



SUITES **CHINA INSIGHTS**

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SUMMARY

- China warns against AUKUS to make meetings routine with pacific island countries, enhancing ties to higher level
- Chinese pianist Li Yundi detained over prostitution allegations
- China to overhaul housing market
- Beijing gets green light to open vpn services to foreign investors
- China’s new covid-19 outbreak spreads to multiple provinces
- Draft law seeks to penalize parents for children’s bad behavior
- Where have China’s ‘tiger’ parents gone?

KEY HIGHLIGHTS



DIPLOMACY



SOCIETY



ECONOMY
& BUSINESS



PANDEMIC



EDUCATION
& EMPLOYMENT

DIPLOMACY

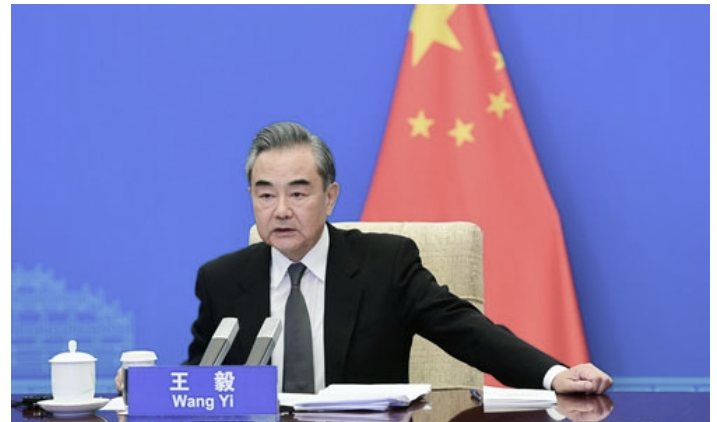
CHINA WARNS AGAINST AUKUS, TO MAKE MEETINGS ROUTINE WITH PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES, ENHANCING TIES TO HIGHER LEVEL

GLOBAL TIMES, OCT 21

Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi warned of nuclear spill from the tripartite alliance AUKUS, during a meeting with foreign ministers of Pacific island countries.

Wang pointed out that AUKUS will jeopardize the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty, introduce an arms race and damage regional peace and stability. China is willing to work with the Pacific island countries to safeguard the international nuclear non-proliferation system with the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty as the cornerstone and the nuclear free zone in South Pacific.

Wang also proposed establishing a routine meeting mechanism between foreign ministers of China and Pacific island countries, which received the approval of participating ministers.



Observers hailed such a development as it shows that relations between China and Pacific island countries have been raised from trade cooperation to a higher diplomatic level, and we could see more comprehensive cooperation among them.

CHINA PRESSES U.S. TO END OFFICIAL DEALINGS WITH TAIWAN

CAIXIN GLOBAL, OCT 16

China is urging the U.S. to stop any form of official exchange or military contact with Taiwan, Ministry of National Defense spokesperson Tan Kefei said, noting that the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) is on high alert and maintains combat readiness against external interference and separatist acts.

SOCIETY



CHINESE PIANIST LI YUNDI DETAINED
OVER PROSTITUTION ALLEGATIONS

SIXTH TONE, OCT 22

Acclaimed Chinese pianist Li Yundi was detained by police in Beijing after he was reported by a neighborhood vigilante group in the capital for allegedly soliciting prostitution.

Police said they were tipped off by a neighborhood vigilante group known as the “Chaoyang Masses.”

CHAOYANG RESIDENTS COMPARED TO TOP INTELLIGENCE
AGENTS ALONGSIDE MI6 AND CIA FOLLOWING FAMOUS
PIANIST'S FALL FROM GRACE

GLOBAL TIMES, OCT 22

After Chinese pianist Li Yundi was reportedly detained for soliciting prostitute in Beijing on Thursday, a new intelligence force was unveiled -- the residents of Chaoyang in Chinese capital who reported Li to the police, with netizens jokingly calling them a mysterious intelligence force could match four famous intelligence, the CIA, MI6, KGB and Mossad.

Aside from retired "aunties" and "uncles" in residential compounds, water and power reading takers, delivery people , house cleaner and even rental agents can be informants for police. In many cases drugs are detected by water reading takers or delivery people.

Chaoyang district, the largest urban district of Beijing, is home to 140,000 Chaoyang masses who cooperate with the police. Xinhua reported in 2018 that Chaoyang masses reported 8,300 valuable tip-offs to Chaoyang police, leading police to crack 370 cases and detain more than 250 suspects.



Profile photos of Chinese entertainers whose misconducts were reported to police by Chaoyang residents. Photo: screenshot of Weibo

CHINA SENDS NEW SATELLITE FOR SPACE DEBRIS MITIGATION TECHNOLOGY VERIFICATION

GLOBAL TIMES, OCT 24

China successfully launched Shijian-21 satellite into preset orbit via a Long March-3B carrier rocket from Xichang Satellite Launch Center in Southwest China's Sichuan Province on Oct 24, 2021, which marked the 39th space launch of China space [including private sector] in 2021, tying with historical record of 39 launches set in 2018 and 2020.



According to the CALT, the Long March-3B carrier rocket is expected to conduct three more launches before January 1, 2022.

AT LEAST 3 DEAD, OVER 30 INJURED IN SHENYANG GAS EXPLOSION

SIXTH TONE, OCT 21



At least four people have died after a suspected gas explosion ripped through shops and buildings early Thursday in the city of Shenyang in China's northeast Liaoning province.

The blast occurred around 8:20 a.m. at a local barbecue restaurant in the city's Heping District. Nearly 50 people injured in the explosion were sent to the hospital for medical treatment.

Several nearby residential buildings, as well as supermarkets and schools, have reported power outages following the blast, according to media report.

CHINA'S 11TH NATIONAL GAMES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES KICKS OFF IN XI'AN

GLOBAL TIMES, OCT 23

The 11th National Games for Persons with Disabilities and the 8th National Special Olympic Games opened here on Friday in northwest China's Shaanxi Province.

Over 6,700 disabled athletes, coaches, referees and other staff members will participate in the two Games during the following seven days.



ECONOMY & BUSINESS

CHINA TO OVERHAUL HOUSING MARKET

GLOBAL TIMES, OCT 24

The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), China's top legislature, adopted the decision to pilot property tax reforms in some regions. The pilot program will run for five years, and the governments of the pilot areas will come up with detailed implementation rules, said the report.

The property tax in the pilot areas will be levied on all types of real estate, including residential and non-residential properties, excluding legally owned rural houses.



CHINA TO ACCELERATE US\$224 BILLION OF LOCAL BOND ISSUANCE TO SUPPORT SLOWING ECONOMY

REUTERS, OCT 22

China has set an annual quota of 3.65 trillion yuan for local government special bonds, which mainly fund infrastructure projects, this year

China's local governments issued a net 2.22 trillion yuan (US\$347 billion) in special bonds in the first nine months of 2021, accounting for 61 per cent of the quota

BEIJING GETS GREEN LIGHT TO OPEN VPN SERVICES TO FOREIGN INVESTORS

CAIXIN GLOBAL, OCT 19

The State Council, China's cabinet, [announced on its website](#) (link in Chinese) Monday a decision to allow foreign telecoms companies to establish joint ventures, their ownership capped at 50%, to provide VPN services to foreign businesses operating in Beijing.



The access approval is part of a strategy unveiled by China's capital in August last year to open up the service sector and dedicate zones for its further restructure. Its aim is to achieve freedom of investment and cross-border cash flows in the sector by 2030.

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Multinationals and international institutions operating in China use VPNs to enable employees and staff to securely log into their internal networks. In China, without approval from telecoms regulators, any self-constructed or leased lines including VPNs are prohibited from engaging in cross-border business operations. Also, except for office use, international lines offered by basic telecoms service providers are not allowed to be used to connect to data centers at home and abroad for telecoms business operations.

Opening up the VPN sector to foreign players provides a new legal and unified internet connection service channel that foreign companies operating in China can use to build a corporate network infrastructure for their China operations, thus enhancing their management efficiency in the country, said Yang Guang, a telecoms industry analyst at research firm Strategy Analytics.

XI VOWS TO SUPPORT HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT OF \$6 TRILLION TECH SECTOR

CAIXIN GLOBAL
OCT 20

Chinese President Xi Jinping called Monday for better regulation of the country's \$6 trillion technology sector as the digital economy develops.

Beijing is speeding up efforts to expand the digital economy under the 14th Five-Year Plan, setting higher GDP contribution targets for digital industries.



CHINA'S DOUBLE 11 SHOPPING SPREE KICKS OFF EARLY WITH RECORD SALES EXPECTED

GLOBAL TIMES, OCT 20

Presales for the Double 11 shopping festival, China's biggest annual online shopping spree that officially falls on November 11 each year, came earlier this year, as major e-commerce platforms kicked off the event at 8 pm on Wednesday, four hours earlier than the previous years, eyeing robust growth in sales.

Industry analysts said that this year's event is expected to set a new sales record given the earlier start, massive promotions and widespread participation by domestic and global brands, which will significantly help boost consumer spending in the country.

In terms of innovative sales promotions, Alibaba said that livestreaming will continue to be a key consumer engagement method for brands and merchants to build awareness and drive sales this year. Starting on October 20, Taobao Live will feature 700 leading key opinion leaders, or KOLs, celebrities and brand representatives in livestream sessions. In addition to livestreaming, platforms are also setting up new battle fields in lavishing digital coupons in the form of digital yuan.

Growth in online sales during the Double 11 shopping festival will offer much-needed support for domestic consumption, which is the biggest growth driver for the Chinese economy but has seen relatively slower recovery from the COVID-19 epidemic, analysts said.

In 2020, Alibaba's Tmall reported sales of 498.2 billion yuan (\$77.91 billion) from November 1 to 11, 26 percent higher than the previous year and the highest growth rate over the past three years.

PANDEMIC

CHINA'S NEW COVID-19 OUTBREAK SPREADS TO MULTIPLE PROVINCES

SIXTH TONE, OCT 20

Just weeks after China stamped out its latest COVID-19 outbreak in the eastern Fujian province; the country is grappling with new infections that now have spread to more than half a dozen locations nationwide. Since a tourist couple tested positive for the virus Sunday in the historic city of Xi'an in the northwestern Shaanxi province, ten other provinces and municipalities, including the capital Beijing, have reported at least 133 locally transmitted COVID-19 cases in the past week. (data refer to National Health Commission, Oct 24)

So far, officials haven't disclosed if the infected patients have been vaccinated against COVID-19. China has so far administered over 2 billion vaccine doses against the coronavirus, with at least 78% of its population fully vaccinated, according to the country's top health authority.



City management personnels hand over send daily supplies to residents in Lanzhou, Gansu province, Oct. 20, 2021.
Yang Yanmin/CNS/People Visual

CORONAVIRUS: CHINESE RESIDENTS START RECEIVING VACCINE BOOSTERS

SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, OCT 21

- Local authorities across the country are rolling out the shots after studies showed waning immunity in the type of jabs most commonly used in China
- Details of the schemes vary across the country, but many places will now allow under-60s to receive an extra shot along with more vulnerable groups

CHINA-MONGOLIA BORDER CITY ASKS RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS TO STAY INDOORS, VIOLATORS TO FACE SEVERE PUNISHMENTS

GLOBAL TIMES, OCT 25

The China-Mongolia border city of Ejina Banner, one of the regions hit the hardest in the latest coronavirus flare-up, issued an emergency notice on Monday that all residents and tourists in the city must stay indoors to prevent COVID-19 from spreading further. The city reported 12 new confirmed cases on Sunday, bringing the total to 43.



A medical worker disinfects facilities at a residential area in Ejina Banner of Alxa League, north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, Oct. 20, 2021.Photo: Xinhua

BEIJING TIGHTENS CONTROLS ON INBOUND TRAVEL, CANCELS MARATHONS AMID EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL PRESSURES OF COVID19

GLOBAL TIMES, OCT 25

Beijing will tighten its management and control on personnel entering the city during the most critical phase as the capital reported five more confirmed infections and one silent carrier on Sunday amid duel pressure from external import and internal resurgences of COVID-19.



Changping Photo: VCG

CHINA' S TOP AUTHORITY SUSPENDS GROUP TRIPS UNDER SUCCESSIVE TRANSMISSION LINKS

China's top authority has pushed to put a pause on group trips in mid- and high-risk areas based on the fact that nearly 80 percent of confirmed COVID-19 cases have been related to the travel groups in the recent flareup.



The photo taken on April 15, 2021 shows tourist groups in Beijing
Photo: CFP

EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

DRAFT LAW SEEKS TO PENALIZE PARENTS FOR CHILDREN’S BAD BEHAVIOR

China’s top lawmakers are deliberating on final revisions to a law that would see parents reprimanded or receive guidance on family education if their underage children are found to have “very bad” behavior or commit crimes.

The draft law on family education promotion also requires parents or other guardians to allocate time for minors to study, rest, play and exercise to avoid increasing their academic burden while preventing them from getting addicted to the internet.

“Family education” refers to the cultivation, guidance and influence of parents or other guardians on minors’ moral quality, physical quality, life skills, cultural sense and behavior. Photo: VCG

CAIXIN GLOBAL, OCT 22

The new draft was submitted Tuesday to the ongoing session of the Standing Committee of the 13th National People’s Congress (NPC) for a third round of review. It’s common for drafts to go through three reviews before being passed by China’s top legislature.



TO BUILD TECH LEADERSHIP, CHINA SEEKS TO GIVE VOCATIONAL EDUCATION A LEG UP

CAIXIN GLOBAL, OCT 15

The [guideline](#) (link in Chinese), issued by the General Office of the Communist Party’s Central Committee and the General Office of the State Council on Tuesday, marked the country’s latest effort to train more people with the skills necessary for the country to become a technology superpower.

China’s top leadership has issued a guideline to promote “high-quality” development of vocational education, with the goal of expanding the share of vocational college enrollment to at least 10% of the total enrollment of higher education institutions by 2025.



Vocational college students learn to operate CNC machines in Central China’s Hunan province on Sept. 17. Photo: VCG

BATTLING YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT, CHINA TO OPEN MORE COVETED CIVIL SERVICE JOBS TO FRESH

CAIXIN GLOBAL, OCT 19

The Chinese government plans to offer more positions to candidates who will take the civil service examination starting in late November, with nearly 70% of vacancies open to fresh college graduates next year, according to the National Civil Service Administration (NCSA).

The country aims to [recruit 31,200 people](#) (link in Chinese) through its 2022 National Civil Service Examination, an increase of more than 5,000 over last year, according to a NCSA statement on Thursday. The jobs on offer are in 75 government agencies and 23 institutions directly attached to them.

Out of the total, 21,000 jobs, or 67.3%, will be open to fresh college graduates, as the government seeks to boost employment in this specific group, according to the state-run Xinhua News Agency. In 2019, only 39.2% of the government positions were available for fresh recruits, according to data from Beijing Huatu Hongyang Education and Culture Development Corp. Ltd., an education service provider.



Candidates review for the National Civil Servant Examination before entering the examination rooms in Wuhan, Central China's Hubei province, in November 2020. Photo: IC Photo

The number of fresh college graduates in China has been rising in recent years, putting pressure on the labor market, as well as on the government to create more jobs. The number of fresh college graduates hit 9.09 million this year, the highest on record. In June, the [urban unemployment rate](#)(link in Chinese) for those aged 16 to 24 — a group that includes fresh college graduates — was 15.4%, up from 13.8% a month earlier, according to data from the National Bureau of Statistics.



The ‘tiger mother’ archetype capitalized on and reinforced certain long-held Western stereotypes about Chinese people.

- Xu Jing, anthropologist



SIXTH TONE, OCT 21

WHERE HAVE CHINA'S ‘TIGER’ PARENTS GONE?

In the summer of 2011, I packed up my life – and my unruly toddler – and returned to China to conduct field research at a private Shanghai preschool. ... Yale law professor Amy Chua had just published her memoir “Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother,” and so-called Chinese parenting styles – involving ferocious discipline, frequent shaming, and even corporal punishment, all in pursuit of academic success – were a hot topic in mainstream American media.

...By the time I arrived in Shanghai, many mothers in the preschool where I was conducting my fieldwork had already read the book, yet when I asked what they thought of it, they said that Chua’s parenting style didn’t resonate with their experiences at all.

...Chinese parents’ interest in cultivating more sociable children, for example, didn’t just arise from a desire to mimic Western parenting styles; it is at least partly the product of a declining faith in academic performance as the sole determinant of their kids’ futures. In recent years, as competition in schools and on the job market has grown fiercer, many Chinese have come to believe that academic credentials are no longer enough to distinguish job candidates, and interpersonal skills are increasingly seen as an important indicator of a child’s future success.

...Yet, if parent’s understanding of what makes a good child is changing, many schools’ definitions of what makes a good student remain stuck in the past. Young parents looking to nurture their children’s independence or preserve their creativity often have to compromise their ideals in the face of an approach to education that still prioritizes conformity and obedience.

...“I would like to see them doing things naturally and spontaneously, and I think that might be more beautiful than an impeccable collective dance where every child has to move in the exact ways their teacher told them to.

...Many of my interviewees found it particularly hard to cultivate morality in their children in a broader social environment that still encourages winning at all costs.

...That reality helps explain a seemingly contradictory phenomenon: While Chinese parents may individually reject the “tiger mother” approach, they have spent the past decade signing their kids up for ever more intense workloads and tutoring classes. ... Rather, many parents feel forced to push their children, even as they worry that raising a good kid isn’t always the same as raising a good student.

Middle-class parents at a private preschool in Shanghai should not be taken as representative of the entire country, but anxieties regarding what it means to raise a “good” child in today’s China are quite common whether you’re in a major metropolis or rural county seat. ... Chinese parents don’t want to think of themselves as authoritarian “tiger mothers,” but they also know that the real world is no place for sheltered kittens.

[...FULL ARTICLE](#)



Welcome to the Suite life

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