be considered” to have completed the three-year “transition period” for the certain ban on e-cigarettes, reaffirming that the recent amendment to the Tobacco Control Law does not include a transition period for the possession of e-cigarettes in public places. The Macau authorities have revised the Tobacco [...] The post No transition period established for e-cigarette possession ban appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [EASL Finals to hold quarterfinals at Tap Seac](#) (2026-03-16 00:30)

As previously announced, the East Asia Super League (EASL) Finals 2026 will take place in Macau from Wednesday, March 18, to Sunday, March 22. Although the venue for the semi-finals and finals had already been announced as the Studio City Event Center, it was still unclear where the quarterfinals would be held. Organizers have now [...] The post EASL Finals to hold quarterfinals at Tap Seac appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [History lessons say progress comes after turmoil](#) (2026-03-16 00:02)

We often tell ourselves this comforting story about how humanity’s progress happens gradually through diplomacy, cooperation, and stability. In this version of history, societies advance through thoughtful debate and peaceful reforms. On the other hand, the historical record reveals a much more disturbing truth. Most of the greatest advances in human progress have occurred not [...] The post History lessons say progress comes after turmoil appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.

- [Monay, March 16, 2026 – edition no. 4911](#) (2026-03-16 00:01)

\*Hiring Barriers — Job fairs fail to ease employment woes as people with disabilities hit hardest, group says \* The Script Road | Macanese anglicized after early move to Hong Kong, author finds \* Labor | FAOM backs annual leave boost for long-serving employees \* Ethiopian runner Akilu Asfaw narrowly won the International 10K, finishing [...] The post Monay, March 16, 2026 – edition no. 4911 appeared first on MACAU DAILY TIMES 澳門每日時報.