



China Newsletter

(Issue No. 7, 28 April 2017)

China News	1
1. President Xi Jinping stresses financial security.....	1
2. China launches first domestically built aircraft carrier.....	1
3. China's first cargo spacecraft Tianzhou-1 goes into space.....	2
4. Chinese submersible Jiaolong conducts South China Sea dive	2
5. China sees strongest economic growth since 2015.....	3
China-UK Relations	3
1. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming calls on China and the UK to seize the historical opportunity and strive to make China-UK relations a fine example of relationships between China and Western countries.....	3
2. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming hails the project "The British Library in China: connecting through culture and learning"..	4
3. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming shares his hopes with attendants at the UK Regional Final of the Sixteenth “ Chinese Bridge ” Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign College Students.....	5
China and the World	5
1. President Xi Jinping holds telephone talks with President Donald Trump of the US.....	5
2. Foreign Minister Wang Yi talks about the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue.....	6
3. Wang Yi: "Belt and Road" Initiative is a cooperation platform to promote world development.....	7
4. The Seventh China-EU High-Level Strategic Dialogue held in Beijing.....	8
5. Wang Yi attends the First Ministerial Conference of Ancient Civilizations Forum.....	9

China News

1. President Xi Jinping stresses financial security

President Xi Jinping has called for concrete efforts to maintain China's financial security. Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, made the remarks on April 25 afternoon at a group study attended by members of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee.

Financial security is an important part of national security and a key foundation for the stable and healthy development of the economy, according to Xi. China's overall financial condition is good, and financial risks are controllable. However, China's financial development is still facing risks and challenges, including external shocks leaking from the monetary and fiscal policy adjustment of some countries. The country must strengthen risk prevention and intensify supervision in order to avoid neglecting any risk or hidden trouble. Xi vowed to deepen reforms to improve the financial sector's competitiveness and capacities for risk resistance and sustainable development.

Further reading on the following website:

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1549756/1549756.htm>

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-04/26/c_136238375.htm

2. China launches first domestically built aircraft carrier

China launched its second aircraft carrier Wednesday 26 April in a Dalian shipyard in Liaoning Province in northeast China. The new carrier, the first developed and built by China, was transferred from a dry dock into water at a launch ceremony starting at about 9 a.m. in the Dalian shipyard of the China Shipbuilding Industry Corporation.

It is China's second aircraft carrier, coming after the Liaoning, a refitted Soviet Union-made carrier put into commission in the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy in 2012. China began building its second carrier in November 2013, with dock construction starting in March 2015. The main body of the carrier has been completed, with equipment of major systems including propulsion and electricity installed. Putting the

carrier into water marks progress in China's efforts to design and build a domestic aircraft carrier.

Further reading on the following website:

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-04/27/c_136238436.htm

3. China's first cargo spacecraft Tianzhou-1 goes into space

China's first cargo spacecraft Tianzhou-1 successfully entered orbit on April 20 evening local time, 596 seconds after blasting off on the back of a Long March-7 Y2 carrier rocket launched from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in south China's Hainan Province at 19:41 BJT.

It is scheduled to dock with the Tiangong-2 space lab in orbit and test liquid propellant transfer in microgravity, a key step towards China's ambition to establish a permanently-manned space station by 2022.

Aside from refueling capabilities, Tianzhou-1 is also designed to resupply astronauts on the future space station with food, water and other provisions.

Further reading on the following website:

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1549098/1549098.htm>

Tianzhou-1 spacecraft: Nuts and bolts

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1549132/1549132.htm>

4. Chinese submersible Jiaolong conducts South China Sea dive

Jiaolong, China's manned submersible, completed a dive on April 26 in the South China Sea. Departing its mother ship Xiangyanghong 09 at around 7 a.m., Jiaolong stayed underwater for nine hours and twelve minutes for the dive before returning at around 4:19 p.m.

It managed to bring 16 liters of sea water samples collected near the seabed, eight sediment samples and two rock samples back to Xiangyanghong 09, in addition to high-definition photos and video footage shot during the mission.

Wednesday's dive marks the first dive by Jiaolong in the second stage of China's 38th ocean scientific expedition, which will last until May 13. The maximum depth of the Jiaolong mission on Wednesday was 1,741

meters below sea level, and the submersible spent some seven hours on the seabed.

Further reading on the following website:

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-04/26/c_136238384.htm

5. China sees strongest economic growth since 2015

China's economy posted a forecast-beating expansion in the first quarter of 2017, with gross domestic product (GDP) growth at 6.9 percent, official data showed Monday 17 April.

The reading, the quickest increase in 18 months, was above the full-year target of 6.5 percent and the 6.8-percent increase registered in the fourth quarter of 2016, according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). GDP reached 18.07 trillion yuan (US\$2.63 trillion) in the January-March period.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.chinadailyasia.com/business/2017-04/17/content_15601008.html

China's industrial output increases 6.8% in Q1

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1549796/1549796.htm>

China adds 3.34 mln jobs in Q1, jobless rate falls

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1549577/1549577.htm>

Capital outflow eases in Q1 as economy gains more traction

http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2017-04/21/content_29020567.htm

China to further cut red tape for better business environment

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-04/26/c_136238409.htm

China improves IPR protection

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1549613/1549613.htm>

China-UK Relations

1. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming calls on China and the UK to seize the historical opportunity and strive to make China-UK relations a fine example of relationships between China and Western countries

On 18 April, Ambassador Liu Xiaoming and his wife, Madame Hu Pinghua invited former British ambassadors to China to celebrate the 45th anniversary of ambassadorial diplomatic relations between China and Britain, the Sapphire Anniversary, at the Embassy.

In his remarks, Ambassador Liu spoke highly of the achievements in the development of China-UK relations. He pointed out that at the new historical high point of the China-UK relationship, both sides need to seize the historical opportunity and work for closer high-level exchanges, match respective strengths and needs and engage each other in win-win cooperation and strive to make China-UK relations a fine example of relationships between China and Western countries.

Further reading on the following website:

<http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/EmbassyNews/t1457174.htm>

Full text of the Ambassador's speech on the following website:

<http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/EmbassyNews/t1454646.htm>

2. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming hails the project "The British Library in China: connecting through culture and learning"

On 21 April, Ambassador Liu Xiaoming attended a reception at the British Library to mark the project "The British Library in China: connecting through culture and learning" and delivered a speech entitled Giving Wings of Wisdom to China-UK Exchanges.

Ambassador Liu commended the project as one of the major cultural events between China and the UK in recent years as well as a key follow-up to last year's China-UK High-level People-to-People Dialogue.

He stressed that the library is the treasure house of human wisdom and the temple of the development of civilization. Cooperation between the libraries of the two countries is an important part of China-UK cultural relations. It is also a vivid example of the exchanges and mutual learning between Chinese and western civilizations.

Full text of the speech on the following website:

<http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/EmbassyNews/t1455325.htm>

3. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming shares his hopes with attendants at the UK Regional Final of the Sixteenth “Chinese Bridge” Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign College Students

On 23 April, Ambassador Liu Xiaoming attended the UK Regional Final of the Sixteenth “Chinese Bridge” Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign College Students and gave a speech entitled Building Together the Bridge of Communication and Friendship.

Ambassador Liu pointed out that China and the UK are outstanding representatives of the Eastern and Western civilizations. The fact that more and more people of the two countries are learning each other’s language will not only enhance mutual understanding between China and Britain but will also contribute to the mutual learning between the East and the West.

He observed that the beginning of the “Golden Era” of China-UK relations has prompted a new wave of enthusiasm for learning Chinese. He hoped that attendants at the event will make continuous efforts to enable closer exchanges and foster stronger friendship between our two peoples and contribute to the building of the “Golden Era” of China-UK relations.

Full text of the speech on the following website:

<http://www.chinese-embassy.org.uk/eng/EmbassyNews/t1455812.htm>

China and the World

1. President Xi Jinping holds telephone talks with President Donald Trump of the US

On 24 April , President Xi Jinping held telephone talks with President Donald Trump of the US. Xi Jinping stressed that both sides should well implement the consensus we have reached and maintain a steady development momentum for bilateral relations.

Donald Trump expressed that he had sound meetings with President Xi Jinping at Mar-a-Lago. He felt satisfied with the development of US-China relations and showed high respect for the Chinese people. It is of significance for both sides to maintain communication and coordination on major issues.

The two heads of state exchanged views on the Korean Peninsula situation. Xi Jinping stressed that China is strongly against any behavior that violates the UN Security Council resolutions, and hoped that the parties concerned keep restrained and refrain from acts that might escalate tension on the Peninsula. Only the parties concerned play their due roles and meet each other half way can the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue be solved and realize the denuclearization in the Peninsula. China is willing to make joint efforts with all relevant parties including the US, for the peace of the Korean Peninsula, Northeast Asia and the world at large.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1456871.shtml

2. Foreign Minister Wang Yi talks about the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue: All parties should send out a peaceful and rational voice

On 23 April, in response to a question about the Korean Peninsula situation when jointly meeting the press in Athens with the Foreign Minister of Greece, Foreign Minister Wang Yi stressed that there has been enough rhetoric and actions of demonstrations and confrontations during this period, and we need to send out a peaceful and rational voice.

Wang Yi expressed that China is neither the focus of current conflicts nor the holder of the key to solving the Korean Peninsula issue, but in a responsible attitude for the peace of the Korean Peninsula and the stability of the region. China has always been making efforts to resume peace talks.

Wang Yi stressed that China will not be confused by various kinds of rhetoric, and will not give up its due responsibilities. China will continuously maintain dialogues and coordination with all parties, and play a constructive role in solving the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1456647.shtml

All parties concerned should work together to seek diplomatic solution to DPRK nuclear issue: Chinese ambassador to the United States

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-04/27/c_136240498.htm

China voices opposition to THAAD deployment, vows military training

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-04/27/c_136240789.htm

3. Foreign Minister Wang Yi: "Belt and Road" Initiative is a cooperation platform to promote world development

On 18 April, at the briefing for Chinese and foreign media held by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs over the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, Foreign Minister Wang Yi expressed that, it is necessary to understand the historical background of the “Belt and Road” initiative before understanding its connotation and objectives. He noted that the “Belt and Road” initiative advocates shared development of all nations, so it has abundant connotations and an extensive range of cooperation.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjb_663304/wjbz_663308/activities_663312/t1455109.shtml

Wang Yi: The "Belt and Road" Opens to All Like-minded Countries and Regions

http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjb_663304/wjbz_663308/activities_663312/t1455105.shtml

Wang Yi: The "Belt and Road" Construction Is a Common Cause

http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjb_663304/wjbz_663308/activities_663312/t1455111.shtml

Putin looks forward to meeting Xi at Belt and Road forum in May

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-04/27/c_136240063.htm

Belt and Road Initiative opens new era of global cooperation

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/31773/35507/35520/Document/1549564/1549564.htm>

Commentary: Be open-minded about China's Belt and Road Initiative

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-04/27/c_136240797.htm

Why does the Belt and Road Initiative have a bright future?

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/31773/35507/35520/Document/1549852/1549852.htm>

4. The Seventh China-EU High-Level Strategic Dialogue held in Beijing

On 19 April 2017, the seventh China-EU High-Level Strategic Dialogue was held in Beijing. State Councilor Yang Jiechi and EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission Federica Mogherini co-chaired the Dialogue.

Yang Jiechi said that the strategic consensus reached by leaders of China and the EU on forging four major China-EU partnerships of peace, growth, reform and civilization is of immediate and far-reaching significance. To strengthen bilateral cooperation serves the common interests of both sides and is also significant to the international political and economic development.

Yan Jiechi pointed out that the Chinese side attaches great importance to the relationship with the EU, and will continue to firmly and always support the integration path of Europe's own choice. Both sides should adhere to the strategic orientation, uphold opening up and cooperation, stick to addressing problems with mutual trust and properly resolve differences and problems so as to jointly promote the sound and stable development of China-EU comprehensive strategic partnership and achieve mutual benefit and win-win results.

Federica Mogherini said that EU-China relationship enjoys a positive, mature and vigorous development, which is an important factor in promoting world peace and development. To strengthen cooperation between the EU and China is beneficial to promote the interests of the two sides and improve global well-being. The EU is willing to follow the principles of mutual understanding and mutual respect, strengthen strategic communication and promote all-round cooperation with China.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1455371.shtml

5. Foreign Minister Wang Yi attends the Firsst Ministerial Conference of Ancient Civilizations Forum

On 24 April 2017, Foreign Minister Wang Yi attended the 1st Ministerial Conference of the Ancient Civilizations Forum in Athens, Greece and delivered a speech entitled Generate New Energy of the Ancient Civilizations, Co-build a Community of Common Destiny.

Wang Yi said that today, the representatives from ancient civilizations with long-standing histories in the world gathered together to jointly discuss the beneficial enlightenment that original civilizations have brought to our contemporary society, so as to propel and generate fresh vitality for ancient civilizations and traditions in the new era. The history will witness the practical significance and profound impacts of the forum.

Wang Yi said that we are gathered with the intention to inject new momentum for the revitalization of all nations. At present, all countries are facing formidable tasks to promote development and realize revitalization, and therefore it is need to extract essence and absorb nutrition from our traditional cultures and carry forward humanistic qualities and cultural spirit of everlasting charm and contemporary values that have developed across time and space, so as to provide driving force and benefits for the state governance and administration of all countries.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1456874.shtml

※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※

Compiled by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the UK

Email: press_uk@mfa.gov.cn

Your comments are welcome.