



CHINA SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT

AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment

Analysis Period: May 25, 2026 - June 01, 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.

Comprehensive Security Analysis Report: China (May 25, 2026 - June 01, 2026)

Executive Summary

During the period of May 25 to June 01, 2026, China demonstrated a multifaceted security posture characterized by assertive maritime actions, robust diplomatic engagements, and continued military modernization. Key developments included China's Coast Guard conducting "law enforcement" patrols east of Taiwan in response to Japan-Philippines maritime talks, escalating tensions in the region. Diplomatically, Beijing strengthened ties with "ironclad friends" Serbia and Pakistan, while navigating complex relations with the United States following a recent presidential summit. Concurrently, China implemented new cybersecurity regulations and continued to develop its nuclear infrastructure, signaling a focus on both internal security and strategic deterrence.

Key Security Developments

- Diplomatic Engagements with Serbia and Pakistan

On May 25, 2026, Chinese President Xi Jinping hosted Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic and Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Beijing. President Xi awarded Vucic China's Friendship Medal, marking a "strategic and historic leap forward" as Serbia became the first European nation to establish a "community with a shared future in the new era" with China. Prime Minister Sharif, accompanied by Pakistan's army chief, briefed Xi on Pakistan's mediation efforts in the US-Iran conflict, underscoring China's strategic interest in Middle Eastern energy stability and its leveraging of the Pakistan alliance. These engagements highlight China's strategy to bolster alliances and project itself as a global stabilizer.

- US-China Relations Post-Summit and Shangri-La Dialogue

Following the Trump-Xi summit in mid-May, efforts are underway to implement preliminary outcomes of economic and trade consultations, including the establishment of a China-US Trade Council and discussions on tariff reductions. However, at the Shangri-La Dialogue on May 30, US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth acknowledged improved US-China relations but also expressed "rightful alarm" over

China's military activities. Notably, China did not send its defense minister to the summit for the second consecutive year, instead dispatching a lower-level delegation, which was seen as a missed opportunity to de-escalate tensions.

- Quad Initiatives and China's Response

On May 26, 2026, the Quad group (Australia, India, Japan, and the United States) announced new initiatives focused on maritime security, port infrastructure, and energy cooperation in the Indo-Pacific. These initiatives are explicitly aimed at countering China's growing influence in the region. In response, China's Foreign Ministry stated that such cooperation should promote regional peace and stability and not target third parties, rejecting "exclusive small groupings or bloc confrontation."

- Maritime Patrols East of Taiwan

On June 1, 2026, China's Coast Guard conducted "law enforcement" patrols in waters east of Taiwan. This action was a direct response to Japan and the Philippines' announcement of plans to initiate maritime boundary delimitation talks in areas China claims as its territory. Taiwan condemned the move, reporting that it tracked two Chinese ships southeast of the island that did not enter restricted waters.

- Persistent Taiwan Strait Activity

Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense reported near-daily tracking of Chinese naval vessels and official ships around the island. Between May 31 and June 1, Taiwan tracked 11 Chinese ships (seven naval vessels and four official ships). Throughout May, the ministry tracked Chinese military aircraft 274 times and ships 255 times, indicating a sustained use of "gray zone tactics" to assert claims and pressure Taiwan.

- South China Sea Tensions and PLA Drills

The South China Sea remained a flashpoint, with reports on May 29, 2026, indicating that China Coast Guard vessels turned away Filipino fishing boats near Scarborough Shoal. The People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) also conducted live-fire drills east of Luzon. Manila rejected Chinese military claims of coordinated combat drills at Scarborough Shoal, which China justified as a "countermeasure" against ongoing joint US-Philippines military exercises.

- New Cybersecurity Regulations and Trade Secret Protections

Effective June 1, 2026, China's State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) implemented new rules for the protection of trade secrets, explicitly extending coverage to data and algorithms. These provisions also detail technical confidentiality measures for remote work and cross-border collaboration and define "improper means" of trade secret infringement in digital contexts. This follows earlier amendments to China's Cybersecurity Law, effective January 1, 2026, which increased penalties for cybersecurity violations and clarified incident reporting obligations.

- China-Aligned Cyber Espionage Campaigns

Cybersecurity researchers disclosed details of new China-aligned espionage campaigns, codenamed GLITTER CARP and SEQUIN CARP. These campaigns, detected since April and June 2025, have targeted Asian governments, a NATO state, journalists, and activists, employing "well-thought-out digital impersonation schemes" in phishing emails.

- Rare Earth Export Ban Against Japan

On May 25, China officially confirmed a ban on exporting dual-use items and specific heavy rare earths to Japanese military end-users. Beijing stated this measure is intended to contain Japan's "remilitarization," following Japanese Prime Minister Sai Teahi's remarks linking Japan's security to Taiwan and Japan's broader military expansion efforts.

- PLAN Vessel Activity Near Japanese Islands

On May 22, 2026, the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) observed a PLAN Jiangkai-II-class FFG (hull number 599) and a Yushen-class LHA (hull number 33) sailing southeastward approximately 110 km southwest of Kume-jima Island. These vessels then proceeded through the waters between Okinawa Main Island and Miyako-jima Island into the Pacific Ocean.

- Nuclear Missile Silo Development

Satellite images reviewed by Reuters on May 30, 2026, revealed that China is constructing a sprawling network of launchpads, bunkers, and communications nodes near its isolated nuclear silos in a remote Chinese desert. This extensive infrastructure appears designed to enhance China's second-strike capabilities and ensure its ability to retaliate against a potential first strike.

Geopolitical Impact and Regional Dynamics

China's security developments during this period underscore its assertive pursuit of national interests and its growing influence in shaping a multipolar world order. The high-level diplomatic engagements with Serbia and Pakistan on May 25 reinforce China's "ironclad friendships" and its narrative as a "global stabilizer" amidst international uncertainty. This strategy aims to build a "community with a shared future for humanity" and subtly counter Western influence, particularly in Europe and the Middle East, by offering an alternative model of international cooperation.

Tensions in the Taiwan Strait and South China Sea continue to escalate, driven by China's increasingly assertive maritime claims and military activities. The recent "law enforcement" patrols by China's Coast Guard east of Taiwan on June 1, in direct response to Japan-Philippines maritime delimitation talks, demonstrate Beijing's resolve to challenge perceived infringements on its sovereignty. This aggressive

stance further complicates regional stability, heightens the risk of miscalculation, and puts pressure on the existing security architecture in the Indo-Pacific. The persistent "gray zone tactics" around Taiwan, involving daily incursions by Chinese naval vessels and aircraft, aim to gradually alter the status quo without resorting to overt conflict.

US-China relations remain a complex blend of cooperation and competition. While the Trump-Xi summit in mid-May aimed for "strategic stability" and trade talks are progressing, underlying distrust persists, as evidenced by US Defense Secretary Hegseth's "rightful alarm" over China's military buildup. China's decision not to send its defense minister to the Shangri-La Dialogue for the second consecutive year signals a potential unwillingness to engage in direct military-to-military dialogue at the highest level, which could contribute to regional unease and increase the risk of miscommunication. Meanwhile, the Quad's new initiatives on maritime security and energy, explicitly aimed at countering China's influence, highlight the ongoing strategic competition and the formation of blocs in the Indo-Pacific.

China's growing influence in Southeast Asia, particularly through its expanding nuclear industry, and its rare earth export ban against Japan, underscore its use of economic and technological leverage to achieve geopolitical objectives. By offering financing and rapid deployment for nuclear energy projects, China seeks to shape future energy standards and geopolitical alignments in the region. The rare earth ban, framed as a response to Japan's "remilitarization," demonstrates China's willingness to use its control over critical resources as a tool of foreign policy, further pushing countries to align with China's vision of a multipolar world.

Military and Defense Analysis

China's military and defense posture during this period reflects a continued and rapid modernization drive, with a clear emphasis on enhancing strategic deterrence and projecting power in its near abroad. The satellite imagery revealing a sprawling network of launchpads, bunkers, and communications nodes near isolated nuclear silos in a remote Chinese desert indicates a significant investment in strengthening its second-strike capabilities. This development aims to ensure the survivability of its nuclear arsenal, thereby bolstering its strategic deterrence against potential adversaries, particularly the United States.

The frequent deployment of naval vessels and aircraft around Taiwan and in the South China Sea underscores the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) increasing operational tempo and its growing capability to conduct sustained operations in disputed maritime zones. Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense's daily tracking of Chinese military and official ships, including 11 vessels on June 1, highlights the persistent pressure exerted on Taiwan's defenses. These "gray zone tactics" are designed to

incrementally assert sovereignty and alter the status quo without triggering a direct military conflict. The PLAN's live-fire drills east of Luzon and the transit of vessels near Japanese islands further demonstrate its expanding reach and readiness for operations beyond its immediate coastal waters.

According to Japanese Defense Minister Shinjiro Koizumi, China's defense spending continues to increase at a high level, and its military capabilities are expanding across a wide range of areas without sufficient transparency. This lack of transparency fuels regional concerns and contributes to an arms race dynamic in the Indo-Pacific, as neighboring countries and major powers respond to China's growing military might. The development of its nuclear industry as a geopolitical tool, offering financing and expertise for nuclear energy projects in Southeast Asia, also has dual-use implications, potentially enhancing its technological base relevant to military applications and extending its strategic influence.

Outlook and Forecast

Short-term trends (1-3 months): Tensions in the Taiwan Strait and South China Sea are highly likely to remain elevated, with continued Chinese maritime and air presence. China's Coast Guard and naval vessels will probably maintain a high operational tempo in disputed waters, particularly in response to perceived challenges to its sovereignty. Diplomatic exchanges between China and its "ironclad friends" like Serbia and Pakistan will likely continue to be prioritized, reinforcing Beijing's alternative global order narrative. Relations with the US, Japan, and the Philippines will remain competitive, characterized by both efforts to manage friction and continued strategic rivalry. Cybersecurity threats from China-aligned groups are expected to persist, targeting critical infrastructure, governments, and civil society organizations in Asia and beyond.

Critical flashpoints and risk areas: The Taiwan Strait remains the most critical flashpoint, with China's increased patrols and Taiwan's defensive posture creating a heightened risk of accidental escalation. The South China Sea, particularly around Scarborough Shoal and areas where Japan and the Philippines seek maritime delimitation, will continue to be a high-risk area for confrontations between Chinese and other claimant nations' vessels. The East China Sea, with ongoing PLAN vessel movements near Japanese islands such as Kume-jima Island and Miyako-jima Island, also presents potential for incidents. The remote Chinese desert regions where nuclear missile silos are being developed represent a strategic flashpoint in the long term, indicating a shift in China's nuclear posture that will be closely monitored by global powers.

Indicators to monitor: Key indicators to monitor include the frequency and scale of Chinese military and coast guard activities around Taiwan and in the South China Sea, as any significant increase could signal a more aggressive posture. Progress or breakdown in US-China trade and strategic stability talks will be crucial for assessing the overall bilateral relationship. Further diplomatic engagements by China with Global South nations and European partners will indicate the success of its alternative foreign policy. Developments in Japan-Philippines maritime delimitation talks and China's reactions will be important for regional maritime security. Reports of significant cybersecurity incidents attributed to China-aligned actors will highlight ongoing espionage and potential for disruptive attacks. Finally, any changes in the transparency (or lack thereof) in China's defense spending and military modernization programs will be closely watched by international security analysts.

Strategic recommendations: Regional powers should continue to strengthen their defense capabilities and enhance interoperability through joint exercises and information sharing to deter aggressive actions in disputed territories. Maintaining open and reliable lines of communication with China, particularly military-to-military channels, is paramount to prevent miscalculation and de-escalate potential conflicts. International cooperation on maritime domain awareness and strict adherence to international law in the South China Sea should be emphasized to uphold a rules-based order. Governments and private sectors must bolster cybersecurity defenses and intelligence sharing to counter sophisticated state-sponsored threats effectively. Lastly, diversifying supply chains for critical minerals and technologies is essential to reduce reliance on China and mitigate the impact of potential export restrictions, as demonstrated by the recent rare earth ban against Japan.

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ANNEX: COLLECTED ARTICLES BY SOURCE

Source: BBC China

- [Secret tunnels and unregistered workers: China's coal mine disaster is a reminder of darker days](#) (2026-05-31 23:32)

China's worst coal mining disaster in 15 years comes amid an ambitious pivot towards green energy.

- [Japan defence minister denies militarism and criticises China's 'huge arsenal'](#) (2026-05-31 06:34)

Shinjiro Koizumi makes some of Tokyo's most pointed remarks yet in the dispute over Japan's military build-up.

- [Ex-head monk of China's 'kung fu temple' jailed for embezzlement](#) (2026-05-29 15:23)

Shi Yongxin is sentenced to 24 years in prison for embezzlement and bribery.

- [How did this novel about food win a Booker Prize this year?](#) (2026-05-28 22:48)

Taiwan Travelogue is the first novel translated from Mandarin Chinese to win the prestigious award.

- [The world's carmakers are struggling to compete with China](#) (2026-05-27 22:00)

The BBC visited China's EV factories and found they are dominating the ecosystems shaping the global auto industry.

- [South Korea detains dissident who fled China in rubber boat](#) (2026-05-27 11:12)

Dong Guangping, an activist and former police officer, spent hours at sea before reaching Korean waters.

- [China executes man for murdering prominent gaming tycoon](#) (2026-05-26 08:55)

The court said the man poisoned the tycoon for sidelining him after he helped secure a deal with Netflix for the 3 Body Problem.

- [Anger grows after China's deadliest coal mining disaster in years](#) (2026-05-25 08:00)

On China's tightly-controlled internet, people are calling for justice and questioning how this happened.

Source: China Defense Blog

- [Confirmation, J-15DT and J-35 are now capable of operating on CV16 Liaoning aircraft carrier's sky jump.](#) (2026-05-31 21:03)

Well, it's official: Both the J-15DT and the J-35 have now been spotted operating off the CV-16 Liaoning using the carrier's classic ski-jump ramp. See photos and www.globaltimes.cn article below.

- [Are We Looking at the Next Generation PLA Heavy Tank?](#) (2026-05-30 20:27)

Seven Road Wheels Say "Maybe" The Chinese Internet™ is buzzing again — this time over a blurry chassis shot that might show the long-rumored next-generation PLA heavy tank, sporting the one feature that instantly gets every armor nerd's attention: Seven. Road. Wheels. Why does that matter? Because in PLA land, seven wheels = heavy, and heavy usually means >50 tons, a bigger engine, and a

- [Just Photos: CS/LS7 QCQ-171 9×19mm Parabellum Ammunitions of the HongKong Police](#) (2026-05-30 03:58)

Friday, February 14, 2025 A collection of QCQ171 photos, the new Chinese 9× submachine gun (SMG), a replacement of Type 79 And a new 30 round magazine Sunday, December 13, 2020 CS/LS7 9×19mm parabellum submachine gun in service with the Xinjiang PAP Details on the CS/LS7 9×19mm (here), more evidence suggesting China is moving

- [No Surprise PLAN News of the Day: GJ-21 Mock-Up Spotted on Type 076](#) (2026-05-29 03:41)

A GJ-21 naval UCAV mock-up has once again been photographed on the deck of the Type 076 amphibious assault ship. Anyone who has followed this program shouldn't be shocked — this is exactly what the ship was built for. From the outset, the Type 076 was designed as a hybrid drone carrier / amphibious assault ship, centered around one defining capability: An electromagnetic aircraft launch system (

- [Insufficient Firepower Phobia \(IFP\) Of The Day: Civilian Policing with 35mm grenade launcher and 120mm anti-tank rocket](#) (2026-05-28 04:09)

First up, a fire support platoon from the PAP's First Mobile Corps with their QLZ201 35 mm automatic grenade launchers. To date, this lightweight 35 mm AGL has only shown up in police units. Great for riot control, right? That's one way to put it. Next on deck: the Sichuan PAP Civilian Corps, this set of PR photos shows the PF-98 rocket launcher, QBU-201 anti-materiel rifle, QBJ

- [This blows: Type GBP113A, PLA's Rigid Flexible Combination Bangalore Torpedo](#) (2026-05-26 04:06)

The PLA's engineering troops have always been unapologetically in love with explosives. Satchel charges? Still there. Dynamite bricks? Absolutely. And of course, the immortal Bangalore torpedo, which refuses to die no matter how many decades pass or how many glossy brochures promise “next generation breaching solutions.” Why? Because the PLA loves tools that are cheap, modular, and reliable.

- [China's WIG/GEV/Ekranoplan Program: A Few Updates](#) (2026-05-25 03:04)

Back in June 2025, Naval News (link) ran a story titled: “China Builds New Large Jet Powered Ekranoplan” Well, about that “jet powered” part, turns out the four engines perched above the wing are turboprops, not jets. The photos now circulating below make that pretty unambiguous that it is not a Chinese “Caspian Sea Monster” This “civilian” program is nominally tied to the China Coast Guard,

Source: China | The Guardian

- [The Guardian view on the splinternet: where China led, Iran and others are eagerly following | Editorial](#) (2026-05-31 16:29)

Authoritarian states are increasingly shutting off or throttling access to the internet, creating separate spheres in a realm built on connection. China boasts of having the world's largest population of internet users: 1.125 billion by the end of 2025, according to official figures. But as one joke has it, the Great Firewall – blocking not only politically sensitive material but also global tech firms such as Google and Meta – has produced what looks more like the world's largest intranet. Beijing is not an anomaly, but a pioneer. Its extraordinary investment in the apparatus of “cyber sovereignty” – others would call it censorship and repression – is guiding other authoritarian countries. A realm defined by connection is fragmenting not just from commercial greed and filter bubbles but due to state fiat, birthing the splinternet. Continue reading...

- [Japan defence minister rebuffs claims of ‘new militarism’ levelled by China](#) (2026-05-31 05:02)

Shinjiro Koizumi says Japan valued as a ‘peace-loving’ nation while China expands military capabilities ‘without sufficient transparency’ Japan's defence minister took a veiled swipe at China on Sunday, pledging to keep strengthening the military despite Beijing's criticism of Tokyo's increasingly muscular security stance. Under the prime minister, Sanae Takaichi, Japan has quickened its pivot to a more proactive defence policy, further shaking off – with US encouragement – its pacifist outlook in place since the end of the second world war. Continue reading...

- [When will the EU punch its weight in a perilous world? That's the question countries eager to join should be asking | Simon Tisdall](#) (2026-05-31 05:00)

Twin threats from east and west have clearly made the bloc more appealing – but its rule-bound institutions need urgent attention. Giant butter mountains, wine lakes and an apocryphal EU ban on bendy bananas formed the mythological backdrop to Britain's 2016 Brexit referendum debacle. Yet while many Vote Leave claims were exaggerated, inaccurate or blatantly untrue, the EU's capacity for laying itself open to ridicule is undiminished 10 years on. Take the strange case of the whingeing EU commissioners, annoyed that their officially provided electric vehicles cannot manage the time-consuming 280-mile journey between Brussels and Strasbourg without stopping to recharge. This important issue, first reported by Politico, raises vital questions. Do these highly paid bureaucrats really need chauffeur-driven “company cars”? Surely they could catch a train, or fly, or cycle. EV use is mandatory for road trips. The vehicles are supplied in line with the EU's Green Deal emissions-cutting policy, which commissioners might be expected to support, not carp about. So why is the commission president, Ursula von der Leyen, allowed a petrol engine? The biggest question of all is why make these tedious Brussels-Strasbourg journeys in the first place? Simon Tisdall is a Guardian foreign affairs commentator. Continue reading...

- [New Aukus drone subs to protect critical undersea cables as Marles warns: 'seabed is a battlefield'](#) (2026-05-30 22:10)

Minister at Singapore defence summit also reveals Australia to buy only secondhand Aukus submarines from US. Follow our Australia news live blog for latest updates. Get our breaking news email, free app or daily news podcast. The defence minister, Richard Marles, has said the “seabed is a battlefield” in a combative speech urging Beijing to be more transparent about its maritime operations, and taking aim at weak international controls over so-called “shadow-fleet” vessels. The warning came as the US, UK and Australia announced a new Aukus project to develop new underwater drone technology to protect undersea cables. Continue reading...

- [Chinese dissident says he was berated by 'pro-regime' interpreter for UK police](#) (2026-05-30 09:00)

Hong Qi, who orchestrated protest against Communist government, claims interpreter on 101 call launched political tirade. A Chinese dissident who orchestrated an anti-government protest in China after fleeing to the UK has claimed that a “pro-regime” interpreter used by a British police force berated him when he sought help. Hong Qi, who made headlines last year after using a mobile phone while in the UK to remotely project anti-regime slogans on to a building in his home city, Chongqing, contacted police after discovering that his bank accounts had been frozen. Continue reading...

- [US 'more than capable' of resuming war against Iran, Pete Hegseth says](#) (2026-05-30 05:58)

Pentagon chief also tells Singapore defence summit of ‘alarm’ at China’s military buildup but says US does not seek ‘needless confrontation’ The US warned on Saturday it was “more than capable” of resuming war with Iran after President Donald Trump said any peace deal must adhere to his red lines, including Tehran never being able to develop nuclear weapons. The White House had signalled Trump was close to a decision on an initial deal on Friday after weeks of mixed signals in tenuous negotiations, though Tehran denied there was a final agreement on ending the Middle East conflict that has jolted the global economy. Continue reading...

- [Asian mothers, bad feelings: notes on an all-conquering stereotype – podcast](#) (2026-05-29 04:00)

A certain image of the tiger mom – strict, cold and demanding – is ubiquitous in popular culture. Why? By Rebecca Liu. Read by Ginnia Cheng Continue reading...

- [EU to discuss potential restrictions on Chinese imports amid fears of overreliance](#) (2026-05-28 16:29)

Concerns among commissioners in bloc that surge in imports could lead to decline similar to that of US rust belt towns EU commissioners will meet on Friday for crunch talks aimed at imposing new restrictions on imports from China amid growing concern that Beijing is fuelling conditions for US-style rust belt towns in Europe. The surge in imports of everything from electric cars to key components in machines, medical devices and foodstuffs has been dubbed China Shock 2.0, potentially mirroring the experience in the US 25 years ago when Beijing joined the World Trade Organization. Continue reading...

- [EU fines Temu for failing to stop sale of illegal and dangerous products](#) (2026-05-28 12:27)

European Commission finds shoppers on Chinese website very likely to find unsafe items and imposes €200m penalty EU regulators have fined the Chinese shopping website Temu €200m (£173m) for failing to stop the sale of illegal and dangerous products. The European Commission imposed the penalty after a 19-month investigation that found consumers were very likely to encounter illegal or unsafe products including baby toys and electronics on the firm’s website. Continue reading...

- [Greener pasture of a shepherd’s life lures Chinese workers penned in by ‘996’ jobs](#) (2026-05-28 05:19)

When an Inner Mongolia farmer sought two herders to tend his 3,000 sheep, he was swamped with applicants including graduates, factory labourers and white-collar workers A Chinese farm owner’s recruitment drive for shepherds has ended in success after his job advert seeking people to work on his Inner Mongolia ranch went viral, drawing the attention of city dwellers struggling to find work and highlighting growing strains in China’s labour market. Zuo Xiaoyong posted an advert on Chinese social media in late April seeking two shepherds, preferably a couple, to take 3,000 sheep out to graze on a 2,000ha pasture in the summer. The shepherds

would also undertake indoor feeding and cleaning during the winter when temperatures can drop below -30C at his ranch roughly 300km from Xilinhot city, near the Mongolian border. Continue reading...

- [Weatherwatch: Chinese farmers hope for rain at time of ‘small fullness’](#) (2026-05-28 05:00)

In May, farmers in China look for heavy downpours to fill the rice paddies so that they stay wet throughout summer. The Chinese solar term xiaoman, alternatively translated as “small fullness” or “grain buds”, corresponds with the last two weeks of May. In northern China, the name traditionally refers to growing wheat grains; in southern China, to the fullness of rivers with rainwater. Xiaoman weather is generally warm and sultry, and traditional menus feature bitter herbs and cucumber, thought to counteract the heat. Continue reading...

- [Are robots nearing their ChatGPT moment? – podcast](#) (2026-05-28 04:00)

Last month at Beijing’s half marathon, a robot named Lightning beat the human world record by nearly seven minutes. It’s the latest in a string of AI-powered milestones that have got people wondering whether robots are about to enter our everyday lives, just as chatbots have. And the country leading the charge is China, where the government has pledged to invest more than £100bn in robotics over the next 20 years. To find out how robots are already entering the workforce, and what needs to happen to get them cleaning our homes and weeding our gardens, Ian Sample hears from the Guardian’s senior China correspondent, Amy Hawkins, and from Nathan Lepora, professor of robotics and AI at Bristol University, who researches how robots can achieve human-like dexterity. Clips: Global News, BBC, CGTN Continue reading...

- [Key questions over Mandelson vetting: did ‘mitigations’ cover links to China and Russia?](#) (2026-05-27 17:40)

Why was his case said to be ‘borderline’, and was national security compromised during his time as ambassador? Revealed: Mandelson vetting warned of ties to senior figures in China, Russia and Israel. Ever since the Guardian revealed last month that Peter Mandelson was given security clearance against the advice of the UK government’s vetting agency, one question has dominated in Westminster. What were the concerns that led United Kingdom Security Vetting (UKSV) to tell the Foreign Office that his clearance should be denied in late January 2025, weeks before he was due to take up his post as ambassador to Washington? Continue reading...

- [Dissident detained in South Korea after fleeing China in rubber boat](#) (2026-05-27 09:37)

Dong Guangping has tried to escape on several previous occasions after being jailed for his activism in China. A Chinese dissident has washed up on the shores of South Korea after attempting to flee China in a rubber boat. Dong Guangping, 68, is in custody in South Korea, having been detained by the coastguard on Monday evening. He is thought to have travelled more than 30 hours by sea to reach the shores of China’s democratic neighbour. Continue reading...

- [‘Makes no sense’ : experts doubt pause in US arms sale to Taiwan is due to Iran war](#) (2026-05-27 01:24)

While approval is due soon for \$14bn deal, actual deliveries to Taiwan are years away – making ‘Operation Epic Fury’ in the Gulf an unlikely cause. The Trump administration’s war against Iran should have no impact on arms sales to Taiwan, experts have said, after a US official suggested a pause in the delivery of a key weapons package was due to the Gulf conflict. Analysts told the Guardian that a \$14bn arms package left in limbo after Donald Trump’s meeting with Xi Jinping could take up to six years to process, and there was a “low likelihood” of any true connection between events in Iran and weapons delivery to Taiwan. Continue reading...

- [Russia is targeting UK’s infrastructure and democracy, GCHQ head to say](#) (2026-05-26 23:02)

Anne Keast-Butler will also warn of narrowing window to stay ahead of China in ‘new era of radical uncertainty’ as Russia relentlessly targets Britain’s infrastructure and democracy while there is only a narrowing technological window to stay ahead of a fast-developing China, the head of the spy agency GCHQ will warn in a lecture on Wednesday. Anne Keast-Butler, giving an inaugural annual lecture, will say that the UK is caught in a “new era of radical uncertainty” and that “the risk of miscalculation” is as high as she has ever seen it as hacker attacks from the two states continue. Continue reading...

- [Revealed: the internal BHP memo that slammed the brakes on world’s biggest miner’s climate push](#) (2026-05-25 10:30)

Exclusive: BHP once dubbed climate change an ‘existential’ threat. But leaked documents show it has backtracked on decarbonisation at a vast network of mines. Read more from the BHP files investigation here. In the middle of 2019, London was sweltering through a heatwave. Temperature records tumbled. Frail, ill and elderly people died in their hundreds. Continue reading...

- [BHP quietly scrapped plan to build Pilbara plant that would have drastically cut emissions](#) (2026-05-25 10:30)

Exclusive: Jimblebar processing facility would have produced higher quality iron ore sought by steelmakers around the world – themselves under pressure to curb pollution. World’s biggest miner BHP backtracks on climate action with key projects put on ice, leaked documents reveal. Read more from the BHP files investigation here. Get our breaking news email, free app or daily news podcast. BHP quietly dumped plans for an iron ore processing facility that would have cut emissions drastically, despite internally rating it as having “excellent social value” and being “well-aligned” to its shareholder-endorsed climate plan and decarbonisation targets. In 2025 the mining giant was well advanced in its plans to build a beneficiation plant near its Jimblebar open-cut mine in the Pilbara, which would greatly improve the purity and quality of its iron ore. Continue reading...

Source: China - Foreign Policy

- [Trump Is Treating Taiwan Like Collateral](#) (2026-05-26 21:50)

The pause of a \$14 billion arms package raises concerns about U.S. support for Taipei.

Source: Financial Times China

- [Global asset managers capture just 0.1% of Chinese market in 5 years](#) (2026-06-01 04:00)

Foreign firms that launched their own businesses after Beijing relaxed ownership rules have attracted only \$5bn

- [Europe is running from a phantom China threat](#) (2026-06-01 04:00)

EU leaders fear cheap Chinese exports when they should be worrying about embedded spyware and rare earths dependency

- [Xi' s last frontier: China' s plan to transform its west](#) (2026-06-01 04:00)

A vast development drive aims to tap the region' s economic potential and extend Beijing' s control

- [FirstFT: Japan' s defence minister calls for talks with Beijing to resolve row](#) (2026-05-31 21:39)

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After 50 years of falling capital, labour and energy prices, the next half-century will look very different for America

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Global pharmaceutical companies are increasingly looking to China as patents on best-selling medicines expire

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Market Questions is the FT' s guide to the week ahead

- [China' s comparative advantage is industrial policy](#) (2026-05-31 11:00)

Western attempts to imitate Beijing' s state-funded model are unwise

- [Japan' s Koizumi rejects China accusations of 'new militarism'](#) (2026-05-31 06:02)

Shinjiro Koizumi says Tokyo is pursuing security co-operation across Asia-Pacific region

- [Sandoz warns cheap Chinese imports threaten Europe' s antibiotic supply](#) (2026-05-31 04:00)

Continent risks losing critical medicine capacity without stronger protections, says chief executive

- [China' s activewear boom puts spring in foreign brands' step](#) (2026-05-31 04:00)

Rapha and Lululemon among groups riding wave of interest in wellbeing

- [EU frets as China builds an industrial base in Morocco](#) (2026-05-31 04:00)

Billions of dollars of investment raise concerns that subsidised goods could swamp European manufacturers

- [Hegseth says US-China ties are 'better than in years'](#) (2026-05-30 04:47)

Pentagon chief still presses allies to boost defence spending to counter 'military build-up' by Beijing

- [China' s coal heartlands reel from worst disaster in a decade](#) (2026-05-30 01:42)

Deaths of 82 miners recall era of accidents many hoped was in the past

- [Durex sales hit by China' s condom crackdown](#) (2026-05-29 20:00)

Wide-ranging measures to boost the country' s birth rate are denting demand for China' s leading contraceptive brand

- [Magyar pushes for breakthrough to secure frozen EU funds](#) (2026-05-29 05:00)

Also in this newsletter: US tech group IBM steps up lobbying efforts

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The campaign of repression against the Uyghurs has entered a new phase

- [How to win a trade war, with Paul Krugman and Chad Bown](#) (2026-05-29 04:00)

Policy pointers for a world where the rules don' t apply

- [UK and European passports linked to restricted Chinese investors](#) (2026-05-28 23:01)

Critics raise concerns around critical national infrastructure and potential counterfeiting

- [Payments group accused of being 'Chinese backdoor' moves staff out of China](#) (2026-05-28 06:42)

Australia-founded Airwallex is pursuing US expansion amid intensifying rivalry between Washington and Beijing

- [EU to broaden import quotas and tariffs against China](#) (2026-05-28 04:00)

Trade defences needed to combat ‘existential’ threat to key sectors, industry commissioner Stéphane Séjourné says

- [Why Europe must embrace tariffs](#) (2026-05-28 04:00)

Sorry folks, the rules aren’t coming to save you

- [Nvidia chief Jensen Huang to join board at prestigious Beijing university](#) (2026-05-28 00:15)

Chipmaker boss’ s move to join Tim Cook-chaired board underlines push to maintain ties with China

- [‘China-maxxing’ helps spur an inbound tourism boom](#) (2026-05-27 23:01)

Beijing has found an economic win by drawing more international visitors to the country

- [The world comes to Xi](#) (2026-05-27 21:00)

Foreign officials have flocked to China’ s leader this year, boosting Beijing’ s efforts to portray itself as a pillar of stability

- [Hong Kong overtakes Switzerland as hub for global offshore wealth](#) (2026-05-27 04:00)

Chinese territory enjoys surge of investment from mainland as wealthy spread assets across different jurisdictions

- [China overhauls world’ s biggest surveillance network with advanced AI](#) (2026-05-27 04:00)

Local police forces are modernising the country’ s ageing infrastructure with more powerful tracking systems

- [The world’ s biggest EV maker weans itself off supply-chain finance](#) (2026-05-27 01:44)

Borrowings soar as BYD bows to Beijing’ s pressure on treatment of component suppliers

- [ByteDance offers AI team special stock to fend off poaching](#) (2026-05-26 08:25)

TikTok owner issues shares tied to AI business unit as China’ s tech talent war heats up

- [Why major EU capitals are speaking out on Chinese trade retaliation](#) (2026-05-26 05:00)

Also in this newsletter: Brussels moves to make some satellite spectrum EU-only

- [China’ s change in maths on carbon emissions masks growth, report says](#) (2026-05-25 23:01)

Independent analysis suggests retrospective change to data indicating climate change progress

- [Jardines signals pivot with \\$2.4bn Australian radiology deal](#) (2026-05-25 04:29)

Acquisition of I-MED is Hong Kong-based conglomerate's first since strategic overhaul

Source: New York Times China

- [How an Act of Vandalism Helped a Dissident Find His Voice](#) (2026-06-01 04:01)

Li Ying, known as Teacher Li to his 2.2 million followers on X, doesn't live in China but still faces smear campaigns and death threats. He is not letting that stop him.

- [China Exports Surveillance](#) (2026-05-31 22:18)

The country has spent decades perfecting a surveillance state at home. Now it's promoting its ideology of state control, and the technology to enforce it, abroad.

- [The Museum of Wretched Ideas Has Reopened](#) (2026-05-31 11:00)

We seem to have forgotten more or less everything.

- [In Taiwan, 'Mainland Spouses' From China Become a Focus of Infiltration Fears](#) (2026-05-31 04:01)

A Chinese-born woman accused of infiltration has set off a debate over how Taiwan defends its democracy without profiling migrants from China.

- [China's Rise in Drug Development Looms Over U.S.](#) (2026-05-30 15:21)

Clinical trials in China are getting attention at an international oncology gathering in Chicago. China's surging biotechnology industry is fueling alarm that U.S. dominance in the field is waning.

- [After China Orders a Times Reporter to Leave the Country, the U.S. Reciprocates](#) (2026-05-29 15:53)

The Trump administration ejected a Chinese journalist amid fresh concerns about Beijing's growing pressure on foreign correspondents.

- [Europe is Edging Closer to a Trade War With China. Here's Why.](#) (2026-05-29 04:01)

As cheap goods pour in, threatening the continent's manufacturing sector, a search for solutions is becoming increasingly urgent.

- [Temu Hit With Fine in E.U. Over Sales of Unsafe Goods](#) (2026-05-28 11:11)

The Chinese e-commerce platform faces a penalty of more than \$230 million for selling baby toys and other products the European Commission said could harm consumers.

- [Why Pakistan and Afghanistan Are Still Fighting](#) (2026-05-28 05:33)

Months after Pakistan declared “open war” on Afghanistan, neither side appears ready to back down, despite China’s efforts to mediate.

- [What Plunging Pork Prices Say About China’s Economy](#) (2026-05-28 04:00)

A key measure of inflation in China, they hit a 16-year low, driven by anemic consumer spending and an oversupply of hogs.

- [Cease-Fires, but No Peace](#) (2026-05-27 21:05)

A truce isn’t necessarily doomed if the missiles are still flying. Here’s why.

- [War. Heat. Cigarettes.](#) (2026-05-27 10:54)

Updates on stories from around the world.

- [A Quiet Pacific Village Becomes China’s Security Testing Ground](#) (2026-05-27 09:14)

When a remote Pacific village asked for help with rowdy youth, the Chinese police arrived with a surveillance system. Then came the backlash.

- [Xi Jinping Quit Smoking. China Still Cannot.](#) (2026-05-27 04:00)

China’s tobacco monopoly has become so financially vital to the government that even its powerful leader has failed to curb the country’s smoking habit.

- [High-Level British Spy Warns of Expanding Russia Threat](#) (2026-05-26 23:01)

The director of Britain’s electronic surveillance agency warns that Russia is only getting more brazen as battlefield losses in Ukraine mount.

- [A Dissident Escapes China by Rubber Boat and Lands in South Korea](#) (2026-05-26 14:06)

Dong Guangping, 68, fled China at least three other times but was always sent back. His friends hope things might be different this time.

- [Are We Pandemic Ready?](#) (2026-05-25 21:21)

Hantavirus and Ebola are reminders that outbreaks are inevitable, and that the world must work together to contain them and prevent the next pandemic.

- [\\$140,000 E.V.s and Heritage Gold: The Rise of China’s Homegrown Luxury Market](#) (2026-05-25 04:01)

As China’s economy slows, consumers are increasingly turning to domestic luxury products, challenging the dominance of long-established European brands.

Source: South China Morning Post

- [China honour guards undergo rigorous training – precise marching, standing still for 3 hours](#) (2026-06-01 06:00)

The Chinese soldier who went viral for remaining completely still as the US presidential aircraft, Air Force One, taxied nearby during a recent visit to China by Donald Trump, has spoken about the rigours of his job. Liu Zhencheng, 23, who serves in the Beijing Armed Police Corps, was on duty when the US delegation touched down in Beijing. The armed police follow the rules of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), receive the same treatment as the PLA and obey the leadership of the Central Military...

- [Beijing demands Czech measures to curb impact of senate president's Taiwan trip](#) (2026-06-01 05:59)

Beijing has strongly condemned Czech Senate President Milos Vystrcil's visit to Taiwan this week, and demanded "immediate and effective" measures to curb the impact of his trip. Vystrcil, who is leading a delegation of some 40 representatives from Czech business, academic and cultural sectors, arrived in Taiwan on Monday morning. He is set to meet the island's leader, William Lai Ching-te, and other high-level officials before leaving on Thursday. It marks Vystrcil's second visit to the island...

- [Nvidia, Unitree and Sharpa unite to design humanoid robot that can perform 'real work'](#) (2026-06-01 05:30)

Nvidia has partnered with Chinese robotics champion Unitree Robotics and Singapore robotic hand maker Sharpa to release a new humanoid robot reference design to accelerate innovation in the global humanoid industry, the US chip giant's CEO, Jensen Huang, announced on Monday. The new design, called H2+ or Isaac GROOT, will support industry-wide humanoid robotics research by streamlining the full development workflow for developers, including data collection, policy training and real-world...

- [Fire kills 5 in South Korea after blast at defence giant Hanwha Aerospace's factory](#) (2026-06-01 04:57)

Five people have died and two others were injured in a fire at a factory operated by South Korea's Hanwha Aerospace in the city of Daejeon, authorities said on Monday. The two survivors, including one who was badly burned, had escaped from the facility themselves, a fire official told a briefing. "Authorities have yet to identify the victims because their bodies were severely damaged," a health official told the same briefing. A fire official said that an explosion had triggered the blaze,...

- [US says struck Iran military sites, Tehran responds by targeting base](#) (2026-06-01 04:48)

The US said it struck Iranian military sites at the weekend and Iran's Revolutionary Guards said on Monday it had targeted a US base in response, the latest in a series of exchanges amid

negotiations to end the three-month-old war. The strikes on Iran's Gulf coast were in response to "aggressive Iranian actions that included the shutdown of a US MQ-1 drone that was operating over international waters," the US Central Command said in a post on X. "US fighter aircraft swiftly responded by...

- [Chinese archaeologist pleads guilty, firms flee Singapore's costs: 5 weekend reads you missed](#) (2026-06-01 04:32)

We have put together stories from our coverage last weekend to help you stay informed about news across Asia and beyond. If you would like to see more of our reporting, please consider subscribing. 1. Chinese archaeologist who discovered 5,000-year-old city pleads guilty to corruption 2. Hong Kong body took action after teacher carried female student like bride 3. 'Clear-eyed' on China: the takeaways from Pete Hegseth's Shangri-La speech 4. Rising costs in Singapore spur business migration as...

- [Shangri-La Dialogue: what China, US and Japan said](#) (2026-06-01 04:11)

US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth praised stabilised ties with China at the recently concluded Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, as Chinese delegate Major General Meng Xiangqing warned against hegemonism and Japanese military expansion, while Japan's Defence Minister dismissed claims of a "new militarism". Read the full text of all three speeches below. Major General Meng Xiangqing: Remarks by Professor Meng Xiangqing, Head of the PLA Delegation of Experts and Scholars, National Defence U... by...

- [How has China's year-long law enforcement campaign changed local governance?](#) (2026-06-01 04:00)

Beijing has revealed the sweeping scale of a year-long campaign targeting irregular law enforcement against businesses as the country intensified its efforts to discipline local bureaucracies and improve governance. The Information Office of the State Council, China's cabinet, said in a press briefing on May 21 that the campaign uncovered more than 66,000 problematic administrative law enforcement cases and helped companies to recover 30.7 billion yuan (US\$4.5 billion). Authorities said more...

- [Anger as Malaysian state leader shoots Eid cow with shotgun](#) (2026-06-01 03:53)

A Malaysian state chief minister is under police investigation after a viral video showed him shooting a sacrificial cow with a shotgun at an Eid ul-Adha event, triggering public anger and questions over gun use, animal welfare and Islamic slaughter rules. Police in Perlis, a small northern state bordering Thailand, said they had seized the shotgun believed to have been used by Chief Minister Abu Bakar Hamzah at the korban (ritual sacrifice of livestock) ceremony in Kuala Perlis on...

- [Powell uses JFK award speech to defend Fed from political pressure](#) (2026-06-01 03:35)

Former US Federal Reserve chair Jerome Powell used one of his first major public appearances since leaving office to defend independent institutions while accepting an award Sunday honouring his efforts to preserve the central bank's independence. Speaking at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library, Powell called universities, courts, Congress and the central bank "the foundation and the embodiment of our democracy" and argued that the Fed's independence was a "priceless asset" that must be...

- [Hong Kong-born scientist King Li named founding dean of third medical school](#) (2026-06-01 02:54)

A Hong Kong-born physician-scientist, who founded a medical school in the US, has returned to the city to lead its third medical school, vowing to nurture future leaders of the "healthcare revolution". King Li King-chuen, dean emeritus of Carle Illinois College of Medicine (CI Med), on Monday assumed the role of dean of medicine at the University of Science and Technology. "Using technology and innovation to transform and revolutionise healthcare delivery is [crucial], and it's something I've...

- [China responds to Japan-Philippines boundary talks with expanded sea patrols](#) (2026-06-01 02:30)

Beijing has announced law enforcement patrols in waters east of Taiwan, in retaliation against Japan and the Philippines' decision to launch maritime boundary delimitation talks. According to a statement from China's coastguard, a formation led by its vessel Daishan conducted law enforcement patrols on Monday in waters east of Taiwan "in accordance with the law". "This is a necessary action taken in response to Japan and the Philippines' unilateral announcement of the launch of maritime boundary...

- [Malaysia bars under-16s from social media as new rules come into force](#) (2026-06-01 02:29)

Malaysia began enforcing age verification requirements for social media platforms on Monday, barring children under 16 from opening new accounts and requiring all existing users to confirm their identities using official government documents. The measures come into force under the Online Safety Act 2025 and are being implemented by the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) through two complementary frameworks: the Child Protection Code, which obliges platform providers to...

- [Jakarta deploys troops against muggers, stirring dark memories](#) (2026-06-01 02:00)

Jakarta residents have largely welcomed a new police-military campaign against violent street crime, after a wave of brazen motorbike muggings struck fear into Indonesia's capital. But rights advocates warn that deploying soldiers alongside police blurs a line between law enforcement and military power, reviving memories of extrajudicial killings in a country still haunted by its authoritarian past. On May 15, Jakarta police announced the formation of a special, 24-hour joint patrol task force...

- [Beyond Nvidia: how US export curbs are forcing China to redesign its AI chip industry](#) (2026-06-01 02:00)

Under the weight of sustained US export controls on advanced semiconductors, China's AI chipmakers are battling to forge a self-reliant silicon ecosystem capable of breaking Nvidia's stranglehold on the market. At the centre of this rivalry is a fundamental design debate: Should the country rely on the versatile graphics processing unit (GPU) or pivot to the highly specialised application-specific integrated circuit (ASIC)? The fight is no longer about finding a single Nvidia clone; it is about...

- [Australia catches Europe's right-wing populist wave](#) (2026-06-01 01:47)

Australia's populist One Nation party surged past the ruling Labor party to lead a nationwide opinion poll for the first time, highlighting voter disappointment with last month's budget and reinforcing signs of a fracturing of the conservative side of politics. One Nation's primary vote advanced 4 percentage points to 31 per cent from a previous poll conducted ahead of the May 12 budget, while the centre-left government slipped 3 points to 28 per cent, according to a Redbridge Group/Accent...

- [Who benefits from the 'significant improvement' in Hong Kong's finances?](#) (2026-06-01 01:30)

It's that time of the year again – tax season, so don't forget to fill out your return. It's also the time of the year when the Hong Kong government decides on pay rises for its civil service staff of over 170,000. There's a well-established system for deciding on pay rises. It includes the pay trend survey submitted to the government last week. Its preliminary results indicate that civil servants are in line for wage increases of 4.12 per cent for senior civil servants, 2.64 per cent for...

- [Parents begin wealth transfer plans when children are as young as four](#) (2026-06-01 01:30)

[The content of this article has been produced by our advertising partner.] Affluent parents in Hong Kong and mainland China have begun wealth transfer planning when their children are as young as four, according to a new survey by DBS Hong Kong. “DBS Treasures Affluent Family Survey 2026 – From Education to Inheritance: Planning for Children's Future”, which polled families in Hong Kong and mainland China, found that parents set aside an average of HK\$5mn in liquid assets for the next...

- [Hong Kong's John Lee on Central Asia mission to explore new markets, expand ties](#) (2026-06-01 01:00)

Hong Kong's leader begins an official visit to Central Asia on Monday with his largest delegation to date, aiming to explore new markets amid geopolitical uncertainties and help mainland Chinese companies “go global”. Sources said dozens of memorandums of understanding (MOUs) were expected to be signed by representatives from various sectors and

their counterparts in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan during the five-day visit. One of the deals under the spotlight will be between tungsten miner Jiaxin...

- [Why a fabled Chinese surgeon's tomb may help rewrite history of anaesthetic use](#)

(2026-06-01 01:00)

On October 16, 1846, the American dentist William T.G. Morton successfully demonstrated the use of inhaled ether anaesthesia at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, an event widely considered a turning point in modern surgery. But this record may have to be rewritten after new evidence emerged that in the 14th century AD, Chinese surgeons were making their own anaesthetics from plants. Their use had previously been recorded in ancient Chinese texts, but now the first physical evidence...

- [Japan Buddhist monk bar has heaven- and hell-inspired drinks, offers beating service](#)

(2026-06-01 01:00)

A Tokyo bar run by Buddhist monks has become an online sensation for its unusual blend of cocktails, chanting and death-themed rituals. At the Vowz Bar in the city's Shinjuku district, patrons can sip drinks inspired by heaven and hell, seek life advice from the monk staff and listen to sutras performed in a modern musical style. According to a Chinese visitor @kaolababyy, the menu features cocktails such as "Nirvana in the Pure Land", "Never Ending Suffering in Hell" and "Love and Hate leading...

- [Myanmar's China-backed mega dam revival risks Kachin rebel backlash](#)

(2026-06-01 00:00)

Deep in the forested highlands of northern Myanmar, where the Irrawaddy River rises from two tributaries in the hills of Kachin state, a contentious infrastructure project is stirring again – and threatening to reopen wounds that never fully healed. The Myitson Dam, a US\$3.6 billion Chinese-financed hydroelectric megaproject that was shelved more than a decade ago after igniting a storm of popular fury, is back on the table. Myanmar's military rulers have begun holding public consultations on...

- [Chinese EV makers shift focus from price wars to AI capability: Morgan Stanley](#)

(2026-05-31 23:00)

The focus of competition for Chinese electric vehicles (EVs) is shifting from prices to artificial intelligence capability, as carmakers try to manage weakening demand amid tightened regulations, according to Morgan Stanley. The push in AI would likely bring models with conditionally autonomous driving capability, or Level 3 (L3), to market, said Tim Hsiao, head of the Greater China auto and shared mobility research team at Morgan Stanley, in a recent interview with the South China Morning Post....

- [US takes step to halt Nvidia AI chip shipments to Chinese overseas subsidiaries](#)

(2026-05-31 21:46)

The US Department of Commerce on Sunday moved to close a year-old potential loophole it had created that may have led companies to export the world's most advanced chips – such as Nvidia's most sophisticated Rubin and Blackwell processors, as well as AMD's MI350x – to Chinese entities located outside China. The unexpected guidance suggests the United States' best artificial intelligence chips may have been making their way to the subsidiaries of Chinese AI firms based in places such as Malaysia...

- [On fire safety, Hong Kong needs a mindset change](#) (2026-05-31 21:30)

Hong Kong simply has not developed the right mindset with respect to fire safety. Unless prompt, effective action is taken, we could be looking at more tragedies like the Wang Fuk Court disaster in Tai Po. The numbers are stark and overwhelming, yet the context from which they have been derived is even more frightening. In January and February this year, the Fire Services Department inspected some 1,500 residential and mixed-use buildings planned at least 39 years ago. The exercise resulted in...

- [Syria's Sharaa holds phone call with Trump, Syrian presidency says](#) (2026-05-31 20:26)

Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa held a phone call with US President Donald Trump in which they discussed supporting the Syrian economy and the latest regional developments, the Syrian presidency said on Sunday. During the call, Sharaa said lifting the remaining US sanctions on Syria was essential to reviving the economy and attracting investments, according to the statement. The United States says some sanctions remain in place despite dismantling most of its Syria sanctions regime and...

- [Chinese bus driver charged in crash that killed 5 in Virginia, including family of 4](#) (2026-05-31 19:45)

A family of four from Massachusetts were killed when a bus crashed into multiple vehicles in Virginia as they were travelling to a wedding. The family wedding will go forward on Sunday in South Carolina but it also will be a time to mourn the loss of Dmitri and Ecaterina Doncev and their two children, Emily and Mark, a relative said Saturday. "A son, a father – the whole family – everyone that has been dear to us," Carolina Bublik said. The Doncevs were killed when a coach caused a...

- [Iran says does not trust US as Trump toughens terms](#) (2026-05-31 19:10)

Iran's chief negotiator warned on Sunday the United States was not to be trusted, saying Tehran would not agree to any deal with Washington unless it fully secured Iranian rights. Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf's remarks came as reports emerged that US President Donald Trump had sent a tougher peace proposal back to Iran, and underlined the rift that the parties still need to close. Any tweaks to the draft could further delay an agreement to formally end the Middle East war and reopen the Strait of...

- [French museum reports theft of banana from Italian artist' s multimillion-dollar work](#) (2026-05-31 18:36)

A museum in eastern France on Sunday reported to police the theft of a banana that forms a core part of a multimillion-dollar artwork by Italian visual artist Maurizio Cattelan. The missing fruit – which was taped to a wall to form the provocative work by Cattelan called “Comedian” – was noticed by a guard on Saturday to have gone missing. An iteration of the artwork was bought by Chinese-born cryptocurrency founder Justin Sun in 2024. He forked out US\$6.2 million for the work, then days later...

- [Italy bans Kanye West concert over security concerns](#) (2026-05-31 17:36)

A concert by the US rapper Kanye West, who was supposed to perform on July 18 in Reggio Emilia in northern Italy, has been banned on public safety grounds, the authorities said. The prefect of the province, Salvatore Angieri, said the decision was made following requests from bodies including the local Jewish community. They had “expressed reservations” about the appearance of the rapper as part of the Pulse of Gaia Festival, the statement released on Friday evening said. Another concert by the...

- [Israeli army captures strategic Crusader-built castle in Lebanon](#) (2026-05-31 17:04)

Israeli troops have captured a strategic mountain topped with a Crusader-built castle in southern Lebanon in the deepest incursion into the country in more than a quarter-century, the military said on Sunday. The taking of Beaufort Castle, near the city of Nabatiyeh, followed days of air strikes and intense fighting in nearby villages between Israeli troops and Hezbollah militants. The capture marked a major Israeli advance in the latest Israel-Hezbollah war, which began on March 2, when...

- [United Airlines flight to Spain turns back to Newark, US after possible security threat](#) (2026-05-31 16:26)

A United Airlines flight bound for Spain from Newark Liberty International Airport turned around mid-flight on Saturday due to a possible security threat in-flight. The flight departed at around 6pm local time for Palma de Mallorca, Spain, but landed back at Newark at 9.37pm, according to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. The airline said there were 190 passengers and 12 crew members on the Boeing 767 aircraft. According to air traffic control audio, security came to inspect the...

- [Green initiatives make HKIS campus a living laboratory](#) (2026-05-31 16:00)

[The content of this article has been produced by our advertising partner.] Through its commitment to creating a green campus by cutting carbon emissions through System Optimization and producing renewable energy, Hong Kong International School (HKIS) is also giving students an in-depth understanding of real-world approaches that turn ideas into action and bring net-zero targets within reach. The school has long made sustainability a priority, but has now taken that further by teaming up with...

- [PolyU Faculty of Business celebrates 30th anniversary of its DBA programme, with over 400 academic and industry leaders gathering to explore new trends for scholar-leaders in AI era](#) (2026-05-31 16:00)

[The content of this article has been produced by our advertising partner.] The Faculty of Business at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) hosted a grand dinner on 14 May to celebrate the 30th anniversary of its Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) programme. The event was attended by Mr Paul CHAN, Financial Secretary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government of the People’s Republic of China, as the guest of honour. It brought together over 400 industry...

- [45 killed in Myanmar’s Shan state after blast at mining explosive storage facility](#) (2026-05-31 15:09)

A blast on Sunday at a building in northeastern Myanmar said to have been storing explosives for mining has killed more than 45 people, according to rescuers and independent media reports. About 70 other people were injured in the explosion that took place around noon in the village of Kaungtup, in Namhkam township. The area, located about 3 kilometres (2 miles) south of the Chinese border, is under the control of the Ta’ ang National Liberation Army, an ethnic armed group which has engaged in...

- [How China’s home-grown WS-10 engine helped make the country a modern air power](#) (2026-05-31 14:00)

As China marks the 20th anniversary of completing its first domestically developed high-thrust turbofan engine for fighter jets, the WS-10 – Woshan-10, meaning Turbofan-10 – continues its crucial role in the People’s Liberation Army (PLA). The WS-10 turbofan engine was code-named Taihang after the famous Chinese mountain range. The Taihang engine family serves as the backbone of the PLA’s major active combat fighters, powering fourth-generation jets such as the J-10C, the J-11B, the air force’s...

- [French police arrest 780 after violent Paris Saint-Germain celebrations](#) (2026-05-31 13:56)

French police detained 780 people involved in violent clashes in Paris and other French cities that erupted on Saturday night after Paris Saint-Germain won the Champions League title. Interior Minister Laurent Nuñez said 57 officers were wounded, with most suffering minor injuries, as football fans set off fires and vandalised shops. One small group even tried to storm a Paris police station. Nuñez said at a news conference on Sunday that “the situation has been largely brought under...

- [Student recalls eye-opening trip with American peers that drew praise from Xi](#) (2026-05-31 13:02)

A university student in Hong Kong who recently received a letter from Chinese President Xi Jinping has said that an ocean voyage, a food delivery app and having a curious mind helped

break stereotypes and bridge gaps between Chinese and American young people. Liu Runjie, a fourth-year electronic engineering student at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), was among 20 young people who joined a China-US youth friendship programme and shared their experiences with Xi, prompting a reply from...

- [‘Silent killer’ : the race to beat cancer in Hong Kong](#) (2026-05-31 13:00)
- [US quietly plays the long game on energy dominance against China](#) (2026-05-31 12:30)

Sun Tzu wrote that “fighting and winning all your battles is not the height of skill; subduing the enemy without fighting is the height of skill”. That maxim offers perhaps the clearest lens to interpret the logic of American grand strategy under US President Donald Trump. What many dismiss as inconsistency may conceal a patient strategic deception. The aim is not direct confrontation, but the quiet reshaping of the global economy in support of long-term US power. The US wants to improve its...

- [Shangri-La Dialogue: can Asia do ‘less Shangri-La, more ships, more subs’ ?](#) (2026-05-31 12:25)

As the Shangri-La Dialogue drew to a close on Sunday, two issues dominated discussions throughout the event: defence spending and the varying level of commitment of countries to maintain peace in the region after calls by Washington for its allies and others to pull their weight. Analysts said the 3.5 per cent of gross domestic product for defence spending proposed by US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth was not something that most Asean countries – aside from Singapore – could commit to. Hegseth...

- [Can Hongkong Post be saved or should it become a taxpayer-funded public service?](#) (2026-05-31 12:18)

Hongkong Post’s worsening financial situation may require not only an injection of funds but also a return to being a government-funded department providing basic public services, observers have said. The analysts’ views follow the authorities’ plan to inject HK\$4.6 billion (US\$587 million) as a lifeline to support Hongkong Post’s operations over the next three years, amid similar losses faced by postal operators worldwide. Hongkong Post has operated on a self-funding basis since 1995, following...

- [Colombian voters weigh economic reforms against right-wing crackdown](#) (2026-05-31 12:06)

Colombians will cast ballots on Sunday in what is likely to be the first round of a presidential election, choosing between a leftist pledging to expand reforms begun by the current government, an independent businessman promising a security crackdown and a right-wing senator seeking to become the country’s first female leader. Leftist Ivan Cepeda, a 63-year-old senator, is leading opinion polls, but looks likely to fall well short of the 50 per cent-plus support needed to avoid a June run-off....

- [Human-shaped object in US military UFO files intrigues Chinese expert](#) (2026-05-31 12:00)

Amid a flurry of interest in newly declassified US government UFO files, a Chinese researcher has expressed intrigue in an apparent video of a fast-moving, human-shaped object. Zhang Nan, a Beijing-based researcher into unidentified anomalous phenomena (UAP), said he was particularly fascinated by a nearly five-minute video, captured by a sky-facing US military infrared sensor in Florida in 2020. In the footage labelled “NAG UAP 1 Jun 20”, a humanoid-like shape hovered for a long time before...

- [Chinese scientists leave posts after whistle-blower raises alarm over their research](#) (2026-05-31 11:28)

Three more senior Chinese scientists have been disciplined by their universities after a high-profile blogger raised red flags about their research. Nankai University in Tianjin announced on Saturday that Chen Quan had been removed as dean of its College of Life Sciences. The university said that Chen, as a corresponding author, failed to properly oversee the quality and authenticity of experimental data in a paper published in Nature Cancer in 2024. Meanwhile, Sun Yat-sen University in...

- [Confronting cancer in Hong Kong](#) (2026-05-31 11:02)
- [Nigeria's opposition divided, incumbent Tinubu eyes second term](#) (2026-05-31 11:02)

Nigerian politician Peter Obi will run for president in the West African nation's January elections, ensuring that the opposition to incumbent Bola Tinubu will once again be fragmented. Obi, second runner-up in the 2023 ballot narrowly won by Tinubu, was ratified late on Saturday as the candidate of the Nigeria Democratic Congress party. In his acceptance speech, he pledged to tackle insecurity, double health insurance coverage, and “invest heavily in schools, teachers, technology, and...

- [Is Hong Kong winning the war on cancer or facing new battle in late diagnosis?](#) (2026-05-31 11:00)

In the first of a six-part Health Matters wellness series on cancer in Hong Kong, Emily Hung looks into how the city takes on its leading cause of death while maintaining one of the lowest mortality rates in the developed world and what more it must do to excel as a hub for cancer research. When Hong Kong began modern cancer tracking in 1983, it recorded 15,000 new cases and a far higher death rate than today. Four decades on, the number of cases has more than doubled to 38,000, yet the risk of...

- [In sign of easing UK-China ties, British Foreign Secretary set for talks, tech hub visit](#) (2026-05-31 10:24)

British Foreign Secretary Yvette Cooper is visiting China this week, signalling a further easing in ties following a summit earlier this year. Cooper will meet her Chinese counterpart Wang Yi and Vice-President Han Zheng on Tuesday, Reuters quoted the British government as saying on Sunday. Among the topics on the agenda are the Strait of Hormuz, the Russia-Ukraine war and

the Ebola outbreak in Africa, the report said. Cooper will then head to the southern Chinese tech hub of Shenzhen on...

- [High rents, job fears rank among top stressors for mainland students in Hong Kong](#) (2026-05-31 10:22)

A combination of sky-high rents, career anxiety and social isolation is placing a mental and financial strain on mainland Chinese students living in Hong Kong, even as more than 40 per cent of them plan to remain in the city, a survey has revealed. The study released by the Youth Expats Association on Sunday also found that developing a sense of belonging outweighed lucrative salaries as a factor in determining whether these students choose to stay in the city after graduation. According to the...

- [1 dead, 2 in critical condition after fire at luxury Hong Kong flat](#) (2026-05-31 09:06)

A 30-year-old woman has died and two other people remain in a critical condition following a suspicious fire at a flat in Hong Kong's affluent Mid-Levels district, with police later uncovering drug-taking apparatus in a bedroom. The Hospital Authority confirmed on Sunday that the woman, who had been rushed to Ruttonjee Hospital in Wan Chai, was pronounced dead at 11.20pm on Saturday. A source said the 30-year-old, a mainland Chinese woman holding a two-way permit, had sustained extensive burns...

- [HK Express cancels 6 Hong Kong-Okinawa flights as Typhoon Jangmi approaches](#) (2026-05-31 09:05)

Budget carrier HK Express has cancelled six flights operating between Hong Kong and Okinawa on Monday and Tuesday as Typhoon Jangmi approaches Japan's southernmost islands. The airline said in an updated announcement on Saturday afternoon that special ticket arrangements for typhoon-affected flights were in place. "We have notified all affected passengers of the flight changes and are providing the necessary help to enable them to make alternative travel arrangements in advance," the airline...

- [For SpaceX, global dominance may not be written in the stars](#) (2026-05-31 08:30)

The excitement around SpaceX, fuelled by the targeted US\$1.8 trillion valuation for its initial public offering and its promising Starship rocket development, has revived a familiar claim: that SpaceX is on course to dominate the space market. Commercially, that view is understandable. SpaceX conducts more space launches than anyone and at very competitive costs, its Starlink satellite internet company provides strong in-house demand, and it has a scale advantage unmatched by any other private...

- [AI firm MiniMax prepares for mainland China listing after shares surge in Hong Kong](#) (2026-05-31 08:15)

MiniMax Group, the Chinese artificial intelligence model company, has officially kicked off plans to sell shares in mainland China. This offers onshore investors access to AI players beyond

chipmakers and completes a dual-listing status in addition to Hong Kong. The Shanghai-headquartered company signed an agreement with Citic Securities on Friday, hiring the brokerage to help prepare for a sale of yuan-denominated shares. While other details on the listing are scant, it is widely expected that...

- [Philippines says Beijing main hurdle to South China Sea code of conduct](#) (2026-05-31 08:02)

Members of Asean might have conflicting claims in the South China Sea but mutual trust existed in the bloc, Philippine defence chief Gilberto Teodoro Jr said on Sunday, singling out Beijing as the biggest obstacle to a code of conduct in the disputed waterway. Teodoro delivered strong words for China in the final panel of the Shangri-La Dialogue security forum in Singapore, taking aim at Manila's long-time maritime rival for disregarding an international arbitral tribunal, which ruled in favour...

- [China woman nearly dies after becoming tangled in fishing line while riding bike at night](#) (2026-05-31 08:00)

A Chinese woman said she was nearly killed by a fishing line while riding past a crowded bridge, sparking safety concerns online. The woman surnamed Wang, from Hangzhou, eastern China's Zhejiang province, shared her hair-raising experience on the night of May 23. She and her friend were riding electric bikes on a bicycle lane of the Fuxing bridge in the city, when a fishing line suddenly wrapped around her throat. It happened too fast that she did not have time to stop the bike. The line kept...

- [Hong Kong may host Shenzhou-23 crew in 2027, including astronaut Lai Ka-ying](#) (2026-05-31 07:57)

Hong Kong could welcome the astronauts of the Shenzhou-23 mission, including the city's history-making payload specialist, as early as the first half of next year, the technology chief has said. Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry Sun Dong also said on Sunday that the government would establish a new space manufacturing research centre under InnoHK this year, focusing on 3D printing and artificial intelligence (AI). "I hope that after the Shenzhou-23 crew returns, a visit by the...

- [Malaysia blasts 'conspicuously muted' response over axed Norway missile deal](#) (2026-05-31 06:45)

Malaysia's Defence Minister Mohamed Khaled Nordin slammed the international community's "muted" response on Sunday at a security forum over Norway's decision to scrap a missile deal with Kuala Lumpur. In a charged speech at the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, Khaled said the "deafening silence" on Oslo's cancellation of the agreement sent a message that certain countries were "simply above scrutiny", questioning if global rules were subject to the will of bigger powers. Earlier this month, the...

- [NGO offers HK\\$30,000 to residents of blaze-hit Tai Po blocks who transfer ownership](#) (2026-05-31 06:27)

Hong Kong's largest non-profit organisation, the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals, will give HK\$30,000 (US\$3,827) to residents displaced by the deadly Tai Po fire who agree to transfer ownership of their flats to the government, its chief executive has said. Albert Su Yau-on also revealed on Sunday that more than 1,000 inquiries had been received regarding the group's legal aid scheme for Wang Fuk Court residents, following the November blaze that killed 168 people and displaced about 5,000...

- [Hong Kong considers new offshore yuan venture fund for tech, emerging industries](#) (2026-05-31 06:25)

Hong Kong is considering launching a new offshore renminbi venture fund to channel capital into cutting-edge technology and emerging industries while also supporting the internationalisation of the yuan, the finance chief has said. The initiative would align with the nation's latest five-year plan, which calls on Hong Kong to enhance its role as an international financial hub and expand its offshore renminbi business. "We are actively considering establishing a brand-new offshore renminbi..."

- [Japanese defence minister rejects 'new militarism' label from China in Shangri-La speech](#) (2026-05-31 05:35)

Japan's defence minister has rejected suggestions that his country is reviving its militaristic past, telling a regional security conference that changes to its defence strategy would allow it to play a new cooperative role. Shinjiro Koizumi also used his speech at the Shangri-La Dialogue on Sunday to state that Tokyo opposed "unilateral changes to the status quo by force or coercion", a comment believed to refer to Beijing's maritime activities, including in the East and South China seas, and...

- [Why Grab and Gojek drivers fear Bali's 'no-go zones'](#) (2026-05-31 05:00)

"I cannot come to you," Katie Williams was told, seconds after her Grab driver had accepted her request for a ride in Canggu. "I cannot come to you. You need to come meet me." Williams, an Australian tourist in her mid-thirties, explained through the app that her elderly parents struggled to walk very far in the hot Bali sun. The driver's reply was blunt: "It's too dangerous. I cannot come." After two more cancellations, she eventually relented and paid a local driver twice the original...

- [How an HKU-developed eczema product could help fight superbug threat](#) (2026-05-31 04:36)

When Scottish doctor Alexander Fleming accidentally discovered the first antibiotic in 1928, he changed the course of history, extending global life expectancy by decades and saving millions of lives on the battlefield and beyond. But humanity's dependence on his discovery has fuelled a modern crisis: antimicrobial resistance, or AMR. Decades of overuse and misuse of the

drug have allowed “superbugs” – bacteria that have mutated to survive antibiotic treatments– to evolve. According to a 2014...

- [Festival promoting South Korea’ s ceramic culture faces fury over Chinese-made prizes](#) (2026-05-31 04:30)

Organisers of South Korea’ s renowned Yeosu Ceramic Festival have apologised after Chinese-made ceramic products were distributed as giveaway prizes at an event intended to promote the country’ s pottery heritage, sparking public backlash and online criticism. The controversy emerged after a social media user said on Tuesday that a miniature moon jar received through a festival promotional event carried a “Made in China” sticker. “I honestly doubted my eyes when I opened the package,” the winner...

- [How China will play a major role in Benin’ s economic growth as a new era is ushered in](#) (2026-05-31 04:00)

In Cotonou, Benin’ s largest city and economic capital located on the southern Atlantic coast, construction crews are busy building major projects, stretching from large-scale port upgrades to the asphalt-paving of the commercial hub’ s main roads. At the Autonomous Port of Cotonou, China Harbour Engineering Company is advancing Terminal 5, a project that involves reclaiming land from the sea and building two 100,000-tonne general purpose berths. Beyond municipal upgrades, Chinese firms are...

- [Alibaba Group signs 6-year AI deal with Uefa, will bring 360 replay tech to major events](#) (2026-05-31 03:42)

Alibaba Group and Uefa are bringing the Chinese giant’ s 360-degree replay technology to football, after signing an exclusive six-year deal covering several major tournaments in Europe. The partnership, which has been widely reported in state media, will see the sport’ s regional governing body join the International Olympic Committee and NBA China, among others, in working with Qwen, Alibaba’ s artificial intelligence model. With European football accelerating its digital transformation and fan...

- [Hong Kong property recovery tested as bigger student housing deals gain traction](#) (2026-05-31 03:30)

Hong Kong’ s student housing sector is entering a new phase as larger institutional-style deals emerge from the city’ s distressed commercial property market, signalling that professional investors are cautiously returning after years of falling asset values. Investors and analysts said the market was moving beyond the smaller hotel conversions that dominated the past two years, with more sizeable transactions expected as financing conditions improve, distressed sales accelerate, and buyers hunt...

- [Firms spent heavily on AI. Now rising costs are outpacing its value](#) (2026-05-31 03:11)

AI is getting expensive – and companies are starting to rethink their embrace of the disruptive technology. Playing by a well-worn Silicon Valley playbook, artificial intelligence companies charged rock-bottom prices to hook customers after ChatGPT burst onto the scene. Kevin Simback of start-up incubator Delphi Labs calls it the era of “subsidised intelligence” – meaning investors were basically footing the bill so companies could offer AI on the cheap. “But the tides are beginning to turn,” ...

- [How a decade-long bet on photonics handed this Chinese venture capital firm an AI windfall](#) (2026-05-31 03:00)

As artificial intelligence strains the physical limits of existing data centres, scientists and investors are turning to the ultimate speed limit of the universe for the next computing frontier: light. For Mi Lei, founder of CAS Star, a venture capital firm born out of the state-run Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), the sudden global fascination with photonics is less a surprise than a delayed validation. It is a thesis he has spent more than a decade trying to support with funding. “New...

- [India seals BrahMos missile deal with Vietnam, eyes Indonesia next](#) (2026-05-31 02:51)

India has signed a deal with Vietnam under which it will supply BrahMos missiles which it has jointly developed with Russia and is in “final stages” for a similar deal with Indonesia, India’s Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh said on Saturday. India has a strong commitment to Asean nations, Singh said, without disclosing more details of the deals related to BrahMos. Singh was speaking at Asia’s premier defence forum, the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore. India, which has been...

- [How a Hong Kong app is a ‘vital lifeline’ for 76,000 patients navigating cancer care](#) (2026-05-31 02:00)

Hongkonger Susan Tam, 70, used to wake in the middle of the night, desperate for relief from an unbearable, relentless itch caused by her cancer medication. Tam, diagnosed with lung cancer a few months ago, tried applying regular moisturiser to soothe severe skin rashes, but in vain. She also used aqueous cream, a staple from her time working in a care home for the elderly, and even turned to hot water to numb the irritation, only to find it further inflamed her condition. A visit to a family...

- [Why the US Navy must look to allies if it wants to catch up to China at sea](#) (2026-05-31 02:00)

Washington’s plans to work with allies on warship design and construction face steep opposition at home, but analysts warn that the US must outsource shipbuilding to South Korea and Japan if it wants to close its gap in fleet size with China. The US budget submission for the next financial year includes US\$1.85 billion for a study on outsourcing parts of the design and construction of frigates and destroyers, according to media reports last month. USNI News, the news service of the US Naval...

- [Where Southeast Asians really want to live, work and travel](#) (2026-05-31 02:00)

Mass media commonly portrays Southeast Asia as an exciting, adventure-fuelled and culturally rich region – if often an exoticised one – for inhabitants and visitors alike. The final section of the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute’s State of Southeast Asia 2026 Survey, based on respondents’ “relocation preference and travel choices”, adds to the already abundant evidence of the “soft power” of regional countries. Soft power, a term coined by American political scientist Joseph Nye in 1990, is widely...

- [From nuclear submarines to trade, South Korea and US remain deadlocked ahead of talks](#) (2026-05-31 01:30)

South Korea and the United States are heading into talks in Seoul next week with different priorities over the implementation of last year’s summit agreement, with President Lee Jae Myung pushing for the supply of nuclear-powered submarines and Washington seeking progress on a major investment pledge by the Lee administration. US approval on the use of nuclear fuel for South Korea’s submarines is a key goal for Lee, while Washington wants Seoul’s US\$350 billion investment promise it previously...

- [Spain’s property market sees boost as Hongkongers, others, depart the UK and Canada](#) (2026-05-31 01:30)

Hong Kong families in the United Kingdom and Canada are facing deep uncertainty due to shifting immigration policies and the rising cost of living, and some are looking for alternative destinations to settle. Property agents said Spain’s Non-Lucrative Visa (NLV), designed for retirees and anyone who can support themselves without employment, had become one of their top choices. The NLV provides a pathway for citizens outside the European Union and the European Economic Area who have enough...

- [East Asia’s population challenge isn’t just about raising birth rates](#) (2026-05-31 01:30)

Across East Asia, societies are becoming richer, healthier and more educated, yet fewer people feel able or willing to have families and raise children. Low fertility plagues high-income societies, particularly in East Asia, where the total fertility rate (TFR) has fallen below one birth per woman, well under the replacement level of 2.1 births. While many countries have dedicated considerable resources and effort to reversing this trend, the results have been somewhat disappointing. The pairing...

- [New Zealand tells US it lacks billions ‘under the couch’ to raise defence spending](#) (2026-05-31 01:21)

New Zealand does not have the fiscal headroom to increase defence spending to the levels the US might expect, Finance Minister Nicola Willis said. US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth told delegates at an Asia security forum in Singapore on Saturday that New Zealand’s target of raising defence spending to 2 per cent of the economy is not enough and was an example of

“freeloading” . He hinted that nations should aspire to a target as high as 3.5 per cent. “That would be extremely challenging,” Willis...

- [More Hong Kong tourists drawn to ‘mysterious’ Central Asia, travel agencies say](#) (2026-05-31 01:00)

The mystique of Central Asia and its deepening business ties with mainland China have prompted more Hongkongers to choose the region for holidays, according to travel agency heads. They were also optimistic that Chief Executive John Lee Ka-chiu’s high-level visit to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan this week would further promote Central Asia, encouraging residents to step off the beaten path and explore the region’s lesser-known tourism spots. Alex Lee Chun-ting, general manager of Miramar Travel,...

- [‘Sleep with eyes open’ : China woman’s bungled double eyelid surgery causes complications](#) (2026-05-31 01:00)

A woman in eastern China has been left unable to sleep with her eyes shut and is constantly crying because of a bungled double eyelid operation she underwent six years ago. The woman, surnamed Wang, drew wide attention on mainland social media after she shared her legal disputes with the cosmetic clinic in late May. In June 2020, Wang went to Meixi Cosmetic Surgery Clinic in Suzhou, Jiangsu province, for a double eyelid surgery, which cost her 12,000 yuan (US\$1,800), reported the Shanghai...

- [US reverses new rule on overseas applications for green cards](#) (2026-05-31 00:37)

The Trump administration has walked back its announcement that non-citizens seeking permanent US residency, commonly called a green card, would need to return to their home country to apply, The New York Times reported. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) told the newspaper on Friday that its policy announcement last week was not a requirement for all applicants, but would rather be implemented “on a case-by-case basis” . A Trump administration spokesman, Zach Kahler, said on May 22 that...

- [AI ‘slopaganda’ and the battle for Philippine political reality](#) (2026-05-31 00:00)

The Philippines is no stranger to politically weaponised memes and internet trolls. What has changed is the way information warfare is waged, now requiring nothing more than a smartphone and a well-crafted prompt. Supporters of former president Rodrigo Duterte helped pioneer the industrialised use of social media to spread disinformation, rewarding loyalists and destroying opponents through the ruthless deployment of memes, viral videos, paid amplifiers and manufactured trending topics. Analysts...

- [Ebola shows world unprepared for next pandemic, ex-US CDC head says](#) (2026-05-30 22:57)

The world is not “well prepared” for the next pandemic, Tom Frieden, the former head of the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention said, citing the current response to the Ebola

outbreak and cuts to US public health efforts. “This Ebola outbreak is not going to cause apandemic, it’ s not going to cause a significant risk to large numbers of Americans,” Frieden,the CEO of Resolve to Save Lives, said. “It’ s a stress test, and it’ s a stress test the world isnot doing well at. I would say so...

- [China and Japan aren’ t talking. Will their rare earth trade go quiet?](#) (2026-05-30 22:00)

When China broke out one of its “big guns” in last year’ s trade war with the US – an array of export controls on rare earth elements – it helped spur a temporary truce in the pitched conflict between the two economic superpowers. After Beijing’ s announcement, many around the world expressed shock at the size and scope of China’ s response to Washington’ s sky-high tariffs. But for Japan, a squeeze on rare earth shipments was not so novel a concept. In 2010, following the collision of a Chinese...

- [Russia says Ukraine drone struck Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant](#) (2026-05-30 21:31)

Russia’ s state nuclear energy company Rosatom said on Saturday that a Ukrainian drone had struck the Russian-controlled Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant, Europe’ s largest, causing no damage to key equipment, but the Kyiv military denied it. Rosatom’ s head Alexei Likhachev called the incident “deliberate” and said it left a hole in the wall of a turbine hall. “This afternoon, a Ukrainian kamikaze combat drone struck the turbine hall building of Power Unit No 6, resulting in a subsequent detonation,” ...

- [Hong Kong’ s old buildings: 5 lessons for urban renewal](#) (2026-05-30 21:30)

Think of Hong Kong as a living dictionary. Every old arcade, footbridge and mixed-use tong lau, or tenement building, is an entry worth studying. As the city embarks on another redevelopment cycle, we should be leafing more carefully – not erasing the dictionary’ s words but learning how to write new ones in the same spirit. Here are five key words that should be at the centre of any sensitive, forward-looking renewal blueprint. One, shelter. Tong lau arcades were an original climate adaptation....

- [Trump may cancel Freedom 250 concerts to give speech after artists pull out](#) (2026-05-30 17:34)

US President Donald Trump said on Saturday that he was considering cancelling a planned series of concerts on Washington’ s National Mall commemorating the nation’ s 250th anniversary after a string of artists withdrew from the event, and replacing them with a speech and political-style rally instead. The concerts were planned as part of the larger Great American State Fair, a 16-day event running from June 25 to July 10, 2026. Organisers said the fair, organised by the Freedom 250 group,...

- [Inaugural Hong Kong Comic Con draws massive crowds and global vendors](#) (2026-05-30 15:45)

Pop culture fans packed the inaugural Hong Kong edition of Comic Con, an exhibition featuring international and local animated figures and products, fuelling hopes among digital entertainment vendors that business will be strong over the three-day event that ends on Sunday. Giant statues of characters from Japanese hits such as Dragon Ball and One Piece dominated the crowded show floor at the Convention and Exhibition Centre on Saturday. Hollywood stars Mads Mikkelsen, Giancarlo Esposito and...

- [Sustained security can't come from 'barrel of a gun' : East Timor's Jose Ramos-Horta](#) (2026-05-30 14:25)

The world can learn diplomatic lessons from Asean, East Timor President Jose Ramos-Horta has said in a strongly worded rebuke to existing global power structures. At the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore on Saturday, Ramos-Horta, who leads the newest and 11th member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, argued that the bloc epitomised how dialogue could prevent conflict and yield dividends. He acknowledged that Asean was “not heaven on earth”, achieving consensus was “frustratingly slow” ...

- [Hong Kong must remove bottlenecks to grow yacht economy, industry leaders say](#) (2026-05-30 14:19)

Hong Kong should urgently address its bottlenecks in developing a yacht economy by improving immigration procedures, upgrading mooring facilities and curating niche tourism itineraries following Beijing's policy relaxation on yachts from the city sailing to mainland China, industry leaders have said. Their calls came on Saturday after Beijing allowed Hong Kong and Macau yachts to enter designated ports in the Greater Bay Area “exempt from guarantees” and benefit from “a temporary ship...

- [China dials down rhetoric but regional risks persist at Shangri-La Dialogue](#) (2026-05-30 13:30)

The world faces challenges from “hegemonism” and “bloc confrontation” driven by “certain countries”, China's delegation to Asia's premier security conference said on Saturday, without directly naming the United States. Major General Meng Xiangqing, the head of the Chinese delegation to the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, sent the warning during a special session on managing threats to strategic stability. Meng, a professor at the People's Liberation Army National Defence University, also used...

- [Sri Lanka's top monk suspended over alleged child sex abuse](#) (2026-05-30 12:28)

Sri Lanka's Buddhist hierarchy suspended on Saturday a senior monk accused of sexually abusing an 11-year-old girl, in a high-profile case that has shocked the religiously conservative nation. In a rare disciplinary move, 71-year-old Pallegama Hemarathana was stripped of his responsibilities as the chief custodian of a highly venerated ficus grown from a sapling of a tree believed to have sheltered the Buddha. “The Council of Monks of the Malwatte Chapter decided today to suspend Ven....

- [Hong Kong charity calls for foster carers from diverse backgrounds to ease backlog](#) (2026-05-30 12:25)

Hundreds of vulnerable children in Hong Kong are waiting for temporary homes, a local charity has said, urging more households from diverse backgrounds to step forward as demand for foster placements continues to outstrip supply. Mother's Choice said on Saturday that 222 children remained on the official waiting list for placement, adding that single carers made up nearly 10 per cent of foster parents in its Project Bridge programme, while the rest were married or same-sex couples. The charity,...

- [US agency goes back to the future to take on China's Belt and Road Initiative](#) (2026-05-30 12:00)

The US agency set up to counter China's Belt and Road Initiative is blending national security with development finance to try to secure a critical minerals supply chain, according to analysts and officials. Created in 2019 during President Donald Trump's first administration, the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) puts its money into private-led projects rather than those led by the state, as is often the case with China. The agency operates in more than 100 countries,...

- [Japan PM vows 'breakthrough' with North Korea in abduction issue](#) (2026-05-30 11:15)

Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi on Saturday expressed her determination to achieve a "breakthrough" in resolving the long-standing issue of Japanese nationals abducted by North Korea, vowing to weigh all options, including summit talks. At a rally in Tokyo calling for the return of Japanese abductees, Takaichi urged North Korean leader Kim Jong-un to take a "courageous step" together for the benefit of the peoples of the two countries. "Whatever it takes, I will resolve the abduction issue by..."

- [5 villagers trapped in flooded Laos cave freed after 10-day ordeal](#) (2026-05-30 10:52)

Five villagers trapped deep in a flooded cave in Laos have been freed, ending a 10-day underground ordeal that relied on expert cave rescuers racing against time to guide the group through flooded passages before fresh rains further complicated the mission. Hugs, cheers and tears met four of the group who emerged thin and muddied on Saturday afternoon to be quickly wrapped in foil blankets to regulate their body temperature after days in the damp, cold cave. Another man was freed overnight. But...

- [Scheme allowing Hong Kong drivers to enter Guangdong province extended to 2031](#) (2026-05-30 10:44)

The popular scheme allowing Hong Kong vehicles to travel north to Guangdong province has been extended by five years, mainland Chinese authorities have announced, as the initial three-year period is set to expire. Under the Northbound Travel for Hong Kong Vehicles scheme, eligible private car owners in Hong Kong can drive into Guangdong via the Hong

Kong–Zhuhai–Macau Bridge without a mainland number plate or dual-plate permit. Drivers can stay in the province for up to 30 consecutive days per...

- [China launches AI framework to improve ‘black box’ transparency and raise standards](#) (2026-05-30 10:00)

China has pledged to improve the accuracy, reliability and transparency of AI through a new national evaluation framework, as policymakers move to establish common standards for assessing the fast-evolving technology. New guidelines released by the central government said Beijing would create a common yardstick for AI, allowing models, computing power and data quality to be measured and compared under a unified national standard. The move comes as artificial intelligence plays an increasingly...

- [Chinese archaeologist who discovered 5,000-year-old city pleads guilty to corruption](#) (2026-05-30 10:00)

Liu Bin, a Chinese archaeologist credited with discovering a vast 5,000-year-old prehistoric city that rewrote the history of Chinese civilisation, has pleaded guilty to taking bribes and embezzlement. The celebrated academic, who discovered the Liangzhu ruins – a Unesco World Heritage site in eastern China’s Zhejiang province – and long oversaw its excavation and heritage nomination, accepted the charges, according to news outlet Southern Weekly. During a court hearing in Zhejiang on May 20,...

- [Dead humpback whale Timmy brought ashore on Danish island for postmortem](#) (2026-05-30 09:57)

The body of a dead humpback whale known as “Timmy” has been brought ashore on the Danish island of Anholt, where experts hope a postmortem examination will shed light on how it died. A live streaming by the News5 broadcaster showed a vehicle slowly dragging the bloated carcass out of the shallow water by a rope onto the beach on Saturday morning, leaving behind a deep furrow in the sand. The Danish environmental protection agency urged people not to approach the whale as there is a risk of...

- [17 nations launch pact to protect vital undersea cables amid US, China absence](#) (2026-05-30 09:55)

Seventeen countries have agreed to collaborate on defence strategies for critical marine infrastructure such as undersea cables, an effort that analysts warn may be undermined by the absence of superpower involvement. At the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore on Saturday, defence ministers and representatives from these countries attended the launch of the Guiding Principles for Underwater Infrastructure Defence Exchanges (Guide), which aims to bring countries together to explore potential areas...

- [Writing’ s on the wall for the bond market – for those who can read it](#) (2026-05-30 08:30)

There is a good deal more to the rapid rise in bond yields around the world, not least in Asia, than meets the eye. It suggests a recognition by financial markets that governments are spending beyond their means, tax revenues and borrowing power. The implication is that either taxes need to rise or public spending needs to fall, or alternatively that financial markets, stock markets in particular, must shift their priorities away from glamour stocks in the tech and artificial intelligence (AI)...

- [US senator warns of Indo-Pacific risks as Hegseth stresses ‘quiet’ tactics](#) (2026-05-30 08:09)

America’s latest defence strategy worryingly downgraded the importance of the Indo-Pacific, a US senator warned on Saturday, even as the Pentagon chief delivered a speech reassuring allies of commitment at a defence forum in Singapore. Tammy Duckworth of Illinois, a staunch critic of the US-Israeli war on Iran, told a media round table at the Shangri-La Dialogue that she was concerned the Trump administration was being distracted by conflict in other theatres that would dent commitment to the...

- [US man asserts if simple teacher and China farmer can grow a forest, world leaders can find peace](#) (2026-05-30 08:00)

A retired American teacher is planning to travel to China in late summer for a reunion with a female farmer he assisted decades ago. In 1999, Ronald Sakolsky, then teaching English in China, was inspired by Inner Mongolian farmer Yin Yuzhen’s battle against desertification and donated US\$5,000 to support her tree-planting efforts in the Maowusu Desert. This contribution enabled Yin to plant some of her earliest trees, sowing the seeds of a lasting friendship across continents. Recently, the two...

- [Hong Kong to target flavoured tobacco in next phase of controls: health chief](#) (2026-05-30 07:58)

Hong Kong authorities will crack down on flavoured tobacco substances in the next phase of their enhanced smoking control measures, with the health minister describing such products as a “poisoned chalice” designed to hook younger people. Secretary for Health Lo Chung-mau warned on Saturday that flavoured tobacco was mostly delivered through e-cigarettes, with additives containing menthol or sugar-coated toxins used to mask the bitterness and smell of tobacco and attract young consumers. “About...

- [Hong Kong cuts emergency mobile alert activation time from 1 hour to 15 minutes](#) (2026-05-30 07:22)

Hong Kong authorities have slashed the time needed to send emergency mobile alerts to residents from an hour to 15 minutes under a HK\$150 million (US\$19 million) system, while messages can now be tailored to specific districts, the security chief has revealed. A hearing session into the deadly Wang Fuk Court fire in April exposed the lengthy time needed to trigger the alert. But security chief Chris Tang Ping-keung on Saturday stopped short of specifying the

types of incidents, such as major...

- [How US defence chief Hegseth softened his tone towards China after Xi-Trump meeting](#) (2026-05-30 06:40)

US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth softened his tone towards China in his speech on Saturday to the Shangri-La defence forum compared with the previous year. Speaking two weeks after the meeting between presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping in Beijing, Hegseth also adopted a cautious stance on US arms sales to Taiwan when questioned about the highly sensitive issue, and did not mention the island at all in his speech. Although he still criticised China's military build-up, unlike last year he...

- [Professor disciplined after saying '8 in 10 Korean women' engaged in prostitution](#) (2026-05-30 06:00)

A professor at a private university in South Korea's Daejeon has been disciplined and removed from all teaching duties after allegedly making sexually inappropriate remarks to students during class. According to the university on Friday, the school's foundation recently finalised disciplinary measures against the professor, identified only by the surname B. The university said B has been barred from teaching classes, providing academic counselling and performing other student guidance duties....

- [Unicorn born in record time amid 'arms race' among China's robotic hand developers](#) (2026-05-30 06:00)

Venture capitalists and industrial giants in China are aggressively backing developers of dexterous robotic hands – the toughest bottleneck in the global humanoid hardware arms race – in a funding blitz that is rapidly driving up start-up valuations. The latest capital injection was announced on Friday by Xynova. The Hangzhou-based start-up said it had completed a series A round from investors including the venture arms of smartphone maker Xiaomi and electric vehicle giant Li Auto, bringing...

- [Trump's ICE blitz cost 668,000 jobs, creating 'chilling effect' on US firms](#) (2026-05-30 04:55)

The Trump administration's immigration surge into US cities last year resulted in 668,000 job losses, creating a "chilling effect" that pervaded local economies, hurt businesses and affected American-born workers, according to a report from the Brookings Institution. The Immigration and Customs Enforcement campaign adopted "shock and awe" tactics that were broader and far more visible than previous enforcement efforts, including one started under former president George W. Bush in 2008 and...

- [Singapore security union backs guards after row with swearing Hong Kong principal](#) (2026-05-30 04:29)

Singapore's Union of Security Employees (USE) said on Thursday that it “stands firmly behind” the security guards involved in a confrontation with a Hong Kong school principal in which he swore at them. The secondary school principal, Lee Cheuk hing, who was on a trip to Singapore with a group of students, was seen arguing with the guards over a parking matter at SAFRA Jurong, a recreational club, in a video widely circulated on social media. Lee has since tendered his resignation from San Wui...

- [Beijing allows Hong Kong yachts to berth more easily in some mainland Chinese ports](#) (2026-05-30 04:19)

Hong Kong-registered yachts can berth more easily in designated mainland Chinese ports in the Greater Bay Area, as Beijing has waived customs guarantees and simplified administrative procedures, paving the way for more seamless leisure vessel travel within the region. In a directive published on Saturday night, the State Council revamped its maritime policies, allowing Hong Kong and Macau leisure yachts to enter designated mainland ports “exempt from customs guarantees” and benefit from “a...

- [Hearing results a key factor in insurance claims for Wang Fuk Court residents: experts](#) (2026-05-30 04:00)

The success of Wang Fuk Court residents' attempt to seek compensation for losses arising from Hong Kong's deadliest fire in decades will hinge significantly on the findings of the independent committee investigating the disaster as claimants must prove negligence was involved, experts have said. The experts' comments came after some residents of the Tai Po estate said that recently released documents on the government's buy-back plan were ambiguous about their rights to pursue insurance claims...

- [Chinese scientists create ‘kill-them-all’ algorithm for drone warfare](#) (2026-05-30 04:00)

A research team from northwestern China has released a new algorithm that could fundamentally change how drone swarms hunt and destroy enemy targets. The algorithm, known as HG-STR (Heterogeneous Graph Spatio-Temporal Reasoning), promises to allow a fleet of fixed-wing drones to autonomously search a vast battlefield and eliminate every single enemy, even when their communications are being jammed and their vision is blocked. It is the first known algorithm capable of achieving a 100 per cent...

- [Chasing billions: Indonesia's commodity export crackdown sows confusion](#) (2026-05-30 03:30)

Indonesia lost nearly US\$1 trillion in resource wealth over a 34-year period due to deceptive trade practices, President Prabowo Subianto declared in parliament on May 20. That same day, a set of new export controls was unveiled. Foreign-exchange earnings would be locked in Indonesian banks for a prescribed time limit and producers of coal, palm oil and ferroalloys would be required to route sales through a new state-owned enterprise. But barely had the ink dried on the new rules when talk of...

- [How Philippines and Japan future-proofed ties amid China tensions, US wavering](#) (2026-05-30 03:21)

The upgrading of a comprehensive strategic partnership between the Philippines and Japan underscores how the allies are future-proofing their ties amid growing uncertainty in the Indo-Pacific, analysts say. “This milestone reflects the strength, depth and breadth of our ties as we respond to the evolving challenges and opportunities of our time,” President Ferdinand Marcos Jr said on Thursday at a joint press conference with Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi in Tokyo. The talks also...

- [Is Huawei’s new chip scaling law a true breakthrough, or mere hype?](#) (2026-05-30 03:00)

Microchip development has always been a race to build smaller and smaller transistors – the fundamental components of chip circuits. Now China’s Huawei Technologies wants to change the game entirely. Faced with US tech export restrictions that block its access to the world’s most advanced chipmaking machinery, Huawei is proposing a fundamental shift in semiconductor progress: stop obsessing over how small the transistors are and start focusing on how fast data moves through the system. It is a...

- [‘Clear-eyed’ on China: the takeaways from Pete Hegseth’s Shangri-La speech](#) (2026-05-30 02:43)

US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth addressed the annual Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore on Saturday morning, just two weeks after a summit between the presidents of China and the United States. The speech was expected to be a barometer of the summit’s outcomes between President Xi Jinping and his US counterpart Donald Trump. Here are some of the main points from Hegseth’s address. Tough on China, but less confrontational Hegseth referred to China’s “historic military build-up” and reaffirmed...

- [Malaysia’s 3R catch-all risks turning every grievance into a threat](#) (2026-05-30 02:00)

A recent controversy surrounding a surau (prayer hall) in Malaysia appeared straightforward at first. A resident of Taman Seraya, Selangor state, raised concerns about the noise and congestion, particularly during prayer times. Police subsequently investigated the complaint as an attempt to incite provocation and disrupt social harmony. The surau management’s escalation of the complaint to alleged harassment – and the subsequent police report – reflects the persistent challenge of managing...

- [Chip boom powers Hong Kong stock exchange at 40. Innovation, resilience set next stage](#) (2026-05-30 02:00)

Stepping into the former trading hall in Exchange Square on Thursday was like walking through a doorway into the 1980s. Brokers, wearing the iconic red jackets of the period, stood alongside Cathay Pacific Airways flight attendants in retro uniforms, evoking memories of the hall before its closure. The special gong-striking ceremony in Central marked the 40th anniversary of the

merger of Hong Kong's four stock exchanges into the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong (SEHK). Cathay was the first company to...

- [Rising costs in Singapore spur business migration as regional alternatives rise](#) (2026-05-30 01:30)

Recent moves by companies such as Gardenia and H&M to shift some operations from Singapore across the Causeway have put the spotlight on Malaysia's growing appeal as a more affordable base for businesses facing high costs and a tight labour market in the city state. But while the trend may look like an easy win for its neighbour – bringing investment, jobs and spillover opportunities – analysts say the gains could come with trade-offs, as an influx of firms drives up competition for skilled...

- [Taxi trade fears 10% could lose cabs as drivers gear up for ride-hailing](#) (2026-05-30 01:00)

Hong Kong's taxi trade has warned that 10 per cent of the cab owners in the city could soon default on vehicle mortgages as licence values plunge, with many drivers switching to the new ride-hailing regime where 10,000 permits will be issued. The market value of a taxi licence has plunged over the past two decades, from a historic high of HK\$7.66 million (US\$970,163) in 2009 to HK\$2.62 million for urban or red cabs and HK\$1.45 million for green or New Territories taxis as of May this year,...

- [Recent analysis shows Neanderthals may have been first dentists in recorded history](#) (2026-05-30 01:00)

One of the most dreaded terms in dentistry is “root canal,” but at least we get to enjoy the perks of modern medicine. Now, imagine enduring that painful process nearly 60,000 years ago. An international team of scientists believes they have found evidence that Neanderthals, the closest relatives of modern humans, deliberately drilled a hole in a lower molar tooth to remove infected tissue. The discovery represents the oldest known example of invasive dental treatment, and it occurred tens of...

- [Shangri-La Dialogue: Hegseth on China challenges, allies' role – as it happened](#) (2026-05-30 00:13)

This live article is freely available to our registered users. Please log in or create an account below. Get real-time updates and exclusive reporting. Subscribe now with great savings to stay ahead. Defence ministers, military chiefs, diplomats and analysts have gathered in Singapore this weekend for the annual Shangri-La Dialogue, where regional security challenges will be discussed and a flurry of bilateral meetings held. It is expected to provide the first indication of US policy direction...

- [Trump ordered to address fraud claims in IRS case that led to 'slush fund' for allies](#) (2026-05-29 23:35)

A federal judge ordered US President Donald Trump to respond to “grievous allegations” that his deal with the government to create a US\$1.8 billion fund to resolve his lawsuit against the Internal Revenue Service was the result of a “fraud” on the court. In an order on Friday, US District Judge Kathleen Williams gave the president’s personal lawyers until June 12 to respond to a request by a group of former federal judges that she reopen the proceedings to investigate conduct by the president...

- [Tariffs, war and broken trust: Southeast Asia’s Trump problem](#) (2026-05-29 23:30)

The goodbye emails started arriving on a Monday. By Friday, Sheila’s inbox told the story of an organisation coming apart at the seams, one farewell at a time. Sheila* had spent nearly a decade helping run US-funded development projects in the Philippines. She had watched them grow, hire staff and take root in local communities. When Washington ordered a freeze on foreign aid in January 2025, she told herself it was just a pause – a bureaucratic blip pending a review by the new...

- [Why the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation isn’t Nato for Iran](#) (2026-05-29 22:00)

Central Asia is tilting more decisively towards China as geopolitical uncertainty deepens, with Beijing’s expanding influence recasting the former Soviet states’ strategic orientation. In the final instalment of a three-part series, Cao Jiaxuan examines how Central Asian members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation have shaped the bloc’s response to the US-Iran conflict. Read the first part here and the second part here. As Kyrgyzstan gears up to host the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation...

- [Why the Philippines walks a delicate balance as Asean chair](#) (2026-05-29 21:30)

When Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr accepted the Asean gavel from Malaysian counterpart Anwar Ibrahim in Kuala Lumpur last October, the script was already written: a packed agenda, South China Sea diplomacy in the spotlight and a regional digital economy deal to clinch. Then the world changed. On February 28, US and Israeli forces struck Iran. The Strait of Hormuz, an artery of global shipping through which 98 per cent of the Philippines’ crude oil imports travel, became a war zone....

- [Ex-California mayor Eileen Wang pleads guilty to acting as China agent](#) (2026-05-29 21:10)

A former Southern California mayor pleaded guilty on Friday to acting as an illegal agent of the Chinese government. Eileen Wang, who stepped down as the mayor of Arcadia earlier this month, was charged in April with one count of acting in the US as an illegal agent of a foreign government. She pleaded guilty to doing the bidding of Chinese officials by sharing articles favourable to Beijing, without prior notification to the US government as required by law. The 56-year-old was elected in...

- [US judge orders Trump’s name removed from Kennedy Centre](#) (2026-05-29 20:00)

A judge on Friday ordered the removal of US President Donald Trump's name from the Kennedy Centre for the Performing Arts, ruling that the iconic Washington venue cannot be renamed without an act of Congress. US District Judge Christopher Cooper in Washington directed the Trump administration to take down all physical signage bearing Trump's name and to eliminate any references to a "Trump Kennedy Centre" from official materials within 14 days. "The Kennedy Centre's organic statute makes..."

- [Canada might double exports to China, Chinese FM Wang Yi says during rare visit](#) (2026-05-29 19:39)

China's Minister of Foreign Affairs Wang Yi said on Friday that Canada could surpass its goal of increasing exports to China by 50 per cent by 2030 during a meeting with Canada's Foreign Minister Anita Anand. Wang said he thought Canada's exports to China could increase by 100 per cent, building on momentum between the countries. "Canada is focused on growing our economy and diversifying our trading relationships," Anand said during the meeting. "The Canada-China economic relationship is..."

- [Bondi refused to answer questions about Trump and Epstein files, Democrats say](#) (2026-05-29 17:58)

Former US attorney general Pam Bondi rebuffed questions about President Donald Trump's involvement in handling records of the Justice Department's investigation of accused sex trafficker Jeffrey Epstein, Democratic lawmakers said. "She refused to answer any questions about President Trump," congressman Robert Garcia, the top-ranking Democrat on the House panel investigating Epstein, told reporters during a break in the committee's closed-door questioning of Bondi. Bondi also pushed any blame for..."

- [Canadian poison seller Kenneth Law pleads guilty to aiding suicides](#) (2026-05-29 17:12)

The Canadian man who helped scores of people worldwide kill themselves by selling them poison pleaded guilty on Friday to 14 counts of aiding suicide, as prosecutors said they will withdraw murder charges. Since Kenneth Law's arrest in 2023, details of the online forums where he advised distressed people on how to end their lives have caused public outrage and triggered investigations in several countries. In Canada, Law faced 14 murder charges and an additional 14 charges for aiding suicide. At..."

- [Brussels fires starting gun on tougher China trade policy, as Beijing vows retaliation](#) (2026-05-29 16:17)

The European Commission agreed on a tough new approach to trade relations with China, at a rare Beijing-focused debate among Brussels' leadership on Friday. In a presentation, trade chief Maros Sefcovic laid out why the bloc needed to take stronger steps to defend itself from what is described as a new "China shock" to its industries, according to people briefed on the event. This may require developing a new instrument to compel companies in critical sectors to expand both the number and the..."

- [Ex-chief of Hong Kong journalist union serving 5-day jail term after losing appeal](#) (2026-05-29 16:11)

A former chairman of the Hong Kong Journalists Association has failed in his bid to overturn a conviction and five-day jail sentence for obstructing a police officer. Ronson Chan Ron-sing, 45, had refused to present his identity card to police during a stop-and-search procedure nearly four years ago. Deputy Judge Lily Wong Sze-lai dismissed his appeal at the High Court on Friday and ordered him into custody immediately. Chan was sentenced to five days in jail in 2023 after a magistrate found him...

- [Education Bureau took action after teacher carried female student like bride](#) (2026-05-29 16:10)

The conduct of another Hong Kong educator has been thrust into the spotlight after photos showing him carrying a female student in his arms surfaced online, with education authorities revealing they dealt with the matter when they first learned of the images two years ago. The Education Bureau's response to questions from the South China Morning Post about the photos on Friday came a day after the principal of another Hong Kong school resigned for swearing at security guards during a class trip...

- [Shangri-La Dialogue: Vietnam's To Lam warns of 3 crises converging in Asia-Pacific security](#) (2026-05-29 14:56)

Vietnam's leader To Lam on Friday struck a sombre tone at a summit when he warned of three foundational crises converging to cause global instabilities – those of international order, development models and strategic trust. He was delivering the keynote address at the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, Asia's premier defence forum, in his first speech on Vietnam's foreign policy to an international audience since being elected president in April. Speaking to defence ministers, military chiefs,...

- [US judge freezes Trump 'slush fund' for allies](#) (2026-05-29 14:50)

A federal judge on Friday temporarily blocked the Trump administration from moving ahead with a US\$1.8 billion compensation package that critics have denounced as a “slush fund” for President Donald Trump's political allies. US District Judge Leonie Brinkema barred the administration from taking any further action to create or operate the fund while she considers whether to impose a longer-lasting pause. Her order blocks the transfer of money into the fund, the consideration of claims and the...

- [EU's 6 biggest economies agree on capital markets supervision](#) (2026-05-29 14:18)

Finance ministers from the EU's six biggest economies (E6) have agreed a common position on a European Commission proposal for joint capital markets supervision, Germany's finance ministry said on Friday. The push for financial market players to be supervised at a European Union rather than national level is part of a bid to boost the bloc's competitiveness

as it struggles with weak growth and fierce competition from the United States and China. Supervision of significant market...

- [Kenya court blocks US Ebola quarantine centre set to open on Friday](#) (2026-05-29 13:59)

A Kenyan court temporarily halted the opening of an Ebola quarantine centre for US nationals on Friday following a petition filed by a rights group. The facility was due to open in the east Africa nation on Friday according to US officials, to quarantine Americans arriving from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which is battling a major Ebola outbreak. Washington has defended its criticised decision not to repatriate Americans infected with the virus. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has...

- [2 footballers, bookie jailed up to 17 months in Hong Kong match-fixing scandal](#) (2026-05-29 13:36)

A Hong Kong court has jailed two footballers and a betting agent for up to 17 months in the city's largest match-fixing scandal in recent years, ruling that they deliberately undermined the integrity of the sport. Former Hong Kong Under-23 player Brian Fok, Brazilian player Luciano Silva da Silva and betting agent Waheed Mohammad returned to West Kowloon Court on Friday to be sentenced on five charges arising from a high-profile crackdown that saw 23 people arrested on suspicion of illegal...

- [Hong Kong's John Lee, lawmakers hold talks on city's first five-year blueprint](#) (2026-05-29 13:20)

Hong Kong leader John Lee Ka-chiu met lawmakers on Friday to discuss a “highly targeted, substance-heavy” report they compiled outlining proposals on how the city's first five-year plan should proactively align with national development. The closed-door meeting took place ahead of the government's planned launch of a public consultation on Hong Kong's five-year plan in early June as previously reported by the South China Morning Post. The plan is expected to be announced by the end of this...

- [Students can play role in US-China ties, Xi says in letter to Hong Kong student](#) (2026-05-29 13:16)

Young people from China and the United States should continue to contribute to cultural exchanges and mutual understanding between the two countries, Chinese President Xi Jinping has said in a letter to a university student in Hong Kong. The Chinese University of Hong Kong said on Friday that fourth-year undergraduate Liu Runjie received the letter after he and other students shared their experiences in a China-US youth friendship programme with the president. “In his reply, President Xi...

- [Is PLA's response to Dutch warship in South China Sea 'putting down a marker' for future?](#) (2026-05-29 13:15)

China's claim it had used "electronic interference" during a confrontation with a Dutch warship in the disputed waters of the South China Sea might signal growing confidence in its capabilities in this area, analysts said. The PLA's Southern Theatre Command, which oversees the South China Sea, accused the frigate De Ruyter of "illegally entering" waters near the Paracel Islands on Wednesday and repeatedly sending a helicopter into Chinese airspace. Chinese air and naval forces had issued verbal...

- [Missing hiker, 51, found dead after 2-day search on Lantau Island](#) (2026-05-29 13:03)

A 51-year-old hiker who went missing on Lantau Island has been found dead after a two-day search amid a heatwave in Hong Kong. Authorities launched a search for the man, surnamed Chan, on Thursday after his wife made a report to police that morning. She said he had not returned home after leaving for a hike on Wednesday morning. Chan had told his family he planned to hike on section 8 of the Lantau Trail, which connects Shek Pik Reservoir with Kau Ling Chung on the southern part of the outlying...

- [Young, frustrated Chinese STEM PhDs turn to publishing satirical journals](#) (2026-05-29 12:30)

I did not pay much attention during maths and science classes in school. I could never get into the mindset for STEM study, but I can see there is comfort in the fact that the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter will always be pi, or that the quadratic formula will always produce the right answer when applied correctly. I envied my many STEM friends for their skills, their fields of certainty and practicality. But behind the curtain, beneath the veneer of any parent's envy, their...

- [Chinese and UK officials at Shangri-La Dialogue vow to strengthen military ties](#) (2026-05-29 12:30)

China and British delegations discussed concrete plans to strengthen military engagement during talks on Friday on the sidelines of a major security event in Singapore. Major General Meng Xiangqing, who led the Chinese delegation to Asia's largest defence summit, the Shangri-La Dialogue, met United Kingdom military officials, signalling both militaries' willingness to maintain communication. Meng, a professor at the PLA National Defence University, told the British officials that...

- [Ex-lawmaker Lo Wai-kwok, 73, to marry Cantonese opera actress 42 years his junior](#) (2026-05-29 12:26)

Lo Wai-kwok, the 73-year-old chairman of Hong Kong's largest pro-business party and a former lawmaker, has announced his engagement to a Cantonese opera actress 42 years his junior, becoming the talk of the city's political circles. Lo's engagement to 31-year-old Yemina Yu Chung-yan comes five years after the death of his wife Adelina Wong Siu-chun. The couple, whose wedding will be held in October, are set to add to the city's growing number of remarriages, which rose from 15,832 in 2019 to...

- [Chinese astronauts land safely in former top secret nuclear missile test site](#) (2026-05-29 12:22)

The Shenzhou-21 astronauts returned to Earth on Friday after staying in Tiangong space station for more than 200 days, establishing the record for longest on-orbit stay by a Chinese crew. The trio touched down at the Dongfeng landing site in the Inner Mongolia autonomous region at 8.11pm aboard the Shenzhou-22 spacecraft, according to state broadcaster CCTV. Medical teams on the ground said the astronauts were in good physical condition. Their stay was extended by one month after their probe was...

- [Philippine lawmaker surrenders, posts bail after court orders his arrest](#) (2026-05-29 12:19)

A Philippine anti-corruption court ordered the arrest of a prominent senator on Friday over allegations he pocketed a kickback of millions of dollars in a flood-control project, in the latest crisis to entangle the Senate. Senator Jinggoy Estrada surrendered and posted bail before the Sandiganbayan court, allowing him to remain free while the case proceeds. The court barred Estrada from leaving the country while facing the first of two corruption-related charges in relation to the flood control...

- [‘Illegal and void’ : China condemns Japan-Philippines maritime border talks](#) (2026-05-29 12:16)

China has condemned the launch of maritime boundary negotiations between Japan and the Philippines, calling the talks “completely illegal and void”. The protest followed a joint statement released on Thursday after a summit between Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi and Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr in Tokyo. During the talks, the two sides agreed to elevate bilateral ties to a comprehensive strategic partnership to strengthen cooperation in areas including the economy, security...

- [Taxpayers ‘won’ t lose out’ if CUHK medical centre pays off public loan early](#) (2026-05-29 12:12)

Hong Kong’s health minister has said the government will not lose out if the medical centre of the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) repays its public loan early, rejecting calls for a penalty. Secretary for Health Lo Chung-mau’s comments came at a Legislative Council health services panel meeting on Friday, when CUHK Medical Centre CEO Chung Kin-lai also revealed that the hospital’s financial situation had improved. Lo was responding to criticism from lawmaker Kitson Yang Wing-kit, who...

- [How Hegseth might shift his tone on Taiwan at this year’ s Shangri-La Dialogue](#) (2026-05-29 11:50)

Chinese delegates to the Shangri-La Dialogue anticipate Washington will strike a less confrontational tone on Taiwan than it did last year, even as the issue remains the largest point of contention in China-US relations. US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth is scheduled to speak at

the annual security conference in Singapore on Saturday morning. His remarks will be closely watched by Beijing and Washington's regional allies for signs of any policy shift following the high-stakes summit between...

- [China sentences former Shaolin abbot to 24 years for corruption](#) (2026-05-29 11:42)

Shi Yongxin, former abbot of the famous Shaolin Temple, has been sentenced to 24 years in jail for crimes including embezzlement and taking bribes, state news agency Xinhua reported. Shi was also fined 3.5 million yuan (US\$516,000). More to follow ...

- [The era when Europe viewed China as a partner is over, Brussels insider warns](#) (2026-05-29 11:30)

The European Union and China are entering a new, more turbulent era in trade relations, as China has evolved from Europe's favoured customer into a sophisticated competitor, a Brussels lobbyist has said. Chinese businesses are likely to face tougher scrutiny in the EU market as a result, with Brussels already taking steps to diversify its trade and mulling more robust measures to shield local industry from Chinese competition, according to Michael Koplovsky, a senior adviser at the strategic...

- [Kenya arrests 8 students suspected of arson in deadly school fire](#) (2026-05-29 11:21)

Kenyan authorities have arrested eight students on suspicion of arson over a fire at a girls' boarding school that killed 16 students, police said on Friday. The fire at the Utumishi Girls' Academy Senior School in Gilgil in west-central Kenya broke out in the early hours of Thursday and also injured 79 students. Fires are common at Kenyan schools, with many set by students protesting harsh discipline and poor conditions, researchers have found. "Preliminary investigations have identified...

- [Hong Kong's first leader feted by New York institute for fostering China-US ties](#) (2026-05-29 11:17)

Hong Kong's first chief executive Tung Chee-hwa has been honoured by the China Institute of America for his decades-long efforts to foster dialogue and understanding between the two countries. The China Institute Centennial Award was announced and presented at an event commemorating the non-profit institution's first centennial in New York on Thursday. Tung, who served as Hong Kong's first chief executive after Hong Kong returned to China's sovereignty in 1997, was honoured alongside the...

- [Alibaba AI voice model cracks top 5 globally, outperforming US rivals in regional accents](#) (2026-05-29 11:00)

A new artificial intelligence voice model from Alibaba Group Holding has beaten out Western rivals OpenAI and xAI on a major global benchmark, underscoring its technical edge in capturing complex Chinese dialects and accents. Fun-Realtime-TTS-Preview, developed by Alibaba's Tongyi Lab, has secured the fifth spot on the Artificial Analysis Speech Arena

leaderboard with a score of 1,190. It was the only Chinese-engineered voice system in the global top five. Alibaba owns the South China Morning...

- [Vietnam, Philippines to deepen strategic ‘alignment’ on 50th anniversary of ties](#) (2026-05-29 10:53)

Vietnam and the Philippines have overlapping claims in the South China Sea, but as Vietnamese President and Communist Party leader To Lam heads to Manila next week, analysts say the two neighbours are increasingly focused on what they can do together rather than what divides them. Lam’s two-day state visit on Sunday and Monday comes as both countries mark 50 years of diplomatic relations and a decade of strategic partnership, with Manila and Hanoi seeking to deepen cooperation on trade, food...

- [Asia faces ‘costly paradox’ over divergent AI rules in US and EU](#) (2026-05-29 10:31)

Asian technology firms are facing a “costly paradox” as they try to navigate an increasingly uneven global AI rule book, with divergent compliance requirements in the European Union and the United States threatening to blunt their competitive edge. Analysts say the challenge is acute for Asian companies. While the EU has a single, comprehensive and legally binding artificial intelligence framework based on the landmark EU AI Act, US technology-related laws are decentralised at the state...

- [Elderly landlords of subdivided flats say they can’t afford upgrade costs](#) (2026-05-29 10:04)

Some elderly landlords in Hong Kong have said they cannot afford renovations costing as much as HK\$400,000 (US\$51,060) to ensure their subdivided flats comply with new regulations and they may be forced to take units that rent for HK\$3,000 a month off the market. At a media session on Friday, four landlords owning subdivided flats in Sham Shui Po and Yau Ma Tei said they had registered for the government’s grace period under the Basic Housing Unit Ordinance but were struggling to meet the new...

- [The art of the deal: how Beijing pushed Trump to ‘arrest’ the trend on Taiwan arms sales](#) (2026-05-29 10:00)

When US President Donald Trump returned from Beijing earlier this month, he hailed his visit as a historic breakthrough, trumpeting the “fantastic trade deals” he sealed and boasting about his close ties with Chinese leader Xi Jinping. But on the margins, Beijing had sought to extract a price by pushing Washington for concessions on Taiwan. According to people familiar with the matter, Beijing pressed Washington to reduce the size of the arms packages sold to Taiwan and slow the pace of...

- [China official mocked for wearing gold earrings while crying about local flood disaster](#) (2026-05-29 10:00)

A Chinese county official who cried about her village's flood disaster has faced sarcastic comments for wearing a pair of gold earrings. The incident took an unexpected turn when a majority of online observers showed support for her. Shimen county in central China's Hunan province was hit by heavy rains from May 17, which triggered severe floods and landslides. According to an official report on May 22, the disaster left six people dead, 10 missing and affected over 100,000 people. The party...

- [Rescuers find 6 more bodies after US paper mill disaster](#) (2026-05-29 09:59)

US authorities have found six more bodies following a chemical leak at a paper plant in Washington state, an official said on Thursday, with three of a total 11 victims still missing. A huge tank holding tens of thousands of gallons of a highly caustic substance imploded on Tuesday at the plant in Longview, Washington state, sparking a major search operation. Rescuers had initially confirmed two people were dead, and ruled out finding survivors as the search turned to recovering victims' ...

- [How will South Korean nuclear submarines alter underwater balance near first island chain?](#) (2026-05-29 09:08)

South Korea's plans to build nuclear-powered submarines by the mid-2030s will spur a US-allied network of advanced underwater capabilities near the first island chain, strengthening deterrence against potential adversaries such as China and North Korea, analysts say. The South Korean defence ministry this week announced its basic plans to build the country's first nuclear-powered submarine, giving its first detailed outline of the programme since US President Donald Trump granted initial...

- [Hegseth at Asia defence gathering, China-EU tensions, Computex](#) (2026-05-29 09:00)

US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth will address Asia's main annual defence gathering on Saturday, with US allies perhaps hoping to avoid a repeat of last year's ticking off. Hegseth's morning speech will be the main event at the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, particularly as Chinese Defence Minister Dong Jun is not attending for the second year in a row. Other speakers on the agenda include the defence ministers of Australia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand and Qatar. Australia, Japan and South...

- [How Trump's war on Iran is jeopardising Asia's remittance lifeline](#) (2026-05-29 08:30)

There seems to be no end to the harm arising from US President Donald Trump's madcap war on Iran. Go beyond the direct tragic impact across Iran itself, the collateral damage from Tehran's effective closure of the Strait of Hormuz, and its ad hoc assaults on US allies in the region: beyond the burgeoning impact of shortages of oil, gas, hydrogen, helium and sulphur, and the prospect of food shortages arising from the collapse in fertiliser supplies; beyond the hardships of tens of thousands of...

- [Beyond bans: why fringe Islamic movements still find followers in Malaysia](#) (2026-05-29 08:24)

Malaysia's religious authorities can ban teachings they consider deviant, send followers to rehabilitation classes and take group leaders to court. But they have not stopped banned or fringe Islamic movements from finding new followers online, according to officials, as some groups move abroad, rebrand or use social media to keep reaching Malaysians beyond the immediate reach of state enforcement. The concern has been raised most recently in Selangor, Malaysia's richest and most populous state,...

- [86% of Hong Kong children get preferred school places as applications plunge 16%](#) (2026-05-29 07:58)

Around 86 per cent of children seeking places in Hong Kong's public primary schools have secured one of their top three choices through the central allocation system, a record high and up from about 79 per cent last year, as applicant numbers fell 16 per cent to 16,345, the steepest decline on record. But a representative from a primary school council said competition for discretionary places – commonly known as “door-knocking” – was unlikely to ease, as some parents whose children were...

- [Can direct commercial sales fix Taiwan's US\\$20 billion weapons backlog?](#) (2026-05-29 07:55)

US defence industry leaders are pushing for deeper commercial cooperation with Taiwan to strengthen its military capabilities, as the island seeks faster ways to bolster deterrence amid Beijing's mounting military pressure. But they cautioned that such business deals could not replace traditional American arms sales regarded as the backbone of Taiwan's defence. Speaking at the Taiwan-US Defence Industry Forum in Taipei on Thursday, retired US General Charles Flynn and senior American executives...

- [Nato and Romania accuse Russia after drone hits block of flats](#) (2026-05-29 07:53)

Nato member Romania said on Friday that a drone injured two people in a southeastern city during an overnight Russian attack on neighbouring Ukraine, the first time in the war that a drone had hit a densely populated area in Romania and caused injuries. The incident in Romania, also a member of the European Union, was likely to increase tensions on Nato's eastern flank at a time when Ukraine's allies were worried about Russia's war on its neighbour spilling over its borders. Nato accused Moscow...

- [Japan's hefty visa fees, new digital entry system move closer to implementation](#) (2026-05-29 07:37)

Japan's parliament on Friday passed an immigration control law revision to raise the maximum fee for residence status applications by foreigners and introduce an online pre-entry travel authorisation system for overseas arrivals. Once the fee changes are implemented later this financial year, the upper limit will be set at 100,000 yen (US\$630) for visa renewals and

300,000 yen for permanent residency applications, marking a sharp increase from the existing threshold of 10,000 yen. The fees are...

- [Xi Jinping meets foreign leaders: tracker, May 2026](#) (2026-05-29 07:34)

Chinese President Xi Jinping hosted the leaders of Russia, Serbia, Tajikistan and the US during May, reflecting Beijing's increasing importance on the global stage. In total, 15 national leaders have visited the Chinese capital this year, also including the prime ministers of Canada, Spain and the UK, and the chancellor of Germany. Xi's May summit with US President Donald Trump could be the first of four meetings between the pair this year. Trump has invited Xi to the White House in late...

- [Global Prosperity Summit 2026 reinforces Hong Kong's strategic importance in advancing Apec cooperation and global governance](#) (2026-05-29 07:00)

The Global Prosperity Summit 2026 (GPS 2026) highlighted Hong Kong's expanding role in international and regional cooperation both within China's Global Governance Initiative as well as Apec, ahead of a meeting of the bloc's economic leaders in neighbouring Shenzhen later this year. The two-day event, which ran from May 19 to 20, brought together global leaders and renowned experts in Hong Kong to exchange insights on issues affecting the city's future and global prosperity. Ambassador Han...

- [Israel, Russia hit back after being added to UN blacklist for sexual violence in conflicts](#) (2026-05-29 06:59)

An annual United Nations report documenting sexual violence in conflicts worldwide has included Israeli forces for the first time since the review began more than 15 years ago for their treatment of Palestinian detainees. Israel denies the accusations. The 35-page report – shared by the Israeli mission to the UN late Thursday ahead of its expected release on Friday – blacklists 77 government and non-government parties in a dozen countries suspected of committing or being responsible for sexual...

- [US price-fixing probe on Singaporean tycoon signals consistent legal approach](#) (2026-05-29 06:40)

The US indictment of Singapore-based shipping tycoon Teo Siong Seng in a price-fixing scandal has raised questions about Washington's determination to pursue prominent figures from friendly countries, though legal experts say the case conforms to established American antitrust practice. Teo, the 71-year-old chief executive of Hong Kong company Singamas Container Holdings, has several prominent executive roles, including sitting as chair of the Singapore Business Federation and on the...

- [Can Asean chairmanship and 'authenticity' lift Philippines' tourism game?](#) (2026-05-29 06:32)

The Philippines is banking on its Asean chairmanship to elevate the country's tourism through "warmth and authenticity", despite facing accessibility hurdles and stiff competition from holiday heavyweights such as Thailand and Indonesia. The archipelagic state, famous for its white sand beaches, managed to draw just 2.1 million of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' 48.5 million tourist arrivals in the first four months of this year. The Philippines received 5.9 million visitors in 2024,...

- [US labels major Brazilian crime groups as terrorist organisations](#) (2026-05-29 06:21)

The United States on Thursday designated two well-known Brazilian crime groups, the so-called Red Command (CV) and First Capital Command (PCC), as terrorist organisations, despite opposition from Brasilia. "CV and PCC are two of the most violent criminal organisations in Brazil," Secretary of State Marco Rubio said in a statement. "Their influence and illicit networks extend far beyond Brazil's borders, across our region and into our country." "Together, they command thousands of members and...

- [Former Singapore police officer jailed for disguising as woman to molest teen boy](#) (2026-05-29 06:14)

An ex-police officer who disguised himself as a woman to sexually prey on teenage boys in Singapore was sentenced on Friday to three years' jail and four strokes of the cane. While dressed in a dress and headscarf, Sharizal Shafiee, 40, approached three boys, asking them to help adjust his bra. The first two declined. The third agreed, believing Sharizal was genuinely a woman in need of assistance, but was later molested by him. Sharizal was a police officer at the time of the offences but has...

- [China police officers dig through sand with bare hands to search for Taiwan tourist's lost phone](#) (2026-05-29 06:00)

Chinese police officers dug through sand with their bare hands to search for a Taiwan tourist's lost phone, winning widespread online applause. Having successfully retrieved her phone, the woman presented her Taiwan resident travel permit in front of the camera and exclaimed "We, China is the safest country in the world". The woman, surnamed Tsao, lost her phone around 11pm in the Singing Sand Dunes tourist site in Dunhuang, northwestern China's Gansu province, on May 15. The Singing Sand Dunes...

- [China's expanding footprint in Central Asia](#) (2026-05-29 05:53)
- [Hong Kong police arrest boy, 14, after blade found on Citybus double-decker](#) (2026-05-29 05:32)

Hong Kong police have arrested a 14-year-old boy in connection with a razor blade found between two seats on a Citybus double-decker earlier this week, the South China Morning Post has learned. A source confirmed the teenager's arrest. A box cutter measuring about 13cm (5.11 inches), with a 1cm extendable blade, was found between two seats on a route 37A bus, which travels from Pok Fu Lam's Chi Fu Fa Yuen to Central, at around 5.20pm on Wednesday.

Police are expected to share more details on the...

- [China's Innovent Biologics signs US\\$10.5 billion Pfizer deal for 12 cancer drug trials](#) (2026-05-29 05:29)

China's Innovent Biologics has signed a global collaboration with pharmaceutical giant Pfizer worth up to US\$10.5 billion to jointly develop 12 cancer treatment programmes. The Hong Kong-listed drug maker said it would receive an upfront payment of US\$650 million from Pfizer, and it is eligible for up to US\$9.85 billion tied to development, regulatory and commercial milestone payments, according to an exchange filing on Friday. Innovent, which is based in Suzhou in China's eastern Jiangsu...

- [Woman suffers 40% burns in Hong Kong flat explosion caused by 'gas leak'](#) (2026-05-29 05:11)

A woman has been found with burns covering 40 per cent of her body after a suspected gas leak triggered an explosion at a flat in Hong Kong. Police said they received reports at around 10.30am on Friday that residents had heard a loud explosion from the flat in Lam Bik House, Lam Tin Estate. By the time firefighters arrived, the blaze had already been extinguished. They rescued a woman of unknown age from the flat with burns covering 40 per cent of her body, including her face and both...

- [Students divided over Hong Kong principal's resignation after Singapore clash](#) (2026-05-29 04:59)

The resignation of a Hong Kong principal who swore at security guards during a school trip to Singapore has drawn mixed responses from students, with some saying he should be held accountable for tarnishing the institution's image while others felt his apology was sincere. Students made the remarks a day after their principal Lee Cheuk hing tendered his resignation on Thursday as principal of San Wui Commercial Society Secondary School in Tuen Mun. On Friday morning, students at the Tuen Mun...

- [China doubts Musk's Starship future; ex-TSMC chip prodigy returns: SCMP's 7 highlights](#) (2026-05-29 04:34)

We have selected seven stories from this week's news across Hong Kong, mainland China, the wider Asia region and beyond that resonated with our readers and shed light on topical issues. If you would like to see more of our reporting, please consider subscribing. 1. Concerns mount in China's space sector that Musk's Starship will be a failure There are growing doubts within China's space sector that Starship, the world's most powerful rocket being developed by SpaceX in the United States, will...

- [China is growing giant wheat-rye hybrids in its western deserts. Here's why](#) (2026-05-29 04:00)

Scientists in China are growing towering hybrids of wheat and rye – taller even than some humans – in the deserts of its western Xinjiang region. The hybrids, known as triticale, can adapt more easily than wheat to challenging conditions and, in addition to providing food for humans, their stalks and leaves can be used for animal feed. “It is tolerant of poor soil, cold, drought, salinity, and wind and sand,” Kuang Feiting, the executive director of Xinjiang Maishengdao Biotechnology, the firm...

- [Meet the professors advancing digital safety and molecular design](#) (2026-05-29 04:00)

Digital spaces and molecular bonds may not seem to have much in common. But for two leading academics at Hong Kong Baptist University, both fields reveal how research can lead to important discoveries that have a real-world impact. Christy Cheung, chair professor in information systems and digital innovation management at the School of Business, is studying the human side of technology, from platform safety and online deviance to digital wellness. Professor Wang Jun, based at the university’ s...

- [Can pay penalties improve Hong Kong civil service or are they ‘a slap on the wrist’ ?](#) (2026-05-29 03:55)

A revamped appraisal system that denies salary increments to underperforming Hong Kong civil servants is unlikely to significantly improve efficiency, observers have said, calling for a more balanced approach with team-based performance indicators. The revised system, set to be implemented in October, will penalise the bottom 10 per cent of performers – those rated D to F on a six-grade scale – by making them ineligible for a pay increment. A 5 per cent buffer will be allowed depending on...

- [Blue Origin rocket explodes on launch pad during engine-firing test](#) (2026-05-29 03:02)

An uncrewed Blue Origin New Glenn rocket exploded on the launch pad during a test on Thursday, in a major setback for Jeff Bezos’ space venture as it seeks to narrow the gap with Elon Musk’ s IPO-bound SpaceX. Video posted by NASASpaceflight, a YouTube channel that live-streams launches from Florida, showed the New Glenn igniting on the pad before erupting into a massive fireball that billowed skyward, sending a towering plume of flames and smoke into the air. Blue Origin said it had experienced...

- [China unveils AI system to automate satellite targeting and surveillance](#) (2026-05-29 03:00)

The United States is reportedly bringing a powerful new weapon to the Iran war: large artificial intelligence (AI) models tasked with automating every stage of the targeting process, from satellite imagery analysis to final strike selection. But how these systems operate remains strictly classified, with incidents such as the February bombing of a primary school that killed more than 200 children in southern Iran raising public concerns about AI’ s potential role in committing war crimes. Now...

- [Will Hong Kong break its May ‘hot night’ record amid ongoing heatwave?](#) (2026-05-29 02:22)

Hong Kong has recorded six consecutive “hot nights”, tying the longest such streak for May, as an intense heatwave grips the city. The Hong Kong Observatory said the minimum temperature at its headquarters had stayed at or above 28 degrees Celsius (82.4 Fahrenheit) for six straight days through Thursday night, equalling the previous May record set between May 16 and 21, 2021. Another hot night would extend the streak to seven days and set a new May record. The weather forecaster defines a hot...

- [China, US at ‘historical crossroads’ Beijing’ s envoy tells New York gala event](#) (2026-05-29 02:19)

China’ s top diplomat to the United States Xie Feng has told a prominent gathering in New York that US-China relations were at a “historical crossroads”, while acknowledging the winds and bends in the bilateral relationship, following this month’ s leaders’ summit. “Two weeks ago, President Xi Jinping and President Donald Trump had a successful meeting in Beijing. Together, they agreed on a new vision of building a constructive China-US relationship of strategic stability,” he told the China...

- [BTS fans vs bots, scalpers: Army girds for high-stakes Malaysia ticket battle](#) (2026-05-29 02:03)

As BTS concert tickets go on sale on June 3, Malaysian fans are already gearing up for what many describe as the ultimate online battlefield, one filled with scalpers, bots and eye-watering resale prices. For countless Armys, the official fandom of the global K-pop phenomenon, the excitement of finally seeing BTS return to Kuala Lumpur this December has quickly turned into anxiety over whether genuine fans will once again lose out to profiteers. BTS last performed in Malaysia in 2015. Diehard...

- [Health leaders call for closer collaboration to improve patient experience and outcomes](#) (2026-05-29 02:00)

[The content of this article has been produced by our advertising partner.] Greater clarity on costs, stronger co-ordination between public and private sectors, and more comprehensive support for patients emerged as the central themes at the Prudential Health Summit held on March 27. Prudential Hong Kong convened the event to bring together healthcare experts, providers, regulators and patient advocates from Hong Kong and the rest of the Greater Bay Area to explore ways to deliver better care...

- [Note for Trump: US Treasury designs US\\$250 bill with president’ s face](#) (2026-05-29 01:39)

US President Donald Trump could soon appear on a new US\$250 bill, in the Republican’ s latest move to shatter US traditions by putting his personal stamp on national institutions. A proposal for the new bill, featuring a glaring Trump, was first reported Thursday by The Washington Post. If carried out, it would be the first time the image of a living person - let alone

a president - had appeared on US currency in a century and a half. “Right now there is proposed legislation - front of the House,...

- [Is self-censorship behind Japan’s ‘problematic’ press freedom ranking?](#) (2026-05-29 01:30)

Japan is often seen as one of Asia’s most stable democracies, with a sophisticated media industry and constitutional protections for free expression, yet one of the world’s leading press freedom indexes has once again rated the country’s media environment as “problematic”. Analysts and journalists said the label points to a contradiction at the heart of Japan’s press system – reporters are rarely subject to the overt repression seen in authoritarian states, but political pressure, access...

- [TV coverage of Trump’s visit showed Americans how ordinary Chinese live](#) (2026-05-29 01:30)

Nothing about the summit between Chinese President Xi Jinping and US President Donald Trump in Beijing suggested high drama. The language was restrained, the optics disciplined. The impression it left was simple: escalation of tensions for its own sake is a losing strategy. The announcement that China would buy 200 Boeing aircraft served mainly as a political gesture of goodwill, with the commercial details to be filled in later by negotiators. More important was the pattern across readouts from...

- [‘Save her first’: China expectant mum relinquishes surgery room slot to bleeding pregnant woman](#) (2026-05-29 01:00)

A pregnant woman in eastern China gave up her prepared operating room to save another expectant mother suffering massive bleeding. A video of the emergency “life-and-death relay” in Weifang, Shandong province, has gone viral on mainland social media. According to People’s Daily, the story unfolded at Weifang People’s Hospital, where an unnamed expectant mother was waiting in the operating room fully prepared for surgery. She had fasted for nearly two hours before the procedure while her unborn...

- [Death of Hongkong Post? Mounting losses, dwindling demand cast shadow over service](#) (2026-05-29 00:30)

In Hong Kong’s busy commercial area of Causeway Bay, a post office located in a major shopping centre served just a few dozen customers during lunch on Thursday. Across 90 minutes, when nearby restaurants and shops were filled with residents pressed for time, the post office stayed mostly empty, its workers outnumbering the people they were serving. Hongkong Post is struggling with the same existential threat facing other traditional mail service operators worldwide: how to stay relevant in a...

- [‘Transitory euphoria’: South Korea’s strong economic outlook masks key hurdles](#) (2026-05-29 00:00)

South Korea's economy faces uncertainties from rising inflation, a weakening won and uneven performance across sectors, even as it grows stronger than expected this year, according to analysts. The Bank of Korea on Thursday revised its economic growth outlook for this year to 2.6 per cent, up 0.6 percentage points from its forecast three months ago, citing robust exports driven by booming semiconductor demand and government supplementary spending aimed at offsetting the shocks from the Middle...

- [Netanyahu directs Israeli forces to expand Gaza control to 70%](#) (2026-05-28 23:40)

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Thursday he had directed Israel's military to take more of Gaza, initially by seizing 70 per cent of the Palestinian territory, where the population is already penned into a tiny strip of land along the coast. Israel effectively controls an estimated 64 per cent of the tiny coastal strip, bombarded to ruins by Israel's two-year military assault that followed the 2023 Hamas attack on southern Israel. Under an October US-brokered truce that has...

- [Hong Kong well placed to help Central Asia grow yuan trade, leading banker says](#) (2026-05-28 23:00)

Hong Kong has the “most complete renminbi financial ecosystem” and is well placed to serve as a hub for Central Asian countries seeking to expand the currency's use in trade and investment, according to a veteran banker. Stephen Chan Man, deputy chief executive of Bank of China (Hong Kong), also said on Thursday that the high-level delegation led by Chief Executive John Lee Ka-chiu next month to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan was an opportunity to deepen financial ties with the region under a...

- [Premium plan: China's EV makers pin hopes on high-end models to buttress margins](#) (2026-05-28 23:00)

Chinese electric vehicle (EV) makers are speeding up their pivot to the premium segment, where they hope to secure higher profit margins and dodge the cutthroat market's most vicious price competition. New models launched by carmakers including Nio and Seres also mount a challenge to Tesla's bestselling Model Y in the world's largest EV market. “Intensified efforts to gain ascendancy in the premium segment show the carmakers' confidence in their technologies,” said Chen Jinzhu, CEO of...

- [Texas fire official confirms fatalities, injuries in a huge blaze at residential building](#) (2026-05-28 22:54)

A huge fire destroyed a two-storey block of flats in Dallas, Texas on Thursday, causing fatalities and injuring at least four people. The search for the missing people is continuing, a fire official said. The blaze sent huge plumes of black smoke into the sky and drew a massive firefighter response. “There have been fatalities at this point,” Dallas Fire-Rescue Deputy Chief Mark Berry said at a news conference, adding the mission has changed from rescue to recovery. “Let us work through the...

- [How Chinese green tech and investment are reshaping the Central Asian landscape](#) (2026-05-28 22:00)

Central Asia is tilting more decisively towards China as geopolitical uncertainty deepens, with Beijing's expanding influence recasting the former Soviet states' strategic orientation. In the second of a three-part series, Victoria Bela looks at how Kazakhstan is adopting China's green tech and expertise to fight desertification, restore ecosystems and decarbonise industries. Read the first part here. Across the sweeping plains of Kazakhstan's Karaganda region, construction began last month on a...

- [Can middle powers restore the international order? Think again](#) (2026-05-28 21:30)

Recent articles in an Asia-focused international policy forum suggest that states such as Australia, Canada and South Korea can join up with other middle powers to secure the maritime order and restore the liberal international order. While well meaning and encouraging, the unfortunate truth is that these tasks are beyond the capacity of middle powers. The smartest ones won't even try. Maritime security has transformed from a permissive environment dominated by uncontested naval supremacy into a...

- [Taylor Swift concert attack plot suspect found guilty by Austrian court](#) (2026-05-28 21:24)

An Austrian court on Thursday convicted a man of planning to attack a Taylor Swift concert in Vienna nearly two years ago. The state court in Wiener Neustadt found the 21-year-old defendant, an Austrian citizen known only as Beran A. in line with Austrian privacy rules, guilty on charges including those related to the concert, the Austria Press Agency reported. His defence lawyer said he admitted to the charges related to the concert plot during the opening day of the trial last month. The...

- [Panama rejects US pressure claims as it seeks to ease China tensions](#) (2026-05-28 21:12)

Panamanian President Jose Raul Mulino on Thursday rejected suggestions that US pressure had shaped his government's handling of a dispute over ports near the Panama Canal, as Panama seeks to stabilise relations with Beijing and renew a key maritime agreement. "The decision we made regarding those two ports was genuinely Panamanian," Mulino said during his weekly press conference, after China accused unnamed "third parties" of interfering in bilateral ties. Mulino also expressed hope that...

- [Man jailed for 40 years to life for killing 4 sleeping on New York's Chinatown streets](#) (2026-05-28 20:50)

There was no one in the courtroom on Thursday to speak on behalf of the four men Randy Santos bludgeoned to death with a metal bar as they slept on New York City's Chinatown streets. No anguished friends or relatives to tell the judge about Chuen Kok, Florencio Moran, Nazario Vasquez Villegas and Anthony Manson's abruptly shortened lives. No one to confront Santos face-to-face about his psychosis-fuelled rampage through Manhattan's Chinatown

neighbourhood nearly seven years ago, or to hear him...

- [Carney seeks new US-Canada partnership as world undergoes ‘rupture’](#) (2026-05-28 19:49)

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney called for a “new partnership” with the United States to “help make America great again”, in a speech delivered in New York on Thursday. Carney said that while the world is undergoing a “rupture” as the US transforms its commercial relationships, working closely with Canada in specific sectors, including aluminium, cars and critical minerals, would strengthen both countries. Asked about his January trip to Beijing to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping, Carney...

- [Milan restores 19th century bull mosaic’s testicles to former glory](#) (2026-05-28 19:19)

Worn down by thousands of passers-by honouring an unusual tradition, a floor mosaic of an anatomically detailed bull in one of Milan’s grand arcades is getting a sensitive makeover. Legend has it that grinding one’s heel on the mosaic bull’s testicles at the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II guarantees a return one day to the city. “Because of constant pirouettes on the heel made by tourists visiting Milan, the pink tesserae that make up its testicles have been worn down, forming a small crater,” ...

- [Strikes kill family of 6 after Israel declares south Lebanon ‘combat zone’](#) (2026-05-28 18:06)

Several members of a family were killed in fresh Israeli attacks in Lebanon on Thursday, health authorities said, as tensions between Israel and the Iran-backed Hezbollah continue to escalate despite a ceasefire. Six people were killed in a strike south of the coastal city of Sidon in the morning, the Lebanese Health Ministry said. The dead included two children as well as their mother and father, it added. The state news agency NNA reported that the victims were a family displaced by the...

- [Bruce Springsteen calls out Trump, announces Maryland protest festival](#) (2026-05-28 17:28)

Bruce Springsteen, Foo Fighters, Dave Matthews, Brittany Howard and Joan Baez will headline a star-studded protest festival set for the Washington area a month before the midterm elections. Springsteen and Rage Against the Machine guitarist Tom Morello announced the festival on Wednesday while performing together at Nationals Park in Washington as Springsteen winds down his Land of Hope and Dreams American tour. At the concert on Wednesday, Springsteen played many of his most political songs,...

- [US farmers seek firmer soybean guarantees despite Xi-Trump agriculture pledge](#) (2026-05-28 17:00)

Across the vast United States, soybean farmers caught in the crossfire of the US-China trade war hoped for a deal on the crop when US President Donald Trump met with his Chinese

counterpart Xi Jinping. There was optimism after the two presidents met in Busan, South Korea, in October, when China committed to increased soybean purchases. This time, however, Trump left Beijing without any concrete agricultural announcements, much less one about US farmers' biggest export. Instead, a general...

- [Tentative agreement reached in Iran negotiations pending Trump' s approval: US officials](#) (2026-05-28 16:39)

A tentative agreement has been reached in the ongoing negotiations with Iran, US sources confirmed, though they stressed that the deal has not yet been finalised and remains subject to formal approval by US President Donald Trump. Earlier, Axios reported that Trump has asked for a couple of days to consider the proposal before making a decision. The development comes amid a fragile ceasefire first set in April. On Wednesday, the US military launched targeted strikes against Iran. In immediate...

- [China' s BYD aims for zero accidents with 'God' s Eye' , vows crash cost coverage](#) (2026-05-28 14:40)

BYD, the world' s largest electric vehicle (EV) maker, has set its sights on achieving zero traffic accidents through self-developed autonomous driving technology, aiming to assemble next-generation cars affordable for mass consumers. Founder and chairman Wang Chuanfu told a press conference in Shenzhen on Thursday that BYD' s "God' s Eye" advanced driver-assistance system would be priced at just 12,000 yuan (US\$1,770). The system allows drivers to go "hands off" , with BYD pledging to cover any...

- [For a yuan in deeper markets, Fed ex-president cites dollar playbook amid risks, criticism](#) (2026-05-28 14:00)

China has a unique window to internationalise its currency by deepening domestic financial markets, according to a former senior US central bank official who pointed to the evolution of the US dollar and the euro for lessons to be gleaned. The comments from Charles Evans, former president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, provide a fresh perspective in the growing discussion over whether and how the world' s second-largest economy can transform the yuan into a global currency. Speaking on...

- [America at 250: how Trump' s foreign policy is redefining the US story](#) (2026-05-28 14:00)

President Donald Trump' s foreign policy direction could have lasting effects on America' s alliances and global leadership, and it could also speed up the shift to a multipolar world where China plays a bigger role. That is according to Wu Xinbo, dean of the Institute of International Studies at Fudan University in Shanghai. Speaking at a seminar hosted by the university on Tuesday, Wu said the Trump administration was "reshaping US foreign policy" – and it could be a turning point for the...

- [US key inflation gauge worsens, eroding Americans' income and spending power](#)

(2026-05-28 13:37)

A key inflation gauge accelerated in April to the highest level in three years, the latest sign that spiking gas prices and higher food costs are squeezing Americans' finances. Inflation jumped to 3.8 per cent in April compared with a year ago, the Commerce Department said on Thursday, up from 3.5 per cent in March and the highest since May 2023. On a monthly basis, prices rose 0.4 per cent, down from the 0.7 per cent jump in March. The report showed that prices have risen for many items in...

- [Hong Kong approves smart IoT fire alarms for 3,600 old buildings after pilot scheme](#)

(2026-05-28 13:20)

Hong Kong's Fire Services Department has given approval for 3,600 old low-rise residential buildings to install a new Internet of Things (IoT) smart fire alarm system as an alternative to traditional fire-safety equipment, following a successful pilot scheme in the first quarter of this year. The IoT-enabled system consists of detectors installed in individual flats and public areas of the building, which send warning signals to the department within 60 seconds of detecting carbon monoxide or...

- [Veteran lawyer seeks judicial review over alleged illegal structures on his home](#)

(2026-05-28 13:09)

A veteran Hong Kong barrister ordered to demolish alleged illegal structures on his home has lodged a judicial challenge after building authorities refused to consider a constitutional argument he raised earlier. Senior counsel Alan Hoo's lawyers applied to the High Court for a judicial review over the extent of jurisdiction of the Appeal Tribunal (Buildings Ordinance), saying the statutory body was entitled to decide whether an order to remove unauthorised structures would violate homeowners' ...

- [Hong Kong bus driver suspended after video shows him hands-free at the wheel](#)

(2026-05-28 13:03)

A Hong Kong franchised bus operator has suspended a driver after video footage surfaced online showing him operating a vehicle without either hand on the steering wheel. The incident, which sparked widespread safety concerns on social media on Thursday, prompted KMB to launch an immediate investigation into the driver's conduct. In a 17-second clip filmed from an adjacent vehicle, the driver can be seen completely releasing his grip on the steering wheel while the bus is in motion, instead using...

- [El Nino could turn 4-7 tropical cyclones this year into super typhoons: Observatory](#)

(2026-05-28 13:02)

The El Nino weather phenomenon could turn the four to seven tropical cyclones predicted to hit Hong Kong this year into super typhoons, the Observatory has said. The weather forecaster also said on Thursday that the 33.4 degrees Celsius (92.1 Fahrenheit) recorded at its Tsim Sha Tsui

headquarters was likely to be surpassed on Friday, when the mercury was set to rise to 35degrees Celsius. It added that temperatures could rise higher on Friday if showers andthunderstorms occurred at dusk or...

- [‘We’ ll be a museum’ : EU heavyweights back industrial accelerator as China shock fears grow](#) (2026-05-28 13:00)

Major EU members offered qualified support for the bloc’ s flagship industrial plans on Thursday in the first debate over a proposal that has deepened tensions with China. Germany, France, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands and Poland all accepted the broad parameters of the Industrial Accelerator Act (IAA), which would put strict conditions on investments into the union from China and other countries, even as they quibbled over red tape, timescales and how open the plan should be to non-EU...

- [Huawei and scientists build 2D parallel computing chip that rewrites Moore’ s Law](#) (2026-05-28 13:00)

Chinese researchers, in collaboration with Huawei Technologies, have built the world’ s first parallel processor using a two-dimensional (2D) semiconductor. As silicon devices approach their physical size limits, Moore’ s Law – the observation that computing power doubles roughly every two years, while the cost of computers is cut in half – is hitting a wall. But two-dimensional materials such as molybdenum disulfide are naturally atom-thin, allowing electrons to move stably and efficiently and...

- [Why MuleRun could be the next craze: new Alibaba AI agent platform promises safer adoption](#) (2026-05-28 13:00)

A new Chinese artificial intelligence agent platform is looking to replicate the “lobster craze” sparked by AI agent tool OpenClaw earlier this year, while avoiding some of the privacy and security risks associated with the open-source software. MuleRun, developed by Chinese tech giant Alibaba Group Holding, offers a one-stop service for users to access a range of different AI agents. The platform, showcased at the Alibaba Cloud summit on May 20, has been billed as an “always-on AI workforce” ...

- [Solar, so good: Hong Kong’ s new landfill-based plant can power 360 homes](#) (2026-05-28 12:54)

Hong Kong has launched a new solar farm built on restored landfill in Tseung Kwan O that aims to cut carbon emissions by an amount equivalent to planting about 20,000 trees each year. Jointly developed by environmental services firm Veolia and developers Sun Hung Kai Properties (SHKP) and Citic Pacific, with government support, the facility at the South East New Territories Landfill features about 1,850 solar panels spanning 140,000 square feet. Supported by the Environment and Ecology Bureau...

- [3 paths to stability in a conflict-ridden world](#) (2026-05-28 12:30)

The reshaping of the global economic system we are witnessing has entered an acute phase. This raises several questions. When will the world return to a more stable condition? No less importantly, what places will key countries occupy in the new configuration? To answer these questions, it is useful to view current events through the prism of systemic interstate conflicts, which are among the main markers of such transformations. By systemic conflicts, however, one should understand not only...

- [Bangladesh seeks more ‘diplomatic room’ with Pakistan outreach amid India concerns](#) (2026-05-28 12:13)

For many years, India was a key training ground for many of Bangladesh’ s senior officials, as well as a source of support and regional guidance. Now, some are being trained in Pakistan, a symbolic shift that has unsettled New Delhi and offered an early clue to how Dhaka’ s new government wants to deal with its neighbours. A delegation of 12 senior Bangladeshi bureaucrats attended an executive training programme at the Civil Services Academy in Lahore from May 4 to May 21, a move analysts said...

- [Hong Kong principal who swore at Singapore security guards resigns](#) (2026-05-28 11:55)

A Hong Kong secondary school principal filmed swearing at security guards during a student trip to Singapore has resigned, days after being suspended from the position. Lee Cheuk hing tendered his resignation on Thursday as principal of San Wui Commercial Society Secondary School in Tuen Mun, school manager Edmund Wong Chun sek confirmed. Wong, a former lawmaker, said the school’ s board of directors would have to meet to decide whether to accept the resignation, given the many factors...

- [1 in 12 secondary students socially disengaged on campus, survey finds](#) (2026-05-28 11:53)

One in 12 Hong Kong secondary school students is socially disengaged on campus, according to a survey by a social welfare organisation, which is calling for early identification and better support for these “invisible students” before they drop out. The Hong Kong Christian Service (HKCS) surveyed 1,958 Form One to Form Five students aged between 11 and 19 in February and March to identify those with “dropout tendencies” at an early stage. The study found that 8.4 per cent of respondents, or 165...

- [3 wounded in blade attack at Swiss railway station](#) (2026-05-28 11:44)

An attacker wounded three people with a bladed weapon at a railway station near Zurich on Thursday morning, before being arrested, Swiss police said. “Shortly after 8.30am, a man injured three people with a bladed weapon” at the station in the city of Winterthur, northeast of Zurich, police for Zurich canton said in a statement. They said the suspected perpetrator – a 31-year-old Swiss man – had been arrested and that his “motive is under investigation” . Attacks targeting random passers-by are...

- [China slams US commander’ s ‘dagger’ label for South Korea](#) (2026-05-28 11:43)

China has criticised the commander of the US Forces Korea (USFK) who has described South Korea as a “dagger” and Japan as a “shield” in countering China’s growing regional influence. It comes as Washington seeks to expand the scope of its South Korea-based command for a greater presence across the Indo-Pacific in what Beijing views as an effort to contain it. During a podcast interview hosted by the US Army War College on May 22, USFK Commander Xavier Brunson said that when looking from the east...

- [Germany, Netherlands to set up Nato command centre in Baltics](#) (2026-05-28 11:36)

Germany and the Netherlands will set up a joint tactical headquarters in the Baltics this year to command forces on Nato’s eastern flank and help deter Russia, Berlin said on Thursday. The joint German-Dutch command centre known as 1GNC will “assume a command role on Nato’s eastern flank, specifically in the region of Estonia and Latvia” in coming months, the German defence ministry said in a statement. “The deployment of an additional tactical headquarters to the region strengthens the cohesion...

- [Mainland Chinese patient first to be moved north under cross-border ambulance scheme](#) (2026-05-28 11:14)

A mainland Chinese woman injured while travelling in Hong Kong has become the first patient transferred from the city to the mainland under the Hospital Authority’s cross-border ambulance pilot scheme. The patient, who requested to continue her treatment on the mainland, was transferred from Tuen Mun Hospital to Zhuhai People’s Hospital on Wednesday afternoon, according to the Hospital Authority on Thursday. Tuen Mun Hospital’s medical team assessed her condition and coordinated with Zhuhai...

- [Mainland Chinese react as Hong Kong tightens access to offshore investment accounts](#) (2026-05-28 11:00)

As news spread on Wednesday that Hong Kong banks were tightening scrutiny on mainland Chinese clients opening savings and investment accounts, Zhe Ye – an auctioneer based in the southwestern province of Yunnan – was stunned. The former asset appraiser had been planning a trip to Hong Kong to open an account, hoping to buy overseas assets ranging from the Nasdaq and S&P 500 to shares in newly listed companies such as SpaceX. “I really regret not opening a Hong Kong account earlier,” Zhe said,...

- [Alibaba, Tencent lead pivot from chatbots to embodied AI for robotics](#) (2026-05-28 11:00)

Chinese tech companies are racing to deploy artificial intelligence models into robots, shifting the battleground for generative AI from digital chatbots to physical autonomous systems. Alibaba Group Holding’s Qwen3.7-Max model, launched last week, features “tool-calling” capabilities that allow the AI model to act as a digital brain to trigger external software and hardware components. The company said the model could be used to control robots by orchestrating physical actions like navigation,...

- [Hong Kong exports surge 43% in April, driven by strong demand for AI electronics](#) (2026-05-28 10:51)

Hong Kong's exports rose by nearly 43 per cent year on year in April, driven by strong global demand for artificial intelligence-related electronics, though the government warned that escalating Middle East tensions could cloud the near-term outlook. Provisional figures released by the Census and Statistics Department on Thursday showed that the total value of exports rose by 42.9 per cent in April to HK\$620.9 billion (US\$79.3 billion), following a 35.8 per cent increase in March. April's surge...

- [Search launched after Lantau hiker goes missing amid Hong Kong heatwave](#) (2026-05-28 10:51)

Hong Kong authorities launched a search on Thursday for a 52-year-old man who failed to return home after setting out on a hike on Lantau Island the previous day, when the city recorded its highest temperature of the year. The man left home on Wednesday morning, telling his family he planned to tackle section 8 of the Lantau Trail, which connects Shek Pik Reservoir with Kau Ling Chung on the southern part of the outlying island. But he did not return overnight, prompting his wife to call the...

- [Greater Bay Area firms 'cautious' about hiring but hybrid tech talent in demand](#) (2026-05-28 10:47)

Over seven in 10 regional companies operating in the Greater Bay Area are maintaining a "cautious stance" on expansion, planning to hire no more than 30 new staff over the next three to five years, a survey has found. There is, however, strong demand in the market for hybrid professionals who can blend technology and management expertise, according to the study. The survey was conducted between April and December last year by local recruitment firm KOS International and Guangzhou-based Sun...

- [Is Sara Duterte's lead for Philippines' 2028 presidential race in danger?](#) (2026-05-28 10:40)

Vice-President Sara Duterte-Carpio, the daughter of former leader Rodrigo Duterte, has long looked like the politician to beat in the Philippines' 2028 presidential race, with one of the country's most powerful political brands behind her, a loyal base in Mindanao and early polls showing her ahead of potential rivals. But two prominent pollsters say her lead is not impregnable. According to Dr Ranjit Rye, founding president of OCTA Research, and Ronnie Holmes, president of Pulse Asia Research...

- [University heat project cuts medical emergencies for Hong Kong's vulnerable elderly](#) (2026-05-28 10:34)

A project designed to teach elderly residents how to protect themselves during extreme heat has improved their health and reduced medical emergencies, according to researchers. Results from the first two years of the three-year "Beat the Heat" project, released by the Chinese

University of Hong Kong on Thursday, showed that tailored home interventions led to a 132 percent increase in knowledge among older residents regarding heat-related health risks, alongside a 37 per cent reduction in...

- [France becomes first EU country to reimburse anti-obesity drugs](#) (2026-05-28 10:34)

France will reimburse the cost of weight-loss drugs prescribed to severely obese patients from mid-June in a first for a European Union country, Health Minister Stephanie Rist said on Thursday. Novo Nordisk's Wegovy and Eli Lilly's Mounjaro medications have led a boom in anti-obesity treatment, attracting interest from governments keen to address rising overweight levels worldwide. Rist estimated the annual cost to the state at around €100 million (US\$116 million) at full roll-out. Patients in...

- [US judge allows Trump to implement mail-in voting executive order](#) (2026-05-28 10:02)

A US judge on Thursday declined to block President Donald Trump's executive tightening rules on mail-in voting in a loss for the Democratic Party, whose lawyers argued that it could disenfranchise millions of voters. The decision comes as Trump's Republicans are locked in a tight battle to keep control of both houses of the US Congress in the November midterm elections. Trump has for years pushed the false claim that his 2020 election defeat was the result of widespread voter fraud and has...

- [China's top military officials face 'ironclad' rules in anti-corruption fight](#) (2026-05-28 10:00)

China's top military command has issued ironclad measures to enforce discipline among senior officials of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) in the latest bid to further tighten controls over the leading ranks' behaviour. The Central Military Commission (CMC), led by President Xi Jinping, issued the "measures on strengthening the education, management and supervision of senior military cadres" recently, according to state news agency Xinhua on Wednesday. The new rules distilled and applied "the...

- [How tofu evolved from an accidental discovery to one of China's most prized culinary symbols](#) (2026-05-28 10:00)

In China, few foods are as modest yet culturally resonant as tofu. Its origins are most often traced to Liu An, the King of Huainan during the Western Han dynasty (206 BC – AD 9), a nobleman fascinated by the search for immortality. According to legend, Liu gathered alchemists on a mountain in Anhui province, central China, where they experimented with spring water, soybeans and gypsum in an attempt to create an elixir of life. What they produced instead was tofu. The story survived because...

- [Malaysia's navy faces rough waters in South China Sea without Norway's missiles](#) (2026-05-28 09:48)

Oslo's ban on a missile system for Malaysian warships may lead to further bottlenecks in the country's crucial naval modernisation project due to a scramble for a replacement and hamper its capability to counter vessels encroaching on its exclusive economic zone in the South China Sea, according to analysts. The Malaysian navy has spent more than a decade waiting for its new littoral combat ships (LCS), a flagship upgrade meant to enhance its presence in the contested waters. A dispute over...

- [Philippine senator 'Jinggoy' Estrada faces arrest on corruption charges](#) (2026-05-28 09:37)

A Philippine senator and son of a former president could soon face arrest after an anti-corruption body charged him on Thursday with receiving illicit payouts in an infrastructure scandal that has slowed economic growth and hammered consumer and investor confidence. The Office of the Ombudsman said Senator Jose "Jinggoy" Estrada has been indicted for plunder and violating anti-corruption laws after he earned "kickbacks" amounting to 573 million pesos (US\$9.3 million) from a scheme that...

- [Court jails professor who took HK\\$40,000 bribe to admit unqualified student](#) (2026-05-28 09:28)

A Hong Kong court has sentenced a former university professor to 20 weeks in jail after he accepted a HK\$40,000 (US\$5,110) bribe and offered two colleagues red packets to help an unqualified student gain admission to a postgraduate programme, with the judge condemning his actions for tarnishing the city's reputation. Liu Hongbin was sentenced on Thursday for abusing his authority as chair professor at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology's (HKUST) department of ocean science to...

- [Fire at Kenyan girls' school kills 16](#) (2026-05-28 09:26)

At least 16 students died in an overnight fire that started in the dormitories of a girls' boarding school in Kenya, a government official said, in the latest such incident to rock the East African nation. Education Minister Julius Ogamba said on Thursday that 79 others were injured at the Utumishi Girls School, which has more than 800 students in the Gilgil area of central Kenya. The cause has not yet been established. Ogamba said authorities would investigate whether the school's fire safety...

- [Europe plans tougher response to China Shock 2.0](#) (2026-05-28 09:00)

The European Union's executive arm is set to back a tougher line against Chinese imports at a key meeting on Friday as a flood of low-cost competition undermines local industries. Potential measures include requiring companies in key sectors to have at least three suppliers from two or more countries in a bid to pare reliance on China, the South China Morning Post reported. Industry commissioner Stéphane Sejourne will back broader use of regulations designed to prevent foreign companies...

- [China plans to embed AI in energy infrastructure to optimise power grid efficiency](#)

(2026-05-28 08:14)

With victory in the global race to build artificial intelligence capacity heavily dependent on resilient power systems, China is urging domestic enterprises to launch pilot projects that integrate the cutting-edge technology into the energy sector. To support the plan, Beijing has released an official list of application scenarios ranging from smart grids to autonomous coal mines. Energy enterprises would be able to partner with artificial intelligence providers and jointly submit proposals for...

- [China accuses the Philippines of ‘selective and discriminatory’ Chinese arrests](#)

(2026-05-28 08:03)

Beijing has accused Manila of “selective and discriminatory” law enforcement against Chinese nationals, demanding case-by-case briefings following a string of arrests and detentions by Philippine authorities. In a statement on Wednesday, China’s embassy in the Philippines said it had “immediately lodged solemn representations with Philippine authorities for each incident”, and demanded that Manila inform Chinese consular posts of developments within four days. The statement urged Manila to...

- [Beautician who repeatedly doxxed, blackmailed ex-lover jailed for 4 years, 4 months](#)

(2026-05-28 08:01)

A beautician who doxxed and blackmailed a married finance director after having a brief affair with him has been sentenced to four years and four months in prison, with the Hong Kong judge condemning her exposure of the affair online and demand for HK\$2.6 million (US\$332,000) in payouts as “despicable”. Deputy District Judge Ivy Chui Yee-mei on Thursday handed down the sentence to Li Yanlin, who was earlier found guilty of uploading four videos to YouTube exposing her former lover’s identity and...

- [Consort Wan’s dark story, the good and bad with GLP-1s: 7 Lifestyle highlights](#)

(2026-05-28 07:30)

We have selected seven Lifestyle stories from the past seven days that resonated with our readers. If you would like to see more of our reporting, please consider subscribing. 1. The dark story of Consort Wan, 17 years older than the emperor who loved her Wan Zhen’er became a beloved consort of Emperor Chenghua against all conventions, but records indicate a pernicious side to her tale. 2. The story of Snow Garden, Hong Kong restaurant loved by the rich and famous frequented by people such as...

- [Beijing praises actress Lin Chi-ling for quitting Taiwan culture board](#) (2026-05-28 07:00)

Chinese authorities praised the decision of Taiwanese actress and model Lin Chi-ling to quit her position as a new board member of the Taiwan Creative Content Agency (TAICCA), after her appointment drew backlash. Chen Binhua, a spokesman for Beijing’s Taiwan Affairs Office, said at a press conference on Wednesday that the TAICCA had orchestrated and funded films

and television productions in recent years that “distort history and hype the ‘mainlandthreat’ ” . “It serves as a political tool for...

- [Hong Kong to set up international commercial court to tackle major cross-border disputes](#) (2026-05-28 06:40)

Hong Kong plans to establish an international commercial court specialising in adjudicating major cross-border disputes, a move the justice minister says will strengthen the city’s role as a global legal hub under Beijing’s national development plan. The government said on Thursday the Hong Kong International Commercial Court (HKICC) would serve as a dedicated venue for global enterprises to resolve high-value disputes amid a volatile geopolitical landscape. The court, which will be set up as a...

- [BTS fans blast ‘obscenely high’ room prices ahead of Busan concerts](#) (2026-05-28 06:20)

South Korean religious groups, universities and public institutions are offering free or affordable accommodation options for BTS fans who have become targets of price gouging ahead of the supergroup’s June concerts in Busan, but supply remains limited, leaving many to stick with their existing plans. Busan is hosting BTS’ June 12 and 13 concerts as part of its “Arirang” world tour. As June 13 is also the K-pop group’s 13th debut anniversary and the first in many years after their historic...

- [Merge Hong Kong’s 2 cross-boundary ferry piers to optimise capacity, lawmakers urge](#) (2026-05-28 06:10)

Lawmakers have urged transport authorities to merge Hong Kong’s two cross-boundary ferry piers to optimise capacity and cater to the rising demand from luxury yachts, amid growing alternative transport options for travelling to mainland China. Their comments came on Thursday after the China Ferry Terminal and the Hong Kong-Macau Ferry Terminal recorded a 6.5 per cent year-on-year drop to 7.74 million passengers in 2025, with the transport secretary stressing that “prudent examination” was needed...

- [‘Smells like hell’ : Chinese woman disappears owing rent, abandons pet dog in filthy flat](#) (2026-05-28 06:00)

When a property agent in China went to check a flat leased by a woman who had defaulted on two months’ rent, he discovered she had disappeared leaving the room filled with rubbish and an abandoned dog. A shocking video showing the one-bedroom flat in Nanning, southwestern Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region in a complete mess went viral after the agent, surnamed Tang, shared it on social media on May 22, the Guizhou TV reported. There was also an Alaskan malamute in the room, barking occasionally,...

- [Imee Marcos backs Sara Duterte, slams Philippine president’s ‘wicked’ campaign](#) (2026-05-28 05:05)

Senators seeking to lock impeached Philippine Vice-President Sara Duterte out of politics for good may face an uphill battle with one of her staunchest supporters calling the movement against her family “insane and wicked”. Senator Imee Marcos, the older sister of President Ferdinand Marcos Jnr, said it was a “tragedy” that her own family had been given a second chance and “instead of grabbing it and leveraging it into great development and prosperity for the Filipino people, we’ve just wasted...”

- [European leaders get ready to ‘act now’ amid rising fears of ‘China shock 2.0’](#) (2026-05-28 05:00)

European Commission leaders are preparing to harden the EU’s economic stance towards China at a pivotal debate on Friday, opening the door to a new wave of trade and industrial measures later this year. Sources indicated that a majority – though not all – of the 27 commissioners, including President Ursula von der Leyen, are supportive of a more robust trade and industrial policy, amid rising fears of de-industrialisation, in what is now widely described in Brussels as the “China shock...”

- [Earth is hot and getting hotter: UN warns next 5 years likely to smash records](#) (2026-05-28 04:54)

In the next five years, the Earth is overwhelmingly likely to surge again and again past the international climate threshold set as safe and shatter its hottest-year record along the way, according to new United Nations climate projections. The World Meteorological Organization also forecasts an overheating Arctic that warms nearly 1.66 degrees Celsius (3 Fahrenheit) between now and 2030 and a dangerous drought with potential wildfires for the Amazon, a crucial part of Earth’s natural defences...

- [Hong Kong civil servants could see pay rise of up to 4.12%, survey shows](#) (2026-05-28 04:21)

Hong Kong civil servants could receive a salary rise of up to 4.12 per cent this year, according to preliminary pay trend survey results, subject to final approval by the Executive Council. The survey findings, based on data from 104 private companies and released on Thursday, suggest pay increases of 4.12 per cent for senior civil servants, 2.64 per cent for middle-ranking staff and 1.17 per cent for junior employees. When asked whether a pay rise for public servants following the deadly Tai Po...

- [Vietnam’s To Lam seeks to ‘re-energise’ Thai ties with trade, Ho Chi Minh’s legacy](#) (2026-05-28 04:16)

Vietnam’s globetrotting leader To Lam began his first trip to Thailand with trade and security talks dominating the agenda, as well as a symbolic visit to the former home of Ho Chi Minh, the founder of modern Vietnam who once lived in the northeast of the kingdom. To Lam, the president and general secretary of the Communist Party, is seen by many as the country’s most powerful leader since the era of Ho Chi Minh. The former secret policeman has been

zipping across global capitals as he seeks to...

- [What India's 'unsinkable aircraft carrier' project near Malacca means for its China ties](#) (2026-05-28 03:10)

The global energy crisis stemming from the effective closure of the Strait of Hormuz has added complexity to already competitive China-India maritime relations. The bottleneck in the Gulf has disrupted the provision of vital supplies of oil, gas and fertilisers to Asia, underscoring the fragility of global supply chains and the significance of trade chokepoints. Amid uncertainty over the Strait of Hormuz's reopening, India's US\$10 billion plan to transform remote Great Nicobar Island into a...

- [Israel declares new swathe of Lebanon 'a combat zone', imperilling ceasefire](#) (2026-05-28 03:05)

Israel's military on Wednesday declared a new swathe of southern Lebanon as a combat zone and said residents in the area should move north, warning it would act "with great force" against Lebanese armed group Hezbollah in the zone. The military's statement, posted on X, appeared to signal further escalation after more than 120 strikes on Tuesday hit Lebanon's south and east, despite a ceasefire announced on April 16. "We advise residents of southern Lebanon to evacuate to the north of the...

- [US Justice Department launches criminal probe into Trump accuser E. Jean Carroll](#) (2026-05-28 02:36)

The US Justice Department has launched a criminal investigation into E. Jean Carroll, the writer who accused US President Donald Trump of raping her in the mid-1990s, a source familiar with the matter said on Wednesday. The probe was focused on whether Carroll committed perjury in testimony tied to two civil lawsuits that she won against Trump – one tied to her allegations that he sexually abused her in a New York department store and another over defamation in 2019, said the source, who...

- [Appeal of China assets keeps rising among global investors, JPMorgan research says](#) (2026-05-28 02:00)

Global investors' appetite for Chinese equities, companies and assets continues to rise owing to rapid technological advancements and low valuations in the world's second-largest economy, according to JPMorgan Chase. Kwang Kam Shing, chairwoman for North Asia at the biggest US bank, said that foreign investment in Hong Kong and mainland China remained at a low level historically, and investors were keen to explore fresh opportunities. "They still believe there's a big or relatively big gap...

- [Chinese team finds 'garden-like' ecosystem blooming in deepest ocean trenches](#) (2026-05-28 02:00)

Scientists have discovered a thriving and previously unknown ecosystem in the planet's deepest ocean trenches, feeding on organic debris from above. At those depths the pressure is enough to crush a submarine, and combined with perpetual darkness and temperatures near freezing, it makes the deepest reaches of the oceans among the least explored places on Earth. Until now, researchers believed that only a few anemones, sponges or bacteria could survive under such conditions. But an international...

- [Hong Kong drainage project suspended after worker struck by chain hoist dies](#) (2026-05-28 01:57)

Hong Kong authorities have suspended a drainage replacement project in Kowloon after a contractor's worker died in an industrial accident. The worker, 68, was struck by an electric chain hoist at a site on Yen Chow Street in Sham Shui Po on Wednesday afternoon. He was taken to Princess Margaret Hospital in critical condition and later died at about 11.30pm. A government spokesman said on Thursday that Ringo Mok Wing-cheong, director of drainage services, had asked the contractor to provide...

- [The evolution of Hong Kong's independent common law](#) (2026-05-28 01:30)

It is very often said that the common law is one of Hong Kong's greatest assets. It provides us with a corpus of law which shares common origins with those of many established jurisdictions. It enables conversations to take place between our legal professionals and with our counterparts elsewhere. As the only common law jurisdiction with both Chinese and English as official languages used in court, Hong Kong is the connection between China and the common law world. But what exactly is the Hong...

- [Japan Airlines wants to blast human culture into space and land it on the moon](#) (2026-05-28 01:30)

A partnership between Japan Airlines and a space start-up marks the first step for the carrier to explore diversification beyond Earth-bound aviation, potentially boosting Japan's ambition to expand its footprint on the moon. The airline is teaming up with ispace to transport items of "precious cultural heritage and human activities" via a lander craft to the moon and protect them from the effects of climate change, natural disasters and conflict on Earth. "In the rapidly changing world, there...

- [Hong Kong's golden window to renew ageing housing estates is now](#) (2026-05-28 01:30)

Hong Kong's public housing conversation is often dominated by a single anxious question: how long do you have to wait for a home? Today, the answer is starting to change. The average waiting time for a general applicant for subsidised public rental housing has fallen to 4.7 years, a shift that feels small on paper but enormous for the families living it. The real transformation runs deeper than that headline figure. We have moved from a system that was playing catch-up to one that is steadily...

- [Kuwait faces missile and drone attack after US strikes Iran targets](#) (2026-05-28 01:05)

Kuwait said it faced a missile and drone attack on Thursday as the shaky ceasefire in the Iran war was again challenged after the United States conducted strikes targeting Iran and Tehran said it responded with an attack of its own. Kuwait's military made the announcement, without providing further details on what had been targeted. Kuwait repeatedly came under fire from Iran and Iranian-backed Shiite militias in Iraq during the war. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack. The...

- [How Southeast Asia's ambitious green transition strategy is a windfall for China](#) (2026-05-28 01:00)

Chinese energy companies are poised to play an important role in Southeast Asia's ambitious green transition plans, which will see countries across the region integrate their power grids, according to a senior Singaporean official. The strategy could eventually lead to a cross-regional network running all the way from Singapore to southern China via nations including Malaysia and Thailand, according to Pua Kok Keong, chief executive of the Energy Market Authority of Singapore – the city state's...

- [Leveraging Hong Kong's Unique Advantages to Expedite an International Innovation and Technology Centre— The Support from CICC for Hong Kong's Leap into Innovation](#) (2026-05-28 01:00)

[The content of this article has been produced by our advertising partner.] In 2026, China embarks on its 15th Five-Year Plan. At this critical juncture, as changes unseen in a century accelerate worldwide and the global innovation landscape is being profoundly reshaped, Hong Kong is presented with a historic opportunity to develop into an international innovation and technology centre. This aligns with the central government's vision and provides an indispensable path for the city to shape its...

- [China barbecue chain willingly refunds diners US\\$162,000 for serving 'not properly grilled' food](#) (2026-05-28 01:00)

A refund initiative launched by a famous barbecue restaurant chain in China has drawn significant attention on mainland social media, triggering a debate about a culture of valuing the feelings of customers. At the beginning of May, Very Long Ago Lamb Skewers, which has 142 directly managed outlets across the country, contacted customers who ate at 48,000 tables at 24 restaurants in February. The eatery was offering to refund them half of the bill for the mutton kebab they ate. The refund, at a...

- [Homesick Filipino migrants count cost of separation for a 'better' future](#) (2026-05-28 00:53)

For more than a decade, Jeffrey Ongoco has watched much of his daughter's childhood unfold through a screen. The 46-year-old, who works as a document controller for a construction company in Doha, left the Philippines in 2007 for a job in Saudi Arabia before moving to Qatar

in 2010. He and his wife work in Doha to support their 16-year-old daughter, who has lived in the Philippines since infancy, cared for by relatives in Bataan province, about 130km (80 miles) northwest of Manila. It was a...

- [Hong Kong eyes Central Asian listings as HKEX CEO pitches city's deep liquidity](#) (2026-05-28 00:30)

Hong Kong is an excellent option for Central Asian companies considering secondary listings to raise funds for expansion due to its deep liquidity, as the city eyes rapidly growing markets in the region, Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing (HKEX) CEO Bonnie Chan Yiting has said. Chan, who will join a high-level delegation led by Chief Executive John Lee Ka-chiu to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan in early June, also said the city's bourse was "definitely" eyeing closer collaboration with its counterparts...

- [Jill Biden feared Joe Biden was having a stroke during disastrous Trump debate](#) (2026-05-27 23:10)

Jill Biden feared her husband was having a stroke as she watched then US President Joe Biden stumble through a disastrous debate performance that led to the end of his 2024 re-election campaign, the former first lady said in a recent interview. "I was frightened, because I had never ever seen Joe like that before or since. Never," Jill Biden told CBS News in an interview scheduled to air on Sunday. Joe Biden's shaky, mumbling and sometimes confused delivery against Donald Trump in June 2024 gave...

- [First China, now South Korea: why Asian powers are turning to commercial Arctic shipping](#) (2026-05-27 23:00)

Months of disruption through the Strait of Hormuz have prompted a rethink of global supply chains, with South Korea now following China in pushing to commercialise the Arctic shipping route to Europe. South Korea aimed to open a regular route through the waters by 2030, following a trial voyage set to debut later this year, according to a broader maritime development plan released on Tuesday by Seoul's Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries. "To prepare for the Arctic shipping era approaching after...

- [Norway to join France's nuclear umbrella, in move away from US reliance](#) (2026-05-27 22:50)

Norway will open talks with France on joining its nuclear umbrella, French President Emmanuel Macron and Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Stoere said on Wednesday, reflecting growing European concerns about relying on the US for security. The move signals a shift by Norway, long a staunch Atlanticist that has relied heavily on Nato and the US nuclear umbrella, towards closer defence cooperation within Europe. Macron and Stoere announced the plan at a meeting in Paris, where they also...

- [As Iran war stokes water security fears, Central Asia could turn to China](#) (2026-05-27 22:00)

Central Asia is tilting more decisively towards China as geopolitical uncertainty deepens, with Beijing's expanding influence recasting the former Soviet states' strategic orientation. In the first of a three-part series, Laura Zhou looks at how vulnerabilities laid bare by the Iran war might make the region look to China for water security. The US-Israel war on Iran has crippled global supply chains, choking off the world's energy supply alongside reserves of critical commodities like...

- [China's next big leap: becoming a frontier science civilisation](#) (2026-05-27 21:30)

Singapore's founding prime minister Lee Kuan Yew once offered a striking observation on the nature of American power, wrote Harvard professor Joseph Nye in 2011. China, Lee argued, could draw upon its massive population but the United States possessed a deeper structural advantage: the ability to attract and recombine global talent within an unusually open, diverse and creative ecosystem. America's innovation system was not merely large. It was generative. Fifteen years later, on April 30,...

- [Trump appears to threaten to 'blow up' Oman, after question on Iran and Hormuz](#) (2026-05-27 21:17)

US President Donald Trump on Wednesday appeared to threaten to attack ally Oman if it sides with Iran over reopening the Strait of Hormuz. Trump said Oman must "behave" or he would "blow them up", when he was asked if he would accept a short-term deal to allow Iran and the Gulf state to control the waterway. "No, the strait is going to be open to everybody," Trump told reporters during a cabinet meeting at the White House. "It's international waters and Oman will behave just like everybody else..."

- [Assistant who gave Matthew Perry fatal ketamine dose gets 41 months in prison](#) (2026-05-27 19:42)

The personal assistant who injected Friends star Matthew Perry with a fatal dose of the hallucinogenic drug ketamine was sentenced to 41 months in federal prison on Wednesday, bringing to a close the prosecution of five people who admitted to playing roles in the actor's death. Judge Sherilyn Garnett delivered the sentence for Kenneth Iwamasa, the person who found Perry floating face down and lifeless in a hot tub at his Los Angeles home in October 2023. Federal prosecutors said Iwamasa...

- [China says it drove away Dutch warship near disputed Paracel Islands](#) (2026-05-27 19:00)

China's military said on Wednesday that it had used measures including electronic interference to drive away a Dutch warship near the disputed Paracel Islands, and in a rare move accused the Dutch navy of triggering "miscalculation". The People's Liberation Army's (PLA) Southern Theatre Command, which oversees the South China Sea, said in a post on its official WeChat account on Wednesday evening that the Dutch frigate De Ruyter had "illegally intruded into China's Xisha Islands" and that its...

- [China and Cuba hold agriculture talks as Beijing backs Havana amid US pressure](#)

(2026-05-27 18:09)

China and Cuba held talks on expanding agricultural cooperation in Beijing on Tuesday, the latest in a series of moves by Beijing to shore up support for the Caribbean island as Washington intensifies a campaign of sanctions, criminal indictments and military posturing against Havana. Chinese Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs Zhang Zhili met Cuban Deputy Agriculture Minister Telce Gonzalez to review joint projects and explore new areas of collaboration in the sector. The Cuban...

- [Cambodia jails 6 Chinese men for South Korean student's torture and murder](#)

(2026-05-27 17:15)

A Cambodian court sentenced six Chinese men, reportedly from a scam-linked crime ring, to life in prison on Wednesday for the murder of a South Korean student last year. The torture and killing of the college student in Cambodia sparked a public outcry in South Korea, which dispatched a task force to the Southeast Asian nation in an effort to jointly tackle transnational cyberscam networks. The multibillion-dollar scam industry ballooned in Cambodia in recent years, with thousands of foreign...

- [Celebrity 'Trump' buffalo spared sacrifice, sent to Bangladesh zoo](#) (2026-05-27 16:46)

A buffalo in Bangladesh nicknamed “Donald Trump” for its flowing blond hair has been spared from sacrifice after shooting to fame, and will instead be cared for at the national zoo. Muslim-majority Bangladesh, a South Asian nation of 170 million people, celebrates Eid al-Adha, the “feast of the sacrifice”, on Thursday. The 700kg (1,500-pound) bull, a rare albino buffalo with a flowing helmet of light hair resembling the signature look of the US president, was due to be slaughtered to mark the...

- [US ex-president Biden sues DOJ over release of interview audio](#) (2026-05-27 16:01)

Former Democratic US president Joe Biden sued the US Department of Justice on Tuesday, seeking to bar the release of audio recordings and transcripts of private conversations with his biographer in 2016 and 2017. The lawsuit, filed in federal court in Washington, DC, comes ahead of the department's planned June 15 release of the materials to the US House Judiciary Committee and the conservative Heritage Foundation. The foundation sought them after they were used as part of then-special counsel...

- [3 scientists win Hong Kong's Shaw Prize for developing therapy for rare leukaemia](#)

(2026-05-27 16:00)

Three life scientists from mainland China and France have won Hong Kong's Shaw Prize for developing a therapy that has turned a rare form of leukaemia from deadly to widely curable. Professor Emerita Anne Dejean, Professor Hugues de The and Professor Chen Zhu have won in equal shares the life sciences and medicine prize of the Shaw Prize, which has been dubbed the “Nobel Prize of the East”. The three academics were recognised for their discovery of the

molecular and cellular bases of acute...

- [Uganda closes border with DR Congo as cases of rare Ebola type surge](#) (2026-05-27 15:39)

Ugandan authorities on Wednesday ordered the closure of the border with Congo “with immediate effect” as suspected cases surge near 1,000 in its neighbour of a rare type of Ebola and as others emerge at home. The measure, which goes against World Health Organization guidance, underscored growing fears of contagion in this East African country that, like Congo, has experience responding to Ebola outbreaks but is faced with a type this time, Bundibugyo, with no approved medicines or vaccines. A...

- [Stamp of approval sought on HK\\$4.6 billion lifeline for struggling Hongkong Post](#) (2026-05-27 14:18)

Hong Kong authorities are seeking to inject HK\$4.6 billion (US\$587 million) into the government-owned postal service provider to sustain its operations for the next three years, following eight years of losses and declining mail volume. A document submitted to the Legislative Council on Wednesday by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau showed a bruising fiscal trajectory for the Post Office Trading Fund (POTF) of Hongkong Post since 2017-18. Self-financing since 1995, Hongkong Post has...

- [Peking University unveils 3D design tool to power Huawei’ s chip ambitions](#) (2026-05-27 14:00)

Researchers at Peking University have claimed a breakthrough in microchip design software, purportedly offering critical support to Huawei Technologies as the tech giant attempts to build cutting-edge semiconductors despite US-led trade restrictions. The innovation, unveiled on Tuesday, comes in the form of a prototype tool for electronic design automation (EDA), according to an announcement by the university’ s School of Integrated Circuits. EDA is the highly specialised software that engineers...

- [Chinese scientists use supercomputer to cut new drug screening time from years to seconds](#) (2026-05-27 14:00)

China has unveiled an artificial intelligence platform for drug discovery that can screen a vast library of chemical compounds, cutting the initial drug screening phase from months or years down to tens of seconds. Developers said they expected the system to provide a novel method for identifying lead molecules to treat tumours, neurodegenerative conditions, rare diseases and emerging infectious diseases, as well as possibly speeding up drug research during public health crises. Called GalaxyVS,...

- [Blade concealed between Citybus double-decker seats sparks police probe](#) (2026-05-27 13:51)

Hong Kong police are investigating after a blade was discovered between two seats on a Citybus double-decker, the second such case reported in recent days. A male passenger alerted the

driver of the route 37A bus, which travels from Pok Fu Lam's Chi Fu Fa Yuen to Central, at about 5.20pm on Wednesday that the box cutter had been found on the upper deck. Police officers boarded the bus when it stopped outside Pacific Place in Admiralty and seized the item. The box cutter measured about 13cm (5.11...

- [China unveils auto industry blueprint to set EV, AI vehicle and semiconductor standards](#) (2026-05-27 13:30)

China is seeking to expand its influence over the future of the global auto industry through a sweeping regulatory blueprint covering core technologies ranging from vehicle chips, AI and batteries to autonomous driving and low-carbon development. The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology on Tuesday released its 2026 work plan on automotive standardisation, outlining measures to tighten technical requirements as part of efforts to reinforce China's dominance in electric vehicles (EVs)...

- [Why there's no point in signing a fourth China-US communique](#) (2026-05-27 13:10)

Despite recent signs that US-China ties are stabilising, veteran China watcher Li Cheng argues that the two superpowers should not rush to sign a new joint communique, suggesting this would add little value as Washington is not upholding its previous commitments. The recent summit between President Xi Jinping and his US counterpart Donald Trump produced a "dramatic change" in the countries' relationship, Li said in an interview published by Chinese news website Guancha.cn. "From viewing each...

- [China's drug regulator clears wave of home-grown innovative medicines amid biotech boom](#) (2026-05-27 13:00)

Home-grown innovative drugs make up most of the medicines China's drug regulator has approved for sale so far this year, underscoring the country's biotech boom. Of the 19 innovative drugs cleared by the National Medical Products Administration (NMPA), 15 came from domestic companies, according to the regulator's website as of May 21. These include sonrotoclax, developed by global biopharmaceutical firm BeOne, for treating certain adult blood cancers. The regulator overhauled its approval...

- [Philippine ex-president Duterte's ICC trial to start on November 30](#) (2026-05-27 12:52)

Former Philippines president Rodrigo Duterte will face a crimes against humanity trial at the International Criminal Court from November 30, the presiding judge said on Wednesday. Duterte faces three counts of crimes against humanity, with prosecutors alleging his involvement in at least 76 murders between 2013 and 2018 during his so-called "war on drugs". The 81-year-old will be the first Asian former head of state to face trial at the ICC, which prosecutes individuals for the world's worst...

- [What to watch at Shangri-La Dialogue after Trump's China visit resets ties](#) (2026-05-27 12:44)

The results of the Xi-Trump summit and their implications for regional security will take centre stage this week during Asia's largest defence forum, the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, according to analysts. Zhu Feng, dean of Nanjing University's School of International Studies, said US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth's speech at the forum would serve as an important gauge of how much the talks between Chinese President Xi Jinping and his US counterpart Donald Trump had helped stabilise...

- [China's weaving of a web of ties makes it a diplomatic superpower](#) (2026-05-27 12:30)

Beijing hosted the presidents of the United States and Russia within days of each other recently. China's rising diplomatic standing is no accident. It is grounded in a tradition of relational diplomacy stretching back centuries and reflected in the growing recognition across capitals that Beijing is a reliable partner. The clearest articulation of China's foreign policy ethos comes from academic Qin Yaqing, a former president of China Foreign Affairs University, which has trained more than 600...

- [Hong Kong private tutor jailed for 4½ years over repeatedly molesting boy](#) (2026-05-27 12:08)

A convicted paedophile has been jailed for 4½ years for committing obscene acts against a seven-year-old boy while working as a private tutor in Hong Kong more than two years ago. Ng Tin-yu, 24, was sentenced on Wednesday for repeatedly molesting the boy at the latter's home in Kowloon City until a camera in the child's bedroom captured one of the incidents, leading to the defendant's arrest. He pleaded guilty earlier this month to nine counts of committing an act of gross indecency towards a...

- [AI deepfakes expose legal vacuum in India's celebrity rights protection](#) (2026-05-27 12:00)

A wave of AI-generated deepfakes and fake endorsements has pushed Indian celebrities, from cricket stars to Bollywood actors, towards the courts seeking stronger protection for their name, image, voice and likeness. Lawyers say the litigation has exposed a widening gap in Indian law, with courts increasingly recognising personality rights even though the country lacks a dedicated statute to enforce them. The campaign gained momentum last December, when Indian cricket legend Sunil Gavaskar...

- [5 of 7 villagers trapped in flooded Laos cave found alive](#) (2026-05-27 11:56)

Five of the seven villagers trapped deep in a flooded cave in Laos were found alive on Wednesday afternoon, Thai divers said, in a mission that included some of the same expert cave divers who saved a Thai youth football team in 2018. Around 4.30pm, a Thai-led rescue team broke through to an area where they found five of the missing villagers perched on a muddy ledge, after diving for four days through treacherous, narrow flooded passages seeking a way into the cave complex. Two other Laotians...

- [China warns against ‘third party’ influence as Panama Canal port dispute simmers](#) (2026-05-27 11:40)

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Tuesday said Beijing was ready to deepen cooperation with Panama City and that third countries should not influence their bilateral ties. “China has always maintained that China-Panama relations are not directed against any third party and should not be interfered with by any third party,” Wang said, according to a foreign ministry read-out on Wednesday. Wang made the remarks while meeting with Panamanian Foreign Minister Javier Martinez-Acha on the sidelines...

- [Bangladesh probes hospital deaths of 6 newborns](#) (2026-05-27 11:33)

At least six newborn babies died in the same hospital ward in Bangladesh within hours of each other on Wednesday, said health officials, who launched an investigation. The newborns, aged between one and three days, were in the post-delivery ward of Ad-Din Hospital, a private facility in the capital Dhaka. “An investigation is under way, and we need some time to determine the cause of the deaths of the newborns,” Nahida Yasmin, a director at the hospital, told reporters. Prabhat Chandra Biswas,...

- [Samoan suspect confesses to hired hit in Vietnam on Sydney gangster](#) (2026-05-27 11:21)

One of the two Samoan men arrested by Vietnamese police over the killing of an Australian with reported links to Sydney’s criminal underworld outside a restaurant in Ho Chi Minh City has admitted that he was hired to carry out a hit on a rival. Lorenzo Lemalu, 24, was gunned down outside the restaurant last Thursday, in a rare gangland murder involving foreigners using Vietnam as a base for their crime. Shocking images of the shooting caught on CCTV show flashes from a gun wielded by a hooded...

- [Hong Kong overtakes Switzerland as world’s largest cross-border wealth hub, BCG finds](#) (2026-05-27 11:16)

Hong Kong has overtaken Switzerland as the world’s largest cross-border wealth hub, driven by an initial public offering (IPO) bonanza and capital inflows from mainland China, according to Boston Consulting Group (BCG). Cross-border wealth booked in Hong Kong climbed 10.7 per cent in 2025 to US\$2.95 trillion, narrowly beating Switzerland’s US\$2.94 trillion after rising 7.6 per cent last year, the international consultancy said in its latest global wealth report released on Wednesday. “These...

- [Hong Kong braces for Friday scorcher as mercury climbs to 33.7 degrees](#) (2026-05-27 11:13)

This story has been made freely available as a public service to our readers. Please consider supporting SCMP’s journalism by subscribing. Hong Kong recorded its hottest day of the year so far as the mercury hit 33.7 degrees Celsius (92.7 Fahrenheit) on Wednesday, with the Observatory warning that temperatures in parts of the city could reach a scorching 37 degrees on Friday. The highest temperature was logged at the Observatory’s Tsim Sha Tsui

headquarters on Wednesday afternoon, as a “very hot...

- [More villagers evicted from land earmarked for Northern Metropolis](#) (2026-05-27 11:07)

Hong Kong authorities have evicted more residents from a village in the New Territories to make way for the Northern Metropolis megaproject, with one family complaining they only received the notice to move out last month. Dozens of police officers, Lands Department staff members, security guards and workers from the contractors gathered at Yik Yuen Tsuen in Tuen Mun’s Lam Tei on Wednesday morning. They used barriers to block passageways leading to some village houses, with a few officers...

- [China’s date with once-sanctioned Dutch trade minister on cards for early July: source](#) (2026-05-27 11:03)

A Dutch minister who was previously sanctioned by Beijing will lead a business delegation to China in early July, according to a source familiar with the planning, as the two nations navigate thorny bilateral issues such as newly proposed US export curbs on ASML chipmaking tools and the Nexperia ownership debacle. Sjoerd Sjoerdsma, who was recently removed from Beijing’s sanction list, will lead a four-day visit starting on July 6 with stops in Beijing and Shanghai. In the capital, the...

- [Beijing hails Hong Kong astronaut’s selection as result of ‘one country, two systems’](#) (2026-05-27 10:57)

Beijing has hailed the inclusion of Hong Kong’s first astronaut in the Shenzhou-23 mission as the “fruitful result” of the “one country, two systems” framework, while expressing hope that more young people from the city will be inspired to contribute to the country’s technological development. At a press briefing on Wednesday, Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokeswoman Mao Ning described the successful launch of the Shenzhou-23 spacecraft and the arrival of Hong Kong payload specialist Lai...

- [India tells filmmakers to drop ‘China-bashing’ as ties warm](#) (2026-05-27 10:53)

As India and China work to steady their relationship after years of border tension, Indian filmmakers say projects inspired by the 2020 Galwan Valley clashes are being reworked, delayed or shelved following official warnings against “China-bashing”. Bollywood heavyweight Salman Khan’s war drama, initially titled Battle of Galwan, was reportedly asked to change its name to Maatrubhumi: May War Rest in Peace, with several scenes requiring reshoots. A separate film, The Lion of Galwan, has been...

- [Spanish police search headquarters of PM Sanchez’s ruling party](#) (2026-05-27 10:38)

Spanish police are searching the headquarters of the ruling Socialist Party as part of an ongoing investigation into possible financial wrongdoing, the Civil Guard said on Wednesday. The raid on the office in central Madrid is another blow to the party of Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez, whose Socialists have been hammered by a series of corruption scandals. The Civil Guard said

the police were under judicial orders to find material relevant to a National Court probe into accusations of corruption...

- [Ride-hailing cap of 10,000 ‘prudent’ start for Hong Kong, transport minister says](#) (2026-05-27 10:36)

Hong Kong’s cap of 10,000 vehicle permits for ride-hailing services is a “prudent and safe starting point” and the government will dynamically adjust the quota based on operational data, the city’s transport minister has said. The quota, revealed on Tuesday, prompted lawmakers to call for frequent reviews in the initial months after the scheme’s launch and swift government intervention if services proved insufficient. Speaking to the media on Wednesday, Secretary for Transport and Logistics...

- [Hong Kong justice secretary fears possible leak in allegations against prosecutor](#) (2026-05-27 10:23)

Hong Kong’s secretary for justice has raised concerns that online accusations against the new public prosecutions director may have been based on information that came from inside his department, urging staff to come forward about the source of the allegations. The internal letter from Paul Lam Ting-kwok surfaced on Wednesday when US-based Hong Kong fugitive activist Frances Hui Wing-ting posted it on social media. She earlier cited “insiders among prosecutors” in accusing newly appointed...

- [Japan enacts law centralising intelligence gathering amid privacy fears](#) (2026-05-27 10:21)

Japan’s parliament enacted a law on Wednesday to establish a new National Intelligence Council to centralise information gathering in response to overseas threats, marking a first step in plans to boost capabilities that have raised concerns over civil liberties. Establishing the council is a key aim in the governing agenda of Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi, a security hawk who has pledged to strengthen intelligence and counter-espionage capabilities in response to what her government calls the...

- [Can AI help Hongkongers quit smoking? Health authorities are giving it a go](#) (2026-05-27 10:20)

Hong Kong health authorities have deployed an AI chatbot developed by a local university to help residents quit smoking, after missing their target despite a clampdown on tobacco products. The Tobacco and Alcohol Control Office also said on Wednesday that the city’s smoking rate had dropped to 8.5 per cent as of last year, one of the lowest among developed economies. The office unveiled its “Chat to Quit” chatbot pilot initiative as part of its annual “Quit in June” campaign. The drive also...

- [Alibaba’s new AI model scores higher than OpenAI, Google rivals in coding ranking](#) (2026-05-27 10:00)

Alibaba Group Holding's latest artificial intelligence model has clinched a top-tier spot on a major global coding leaderboard, making the Chinese technology giant the only developer other than Anthropic to break into the ranking's top five spots. Qwen3.7-Max, Alibaba's latest AI model, scored 1,541 on the Code Arena ranking to claim the fourth spot globally, placing it ahead of rival models from OpenAI and Google. The other four spots in the top five were held by various iterations of Claude...

- [AI is massively increasing China's new weapon development speed: scientists](#)
(2026-05-27 10:00)

While much of military AI globally focuses on autonomous weapons and large language models, a new study suggests Beijing may also be pursuing a quieter transformation: embedding artificial intelligence (AI) in the deepest layers of industrial manufacturing. A study published last month in the Chinese defence engineering journal Acta Armamentarii described how researchers developed an AI-powered "bearing design agent" – capable of autonomously designing rolling bearings in advanced machinery. The...

- [Controversial China 'dead or alive' app transforms into valuable personal safety tool](#)
(2026-05-27 10:00)

A controversial Chinese app with the allegedly offensive name "dead or alive" has been transformed into a government-backed safety tool. The app, called Sileme, or "Are you dead?", went viral in January because of its straightforward name that challenged the traditional taboo notions about death. Its function was extremely simple. The sign-in app features a giant green button on the screen. A person only needs to touch the button every day to confirm their "alive" status. If they fail to check...

- [Huawei seeks to match best chips without best chipmaking gear](#) (2026-05-27 09:13)

Chinese tech giant Huawei Technologies said it had found a way to make semiconductors on a par with the best worldwide without having to use cutting-edge chipmaking equipment it is unable to access due to US sanctions. The breakthrough will allow Huawei to make high-end chips that are equivalent to 1.4 nanometres by 2031, He Tingbo, president of the company's semiconductor business, told a tech conference in Shanghai on Monday. TSMC, the world's biggest producer of advanced semiconductors, plans...

- [Hong Kong to roll out 2-month subsidy on LPG to ease burden on transport firms](#)
(2026-05-27 09:08)

Hong Kong authorities will offer a subsidy of HK\$0.50 per litre on liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) from this Sunday to July 30 to ease the pressure of soaring fuel prices caused by the Middle East war on local transport companies, which run more than 20,000 vehicles from taxis to minibuses and school buses. A Hong Kong government spokesman announced on Wednesday that the measure will be implemented across all 66 filling stations that provide LPG starting from Sunday, with no registration needed...

- [South Korea aims to join China, US at top tier of ‘loyal wingman’ combat drone race](#) (2026-05-27 09:00)

South Korea’s programme to develop engines that can power flying drones to serve as loyal wingmen for fighter jets suggests that Seoul has set its sights on competing at the top level in the global market for autonomous military systems, according to observers. Hanwha Aerospace, one of the country’s largest defence contractors, announced the programme on Tuesday – a joint project with South Korean space agency Kasa to develop a 4,500lb-class (2,040kg) turbofan engine by 2029. The engine will be...

- [Kuaishou beats estimates as Kling AI video generator’s revenue jumps 300%](#) (2026-05-27 09:00)

Chinese short-video company Kuaishou Technology beat estimates with 33.7 billion yuan (US\$5 billion) in revenue in the first quarter, driven by the rapid commercialisation of its flagship artificial intelligence video generator, Kling AI. Overall revenue grew 3.4 per cent, but Kling’s revenue surged more than 300 per cent to 650 million yuan in the period, the company said on Wednesday. “AI technologies continued to provide the momentum for our content prosperity, business growth and...

- [Failed M1-Simba merger prolongs Singapore’s cutthroat telco price war](#) (2026-05-27 08:00)

The unravelling of a S\$1.43 billion (US\$1.12 billion) merger between Singapore mobile operators M1 and Simba has highlighted the city state’s brutally competitive telecoms market, revealing a potential regulatory minefield around scarce radio spectrum. The foiled deal would also mean Singapore’s mobile network operators – Singtel, StarHub, M1 and Simba – will continue to operate in a cutthroat price war environment while M1’s owners look for new ways to divest, according to experts. Singapore...

- [Meet He Tingbo: Huawei’s ‘chip queen’ trying to rewrite China’s semiconductor playbook](#) (2026-05-27 08:00)

When He Tingbo took the stage in Shanghai this week to unveil Huawei Technologies’ Tau (τ) Scaling Law, the message was about more than a new chip development framework. It was also a statement, showing how the most prominent Chinese technology company to have been subjected to US sanctions wants to compete in semiconductors when access to the world’s most advanced chipmaking tools remains restricted, and when the industry’s decades-old reliance on shrinking transistors is becoming more...

- [Top industrialist Sunny Chai picked to head firm developing San Tin Technopole](#) (2026-05-27 07:48)

Veteran industrialist Sunny Chai Ngai-chiu has been appointed as chairman of a government-owned company tasked with developing Hong Kong’s San Tin Technopole – a key

pillar of the Northern Metropolis megaproject. Authorities said on Wednesday that the San Tin Technopole Company would be created in the first half of 2026, with Chai starting his three-year term as board chair on July 1. His tenure as chairman of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation will end on June 30, with...

- [‘Notorious’ Vietnam market defies raids, US tariff threats to sell luxury knock-offs](#) (2026-05-27 07:45)

At a sprawling bazaar on the outskirts of Vietnam’s capital, the trade in counterfeit goods is bustling despite government crackdowns and the threat of US tariffs over the issue, two visits by Reuters journalists to the market found. “Police come once a year with a TV crew. They film the seizure of a shop, and then it’s business as usual,” said a seller at her stall displaying fake Ralph Lauren polos at Hanoi’s Ninh Hiep wholesale market. Ninh Hiep is among about 30 “notorious markets” ...

- [Israel says it killed Hamas’ new armed wing chief in Gaza strike](#) (2026-05-27 07:38)

Israel said on Wednesday it had killed Hamas’ newly appointed armed wing chief in Gaza, days after it killed his predecessor, while intensifying military pressure in Gaza and expanding operations in Lebanon. The Israeli military said Mohammad Odeh was killed in an operation in Gaza on Tuesday. A relative of Odeh confirmed his death to Reuters and said the funeral would take place after noon prayers in Gaza City. Hamas has yet to issue an official statement, but a statement from his family said...

- [Man jailed 9 years for attempted rape after following victim from wet market](#) (2026-05-27 07:36)

A 67-year-old jobless divorcee with a history of criminal offences has been jailed for nine years for sexually assaulting a woman during a brazen daytime break-in at a public rental flat in Hong Kong two years ago. The High Court on Wednesday sentenced former dockworker Leung Kam-wah over the “very serious” offences committed against the 26-year-old mother after he tailed her from a wet market to her flat in Kwai Chung’s Lai King Estate on July 5, 2024. Leung has 11 previous convictions,...

- [Xpeng’s driverless cabs; Tesla launches FSD in China; Nio slams price wars: 7 EV reads](#) (2026-05-27 07:30)

We have put together stories from our coverage on electric and new energy vehicles from the past two weeks to help you stay informed. If you would like to see more of our reporting, please consider subscribing. 1. Chinese firm Xpeng builds driverless cabs, challenging Tesla’s FSD software Chinese electric vehicle (EV) maker Xpeng has begun mass production of autonomous cabs powered by its own chips, likely to mount yet another challenge on Tesla as both companies pursue a leading position in...

- [Construction worker struck by falling chain hoist in critical condition](#) (2026-05-27 07:06)

A 68-year-old construction worker is in critical condition after being struck by an electric chain hoist at a Hong Kong government site undergoing drainage replacement works on Wednesday morning. The site on Yen Chow Street in Sham Shui Po is part of the government's drainage pipe replacement project that spans from Tsuen Wan to West Kowloon. The project is expected to be completed by the end of this year. Police said they received a report from the site at 8.30am. One of the victim's colleagues...

- [After years in tiny cages, 27 moon bears in Laos finally taste freedom](#) (2026-05-27 06:36)

For two years, some of them never touched the ground. Locked in tiny wire cages and destined for a life of being drained of bile through syringes or surgically implanted taps, the 27 Asiatic black bears rescued in northern Laos this week had known almost nothing of what it means to be a bear. Now, for the first time in years, some are finally drinking clean water freely. Others are feeling solid earth beneath their paws for the first time. The rescue, completed this week by conservation group...

- [Suspended policeman faces 7 years in jail over red paint vandalism, data access](#) (2026-05-27 06:34)

A Hong Kong policeman accused of throwing red paint at the front door of a residential flat and accessing the force's internal systems without authorisation could face up to seven years in prison after prosecutors sought to transfer his case to the District Court. Leung Lung-kwan, 41, appeared at Eastern Court on Wednesday for the first time after being charged with one count of criminal damage and eight counts of accessing a computer with dishonest intent. Prosecutors alleged that he accessed...

- [4 schools to close, 8 to merge with others after failing to meet enrolment quota](#) (2026-05-27 06:33)

Four of 15 public primary schools in Hong Kong with insufficient enrolment will cease operations, eight will merge with other institutions and two others will operate self-financing Primary One classes this September, according to education authorities. Representatives from a schools council and a principals' association said on Wednesday that they expected more institutions that fell short of enrolment quotas to seek mergers to avoid "last minute" problems, adding that schools could create...

- [Underage dating claims left Kim Soo-hyun in tears, but he stands vindicated a year later](#) (2026-05-27 06:26)

A year after South Korean actor Kim Soo-hyun broke down in tears at a high-profile press conference over allegations involving late actress Kim Sae-ron, the controversy has entered yet another dramatic phase. Kim Se-ui, head of controversial YouTube channel HoverLab, also known as Garo Sero Institute, was taken into custody this week, as police reportedly concluded that audio files previously presented as evidence against Kim Soo-hyun were generated using AI technology. According to the Seoul...

- [From wedding photographers to farm gadgets, Chinese campaign warns of spy risks](#) (2026-05-27 06:14)

Foreign spies in China have disguised themselves as wedding photographers near naval ports, or have collected mapping data using advanced radar and GPS optical lenses mounted on cars under the cover of autonomous driving research, according to China's top body protecting state secrets. The National Administration of State Secrets Protection warned of foreign spies' "eyes in the dark" in its latest anti-espionage documentary aired on CCTV national television on Tuesday. "In real life, the...

- [China adds AI chips to secure technology assessment list amid US curbs](#) (2026-05-27 06:00)

For the first time, China has included artificial intelligence chips in its official "secure and reliable" technology assessments, expanding the scope of a state-backed drive to adopt domestic alternatives to Western products. The China Information Technology Security Evaluation Centre and the National Secrecy Science and Technology Evaluation Centre released the latest batch of assessments on Tuesday, creating a new category for "AI training and inference chips". The certifications were valid...

- [China film about woman whose killing of husband framed as result of domestic violence banned](#) (2026-05-27 06:00)

A feminist film which won an award at an international film festival last year has been ordered to withdraw its coming release for violating the law in China. The film *Her Heart Beats in Its Cage* was scheduled to be screened in mainland cinemas on May 30. But on May 21, Shanghai Film Bureau announced the release should be stopped because the film had breached the law when applying for its production and for its public release. The authority said it had recently launched an investigation after...

- [‘Local or global?’ Lawmakers seek clarity on costly Northern Metropolis fencing arena](#) (2026-05-27 05:53)

Hong Kong lawmakers have called for greater clarity on a proposed HK\$10 billion project featuring a fencing arena in the Northern Metropolis, questioning its "immense cost" and whether it is meant to host international tournaments. Permanent Secretary for Development Doris Ho Pui-ling on Wednesday defended the massive price tag, saying the government had sought to keep construction costs down and invited tenderers to propose further cost-cutting measures. She added that more details would be...

- [Malaysia probes ex-anti-corruption chief Azam Baki over whistle-blower threat](#) (2026-05-27 05:26)

Malaysia's recently retired anti-corruption chief, Azam Baki, is facing a police investigation for allegedly threatening a whistle-blower linked to a mineral licence scandal involving politicians in Sabah. Azam accused Albert Tei of "playing games" and spreading misinformation after the

businessman lodged a report earlier this month, which prompted the police to pursue the case under criminal intimidation provisions. Officers also recorded statements from Tei and his lawyer, who was allegedly...

- [Israel pounds Lebanon with heaviest bombing in weeks, expands ground operations](#) (2026-05-27 04:49)

Israel pounded Lebanon with more than 120 air strikes on Tuesday in one of the heaviest days of bombing in weeks, Lebanese security sources said, as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said his military was deepening its operations in the country. The bombing raids further strained a ceasefire announced on April 16 that was meant to halt fighting between Israel and the Lebanese armed group Hezbollah, and came as Iran said the United States had violated a separate truce by striking...

- [Hong Kong ‘Happy Ghost’ actress Lo Ming-chu dies at 47 in 2016 – SCMP archive](#) (2026-05-27 04:45)

Hong Kong ‘Happy Ghost’ actress Sheree Lo dies after suffering heart attack By Christy Leung This article was first published on May 27, 2016 Former Hong Kong actress Sheree Lo Ming-chu died from a sudden heart attack on Friday morning. The news shocked many of her friends and supporters as the 47-year-old film star had been in good health with no signs of illness. Several of Lo’s relatives appeared sad after identifying the body at Victoria Public Mortuary in Kennedy Town on Saturday...

- [Russia’s military activity has Japan fearing a dual-front war](#) (2026-05-27 04:22)

Japan’s call to maintain “impeccable” defences on its northern frontier reflects Tokyo’s deepening concern over growing Russian military activity in the region, analysts say. They also point to rapid north-south troop deployment exercises as preparation against a potential “diversionary operation” around Hokkaido: a scenario in which Russia could open a second front if Japan were already focused on a crisis with China in the south. During a visit to military bases in Hokkaido on Saturday,...

- [From scholarships to professorships: Jockey Club nurtures future leaders and supports higher education](#) (2026-05-27 04:04)

[Sponsored content] “The Hong Kong Jockey Club Chairman’s Scholarship has not only provided me with financial support but has also enabled me to participate in a wide range of community services to give back to society,” said recipient Sunny Wong Wang-chi. Over the years, Jockey Club Scholars have gone on to make significant contributions across a wide range of fields, spanning community service as well as professional and academic pursuits. Wong, the top “super scorer” in the 2025 Diploma of...

- [China’s Type 054B frigate makes carrier force debut with Liaoning for live-fire drills](#) (2026-05-27 03:57)

Chinese aircraft carrier Liaoning and its strike group are holding a live-fire exercise in the Pacific east of the Philippines, following one of its longest deployments in the South China Sea. The People's Liberation Army (PLA) Kuznetsov-class carrier, along with at least four escorts, was spotted on Monday about 880km (547 miles) southwest of Okinotorishima, Japan's southernmost point, according to a statement from the Japanese defence ministry. On Tuesday, carrier-based fighter aircraft and...

- [As Five Eyes allies boost Taiwan Strait transits, why is US going a different route?](#) (2026-05-27 03:09)

The US military scaled back and kept a low profile for its transits through the Taiwan Strait last year in contrast with increased passage by its allies, according to a report released by a leading Chinese think tank. In 2025, the remaining Five Eyes countries – Australia, Canada, Britain and New Zealand – deployed six warships to conduct five Taiwan Strait transits, all of which were accompanied by official public statements, according to a report released on Tuesday by the South China Sea...

- [Another 'DeepSeek moment' ? Huawei milestone alters China trajectory in chip race: analysts](#) (2026-05-27 03:00)

Huawei Technologies' unveiling of a chip architectural workaround to bypass US sanctions marks a major step towards China's semiconductor self-sufficiency, giving Beijing powerful new leverage in its tech tug of war with Washington, analysts say. The Chinese tech giant captured global attention on Monday by introducing the new Tau (τ) Scaling Law, which it said lay the groundwork for Huawei to achieve transistor density equivalent to a 1.4-nanometre process in high-end chips by 2031. If proven,...

- [Trump builds massive arena at White House for birthday cage fight](#) (2026-05-27 02:12)

It has played host to countless world leaders and moments in history. Now US President Donald Trump has built a huge cage-fighting arena on the White House's South Lawn. Cranes lifted giant metal arches into place Tuesday for the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) event on Trump's 80th birthday on June 14. "We're having a big fight. It's never going to happen again, never happened before," Trump said at an Oval Office event earlier this month, surrounded by four of the fighters taking...

- [South Korea eyes first nuclear submarine by mid-2030s, but hurdles run deep](#) (2026-05-27 02:00)

South Korea's drive to acquire its first nuclear-powered submarines is moving back up President Lee Jae Myung's defence agenda, but analysts say delayed US consultations, non-proliferation concerns and budget pressures still stand in the way. Lee on Tuesday urged faster efforts to secure the submarines, describing them as core strategic assets for the country's future defence capabilities. "We need to accelerate the adoption of artificial intelligence and drone technologies, while speeding up..."

- [South Korea's lonely, stressed Gen Z find comfort in apps that do nothing](#) (2026-05-27 01:51)

At 2am, Kim, a 25-year-old office worker, opens a site designed to look like a food delivery app, though he has no plan to order. He chooses menu items, drops them into a cart and simulates the experience of placing an order. “It somehow feels like I actually ordered something,” he said. Kim said the habit helps him resist late-night cravings. “There are many times when I crave food late at night but hold back to save money. It feels like a real delivery app, so I somehow keep looking at it,” ...

- [Beyond visitor numbers: Hong Kong must track the full worth of its art and culture](#) (2026-05-27 01:30)

Hong Kong's M+ museum recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Centre Pompidou in France, cementing a multi-year partnership that will cover collection, research and talent exchanges. This follows the 12 MOUs signed by the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority during this year's International Cultural Summit – bringing its total international partnerships to 46. With billions of dollars being poured into mega-events, arts hubs and wider cultural initiatives, we are...

- [Trump-backed Paxton wins Texas primary run-off, ousting veteran senator](#) (2026-05-27 01:29)

US President Donald Trump further cemented his grip over the Republican Party on Tuesday as his favoured candidate in a bitter Texas primary run-off, scandal-plagued Ken Paxton, trounced incumbent Senator John Cornyn. Paxton's resounding victory, quickly called by Fox News and CNN after polls closed, underscored Trump's continued power to make or break Republican political careers - even as lawmakers on Capitol Hill begin to rebel over the Iran war, his White House ballroom project and a...

- [EU firms in China starting to feel less gloomy as Beijing offers stability: report](#) (2026-05-27 01:10)

European companies' confidence in the Chinese market is showing signs of rebounding for the first time since 2022, as Beijing is increasingly perceived as a “champion” of stability amid rising global volatility, according to a survey released on Wednesday. After years of spiralling pessimism, the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China found that “the intensity of the deterioration in confidence in China's business environment has eased” among its members over the past year. In the group's...

- [Chinese man who suffered painful urination for 3 years discovers 1.3kg stone in bladder](#) (2026-05-27 01:00)

A Chinese man who endured three years of intense pain while urinating finally went to the hospital and discovered he had a 1.3kg stone in his bladder. The man, 56, from southern

China's Guangdong province, surnamed Chen, recently went to the Xuwen Hospital, Affiliated Hospital of Guangdong Medical University, to have his bladder checked. Chen had experienced frequent and painful urination for three years. The symptoms had become so serious recently that he dared not travel far during the day and...

- [How Hong Kong's first astronaut triggered a space education race](#) (2026-05-27 00:30)

Lai Ka-ying's selection as Hong Kong's first astronaut has sparked a more than threefold surge in aerospace and satellite-design course inquiries at a learning centre, while industry leaders have called for sites to be refitted as immersive education facilities. Lai, a police superintendent who has also become China's first female payload specialist, made her historic journey into space on Sunday with the launch of the Shenzhou-23 mission. Jeffrey Ho, CEO of Star Club Scientist Education, said...

- [Insilico teams up with US firm to build AI models predicting disease decades ahead](#) (2026-05-27 00:30)

Hong Kong-listed artificial intelligence drug-discovery company Insilico Medicine has struck a collaboration with US-headquartered Human Longevity to co-develop what they describe as "the industry's first large-scale" AI foundation models capable of predicting diseases – such as cancer – decades before clinical symptoms appear. The partnership was announced as the global longevity market, fuelled by an ageing population and rising consumption demand, was valued at about US\$5.3 trillion and...

- [Passengers praise efficiency as Hong Kong airport's Terminal 2 opens](#) (2026-05-27 00:02)

Passengers have praised the expanded second terminal at Hong Kong airport for its efficiency upon reopening, but say more convenient boarding arrangements are still needed. Hong Kong Airlines became the first – and so far only – carrier to use the upgraded terminal, which will accommodate 15 carriers moving in between Wednesday and June 10. By 6am, hundreds of travellers were checking in and dropping off baggage at the terminal, with no long queues observed. "I was able to complete baggage drop..."

- [Can Japan lead push to halt space militarisation as nuclear rivalry heats up?](#) (2026-05-27 00:00)

The collapse of UN talks on the future of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty has sharpened concern in Japan that outer space could become the next arena for nuclear and military rivalry. With Russia accused of developing a nuclear anti-satellite capability, China and Russia advancing weapons that can disable satellites, and the US pursuing space-based missile defence systems, some in Tokyo say Japan should take the lead in drawing up new rules for the peaceful use of space. Analysts say any...

- [Nasa lays out moon base plans with landers, buggies and drones at the top of the list](#) (2026-05-26 23:46)

Nasa is already ordering landers, rovers and drones for a sprawling moon base, less than two months after the Artemis II' s record-breaking lunar fly-around. The space agency outlined the first phase of its moon base plans on Tuesday, awarding hundreds of millions of dollars in contracts to four US companies. Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin will provide a pair of landers to deliver moon buggies to the lunar surface, at a spot near the moon' s south pole. These so-called lunar terrain vehicles will be...

- [RFK Jnr posts video of him grabbing 2 snakes, as his wife asks 'why?'](#) (2026-05-26 23:32)

A video of Robert F. Kennedy Jnr wrangling two snakes bare-handed captured the internet' s fascination on Tuesday, the latest animal encounter the US health secretary has shared publicly that has sparked intrigue and in some cases concern. Kennedy shared the clip of himself grabbing the tails of the non-venomous black racer snakes on his personal social media accounts, noting in the caption that he was removing them from the patio of Centres for Medicare and Medicaid Services Administrator Mehmet...

- [Hong Kong firm that makes medical implants to expand into Central Asia](#) (2026-05-26 23:30)

A Hong Kong medical technology firm manufacturing tailor-made body implants will expand research initiatives and explore setting up a factory in Central Asia, in a further collaboration which one expert said could also benefit the city. Koln 3D, Hong Kong' s first orthopaedic and metal component printing technology company, revealed its plan ahead of Chief Executive John Lee Ka-chiu' s coming visit to the region early next month. "For me, Central Asian countries are like Saudi Arabia 20 to 30...

- [Panama encourages dialogue and bridge-building at UN as canal tensions with China simmer](#) (2026-05-26 22:48)

Panama' s foreign minister used a United Nations Security Council debate on Tuesday to call for dialogue over confrontation, saying his country was "born to connect oceans, continents, cultures and economies" in a speech delivered before an assembly chaired by China' s top diplomat, Wang Yi, as the two countries navigate their worst bilateral crisis since establishing ties in 2017. China holds the rotating presidency of the Security Council in May and convened a high-level open debate on Tuesday...

- [US to seek public comment on which Chinese goods get tariff cuts](#) (2026-05-26 22:18)

US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer said on Tuesday that the government would seek public comment on which Chinese goods should be eligible for lower tariffs. Washington and Beijing have agreed to a joint "Board of Trade" to initially determine about US\$30 billion of non-strategic goods on which the two countries can lower or eliminate tariffs. Greer said a public notice will be issued soon. Asked at a forum on what the US got out of President Donald Trump' s summit with Chinese President...

- [Back on the rails: Dandong's border traffic hints at a China-North Korea thaw](#) (2026-05-26 22:00)

Dandong, the Chinese border city that faces North Korea across the Yalu River, is a barometer of ties between Beijing and Pyongyang. While lockdowns during the coronavirus pandemic led North Korea to sink into even greater isolation than usual, the resumption of cross-border rail links in recent months has triggered a pickup in activity, with freight volumes rising and local travel agencies reporting a steady stream of inquiries. In March, the first passenger trains crossed the border since...

- [US weighs offensive space tactics as China satellite rivalry intensifies](#) (2026-05-26 21:44)

The US is preparing offensive weapons to blind China's military satellites in any future conflict, even as the two sides lack reliable channels to manage risks in an increasingly crowded orbit, defence analysts said on Tuesday. Kari Bingen, director of the Aerospace Security Project at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) and a former US deputy under secretary of defence for intelligence, said that Washington was openly debating how to "hold at risk" the satellites that...

- [Deaths reported after chemical tank implodes at US pulp and paper mill](#) (2026-05-26 21:35)

The implosion of a chemical tank at a pulp and paper mill in southwestern Washington state on Tuesday injured at least 10 people, while an undisclosed number of others had been killed or remained missing, authorities said. In a joint statement, Nippon Dynawave Packaging and local first response agencies confirmed there had been fatalities. Cowlitz Fire and Rescue Chief Scott Goldstein later told a news conference that it was unclear how many workers had been killed. Asked how many remained...

- [The 4 trilateral frameworks defining northeast Asia's future](#) (2026-05-26 21:30)

When Washington, Beijing and Moscow begin to treat one another as bargaining partners again, northeast Asia feels the pressure. Taiwan, Korea, sanctions, energy routes, nuclear risks and missile defence are no longer separate theatres. They increasingly belong to one strategic conversation between the US, China and Russia. Northeast Asia itself is already being reorganised through three trilateral structures with different purposes, degrees of institutionalisation and strategic effects. Thus the...

- [China's Wang Yi tells UN multilateralism must be protected in swipe at US policies](#) (2026-05-26 21:18)

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi took a swipe at the United States at a press conference at the United Nations on Tuesday as he touted the need to safeguard multilateralism and the UN Charter in times of great instability. "As we have seen for the recent period of time, the purposes of the UN Charter have been disregarded, the basic norms of international relations have been undermined, and world peace and security are in great jeopardy," Wang said,

without mentioning the United States or US...

- [Quad foreign ministers fight for relevance in New Delhi as leaders' summit remains elusive](#) (2026-05-26 19:41)

The foreign ministers of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, or Quad, nations gathered in New Delhi on Tuesday in a coordinated display of unity aimed at reaffirming the bloc's relevance amid recent shifts in geopolitical dynamics. The Quad, comprising the United States, Japan, Australia and India, aims to promote a "free and open" Indo-Pacific and balance China's expanding influence in the strategically vital region. With US President Donald Trump fresh from talks with Chinese President Xi...

- [Louvre heist to be turned into film by French director Romain Gavras](#) (2026-05-26 18:39)

Last year's brazen robbery of the Louvre – when thieves made off with jewellery worth some US\$100 million – is set to become a film, a publisher said on Tuesday. French director Romain Gavras – whose work includes 2025 Hollywood film *Sacrifice* starring Anya Taylor-Joy and music videos including most recently a hypnotic schoolboy choreography for GENER8ION – will draw inspiration from the investigative book *Main basse sur le Louvre* (literally *A Grab at the Louvre*). Film rights to the book about...

- [Exceptionally early heatwave shatters records and brings deaths in Europe](#) (2026-05-26 18:19)

The UK smashed a century-old temperature record for the second time in 24 hours on Tuesday as a spring heatwave continued to scorch parts of western Europe, triggering government warnings about risks to life. Several drownings were reported in Britain and France as people tried to cool down. A temperature of 35.1 degrees was recorded at London's Kew Gardens, Britain's Met Office weather service said, breaking the 34.8 degree record set a day earlier at Kew. The provisional readings smashed the...

- [Iran restores partial internet access after record months-long blackout](#) (2026-05-26 17:21)

Iran started restoring access to the internet – a sign that the longest shutdown of its kind in history is easing amid a diplomatic push to end the war with the US. Monitoring group NetBlocks said there was a "partial restoration" on Tuesday after 88 days of near-total blackout on the national network, showing connectivity had risen from close to zero to around 35 per cent of typical levels. "In line with the esteemed President's mission and in fulfilment of the government's promise, the first...

- [Trump, near 80, has third medical exam amid questions on health: 'maybe junk food is good'](#) (2026-05-26 16:54)

US President Donald Trump's health was under scrutiny once again on Tuesday as he had his annual medical examination just days before his 80th birthday. The oldest US president ever sworn into office, Republican Trump has repeatedly boasted of his mental and physical vigour

compared to Democratic predecessor Joe Biden. “Everything checked out PERFECTLY,” Trump said on social media as he drove back to the White House from Walter Reed Medical Centre near Washington. Tuesday’s check-up comes amid...

- [How urban renewal can keep Yau Ma Tei’s street life alive](#) (2026-05-26 16:00)

[The content of this article has been produced by our advertising partner.] In Yau Ma Tei, street life, wet markets, night-time food stalls, small workshops and informal gathering spaces are tightly interwoven, giving the district its distinctive character and strong sense of place. A young cross-disciplinary team with background in architecture and urban planning believes this vibrant fabric can be strengthened through holistic urban renewal. Their proposal, “Heartbeat of the City, Voices of...

- [Bad-mannered or racist? Debate rages over Hong Kong principal’s Singapore clash](#) (2026-05-26 15:36)

Debates continued to rage online after a Hong Kong school principal was filmed verbally abusing two South Asian security guards in Singapore, with viewers divided over whether his behaviour reflected a lack of manners or racial bias. Lee Cheuk-hing, the principal of San Wui Commercial Society Secondary School in Tuen Mun, was caught on camera behaving badly and swearing at two security guards during a school trip to Singapore last Friday. While many criticised the principal’s lack of courtesy,...

- [Trump moves to punish US government workers who leak information to reporters](#) (2026-05-26 15:17)

US President Donald Trump’s administration on Tuesday proposed asking federal employees to sign non-disclosure agreements (NDA) with the goal of preventing them from sharing confidential information with journalists. The Office of Personnel Management, the human resources office for the US government, released a draft NDA designed for federal agencies to use with new and existing employees. Under the draft agreement, the administration could pursue civil and criminal penalties against employees...

- [Indonesia bans Polymarket following bets on Prabowo presidency end date](#) (2026-05-26 15:05)

Indonesia has blocked predictions market Polymarket as part of its crackdown on online gambling, its communications and digital ministry said, days after the site took bets on a premature end to Prabowo Subianto’s presidency. Gambling is illegal in Indonesia and authorities have been clamping down on online betting. “The government will not allow any form of online gambling in Indonesia,” the ministry said in a statement. Ministry official Alexander Sabar late on Friday said Polymarket was...

- [Hong Kong unveils proposed overhaul of fire safety laws as consultation begins](#) (2026-05-26 15:02)

Hong Kong authorities have launched a public consultation on overhauling fire safety regulations, six months after the city's deadliest inferno in decades, proposing to expand firefighters' law enforcement powers and impose additional responsibilities on management firms and contractors. The Security Bureau and the Fire Services Department on Tuesday began a one-month consultation exercise on proposed amendments to the Fire Services Ordinance and related subsidiary legislation. The proposals...

- [Huawei's new chip scaling law aims to sidestep ASML chokepoint but hurdles remain: analysts](#) (2026-05-26 14:00)

Huawei Technologies has engineered a workaround to one of China's most crippling chipmaking bottlenecks, but analysts warn that the nation's path to semiconductor independence is still constrained by manufacturing challenges. The US-sanctioned tech giant on Monday introduced a new scaling law and a chip architecture designed to deliver products equivalent to an advanced 1.4-nanometre processing node by 2031. If true, the innovation marks a significant milestone for Huawei, which has been cut off...

- [West Bank settlers steal Palestinian family's sheep herd ahead of Eid festival](#) (2026-05-26 13:29)

Palestinian shepherd Sameeha Rasheed was planning for the sacred ritual of sacrificing her family's sheep for the Eid al-Adha holiday, one of the holiest occasions in Islam, but West Bank Jewish settlers stole them in a predawn raid, she said. Instead of celebrating, Rasheed has been left with nothing and has also been deprived of the income she would have received from selling the sheep not used by her family. The settlers stole around 45 sheep from her home in Masafer Yatta, a collection of...

- [Concerns mount in China's space sector that Musk's Starship will be a failure](#) (2026-05-26 13:00)

There are growing doubts within China's space sector that Starship, the world's most powerful rocket being developed by SpaceX in the United States, will ever overcome its engineering and financial challenges and deliver for founder and CEO Elon Musk. Starship's latest flight on Friday – weeks before the company's expected initial public offering (IPO) – was described as “mostly successful” by the company after engine failures occurred in both the first and second stages. After the first stage...

- [Tanker hit by explosion near Hormuz hours after US strikes on Iran](#) (2026-05-26 12:58)

An explosion damaged a tanker close to its waterline as it sailed off Oman, a marine monitor said on Tuesday, as tensions remained high around the blockaded Strait of Hormuz. The captain reported the explosion on the hull of the vessel, UK Maritime Trade Operations said. “The crew and vessel are safe, although the master reports some bunker fuel has discharged into the sea.” The incident, in the Gulf of Oman about 60 nautical miles east of Muscat, was an “external explosion”, UKMTO added,...

- [Deadly building collapse shocks Philippine city: ‘like an aeroplane landing’](#) (2026-05-26 12:50)

James Bernardo, 30, was delivering food on Teodoro street in Angeles City in the Philippines when a nine-storey building under construction on the opposite side of the road collapsed behind him. “What I heard behind me sounded like an aeroplane landing. The sound was unlike anything normal. When I looked at my side mirror and then turned around, what I saw were pylons falling and power lines sparking,” Bernardo told This Week in Asia. In just seconds, the structure had morphed into a twisted...

- [Mainland Chinese mum who offered bribe for son’s Hong Kong school place spared jail](#) (2026-05-26 12:43)

A mainland Chinese mother who tried to secure a Hong Kong secondary school place for her son by offering a bribe to an assistant principal received a suspended jail sentence on Tuesday. Cai Yu, 39, was also accused of deleting evidence after anti-corruption authorities launched an investigation. The woman on Tuesday told acting principal magistrate Daniel Tang Siu-hung at Tuen Mun Court that she “underestimated” the legal consequences of attempting to offer a HK\$10,000 (US\$1,276) bribe to Danny...

- [Trump makes everything worse but he didn’t start it](#) (2026-05-26 12:30)

While cleaning my basement, I found an old copy of Foreign Affairs dated September/October 2014. If you didn’t look at the publication date but only its table of contents, you would have thought it was a recent edition. Titled “See America: Land of Decay & Dysfunction”, the edition’s front cover is a painting of a crumbling Capitol Building that houses the United States Congress. Keep in mind we are talking about the second year of the second term of Barack Obama, whose presidency is now fondly...

- [Malaysia police’s ‘gay party’ label sparks debate after hotel drug raid](#) (2026-05-26 12:25)

Malaysian police have arrested 51 men in a drug raid at a luxury Kuala Lumpur hotel, describing the scene as a “gay party” with “immoral activities” committed. The language has drawn scrutiny from lawyers and rights advocates who say the terms risked prejudicing suspects and stigmatising LGBTQ people. Bukit Aman narcotics chief Hussein Omar Khan said four raids were carried out between 2.35am and 5am on Sunday after police received intelligence about what they described as a “drug party” and...

- [High-altitude turbulence tricky to detect, experts say, as Cathay investigates case](#) (2026-05-26 12:22)

Even the most advanced aircraft radar systems cannot fully detect high-altitude turbulence, aviation experts have said, as Cathay Pacific Airways investigates an incident that injured 10 people on a Hong Kong-bound flight from Brisbane last week. Hong Kong’s flag carrier

revealed on Tuesday that it had launched the probe following calls for an inquiry into the weather forecast relayed to the flight crew and how quickly the pilots responded. The Airbus A350-900 aircraft operating flight CX156...

- [Mango founder's son steps down as vice-chair amid probe into father's death](#) (2026-05-26 12:09)

Jonathan Andic, son of Mango founder Isak Andic, said on Tuesday he was stepping down temporarily as the fashion group's vice chair after being named a suspect in an investigation into his father's death, while strongly asserting his innocence. "The attention and focus that my defence in the judicial process currently requires do not allow me to maintain the high level of commitment demanded by my role at the company," Andic said in an open letter to staff. "A public narrative has been...

- [Why US and Canadian conservatives backed Trump's China trip but slammed Carney's](#) (2026-05-26 12:00)

When Canada's Prime Minister Mark Carney visited Beijing in January, US conservative podcaster Alex Jones accused him of bowing to China's leadership. In Canada, the opposition Conservative Party was no less scathing in its criticism. Party leader Pierre Poilievre questioned how Carney went "from saying China was Canada's 'biggest security threat' before the election to announcing a 'strategic partnership' with Beijing after the election". But when Donald Trump visited China earlier this month,...

- [Hong Kong to set ride-hailing permit quota at 10,000 under regulatory push](#) (2026-05-26 11:48)

Hong Kong authorities have finally set the quota for ride-hailing service permits at 10,000 vehicles as part of their long-winding push to introduce a regulatory regime, the South China Morning Post has learned. A source said authorities would submit a consultation paper to the Legislative Council as early as late Tuesday to seek lawmakers' feedback before gazetting the proposal later. "They believe that the number of licences issued can cater to the public's commuting needs, keeping passengers' ...

- [57-year-old Hong Kong school to merge after third closure threat in 2 decades](#) (2026-05-26 11:20)

A Hong Kong primary school facing its third closure threat in two decades due to declining enrolment announced on Tuesday that it will merge with a neighbouring institution from the new academic year in September. The 57-year-old Fresh Fish Traders School in Tai Kok Tsui was among 15 institutions allocated zero Primary One classes for the coming term amid a persistent drop in the city's student population. The decision follows a warning issued by education authorities two months ago. Under a...

- [Shanxi mine disaster casts shadow over province' s shift from coal to culture](#) (2026-05-26 11:00)

Shanxi, China' s top coal-producing province, has attempted to rebrand from a polluting, high-risk mining hub into a cultural and tourist destination. However, the country' s deadliest mining accident in nearly two decades has cast a shadow over this image. On Friday, a devastating gas explosion at the Liushenyu Coal Mine in Shanxi killed at least 82 people. The disaster, which industry insiders said was a result of systemic safety failures, has drawn attention to the safety, governance and...

- [Top police officer gets 2½ years in jail for taking HK\\$1.1 million in cash, gifts](#) (2026-05-26 10:58)

A Hong Kong police chief inspector has been jailed for 2½ years for accepting more than HK\$1.1 million (US\$140,400) in cash and gifts from a businessman in exchange for ending a criminal investigation against him and divulging details about two other cases. Tsuen Wan Court, which is now handling District Court cases, on Tuesday sentenced Ho Siu-tung on two counts each of accepting advantages as a public servant and misconduct in public office over his illicit dealings with Qu Haipeng between...

- ['Extremely violent' : 2 teenagers among 4 dead in Belgium after train hits school bus](#) (2026-05-26 10:41)

Four people, including two teenagers, were killed in Belgium on Tuesday when a train crashed into a school bus on a level crossing near the town of Buggenhout, RTL TV reported, citing Transport Minister Jean-Luc Crucke. The victims also included the bus driver and an adult accompanying the pupils, RTL quoted Crucke as saying. Two other people were also severely injured. The accident occurred early on Tuesday at a level crossing near Buggenhout station, about 23km (14 miles) from Brussels....

- [Hong Kong woman duped out of HK\\$1 million by fake AI investment app](#) (2026-05-26 10:10)

A Hong Kong woman has lost more than HK\$1 million (US\$127,636) after being lured into a fraudulent cryptocurrency scheme disguised as an artificial intelligence-powered trading app, with police reporting that over 70 similar scams had been recorded in the past week alone, resulting in total losses exceeding HK\$50 million. Details released on the police' s CyberDefender page on Tuesday showed that the victim first spotted a fake investment advertisement on Facebook, which led her to a WhatsApp...

- [CLP Power to raise electricity price for third straight month in June](#) (2026-05-26 10:04)

Customers of Hong Kong' s CLP Power are set to pay higher power bills next month, as the company increases its fuel costs for a third consecutive month to 42.6 HK cents (5.4 US cents) per unit of electricity, up 5.4 per cent from May. CLP Power, which serves over 80 per cent of Hong Kong' s population, announced its fuel cost for June at 42.6 HK cents per kilowatt-hour

(kWh) on Tuesday, up from 40.4 HK cents in May. CLP' s monthly fuel cost has been rising steadily since March. The charge for June...

- [Indonesia' s offer to host US military aircraft repair hub tests non-aligned foreign policy](#) (2026-05-26 10:00)

The Indonesian government' s decision to accept a US proposal to turn an underused airport into a maintenance hub for Lockheed C-130 Hercules military aircraft has stirred up a familiar debate: how far can Jakarta deepen defence ties with Washington while preserving its non-aligned stance? The plan, which would make Indonesia home to the first facility of its kind in Southeast Asia, emerged alongside a separate discussion over allowing US military aircraft to access Indonesian airspace, adding to...

- [China ex-train driver creates US\\$440 short film, receiving Hollywood director praise, job offer](#) (2026-05-26 10:00)

A moderately educated young man in China spent 10 days and just 3,000 yuan (US\$440) to make a short film using artificial intelligence (AI) technology. His efforts have won him the favour of a Hollywood director who even offered him a job. The work, called *Zombie Scavenger*, was released on mainland social media websites on May 9 by Liu Ziyu, 29, who lives in Xinping County in southwestern Yunnan province, the *Chuncheng Evening News* reported. It did not make waves in China until being...

- [What a US defence industry trip to Taiwan says about Taipei' s efforts to overhaul military](#) (2026-05-26 09:55)

A high-level American defence industry delegation arrived in Taipei on Tuesday for a four-day visit aimed at expanding the US role in the island' s military modernisation process and the joint production of weapons systems. The party includes 41 senior executives, and the visit was organised by the US-Taiwan Business Council, which has long served as a bridge for the defence industry. The trip underscores a growing overlap between strategic cooperation and arms sales as Taiwan seeks to strengthen...

- [3 killed in South Korea after ageing overpass collapses during safety check](#) (2026-05-26 09:44)

A section of an overpass under demolition in the South Korean capital of Seoul collapsed on Tuesday, killing three people who were conducting a safety inspection and injuring three others, fire and city officials said. Television footage showed emergency workers conducting a search-and-rescue operation as a long segment of the structure lay collapsed on the street below, near a railway crossing in central Seoul. Workers noticed that a part of the structure had slightly sunk while concrete...

- [China online brokerage crackdown trims billionaire owner' s wealth](#) (2026-05-26 09:08)

Chinese billionaire Leaf Li lost more than a quarter of his fortune on Friday after Beijing announced a crackdown on online brokerages offering unauthorised cross-border trading. Li's wealth fell by US\$1.7 billion, to US\$4.7 billion, amid a stock rout for Futu Holdings, the company he founded and runs as chief executive officer, Bloomberg News said, citing its billionaires index. The tycoon's fortune, which has halved since October, is mainly derived from his stake in US-listed Futu. Hong...

- [Peta urges vegan diet for Malaysia's jailed ex-PM Najib, inmates: 'the only peaceful meal'](#) (2026-05-26 09:06)

Malaysia's jailed former prime minister Najib Razak has become the unlikely face of a new prison food campaign, after an animal rights group urged Kajang Prison to serve him and other inmates vegan meals. In a letter sent on Tuesday to Kajang Prison Director Mohd Sharin bin Hj Sabtu, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (Peta) said a vegan meals policy could help reduce costs, improve inmate health and promote "empathy and non-violence" inside one of Malaysia's best-known...

- [Why are more men in Malaysia reporting being sexually harassed now?](#) (2026-05-26 08:57)

Malaysia has seen growing numbers of sexual harassment complaints involving male victims in recent years, reflecting what advocates describe as the slow erosion of the stigma that has long kept many men silent. More than 1,000 complaints involving male victims have been lodged through the Women, Family and Community Development Ministry's complaints mechanisms since 2024, Minister Nancy Shukri said, describing the figure as a sharp increase in reports. The complaints involving male victims...

- [In Beijing, the US and China tiptoed around tech and critical minerals](#) (2026-05-26 08:30)

The Xi-Trump summit in Beijing unfolded much more cordially than the tense truce in Busan. In the six months since the leaders met in the South Korean city, America's bargaining position has weakened considerably from developments both domestic and international. From a reluctant respite in tensions, US-China relations have evolved to what may be the beginning of a reconciliation. The two great powers interact at three levels. At the bottom is trade and investment; we can expect the terms of the...

- [China, Singapore top diplomats reaffirm commitment to Malacca Strait transit rights](#) (2026-05-26 08:00)

Singapore is committed to keeping the Strait of Malacca open, the city state's top diplomat Vivian Balakrishnan has told his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi during talks in Beijing. According to the Chinese government, the Singaporean foreign minister said on Monday that keeping the critical global shipping lane open was in the interest of all parties. Balakrishnan also voiced Singapore's support for free passage through the strait and other international waterways, the Chinese read-out showed. Wang...

- [Russia tells US to pull its diplomats and citizens from Ukraine capital](#) (2026-05-26 07:16)

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov called US State Secretary Marco Rubio to advise him to evacuate US citizens and diplomats from Kyiv, as the Kremlin plans to continue heavy strikes on the Ukrainian capital, according to a statement published by the Russian Foreign Ministry on Monday. Lavrov called his US counterpart at the request of President Vladimir Putin to tell him that Russia was launching systematic and consistent strikes against facilities in Kyiv as well as against the relevant...

- [China defence chief Dong Jun tipped to skip this year' s Shangri-La Dialogue](#) (2026-05-26 07:03)

Chinese Defence Minister Dong Jun is set to skip the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore for the second year in a row, according to two sources familiar with the matter. Instead, China will send a lower-level People' s Liberation Army (PLA) delegation to Asia' s premier defence forum which will open on Friday and continue until Sunday, the sources said. This year marks the 23rd edition of the Shangri-La Dialogue, which brings together defence ministers, military chiefs, diplomats and analysts to...

- [Less than 10% of Chinese public worried about AI destroying jobs: survey](#) (2026-05-26 07:00)

China is better positioned than many other nations to lead in artificial intelligence due to the public' s “strikingly positive” attitude towards the technology, according to a new survey by University College London. Less than 10 per cent of respondents in China worried that AI would make it harder to find a job and about one-third believed the technology would create more high-skilled work, the survey found. A whopping 96 per cent of Chinese people surveyed said they used AI at work every week...

- [Rubio looks to repair lens on US-India ties amid Quad talks, energy deals](#) (2026-05-26 06:11)

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio' s visit to India this week will give Washington an opportunity to “get the optics right” regarding ties between the two sides, amid friction over unresolved trade issues and broader international cooperation. Rubio stressed cooperation on trade, energy, defence and maritime security in meetings with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar on Sunday as he arrived in New Delhi. Jaishankar said that the two...

- [China says engineer jailed for 15 years was lured into sending aerospace secrets overseas](#) (2026-05-26 06:01)

An aerospace engineer has been sentenced to 15 years in prison for espionage, Chinese state media said while warning that the aerospace industry is a cornerstone of national technological strength and defence security. The engineer surnamed Zhu graduated from a top university with a PhD in 2018, state broadcaster CCTV said on Monday. Since then, he has worked as an

engineer in multiple aerospace research institutes and handled classified documents in the aerospace and defence industries. During...

- [Eating idol' s poems: inside the wild, ancient history of Chinese fan culture](#) (2026-05-26 06:00)

China' s fandom culture predates today' s pop idols and live-streaming celebrities by millennia. In ancient times, fame was cultivated in the streets, restaurants, and poetry circles, where beauty and talent transformed poets and performers into objects of public fascination. One of China' s earliest heartthrobs was Pan Yue, a writer from the Western Jin dynasty (266–316), better known by his nickname, Pan An. Celebrated in the book, *A New Account of the Tales of the World*, for his striking good...

- [Hongkongers stuck for hours as 673,000 return via land checkpoints after long weekend](#) (2026-05-26 05:40)

Thousands of Hongkongers were stuck for hours at multiple land checkpoints in what one traveller called “unprecedented” large crowds on Monday night, as more than 673,000 residents returned to the city from mainland China after the long weekend. Some were also reportedly turned away from the Shenzhen Bay border before its closing time on Monday night. Among the 740,000 residents entering the city on Monday, 90 per cent returned via land control points. According to statistics released by the...

- [Singha beer dynasty scandal, Malaysia' s sunken missile deal: 7 Asia highlights](#) (2026-05-26 05:15)

We have selected seven stories from the SCMP' s coverage of Asia over the past week that resonated with our readers and shed light on topical issues. If you would like to see more of our reporting, please consider subscribing. 1. Did US restrictions sink Malaysia' s US\$147 million Norway missile deal? Norway' s revocation of export licences for a naval missile system sold to Malaysia has thrust into sharp relief the United States' ability to kill an arms deal between two other sovereign nations...

- [Unitree Robotics reports plunge in first-quarter profits days before crucial IPO hearing](#) (2026-05-26 05:12)

Unitree Robotics, a luminary in China' s humanoid robot boom, has reported a sharp plunge in first-quarter profits just days before its crucial listing hearing, casting a shadow over its Star Market initial public offering (IPO) as soaring expenses and a brutal price war catch up to the industry' s hype. The Shanghai Stock Exchange' s listing committee is scheduled to review Unitree' s IPO application on June 1, according to an exchange notice on Monday. The company, based in Hangzhou, the capital...

- [Yerba mate has lots of health benefits but Chinese may be drinking it wrong](#) (2026-05-26 04:38)

Over the years, the consumption of *Ilex paraguariensis* – known as yerba mate in South America – has spread beyond the borders of Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil and is now gaining popularity in China. “Our exports have doubled since last year,” Juan Luis Lorenzo, a local producer involved in the direct exports of yerba mate to China, said. The increase in exports by Lorenzo’s cooperative reflects the broader rise in yerba mate exports from Argentina to China, which have increased by 88 per cent...

- [3 elderly Hong Kong hikers found after 12-hour search](#) (2026-05-26 03:46)

Three elderly Hong Kong hikers who were reported missing in Sai Kung have been found following a rescue operation lasting more than 12 hours, according to authorities. The Fire Services Department called off the operation at 11.05am on Tuesday after the trio, all in their 70s, were located. None required hospital treatment. A government helicopter had also been deployed during the early morning search. Police said they received the initial report at 10.15pm on Monday from members of a hiking...

- [Hong Kong issues year’s first ‘very hot weather’ warning](#) (2026-05-26 03:37)

This story has been made freely available as a public service to our readers. Please consider supporting SCMP’s journalism by subscribing. Hong Kong issued its first “very hot weather” warning of the year on Tuesday, with temperatures expected to reach as high as 33 degrees Celsius (91.4 Fahrenheit). The forecaster said an anticyclone aloft would bring “generally fine and very hot weather” to the coast of Guangdong, expecting the sweltering conditions to persist until Friday. But it added that...

- [Yomiuri Giants’ Shinnosuke Abe quits after arrest over alleged assault on daughter](#) (2026-05-26 03:18)

Shinnosuke Abe – manager of the Yomiuri Giants, Japan’s oldest and most storied professional baseball team – stepped down on Tuesday following his arrest on suspicion of assaulting his daughter. Abe, 47, resigned as manager of the team, viewed as Japan’s closest equivalent to the New York Yankees, and apologised for “tarnishing the proud tradition of Giants managers”. He was taken into custody by the Metropolitan Police Department for allegedly grabbing his 18-year-old daughter and forcing her...

- [China’s student housing, offices top property investment options amid pricing slump](#) (2026-05-26 03:02)

Student housing is tipped to be a top choice among investors in mainland China’s property market as demand continues to outstrip the supply for suitable accommodation for university students, according to analysts. Interest in investment in the student housing segment particularly on the mainland, Hong Kong and Australia has risen, according to property consultancy CBRE. “Much of this increase is being driven by mainland China, which has seen a surge in interest this year on the back of steady...

- [Sonny Rollins, legendary saxophone colossus, dead at 95](#) (2026-05-26 02:56)

Saxophonist Sonny Rollins, who spent more than two years practising in solitude as a young man on a windswept New York bridge to reinvent his playing and become one of the giants of jazz, died at the age of 95 on Monday, his publicist said. Rollins had recorded the confidently titled Jazz Colossus album in 1956. But the saxophonist remained wracked with self-doubt. So, in the summer of 1959, he began to play on the windswept pedestrian walkway of New York's Williamsburg Bridge. Initially a...

- [Singapore investigates Hong Kong school principal for swearing at security guards](#) (2026-05-26 02:24)

Singapore authorities are investigating a Hong Kong principal after he was seen swearing at security guards during a student trip to the city state, with his secondary school saying sorry for the dispute that sparked “public concern and unease”. In response to queries from the South China Morning Post, Singapore police said Sunday evening that they had received a report and that investigations were under way. A spokesman for Singapore police told the SCMP that the relevant authorities were...

- [Is the US unsafe and unwelcoming? Trump's Australia-born tourism chief addresses 'myths'](#) (2026-05-26 02:23)

“America is open, America is ready for you. We want you to come”. The United States' new tourism chief, Nick Adams, boldly delivered the invitation at last week's IPW Fort Lauderdale inbound travel trade show in Florida. “We can protect our borders and open our doors at the same time,” he insisted. “We want you to have a great vacation. There is no country like America on Earth.” Australian-born Adams, who obtained US citizenship in 2021, was appointed in March to the newly created position of...

- [China Mobile plans fresh Central Asia link to Hong Kong submarine cable network](#) (2026-05-26 02:00)

Telecoms giant China Mobile International is planning another route to connect terrestrial cables in Central Asia with Hong Kong's submarine network, aiming to enable more efficient data transmission between the “stan” countries and the rest of the world, a senior executive has said. Kevin Chan Kin-fan, the company's head of carrier business, said the developing telecommunications sector in Central Asia presented significant opportunities. He added that his company was ready to support mainland...

- [Starbucks Korea's 'Tank Day' blunder sparks personal apology from Shinsegae boss](#) (2026-05-26 01:35)

Shinsegae Group chairman Chung Yong-jin on Tuesday apologised to the public in person, eight days after Starbucks Korea, run by the conglomerate, sparked controversy with its “Tank Day” marketing event, which critics say inappropriately referenced South Korea's pro-democracy movement of the 1980s. “Regardless of the reason, the fact that we have hurt the hearts of our

citizens carries a heavy responsibility,” Chung said during a press conference. “I will make no excuses. All responsibility for...

- [Hong Kong housing: small shoebox flat wins not enough to fix big issues](#) (2026-05-26 01:30)

The Reverend Canon Peter Douglas Koon Ho-ming was blunt when he said, “Once there are no political issues, everything in Hong Kong is a livelihood issue.” He was also correct. Housing is this city’s biggest livelihood issue. It is also the hardest to tackle by far. The current administration has probably done more in this area than previous ones. Since Beijing’s top official for Hong Kong affairs Xia Baolong directly called for the eradication of subdivided flats and cage homes in 2021, the...

- [US hits Iran with fresh strikes amid negotiations to end war](#) (2026-05-26 01:07)

US forces attacked missile sites in southern Iran and boats trying to lay mines on Monday, US Central Command said, imperilling a fragile ceasefire and casting new doubt on a deal to end the Middle East war. The strikes came as top Iranian negotiators arrived in Doha for the latest round of talks to end the months-long conflict, and as the Israeli military stepped up hostilities with Iran-backed Hezbollah in southern Lebanon. Oil prices fluctuated in the wake of the US strikes, which may...

- [Marcos’ historic Japan trip: what will Philippine leader seek from Takaichi?](#) (2026-05-26 01:00)

A rare visit by Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr to Japan this week marks Manila’s latest bid to establish a counterweight to Beijing over the South China Sea dispute. During the four-day trip, the first state visit by a Philippine leader to Japan in over a decade, Marcos is expected to discuss boosting defence and other ties between Manila and Tokyo amid the security challenge posed by China’s growing maritime assertiveness, according to analysts. Marcos will meet Japanese Prime...

- [Why US Typhon deployment in Japan poses a threat to Chinese cities](#) (2026-05-26 01:00)

US deployment of the Typhon missile system to southern Japan could directly threaten China’s coastal cities and block crucial naval routes to the Pacific, a Chinese analyst has warned. The Typhon mid-range missile launcher was expected to be positioned in southwestern Japan next month for joint US-Japan military exercises, Kyodo News reported last week. Fu Qianshao, a Beijing-based military analyst, said the reported deployment site – Kanoya Airbase in Kagoshima prefecture – was alarming because...

- [China cabby charges teary boy US\\$1.4 instead of full fare; hopes others treat his kids kindly too](#) (2026-05-26 01:00)

A taxi driver in China has been applauded online for waiving the fare of a young boy and teaching him how to communicate when he is short of money. The video of the incident from

the taxi's surveillance camera has trended on social media after it was reported by state media CCTV, garnering more than 1.2 million likes. On the afternoon of May 17, a boy, who is about 10 years old, took a taxi alone in Zunyi, southwestern Guizhou province. While stuck in a traffic jam he became anxious and called...

- [Can Hong Kong airport's Terminal 2 take off as 11 Skies, rivals pose challenges?](#)

(2026-05-26 00:30)

Inside a massive retail and office complex called 11 Skies next to Hong Kong International Airport, all 800 shops sit vacant and only two of 120 food outlets were open earlier this month. They were supposed to begin operating in the 3.8 million sq ft development – equivalent in size to about 53 football pitches – by last year. A recent South China Morning Post visit to 11 Skies found it largely empty, with areas cordoned off and store spaces boarded up with hoardings featuring adverts for the...

- [HSBC Hong Kong targets 7.5 million customers, same number as city's population](#)

(2026-05-26 00:00)

HSBC is targeting an increase in its Hong Kong client base to match the city's population of 7.5 million, a goal to be driven mainly by international investors, according to its Hong Kong CEO Maggie Ng. Hong Kong has already seen almost 2 million new customers sign up to the HSBC Hong Kong office over the past two years, bringing its total customers to 7 million at the end of last year. "It is my short-term target to see the total customers reach 7.5 million. As Hong Kong only has a population...

- [Could US Tomahawk missile delivery delays slow Japan's long-range strike plans?](#)

(2026-05-26 00:00)

A reported US delay in delivering hundreds of Tomahawk cruise missiles could slow Japan's plans to give its military a long-range strike option, analysts said, exposing a potential gap between Tokyo's new defence ambitions and Washington's ability to supply the weapons. The missiles are central to Japan's effort to build a counterstrike capability, giving it the ability to hit enemy bases if the country comes under threat, as Tokyo rethinks its defence posture in response to a more uncertain...

- [Israel steps up Lebanon strikes as Netanyahu escalates offensive](#) (2026-05-25 23:06)

The Israeli army intensified strikes in southern Lebanon on Monday, as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he had ordered the military to escalate its offensive in an effort to "crush" Hezbollah. The air strikes come as the United States and Iran seek to finalise the terms of an agreement to end the Middle East conflict, which could include the Lebanon front, where Israel and Hezbollah have waged war since March 2. Despite a ceasefire that came into effect on April 17, Israel and Iran-backed...

- [Private equity firm Templewater primed as Hong Kong moves to deepen Central Asia ties](#) (2026-05-25 23:00)

Hong Kong private equity firm Templewater is eyeing investment opportunities in Central Asia's real estate, energy transition and healthcare sectors, while positioning itself as a "superconnector" to channel capital from the Middle East into the emerging market. Cliff Zhang Kun, chairman of Templewater, also stressed the need for businesses to diversify their investments and shift from traditional Western markets towards emerging economies amid geopolitical volatility. Zhang, who will join a...

- [‘New form of war’ : an insider view of China’s AI strategy in electronic warfare](#) (2026-05-25 22:00)

China is rapidly advancing an "AI Plus" revolution in electronic warfare to redefine how militaries communicate, jam and dominate the electromagnetic spectrum, according to industrial experts. In a paper published last month, they argued that by fusing artificial intelligence (AI) with the very physics of radio wave propagation, China could win a "new form of war" where communications and radars are faster, smarter and far more resilient than anything fielded today. Their findings were published...

- [US Justice Department seeks to lift injunction on Trump’s ballroom project after shooting](#) (2026-05-25 21:55)

The US Justice Department has again asked a federal judge to lift an injunction holding up progress on President Donald Trump's ballroom project, saying Saturday's shooting outside the White House showed an urgent need for improved security. The Justice Department, in a five-page court filing on Sunday, said the incident underscores the critical need for "top level, state of the art security at the White House, including the ballroom", adding that it was vital for national security. It also...

- [Mexico’s president sees ‘no issue’ with her country hosting Iran’s Fifa World Cup team](#) (2026-05-25 21:30)

Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum said on Monday that she has "no issue" with her country hosting Iran's World Cup team after its training base was moved from the United States to Mexico for the summer soccer competition. The team will still play its group stage matches in the US but its base has been moved to Tijuana, Mexico, just south of San Diego, California, a move that Iran's football federation announced recently and that was formally confirmed by Fifa, the sport's governing body, on...

- [Can the Northern Metropolis balance progress with quality of life?](#) (2026-05-25 21:30)

Slowly but surely, Hong Kong is undergoing various scales of transformation. From the mixed-use development around Kai Tak to the revamped waterfronts on both sides of Victoria Harbour, the new railway extensions to the vehicular bypass tunnels below our busy streets, the adaptive reuse of underutilised spaces and the infusion of art and culture into local

neighbourhoods, our city is evolving and adapting. Consider the East Coast Boardwalk as an example. The space under the Island Eastern...

- [Bolivian leader to slash own salary by 50% in gesture to protesters](#) (2026-05-25 20:30)

Bolivian President Rodrigo Paz said on Monday he would slash his salary by 50 per cent to try to end weeks of anti-government protests. But the announcement by the centre-right leader fell on deaf ears, with protesters calling for his resignation and clashing again with police in the Andean city of La Paz. The US-backed Paz has made various gestures aimed at ending a popular revolt that has exploded just six months into his presidency. The demonstrations have radicalised since trade unions began...

- [French teenagers arrested in connection with murder of 11-year-old boy](#) (2026-05-25 19:56)

Two teenagers were in police custody in northwestern France on Monday, a day after an 11-year-old boy was found dead with a wet towel tied around his neck, prosecutors said. The boy was found on the banks of the Vilaine river in the northwestern city of Rennes with a wet bath towel tied tightly around his neck, prosecutors said on Sunday. On Monday, a 16-year-old boy was detained at his home, while a 15-year-old girl was detained after presenting herself to police, Rennes prosecutor Frederic...

- [Swedish prosecutor urges prison for man charged with prostituting his wife](#) (2026-05-25 19:42)

A Swedish prosecutor on Monday called for a 10-year prison sentence against a man on trial for allegedly prostituting out his wife to around 120 clients. The court proceedings against the 62-year-old defendant, in the northern town of Harnosand, were largely being conducted behind closed doors. He is accused of having created internet adverts, arranging the paid meetings between the men who answered and his spouse, and pushing her to perform sexual acts online to attract more clients. Although...

- [Iran's president orders reopening of international internet access, state media reports](#) (2026-05-25 19:18)

Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian has issued an order to reopen international internet access, Iranian state media reported on Monday, citing an official after a near-90-day blackout in the wake of the war against US and Israel. The report cited the head of public relations at Iran's Communications Ministry. The mechanism for how and when Iran would reconnect to the global web following the decision was unknown. "The decree aimed at restoring internet access to its pre-January state was...

- [Exiled Belarus opposition leader visits Ukraine as Kyiv warns of escalation](#) (2026-05-25 19:02)

Exiled Belarusian opposition leader Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya visited Kyiv on Monday following weeks of mounting warnings from Ukrainian officials about Russian plans to draw Minsk more deeply into the war against Ukraine. Tsikhanouskaya arrived a day after one of the war's biggest strikes on the Ukrainian capital killed four people and damaged historical sites, and amid Russian threats to launch further heavy attacks on Kyiv. Tsikhanouskaya, an opponent of Belarus' President Alexander...

- [Heat dome over Europe scorches UK, France, Italy and Spain](#) (2026-05-25 18:22)

Temperatures hit record highs for May in the United Kingdom and France on Monday, as forecasters warned of a prolonged period of extreme heat across Europe throughout the week. A so-called heat dome of warm air from northern Africa trapped under a high-pressure system over western Europe is behind the high temperatures not usually seen until high summer. Temperatures in Spain were expected to peak later this week at 38 degrees Celsius (100 degrees Fahrenheit), while parts of Italy imposed...

- [Estranged husband of former Scottish leader pleads guilty to embezzlement from party](#) (2026-05-25 17:13)

The estranged husband of former Scottish leader Nicola Sturgeon pleaded guilty on Monday to embezzling more than £400,000 (US\$540,000) from the Scottish National Party to fund a lavish lifestyle when he was its chief executive. Peter Murrell, 61, who was remanded into custody in the High Court in Edinburgh after his plea, admitted he used the money to buy a motorhome, two cars and luxury goods. “By embezzling from the SNP, Peter Murrell was stealing the hopes, the dreams and the aspirations of...

- [Trump says Iran deal should include additional countries joining Abraham Accords](#) (2026-05-25 16:44)

US President Donald Trump said on Monday that any agreement with Iran should include a requirement for several additional countries, including Saudi Arabia and Turkey, to join the Abraham Accords, the US-brokered agreements aimed at normalising relations with Israel that were forged during Trump's first term. In a social media post, Trump said negotiations are “proceeding nicely” but tied any eventual agreement to expanded participation in the agreements first signed in 2020. He pointed to Saudi...

- [Harvard, Stanford, Oxford, Cambridge and more: how YCIS guidance open doors to prestigious universities worldwide](#) (2026-05-25 16:00)

[The content of this article has been produced by our advertising partner.] At Yew Chung International School of Hong Kong (YCIS HK), a university offer is not a finish line but the first step in a life of service. The Class of 2026 demonstrates this belief: as of mid-April, graduates have secured places at Oxford (Law), Cambridge (Geography), Harvard (Environmental Science & Engineering), Stanford (Economics and Environmental Systems Engineering), Peking University (Law), Tsinghua University...

- [Hun Sen pardons detained Cambodia opposition leader Kem Sokha](#) (2026-05-25 15:05)

Cambodia's acting head of state, former prime minister Hun Sen, pardoned opposition leader Kem Sokha on Monday from a sentence of almost three decades for treason. Kem Sokha, who was convicted of trying to topple the former long-ruling leader's government and sentenced to 27 years, "is pardoned", Hun Sen posted on social media alongside a royal decree signed by him. Hun Sen, who ruled Cambodia for nearly four decades, stepped down as prime minister in 2023 and handed power to his eldest son, Hun...

- [US chipmakers in China see revenue rise, defying trade tensions: Hurun list](#) (2026-05-25 15:03)

Twenty-six US semiconductor firms, from Qualcomm to Nvidia, saw their China revenue climb by an average of 20 per cent last year, despite trade tensions, according to a new analysis. The data, featured in the latest "Hurun Top 100 US Enterprises in China 2026" report released by the Hurun Research Institute on Monday, tracks the performance of 100 publicly listed American companies based on their revenue in China last year. Among the top 100 earners in China, 26 were from the semiconductor...

- [Vucic and Xi agree to strengthen 'ironclad friendship' between Serbia and China](#) (2026-05-25 15:01)

China and Serbia agreed to deepen security and economic cooperation, with the leaders of the two nations hailing the "ironclad friendship" and strategic bonds between their countries during Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic's first state visit to Beijing. In a comprehensive joint statement issued on Monday, the two sides said they would deepen cooperation in counterterrorism, preventing colour revolutions and the tightening of security for major events and Belt and Road Initiative...

- [ByteDance AI films shake up Cannes as TikTok owner challenges Hollywood norms, budgets](#) (2026-05-25 14:30)

Films generated by ByteDance's AI technology made headlines at this year's Cannes Film Festival, as the TikTok owner accelerates efforts to commercialise its flagship Seedance 2.0 model. Two short films, The Golden Tomb Seeker and Series Tower, created by Chinese platform Chushou AI using Seedance 2.0, were among 21 works selected from more than 1,000 submissions spanning 120 countries at Marché du Film, the business hub of the festival. But what drew most industry attention was Hell Grind, a...

- [Lai Ka-ying has done Hong Kong proud as first astronaut but now what else is needed?](#) (2026-05-25 14:16)

Hong Kong should harness the excitement sparked by the city's first astronaut to set up a dedicated office to foster local aerospace technology and development, experts and a top government adviser have said. Professor Zhang Peng, programme leader for aerospace

engineering at City University, urged the government to expand funding for programmes, created dedicated internships and establish a local aerospace technology hub to build on the momentum from Sunday's historic flight involving home-grown...

- [Why the era of the 3 joint US-China communiqués may be ‘completely’ over](#) (2026-05-25 14:00)

The era when the three joint communiqués set the terms of US-China relations may have “completely come to an end”, a prominent Chinese analyst has warned. Zhu Feng, dean of Nanjing University's School of International Studies, also said that it might be “unrealistic” to expect Beijing and Washington to reach a comprehensive political understanding on Taiwan, given US domestic politics. Following Chinese President Xi Jinping's highly anticipated summit with US counterpart Donald Trump earlier...

- [African Development Bank meets as shrinking aid, Ebola cast long shadows](#) (2026-05-25 13:37)

African leaders and financiers gathered for the African Development Bank's annual meeting on Monday as the continent faces shrinking aid flows, with this week's event in Congo Republic overshadowed by an Ebola outbreak across the border. Overseas development aid from the world's richest nations to poorer countries dropped by nearly a quarter last year to US\$174.3 billion. The US led the cuts, including reduced funding to the concessional lending arm of the AfDB – Africa's largest development...

- [How China could benefit as US-Iran talks raise hopes of oil sanctions relief](#) (2026-05-25 13:00)

A major diplomatic breakthrough between Washington and Tehran could signal sanctions relief for Iran, a development analysts say bodes well for China, the primary buyer of Iranian oil. Negotiations have advanced on a proposed 60-day ceasefire extension, the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz and the US side issuing temporary sanctions waivers that would allow Iran to sell oil freely, Axios reported on Saturday, citing a US official. Any such relief would only be implemented under a final...

- [How the US and China can ensure their board of trade is effective](#) (2026-05-25 12:30)

High on the list of deliverables agreed following the summit between Chinese President Xi Jinping and US President Donald Trump was the establishment of a board of trade, albeit with little detail on its mission, responsibilities or operations. The White House expects the board “to manage bilateral trade across non-sensitive goods” while China's Ministry of Commerce says the board “will discuss issues such as tariff reductions”. While not contradictory, both formulations are vague and hint at...

- [Israeli far-right ministers want ‘return to war in Lebanon’ despite peace talks](#) (2026-05-25 12:21)

Israel's two far-right ministers on Monday called for an escalation of military operations in Lebanon, with one advocating strikes on Beirut in response to Hezbollah's drone attacks. "It is time for the prime minister to take a firm stand with Donald Trump and tell him that Israel is returning to war in Lebanon," National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir said on social media. Ben Gvir leads the far-right Otzma Yehudit (Jewish Power) Party. "Electricity to Lebanon must be cut off, the Zahrani...

- [Wang Fuk Court family's marathon efforts to retrieve belongings one last time](#) (2026-05-25 12:14)

Inside the cluttered, silent flat at Wang Fuk Court, time seems to have stood still. On the bathroom door, a calendar remains on the page for November 2025 – the month a deadly fire broke out at the Tai Po estate in Hong Kong. On what was believed to be their final visit to the undamaged flat, resident Joe* and his wife Annie* took photos of each room. Every room reeked of a mixture of sweat and mould, while ants crawled across dusty kitchen walls. A foul stench wafted out the moment the freezer...

- [Chip prodigy Da Bo returns to China after his role in TSMC's 3nm plant in Japan](#) (2026-05-25 12:01)

A Chinese chip pioneer who made his name in Japan – sweeping its top awards and developing the core components of the world's most advanced production line – has returned to China, along with his team of researchers. Da Bo, a semiconductor prodigy whose research underpins TSMC's 3-nanometre chip production line in Japan, is listed on the University of Science and Technology of China (USTC) website as a chair professor at the School of Engineering Science. Da joined Japan's National Institute for...

- [Hong Kong-based Jardine Matheson buys Australian diagnostic group I-MED for US\\$2.4 billion](#) (2026-05-25 11:59)

Jardine Matheson, an investment company headquartered in Hong Kong, announced on Monday the A\$3.4 billion (US\$2.4 billion) acquisition of the entire stake of an Australian diagnostic and teleradiology group. The acquisition of I-MED Radiology Network, which spans 215 diagnostic imaging clinics across metropolitan and regional communities in Australia and New Zealand, is one of Jardine Matheson's largest in recent years, following its full takeover of the luxury hotel unit Mandarin Oriental in a...

- [India orders new deportation centres days after BJP election victory](#) (2026-05-25 11:37)

India's ruling Hindu-nationalist party has ordered detention centres for undocumented Bangladeshis and Rohingyas in West Bengal state, sparking fear among minorities that it could lead to arbitrary expulsions. The directive comes just days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) won power in the eastern state for the first time since the country's independence in 1947. The order calls on local authorities to set up "holding centres" for "apprehended foreigners" awaiting...

- [Are systemic safety failures to blame for China’ s deadly mine blast?](#) (2026-05-25 11:32)

A gas explosion that killed at least 82 people in central China – the country’ s worst mining disaster in more than a decade – was the result of systemic safety failures across multiple parts of the production chain, according to miners and industry insiders. The Friday blast at the Liushenyu Coal Mine in Shanxi province also left two people missing and 128 survivors in hospital, including two in critical condition. Miners interviewed by the South China Morning Post said several workers had not...

- [19 taken to hospital in Japan after suspected tear gas released in Tokyo mall](#) (2026-05-25 11:30)

A suspected tear gas incident at Tokyo’ s Ginza Six luxury shopping centre left 26 people feeling unwell on Monday, prompting a large emergency response in one of Japan’ s most famous commercial districts. The incident took place around noon at the mall in Tokyo’ s Chuo ward after police received an emergency call reporting an irritating smell and people coughing inside it, Japanese media reported. Nineteen of the 26 people affected were taken to hospital after complaining of symptoms including...

- [Alibaba’ s Qwen catches up with ‘Sharif speed’ to help forge Pakistan deal](#) (2026-05-25 11:30)

On the first leg of his four-day China visit, Pakistan’ s prime minister – famed for “Sharif speed” , a term describing his swift execution of development projects – met his match in a leading AI tool. Shehbaz Sharif, keen on accelerating his nation’ s digital economy with the help of Chinese firms, issued a surprise request during his visit to Alibaba’ s headquarters in Hangzhou on Sunday afternoon. “I want a comprehensive strategic agreement,” Sharif challenged Joe Tsai, Alibaba Group chairman,...

- [China praises Pakistan’ s Middle East peace efforts as both sides pledge close coordination](#) (2026-05-25 11:29)

Chinese President Xi Jinping has thanked visiting Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for the country’ s “proactive role” in mediating between Iran and the United States. Monday’ s meeting came as the two countries marked the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties, with both sides pledging to maintain close communication and coordination to promote peace and stability in the Middle East, according to Chinese state news agency Xinhua. The pair, along with Chinese Foreign...

- [Taipei ‘optimistic’ about arms deal even after US Navy chief says it’ s on ice](#) (2026-05-25 11:07)

Taiwan’ s defence minister said on Monday he remained “cautiously optimistic” about US approval of an arms package for the island, even as a senior Pentagon official said Washington would put the sale on hold. The reassurance by Wellington Koo Li-hsiung came after acting US

Secretary of the Navy Hung Cao said Washington was pausing the proposed deal to ensure the US military had sufficient ammunition to continue its war on Iran. “We’re just making sure we have everything, but then the foreign...”

- [Game over? Shake-up proposed for Hong Kong internet cafes offering overnight stays](#) (2026-05-25 11:00)

In a bustling Hong Kong commercial district, some internet cafes are shifting beyond serving as gaming hubs for young people looking to spend a few hours hunched over a computer playing video games. Inside one such venue in Mong Kok, gamers can rent one of two private booths for about HK\$200 (US\$25.52) a night. With a look that can only be described as “emergency bunker”, the metal-walled rooms come equipped with a high-end gaming desktop, a sofa bed, budget-friendly food, and self-service...

- [Leaving family hardest part of Lai Ka-ying’s space mission, sister says](#) (2026-05-25 10:43)

Leaving her family behind is the toughest part for Hong Kong’s first astronaut as she blasted off on Sunday for her six-month mission, according to her elder sister. Lai Ka-man recalled that when her sister, 43-year-old Hong Kong police superintendent Lai Ka-ying, was selected as a payload specialist in 2024, Ka-ying’s three children were still in primary school. They were now being cared for by both sets of grandparents and other family members. “When I saw my sister recently, I saw in her eyes...”

- [Trump’s overseas application for US green card rule unnerves Asian workers](#) (2026-05-25 10:34)

A new US immigration policy could force many green card applicants to leave the country and apply from abroad, disrupting families, careers and long-term settlement plans for Asian workers already facing years-long backlogs for visas. US Citizenship and Immigration Services said on May 22 that it would only grant “adjustment of status” – the process that allows prospective immigrants already in the US to apply for permanent residence without leaving the country – in “extraordinary...”

- [Pope calls for ‘disarming’ of AI, technology should be ‘human friendly’](#) (2026-05-25 10:31)

Pope Leo called for the “disarming” of artificial intelligence in his long-awaited manifesto on the rapidly developing technology on Monday, and warned of “new forms of slavery” behind its rise. The “just war” theory – espoused recently by the Trump administration – was “outdated”, Pope Leo XIV wrote in his first encyclical, which he presented in person at the Vatican, alongside AI experts including the co-founder of US giant Anthropic. The first US pope, who has clashed with the White House...

- [As Chinese EV makers expand in Europe, are local automotive suppliers set to benefit?](#) (2026-05-25 10:07)

European automotive suppliers are set to benefit from an influx of Chinese carmakers, thanks to growing demand for electric vehicles (EVs) and persistent local protectionism, according to Vulcan Energy Resources, a lithium and renewable energy producer in Germany. Chinese EV makers – from BYD to Xpeng – are planning to aggressively expand into Europe in search of higher profit margins, even as Brussels advances measures to protect local manufacturing amid a slower pace of electrification. On...

- [China ‘crazy boss’ shares AI images of him in women’s outfits, aims to become world’s richest](#) (2026-05-25 10:00)

The founder of a fast-rising Chinese tech firm has become known as China’s “crazy boss” after a string of online stunts. Yu Hao, 39, from Jiangsu province in eastern China, is the founder and CEO of Dreame Technology, a smart home appliance maker best known for high-end robot vacuum cleaners. Founded in 2017, Dreame has grown rapidly in China’s crowded smart appliance sector. Public records show the company was once valued at about 45 billion yuan (US\$6.6 billion) and it is reportedly aiming for...

- [Hong Kong school to investigate potty-mouthed principal before deciding on action](#) (2026-05-25 09:58)

The manager of a Hong Kong secondary school whose principal swore at security guards during a student trip to Singapore has said the incident will be investigated, but it is too early to decide whether any disciplinary action will be taken. Edmund Wong Chun-sek, a former lawmaker and school manager of San Wui Commercial Society Secondary School in Tuen Mun, added that the school wanted to ensure students on the trip were not affected by the incident. His remarks came after education authorities...

- [Philippine rescuers race to free workers trapped after hotel collapse](#) (2026-05-25 09:22)

Philippine rescuers were racing against time on Monday in a search for possible signs of life more than 24 hours after the collapse of a building under construction in the city of Angeles, with crews carefully removing rocks and surrounding debris by hand. The painstaking manual operation around 80 km (50 miles) north of the capital Manila underscored the difficulty of the rescue effort, carried out under scorching heat, with authorities unable to rely on excavators and other machinery for fear...

- [China boosts services for migrant workers to spur consumption](#) (2026-05-25 09:21)

China will improve access to healthcare, education and other public services for the nation’s 357 million-plus migrant workers, potentially boosting urban living standards and stimulating consumer spending. Local governments will end their restrictions on employee social security and expand access to public schools for the children of migrants, according to an announcement on Friday by the State Council, China’s cabinet. They will also remove bureaucratic restrictions affecting migrant residents...

- [UAE deports Pakistani Shiites: jobs lost and savings frozen amid Iran war](#) (2026-05-25 08:39)

In a cluster of villages in Pakistan's largely rural Chakwal district, more than 100 Shiite Muslims have returned from the United Arab Emirates without jobs, luggage or access to the savings they spent years building abroad. They are among potentially thousands of Shi'ites deported from the UAE to Pakistan during the Iran war, raising alarm in Pakistan's Shiite community and prompting Human Rights Watch to investigate. Journalists reviewed immigration documents, visa-status screenshots and...

- [China to give every humanoid robot a digital ID in push to boost industry standards](#) (2026-05-25 08:31)

China is looking to give every humanoid manufactured in the country a digital identity, as it seeks promote growth in the rapidly growing sector through establishing industry standards and strengthening regulation. The country launched a national initiative on Friday, dubbed the Humanoid Full Lifecycle Management Service Platform, to assign human-shaped and artificial intelligence-driven bipedal robots unique codes. The numbers will then be used to track the robots throughout their lifecycle,...

- [Search in flooded cave for 7 gold-mining villagers in Laos enters sixth day](#) (2026-05-25 08:28)

The desperate search for seven villagers in Laos prospecting for gold who became trapped deep inside a flooded cave entered a sixth day on Monday, with the incident highlighting how surging prices have sparked a rush for the precious metal despite risks in unstable hillside mines. Thai cave rescue teams have joined the mission at the cave in central Xaysomboun province, posting harrowing images on social media of the conditions, which include crawling through a flooded, narrow tunnel leading to...

- [China lifts peacekeeping budget share amid warnings bodies like UN may be sidelined](#) (2026-05-25 08:15)

China was the second-largest financial contributor to the UN peacekeeping mission after the US last year, with its share rising “substantially” as geopolitical tensions increasingly paralysed multilateral peace operations, according to a Swedish think tank. In a report on multilateral peace operations in 2025 released on Monday, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) said that 78,633 international personnel had been deployed with UN peace operations by December 31 – some 49...

- [Founder of Japan's 7-Eleven chain Toshifumi Suzuki dies aged 93](#) (2026-05-25 07:44)

Former chairman of Seven & i Holdings Toshifumi Suzuki, credited for the global success of 7-Eleven convenience stores, had died at the age of 93, according to the company. Suzuki - known as the “father of the convenience store” in Japan - died due to heart failure on May 18, the company said in a statement on Monday. “We would like to express our deepest gratitude

for the kindness shown to him during his lifetime and respectfully inform you of his passing,” the statement said. Suzuki is known...

- [21 injured after double-decker KMB bus crashes into highway maintenance truck](#) (2026-05-25 07:09)

Twenty-one people were injured on Monday afternoon after a double-decker bus collided with a highway maintenance vehicle on Hong Kong’s Tsing Kwai Highway. Police received a report at 2.05pm that a KMB route 960 double-decker bus, travelling from Wan Chai to Tuen Mun, collided with a maintenance truck equipped with a flashing arrow sign near Princess Margaret Hospital. A dashcam video circulating online shows the moment of the crash. The KMB bus ploughs into the maintenance truck without slowing...

- [Malaysia’s ruling coalition faces test over Selangor non-Muslim worship house rules](#) (2026-05-25 07:09)

A dispute over where churches and temples can operate in Malaysia’s richest state has become an awkward political test for Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim’s ruling coalition, which came to power promising to protect the country’s multiracial and multi-faith society. The row centres on planning guidelines in Selangor, a wealthy and densely populated state surrounding Kuala Lumpur, that critics say could restrict non-Islamic places of worship in commercial areas, where many religious groups have long...

- [Dozens injured in Japan after man sprays ‘smelly’ liquid in Tokyo shopping centre](#) (2026-05-25 06:29)

Around 20 people were injured at a luxury shopping complex in the Japanese capital of Tokyo on Monday after a man sprayed a substance inside, police and fire department officials said. Tokyo police spokesman Yusuke Koide said that a man sprayed a substance at an ATM on the ground floor of the building, while a local fire department official said “around 20 people were injured” after a report of a “smell”. The road in front of the mall – located in the touristy and upmarket shopping district of...

- [‘Using good as bait’ : blind China girl detained after fake hit-by-bike clip gets 100 million views](#) (2026-05-25 06:00)

A viral video of a blind woman on a tactile pavement being hit by an electric bike, which turned out to be staged, has sparked a wave of public anger in China. The video has been viewed more than 100 million times online. It has also raised questions about similar scams involving the visually impaired and fears that it could diminish public’s trust in the blind community, Shangyou News reported. In the video, which was released on May 9 by the blogger @baobaomangtu, after the rider of the e-bike...

- [Muslims begin haj in sweltering heat and shadow of Middle East tensions](#) (2026-05-25 05:48)

The annual haj pilgrimage, one of the Five Pillars of Islam, officially began on Monday. More than 1.5 million pilgrims have arrived in Saudi Arabia from outside the country, Saleh bin Saad Al-Murabba, commander of the haj passport forces, said on Friday. The faithful have been pouring into the country for the haj against the backdrop of a tenuous ceasefire in the Iran war and related regional tensions and uncertainty. Egyptian pilgrim Samya Abdul Moneim said she was grateful to God that she...

- [Thai Singha beer heir's sexual abuse claims empower others to come forward](#)
(2026-05-25 05:12)

A high-profile alleged sexual abuse case within a wealthy Thai beer brewing family has prompted a wave of painful accounts from survivors of unconnected abuse in the conservative country. Siranudh Scott, a fourth-generation member of the billionaire Thai family that founded the ubiquitous Singha beer brand, posted an emotional video this month accusing his older brother Sunit of repeatedly abusing him when he was a teenager. Sunit, who is in his thirties, later denied the allegations in a video...

- [Chinese coal mine accident, Cathay Pacific flight turbulence: 5 weekend reads you missed](#)
(2026-05-25 05:08)

We have put together stories from our coverage last weekend to help you stay informed about news across Asia and beyond. If you would like to see more of our reporting, please consider subscribing. 1. 82 killed in China's worst coal mine accident for more than a decade 2. Why Bangladesh could raise Indian red flags by buying a China-Pakistan fighter jet 3. Screams as 10 hurt in 'drop tower' turbulence on Cathay flight from Brisbane 4. 2 notable women in ancient China broke barriers in fields...

- [Singapore train operator steps up pest control after rat seen cavorting in carriage](#)
(2026-05-25 04:23)

Singapore train operator SMRT will be stepping up pest control measures at its stations and depots after a video circulating online showed a rat on one of its trains. In the video posted on social media on Saturday, a rat is seen scurrying around the cabin of a train as two people attempt to corner it. People are also seen lifting their legs to avoid it as it scurries past them. "SMRT is aware of a post online about a rat sighting on board one of our trains on the East-West Line," said SMRT...

- [Major EU countries push for tougher China policy ahead of Brussels debate](#) (2026-05-25 04:00)

A coalition of major EU member states is pushing Brussels towards a much tougher trade regime aimed at combating Chinese-style industrial overcapacity, including faster emergency tariffs, broader safeguards and new anti-circumvention powers. A paper signed by Spain, Italy, the Netherlands, France and Lithuania days before a major China-focused debate in Brussels said the bloc must respond more aggressively to "systemic and structural industrial

overcapacity” – phrases often taken as shorthand...

- [Hong Kong banks replace burnt cash from residents of fire-ravaged Wang Fuk Court](#) (2026-05-25 04:00)

Hong Kong’s note-issuing banks are replacing burnt cash for Wang Fuk Court residents, following emergency measures introduced by the city’s Monetary Authority and lenders to support those affected by last November’s devastating fire at the Tai Po estate. The extent of the residents’ financial losses came into the spotlight as they returned to the site to collect their belongings during a 15-day government operation that wrapped up earlier this month. When residents visited Wang Tai House, one of...

- [3 killed in Malaysia after lifeboat falls into sea from Petronas floating vessel](#) (2026-05-25 03:18)

Three people were killed and one was injured in an accident during lifeboat maintenance work at a floating storage and offloading (FSO) vessel operated by Malaysian state energy firm Petronas on Sunday, the firm said. Petronas, or Petroliam Nasional Berhad, said in a statement on Monday the incident occurred around 12.50pm at FSO Sepat off Terengganu state on the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia. Three workers were pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital, while the injured staff member...

- [Why Trump’s draft peace pact with Iran threatens Netanyahu’s Middle East plans](#) (2026-05-25 02:57)

For decades, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has preached a mantra of peace and stability in the Middle East through the destruction of Iran’s Islamic Republic. The obliteration of the ayatollahs, he prophesied, would lead to the normalisation of relations between Israel and the wider Arab-Islamic world – with Israel emerging as the Middle East’s dominant power and indispensable security provider. But on Saturday, Netanyahu’s dreams looked set to be dashed, after US President Donald...

- [Badly behaving visitors push Thailand to remove 60-day visa entry](#) (2026-05-25 02:00)

Each morning, people in Thailand wake up to the latest viral videos on social media of drunken punch-ups, thefts, scams or acts of public indecency committed by some foreign tourists. After months of warnings, Thailand on May 19 announced the cancellation of its 60-day visa-free entry rules for 93 countries and territories in a bid to curb crime, antisocial behaviour and abuse of the visa privilege by a portion of the tens of millions of tourists who have visited the kingdom annually. Visitors...

- [Huawei unveils new scaling law and tech that narrows gap with TSMC, Samsung](#) (2026-05-25 01:30)

Huawei Technologies has unveiled a new scaling law and chip architecture intended to deliver transistor performance equivalent to a 1.4-nanometre process node – representing the leading

edge of semiconductor development – in a few years without relying on advances in lithography tools. The move represents a significant step by the Chinese tech giant to establish a self-reliant semiconductor ecosystem. The company claims the new Tau (τ) Scaling Law, which was presented on Monday by He Tingbo,...

- [Hong Kong can empower commuters by embracing e-bikes](#) (2026-05-25 01:30)

In the global shift towards carbon-neutral mobility, a striking role reversal is taking shape on the pavements of the world's most populous cities. While geopolitical analysts focus on the high-altitude rhetoric of the Xi-Trump summit in Beijing, a more profound urban reality is unfolding at eye level. Broadcasting live from a teeming Beijing intersection, Fox News anchor Bret Baier recently captured this fascinating counter-narrative. Away from the grandeur of diplomacy, a small revolution is...

- [Singapore's economy grows on back of AI boom, defying Iran war slowdown](#) (2026-05-25 01:29)

Singapore's economy expanded faster than expected in the first quarter as the global artificial-intelligence boom lifted the nation's manufacturing and services, offsetting the drag from higher crude prices. Gross domestic product grew a seasonally adjusted 1 per cent in the three months through March from the previous quarter, the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) said on Monday. That is well above the government's advance estimate of a 0.3 per cent contraction and the median forecast of a...

- [China's machinery giant XCMG eyes bigger scoop of global sales with green, autonomous tech](#) (2026-05-25 01:00)

XCMG Group, mainland China's largest construction machinery maker, aims to achieve annual overseas sales of 100 billion yuan (US\$14.7 billion), luring more international clients by turning its excavators, cranes and specialised vehicles greener and more automated. Yang Dongsheng, chairman of the state-owned machinery giant, told reporters in a media briefing last week that the target would be achieved in line with the company's ambition of building itself into a top-class machinery producer...

- [Hong Kong airport set for volume shift after flights rejigged amid fuel crisis](#) (2026-05-25 01:00)

Hong Kong's airport is set for a shift in volume this summer after airlines quietly swapped jet sizes and reduced scheduled flights to manage costs amid a global fuel crisis and following a jump in economy passenger fares to Europe. Some airlines told the South China Morning Post they would operate all scheduled flights beyond June after initial consolidation efforts to offset higher jet fuel prices triggered by the Middle Eastern war. According to data from analytics company Cirium, the...

- [This compact Chinese device can detect cancer biomarkers in a drop of blood](#) (2026-05-25 01:00)

A single drop of blood could soon be used to screen for early-stage cancer, according to Wen Liaoyong of Westlake University in Hangzhou. Wen's team has compressed what was once a refrigerator-sized detection system into something that fits in your hand – and boosted accuracy to about 10,000 times that of conventional methods. The findings were published in the journal Nature Photonics on May 13. “This work establishes a scalable and robust nanophotonic biosensing paradigm for miniaturised,...

- [How Xiaomi's push into AI, chips and EVs is future-proofing its hardware empire](#) (2026-05-25 01:00)

Xiaomi is betting on artificial intelligence to future-proof its sprawling hardware empire, pouring massive resources into open-source models to ensure its next generation of smartphones and electric vehicles (EVs) does not get left behind in an AI-driven market. The Beijing-based firm's latest AI model, MiMo-V2.5-Pro, introduced last month, was ranked by third-party benchmark platform Artificial Analysis as the world's top open-source model for agentic capabilities – referring to an AI system's...

- [China mum makes son pedal sewing machine during homework to stay focused, sparks debate](#) (2026-05-25 01:00)

A mother in central China has captivated mainland social media with an unconventional homework hack that has her restless son pedalling an old sewing machine while studying. According to Dazhong Daily, a primary school boy from Anyang, Henan province, struggled to stay focused during homework. He would fiddle with his eraser, shake his legs and repeatedly leave his seat. His mother then moved his grandmother's old sewing machine into the study and let him pedal it as he wrote. The method...

- [Suspected sea lion bite halts New Zealand surfing event](#) (2026-05-25 00:58)

A photographer shooting the final day of the World Surf League (WSL) in New Zealand was injured by what organisers suspect was a sea lion or shark bite on Monday, forcing the event to be put on hold for several hours. The New Zealand Pro semi-final between Brazilian world champions Yago Dora and Italo Ferreira at Raglan was halted after the in-water photographer suffered puncture wounds and needed medical attention, the WSL said. “This morning one of the water photography team suffered a...

- [Shock absorber: will Asean's power grid be up to the task by 2045?](#) (2026-05-25 00:00)

Southeast Asia has been planning a unified electricity grid since 1997. Now, nearly 30 years later, its leaders are giving renewed impetus to the push to get energy flowing seamlessly across borders and seabeds. In Cebu earlier this month, leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations put the power grid's development high on their summit agenda, aiming to better insulate the region against the next big energy shock. But as regional governments try to

turn the decades-long dream of an...

Source: The Diplomat China

- [Penpa Tsering's Re-election and the Institutional Future of the Tibetan Movement](#) (2026-05-29 13:03)

The Tibetan movement has long been dependent on the personal moral authority of the Dalai Lama. In a post-Dalai Lama world, the Central Tibetan Administration will need to step up.

- [The Double China Shock: How Beijing Is Disrupting Both Developing and Advanced Economies](#) (2026-05-28 15:53)

China intends to keep making low-tech goods alongside its push into advanced technology. That's bad news for advanced and developing economies alike.

- [The Putin-Xi Summit and the Asymmetry of the China-Russia Partnership](#) (2026-05-28 12:47)

While both states share dissatisfaction with the Western-led international order and seek a more multipolar system, the summit revealed important differences.

- [What's Driving Anti-Qing Sentiment in Contemporary China?](#) (2026-05-27 14:58)

A patriotic film backfired because a growing number of Han Chinese don't see the Manchu-origin Qing dynasty as a part of their history.

- [China Wants to Speak for Taiwan. The World Should Hear Taiwan Directly.](#) (2026-05-26 13:43)

China wants the world to hear only one version of Taiwan's story: Beijing's. And much of the world is listening to this version.

Source: US-China Perception Monitor

- [The Hardest Part of “Reunifying Taiwan by Force” May Not Be the Invasion](#) (2026-05-28 16:57)

The post The Hardest Part of “Reunifying Taiwan by Force” May Not Be the Invasion appeared first on U.S.-China Perception Monitor.