

China Newsletter

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China News

1. Chinese President Xi Jinping attends the G20 Extraordinary

Virtual Leaders' Summit on COVID-19 via video link in Beijing

On March 26, Chinese President Xi Jinping attends the G20 Extraordinary Virtual Leaders' Summit on COVID-19 via video link in Beijing, capital of China. He delivered a speech titled "Working Together

to Defeat the COVID-19 Outbreak" which calls for an all-out global war against the COVID-19 outbreak and international macro-economic policy coordination .

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-03/26/c 138920685.htm

2. President Xi leads national mourning for lives lost to COVID-19

On April 4, President Xi Jinping led other Chinese leaders to attend national mourning for martyrs who died fighting the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and compatriots who lost their lives in the outbreak. They paid a silent tribute in front of a national flag, flying at half-mast. In commemoration of the martyrs and deceased compatriots, national flags flew at half-mast across the country and in all Chinese embassies and consulates abroad, and public recreational activities were suspended nationwide.

Further reading on the following website: http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-04/04/c 138946851.htm

3. Wuhan lifts outbound travel restrictions, ending months-long

lockdown

On April 8, Wuhan in central China started lifting outbound travel restrictions after almost 11 weeks of lockdown to stem the spread of COVID-19.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-04/08/c 138956952.htm

4. China publishes timeline on COVID-19 information sharing,

international cooperation

On April 6, China published a timeline on how it has shared information and advanced international cooperation in the fight against the COVID-19 epidemic.

Full text on the following website:

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-04/06/c_138951662.htm

5. SCIO briefing on the cooperation between China and the

international community in fighting COVID-19

On March 26, the State Council Information Office (SCIO) held a press conference in Beijing to introduce the cooperation between China and the international community in fighting COVID-19.

Further reading on the following website:

http://english.scio.gov.cn/pressroom/2020-03/28/content_75890482.

<u>htm</u>

6. SCIO briefing on China's economy in January and February

On March 16, The State Council Information Office (SCIO) held a press conference in Beijing to provide information on China's economic performance in January and February.

Further reading on the following website:

http://english.scio.gov.cn/pressroom/2020-03/19/content_75834580.

<u>htm</u>

China-UK Relations

1. President Xi Jinping Speaks with UK Prime Minister Boris

Johnson on the Phone

On the evening of 23 March, President Xi Jinping spoke with UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson on the phone.

Xi extended sincere sympathies to the UK government and people over their fight against COVID-19 and expressed the hope that the UK will strengthen coordination with China to minimize the risk of the epidemic's spread while ensuring necessary flow of people and unimpeded trade. He expressed his hope that the UK will take effective measures to safeguard the health, safety and legitimate rights and interests of Chinese citizens in the UK, particularly those of Chinese students.

Johnson congratulated the Chinese government and people on the remarkable achievements in outbreak containment thanks to the extraordinary efforts and enormous sacrifices. He said that in the face of the severe epidemic situation at home, the UK is studying and drawing upon China's experience and taking science-based and effective response

measures. The UK appreciates China's valuable support and help and will do its best to look after Chinese nationals in the country, especially the Chinese students.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/zywl/t1763003.htm

2. State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi Speaks on the

Phone with UK Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth

Affairs Dominic Raab

On 20 March, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi had a phone call with UK Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and First Secretary of State Dominic Raab.

Wang Yi said despite the daunting task of epidemic control remaining at home, China will provide medical supplies to the UK as much as its ability permits and facilitate UK's commercial procurement of those materials from China. Some people are attempting to politicize the epidemic, label the virus and stigmatize China. Such moves are extremely harmful to international cooperation and solidarity, and will only disrupt the joint efforts of various parties to tackle the virus.

Raab expressed hope that the UK government will give high attention to and take good care of overseas Chinese's health and safety, and ensure their timely and adequate access to medical services. He also expressed UK's firm opposition to politicizing the COVID-19 outbreak and fully agrees with China that the source of the virus is a scientific issue that requires professional and science-based assessment. Confronting the virus, countries must work together to tide over this trying time.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/zywl/t1759223.htm

3. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming: Disperse lies with trust and beat the

virus with cooperation

On 7 April, the Evening Standard published an article by Ambassador Liu Xiaoming entitled Don't blame China, we want to beat this together. The website of Evening Standard carried the same article under the title of Disperse lies with trust and beat the virus with cooperation.

The ambassador told about the truth of China's role and views on responding to COVID-19.

Further reading on the following website: http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/dshdjjh/t1767167.htm

4. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming: Take up the Responsibility and Join

Hands to Combat Covid-19

On April 8, Ambassador Liu Xiaoming made a speech entitled Take up the Responsibility and Join Hands to Combat Covid-19 at the Donation of Medical Supplies to the UK by the China Chamber of Commerce in the UK.

The ambassador elaborates on how China and the UK join hands to fight against COVID-19.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/dshdjjh/t1767480.htm

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