



China Newsletter

(Issue No. 46, 1st Issue of 2019, 3 January 2019)

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China News

1. President Xi delivers New Year speech rallying nation for great cause

President Xi Jinping delivered a New Year speech Monday evening Dec. 31, calling on the whole nation to strive for "an unprecedented and great cause" in the year 2019, the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/31/c_137711099.htm

2. China marks 40th anniversary of reform and opening-up with greater resolve

China held a grand gathering on Tuesday Dec. 18 to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the country's reform and opening-up, a great revolution that has changed the destiny of the Chinese nation and influenced the world.

Addressing the meeting, President Xi Jinping described the reform and opening-up as "a great reawakening" of the Communist Party of China.

"Chinese Communists accomplished the most profound and the greatest social transformation in China's history and created the fundamental political conditions and the institutional foundation for all development and progress in China today," said Xi.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/18/c_137682836.htm

China to upgrade comprehensive bonded zones into new platforms of high-standard opening-up

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/02/c_137715423.htm

Reform and opening-up sees market entity surge in China

http://english.scio.gov.cn/pressroom/2018-12/26/content_74313898.htm

Database on China's reform and opening-up goes online

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/18/c_137682899.htm

Reform, opening-up reshapes China's relations with the world

http://www.china.org.cn/china/Off_the_Wire/2018-12/19/content_74293883.htm

10 foreigners given medals for roles in reform, opening-up

<http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201812/19/WS5c194335a3107d4c3a001816.html>

3. China mulls unified foreign investment law

A draft law on foreign investment has been submitted to a bimonthly session of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, which opened on Dec. 23.

Once adopted, the unified law will replace three existing laws, namely the laws on Chinese-foreign equity joint ventures, non-equity joint ventures (or contractual joint ventures) and wholly foreign-owned enterprises.

The current laws can hardly catch up with the changing economic situation, as China strives to build new institutions and open its economy. But the new law will guarantee China's opening-up in the next phase and more effective utilization of foreign investment, analysts said.

Necessary mechanisms on the facilitation, protection and management of foreign investment are written into the draft law, such as the pre-establishment national treatment and negative list management, equal supportive policies, and equal participation in government procurement.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/23/c_137693889.htm

New negative list gives firms equal treatment in market access

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/25/c_137698520.htm

4. China delivers on commitment to international responsibility with increased contribution to UN

China, as a developing country, is delivering on its commitment to fulfill various obligations to the United Nations (UN) and to safeguard world peace and development, being expected to become the second-largest contributor to the world body in 2019.

China's contribution to the UN regular budget will increase to 12.01 percent for the next three years from 7.92 percent for the 2016-2018 period, according to a resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly on Saturday Dec. 22.

Meanwhile, China will continue to be the second-largest contributor to the UN peacekeeping budget for 2019-2021, as its share will rise from about 10.24 percent to 15.22 percent.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/26/c_137700824.htm

5. 'Understanding China' book series launched in Beijing

"Understanding China," a book series depicting the country's historic changes in recent decades, intended for international readers, was launched on Sunday Dec. 16 during the Third Understanding China Conference held in Beijing.

Speaking at the launch ceremony, Jiang Jianguo, deputy head of the Publicity Department of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, stated that the series offers a multidimensional interpretation of China, as the country goes through a period of profound historic change and moves towards rejuvenation.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.china.org.cn/arts/2018-12/17/content_74284387.htm

Xi sends congratulatory letter to Understanding China Conference

http://english.scio.gov.cn/topnews/2018-12/17/content_74283469.htm

Premier Li meets delegates attending Understanding China Conference

http://english.scio.gov.cn/topnews/2018-12/18/content_74287386.htm

6. China holds key economic meeting to plan for 2019

The annual Central Economic Work Conference was held in Beijing from Dec. 19 to Dec. 21, as Chinese leaders charted course for the

economy in 2019, a key year for the country to achieve its goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects by 2020.

Further reading on the following website:

<https://www.chinadailyhk.com/articles/228/186/245/1545386873828.html?newsId=57206>

Highlights of China's 2019 economic work plans

<http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201812/22/WS5c1d11cda3107d4c3a0022de.html>

State Council unveils policy support for SME growth

http://www.china.org.cn/business/2018-12/25/content_74310169.htm

7. China's Chang'e-4 probe soft-lands on moon's far side

China's Chang'e-4 probe touched down on the far side of the moon on Thursday Jan. 3, becoming the first spacecraft soft-landing on the moon's uncharted side never visible from Earth.

The probe, comprising a lander and a rover, landed at the preselected landing area at 177.6 degrees east longitude and 45.5 degrees south latitude on the far side of the moon at 10:26 a.m. Beijing Time, the China National Space Administration announced.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/03/c_137716841.htm

Breathtaking 12 minutes for Chang'e-4's landing

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-01/03/c_137717022.htm

8. Silk road marine environment forecast system in trial operation

China on Wednesday Dec. 26 announced the trial operation of a marine environment forecast and support system which focuses on areas along the "maritime silk road".

Developed by the National Marine Environmental Forecasting Center, the system serves a vast area including the South China Sea, Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal, covering 102 major cities.

Further reading on the following website:

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/26/c_137700727.htm

China's BeiDou navigation system starts global service

http://english.scio.gov.cn/pressroom/2018-12/28/content_74320992.htm

China-UK Relations

1. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming on China-UK cooperation on innovation

On Dec. 18, Ambassador Liu Xiaoming gave a [keynote speech](#) at the University of Manchester entitled Promote Development through Cooperation on Innovation.

Ambassador Liu briefed the audience on the main features of innovation-driven development in China and went on to point out the opportunities and major areas for China and the UK to enhance cooperation on innovation. He encouraged students from the University of Manchester to become active participants in building closer partnership between China and the UK in innovation, and to contribute wisdom and strength to China-UK friendship and cooperation.

2. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming: Hold High the Banner of Openness and Create a Brighter Future

On Dec. 18, Ambassador Liu Xiaoming made a [keynote speech](#) at the Dinner of the Business Community in Manchester.

Ambassador Liu shared his insights on the reasons why China's reform and opening up or "second revolution" has achieved enormous success. Pointing out that China and the UK are both at a critical stage of development and there is a broad prospect for deeper cooperation between China and the UK, he then put forth three suggestions on building closer partnership, namely harnessing the synergy between the Belt and Road Initiative and the Northern Powerhouse strategy, the mechanism of the China-UK Regional Leaders' Summit and sub-national centres for cooperation between northern England and China.

3. Ambassador Liu Xiaoming Attends the "Pitch@Palace" Global 3.0

On the evening of Dec. 12, Ambassador Liu Xiaoming was invited to attend the “Pitch@Palace” Global 3.0 held at St. James’s Palace in London. HRH The Duke of York attended and addressed the event. Entrepreneurs from 15 countries including Pony.ai, YI Tunnel, and China Craftsmanship pitched in the “Pitch@Palace” global final.

Further reading on the following website:

<https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/ce/ceuk/eng/EmbassyNews/t1623100.htm>

4. The Daily Telegraph Publishes a Signed Article by Ambassador Liu Xiaoming Entitled China's reform heralds a bright new future

On Dec. 31, the Daily Telegraph published a signed article by Ambassador Liu Xiaoming entitled *Chinese development is not a threat to UK*. The newspaper's website also published the article under the title *China's reform heralds a bright new future*. The full text is at the following website:

<https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/ce/ceuk/eng/EmbassyNews/t1626320.htm>

Policy and Position

China's Policy Paper on the European Union

China on Tuesday Dec. 18 issued a policy paper on the European Union (EU). Following is the full text of the policy paper:

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/18/c_137681829.htm

Scholars say China's policy paper on EU reflects importance of ties

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/19/c_137684947.htm

40 years on, Europe embraces a more open, inclusive China

http://english.scio.gov.cn/in-depth/2018-12/21/content_74299221.htm

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