



China Newsletter (Issue No. 12, 13 July 2017)

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China News

1. President Xi calls on G20 to champion open world economy, foster new growth drivers

Chinese President Xi Jinping on July 7 called on members of the Group of 20 (G20) major economies to champion an open world economy and a multilateral trade regime as global growth remains unsteady despite signs of recovery.

Speaking at the annual G20 summit in Hamburg, Xi also called for concerted efforts to foster new drivers for growth, promote a more inclusive growth and improve global economic governance.

"We must remain committed to openness and mutual benefit for all so as to increase the size of the global economic 'pie'," said Xi, who is at the helm of the world's second-largest economy.

Further reading on the following website:

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-07/08/c_136426711.htm

Full text: Chinese President Xi's speech at G20 Hamburg Summit

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-07/08/c_136426730.htm

Xi's attendance of G20 summit advances cooperation: Chinese Foreign Minister

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-07/09/c_136430384.htm

2. Xi and Trump talks about ties and hot-spot issues on G20 sidelines

Chinese President Xi Jinping and his U.S. counterpart, Donald Trump, met in Hamburg on July 8 to discuss bilateral ties and global hot-spot issues on the sidelines of the Group of 20 (G20) summit.

Xi told Trump that stronger China-U.S. ties are conducive to stability and prosperity and serve the interests of both peoples and the international community in a complex world where various conflicts exist.

Noting that the two countries have made new progress in bilateral cooperation in many fields since the Mar-a-Lago meeting despite some sensitive issues, Xi urged joint efforts with Trump to keep bilateral ties on track and coordinate in international affairs.

Xi also stressed that the two countries should stick to mutual respect and win-win cooperation, expand practical cooperation in various fields

and strengthen coordination on international and regional issues, so as to keep China-U.S. relations healthy and stable.

The two leaders agreed to maintain close high-level exchanges and promote strategic mutual trust.

Further reading on the following website:

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1557794/1557794.htm>

3. President Xi urges BRICS to promote open world economy, multilateralism

Chinese President Xi Jinping on July 7 urged fellow BRICS countries to unswervingly promote open world economy, multilateralism and common development.

He made the appeal at an informal leaders' meeting of the emerging-market bloc, which groups Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, ahead of a Group of 20 (G20) summit in the German port city of Hamburg.

The BRICS leaders exchanged views on the current international political and economic circumstances and the G20's priorities, and reached important agreements on strengthening BRICS unity and coordination, jointly improving global economic governance and promoting sustainable development.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2017xivisitgermany/2017-07/08/content_30042567.htm

Press Communique of the BRICS Leaders' Informal Meeting on the Margins of the G20 Hamburg Summit

http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1476190.shtml

4. China intends to take lead in AI

China will roll out a slate of important artificial intelligence projects and step up efforts to cultivate AI talent as part of the country's upcoming national plan to gain a lead in the cutting-edge technology, a senior official said on June 29.

Minister of Science and Technology Wan Gang said the country will soon release a national strategy to detail how to boost the development of AI through 2030.

China will launch a series of core AI research and development projects, devote more resources to nurturing talent, and accelerate the application of AI in education, healthcare, security and other sectors, Wan said at the World Intelligence Congress in Tianjin.

The plan is ready and will soon be released for public review, Wan said.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2017-06/30/content_29940387.htm

5. China wraps up combustible ice mining trial, setting world record

On July 10, China completed a 60-day trial of mining gas hydrates, commonly known as combustible ice, in the South China Sea, marking breakthroughs in human's search for alternative clean energy sources.

Started from May 10, the mining operation in waters near the Pearl River estuary has beaten previous expectations and set world records in both the length and total amount of extraction, according to the China Geological Survey Bureau.

The trial exploration produced over 300,000 cubic meters of gas - mainly methane, with an average daily extraction of more than 5,000 cubic meters of high purity gas, and a highest daily output of 35,000 cubic meters, said the bureau.

China declared its first success in collecting samples of combustible ice in the South China Sea on May 18, which usually exists in seabed or tundra areas with the strong pressure and low temperature necessary for its stability.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2017-07/10/content_30049922.htm

6. China-Europe seminar on human rights held in Amsterdam

A China-Europe seminar on human rights was held on July 2 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, which has attracted over 50 experts in the field to discuss topics centering on the rights of the disabled.

Speaking on the opening ceremony of the event, Cui Yuying, vice minister of the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee and vice minister of the State Council Information Office, said that China not only initiated the idea of building “a community of shared future for mankind” but is also steadfastly pushing its implementation.

The Communist Party of China and the Chinese government attach much importance to protecting human rights and has been following a path in line with the country’s characteristics, she said.

Cui also underscored China’s commitment to putting people’s rights first, engaging in global governance of human rights protection, and making contributions to the development of human rights around the world.

Further reading on the following website:

<http://www.scio.gov.cn/32618/Document/1557354/1557354.htm>

China-UK Relations

1. President Xi Jinping meets with UK Prime Minister Theresa May

On July 7, President Xi Jinping met with Prime Minister Theresa May of the UK in Hamburg.

Xi Jinping pointed out that during his meeting with the Prime Minister last September at the G20 Hangzhou Summit, they reconfirmed the general direction of the "Golden Era" of China-UK relations. With joint efforts of both sides, China and the UK have deepened strategic mutual trust and promoted practical cooperation in all fields to a higher level. This year marks the 45th anniversary of the establishment of ambassadorial level diplomatic relations between China and the UK, and bilateral relations are currently facing new development opportunities. China is willing to work with the UK to promote China-UK global comprehensive strategic partnership in the 21st century to a higher level, so as to better benefit the two peoples.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1477398.shtml

2. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming gives an interview on BBC on the eve of the 20th anniversary of Hong Kong's return to China

On June 29, Ambassador Liu Xiaoming gave an interview on the Today programme of BBC Radio 4 hosted by John Humphrys, in which he shared his views on the progress and achievement of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region since its establishment 20 years ago and the success of "one country, two systems" policy. He also answered questions about Hong Kong's political reform, China's place in the world and North Korea.

The transcript of the interview is at the following website:

<http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/ce/ceuk/eng/EmbassyNews/t1474515.htm>

3. The Daily Telegraph publishes a signed article by Ambassador Liu Xiaoming entitled " Hong Kong - the pearl of the Orient - shines bright as before "

On June 30, the Daily Telegraph published a signed article by Ambassador Liu Xiaoming on its website entitled " Hong Kong - the pearl of the Orient - shines bright as before".

Ambassador Liu pointed out that thanks to the Chinese Government's commitment to the principles of "one country, two systems", "Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong" and a high degree of autonomy over the last two decades, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region has enjoyed continued prosperity and stability and achieved widely recognized success in delivering vibrant growth, democratic governance and a free society. Such achievements prove that the "one country, two systems" policy is the fundamental guarantee and best arrangement for Hong Kong's long-term prosperity and stability.

Ambassador Liu stressed that whatever the circumstances, China's national sovereignty, security and development interests and Hong Kong's prosperity and stability in the long run must be maintained. And as a fundamental policy, "one country, two systems" will be strictly followed.

Full text of the article at the following website:

<http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/ce/ceuk/eng/EmbassyNews/t1474583.htm>

4. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming spoke on China-UK cooperation at ABP Royal Albert Dock project groundbreaking

On June 28, Ambassador Liu Xiaoming attended the groundbreaking ceremony of ABP Royal Albert Dock London, and delivered a speech entitled *Golden Opportunity for Win-Win Cooperation*. Greg Hands, Minister of State for International Trade, Sadiq Kahn, Mayor of London, Sir Robin Wales, Mayor of Newham, ABP Chairman Xu Weiping and nearly 300 people from British government, business circles and a number of diplomats in the UK attended the event.

In his speech, Ambassador Liu pointed out that the ABP project testifies that, the strong momentum of China-UK relations remains unchanged; the immense enthusiasm of Chinese businesses for investing in the UK remains unchanged; the huge potentials of China-UK cooperation on the Belt and Road Initiative remain unchanged; and that the win-win nature of China-UK cooperation remains unchanged.

Full text of the speech at the following website:

<http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/ce/ceuk/eng/EmbassyNews/t1473835.htm>

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