

CHINA SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT

AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment

Analysis Period: October 31, 2026 - November 07, 2026

This report was produced using open-source intelligence analysis. The assessment is grounded in publicly available reporting and should be cross-referenced with primary sources. RSS feed articles are listed in the annex for reference.

Executive Summary

During the period of October 31 to November 7, 2026, China's security posture was characterized by intensified maritime assertiveness, particularly in the South China Sea and around Taiwan, alongside active diplomatic engagements with both adversaries and partners. Significant developments include increased naval and coast guard patrols in disputed waters and the ongoing modernization of the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) with advanced amphibious capabilities. Diplomatic efforts focused on managing US-China trade tensions, mediating in the Middle East, and expanding influence in the Horn of Africa. Cybersecurity concerns remained high, with China rejecting UK accusations of AI-driven cyberattacks while Taiwan continued to face persistent digital intrusions. Overall, China demonstrated a strategic blend of military posturing and diplomatic outreach to advance its national interests and shape regional dynamics.

Key Security Developments

- US-China High-Level Diplomatic Engagements and Trade Talks

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and Trade Representative Jamieson Greer held a video call with Chinese Vice-Premier He Lifeng on November 6, ahead of the upcoming APEC summit in Shenzhen. The US officials urged China to fully and immediately implement commitments from the October 2025 Busan agreement, specifically concerning rare earths, critical minerals, and agricultural purchases. China, in turn, expressed "serious concern" over recent US trade restrictions targeting Beijing. This engagement highlights ongoing efforts to manage economic friction points, with a previously agreed trade truce extended to January 10, 2027.

- Increased Chinese Maritime Presence in the South China Sea

China's military conducted combat readiness patrols around Bajo de Masinloc (Scarborough Shoal) on October 30, a long-standing flashpoint in tensions with the Philippines. The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) reported monitoring a total of 80 Chinese vessels, including 33 People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) ships and 47 China Coast Guard (CCG) vessels, across four key features in the West Philippine Sea during October 2026. These features included Ayungin Shoal, Bajo de Masinloc, Escoda Shoal, and the Pag-asa Islands, underscoring China's persistent presence in disputed waters.

- Construction of New Airbase in Disputed South China Sea Territory

On October 31, China commenced construction of a runway on Antelope Reef in the Paracel Islands, a disputed territory within the South China Sea. This development signifies China's continued efforts to bolster its infrastructure and solidify its claims in the strategically vital waterway.

- PLA Navy Modernization: Advanced Amphibious Capabilities

The People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) is reportedly preparing to commission its newest amphibious assault vessel, the Type 076 landing helicopter dock Sichuan. On October 30, the Sichuan conducted its first catapult launch and recovery of the GJ-21 naval stealth drone, making it the only amphibious assault vessel globally with an electromagnetic catapult. Concurrently, China is significantly expanding the production of its Type 071 amphibious transport dock warships at two shipyards, with six new hulls currently under construction or fitting out, aiming to address maritime lift shortfalls for potential cross-strait operations.

- Major Unannounced Military Exercise Simulating Taiwan Isolation

The People's Republic of China (PRC) may be conducting a large, unannounced military exercise simulating the surrounding and isolating of Taiwan. This exercise involves over 100 PLAN and China Coast Guard vessels from the Eastern, Northern, and Southern Theater Commands operating in the West Pacific. This scale of deployment is reportedly greater than previous exercises and is seen as a cognitive warfare tactic to erode Taiwan's confidence in its ability to resist aggression and in US support.

- Renewed India-China Border Standoffs

India confirmed new military standoffs with China in early November in several locations along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Arunachal Pradesh. The Director General of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) noted the challenges India faces against China's modernized People's Liberation Army and border units. India's Ministry of External Affairs attributed these tensions to Chinese forces deviating from "established patrolling patterns," while China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson rejected the accusations, stating their forces were conducting routine patrols.

- China Rejects UK Accusations of AI-Driven Cyberattacks

On November 5, China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning rejected British warnings that Beijing could routinely use artificial intelligence in cyberattacks by 2028, dismissing the allegations as speculative and unsupported by evidence. Mao Ning accused London of politicizing cybersecurity issues and using them as a pretext to restrict China's AI development.

- Taiwanese Efforts to Secure Drone Supply Chain

The Taiwanese Ministry of Defense (MND) announced on October 13 that all military drone procurements will undergo rigorous inspections to ensure they do not contain

any PRC-origin components. This policy change follows multiple investigations into Taiwanese companies, such as Align Corp, found to be using PRC chips in their military drones, undermining Taiwan's efforts to build a "red-free" supply chain.

- China's Active Middle East Diplomacy

China hosted Iranian, Omani, and Saudi officials in Beijing in early November, with Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning stating that avoiding a resumption of hostilities in the Middle East is a "top priority." Beijing urged a return to negotiations and announced that its Middle East envoy would undertake "shuttle diplomacy" visits to Iran, Oman, and Saudi Arabia to promote peace talks and ease tensions.

- Quad Meeting Addresses China's Regional Influence

The foreign ministers of the United States, India, Japan, and Australia (Quad) convened in Atlanta on October 31, reaffirming their commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific. The meeting focused on economic security, critical minerals, advanced technologies, and maritime cooperation, and expressed "grave concerns" over economic coercion and non-market policies, implicitly targeting China's growing economic and strategic influence in the region.

Geopolitical Impact and Regional Dynamics

China's security developments during this period underscore its assertive pursuit of national interests, significantly impacting regional stability and relations with major powers. The intensified maritime patrols in the South China Sea, particularly around Bajo de Masinloc and other disputed features, directly challenge the Philippines' sovereign rights and jurisdiction, exacerbating tensions in an already volatile region. The construction of a new runway on Antelope Reef further solidifies China's physical presence and military capabilities in the South China Sea, raising concerns among littoral states and external powers like the US, which advocates for freedom of navigation.

Relations with the United States remain a complex mix of cooperation and competition. While high-level diplomatic engagements, including a planned Trump-Xi summit, aim to manage trade disputes and prevent escalation, underlying strategic tensions persist. The US continues to press China on trade commitments, while Chinese commentators anticipate a more hawkish US policy on Taiwan and chip export controls following the US midterm elections. The potential for a US-China-Russia trilateral meeting, though viewed cautiously by China, highlights the evolving multipolar dynamics and the desire of some actors to reshape global governance.

China's hard-line stance against Japan, stemming from remarks on Taiwan, indicates a continued chill in bilateral relations, impacting regional security architecture. Conversely, China's active diplomacy in the Middle East and the Horn of Africa demonstrates its expanding global reach and ambition to play a significant role in international mediation and stability, particularly in regions vital for its energy and trade interests. The Quad's focus on countering economic coercion and strengthening maritime security in the Indo-Pacific is a direct response to China's growing influence, indicating a concerted effort by democratic powers to balance Beijing's regional assertiveness.

Military and Defense Analysis

The People's Liberation Army (PLA) continues its robust modernization program, with a clear focus on enhancing naval and amphibious capabilities crucial for projecting power and asserting territorial claims. The anticipated commissioning of the Type 076 amphibious assault vessel Sichuan, equipped with an electromagnetic catapult for drones, marks a significant leap in the PLAN's naval aviation and expeditionary warfare capabilities. This development, coupled with the accelerated production of Type 071 amphibious transport dock warships, suggests a strategic push to overcome existing maritime lift shortfalls, particularly in the context of a potential Taiwan invasion scenario. These advancements aim to improve the PLAN's ability to conduct combat operations beyond China's immediate waters and enhance the effectiveness of its carrier strike groups.

The reported major, unannounced military exercise simulating the isolation of Taiwan, involving over 100 PLAN and CCG vessels from multiple theater commands, demonstrates China's growing capacity for large-scale, coordinated maritime operations. While this exercise serves a psychological purpose to erode Taiwan's confidence, it also provides valuable real-world training for complex blockade or invasion scenarios. The ongoing standoffs along the India-China border in Arunachal Pradesh, despite a recent disengagement agreement, highlight the persistent challenges posed by China's modernized border units and the PLA's enhanced capabilities in high-altitude environments. China's defense spending trends, which have seen consistent nominal growth, continue to fuel these modernization efforts, allowing for the development and deployment of advanced military hardware and the expansion of its global footprint.

Outlook and Forecast

Short-term trends (1-3 months): In the immediate future, China is likely to maintain its assertive stance in the South China Sea, with continued patrols and infrastructure development in disputed areas. The upcoming APEC summit in Shenzhen will be a critical diplomatic flashpoint, particularly regarding US-China trade relations and the potential for a trilateral meeting with Russia. We can expect continued pressure from the US on China to adhere to trade commitments, while China will likely push back against perceived US trade restrictions. Diplomatic efforts in the Middle East and Africa will continue as China seeks to expand its influence and mediate regional conflicts. Tensions along the India-China border are expected to remain elevated, with periodic standoffs despite disengagement agreements.

Critical flashpoints and risk areas: The Taiwan Strait remains the most critical flashpoint, especially with the ongoing unannounced military exercises simulating isolation and the continued PLA Navy modernization. Any miscalculation or escalation during these exercises could have severe consequences. The South China Sea, particularly around Bajo de Masinloc and the newly constructed airbase on Antelope Reef, will continue to be a high-risk area for confrontations between Chinese and Philippine vessels. The India-China border in Arunachal Pradesh also presents a persistent risk of localized military standoffs. Cybersecurity will remain a significant concern, with ongoing state-sponsored cyberattacks and accusations of AI-driven intrusions.

Indicators to monitor: Key indicators to monitor include the rhetoric and outcomes of the Trump-Xi meeting at APEC, particularly regarding trade and Taiwan. The frequency and scale of Chinese military exercises around Taiwan and in the South China Sea, as well as any new infrastructure developments in disputed territories, will be crucial. Monitoring the nature and resolution of India-China border incidents will also be important. In cybersecurity, observing reports of major breaches attributed to Chinese actors and China's responses to such accusations will provide insight into evolving cyber warfare strategies. Finally, China's diplomatic engagements and infrastructure investments in the Horn of Africa and the Middle East will indicate its expanding geopolitical influence.

Strategic recommendations: For regional actors and international partners, maintaining a strong, unified diplomatic front against China's assertive actions in disputed territories is essential. Enhancing maritime domain awareness and collaborative patrols in the South China Sea can deter further encroachment. For Taiwan, strengthening its "red-free" defense supply chains and investing in asymmetric defense capabilities against amphibious assaults and cyber threats are paramount. Dialogue mechanisms with China, while challenging, should be maintained to manage crises and prevent escalation. For the US and its allies, a consistent and coordinated approach to trade, technology, and security issues with China is necessary to effectively balance competition with cooperation.

Structured Assessment

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ANNEX: COLLECTED ARTICLES BY SOURCE

Source: BBC China

• Joshua Wong, face of Hong Kong's pro-democracy protests, jailed for 10 years (2026-11-05 08:07)

Wong, 30, is among hundreds of Hongkongers detained under the controversial national security law.

• Weapon or wine bottle? China disputes reports of artillery shell in Papua New Guinea (2026-11-04 03:46)

Papua New Guinea police had earlier dismissed speculation that the 32kg object was "merely a dummy".

Source: CGTN

• Chinese insights power this Canadian new launch (2026-11-07 02:30)

Chinese insights power this Canadian new launch

• Int'l forum on mutual learning among civilizations to open in Macao (2026-11-07 01:32)

The International Forum on Mutual Learning among Civilizations 2026 will open in China's Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) on November 9, bringing together nearly 300 representatives from over 20 countries for two days of discussions on cultural heritage, exchanges among civilizations and the challenges of the digital age.

• Chinese vice premier holds video call with US officials (2026-11-07 00:38)

Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng, also China's lead person for China-US economic and trade affairs, held a video call on Friday with US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer.

• China’s giant pandas unveiled in Atlanta (2026-11-06 23:27)

China’s giant pandas unveiled in Atlanta

• China opposes UK, certain other countries' remarks on Joshua Wong case (2026-11-06 17:20)

China opposes UK, certain other countries' remarks on Joshua Wong case

• China stuns scientists with early success in DREADDs human testing (2026-11-06 16:31)

Frontier neuroscientific method involves changing specific receptors in the brain using a genetically-engineered virus

• World Mayors in Ningbo: Growth Through Cooperation (2026-11-06 14:53)

The 2026 Global Mayors Dialogue, being held in the city of Ningbo on China's east coast, has brought together mayors and representatives from 20 cities in 15 countries and regions.

• China's top legislator meets Gabonese president, Austrian chancellor (2026-11-06 14:49)

China's top legislator Zhao Leji met separately with Gabonese President Brice Clotaire Oligui Nguema and Austrian Chancellor Christian Stocker in Beijing on Friday, pledging to strengthen bilateral relations and expand cooperation with both countries.

• Chinese premier meets Gabonese president (2026-11-06 14:49)

Chinese Premier Li Qiang met with Gabonese President Brice Clotaire Oligui Nguema, who is on a state visit to China, in Beijing on Friday.

• Why Xiamen wants to be the home of the High Seas Treaty (2026-11-06 14:38)

Why Xiamen wants to be the home of the High Seas Treaty

• What are global CEOs' top picks at the CIIE? (2026-11-06 14:37)

What are global CEOs' top picks at the CIIE?

• Chinese premier holds talks with Austrian chancellor (2026-11-06 14:29)

Chinese Premier Li Qiang held talks in Beijing on Friday with Austrian Chancellor Christian Stocker, who is on an official visit to China.

• Ex-lawmaker jailed 12.5 years in Macao's first national security case (2026-11-06 14:07)

Au Kam San, a former lawmaker in China's Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR), was sentenced to 12 years and six months in prison on Friday in the SAR's first national security case.

• China's governance, global development dialogue held in Cambodia (2026-11-06 14:03)

The Cambodia session of the China's Governance and Worldwide Development Global Dialogue was held in Phnom Penh on Thursday, co-hosted by China Media Group (CMG), the Chinese Embassy in Cambodia and the Royal Academy of Cambodia.

• How mangrove restoration is reviving Xiamen's coastal ecosystem (2026-11-06 13:46)

How mangrove restoration is reviving Xiamen's coastal ecosystem

• Gabonese president lays wreath at Monument to People's Heroes (2026-11-06 13:42)

Gabonese President Brice Clotaire Oligui Nguema laid a wreath at the Monument to the People's Heroes on Tiananmen Square in Beijing on Friday.

• American Food & Agriculture Pavilion launches at 9th CIIE (2026-11-06 13:33)

American Food & Agriculture Pavilion launches at 9th CIIE

• Chinese, Gabonese presidents attend signing ceremony (2026-11-06 11:43)

Chinese, Gabonese presidents attend signing ceremony

• Xi Jinping votes in local legislative election in Beijing (2026-11-06 11:26)

Xi Jinping votes in local legislative election in Beijing

• China slams Japan’s inaction one year after Takaichi's Taiwan remarks (2026-11-06 11:17)

The Chinese Foreign Ministry on Friday criticized Tokyo for failing to correct course a year after Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi made erroneous remarks on China's Taiwan region.

• CIIE 2026 | Would you take an air taxi to work? (2026-11-06 11:13)

CIIE 2026 | Would you take an air taxi to work?

• China urges US to meet it halfway for stable, improving trade ties (2026-11-06 11:12)

Steady growth of China-US economic and trade relations serves the interests of both countries and their peoples, and benefits global economic development, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun said on Friday.

• China again urges Japan to correct the erroneous words and deeds (2026-11-06 10:46)

China again urges Japan to correct the erroneous words and deeds

• What advantages does China offer in its bid for the BBNJ Secretariat? (2026-11-06 10:38)

What advantages does China offer in its bid for the BBNJ Secretariat?

• Have Fun in China II | Solar Power Meets Aquaculture (2026-11-06 10:27)

Have Fun in China II | Solar Power Meets Aquaculture

• China, Gabon elevate ties to community with shared future for new era (2026-11-06 10:00)

Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks with Gabonese President Brice Clotaire Oligui Nguema in Beijing on Friday.

• Chinese President Xi holds welcome ceremony for Gabonese president (2026-11-06 10:00)

Chinese President Xi holds welcome ceremony for Gabonese president

• Chinese president appoints new ambassadors (2026-11-06 10:00)

Chinese President Xi Jinping has appointed the following ambassadors in accordance with a decision of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, China's top legislature, an official statement said on Friday.

- A rainbow around a plane? Here's what it really is! (2026-11-06 09:35)

A rainbow around a plane? Here's what it really is!

- He Lifeng to chair China-Canada economic, financial strategic dialogue (2026-11-06 09:32)

Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng will chair the second China-Canada Economic and Financial Strategic Dialogue in Canada on November 9, the Chinese Foreign Ministry announced on Friday.

- Xi: A growing China can be a partner to help Europe tackle challenges (2026-11-06 09:01)

Chinese President Xi Jinping met with Austrian Chancellor Christian Stocker at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on Friday.

- Chinese lawmakers flag market stability, opening-up fixes (2026-11-06 08:57)

Chinese lawmakers flag market stability, opening-up fixes

- Military attaché moved by stories of China's female Red Army soldiers (2026-11-06 08:53)

Military attaché moved by stories of China's female Red Army soldiers

- AI-powered protection for China's 'giant pandas of the sea' (2026-11-06 08:23)

AI-powered protection for China's 'giant pandas of the sea'

- A Thai Filmmaker Chronicles Everyday China in Guangxi (2026-11-06 08:14)

A Thai Filmmaker Chronicles Everyday China in Guangxi

- Let's play video games in class (2026-11-06 07:41)

Teachers are letting students play video games in class, and the games are helping the students better grasp aspects of their subjects.

- Artwork roots and genre blending of 'Phantom Blade Zero' (2026-11-06 07:39)

China's next big video game release "Phantom Blade Zero" has its roots in artwork and older games blending several styles and genres.

- Zenless Zone Zero's global playbook: Game, art, offline (2026-11-06 07:38)

"Zenless Zone Zero" is a video game that is being highlighted by the CPOPwave event as one of 10 standout Chinese franchises that have made a global impact. At Puyuan, its producer told us: game-making is highly integrated; if even one element – combat feel, visuals, story, music – resonates, that's enough.

• Dali in autumn: A rich palette of colors (2026-11-06 07:36)

Late autumn has transformed the forests of Dali, Yunnan Province into an artist's palette. Layers of red, yellow, orange, and green foliage blanketed the hillsides, creating a stunning natural tapestry.

• China's governance, global development dialogue held in Uruguay (2026-11-06 07:06)

The Uruguay edition of China's Governance and Worldwide Development Global Dialogue was held in Montevideo on Wednesday, co-hosted by China Media Group (CMG) and the Chinese Embassy in Uruguay.

• Behind the stunts: The untold price of a Wu Opera warrior (2026-11-06 07:00)

On set at the China Wulin Conference and Jinhua City Theatre Festival, Wu Opera artist Cui Yaqian reveals the intense physical endurance demanded of traditional performers.

• Scholar says video games are the way forward for classrooms (2026-11-06 06:54)

Video games are the key to the future of classrooms in the AI era: These are the views of game scholar Professor Liu Mengfei.

• The two endings of 'Black Myth: Wukong' (2026-11-06 06:53)

Hit Chinese video game "Black Myth: Wukong" has two endings.

• Inside CPOPwave: Why Chinese games are pulling people in (2026-11-06 06:52)

What makes a Chinese game worth flying across the world for? Our reporter Liu Mohan walks through CPOPwave – the immersive exhibition bringing Chinese pop-culture franchises and icons into a water town's canals, old shops, and courtyards – with David Kim, a California-based creator who makes music and videos for the game Wuthering Wavesand flew to China just for the show.

• Dunhuang: Balancing heritage protection and tourism boom (2026-11-06 06:46)

Dunhuang: Balancing heritage protection and tourism boom

• CIIE 2026| Spot a brand from home? (2026-11-06 05:50)

CIIE 2026| Spot a brand from home?

• China autumn grain purchases pass 100 mln tonnes under policy support (2026-11-06 05:43)

Enterprises in China's major grain-producing areas have acquired more than 100 million tonnes of autumn grains during a smooth and steady buying season. Driven by minimum-purchase-price protections and upgraded storage services, state policy support is effectively shielding growers from market volatility while ensuring strong agricultural returns.

• Xi Jinping replies to young Australian students (2026-11-06 04:15)

Chinese President Xi Jinping recently replied to 110 young Australian students who had written to him, encouraging them to remain committed to promoting the China-Australia friendship.

• Report highlights China's growing role as global import market (2026-11-06 03:52)

China is now both a global production hub and a key source of global demand, with a growing capacity to absorb goods from around the world, according to a report released on Thursday in Shanghai in east China.

• Inside Jiaolong: A simulated dive into China's deep-sea exploration (2026-11-06 02:40)

Inside Jiaolong: A simulated dive into China's deep-sea exploration

• 2026 World Ocean Week opens in Southeast China's Xiamen (2026-11-06 02:35)

2026 World Ocean Week opens in Southeast China's Xiamen

• Blue is the new green in Xiamen (2026-11-06 02:29)

Blue is the new green in Xiamen

• China passes law to prevent, punish cross-border corruption (2026-11-06 01:50)

China passes law to prevent, punish cross-border corruption

• China's space station sets new atomic cooling record (2026-11-06 01:39)

Chinese scientists have cooled a cloud of rubidium atoms aboard China's space station to an equivalent temperature of 9.7 trillionths of a degree above absolute zero, a record low according to the research team.

• China launches new remote sensing satellites (2026-11-06 01:27)

China launched a group of remote sensing satellites from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in southwest China's Sichuan Province on Thursday.

• Chinese vice premier calls for joint efforts to achieve balanced trade (2026-11-05 23:49)

Chinese Vice Premier Ding Xuexiang on Thursday called for joint efforts to achieve balanced trade through greater market openness, deeper investment cooperation, innovation and the removal of trade barriers.

• Giant panda personalities ready for public debut in Atlanta (2026-11-05 22:35)

Hear from Dr. Gina Ferrie, Vice President of Collections and Conservation, about how her team at Zoo Atlanta have prepared for the public unveiling of the beloved species from China.

• Atlanta is ready for pandas (2026-11-05 22:35)

Atlanta is ready for pandas

- Giant pandas ready to meet the public in Atlanta (2026-11-05 19:41)

After more than a month acclimating to their new U.S. environment, Ping Ping and Fu Shuang are ready to share their lives.

- Global dialogue discusses China's governance and worldwide development (2026-11-05 19:41)

Global dialogue discusses China's governance and worldwide development

- One Blue World | Xiapu: Life Among the Seaweed Farms (2026-11-05 16:41)

One Blue World | Xiapu: Life Among the Seaweed Farms

- China's Governance and Worldwide Development Global Dialogue in Lyon (2026-11-05 14:33)

China's Governance and Worldwide Development Global Dialogue in Lyon

- Global dialogues explore China's governance, worldwide contribution (2026-11-05 14:32)

China Media Group (CMG) has held multiple sessions of China's Governance and Worldwide Development Global Dialogue in France, Kuwait, Uruguay, and Cambodia over the past few days, enabling participants to exchange insights on China's governance experience and its contribution to global development.

- China's governance, worldwide development dialogue held in Kuwait City (2026-11-05 14:31)

The Kuwait edition of the Global Dialogue on China's Governance and Global Development was held in Kuwait City on Tuesday, co-hosted by China Media Group (CMG), the Chinese Embassy in Kuwait and the Kuwait-China Friendship Club.

- Central govt backs HKSAR's ruling of Wong Chi-fung case (2026-11-05 14:19)

Wong Chi-fung is guilty of conspiracy to collude with a foreign country or external elements to endanger national security, and the offence is of a grave nature, a spokesperson for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, Guo Jiakun, said in a press conference on Thursday.

- Huang Cheng's sea turtle conservation journey (2026-11-05 13:38)

Huang Cheng's sea turtle conservation journey

- Chinese FM: China stands ready to work with Mekong countries (2026-11-05 13:35)

The Lancang-Mekong Cooperation (LMC) countries are becoming more interconnected, with more robust growth momentum, stronger security safeguards, and closer people-to-people bonds, Guo Jiakun, a spokesperson for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, said in a press conference

on Thursday.

• Beijing's new riverside greenway opens up more space for outdoor life (2026-11-05 12:13)

Beijing's new riverside greenway opens up more space for outdoor life

• Foreign Ministry: World must stay alert to Japan's remilitarization (2026-11-05 12:03)

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson on Thursday said Japan's reckless remilitarization and repeated breaches of its "exclusively defense-oriented" policy seriously threaten regional peace and stability and challenge the post-war international order.

• China open to more US farm imports if tariff cuts implemented (2026-11-05 11:33)

China has always been open to expanding its purchases of agricultural products from the United States, but the precondition is that the two sides' arrangement for a $30-billion reciprocal tariff reduction is implemented, the Ministry of Commerce said on Thursday.

• Shi Xiaojun's dedication to coral reef conservation (2026-11-05 11:32)

Shi Xiaojun's dedication to coral reef conservation

• Super El Nino 2026: Turning climate forecasts into early action (2026-11-05 11:04)

Super El Nino 2026: Turning climate forecasts into early action

• Military attachés make straw sandals to learn hardships of Long March (2026-11-05 11:02)

Military attachés make straw sandals to learn hardships of Long March

• How Xiamen turned a polluted lake into an urban bird haven (2026-11-05 11:01)

How Xiamen turned a polluted lake into an urban bird haven

• CIIE highlights China's market appeal and opening up (2026-11-05 10:59)

CIIE highlights China's market appeal and opening up

• Kuliang Forum highlights people-to-people exchanges in China-US ties (2026-11-05 10:56)

Kuliang Forum highlights people-to-people exchanges in China-US ties

• Xi Jinping's key remarks on building a strong maritime country (2026-11-05 10:33)

Chinese President Xi Jinping has repeatedly emphasized the importance of developing marine technology, marine economy and expanding international maritime cooperation. He has also stressed that building China into a strong maritime country is a major strategic task for realizing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

• Chinese researchers study design measurements for lunar buildings (2026-11-05 10:20)

Chinese researchers study design measurements for lunar buildings

• CIIE 2026 | Eating our way around the world at CIIE (2026-11-05 10:19)

CIIE 2026 | Eating our way around the world at CIIE

• No humans and no remote control, just two robots playing table tennis! (2026-11-05 10:17)

No humans and no remote control, just two robots playing table tennis!

• 2026 World Ocean Week spotlights China's ocean governance role (2026-11-05 09:27)

2026 World Ocean Week spotlights China's ocean governance role

• China's top diplomat meets WPK delegation in Beijing (2026-11-05 09:25)

China's top diplomat Wang Yi met with a delegation led by Kim Song Nam, a member of the Political Bureau and secretary and international department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK), in Beijing on Thursday.

• How Ningbo Zhoushan Port connects China with the world (2026-11-05 09:04)

How Ningbo Zhoushan Port connects China with the world

• UNESCO official: Cooperation, China's vision to protect heritage (2026-11-05 08:45)

UNESCO official: Cooperation, China's vision to protect heritage

• Have Fun in China II | Fujian Farmers Become Photographers (2026-11-05 07:45)

Have Fun in China II | Fujian Farmers Become Photographers

• TV Drama 'I See You' begins filming in Ningbo (2026-11-05 07:25)

Filming of a TV drama focused on a group of medical professionals working in an intensive care unit (ICU) has begun in Ningbo, east China's Zhejiang Province.

• Swans rest ahead of migration as snow graces Daqing's wetland (2026-11-05 07:23)

Flocks of whooper swans rest on the partly frozen Yuebingpao wetland in Daqing, Heilongjiang Province after the first autumn snow.

• China, Canada hold first ministerial-level economic and trade talks (2026-11-05 07:12)

China, Canada hold first ministerial-level economic and trade talks

• CGTN Social Edits | For anyone who zooms in on the hardware (2026-11-05 06:29)

CGTN Social Edits | For anyone who zooms in on the hardware

• Respect and tolerance in online discourse under discussion in Wuzhen (2026-11-05 06:29)

A forum dedicated to discussing the fostering of respectful online discourse was held on Wednesday in Wuzhen, east China's Zhejiang Province.

• Dunhuang Expo: First-time visitor wowed by Mogao Caves (2026-11-05 06:08)

Dunhuang Expo: First-time visitor wowed by Mogao Caves

• Immersive hubs revitalize Dunhuang's ancient legacy (2026-11-05 06:06)

Immersive hubs revitalize Dunhuang's ancient legacy

• International scholars share latest Dunhuang findings (2026-11-05 06:06)

International scholars share latest Dunhuang findings

• International scholar praises Dunhuang's digital heritage resources (2026-11-05 05:28)

International scholar praises Dunhuang's digital heritage resources

• US student marvels at Mogao Caves during Dunhuang Expo (2026-11-05 05:27)

US student marvels at Mogao Caves during Dunhuang Expo

• 9th China International Import Expo opens in Shanghai (2026-11-05 04:55)

The 9th China International Import Expo (CIIE), the world's first national-level exhibition dedicated to imports, opened on Thursday in Shanghai, drawing thousands of international companies seeking opportunities in the Chinese market.

• CIIE Finds: Small trinkets, big statements (2026-11-05 04:50)

CIIE Finds: Small trinkets, big statements

• CGTN Social Edit | Browsing robots and flying taxis at CIIE (2026-11-05 04:07)

CGTN Social Edit | Browsing robots and flying taxis at CIIE

• See Ningbo for Yourself! (2026-11-05 04:07)

"Come to Ningbo, see for yourself, and use that potential that city has for your hometown."

• Foreign military attachés pay tribute to Long March martyrs (2026-11-05 02:51)

Foreign military attachés pay tribute to Long March martyrs

• 90 seconds to see the full construction of a large cruise ship (2026-11-05 02:50)

90 seconds to see the full construction of a large cruise ship

• Military attachés trace Long March history through calligraphy (2026-11-05 02:47)

Military attachés trace Long March history through calligraphy

• Lancang-Mekong cooperation: Six nations pledge closer ties in Beijing (2026-11-05 02:43)

Lancang-Mekong cooperation: Six nations pledge closer ties in Beijing

• Senior official urges efforts to carry out CPC plenum principles (2026-11-05 02:42)

China's top political advisor Wang Huning on Wednesday urged members of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) to thoroughly study and implement the guiding principles from the just-concluded Fifth Plenary Session of the 20th Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee.

• Chinese scientists envision the first road on the moon (2026-11-05 02:40)

Chinese scientists envision the first road on the moon

• China issues plan to advance comprehensive resource conservation (2026-11-05 00:53)

China has issued an action plan to promote resource conservation and efficient use of resources, safeguard national resource security and accelerate the green transition of its economy and society, the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) said Wednesday.

• European left-wing figures highlight CPC's commitment to self-reform (2026-11-05 00:44)

European left-wing political figures have highlighted the importance of the Communist Party of China's (CPC) commitment to self-reform, saying its experience in maintaining Party discipline and putting people first offers valuable lessons for left-wing parties in Europe.

• Mainland slams DPP for sacrificing Taiwan region's interests (2026-11-04 15:23)

A Chinese mainland spokesperson on Wednesday criticized Taiwan's Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) authorities for aligning with US policies, particularly in the semiconductor industry, for political gain, saying the move disregards the interests of local industries and public welfare.

• China's services trade maintains growth amid push for new drivers (2026-11-04 15:08)

China's trade in services maintained brisk growth in the first nine months of 2026 as the country moved to foster new drivers of foreign trade and promote high-standard opening up.

• Wang Yi calls for new 'golden decade' of Lancang-Mekong cooperation (2026-11-04 15:04)

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Wednesday called on the six Lancang-Mekong countries to build on their fruitful cooperation in the past 10 years and jointly usher in a new "golden decade."

• Chinese premier meets director general of WIPO (2026-11-04 14:54)

Chinese Premier Li Qiang met with World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Director General Daren Tang in Beijing on Wednesday.

• African voices: What Africa can learn from CPC's governance experience (2026-11-04 14:52)

The Communist Party of China's (CPC) commitment to Party building, combating corruption and putting people first has drawn praise from an African political party leader and a scholar, who said its governance experience offers valuable insights for African countries and socialist parties.

- Chinese FM: China ready to promote all-round connectivity with Vietnam (2026-11-04 14:45)

China is willing to work with Vietnam to promote all-round connectivity covering land, sea and air, improve trade and investment facilitation, and seize opportunities in emerging industries, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said Wednesday.

- Analysis: The best and worst of the internet are closer than they look (2026-11-04 14:42)

Analysis: The best and worst of the internet are closer than they look

- China's open-source AI push gains momentum at WIC Wuzhen Summit (2026-11-04 14:38)

China's open-source AI push gains momentum at WIC Wuzhen Summit

- One Blue World | The Epic Migration of Sperm Whales (2026-11-04 14:08)

One Blue World | The Epic Migration of Sperm Whales

- Discovering Ningbo off the beaten path (2026-11-04 12:59)

Discovering Ningbo off the beaten path

- Ningbo: rooted in heritage, open to the world (2026-11-04 12:46)

Ningbo: rooted in heritage, open to the world

- Chinese FM discusses regional issues with Cambodian, Thai counterparts (2026-11-04 12:29)

The foreign ministers of China, Cambodia and Thailand had constructive exchanges over tea on strengthening cooperation and safeguarding regional stability on the sidelines of the 11th Lancang-Mekong Cooperation (LMC) Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Beijing on Wednesday.

- Chinese mainland: Taiwan has no right to join Interpol (2026-11-04 11:36)

Taiwan, as part of China, does not have the right to become an Interpol member, a spokesperson for the State Council Taiwan Affairs Office said on Wednesday.

- ROK students learn about Japan's abandoned chemical weapons in China (2026-11-04 11:33)

ROK students learn about Japan's abandoned chemical weapons in China

- From shopping carts to vast market: The CIIE in everyday life (2026-11-04 11:30)

On the fourth floor of a mall on Nanjing East Road, Shanghai's busiest pedestrian shopping street, sits a small bazaar stocked with products from more than 20 countries and regions.

- Canton Fair shows China's trade runs on a brand-new model (2026-11-04 11:07)

Three weeks of deals, demos and dazzling new gadgets are wrapping up in China's Guangzhou. The 140th Canton Fair, officially the China Import and Export Fair, closes its doors on November 4. From robots and wearables to services and green tech, this year's fair shows Chinese trade is running on a band-new model, one moving toward higher-value products and more comprehensive services.

- CPOPwave 2026 explores global reach of Chinese pop culture (2026-11-04 10:42)

The CPOPwave 2026 global dialogue on China's popular culture and creative industries has opened in Wuzhen, Zhejiang Province, as part of the 2026 World Internet Conference Wuzhen Summit.

- President Xi Jinping's key remarks on high-standard opening up (2026-11-04 10:32)

The ninth China International Import Expo (CIIE) will be held in Shanghai from November 5 to 10, bringing together exhibitors from around the world.

- 90 Seconds at CIIE | Things that caught my eye (2026-11-04 09:41)

90 Seconds at CIIE | Things that caught my eye

- Xi's special representative Han Zheng to attend COP31 leaders' summit (2026-11-04 09:40)

Upon invitation, between November 6 and 12, Chinese Vice President Han Zheng will travel to Türkiye to attend the Antalya Leaders’ Summit at the 31st meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change as special representative of Chinese President Xi Jinping and visit Georgia, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson announced on Wednesday.

- China in contact with relevant parties on China-Russia-US summit (2026-11-04 09:23)

China has been in communication with relevant parties regarding a trilateral meeting among the heads of state of China, Russia and the United States, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said on Wednesday.

- What if machines could feel? Meet the tech making it possible (2026-11-04 09:16)

What if machines could feel? Meet the tech making it possible

- Paris Agreement 10 years on: Progress made, gaps remain (2026-11-04 09:15)

Paris Agreement 10 years on: Progress made, gaps remain

- Bao & Croissants: Shanghai APAC hub fuels fermentation innovation (2026-11-04 09:09)

Bao & Croissants: Shanghai APAC hub fuels fermentation innovation

• Graphics: A breakdown of exhibitors at the 9th CIIE (2026-11-04 09:06)

Graphics: A breakdown of exhibitors at the 9th CIIE

• Graphics: CIIE's growth in scale and global reach over 9 editions (2026-11-04 09:04)

Graphics: CIIE's growth in scale and global reach over 9 editions

• Tranquil scenes captured at Dianchi Lake in SW China's Yunnan (2026-11-04 08:44)

Recently, a photographer captured a breathtaking view of Dianchi Lake in Kunming, southwest China's Yunnan Province.

• Carnival in Beijing places spotlight on rural culture (2026-11-04 08:40)

A nationwide initiative to promote rural culture and support rural development was launched in Beijing's Changping District on November 3.

• Global stories and voices: Hainan film festival set for December (2026-11-04 08:22)

Global filmmakers are expected to set their sights on China's Hainan Province. The 8th Hainan Island International Film Festival (HIIFF) runs in Sanya from December 6 to 12. Organizers have received 4,632 submissions for this year's Golden Coconut Awards, coming from 133 countries and regions. Bringing together stories and cinematic approaches from across the globe, the festival gives audiences a window into world cinema.

• China's APEC opportunities: AI-native grid, green energy transition (2026-11-04 07:27)

China's APEC opportunities: AI-native grid, green energy transition

• Inclusion, AI literacy, accessibility focus of China internet reports (2026-11-04 07:23)

Inclusion, AI literacy, accessibility focus of China internet reports

• Forum held in Taipei to mark 160th birth anniversary of Sun Yat-sen (2026-11-04 07:20)

More than 100 people from various sectors of society gathered in Taipei on Tuesday for a forum marking the 160th anniversary of Sun Yat-sen's birth, calling for people in Taiwan and in the mainland to jointly carry on Sun's legacy, promote the peaceful development of cross-Strait relations and work together to achieve the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

• Chinese vice premier stresses HK's new opportunities under 15th FYP (2026-11-04 06:43)

Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng has expressed full confidence that China's Hong Kong region will further consolidate and enhance its competitive advantages through its first five-year plan, drawn up in alignment with the country's 15th Five-Year Plan (2026-2030).

• Foreign political party representatives hail CPC's governance approach (2026-11-04 06:18)

Foreign political party representatives have spoken highly of the Communist Party of China's (CPC) commitment to full and rigorous self-governance, saying its experience in strengthening Party discipline, combating corruption and putting people first offers valuable lessons for socialist parties around the world.

- CGTN poll: China’s opening-up experience earns wide recognition (2026-11-04 06:16)

On the occasion of the 9th China International Import Expo (CIIE), CGTN, in collaboration with Renmin University of China through the New Era International Communication Research Institute, carried out the 2026 Global Survey on World Openness, involving 20,100 respondents across 44 countries worldwide.

- China makes breakthrough in underground positioning and navigation (2026-11-04 06:10)

China makes breakthrough in underground positioning and navigation

- A home across oceans: 95-year-old American’s lifelong bond with China (2026-11-04 05:28)

A home across oceans: 95-year-old American’s lifelong bond with China

- How Ningbo is building its esports and digital cultural economy (2026-11-04 05:20)

As city leaders from around the world gather in Ningbo for the 2026 Global Mayors Dialogue, discussions on how technology is reshaping cities are bringing renewed attention to the role of emerging industries in urban development. Among the sectors gaining momentum is esports – an industry increasingly extending beyond gaming into entertainment, cultural tourism and the digital economy.

- Chinese mainland: Taiwan region not eligible for INTERPOL membership (2026-11-04 04:53)

Chinese mainland: Taiwan region not eligible for INTERPOL membership

- A Legacy in Scrolls: An AI Adventure (2026-11-04 03:53)

A Legacy in Scrolls: An AI Adventure

- One Blue World | A Green Sea Turtle's Journey Home (2026-11-04 03:50)

One Blue World | A Green Sea Turtle's Journey Home

- Blades in motion: Kunming police perform Jingpo knife dance (2026-11-04 03:03)

Blades in motion: Kunming police perform Jingpo knife dance

- Record El Nino expected to affect China's winter climate (2026-11-04 02:29)

Record El Nino expected to affect China's winter climate

• Tech adventure in Shenzhen: A visit to the city of tomorrow (2026-11-04 02:13)

Tech adventure in Shenzhen: A visit to the city of tomorrow

• Full text of Li Qiang's speech at 2026 WIC Wuzhen Summit opening (2026-11-04 02:04)

Chinese Premier Li Qiang delivered a keynote speech on Tuesday at the opening ceremony of the 2026 World Internet Conference (WIC) Wuzhen Summit.

• China to work with parties for fruitful APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting (2026-11-04 01:12)

China is willing to work with all parties to do a good job in the final stage of the 2026 APEC " China Year" and contribute to the fruitful results at the upcoming Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on Tuesday.

• UN Peacekeeping Workshop Concludes: Interview with UN Medical Director (2026-11-03 16:04)

Dr. Andreas Wladis, Medical Director of the UN Division of Healthcare Management and Occupational Safety and Health, says technology matters, but proper medical screening, training and established protocols remain essential.

• Wang Yi says China-Philippines relations face malicious interference (2026-11-03 15:17)

China-Philippines relations are facing malicious interference at present, said Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Tuesday.

• Water town vs. internet expo: How tradition and tech intersect (2026-11-03 14:48)

Water town vs. internet expo: How tradition and tech intersect

• Wang Yi reaffirms China's support for Myanmar's development (2026-11-03 14:44)

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Tuesday called for joint efforts to advance the building of a China-Myanmar community with a shared future, expressing China's support for Myanmar's political reconciliation, economic development and improvement of people's livelihoods.

• China to beef up support for emerging pillar industries (2026-11-03 14:25)

China to beef up support for emerging pillar industries

• Wang Yi calls for advancing China-Laos community with a shared future (2026-11-03 14:14)

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Tuesday called for advancing the building of a China-Laos community with a shared future, as the two countries mark the 65th anniversary of diplomatic relations this year.

• Wang Yi meets Thai FM, calls for deeper bilateral cooperation (2026-11-03 14:04)

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Tuesday met with Thai Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sihasak Phuangketkeow in Beijing, calling for stronger strategic communication and deeper mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries.

• Praise for Ningbo from Lebanese, Moroccan Officials (2026-11-03 14:02)

Ahead of the Global Mayors Dialogue, a group of local government representatives from Morocco and Lebanon were taken on a tour of the host city, Ningbo.

• Celebrating Friendship with France by Dongqian Lake (2026-11-03 14:02)

A recent visit by the mayor of Saint-Étienne-du-Rouvray in northern France to Ningbo Foreign Language School became an occasion for a heart-to-heart exchange on cross-cultural education.

• Body of former Chinese vice premier Liu Yandong cremated (2026-11-03 11:17)

The body of Liu Yandong, a former Chinese vice premier and state councilor, was cremated in Beijing on Tuesday. She died of illness in Beijing on October 28 at age 81.

• People over algorithms: Calls from Wuzhen Summit (2026-11-03 10:47)

People over algorithms: Calls from Wuzhen Summit

• The World's Mayors Encounter Dynamic Ningbo (2026-11-03 10:34)

Ningbo, as the host city of the 2026 Global Mayors Dialogue, which opened on Tuesday, is seizing the chance to showcase its connectivity with the world.

• Senior Chinese, Vietnamese officials hold talks in Beijing (2026-11-03 09:34)

Senior Chinese official He Lifeng held talks with Nguyen Thanh Nghi, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) Central Committee and secretary of the CPV Central Committee, in Beijing on Monday.

• Foreign leaders to attend China International Import Expo in Shanghai (2026-11-03 09:13)

A group of international leaders will travel to Shanghai for the 9th China International Import Expo (CIIE), running from November 5 to 10, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson said on Tuesday.

• Graphics: High-frequency terms from CPC self-governance resolution (2026-11-03 08:04)

Graphics: High-frequency terms from CPC self-governance resolution

• China's State Council removes Winnie Ho from HKSAR government post (2026-11-03 07:29)

China's State Council has decided to remove Winnie Ho from the post of housing secretary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government.

• China's first phoenix: a jade treasure from 4,000 years ago (2026-11-03 07:25)

China's first phoenix: a jade treasure from 4,000 years ago

- How biosphere reserves help people and nature thrive together (2026-11-03 06:32)

How biosphere reserves help people and nature thrive together

- 2026 International Copyright Forum convenes in Dunhuang (2026-11-03 06:26)

The 2026 International Copyright Forum opened on November 2 in Dunhuang, Gansu Province. Co-hosted by the National Copyright Administration of China (NCAC) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), it carries the theme "Copyright and the Creative Industries in the Digital Era: Preserving Cultural Heritage and Empowering Global Creativity."

- Chinese premier Li Qiang calls for global cooperation on cyberspace (2026-11-03 06:25)

Chinese premier Li Qiang calls for global cooperation on cyberspace

- How does the Communist Party of China advance poverty alleviation? (2026-11-03 03:47)

China's success in lifting hundreds of millions of people out of poverty is widely regarded as one of the most significant development achievements in modern history. What the Communist Party of China (CPC) has achieved is not merely a bold national commitment but has also delivered tangible, life-changing improvements for hundreds of millions of people.

- Yellow River runs clearer after decades of conservation (2026-11-03 03:43)

Yellow River runs clearer after decades of conservation

- Chinese vice premier to attend CIIE opening ceremony, relevant events (2026-11-03 03:27)

Chinese Vice Premier Ding Xuexiang will attend the opening ceremony of the ninth China International Import Expo (CIIE) and relevant events, and deliver a keynote speech, a spokesperson announced on Tuesday.

- 2026 WIC Wuzhen Summit opens with focus on open-source AI (2026-11-03 02:55)

2026 WIC Wuzhen Summit opens with focus on open-source AI

- Chinese opera singer finds his stage on Italy's streets (2026-11-03 02:12)

Chinese opera singer finds his stage on Italy's streets

- China's central bank to raise forex reserve requirement ratio for financial institutions (2026-11-03 01:58)

China's central bank to raise forex reserve requirement ratio for financial institutions

- China's top legislator meets with Russian Federation Council speaker (2026-11-03 01:37)

China's top legislator Zhao Leji held talks with Russian Federation Council Speaker Valentina Matviyenko in Beijing on Monday.

• China mulls draft law to combat cross-border corruption (2026-11-03 00:48)

China's top legislature began deliberating a draft law on combating cross-border corruption, which includes a provision on promoting the building of a fair and equitable global anti-corruption governance system.

• Chinese premier meets Sultan of Oman (2026-11-03 00:41)

Chinese Premier Li Qiang met with Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik Al Said of Oman in Beijing on Monday.

• Shanghai Disney Resort to open third themed hotel in December (2026-11-03 00:34)

Shanghai Disney Resort to open third themed hotel in December

• China's top diplomat holds talks with Saudi national security advisor (2026-11-02 15:15)

China's top diplomat holds talks with Saudi national security advisor

• How the CPC drives China's success in poverty alleviation (2026-11-02 13:31)

The CPC has translated its commitment to poverty reduction into targeted policies, nationwide coordination and sustained action, from the transformation of Shibadong Village to the national campaign against poverty.

• 200 Years of East-West Exchange (2026-11-02 13:28)

200 Years of East-West Exchange

• Chinese and Austrian firefighters exchange emergency expertise (2026-11-02 13:16)

Chinese and Austrian firefighters exchange emergency expertise

• China to send envoys to Middle East, Gulf & Red Sea, Horn of Africa (2026-11-02 13:13)

China to send envoys to Middle East, Gulf & Red Sea, Horn of Africa

• Chinese FM meets deputy secretary of Iran SNSC (2026-11-02 13:11)

Chinese FM meets deputy secretary of Iran SNSC

• New high-speed railway bridge advances connectivity in northwest China (2026-11-02 11:40)

New high-speed railway bridge advances connectivity in northwest China

• Chinese technology powers Kenya's packaging industry (2026-11-02 10:33)

In Kenya's lakeside city of Kisumu, Chinese-made machinery is helping local manufacturers improve efficiency, expand production and meet growing demand for packaging materials.

• How is the CPC addressing challenges of long-term governance? (2026-11-02 10:18)

How is the CPC addressing challenges of long-term governance?

• Xi calls for better protection, coordination to beautify Yellow River (2026-11-02 10:16)

Chinese President Xi Jinping has stressed efforts to continuously improve protection and coordination to make the Yellow River more beautiful.

• China's top diplomat meets deputy secretary of Iran SNSC (2026-11-02 10:15)

China's top diplomat meets deputy secretary of Iran SNSC

• How the CPC hears people's opinions and responds to their needs (2026-11-02 09:49)

The Communist Party of China was founded to serve the people, a mission that puts people at the center of its work. So how does the Party hear people's opinions and respond to their needs?

• China mulls amendment to Law on Renewable Energy (2026-11-02 09:43)

China's top legislature on Monday began deliberating a draft amendment to the Law on Renewable Energy that would strengthen the management of renewable energy development and construction.

• 'Jiuzhang 4.0' wins leading science and technology award at 2026 WIC (2026-11-02 09:08)

A total of 20 projects, including the "Jiuzhang 4.0" programmable photonic quantum computing prototype, won the 2026 World Internet Conference (WIC) Leading Science and Technology Awards at a ceremony held on Monday in Wuzhen, east China's Zhejiang Province.

• Autumn foliage draws visitors to Beijing's Xiangshan Park (2026-11-02 08:54)

Beijing's Xiangshan Park is now at the height of its autumn foliage season, with colorful leaves and traditional-style architecture creating a picturesque scene.

• China's Wang Yi, Wang Wentao to co-chair 37th APEC Ministerial Meeting (2026-11-02 08:53)

China's Wang Yi, Wang Wentao to co-chair 37th APEC Ministerial Meeting

• Chinese FM to chair 11th LMC Foreign Ministers' Meeting (2026-11-02 08:48)

Chinese FM to chair 11th LMC Foreign Ministers' Meeting

• Xi, Peru leader exchange congratulations over 55th anniversary of ties (2026-11-02 08:24)

Xi, Peru leader exchange congratulations over 55th anniversary of ties

• China to send special envoys to Middle East, Horn of Africa (2026-11-02 08:22)

China to send special envoys to Middle East, Horn of Africa

• Remembering Israel Epstein and the Spanish edition of China Today (2026-11-02 08:13)

Remembering Israel Epstein and the Spanish edition of China Today

• Xi, Sultan of Oman attend signing ceremony of cooperation documents (2026-11-02 06:38)

Xi, Sultan of Oman attend signing ceremony of cooperation documents

• A simple tweak helps passengers navigate Nanjing metro with ease (2026-11-02 06:31)

New directional signs at Nanjing South Railway Station have gone viral online, winning praise for their straightforward, user-friendly design.

• Global South Voices: Governance In Focus (2026-11-02 06:27)

Global South Voices: Governance In Focus

• Satellite internet, 6G, embodied intelligence shine at Wuzhen expo (2026-11-02 05:34)

The 2026 "Light of the Internet" Expo, a flagship event of the World Internet Conference (WIC) Wuzhen Summit, opened on Monday in Wuzhen, east China's Zhejiang Province, showcasing more than 1,000 new technologies and products from 671 companies and institutions across 54 countries and regions.

• President Xi holds welcome ceremony for Sultan of Oman (2026-11-02 04:10)

President Xi holds welcome ceremony for Sultan of Oman

• Xi stresses China-Oman partnership in energy, investment, innovation (2026-11-02 04:10)

Chinese President Xi Jinping said on Monday that China is ready to deepen the synergy of development strategies with Oman and be a stable and reliable partner in the energy sector, a partner with promising potential in investment, and a partner in fostering innovation in advanced technologies.

• How Party's discipline push is benefiting households in China (2026-11-02 03:05)

The benefits of improved Party discipline reach households. The livelihood payoff is where the governance argument becomes concrete. In 2025, disciplinary inspection and supervision authorities said they investigated 967,000 cases nationwide involving misconduct and corruption affecting people's interests, disciplined 627,000 individuals, and transferred 22,000 people to procuratorial authorities. These figures represent recovered wages, restored reimbursements and refunded fees.

• Yerevan Pathway sets course for biodiversity action (2026-11-02 01:31)

Yerevan Pathway sets course for biodiversity action

• Robert Hux on China’s governance achievements (2026-11-01 23:54)

Robert Hux on China’s governance achievements

• Evolving China-Germany ties: A new engine for China-EU cooperation (2026-11-01 19:35)

Evolving China-Germany ties: A new engine for China-EU cooperation

• Excerpts from resolution of CPC plenum (2026-11-01 14:20)

Excerpts from resolution of CPC plenum

• Chinese, German auto companies boost cooperation amid industry shift (2026-11-01 13:52)

Chinese and German auto companies on Friday explored ways to boost cooperation amid profound global transformation and fierce industry competition.

• How China fights corruption and prevents the abuse of power (2026-11-01 13:49)

How China fights corruption and prevents the abuse of power

• Full text: CPC resolution on full, rigorous Party self-governance (2026-11-01 13:34)

Full text: CPC resolution on full, rigorous Party self-governance

• Full text: Explanation of the CPC resolution on strict self-governance (2026-11-01 13:31)

Full text: Explanation of the CPC resolution on strict self-governance

• Xi's special envoy attends opening ceremony of 4th Youth Olympic Games (2026-11-01 13:28)

Gao Zhidan, special envoy of Chinese President Xi Jinping and director of China's General Administration of Sport, attended the opening ceremony of the fourth Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, capital of Senegal, on Saturday at the invitation of the Senegalese government.

• Japanese spy drama fuels remilitarization concerns, experts warn (2026-11-01 13:21)

A Japanese spy drama has sparked a backlash in China over scenes accused of distorting wartime history, with experts warning that such narratives could fuel anti-China sentiment and build support for Japan's remilitarization.

• How Chinese private enterprises thrive in high-quality development (2026-11-01 13:10)

How Chinese private enterprises thrive in high-quality development

• China unveils detailed two-launch plan for first manned moon landing (2026-11-01 13:02)

China unveils detailed two-launch plan for first manned moon landing

• Anti-cross-border graft legislation to shield state secrets, privacy (2026-11-01 10:16)

Anti-cross-border graft legislation to shield state secrets, privacy

• China's draft financial law takes aim at cross-border risks (2026-11-01 10:14)

China's draft financial law takes aim at cross-border risks

• China drafts stricter rules for Antarctic activities (2026-11-01 10:10)

China drafts stricter rules for Antarctic activities

• International figures hail CPC commitment to rigorous self-governance (2026-11-01 10:02)

International figures hail CPC commitment to rigorous self-governance

• What China's approach to Party governance means for global governance (2026-11-01 09:57)

The 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) provides an important window for the international community to understand the CPC's approach to Party governance and China's governance model.

• A tapestry of autumn colors at Beijing's Pofengling (2026-11-01 09:01)

The autumn foliage at Beijing's Pofengling Scenic Area isat its peak, with vibrant hues of red, orange, yellow and green drawing visitors to enjoy the fall scenery.

• Advancing global healthcare: CGTN's Health Talk in action (2026-11-01 08:59)

Advancing global healthcare: CGTN's Health Talk in action

• Kashi: Multi-ethnic culture shows highlight seasonal tourism (2026-11-01 07:56)

Against the scenic backdrop of snow-capped peaks and vibrant autumn colors, the ancient city of Kashi in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region has come alive with a rich lineup of traditional performances, drawing crowds of visitors and sparking fresh vitality in rural tourism.

• Political party leaders worldwide praise successful CPC plenum (2026-11-01 07:11)

Leaders of political parties around the world have extended congratulations on the successful convening of the fifth plenary session of the 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC).

• 2026 World Laureates Forum: Can AI become a research partner? (2026-11-01 07:05)

2026 World Laureates Forum: Can AI become a research partner?

• Xi's key quotes on a community with a shared future in cyberspace (2026-11-01 07:00)

Chinese President Xi Jinping proposed the vision of building a community with a shared future in cyberspace during his address at the opening ceremony of the second World Internet Conference in 2015. For over a decade, Xi has championed this vision on multiple occasions.

• 'New vitality': Upgraded China-Peru free trade agreement takes effect (2026-11-01 04:21)

A protocol upgrading the free trade agreement (FTA) between China and Peru officially entered into force on Sunday, injecting new vitality into bilateral economic and trade relations.

• CMSA: Lunar-landing phase of exploration program advancing steadily (2026-11-01 03:08)

CMSA: Lunar-landing phase of exploration program advancing steadily

• Tai Po Fire: HKSAR government responds with accountability and reform (2026-11-01 02:56)

Tai Po Fire: HKSAR government responds with accountability and reform

• This ginkgo couple has been together for 500 years! (2026-11-01 02:49)

This ginkgo couple has been together for 500 years!

• Swiss President arrives in Beijing as trade ties take center stage (2026-11-01 02:38)

Swiss President arrives in Beijing as trade ties take center stage

• G20 FM meeting ends without joint communique amid deep divisions (2026-11-01 01:23)

A two-day meeting of the Group of 20 (G20) foreign ministers ended in Atlanta on Saturday without a joint communique, as participants failed to reach consensus on major global geopolitical and economic security issues amid the Ukraine crisis and the US-Iran conflict.

• China's Geely Auto Group to enter the Canadian auto market in 2027 (2026-10-31 19:41)

The Chinese electric vehicle automaker Geely has announced it’s coming to Canada. The company says that it has assembled a local team and begun building out a retail and service network.

• Alibaba's Qwen to integrate into Apple Intelligence in landmark deal (2026-10-31 15:02)

Alibaba's Qwen to integrate into Apple Intelligence in landmark deal

• China Coast Guard patrols around China’s Taiwan island (2026-10-31 13:44)

China Coast Guard patrols around China’s Taiwan island

• Fact Check: Colombia gym video falsely linked to earthquake in Xizang (2026-10-31 12:27)

A video showing people fleeing a shaking building was falsely shared on social media as footage of the magnitude-7.0 earthquake that struck southwest China's Xizang Autonomous Region in October. Fact Hunter traced the clip to a gym in Pereira, Colombia, filmed in August, nearly two months before the earthquake even happened.

• Top scientists debate AI at World Laureates Forum (2026-10-31 12:17)

Top scientists debate AI at World Laureates Forum

• From Karakoram to Arabian Sea, Ep. 3: A Friendship Across Generations (2026-10-31 10:16)

From Karakoram to Arabian Sea, Ep. 3: A Friendship Across Generations

• China-Africa green mobility cooperation gains momentum (2026-10-31 09:51)

More than 700 industry, government and finance delegates from over 20 African countries converged at Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium in Gqeberha, South Africa, for a major automotive partnership conference to explore joint pathways for local manufacturing, green transport transition and cross-border connectivity.

• Graphics: Post-fire reforms for Wang Fuk Court (2026-10-31 09:16)

Graphics: Post-fire reforms for Wang Fuk Court

• China warns sidelining development undermines human rights (2026-10-31 08:59)

China on Friday called for stronger international cooperation to advance the right to development, and urged countries to put development at the center of the global agenda amid widening inequalities and mounting challenges facing developing nations.

• Global housing forum opens in China with focus on affordable housing (2026-10-31 08:36)

The world has a housing problem and it shows up mostly in the cities, where nearly half of humanity is crammed. Shining a spotlight on the crisis, the 2026 Global Observance of World Cities Day opened in Fuzhou, east China's Fujian Province, under the theme "Regenerating the City: Adequate Housing for All." It's bringing global attention to the urgent need for safe, affordable housing.

• 2026 World Laureates Forum: Backing the next generation of scientists (2026-10-31 07:44)

2026 World Laureates Forum: Backing the next generation of scientists

• Observing Hong Kong's governance after 2025 Tai Po fire (2026-10-31 07:41)

Observing Hong Kong's governance after 2025 Tai Po fire

• 70 years on, why global buyers keep coming back to Canton Fair (2026-10-31 07:37)

70 years on, why global buyers keep coming back to Canton Fair

• Why CPC stresses unwavering efforts to enhance Party self-governance (2026-10-31 07:16)

The Fifth Plenary Session of the 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), held in Beijing from October 26 to 29, has placed sustained efforts to advance full and rigorous Party self-governance at the center of its agenda, outlining a systematic plan to strengthen the Party's long-term governing capacity. Why is the CPC emphasizing the issue at this particular juncture, and what does the latest decision mean for the Party's future development?

• Film 'Caravan of Gratitude' to hit theaters in China on November 6 (2026-10-31 06:48)

The new film Caravan of Gratitude – which invites audiences to better understand the Chinese values of filial respect through a moving, visually immersive narrative – is set to hit theaters in China next Friday.

• Gang Aoping: HKSAR govt. responded to Tai Po fire with accountability (2026-10-31 06:01)

Gang Aoping: HKSAR govt. responded to Tai Po fire with accountability

• Hainan's digital reporting system streamlines grassroots governance (2026-10-31 02:49)

Hainan's digital reporting system streamlines grassroots governance

• China's GJ-21 drone completes first takeoff, landing on assault ship (2026-10-31 02:43)

China's first shipborne stealth reconnaissance-strike integrated drone GJ-21 has recently completed its first takeoff and landing operation aboard the Sichuan, China's first Type 076 amphibious assault ship, a navy source said.

Source: China Defense Blog

• Just Photo: First sighting of the emergency arresting net raised aboard the Type 076 amphibious assault ship Sichuan. (2026-11-04 06:39)

is that Mobile Landing Platform (MLP) 868 behind her?Friday, June 02, 2017 Newspaper scan of the day: Mobile Landing Platform + Zubr Tuesday, May 10, 2016 China just launched its 98,000t DWT Mobile Landing Platform (MLP). COSCOL’s 98,000t DWT newbuilding semi-submersible vessel “Guang Hua Kou” was successfully launched on April 28th at

• CV-17 Shandong Leaving Hainan (2026-11-03 02:34)

a { text-decoration: none; color: #464feb; }tr th, tr td { border: 1px solid #e6e6e6; }tr th { background-color: #f5f5f5; A tourist with a camera phone may have just given PLAN watchers their first glimpse of CV-17 Shandong back at sea after a lengthy maintenance period in Hainan. Recent images circulating online appear to show the carrier departing the Yulin naval complex

• PLA Group Force's MRL ship in Focus (2026-11-02 04:16)

a { text-decoration: none; color: #464feb; }tr th, tr td { border: 1px solid #e6e6e6; }tr th { background-color: #f5f5f5; }Back on October 10th, I blogged about the PLA Ground Force's amphibious MRL ship LD902 ("L" for Land Force, "D" for East), suggesting that the vessel belongs to the Eastern Theater Command. At the time, there was also a second vessel of a different

• PLA Getting Ready for a Cross Desert Expedition? (2026-11-01 10:13)

a { text-decoration: none; color: #464feb; }tr th, tr td { border: 1px solid #e6e6e6; }tr th { background-color: #f5f5f5; }One of the recurring themes on this blog is that the PLA is known

for its measured, "slowly but surely" approach to military procurement. New equipment istypically introduced cautiously, tested extensively, and fielded incrementally. Well, I may havebeen

• Photo of Army Aviation Black Hawk helicopters airlifting a Type 56 85mm gun (2026-10-31 04:02)

a { text-decoration: none; color: #464feb; }tr th, tr td { border: 1px solid #e6e6e6; }tr th { background-color: #f5f5f5; }An old photo from the 1980s for sure, but it is worth another look because it tells us quite a bit about how the PLA approaches defense procurement. One of the themes I keep coming back to is that the PLA's modernization story is not really about buying

Source: China | The Guardian

• Ukraine war briefing: Beijing confirms historic Xi-Trump-Putin meeting under discussion (2026-11-07 03:12)

Russia could use tri leader summit to nudge China and US closer to its position on Ukraine, experts say. What we know on day 1,718Beijing has confirmed that it is discussing a historic meeting between Chinese leader Xi Jinping, the US president, Donald Trump, and Russia’s Vladimir Putin. Mao Ning, a spokesperson for the Chinese foreign ministry, said at a press briefing this week in Beijing that China “is in communication with relevant parties regarding a meeting between the three heads of state”, which could take place on the sidelines of the Apec summit in the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen this month.Russia would probably use the summit to nudge China and the US closer to Moscow’s positions on Ukraine, said Sun Yun, director of the China program at the Stimson Center. However, Trump has been warned by his advisers to steer clear of Ukraine as a topic of the discussions, said Danny Russel, a former senior state department official who served in Barack Obama’s administration and who is now a distinguished fellow at the Asia Society Policy Institute.Ukraine again came under attack from Russia on Saturday, after President Volodymyr Zelenskyy repeated his calls for allies to supply Kyiv quickly with missiles for the US-made Patriot system to defend Ukrainian cities. Zelenskyy on Friday had warned that the Ukrainian military was bracing for new strikes by Russian forces against important infrastructure. “We have intelligence at this time that Russia is preparing new strikes on energy, on bridges across the Dnipro, on civilian infrastructure,” Zelenskyy said in his nightly video address. “The air force and the armed forces of Ukraine as a whole are preparing for defence. It will not be easy.” Kyiv, along with other Ukrainian cities, has been subjected to near-constant attacks for several weeks. A missile attack by Russian forces early on Saturday damaged a residential building in the Ukrainian capital, according to Mayor Vitali Klitschko. The city’s military administration, also writing on Telegram, said two people were injured and a building housing a kindergarten was damaged. Officials continued to warn residents of the potential for more strikes hours after the attack.President Zelenskyy says he wants specific guarantees from western allies on how postwar security support would

function when the war with Russia finally ends. Zelenskyy's comments in an interview aired late Thursday followed two days of discussions among allies in Brussels that focused on postwar security and reconstruction. They also came before planned three-way talks next week in Abu Dhabi between Ukraine, Russia and the United States, the first trilateral peace discussions since February. "What matters is that it's clear on paper," Zelenskyy said in an interview with Ukraine's private 1+1 television broadcast late Thursday. "The question isn't dozens of points, but simply an understanding of the outcome: If Russia starts [attacking] again, what will happen? Who will do what, with what means, and when?" The Brussels meetings brought together officials from the US, UK, France, Germany and the European Union, along with representatives from the World Bank and the US investment group BlackRock, Ukrainian lead negotiator Rustem Umerov wrote in an online post. "We separately discussed the threats from Russia to Ukraine and all of Europe, as well as joint steps to counter them," Umerov wrote. Continue reading...

• EU charges TikTok with failing to protect users' mental health (2026-11-06 15:17)

Regulator's initial ruling says algorithm 'can be harmful' and led young and vulnerable viewers 'down rabbit holes they can't easily escape' Business live – latest updatesTikTok has been charged by the European Commission with failing to protect users' mental health by exposing them to a relentless stream of content that risks worsening eating disorders and anxiety in a case that strikes at its business model.Issuing a preliminary ruling on Friday, the EU regulator said TikTok's algorithm "can be harmful" and was leading young and vulnerable users "down rabbit holes they cannot easily escape from". Continue reading...

• In jailing Joshua Wong, China is telling the world they'd crush every hope for democracy on its soil | Nathan Law (2026-11-06 14:53)

My friend was due to be released next January. Under draconian security laws, his sentence has been extended by 10 yearsTwo years ago, I wrote in this newspaper about the lengthy imprisonment of my friend Joshua Wong, who I spent years campaigning alongside for the advancement of Hong Kong's democracy. He was given an unjust sentence meant to keep him behind bars until January 2027. He was supposed to be released in a few months, when I hoped he would finally be able to reunite with his friends and family and embark on a new chapter.But this hope was misplaced. The end of the tunnel isn't next year; it's late 2036. By then, he will be 40. On Thursday, Joshua was sentenced to another 10 years under Hong Kong's national security law for colluding with foreign forces. He is the only political prisoner who's been convicted twice under the national security law. The judge described Joshua and me as "two ringleaders or masterminds" urging foreign powers to impose sanctions and other hostile actions against the Chinese and Hong Kong governments. The judgment cited previous international advocacy work, media interviews, social media posts and the political activities of Demosistō, the youth-led democratic party we founded.Nathan Law is a pro-democracy activist and former legislator from Hong Kong. He is a political refugee in the UKDo you have an opinion on the issues raised in this article? If you would like to submit a response of up to 300 words by

email to be considered for publication in our letters section, please click here. Continue reading...

• UK and US condemn ‘cruel’ second jail term handed to Hong Kong activist Joshua Wong (2026-11-05 14:38)

Foreign Office says 10-year sentence shows city’s security law is being used to ‘target individuals for political expression’ Hong Kong pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong sentenced to 10 years in prison in national security caseThe UK and the US have condemned the 10-year sentence given to Hong Kong pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong under a controversial national security law.Wong, 30, was sentenced on Thursday after pleading guilty to “foreign collusion” under the law. He is the only person to have been prosecuted twice under the legislation that critics say has been used to silence political opposition in the city. Continue reading...

• Raise the Red Lantern review – Gong Li gives a decade-defining performance in an addictively ruthless masterpiece (2026-11-05 13:00)

Gong simmers with rage, loneliness and humiliation as the ‘fourth mistress’ navigating the intimate political savagery of her husband’s compound in Zhang Yimou’s 1991 dramaRevisiting Zhang Yimou’s grippingly addictive psychological drama from 1991, adapted from a novella by Su Tong, is a reminder of what a great impact this movie made on western audiences. They responded to its arguably westernised tale of a young woman’s desperate loneliness in a sinister environment that resembles something by Charlotte Brontë or Daphne du Maurier. Like Jung Chang’s memoir Wild Swans from the same year, Raise the Red Lantern opened our eyes to 20th-century China’s secret theatre of cruelty and misogyny; elaborate domestic rituals of submission and servitude coexisted with infinitely subtle plotting, resentful manoeuvring and covert denunciation, habits of thought that could so easily be absorbed into Maoism.Gong Li gives one of the great performances of the 1990s as Songlian, a beautiful, intelligent young woman in 1920s China who is forced to abandon her university studies after just six months because her father has died and there is no longer money for the fees. In the unforgettable opening scene, which unfolds with a single unbroken shot of Gong’s pale face, incandescent with shock and pain, Songlian announces to her callous stepmother (who remains off camera) that she is ready to accept marriage – and then her eyes brim with tears. Her suppressed rage, loneliness and humiliation are to simmer below the surface for the rest of the film. Continue reading...

• ‘I worry people will forget Hong Kong’: Joshua Wong laments city’s fate from inside maximum security prison (2026-11-05 06:11)

Exclusive: pro-democracy activist’s prison letters reveal fascination with AI, brushes with Triads and an appetite for booksHong Kong pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong sentenced to 10 years in prison in national security case From inside Hong Kong’s oldest maximum security prison, where he swaps books with Triad gang members and studies law, Joshua Wong writes

letters like a man desperate to stay connected to the outside world.Excerpts from his private prison writings reveal the pro-democracy activist asking friends to take screenshots of social media accounts and put questions to AI chatbots on his behalf. Continue reading...

• UK found to be ‘dangerously’ reliant on China for critical minerals needed for defence and AI (2026-11-05 05:00)

Delivering net zero also at risk, say MPs as they call for centralised policy and funding for mines and diversification The UK is “dangerously” dependent on China for critical raw materials needed for the military, renewable energy infrastructure and AI, a parliamentary investigation has found.MPs on the business select committee called for an urgent centralised policy and the creation of a “critical minerals finance facility” to help fund rare earth and other critical mineral mines, and deploy grants, equity and debt to accelerate a diversification programme. Continue reading...

• Hong Kong pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong sentenced to 10 years in prison in national security case (2026-11-05 04:04)

Wong, 30, has been imprisoned since 2020 and is the only activist in Hong Kong prosecuted twice under national security lawHong Kong activist Joshua Wong has been sentenced to 10 years in prison after earlier pleading guilty to “foreign collusion”, his second conviction under a national security law that critics say has been used to silence political opposition in the city.Wong, who rose to prominence as the teenage face of Hong Kong’s 2014 pro-democracy demonstrations, submitted his guilty plea in September. He had been accused of working with the exiled Hong Kong activist Nathan Law to urge foreign powers to impose sanctions, blockades or other hostile measures against China. Continue reading...

• BMW warns on profits as it counts cost of plan for 8,000 job cuts (2026-11-04 11:58)

German carmaker slashes profit margin to between -0.5% and 0.5% this year in face of competition from ChinaThe German carmaker BMW has issued its second profit warning in a year, blaming the costs of a restructuring programme including significant job losses in the face of continuing competition from China.The company is the latest to issue a profit downgrade in the German car sector, with Mercedes-Benz last week cutting its profit outlook. Western automakers have struggled to keep pace with lower-cost domestic rivals in China, which has led to reduced sales there and a rise in exports to Europe. Continue reading...

• Choke of the century? Chengdu collapse sets up thrilling Chinese Super League climax (2026-11-04 08:00)

John Aloisi’s side need a point on the final day to seal their maiden title – but their form has dropped off a cliffWith four games of the Chinese Super League to go, Chengdu Rongcheng needed just a point to clinch their first title. With one game to go, they still need a point. What was a formality has become a formidable task. The biggest bottle job in Asian football history is very much on and it would be as popular as it would be dramatic.The coach of the Sichuan club,

the former Portsmouth and Coventry striker John Aloisi, has seen a 12-point lead over Dalian Yingbo cut to just three before Sunday's showdowns. Whatever happens, this is a positive and thrilling end to a season that started negatively – literally – with nine of the 16 top-tier clubs kicking off on minus points. They had been punished as part of a "special campaign to crack down on match-fixing, gambling and corruption in the football industry", said a joint statement from the Chinese Football Association, the Ministry of Public Security and the General Administration of Sport at the time. Continue reading...

• China's first AI-generated film is a flop. Some still see it as the future of cinema (2026-11-03 14:32)

Chinese investors placing high value on AI despite unpopularity of Sanxingdui: Future PastChina's first fully AI-generated movie has flopped, earning just 1.7m yuan (£191,000) at the box office despite costing "tens of millions" to make, according to its producer.But is it any good? The Guardian watched Sanxingdui: Future Past in a virtually empty cinema in Beijing, and found it no worse than plenty of human-centred mindless action flicks. Continue reading...

• Trump's troubles with Iran could open the door to China (2026-11-03 13:13)

Beijing launches diplomatic salvo to woo Gulf leaders and bolster its influence in the regionChina has held a flurry of meetings with Gulf leaders in a sign that Beijing is stepping up its diplomatic efforts in the Middle East.The diplomatic salvo comes before a highly anticipated meeting between Donald Trump and Xi Jinping when the US president is expected to attend the Apec conference in Shenzhen, China, on 18 and 19 November. Continue reading...

• Chinese cigarettes and Bolivian beer: the Amazonian town transformed by a rampant mining boom (2026-11-02 14:00)

Mayaya, once-remote, has become a hub for Chinese companies. But critics accuse them of exploitation and illegal exportsThe pork belly hits the oil with a sizzle, and a rich aroma of soy sauce and caramelising sugar fills the kitchen. Zhang Changchun, a middle-aged man from China's Heilongjiang province, is cooking dinner for his friends on a warm evening in Mayaya, a small town in the Bolivian Amazon. "Bolivia is my happy place," he says in Mandarin as he adds the dish to a table overflowing with pork trotters, duck wings and braised sábalo fish. In this small restaurant, a group of half a dozen Chinese men gathers most nights to eat, drink and play mahjong. Continue reading...

• UK making up China policy 'as it goes along', MPs warn (2026-11-02 05:00)

Commons committee says lack of coherent strategy is hampering business and leaving national security risks unaddressedThe UK is making up policy on China "as it goes along" and risks having its strategy dictated by Washington or Beijing, a parliamentary report has concluded.An investigation by the Commons business, innovation, science and trade select committee said Labour's failure to formulate a coherent strategy since 2024 "combined the worst of both worlds" for the UK in relation to China. Continue reading...

• The US-China trade war seems to have subsided – but the sense of calm is misleading (2026-11-01 12:00)

A truce has cooled the trade conflict, but neither country has done anything to limit the outbreak of new hostilitiesDonald Trump's trade wars have largely fallen off the headlines. Fears of new tariffs flare up from time to time when the US president goes off the rails – for instance, threatening to end US trade with countries with which it has a deficit unless the Federal Reserve cuts interest rates. But the sense that the world's two largest economies are plowing ahead into an overt economic conflagration has taken a back seat to other, more salient fears, about Trump ending American democracy, AI killing us all and stuff like that.The sense of calm is misleading. Under the radar, the world is marching toward an economic war of potentially epic proportions, one that, history suggests, could well spill over into the real thing. Continue reading...

• It's closer to Beijing than Washington – and residents of this Alaskan outpost are reeling from Trump's policies (2026-10-31 16:00)

On the Bering Sea, Unalaska is the US's most productive seafood port, employing thousands of workers. But Trump's cuts, and his disastrous war with Iran, have caused chaos – and put Republican control of Congress at riskIt was less than 17 hours until the start of Alaska's lucrative Bering Sea crab season, and Oystein Lone was standing on a dock in the city of Unalaska, preparing to embark in rough conditions.The problem wasn't the next day's forecast of 60mph gusts, which would kick up white-capped swells and make crabbing, already one of the most dangerous jobs in the United States, even more hazardous. Nor was it the question of whether there'd be enough red king, tanner and snow crabs to go around – state regulators had, in fact, announced higher quotas for the season. Continue reading...

Source: China – Foreign Policy

• U.S. Foes React to the GOP's Midterm Wipeout (2026-11-05 22:37)

Iran gloated. China shrugged. Russia expressed optimism.

• Chinese AI Stocks Are Slumping, Too (2026-11-03 20:49)

The correction is less painful for Chinese firms but reflects broader economic headwinds.

• China Won't Bail Out Trump's Lost War (2026-11-03 18:04)

Beijing is walking careful lines on Iran.

• Can Washington Afford to Deter Chinese Cyber Activity? (2026-11-03 12:00)

Costly signaling to Beijing could hurt the U.S. economy.

Source: Financial Times China

• Why does America hate AI? (2026-11-07 05:00)

Voter hostility to Big Tech helped shape the US midterms, and similar fears are spreading through the west. But look east and attitudes are dramatically more optimistic

• US believes Nvidia's Huang had romantic relationship with alleged Chinese spy (2026-11-07 02:33)

American intelligence warned the tech boss was involved with executive recruited by China to gather information on US group

• 'It's almost like a nightclub': Hyrox takes off in China amid fitness frenzy (2026-11-07 01:00)

Group behind gruelling competitive races faces challenges from Chinese rivals

• US warns China it must 'immediately' meet terms of Busan trade deal (2026-11-06 22:53)

Washington says Beijing is not fulfilling commitments to increase supply of rare earths and other critical products

• IEA chief predicts climate action comeback ahead of COP31 summit (2026-11-06 06:00)

Also in this newsletter: Nato launches online marketplace to speed up anti-drone purchases

• The echo chamber of Xi Jinping (2026-11-06 02:14)

Probes and purges have greatly reduced the party's ranks

• China's tech megacity cleans up seedy underbelly for Apec summit (2026-11-06 01:11)

Shenzhen clears out illicit markets for smuggled chips and stolen iPhones as it prepares to host gathering of international leaders

• US lawmakers summon Jensen Huang over Chinese spying concerns (2026-11-06 00:59)

Top Republicans ask Nvidia boss to brief congressional committees after reports he was targeted by China

• 'This time feels different' (2026-11-05 14:30)

No one at Hong Kong's annual financial fiesta doubted the AI trade

• China's 'swarm' strategy for the space race (2026-11-05 07:14)

Beijing has fostered a new national champion in LandSpace

• Hong Kong sentences democracy activist Joshua Wong to 10 years (2026-11-05 06:06)

Second security law penalty pushes expected release date to 2036

- France urges EU to adopt higher fast fashion levy (2026-11-05 06:00)

Also in this newsletter: Belgium pushes ahead with vote on controversial migration powers

- Can a new ‘groundscraper’ recharge Hong Kong’s buzz? (2026-11-05 05:00)

Having lost some of its sheen to cheaper Shenzhen, the city is looking to new development Central Yards to revitalise the city’s shopping and leisure

- Copper is booming but not everyone is striking gold (2026-11-05 00:01)

As selling prices soar, the red metal frenzy favours miners over smelters

- China steps up defence of stock market in bid to revive AI boom (2026-11-04 13:14)

ETFs commonly used by Beijing to support market see second-highest net inflows on record

- Combustion engine not dead in China, says BMW as profits slide (2026-11-04 07:16)

German carmaker downgrades financial targets for second time since June amid China sales slump

- Oracle cancels $7bn Tencent AI deal under Trump pressure (2026-11-04 05:00)

Intervention comes amid growing tension for US AI infrastructure groups doing business with Chinese tech giants

- A year after devastating fire, Hong Kong struggles to make amends (2026-11-04 01:29)

Authorities have apologised and a minister has resigned after 168 died in worst tragedy in decades. Will it be enough?

- US, Russia and China discuss meeting between Trump, Putin and Xi (2026-11-03 08:10)

US president is travelling to Shenzhen in two weeks to attend Apec summit

- China halts listings in bid to bolster struggling markets (2026-11-03 06:25)

CSI 300 index posted worst month in more than a decade in October

- Argentina pitches the EU on food, energy and minerals ‘solutions’ (2026-11-03 06:00)

Also in this newsletter: The risks of Chinese wind turbines

- Nvidia orders data centre clients to reduce China exposure (2026-11-03 05:00)

World’s biggest chipmaker tells cloud computing providers a majority of their clients must be non-Chinese

- Restaurateur Syed Asim Hussain: ‘I use anger as a force for good’ (2026-11-03 05:00)

The Black Sheep co-founder's drive for success has fuelled a global empire — but the frenetic pace is tempered at his Hong Kong hideaway

• The midterms and the world (2026-11-02 14:00)

A Democratic sweep of both houses of Congress would see big changes on energy and trade in particular

• China's soaring chemical exports threaten new trade war front (2026-11-02 06:42)

Output has almost doubled in some key ingredients in five years, putting pressure on foreign rivals

• US critical minerals push delivers a gold rush — for Washington lobbyists (2026-11-01 12:00)

Billions in government backing have produced a flurry of deals but little increase in domestic production

Source: New York Times China

• Suffield Academy Shaken by I.R.S. Investigation Into Its Leader (2026-11-06 23:48)

Suffield Academy placed its longtime head of school, Charlie Cahn III, on leave last month after learning that he was the subject of a federal investigation.

• Zoo Atlanta Unveils Its New Pandas: Fu Shuang and Ping Ping (2026-11-06 22:22)

Two years after two other pandas were returned to China, giant pandas were back on display in Atlanta.

• China's Top Spy Agency Recruited Woman Who Targeted Jensen Huang (2026-11-06 21:30)

U.S. intelligence concluded that Alice Huang, a Chinese business executive who developed a close relationship with Nvidia's leader, was an asset of Beijing's Ministry of State Security.

• A Summit in China With Trump and Putin? That Might be Awkward for Xi. (2026-11-06 05:01)

A summit could bolster Xi Jinping's stature. But talks about Ukraine's future and limits on nuclear weapons pose uncomfortable choices for China.

• House G.O.P. Leaders Ask Nvidia's Huang to Speak in Closed-Door Briefing (2026-11-05 23:39)

The New York Times reported last week that Mr. Huang had a close relationship with an executive that U.S. officials determined was funneling information to Chinese intelligence.

• China Blocks SoftBank's $5.4 Billion Robotics Takeover, Impeding Foreign Deals (2026-11-05 11:23)

Chinese authorities stopped the sale of ABB Robotics, owned by a Swiss conglomerate, to SoftBank of Japan amid wider scrutiny of global transactions that could affect Beijing's technology ambitions.

• Joshua Wong, Hong Kong Democracy Activist, Is Sentenced to 10 Years in Prison (2026-11-05 05:37)

Mr. Wong, one of the most high-profile members of a movement that was quashed in 2020, was accused of conspiracy to collude with foreign forces, a national security offense.

• Countries Weigh, and Worry About, What Trump Will Do After Midterm Defeat (2026-11-04 10:18)

Commentators abroad wondered what the president's electoral losses might mean for oil prices, the war on Iran and the end of the Trump era.

• Why Trump's Taiwan Arms Delay Is Dangerous (2026-11-03 00:00)

China may see Trump's decision to hold up arms sales to Taiwan as a lasting concession, raising the stakes in a future confrontation over the island.

• Book Review: 'Castles,' by Dan Jones (2026-11-02 10:01)

In "Castles," Dan Jones tells the story of human history as a chronicle of destruction that occurred at fortifications across the world.

• U.S.-China Relations Will Never Be the Same in the Age of A.I. (2026-11-02 06:00)

China and the U.S. need mutually assured collaboration to quash the threat of A.I.-empowered bad actors, even while their economic differences sharpen.

• China's Message to Its Rivals: You Need What We Make (2026-11-02 05:00)

It's not just rare earths. China is making it harder for other countries to shed their dependence on its solar, drone and drugmaking technology.

• China's Message to Its Rivals: You Need What We Make (2026-11-02 05:00)

It's not just rare earths. China is making it harder for other countries to shed their dependence on its solar, drone and drugmaking technology.

• Liu Yandong, Rare Woman Among China's Political Elite, Dies at 80 (2026-10-31 04:12)

The former vice premier was one of just six women to have served on the Chinese Communist Party's elite Politburo, though she was excluded from the top ranks of power.

Source: South China Morning Post

• Air in India’s capital ranked world’s most polluted on eve of Diwali (2026-11-07 06:01)

New Delhi ranked as the world’s most polluted major city on Saturday morning, according to Swiss group IQAir, as the Indian capital faced severe pollution forecasts a day before Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights. India has ordered schools in and around Delhi to offer online classes and encouraged people to work from home ahead of Diwali on Sunday, which is usually marked by the widespread use of firecrackers that further worsen the air quality. IQAir ranked Delhi first for air pollution...

• Financial leaders tiptoe around Beijing’s asset scrutiny, hail Hong Kong’s wealth boom (2026-11-07 06:00)

Global financial leaders who gathered in Hong Kong this week largely sidestepped Beijing’s offshore trust tax crackdown, a lingering near-term hurdle for the city’s otherwise expanding wealth management industry. Beijing’s move earlier this year to step up scrutiny of wealthy families’ overseas assets was barely discussed openly at a series of financial industry events, including the Global Financial Leaders’ Investment Summit and the PWMA Wealth Management Industry Summit 2026, even as it...

• Hong Kong paediatrician urges parents to vaccinate children as temperatures fall (2026-11-07 05:33)

A Hong Kong paediatric expert has called on parents to arrange influenza vaccinations for their children ahead of cooler temperatures next week, warning of a double whammy of overlapping summer and winter flu seasons. The city has recorded 29 cases of severe paediatric influenza infection this flu season, two of which were fatal. Dr Mike Kwan Yat-wah, former president of the Asian Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases, warned on Saturday that the city could see a longer flu season with the...

• ‘There could be anarchy’: Bangladesh’s garment sector unrest threatens economic disaster (2026-11-07 05:00)

Garment workers in Bangladesh, the world’s second-largest clothing exporter after China, are demanding that their wages more than double – and their protests have brought a halt to production in factories supplying global brands including H&M, Zara and Walmart. Tens of thousands of workers have marched through Dhaka and the key industrial towns of Gazipur, Ashulia and Narayanganj in recent days demanding higher pay. Protests turned violent in several hubs, with factories vandalised and roads...

• Test of trust for Hong Kong’s new housing checks unit after Wang Fuk Court blaze (2026-11-07 04:25)

For former Wang Fuk Court resident Dorz Cheung, seeing will be believing when it comes to reforms initiated after the deadly inferno in Hong Kong’s Tai Po district. The 34-year-old

questioned whether the new oversight bodies would prevent another disaster, saying systemicreforms to tackle shoddy building maintenance and bid-rigging could be undermined by poorimplementation. “No matter how well the system is reformed, it is people who put it intopractice. Even the best system will achieve...

• Trump confirms fresh Iran strikes days after voters punish war at polls (2026-11-07 04:25)

US President Donald Trump said the American military on Friday carried out new limited strikes on Iran, targeting an Iranian air defence system. Iranian state media reported the sound of two explosions in the Suza area of Qeshm Island, which is in a crucial waterway for oil shipments. Trump in an exchange with reporters described the military action as “minor”. “They knocked out – they built a little bit of an anti-aircraft device and we knocked it out in about 15 minutes, maybe five,” he told...

• China to narrow scope of contentious detention and surveillance measure (2026-11-07 04:00)

Chinese lawmakers are proposing to restrict a contentious form of detention and police surveillance measure, among other changes to the country’s Criminal Procedure Law. Known as residential surveillance at a designated location (RSDL), the measure was originally intended as a mild restriction of personal freedoms to lower the rate of detention and arrest. Since RSDL’s introduction in 1996 and expansion in 2012, it has become the harshest form of detention used in state security cases, including...

• US regulator investigates tumour risk in children given Novartis gene therapy (2026-11-07 03:35)

The US Food and Drug Administration said on Friday it was investigating a risk of neoplasia, or tumour formation including malignancy, associated with Novartis’ gene therapy Zolgensma. The Swiss drug maker earlier in the day disclosed two cases in which tumours in children showed evidence of being linked to its gene therapy drug used to treat patients less than two years old with spinal muscular atrophy. Novartis said that it had received nine reports overall of tumours in patients...

• Domestic helper arrested after allegedly spitting into 4-year-old girl’s food (2026-11-07 03:25)

A foreign domestic helper in Hong Kong has been arrested on suspicion of ill-treating a child after she allegedly spat into the food of a girl under her care, according to police. The mother of the four-year-old girl filed a police report at 9.28am on Friday, saying her 37-year-old Filipino helper had treated her daughter inappropriately. Initial police investigations at the family’s flat at The Belcher’s, a private residential estate in Kennedy Town, indicated that the helper had spat into the...

• How North Korea turns child prodigies into crypto thieves (2026-11-07 03:01)

North Korea rewards its top hackers, tasked with heists like the Binance crypto hack that netted a cool US$6.3 billion, with perks such as spacious apartments in the capital and huge hard currency awards in return for gruelling hours of work. Leader Kim Jong-un has assembled an army of world-class hackers using such incentives in a programme more than a decade old that picks 200 of the smartest middle school students each year to study computer engineering, defectors and analysts say. A...

• HKUST president Nancy Ip wins Unesco prize for Alzheimer's research (2026-11-07 02:54)

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) president Nancy Ip Yuk-yu has been awarded a United Nations prize for her "outstanding contributions" in neuroscience, which have enabled the earlier diagnosis and better monitoring of Alzheimer's disease. Ip was presented with the Unesco-Equatorial Guinea International Prize for Research in the Life Sciences on Friday in Paris. "Dr Nancy Yuk-yu Ip, president of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, is a world-renowned...

• Iran's nuclear programme: US offers US$20 million reward for information (2026-11-07 02:04)

Washington is offering a US$20 million reward "and possible relocation" for information about Iran's nuclear programme, the US military has said, as President Donald Trump reiterated that Tehran wants to make a deal to end the war. A State Department programme, Rewards for Justice, "is offering a reward of up to US$20 million and possible relocation for information about Iran's nuclear programme, including its facilities, equipment and associated personnel, such as those in the scientific...

• AI-generated cats showcasing rural life, Chinese cuisine land major brand sponsorships (2026-11-07 02:00)

China's pet scene has found its digital answer to cottagecore icon Li Ziqi – "Meow Ziqi," a social media account featuring three AI-generated cats that cook traditional Chinese dishes and practise heritage crafts. Since bursting onto the scene in April, the account has amassed over 1.76 million followers and more than 500 million views. The parallels with Sichuan-born cultural influencer Li Ziqi are unmistakable. Li captivated over 56 million fans worldwide with her cinematic depictions of...

• Myanmar's will to fight money laundering questioned as tougher curbs loom (2026-11-07 02:00)

Myanmar's military-backed government may find its reluctance to address the international community's concerns a greater obstacle to economic recovery than the threat of tougher international financial restrictions, according to analysts. The Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the global money-laundering and terrorist-financing watchdog, warned on October 30 that it could consider further measures against Myanmar if it failed to remedy shortcomings in its financial safeguards by...

• In the Pacific century, Chinatowns in the US deserve more than preservation (2026-11-07 01:30)

I was sitting in my car in Oakland’s Chinatown with Desta, my dog, while my wife visited her Chinese-American doctor. Across the street stood the Shoong Family Chinese Cultural Centre. On the pavements, older shoppers carrying bags of greens paused to greet acquaintances. People threaded between produce displays, fish counters and shopfronts crowded with everyday necessities. There was a rhythm to the morning: deliveries, conversations, the exchange of money and news, the small acts of...

• Is Russia’s seizure of Japan Tobacco assets the last straw for Tokyo amid frosty ties? (2026-11-07 01:00)

Russia’s seizure of the assets of a Japanese company could prove to be Tokyo’s red line after a series of bitter exchanges between both nations and ties that continue to spiral. The Japanese government on Friday lodged a formal complaint with Russia and demanded that Moscow immediately reverse a decree announced the previous day that transferred the assets of Japan Tobacco International (JTI) to Russian control. Analysts say the decree, signed by Russian President Vladimir Putin, is likely a...

• Sanae Takaichi slammed online for praising calligraphy without mentioning China (2026-11-07 01:00)

Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi has faced backlash online after writing a social media post celebrating Japan’s shodo calligraphy without mentioning its Chinese roots. On Thursday, Unesco released this year’s nominations for inclusion on its Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. The 59 nominations submitted for consideration for the UN cultural body’s list include Chinese cuisine, Spain’s traditional jota music and dance genre and Japan’s shodo...

• Hong Kong draws growing interest from Irish firms seeking expansion across Asia (2026-11-07 01:00)

More Irish companies are considering Hong Kong as a base for expansion across Asia, according to the head of the country’s chamber of commerce in the city, who described the two as “natural partners”. Padraig Seif, president of the Irish Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong, said momentum was building ahead of the Asia-Pacific Irish Business Forum as Irish firms increasingly looked to Asia amid Washington’s tariff policy and the lingering effects of Brexit. “What we’ve seen is ⋯ Asia and Hong Kong...

• By all memes: why Asia’s Gen Z are revolting (2026-11-07 00:00)

All across Asia, anti-establishment protests have been flaring up, led by a generation that came of age in the digital era. Memes are mobilising a young, permanently online cohort against specific government policies, insults and injustices – its many members determined to seize

their own destinies before the future they fear takes root. Asia is home to 60 per cent of theworld’s adolescents and young people, or some 1 billion in total, according to UN estimates.Gen Z, roughly defined as those...

• Paraguay’s President Pena impeached over Ueno banking crisis, placed under house arrest (2026-11-06 23:41)

Paraguayan President Santiago Pena was placed under house arrest on Friday on suspicion of breach of trust, shortly after the Senate removed him from office over the collapse of a major bank tied to his government. Pena had offered his resignation over the disaster, but lawmakers pressed ahead with impeachment proceedings that would strip him of immunity granted to former presidents. He did not attend the trial in the Senate despite earlier pledging to defend himself. The president “is declared...

• Cornell faculty vote no-confidence in leadership after gang rape case (2026-11-06 23:06)

Faculty members at Cornell University on Friday passed a no-confidence resolution against the elite college’s leadership over its handling of an alleged gang rape that has sparked outcry in the US. The vote is not binding but marks a strong symbolic rebuke of administrators at the Ivy League college in New York state. According to a lawsuit, a female student was assaulted by seven male students at a fraternity house on campus. Following her initial allegations in 2024, Cornell shut down the...

• Ted Lieu seeks Congress leadership post, aiming to break another glass ceiling (2026-11-06 23:01)

California Democratic Congressman Ted Lieu is seeking to become the next chairman of the House Democratic Caucus, one of the top leadership jobs in the US Congress, and potentially making history again as the highest-ranking Asian-American on Capitol Hill. He announced his caucus chair candidacy in a letter to fellow Democrats on Thursday. He’s currently the most high-profile Asian and Chinese-American in Congress, serving as vice-chairman of the caucus, the fourth-ranking position in the House...

• Will the US midterm ‘blue tsunami’ erode China’s faith in Trump and Xi’s relationship? (2026-11-06 22:00)

China may start looking for ways to make its deals with the United States less dependent on the personal relationship between presidents Xi Jinping and Donald Trump after the midterm elections left the US leader in a weaker position to deliver results, analysts have said. Some observers believe Beijing will start paying closer attention to what the White House can achieve without support in Congress, while others say it may seek closer engagement with the Democrats given their ability to...

• Can China champion the Global South without speaking for it? (2026-11-06 21:30)

Travelling through South America earlier this year, I was repeatedly reminded of China's growing importance. At Ezeiza International Airport in Buenos Aires, I spotted the logo of the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China. ICBC acquired an 80 per cent stake in Standard Bank Argentina in 2012, establishing a significant presence. In Buenos Aires, my friend Diego García, a publisher, offered a useful perspective: Argentina does not have to choose between China and the United States. It should...

• California's first Asian lieutenant governor traces roots to esteemed family in China (2026-11-06 21:02)

Amid a national Democratic wave in the midterm elections, a California Democrat has made history as the first Asian-American elected to the state's second-highest executive office, with roots tracing back to a prominent military and political clan in China. Fiona Ma, 60, a Chinese-American and the state's current treasurer, was elected lieutenant governor, marking a milestone for Asian-American representation in California politics. "I am deeply humbled and honoured to be elected California's...

• Pope Leo in Uruguay to kick off South America tour just weeks after lung surgery (2026-11-06 20:30)

Pope Leo began an emotionally charged tour of South America on Friday, returning to a continent that helped shape his priesthood just three weeks after undergoing lung cancer surgery. The 71-year-old head of the Catholic Church will visit Uruguay, Argentina and Peru over 12 days in one of the most intense papal foreign trips in decades, meeting political leaders, prisoners, the poor, as well as old friends. "I'm very happy to be here," Leo told reporters on the plane before landing in Uruguay,...

• Trump names Stephen Miller chief of staff, replacing Susie Wiles after midterm losses (2026-11-06 19:23)

US President Donald Trump said on Friday that Stephen Miller would replace Susie Wiles as White House chief of staff, elevating a long-time loyalist and architect of his immigration crackdown days after Republicans lost control of Congress. Miller, currently a deputy chief of staff, will take over on Monday. Wiles will move to Trump's political operation, the president said in a post on social media. The change puts one of Trump's staunchest ideological allies in charge of the White House staff...

• US, China trade chiefs hold call ahead of Trump-Xi summit in Shenzhen (2026-11-06 18:34)

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and Trade Representative Jamieson Greer held a video call with Chinese Vice-Premier He Lifeng on Friday, as both sides moved to finalise preparations for President Donald Trump's planned meeting with Chinese leader Xi Jinping in Shenzhen later this month. "Secretary Bessent emphasised the importance of China fully and immediately implementing its commitments made in Busan and raised concerns about recent Chinese actions," a statement from the Treasury...

• Panda fans flock to Zoo Atlanta for the debut of Ping Ping and Fu Shuang (2026-11-06 18:26)

Zoo Atlanta's newest pandas munched bamboo and lounged on Friday during their public debut as smiling visitors lined up to welcome them. Ping Ping, a male, and Fu Shuang, a female, arrived in September from China under a 10-year loan agreement, bringing the cuddly black-and-white bears back to the zoo after a two-year absence. After spending the past weeks getting acclimated to their habitat, the six-year-old pandas greeted visitors in the newly renovated Arthur M. Blank Panda...

• Call to end 'unjust' national security cases as Hong Kong slams 'malicious attacks' (2026-11-06 16:12)

Ten countries – including the "Five Eyes" allies – have called for an immediate end to "unjust prosecutions" under Hong Kong's national security law after opposition activist Joshua Wong Chi-fung was jailed for 10 years, while the government has urged foreign forces to stop their "baseless malicious attacks". The foreign ministers of the 10 countries issued a joint statement on Friday, a day after the High Court sentenced Wong over his role in a global campaign to instigate sanctions against...

• US and EU's China talks channel comes back to life after stalling since Trump's return (2026-11-06 16:05)

The European Union and the United States plan to revive talks about China after a two-year hiatus, according to multiple people familiar with the planning. The dialogue had stalled since Donald Trump's return to the White House, but after being approached by Washington, talks are expected in the first week of December, despite the deterioration in transatlantic relations in the meantime. The once-regular forum was used to discuss areas of shared concern with regard to Beijing. During Joe Biden's...

• Meghan's father Thomas Markle arrested in US on child sex abuse material charges (2026-11-06 16:02)

Thomas Markle, the father of Prince Harry's wife Meghan, was arrested on Friday morning by federal agents in Florida on charges related to child sexual abuse material, people familiar with the matter said. The people who confirmed his arrest were not authorised to publicly discuss the investigation and spoke on the condition of anonymity. Markle, 82, was taken into custody at the retirement home where he lives near Tampa. The arrest comes after a stash of child porn was allegedly found at...

• 'Clock is ticking': European TV channels targeted in wave of hoax bomb threats (2026-11-06 15:31)

Bomb threats warning "the clock is ticking" were sent to TV stations across Europe on Friday, prompting evacuations and programming to be suspended. Warnings were sent to Irish

broadcaster RTE, Britain’s Sky, Bulgarian private station Nova TV and others, the companiessaid. No bombs were found at any affected site. RTE programmes were replaced by music and apre-recorded message, some for as long as three hours. The alerts follow a string of hoax bombthreats that has disrupted passenger...

- Hong Kong’s yacht industry eyes mainland China buyers but challenges remain (2026-11-06 15:08)

Hong Kong’s yacht industry is seeking to attract more buyers and visitors from mainland China under a new cross-boundary travel scheme, but relatively high berthing costs could pose a challenge, industry representatives have said. Industry leaders, exhibitors and visitors gathered in Discovery Bay on Friday for the fourth edition of the Lantau Yacht Club Boat Show, which runs until Sunday. The show featured more than 30 vessels, including superyachts and models from international brands such as...

- US adds 165,000 jobs in October as labour market beats expectations (2026-11-06 14:52)

Employment in the United States grew by 165,000 jobs in October, far exceeding analysts’ expectations, with the unemployment rate dipping to 4.1 per cent, government data showed on Friday. The relatively stable labour market has allowed the US Federal Reserve – which has a dual mandate to maintain inflation at a long-term 2 per cent target while ensuring maximum employment – to make fighting stubbornly high prices its priority. The strong October data could add to pressure for further rate...

- What’s next after airlines? Asia data breach raises wider cyber fears (2026-11-06 14:30)

A massive data breach that affected several airlines across Asia has underscored the need for industries in the region to revisit their reliance on third-party suppliers, analysts have said, warning that more critical infrastructure may soon be affected. Last week, a wave of airlines reported that customer information was accessed in a data security breach involving Spanish software provider Amadeus. Several of these breaches involved information found in booking details, including flight data,...

- Iran war revives Bahrain’s conflict with Shiite Muslim majority (2026-11-06 14:13)

Shaken by the accuracy of Iran’s attacks on Bahrain and support for them among some Bahrainis, authorities in the Gulf island nation have launched a crackdown on Shiite Muslim clerics they accuse of fostering allegiance to Tehran at home. Bahraini officials have framed the move in existential terms, saying Iran seeks to undermine and ultimately topple the leadership of the only Gulf country that is ruled by a Sunni Muslim family but populated mostly by Shiites. Critics, including rights...

- After midterms upheaval, US ag exporters call for stability in China trade (2026-11-06 14:00)

As the midterm “blue wave” threatens to further complicate US-China relations, American agricultural exporters are calling on Washington to focus on delivering the trade deals already agreed with Beijing and ending a period of damaging policy uncertainty. With shipments of key products such as soybeans needing to be planned months – or sometimes an entire year – ahead, US farmers are in need of stability after last year’s trade war. “Agriculture is … an industry with long production cycles, so…

• Democratic Congress to guard US’ Taiwan policy and press Trump on arms sales (2026-11-06 14:00)

The Democratic US Congress may push for faster arms sales to Taiwan following the party’s resounding midterm election victories, but there will be no fundamental shifts in broader US policy towards the island, according to analysts. And if the likely next House speaker, Hakeem Jeffries – a long-time supporter of Taiwan – “crosses the red line” on the issue, Beijing was expected to take strong countermeasures, one analyst said. “A Democratic-controlled Congress will ramp up pressure on Trump to…

• More funding could be sought if HK$10b university town loan scheme falls short (2026-11-06 13:41)

Hong Kong’s education secretary has said she will seek additional funding if a HK$10 billion loan scheme falls short of the needs of institutions setting foot in the Northern Metropolis’ first university town, while warning that their financial plans must be feasible and they must not “take chances”. A task force jointly established by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and the Hong Kong Association of Banks will designate 11 tertiary institutions as public sector entities to help them secure bank…

• Tesla’s Musk pulls plug on Cybertruck for robotaxi push after years of poor sales (2026-11-06 13:31)

Tesla would wind down Cybertruck production at its Texas gigafactory around mid-2027, CEO Elon Musk said on Friday, after years of persistently weak sales for a futuristic model once touted as a rival to legacy pickup trucks that ultimately only sold in just a handful of markets because of its heavy, angular design. Musk said in an X post the production wind-down would enable the carmaker to accommodate increased output of its newly launched Cybercab model, which the billionaire has made central…

• Trump left with ‘no good options’ to end Iran war after crushing US midterms defeat (2026-11-06 13:12)

As Republican losses in the US midterm elections highlight how unpopular the war in Iran is, all eyes are on Washington’s next moves and whether the election results could set the stage for a quicker end to the conflict. However, experts remain sceptical, arguing that while the results will cripple the Trump administration and force it to rethink its strategy, they leave the broader US position unchanged, making a protracted war far more likely than diplomatic talks.

Democrats seized full...

• A kill switch for epilepsy? China cuts seizures by 92.6% in first human chemogenetic trial (2026-11-06 13:00)

For people living with refractory epilepsy, the brain is like a city that can suffer a blackout any time lightning strikes. Without warning, an abnormal neural discharge can sweep through the intracranial circuits, leaving behind convulsions, loss of consciousness and years of lingering panic. Around one-third of epilepsy patients worldwide are completely unresponsive to existing medications, while traditional craniotomy resection surgery often carries the risk of irreversible neurological...

• Kenyan doomsday cult leader jailed for 200 years for murdering 191 followers (2026-11-06 12:55)

The leader of a Kenyan doomsday cult linked to the deaths of more than 400 people was sentenced on Friday to 200 years in prison for the murders of 191 people. The High Court in Kenya's coastal city of Mombasa issued the sentence for Pastor Paul Mackenzie. He was convicted of murdering 190 children and one adult after he ordered his followers to starve themselves to death to meet Jesus. Justice Diana Kavedza said that Mackenzie, leader of the Good News International Church, bore the "primary...

• Family Business Summit day 2 tackles US-China ties, Asean and geopolitical shifts (2026-11-06 12:36)

The Family Business Summit wrapped up on Friday with delegates weighing China-US relations, Southeast Asia's growth trajectory and the Russian economy, against a backdrop of geopolitical flux shaped by Washington's post-midterm political landscape and expected high-level diplomacy at this month's Apec forum. The South China Morning Post and Blue Pool Capital co-hosted the fourth edition of the summit, with UBS as the presenting partner. The two-day closed-door event in Hong Kong served as a...

• Midterm swing won't change trajectory of US-China rivalry (2026-11-06 12:30)

American voters have spoken. In the midterm elections, Democrats won both the House and Senate in a sweeping rebuttal of US President Donald Trump's erratic management of domestic and foreign affairs. Despite this, the trajectory of US-China geopolitical rivalry will remain unchanged for decades, with every chance of escalation. Foreign Affairs re-examines "The Delusions of American Power" in its latest issue. The lead article, "The Limits of American Power", concludes that even with the...

• Hong Kong firms must innovate to compete in mainland China, trade chief says (2026-11-06 12:24)

Hong Kong companies can survive intense competition in mainland China by being innovative and maintaining high standards, the head of the city's trade promotion body has said. Hong

Kong Trade Development Council chairman Frederick Ma Si-hang said on Friday that the citywas also tapping into emerging markets in Southeast Asia, the Middle East and Africa to counterglobal trade uncertainties. “I feel that Hong Kong manufacturers need to be more innovative;think of ways to use our strengths to...

• EU investigates fraud in Spain rail funds after fatal Madrid crash (2026-11-06 12:16)

The European Union is investigating the possible misuse of EU funds earmarked for the renovation of a Spanish railway line where a train crash killed 69 people, prosecutors said on Friday. The October accident on the Madrid-Seville high-speed line was one of the worst railway disasters in Europe this century, overshadowing Spain’s coming general election this month. A similar investigation into the same stretch of track had already been opened in March in the wake of another accident that...

• Signs of Prabowo-Widodo rift grow as Indonesian lawmakers target VP Gibran’s credentials (2026-11-06 11:25)

A growing push among Indonesian lawmakers to investigate Vice-President Gibran Rakabuming Raka’s academic credentials is raising questions about the influence of his father, former leader Joko Widodo, as signs of a rift within the country’s ruling elite grow. The challenge comes from within President Prabowo Subianto’s own coalition, underscoring how the political alliance that helped propel him to power in 2024 may be unravelling, analysts have said. It also follows the arrest of a prominent...

• Tokyo still ‘dodging the issue’ a year on from Takaichi row, Beijing says (2026-11-06 11:22)

Beijing has said responsibility for the “serious difficulties in China-Japan relations lay entirely with Tokyo” one year on from Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi’s controversial comments about Taiwan. Takaichi is planning to visit China this month for the Apec summit, but on Friday foreign ministry spokesman Guo Jiakun accused the Japanese authorities of continuing to evade the issue and showing no willingness to correct her remarks. “A year ago, the Japanese leader made erroneous remarks on...

• Beijing approves giant Long March 9 rocket for deep-space and lunar base runs (2026-11-06 11:04)

Beijing has given the go-ahead for the Long March 9, a super heavy rocket often seen as China’s answer to SpaceX’s Starship, weeks after the American megarocket first reached orbit, according to a lecture slide circulating online. The stainless-steel giant received official approval last month, according to the slide. At 110 metres (361 feet) tall and 10.6 metres wide, it will be the most powerful and expensive launcher China has ever built. The slide, presented in the northwestern city of Xian...

• Hong Kong authorities arrest 28 in crackdown on bid-rigging after Tai Po fire (2026-11-06 10:59)

Hong Kong authorities have cracked down on a bid-rigging syndicate and arrested 28 people, including directors of contractors and consultancy firms as well as some with triad backgrounds, in the first operation by a joint task force after the devastating Wang Fuk Court fire. Secretary for Security Chris Tang Ping-keung said on Friday that the task force, formed to combat bid-rigging, had also set up a 24-hour hotline for the public to report any suspected bid-rigging activities and would offer...

• China's AI chipmakers report first profits, but will the trend continue? (2026-11-06 10:30)

China's pure-play artificial intelligence chipmakers crossed an important milestone in the third quarter as several firms swung into profit, but severe supply chain hurdles and soaring memory costs cloud their long-term growth prospects. Domestic graphics processing unit (GPU) developers including Moore Threads, MetaX and Iluvatar CoreX are racing to fill the market void left by Nvidia, whose high-end processors face strict US export controls. These home-grown firms are competing fiercely to win...

• China puts DF missiles on display as flight bans fuel speculation about ICBM test (2026-11-06 10:18)

Chinese state media showcased several Dongfeng-series missiles on Thursday to mark a key anniversary, including the nuclear-capable DF-61 intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) and the rarely seen DF-100 long-range supersonic cruise missile. The coverage coincided with social media reports suggesting that the PLA Rocket Force might have conducted an inland ICBM test, potentially involving a ground-based mid-course missile interception, although neither activity has been officially...

• Viral Chinese app lets strangers vote on purchases to stop impulse buying (2026-11-06 10:00)

Ahead of China's Double 11 shopping spree, a viral WeChat mini-programme called "Wallet, Please Wait" is helping consumers curb impulse purchases. The free tool borrows from corporate finance workflows, outsourcing approval of everyday purchases to the crowd. Users can submit purchase requests detailing the item, its price, their reasons for wanting it and any cheaper alternatives. Shoppers can share requests with family members or post them to a public "plaza," where purchases are approved or...

• Japan deploys AI, specialist teams to counter cyberattack wave (2026-11-06 09:37)

Japan's government on Friday compiled a package of emergency measures to address a spate of recent personal data breaches caused by unauthorised access, amid growing public concerns over cybersecurity. Among the measures are promoting the use of artificial intelligence to identify vulnerabilities in computer systems and creating several teams of highly skilled experts. The package was announced at a meeting of Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi and relevant

ministers on Friday. Takaichi instructed...

• Why Malaysia may still face trade uncertainty after US midterms (2026-11-06 09:00)

Malaysia's hope for a shift in US trade policy is unlikely to be realised for some time, experts warn, as the new Democratic-led Congress will face strong opposition from US President Donald Trump in its attempt to reverse some of his tariff measures. Trump's Republicans suffered their worst rout in recent times in the US midterm elections on Tuesday, losing control of both Congress and the Senate by wide margins as voters made clear their anger at Trump over surging living costs caused by the...

• Hong Kong temperatures to fall to 18 degrees next week as cold front hits (2026-11-06 08:57)

Temperatures in Hong Kong are expected to drop to as low as 18 degrees Celsius (64.4 Fahrenheit) on Tuesday as a cold front hits the city early next week. According to the Hong Kong Observatory, a strong monsoon over the weekend will bring cooler weather. "A strong northeast monsoon will affect the coast of Guangdong over the weekend. A cold front is expected to move across the coast of southern China at first on Monday," the forecaster said on Friday. "Under the influence of the associated...

• Indonesia doubles down on climate goals despite surging wildfire emissions (2026-11-06 08:54)

Indonesia's climate ambitions are being undermined by devastating wildfires that contradict its emissions-cutting strategy, casting a shadow over Jakarta's push for a greener economy ahead of the 31st UN Climate Change Conference (Cop31). However, Environment Minister Jumhur Hidayat has doubled down, arguing that his country's climate goals should not come at the expense of national development and that emissions reduction efforts must be fair. On Wednesday, he outlined six priority areas for...

• Democrats' blue wave means rough waters ahead for US-China relations (2026-11-06 08:42)

Comedian Patton Oswalt once joked about the United States electing a KKK president after the progressive years of Barack Obama. The joke is worth retelling, not just because it's funny but because it captures the swing between extremes in US politics. That's worth keeping in mind in light of the so-called Democratic blue wave sweeping the country. It goes: "We will have a woman president, probably sooner than later … but just keep in mind that after she serves her term, the choices will very...

• Chinese space firm builds wooden rocket nose cone for cheaper, frequent launches (2026-11-06 08:00)

Chinese commercial space firm Light Year Explorer has manufactured a rocket fairing with a wooden outer skin as part of the company's push for lower-cost, mass-produced launch

vehicles. The design of the protective shell uses low-density plywood formed into a smoothaerodynamic curve, supported by an internal metal framework to bear loads, according to theJiangsu-based company. “This configuration matches traditional composite fairings in keyperformance areas such as weight, structural...

• Ex-Miss Thailand arrested over claims charity donations funded luxury lifestyle (2026-11-06 07:25)

A former Miss Thailand and well-known social activist was arrested on Friday alongside her husband, accused of siphoning off money from her charity to buy luxury homes as police examine an estimated 1 billion baht (US$30 million) in donations. Panadda “Boom” Wongphudee, 50, was detained at her Bangkok home early on Friday morning after the Criminal Court issued arrest warrants accusing the couple of public fraud and money laundering. Her husband, fitness influencer and businessman Atip...

• Why Democratic Congress may enhance US-Philippines alliance, pivot to Asia (2026-11-06 07:12)

The Democratic Party’s sweep of both houses of the US Congress could stabilise Washington’s commitment to the Philippines, bringing relief to allies rattled by President Donald Trump’s Iran war and his shifting foreign policy. Analysts expect bipartisan support for Manila to endure, with Democratic oversight set to rein in Trump’s unpredictability. But they warn that Washington could still turn inward to deal with domestic challenges, diverting attention from the Indo-Pacific. The rebuke of...

• The new anti-corruption law arming Beijing with wide global enforcement powers (2026-11-06 06:57)

China’s top legislature has passed a landmark law targeting cross-border corruption, equipping Beijing with expansive new tools to pursue illicit offshore assets while countering foreign attempts to investigate wrongdoing in China. The Anti-Cross-Border Corruption Law was approved at the close of the 25th session of the 14th National People’s Congress Standing Committee on Friday and took effect immediately, according to state news agency Xinhua. The statute establishes formal mechanisms for...

• Is EU’s Southeast Asia push facing a funding crunch as China widens lead? (2026-11-06 06:30)

An EU funding crunch is threatening to stifle the bloc’s ambitions to expand its influence in Southeast Asia, as Brussels grapples with a budget deadlock that could slow infrastructure investments across the fast-growing region. The funding squeeze could hinder the green transition and regional connectivity goals of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, even as Brussels seeks greater strategic autonomy amid competition with Beijing’s economic clout. Analysts expect the European Union to...

• US military expands Pacific cyber hub to counter risks to undersea cable networks (2026-11-06 06:00)

The US military has expanded its cybersecurity presence in Hawaii and set up a regional centre to better detect threats and disruptions to its Pacific communications networks. The new initiatives come amid US accusations of Chinese cyber operations targeting critical infrastructure, including on Guam, and concerns about the security of undersea cables linking the Pacific to the US mainland. Neither initiative has been explicitly linked to China. Brigadier General Michael Smith, US Pacific...

• Does the Democratic midterm victory spell the end of US AI data centre boom? (2026-11-06 06:00)

The sweeping midterm election victory by US Democrats has triggered warnings from analysts that an impending regulatory clampdown could derail the nation's multi-trillion-dollar artificial intelligence data centre buildout. Wall Street forecasters slashed their projections for Big Tech infrastructure spending hours after the vote, cautioning that a wave of proposed project moratoria and tighter oversight could stall up to 30 per cent of planned US facilities and force developers to downscale...

• US accuses trio of using AI to impersonate CEOs and lawyers to steal US$129 million (2026-11-06 05:43)

Three people accused of using artificial intelligence to impersonate corporate executives and lawyers to steal about US$129 million have been indicted on charges of wire fraud and aggravated identity theft, prosecutors said Thursday. Over more than a year and a half, Jacob Soall, 41, Sharon Hazan, 54, and Guy Sheetrit, 42, targeted thousands of companies across the world in their AI scheme, according to the indictment filed in a US District Court in New York. Their victims included hospital...

• Hong Kong's Exchange Fund earnings tumble 74% as HKMA warns of more market turbulence (2026-11-06 05:35)

Hong Kong's Exchange Fund, the war chest used to defend the local currency, reported a 74 per cent tumble in third-quarter earnings amid pervasive market uncertainty, the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) said on Friday. Earnings totalled HK$18.6 billion (US$2.4 billion) in the quarter, plunging from HK$70.8 billion a year earlier. For the first nine months of 2026, total earnings slid 39.6 per cent from a year earlier to HK$171.9 billion. The Exchange Fund's Hong Kong equities portfolio...

• 5 months' jail for helper convicted of molesting employer's 12-year-old daughter (2026-11-06 05:30)

A Hong Kong court has sentenced a domestic helper to five months in jail for molesting her former employer's daughter in the family home. Lady Jay Santos Flores, 45, did not submit any mitigation to Kowloon City Court on Friday before she was sentenced on three counts of

indecent assault. She sobbed occasionally during the hearing. Flores was convicted last monthof molesting the child, who said the Filipino helper had touched her genitals on severaloccasions between May and June 2025. The...

• Malaysia's Najib closer to house arrest as Umno pays US$12.3 million fine (2026-11-06 05:25)

Malaysia's Umno said on Friday it had settled the court payment needed to move disgraced former prime minister Najib Razak to house arrest, after a public fundraising campaign reached its target to cover his 50 million ringgit (US$12.3 million) fine. The penalty was a condition of a royal pardon granted in September allowing Najib to serve the remainder of his sentence in a corruption case linked to sovereign wealth fund 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB) at home until August 2028, after more...

• Hong Kong privacy watchdog backs tighter rules on access to land records (2026-11-06 05:19)

Hong Kong's privacy watchdog has backed a proposed overhaul of rules to tighten access to land records, warning that journalists have no exemption when collecting data as complaints over information misuse appear to be worsening. Privacy Commissioner Ada Chung Lai-ling said on Friday that journalists do not enjoy an exemption under the Privacy Ordinance when gathering information, even though certain safeguards apply to how the data is subsequently used. "The Privacy Ordinance does provide an...

• Trump's Israel aid cut reveals push to trade grants for tech cooperation (2026-11-06 05:00)

The close defence relationship between the United States and Israel is set to be restructured over the coming two years, with billions of dollars in direct annual military aid being phased out in favour of joint weapons technology programmes. US President Donald Trump shocked Israelis and Americans alike on Tuesday by suddenly announcing that the roughly US$4 billion a year in direct military funding received by Israel would be cut off by the end of the year. Speaking to Fox News on the morning...

• Democrats' victory could squeeze China; star mathematician leaves US: SCMP's 7 highlights (2026-11-06 04:45)

We have selected seven stories from this week's news across Hong Kong, mainland China, the wider Asia region and beyond that resonated with our readers and shed light on topical issues. If you would like to see more of our reporting, please consider subscribing. 1. US midterm shift could squeeze China on AI, bring clarity to bilateral talks Beijing has vowed to continue working with Washington towards a "constructive relationship of strategic stability" following the Democrats' sweeping victory...

• Malaysia’s Sarawak locks election date amid autonomy, resource control push (2026-11-06 04:41)

Malaysia’s Sarawak will hold a state election on December 12 as the incumbent government seeks a fresh mandate to press demands over autonomy and control of the territory’s natural resources. The filing of nominations will begin on November 28 and early voting will be on December 8, Election Commission chairman Ramlan Harun told reporters on Friday. The 14-day election campaign involving more than 2.05 million eligible voters choosing 82 members will end on December 11, the commission said in a...

• EU-China truce under strain as both sides brace for potential trade war (2026-11-06 04:37)

Weeks after the European Union and China struck a deal aimed at averting a looming trade war, the two sides remain at loggerheads over what is wrong with their relationship, how to fix it and who is to blame. At an event in Brussels this week, threats were exchanged and differences rose to the surface. With the ink barely dry on their fragile trade peace, the dynamic made clear that both are still preparing for a trade war. “If the EU insists on adopting restrictive and discriminatory measures...

• Growing Vietnam ties test Japan’s commitment to rules-based regional order (2026-11-06 04:00)

Japan’s growing strategic partnership with Vietnam is putting Tokyo’s commitment to a rules-based regional order under scrutiny, as Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi faces calls to press Hanoi over its failure to honour labour rights commitments. The issue is expected to surface during Vietnamese President To Lam’s four-day visit to Tokyo from Sunday, raising questions about how far Japan is prepared to defend the principles underpinning a major Pacific trade agreement when its economic and security...

• Canada budget charts ‘economic independence’ in decisive shift from US (2026-11-06 03:20)

Canada unveiled a budget on Thursday that calls for “economic independence” and says that while reducing its reliance on the United States will take time, “the shift is under way”. Prime Minister Mark Carney’s second budget since taking office last year was presented to parliament just two days after President Donald Trump suffered a sweeping midterm election rebuke. While Democrats, who will take control of the US House and Senate next year, have already voiced a desire to ease Trump’s trade...

• 12½ years’ jail for ex-Macau lawmaker Au Kam-san in city’s first national security trial (2026-11-06 03:08)

Former Macau lawmaker Au Kam-san has been convicted on five out of seven charges in the city’s first national security trial, with the court handing him a 12½-year prison sentence. The Court of First Instance in Macau on Friday found the 69-year-old guilty on four counts under the city’s national security law – subversion of state power and establishing links with foreign

groups or individuals to commit activities endangering national security – as well as a fifth countof violation of...

• US and Brazil deliver double blow to the populist right. Will Europe feel the impact? (2026-11-06 03:00)

In the space of roughly 10 days, the two largest democracies in the Americas delivered setbacks to the populist right. In Brazil, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva staged a narrow but remarkable comeback, defeating Flavio Bolsonaro, the son of former president Jair Bolsonaro, in a run-off election after trailing in the first round. This week, American voters handed control of both chambers of the US Congress to Democrats in a sharp rebuke of candidates riding on US President Donald Trump's "Make America...

• China MMA champion Zhang Weili faces family pressure to find a partner, go on blind dates (2026-11-06 02:36)

China's first UFC champion recently shared that her family has been pressuring her to get married, but she is afraid to use her real name on dating websites for fear of revealing her identity. Thirty-six-year-old mixed martial arts (MMA) fighter Zhang Weili discussed her difficulties finding a boyfriend during an interview with mainland influencer Papi Jiang (known in English as Pepi Sauce) in late October. The interview has received a total of 230,000 likes and more than 10,000 comments across...

• Post-US midterms AI worries pummel shares in Japan, South Korea (2026-11-06 02:31)

Japanese and South Korean shares plunged on Friday after US shares tumbled overnight on worries that midterm election results could slow or derail the artificial intelligence data centre investment boom. Tokyo's benchmark Nikkei 225 index fell 5.1 per cent to 56,930 points in early trade. Seoul's Kospi index dived 8.5 per cent to 4,923, triggering a circuit breaker which suspended trading for 20 minutes. Investors had initially cheered Tuesday's Democratic drubbing of US President Donald Trump's...

• Philippines' project budget allocations spur accusations of pork barrel politics (2026-11-06 02:30)

A road project with coordinates pointing to Nigeria. A government building apparently located in the Sahara Desert. Another road mapped to a sea near Brunei. These are among the unlikely locations listed for infrastructure projects in the Philippines' proposed 2027 national budget, according to independent watchdogs that have discovered the discrepancies, highlighting problems with government transparency and accountability. Their scrutiny of Manila's proposed 7.2 trillion pesos (US$114 billion)...

• Netanyahu rival Eisenkot tipped to seek Israeli government with backing of Arab lists (2026-11-06 02:10)

Israeli President Isaac Herzog said he will announce on Sunday whom he will task with trying to form a new government, after the opposition's Gadi Eisenkot secured a commanding number of recommendations to replace Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Herzog held a second day of consultations with political parties on Thursday after the October 27 election, in which neither Netanyahu - a polarising right-winger who has led Israel through three years of war - nor Eisenkot - a former military chief...

- A son in prison, a daughter gone: Singapore parents face heartbreak (2026-11-06 01:59)

When Huang Baoying was growing up, her older brother helped look after her, their parents recalled. Huang Bocan would tutor his younger sister at night and help her with her studies, their mother said. To his parents, he was a responsible son whom they trusted to help care for Baoying while they worked long hours. Years later, he would be sentenced to life imprisonment for murdering her. "We never imagined that things could become so serious," their father said after Bocan, 34, was sentenced on...

- 'Mindful' of AI exposure: wealth managers at Hong Kong summit urge balance in portfolios (2026-11-06 01:46)

Before tech stocks plummeted in the US overnight, executives at a private wealth conference in Hong Kong have highlighted AI infrastructure as a versatile "defence plus growth" investment opportunity, while cautioning investors against portfolios that are overreliant on artificial intelligence. "Infrastructure opportunities now really lie at the bottleneck of solving [AI's] demands within structural growth," the head of managed investments and Hong Kong wealth solutions at Standard Chartered...

- How Japan's 660 most wanted stay hidden: slums, day labour and forged IDs (2026-11-06 01:30)

A month-long police campaign in Japan to track down hundreds of suspects sought over the nation's most notorious crimes, some dating back decades, underscores what analysts describe as the surprising ease with which individuals can vanish, even in the country's highly bureaucratic society. The nationwide drive, officially designated the "Month for Strengthening Investigations into Wanted Suspects", began on November 1. Through official websites and social media appeals, authorities are urging...

- Chances are, US-China truce will be extended at Shenzhen Apec summit (2026-11-06 01:30)

At their October meeting in South Korea last year, US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping, recognising mutual vulnerability to export restrictions, agreed to suspend some of the most draconian measures they had imposed on each other: US port fees on Chinese-built vessels and Chinese export controls on rare earths. They also announced further summit-level talks. The leaders have since met twice: Trump visited Beijing in May, Xi visited Washington in September. They are...

• China’s new PLA theatre chiefs identified as anti-corruption drive clears ranks (2026-11-06 01:00)

Beijing has hinted at the new leadership line-up in its military theatre commands, with fresh faces emerging during last week’s party conclave in the seating area reserved for key commanders, filling vacancies left by China’s anti-corruption drive. The fifth plenum of the Communist Party’s 20th Central Committee, which concluded last Thursday, focused on party discipline and political loyalty, confirming the expulsion of 33 full and alternate Central Committee members, including 16 senior...

• South Korea apologises for classing gay teens as delinquents (2026-11-06 01:00)

South Korea’s government has announced it will revise a youth counselling manual that categorised homosexuality as a form of juvenile delinquency, after facing a backlash sparked by local media reports earlier this week. Homosexuality was grouped alongside sexual violence, theft and drug abuse under “delinquency-related issues” in the manual, the Korea JoongAng Daily reported. Published by the Korea Youth Counselling and Welfare Institute – a body affiliated with the Ministry of Gender Equality...

• Overseas institutions keen on Hong Kong university towns, happy to help local peers (2026-11-06 00:30)

Leaders of overseas institutions have expressed keen interest in taking part in Hong Kong’s planned university towns in the Northern Metropolis megaproject and stress that while financing remains a challenge, they will collaborate on activities to help ensure projects are financially viable. The university heads also called on the Hong Kong government to provide affordable housing in the new university towns, roll out policy incentives to retain top global talent and clearly define what success...

• Beyond the Exhibition Hall: AWE’s Waterfront Debut Offers a Glimpse of What’s Next (2026-11-06 00:00)

[The content of this article has been produced by our advertising partner.] From private jewellery viewings to stepping aboard a yacht, the Festival of Connoisseurs took visitors beyond the conventional exhibition hall. This luxury festival is the first exhibition supported by a HK$100 million government fund, spearheaded by the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau to attract large-scale, distinctive international exhibitions to Hong Kong. It brought yachts, prestige cars, jewellery and art...

• Trump’s first move after midterms? Ensuring future presidents can’t change his Oval Office (2026-11-05 23:59)

US President Donald Trump on Thursday signed a proclamation that he says will prevent future changes to the Oval Office and Cabinet Room, throwing up a potential barrier to future presidents who might want to restyle the iconic office that Trump has gradually filled with gold flourishes. The proclamation was Trump’s first official action after his party was swept aside in

midterm elections on Tuesday. Sitting on the Resolute Desk as he signed the document was ared baseball cap with “VETO” on...

• How Singapore confronts AI fears of ‘broken’ career ladder, no pause button (2026-11-05 23:30)

Singapore is seeking to flip the script by turning its land and manpower constraints into reasons to embrace AI instead of fearing it, even as the technology carries the spectre of job losses and cyberthreats in the wrong hands, a senior official has said. Minister for Digital Development and Information Josephine Teo argued that pragmatism would give her resource-scarce country an edge without becoming overly reliant on any single power or AI provider. At the Family Business Summit in Hong Kong...

• Hong Kong police to enable AI facial recognition on CCTV network this month (2026-11-05 23:00)

Hong Kong police will enable artificial intelligence-powered facial recognition technology across their expanding smart surveillance network this month to improve the tracking of missing persons or suspects, with plans to save the data it generates for up to 180 days. The force said the facial recognition technology was widely used by law enforcement agencies around the world and stressed that residents’ privacy rights would be protected. “Leveraging AI [facial recognition] would cut the time we...

• Hong Kong developer Hysan’s Lee Garden Eight draws law firm out of Central: sources (2026-11-05 23:00)

Hong Kong law firm Woo Kwan Lee & Lo is reportedly relocating to Causeway Bay after more than five decades in Central’s Jardine House, reserving about 39,000 square feet in Hysan Development’s Lee Garden Eight in a major lease for the new commercial complex. Market sources identified the firm as the incoming tenant at Lee Garden Eight, which is scheduled for completion this quarter. The firm will occupy an entire low to middle floor, according to local media reports. The firm declined to...

• Scott Wiener set to replace Nancy Pelosi in San Francisco, as Connie Chan concedes (2026-11-05 22:39)

California state lawmaker Scott Wiener appears to have defeated congresswoman Nancy Pelosi’s hand-picked successor in her San Francisco congressional district. Democrat Connie Chan said she does not have a “clear path to victory” in California’s 11th Congressional District, conceding defeat in a post on social media. “I congratulate Scott Wiener on his election,” she said. Pelosi, the 86-year-old former House speaker, is retiring from Congress when her term ends in early January. “San...

• California Governor Newsom granting clemency to all 548 death row inmates in state (2026-11-05 22:28)

California Governor Gavin Newsom said on Thursday he would commute the death sentences of all 548 inmates currently condemned to execution in his state, the largest death row in the western hemisphere. The announcement, in a three-page letter addressed to "all Californians", came as Newsom, a Democrat who is expected to seek his party's presidential nomination in 2028, neared the end of his second and final four-year term as governor. Newsom, who previously served as mayor of San Francisco...

• Is Lula's upset win also a victory for Chinese firms in Brazil? (2026-11-05 22:00)

With domestic profits narrowing and production capacity expanding, China's firms are continuing to widen their overseas footprints in search of new, more lucrative markets. In this series, we examine China Inc.'s next phase of "going global" and the complex, challenging international environment its companies have chosen to enter. A presidential election in Brazil, a country thousands of miles away, might seem like just another headline to many in China. But for Chinese companies doing business...

• Defiant Hegseth tells US Democrats their impeachment push 'won't work' (2026-11-05 21:31)

US Secretary of Defence Pete Hegseth said he will "not back down" against a "lame duck" US Congress, and that the calls for his impeachment will "not work" in his first reaction after the Democrats' landslide victory in Tuesday's midterm elections. In a video uploaded by the Pentagon on Thursday, Hegseth said that "a disgruntled, defeated congressman, along with all his Democrat allies", have been submitting "sham" bills for his impeachment, resembling that of the similar attempt against US...

• AI storm dooms tech stocks to US$2 trillion decline on darkest day since 2025 (2026-11-05 21:19)

Big tech stocks slumped on Thursday in their biggest decline since the "Liberation Day" rout last year, extending what has been a punishing autumn for the AI trade. The Nasdaq 100 index was set for market value declines exceeding US$2 trillion on investor fears that the Democratic Party's sweeping midterm victory could stall AI infrastructure expansion and force a chaotic reckoning for smaller firms whose capacity to raise funds has already been limited by higher interest rates and tighter...

• India-born democratic socialist Nithya Raman becomes LA mayor, ousting Karen Bass (2026-11-05 21:01)

India-born democratic socialist Nithya Raman ousted incumbent Democrat Karen Bass to become the next mayor of Los Angeles, ending a heated race that saw the one-time allies spar over frustration with the status quo. Bass conceded to Raman in a phone call on Thursday, after the latest numbers showed Raman with 52 per cent of the vote against the outgoing mayor's 48 per cent, with three-quarters of votes counted. Raman, 45, campaigned in the nation's second-largest city on a platform of "pothole...

• Mass protests sweep France again, as workers strike and march for ‘dignified wage’ (2026-11-05 20:23)

Hundreds of thousands of striking workers protested across France on Thursday against the rising cost of living following weeks of youth-led demonstrations, with police firing tear gas as clashes broke out in some cities. The marches come as the euro zone’s second-largest economy battles to redress its dire finances, six months ahead of elections to replace President Emmanuel Macron, with the far-right leading in the opinion polls. While the CGT union put Thursday’s turnout at 1.6 million across...

• US sanctions Chinese firms over alleged military supplies to Cuba (2026-11-05 20:13)

The United States has imposed sanctions on two Chinese companies it accuses of supplying equipment and components to Cuba’s military, as Washington intensifies pressure on Havana’s foreign suppliers and expands its authority to target businesses operating on the island. The US State Department said on Thursday that China National Electronic Import and Export Company, or CEIEC, and Beijing H&C Technologies had worked with Cuban arms procurement company Sociedad Mercantil Duna to supply...

• Cuba detains award-winning journalist Yoani Sanchez (2026-11-05 19:19)

Cuban State Security agents detained Yoani Sanchez, the award-winning founder and director of the independent news outlet 14ymedio, in Havana on Thursday morning amid the latest government crackdown on independent journalists. It was the third detention of an independent journalist in the Cuban capital this week. “Yoani Sanchez has been detained by State Security today in Havana,” journalist Reinaldo Escobar, Sanchez’s husband, who is currently in Madrid, announced on social media. Sanchez left...

• Chinese scientists chill atoms to record low on Tiangong space station (2026-11-05 19:00)

Chinese scientists have chilled atoms aboard the Tiangong space station to the lowest temperature ever measured, smashing US and German records and paving the way for ultra-precise space sensors that could find hidden minerals, track climate change and test Einstein’s theory of gravity. Researchers from Peking University and the Chinese Academy of Sciences brought thousands of rubidium atoms, packed into a cloud smaller than a grain of sand, to less than 10 trillionths of a degree above absolute...

• ‘J.D., habibi’: Arabs celebrate as Michigan’s El-Sayed mocks foes with term of affection (2026-11-05 18:18)

From Michigan to the Middle East, Arabs are celebrating Abdul El-Sayed’s Senate win and delighting in his introduction of Arabic terms like “habibi” and “inshallah” to the American political lexicon. After being the target of Islamophobic rhetoric on the campaign trail, the rising political star, who will be the first Muslim-American US senator, has mocked his critics on the right while championing the Palestinian cause and leaning into his faith and Egyptian heritage.

“J.D., habibi,” El-Sayed...

• Melania Trump hosts Ukraine, Russia officials, calls for ‘more enduring’ truce (2026-11-05 17:25)

Melania Trump, US President Donald Trump’s wife, joined representatives from Russia and Ukraine on Thursday at a White House event to recognise a recent six-day ceasefire she helped broker in the Russian-controlled city of Oleshky. The event followed US officials’ ramped-up efforts to secure a deal to end the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, which began when Russian forces invaded Ukraine in early 2022. A trilateral meeting with officials from the US, Ukraine and Russia is planned for...

• Paraguay’s President Pena resigns under mounting pressure from bank collapse (2026-11-05 17:03)

Paraguayan President Santiago Pena resigned on Thursday as calls for his removal swelled following the collapse of digital lender Ueno that left millions of customers unable to access their accounts. “I do so with the stability of our country, social peace, and the need to preserve our democratic institutions in mind,” he said in a video recorded address on Thursday. Pena, an ally of US President Donald Trump, is stepping down after the opposition called an extraordinary session to begin the...

• Hong Kong police arrest operator of prisoner support group over allegedly seditious books (2026-11-05 15:45)

Hong Kong national security police have arrested an operator of a local prisoner support group on suspicion of importing seditious publications, days after the group revealed that customs had seized dozens of books it had ordered from Taiwan. Police said officers carried out an enforcement operation in Mong Kok on Thursday morning, arresting a local man, 34, on suspicion of “importing a publication that has a seditious intention”, an offence under the Safeguarding National Security...

• Iran says 5 tankers catch fire after striking naval mines in Strait of Hormuz (2026-11-05 15:35)

Five oil tankers and a tugboat caught fire in the Strait of Hormuz, Iran’s Revolutionary Guards and army said in separate statements, according to local media on Thursday. Since the outbreak of the Iran war in late February, Tehran has severely restricted traffic through the strategic waterway, which normally carries about one-fifth of global oil consumption. It regularly attacks ships it accuses of transiting without its authorisation. The United States military has in response imposed a...

• After US$474m gamble flops, what happens now to Elon Musk’s Tesla, SpaceX and China ties? (2026-11-05 15:00)

Elon Musk bet nearly half a billion dollars that political spending could keep Washington friendly to his sprawling business empire. On Tuesday, that bet came up short. As Democrats recaptured control of the US Congress in the midterm elections, the world's richest man found himself facing an abruptly altered political landscape. After pouring a record-breaking US$474 million into political groups – overwhelmingly backing Republicans – Musk now faces a divided Washington keen to examine his...

• British actor Russell Brand faces prison after rape, sexual assault conviction (2026-11-05 14:54)

Russell Brand was convicted on Thursday of rape and sexual assault charges on allegations dating back more than 20 years. Judge Joel Bennathan said Brand would receive a prison term when he is sentenced on Monday. He was taken into custody. A prosecutor said the British actor-comedian was a ruthless, calculating, manipulative "sexual predator". The 51-year-old denied the charges and testified that he was obsessed with sex as a young man and once led a promiscuous life but had never forced anyone...

• Domestic helper arrested after 5-month-old baby found unconscious at Yuen Long home (2026-11-05 14:41)

Hong Kong police have arrested a domestic helper for suspected child abuse after a five-month-old baby girl was found unconscious at her Yuen Long home. The force received a report from the girl's mother at about 7.20pm on Thursday that the infant was unconscious at a residence at Ha San Wai along Castle Peak Road. Paramedics rushed to the scene and transported the baby girl to Pok Oi Hospital in Yuen Long for emergency resuscitation. She was subsequently transferred to Tuen Mun Hospital for...

• US labour market holds firm as weekly lay-offs tumble to 57-year low (2026-11-05 14:31)

The number of Americans filing new claims for unemployment slipped to a 57-year last week as lay-offs remained low against the backdrop of a resilient labour market. Initial claims for state unemployment benefits fell 6,000 to a seasonally adjusted 189,000 for the week ended October 31, the Labour Department said on Thursday. Economists had forecast 196,000 claims for the latest week. Claims matched the 189,000 level touched in mid-July, which was the lowest reading since 1969. They have stayed...

• Why the next US House speaker won't follow Nancy Pelosi's Taiwan playbook (2026-11-05 14:00)

The Democrat expected to become US House speaker has met Taiwan's former leader and backed legislation supporting the island, yet is unlikely to follow Nancy Pelosi's example in pursuing high-profile engagement with Taipei, analysts said. Hakeem Jeffries, the House's top-ranking Democrat, announced his bid for the speakership on Wednesday after Democrats won a majority of seats in the US midterm elections. He is poised to officially become House speaker following a floor vote on the first day of...

• Indonesian wiretapping scandal exposes widening Prabowo-Jokowi rift (2026-11-05 13:56)

An Indonesian police inquiry into the wiretapping of President Prabowo Subianto's phone was a matter for law enforcement, the country's police chief said on Thursday, as the scandal exposed the deepening cracks between Prabowo and his former backer and predecessor, Joko Widodo. "We assure you that this is purely law enforcement and has nothing to do with rivalries or anything else," police chief Suyudi Ario Seto told reporters without elaborating, adding that the arrests must serve as a lesson...

• Chinese chipmaker Hua Hong bets big on silicon photonics amid AI boom (2026-11-05 13:27)

China's second-largest contract chipmaker, Hua Hong Grace Semiconductor, is aggressively expanding into silicon photonics, as the company looks to capture the next wave of the global artificial intelligence infrastructure boom. Speaking on an earnings call with analysts on Thursday, Hua Hong chairman and president Bai Peng said the company planned to significantly expand its footprint in silicon photonics – a critical technology used in AI optical modules – during its next major capacity...

• Boy George hailed 'hero' for defying cultural boycott to perform in Israel (2026-11-05 13:26)

When cheers erupted at a packed Tel Aviv stadium for Boy George, it was not only a sign of the 65-year-old singer's enduring fame. It was the sound of national delight at an international pop star willing to perform in an increasingly isolated Israel. A smattering of Israeli flags dotted the crowd as the flamboyant Culture Club frontman took the stage in a sequinned jacket for Wednesday's sold-out performance with a simple greeting of "Shalom!" The British singer is one of the few international...

• Lithuania builds world's biggest ultra-fast laser factory amid China tensions (2026-11-05 13:00)

Amid tensions with China, a small European country is anchoring itself at the centre of the global semiconductor and artificial intelligence (AI) hardware supply chain as a laser powerhouse. The latest sign of Lithuania's growing footprint in the sector came last month, when laser maker Litilit launched a new factory in the capital, Vilnius. The company's expansion unfolds as the Baltic nation of fewer than 3 million people navigates fraught ties with Beijing, which has targeted Lithuania with a...

• US borrowing outlook steadies after midterms, but Treasury yields face new tests: analysts (2026-11-05 13:00)

After the Democrats swept the US midterm elections, a divided government may help restrain future Treasury borrowing and prevent fresh deficit blowouts, though it will not necessarily bring down elevated bond yields, analysts say. The US Treasury Department unveiled its

quarterly refunding statement on Wednesday, with market participants describing the overallborrowing outlook as largely neutral. Based on its projected financing needs, the Treasury saidit expected to keep note and bond auction...

• Finland jails Russian cargo ship captain over Baltic Sea cable sabotage (2026-11-05 12:30)

A Finnish court on Thursday jailed the Russian captain and an Azerbaijani crew member of the cargo ship Fitburg for aggravated sabotage over damage to two subsea telecommunications cables in the Gulf of Finland last year. Finland on December 31 seized the vessel in the Gulf of Finland while it was en route from Russia to Israel, on suspicion that it had damaged cables running from Helsinki to Estonia. The Helsinki District Court sentenced the captain to three years and six months in prison and...

• The US-China tech contest has moved – to the gatekeeping product testers (2026-11-05 12:30)

The latest front in the US-China technology contest is not advanced chips, artificial intelligence (AI) or telecommunications equipment. It is the laboratories that certify whether an electronic product may enter the American market. On October 29, the US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted to stop recognising testing laboratories, telecoms certification bodies and accreditation organisations in China and in other economies that lack a “mutual recognition agreement” or comparable...

• Hong Kong grandmother gets 20 days for slapping 5-year-old girl at play area (2026-11-05 12:17)

A Hong Kong grandmother has been sentenced to 20 days in jail for slapping a five-year-old girl who squabbled over a basketball with her grandson in a play area at the atrium of APM shopping centre in Kwun Tong. Leung Lai-ha, 68, on Thursday pleaded guilty to assaulting the girl on August 26, admitting that she hit the girl on impulse. A video of the brawl showed three adults were involved – Leung, her 34-year-old daughter Ng Ka-wun and Xu Yang, 34, the girl’s mother. The physical altercation...

• US midterm elections: all you need to know, from Democrats’ big wins to effects on China (2026-11-05 12:15)

We have put together 17 of our top stories from our coverage of the US midterm elections. If you would like to see more of our reporting, please consider subscribing. 1. Democrats take US Congress, reshaping Trump’s final two years – as it happened Democrats seized both chambers of Congress in the 2026 US midterm elections, flipping Senate seats in Republican strongholds and ending the control President Donald Trump had enjoyed since his return to the White House. Here’s how things changed for...

• China ready to expand US agricultural imports if Board of Trade tariff cuts take effect (2026-11-05 12:00)

Beijing says it remains open to buying more agricultural products from the United States, but wants reciprocal tariff cuts covering US$30 billion worth of products on each side to be implemented first under the US-China Board of Trade. “China has always maintained an open attitude towards expanding agricultural imports from the United States, provided that the agreed-upon reciprocal tariff reduction arrangement – covering $30 billion on each side – is implemented,” Huang Ling, a spokeswoman for...

- Hong Kong medical watchdog to hold by-election after member quits over conflict risk (2026-11-05 11:55)

Hong Kong’s medical watchdog will hold a by-election after a prominent patients’ rights advocate resigned from the body amid concerns over a potential conflict of interest in his plan to represent the father of a child who died following an alleged medical blunder at an inquest into her death. The Medical Council announced on Thursday that it will process matters related to the by-election for the vacancy created by the departure of Alex Lam Chi-yau, who submitted his written resignation as a...

- Singapore denies power cut caused causeway jam, blames maintenance, breakdowns (2026-11-05 11:44)

Singapore’s Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA) on Thursday rejected a report that a power outage at Woodlands Checkpoint caused traffic congestion along the causeway and on several roads in Johor Bahru on Wednesday. In its account of Wednesday’s events, ICA said a build-up of Singapore-bound traffic occurred amid planned electrical maintenance works, while two vehicle breakdowns on the Malaysian side of the causeway subsequently contributed to traffic tailing back into...

- Abby Choi could have been hit on head 7 times with hammer, murder trial told (2026-11-05 11:32)

Warning: graphic content follows. Slain Hong Kong socialite Abby Choi Tin-fung could have been struck on the head seven times with a hammer when she was allegedly murdered three years ago, a court has heard. Forensic pathologist Dr Kwok Ka-ki said on Thursday that Choi was fatally struck on the head with a blunt object, leaving a large hole on the right side of her head and causing extensive bleeding in her brain and skull. Testifying in the High Court as the murder trial entered its sixth week,...

- Facing 2 years as a lame duck, what can Trump do to stay in control? (2026-11-05 11:18)

Following disastrous midterm elections that cost Republicans congressional control, President Donald Trump faces serving the rest of his term as a “lame duck” and battling constant resistance to his agenda. The loss is expected to steer the White House towards a more aggressive foreign policy and even greater reliance on executive orders. Trump has already suggested he could brandish his veto pen for “a month or two” before negotiating agreements with Democratic leaders. Here, we explain how...

• Powered by GPT-6, Unitree humanoid robots master painting, chess without training, says CEO (2026-11-05 11:00)

Robots developed by Chinese humanoid maker Unitree Robotics can now paint pictures and play chess without any prior training, relying on frontier AI models to navigate complex physical tasks, according to founder and CEO Wang Xingxing. Speaking on Thursday at the China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai, Wang said Unitree's machines, powered by OpenAI's GPT-6, were capable of executing intricate robotic sequences, such as dynamically replacing brush water and blending pigments, guided...

• Vietnam seeks Russia's help for its nuclear ambition. Will sanctions stall it? (2026-11-05 10:59)

Vietnam's growing nuclear partnership with Russia could help Hanoi gain the expertise needed to fuel its ambitious nuclear programme amid doubts over Western sanctions against Moscow and financing challenges complicating the plans. The Vietnam Atomic Energy Institute (Vinatom) and a subsidiary of Russia's state nuclear corporation Rosatom, which is leading the development of the MBIR International Research Centre, announced on Tuesday that they had signed a memorandum of understanding to...

• Burnt-out Chinese youth wear laid-back emperor's robe to resist overtime (2026-11-05 10:30)

Burnt out by the relentless grind, some young people in China have rallied around an unlikely patron saint: a famously indolent Ming dynasty (1368–1644) emperor. This autumn, across office towers, universities, and streets in China's tier-one cities, young people have begun sporting black Taoist robes modelled on the garment worn by the Jiajing Emperor in the classic historical drama Ming Dynasty in 1566. In the drama, actor Chen Baoguo portrays the Jiajing Emperor as an unkempt, robe-clad...

• Malaysia Hindu rites row: live stream of Muslim youth's repentance fuels fury (2026-11-05 10:23)

A young Malaysian Muslim who took part in Hindu rituals to pray for his ailing mother publicly repented on Thursday in a ceremony live-streamed by state religious authorities, a day after a sharia court ordered him to undergo three months of faith rehabilitation. The spectacle has raised questions about the enforcement of Islamic orthodoxy in Muslim-majority Malaysia, where state religious departments wield significant influence to police the personal conduct and religious beliefs of...

• AI disruption, geopolitics and partnerships in focus at Hong Kong business summit (2026-11-05 10:10)

Technology-driven disruptions, superpower rivalry and global partnerships were among the topics that dominated a closed-door summit in Hong Kong, as countries and tech giants seek to

boost growth and lead the race in artificial intelligence. About 100 business owners, executivesand academics from the United States, mainland China, Hong Kong, Southeast Asia and theMiddle East attended the fourth edition of the Family Business Summit, co-hosted by the SouthChina Morning Post and Blue Pool...

• European flights diverted again after wave of hoax bomb threats (2026-11-05 10:07)

Multiple flights in Europe made emergency landings on Thursday after being diverted because of bomb threats, authorities said. The incidents followed hoax bomb threats earlier this week that prompted searches, diversions and in one case a military escort. More than a dozen flights from cities including Copenhagen, Dublin, Helsinki, Madrid, Milan and Warsaw were confirmed to have been targeted with bomb threats, most diverted to other airports for emergency landings while others landed safely at...

• China proves a cut above with world-first precision laser experiment in space (2026-11-05 09:59)

China’s space scientists have become the first to carry out precision laser cutting in orbit, slicing a piece of “large-scale equipment” with a robotic arm fixed to the outside the Tiangong space station. The official Science and Technology Daily reported on Wednesday that millimetre-scale cuts were made by a laser maintenance device operated remotely from “hundreds of kilometres away”. Precision laser cutting involves focusing a beam of light to slice or melt material with extreme accuracy, a...

• Mainland Chinese firm, director admit fraud in HK$52.9m Hong Kong bottled water scandal (2026-11-05 09:53)

A mainland Chinese company and its director have pleaded guilty to fraud after submitting falsified certificates to win a HK$52.9 million (US$6.78 million) contract to supply drinking water to civil servants in Hong Kong. The high-profile procurement scandal came to light in August last year after civil servants raised concerns about the quality of products supplied by Xin Ding Xin Trade, which held a three-year contract to provide XinLe-brand bottled water to government offices on Hong Kong...

• Cathay Pacific Airways to give eligible Hong Kong staff bonus worth a month’s pay (2026-11-05 09:52)

Cathay Pacific Airways will award eligible Hong Kong-based employees a discretionary bonus equivalent to one month’s pay for 2026, marking the fourth consecutive year it has offered the payout. The bonus will be paid on January 7 next year, according to an internal staff announcement seen by the South China Morning Post. The airline credited employees for helping it achieve successive years of solid financial performance. “You are at the heart of Cathay’s success, and we remain committed to...

• China’s Yutong Bus expands overseas as new-energy bus exports surge (2026-11-05 09:29)

China’s Yutong Bus, the world’s largest electric bus manufacturer, is seeing its overseas shipments climb steadily, with demand growing rapidly in countries such as Australia, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia and Morocco. Based in Zhengzhou in central China’s Henan province, the company now generates more than half of its total revenue from overseas sales. New-energy models – comprising pure-electric and hybrid vehicles – have made up 25 per cent of its bus exports so far this year, a sharp increase from...

• Exiled Thai critic mocks authorities after textbook banned on national security grounds (2026-11-05 09:25)

Thailand has banned a textbook about the country on national security grounds, with the tome’s exiled editor saying on Thursday it was outlawed over its content on the Thai monarchy. The royal family holds revered status in Thai society and is shielded from criticism by a strict defamation law that critics say is used to muzzle dissent. The book, a second edition of the Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Thailand published in English in August, was edited by Pavin Chachavalpongpun, a prominent...

• Hong Kong working carers shun family-friendly measures amid stigma fears: study (2026-11-05 09:22)

More than half of working carers in Hong Kong have never used the family-friendly measures offered by their companies, a study has found, sparking calls from experts to change workplace cultures to prevent carers being stigmatised. The findings came even as the study, released on Thursday, also showed carers benefited from measures such as flexible working hours and working from home, which led to fewer symptoms of depression and reduced the burden of caregiving. Bobo Lau Hi-po, a professor at...

• Chinese and North Korean officials step up diplomatic drive in wake of Kim Jong-un visit (2026-11-05 09:01)

Senior Chinese and North Korean officials met on Thursday in the wake of Kim Jong-un’s recent cross-border visit and a renewed drive by the two sides to deepen their relationship. China’s top diplomat Wang Yi struck an upbeat tone on the relationship between the two countries when he hosted a visiting delegation led by Kim Song-nam, the international affairs chief of the Workers’ Party of Korea, in Beijing. “China is ready to work with the DPRK [Democratic People’s Republic of Korea] to...

• Thai conservationists hunt for dugong poop in race to save endangered marine mammal (2026-11-05 08:50)

Thai conservationists are sleuthing for clues to help save the country’s last herd of dugongs by testing the mammal’s poop for stress hormones, its microbiome and other health indicators to prevent the extinction of this beloved yet critically endangered sea creature. But first they

have to find the faeces – a green fist-sized ball consisting of the seagrass the gentle dugongsgraze on daily in the coastal shallows of the Andaman Sea. It is literally drop-in-the-ocean workfor the teams using...

• Philippine police investigate Meghan’s brother as Markle child abuse inquiry widens (2026-11-05 08:37)

Philippine investigators are examining whether Thomas Markle Jnr, the half-brother of Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, was involved in alleged child sexual abuse offences as an investigation into their father widens, according to the country’s interior secretary on Thursday. Interior Secretary Juanito Victor Remulla said witnesses had alleged that underage girls were brought to the younger Markle’s home. Markle Jnr was being treated as a “person of interest”, not a suspect, Remulla told reporters...

• How Trump’s weakened grip on Congress complicates talks with China (2026-11-05 08:30)

The Democratic sweep of the US midterm elections has transformed the political balance in Washington, but it has not transferred control of foreign policy from the White House to Congress. When the new Congress convenes in January, Democrats will control both the House of Representatives and the Senate. Their victories reflected widespread frustration with the Iran war, rising living costs and US President Donald Trump’s leadership. Reuters reported that 70 per cent of voters wanted Congress to...

• Hong Kong needs ‘forward-looking’ plans amid changes in industrial chains: John Lee (2026-11-05 08:09)

Hong Kong should proactively plan and implement forward-looking strategies amid rapid changes in global industrial chains and the rapid development of technology and artificial intelligence, the city’s leader has said at an economic forum. Speaking at the Hongqiao International Economic Forum in Shanghai, Chief Executive John Lee Ka-chiu said on Thursday that the government’s GoGlobal task force had helped more than 360 mainland Chinese firms establish or expand their businesses in Hong Kong...

• Philippine envoy says US immigration detention rules may change after midterms (2026-11-05 07:49)

The Philippines on Thursday voiced optimism that the Democratic Party’s resounding midterm election win would prompt the United States to adopt “a different approach” to President Donald Trump’s hardening immigration crackdown that has ensnared many Filipinos. Trump’s Republican Party was routed in Tuesday’s polls, with the Democrats taking control of both houses of the US Congress and gaining legislative power to check his policies. The drubbing has given hope to Jose Manuel Romualdez, Manila’s...

• Starved, beaten: Singaporean gets life imprisonment for murdering sister (2026-11-05 07:31)

A man was sentenced to life imprisonment on Thursday for murder after being part of a group that abused his 19-year-old younger sister until she died. Huang Bocan, who joined his girlfriend and another man in starving the victim and chaining her to a toilet, was first charged in 2021 with common intention of committing murder by causing bodily injury to Huang Baoying. Huang, a 34-year-old Singaporean, was convicted on Thursday of committing murder by causing his younger sister’ s death. The...

• China’ s fifth plenum resolution (2026-11-05 07:29)

This article contains excerpts from the official English translation of the original Chinese document released by Xinhua.

• Centuries-old UK parliament risks ‘catastrophic failure’ over delayed revamp (2026-11-05 07:28)

Britain’ s centuries-old parliament is at risk of a “Notre Dame-like” fire or other catastrophe if lawmakers continue to put off a major restoration project, MPs warned on Wednesday. Crumbling masonry, ageing electrics, frequent leaks and high asbestos levels are some of the problems besetting the Palace of Westminster, parts of which are more than 900 years old. Billions of pounds are required to renovate the estate, which sits within a Unesco World Heritage site, but parliamentarians have been...

• North Korea digs in for US stand-off as Democratic midterm wins dim summit hopes (2026-11-05 07:15)

North Korea is bracing for a prolonged confrontation with the United States, analysts say, after sweeping Democratic gains in the US midterm elections diminished the likelihood of renewed diplomacy between Kim Jong-un and President Donald Trump. As Americans cast their ballots on Tuesday, Pyongyang test-fired a new surface-to-air missile system and carried out a strike drill with long-range strategic cruise missiles early on Wednesday, Korean time – its fourth weapons test in a week. The...

• Unexpected White Flower Oil uses; how a Singaporean beat cancer: 7 Lifestyle highlights (2026-11-05 07:15)

We have selected seven Lifestyle stories from the past seven days that resonated with our readers. If you would like to see more of our reporting, please consider subscribing. 1. Cancer at 32, laid off at 50. How a Singaporean rebuilt his life after setbacks Edgar Tang was 32 and on holiday in London when a call from his doctor changed his life. He was diagnosed with stage three Hodgkin’ s lymphoma, a cancer of the lymphatic system. His only symptom had been a swollen lymph node on the left side...

• South Korea investigates 580 finance firms over data leaks, issues warning (2026-11-05 07:08)

South Korea is investigating hundreds of financial institutions after more than 470,000 data records were leaked from 37 firms over the past month, according to the country's financial regulator. The Financial Services Commission (FSC) revealed the scale of the breaches on Thursday as authorities vowed to strengthen cybersecurity measures following a string of similar cases affecting the financial sector and government agencies. The FSC detailed the incidents at a meeting with officials from...

• US asset manager Federated Hermes opens Hong Kong office to tap China's tech rise (2026-11-05 07:00)

US asset manager Federated Hermes has opened its office in Hong Kong, after two years of preparation, joining a wave of international financial giants competing for growth in the Asia-Pacific region. The company, which managed US$884 billion worth of assets as of September, considered a Hong Kong office two years ago and its board approved a plan a year later. Its office in the Nexxus Building in Central adds to its Asia-Pacific footprint in Singapore, Tokyo and Sydney. "Hong Kong is a premier...

• Ex-Politburo member Ma Xingrui's corruption charges extend to end of last century (2026-11-05 06:50)

Former Politburo member and Xinjiang Communist Party chief Ma Xingrui has been indicted on bribery charges dating back to the late 1990s, Chinese state media reported on Thursday. As one of the 24 members of one of the party's innermost circles, the 67-year-old Ma is among the most senior Chinese officials investigated in the country's sweeping anti-corruption campaign. He is also the fourth Politburo member to have faced corruption charges since President Xi Jinping came to power in late...

• Ex-armed police chief Wang Ning ousted from China's top advisory body (2026-11-05 06:10)

A former commander of China's paramilitary force has been stripped of his senior political advisory roles, becoming the third consecutive head of the People's Armed Police to fall from grace over the past 15 years. General Wang Ning, 71, was formally removed as a standing committee member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and vice-chairman of its foreign affairs committee on Wednesday. The top political advisory body revoked his membership during its closing...

• Hong Kong government doctor found guilty of misconduct over driving conviction (2026-11-05 06:00)

A senior government doctor has been found guilty of professional misconduct over a dangerous driving conviction and his failure to report it promptly to Hong Kong's medical watchdog. The Medical Council of Hong Kong ordered that a warning letter be issued to Dr Edmond Ma

Siu-keung, head of the Infection Control Branch at the Department of Health's Centre forHealth Protection, following a disciplinary inquiry on Thursday. The inquiry heard that Ma wasconvicted of dangerous driving at Sha Tin...

• Hong Kong Primary Three pupils' maths competency hits all-time low (2026-11-05 05:52)

The mathematics competency level of Hong Kong's Primary Three pupils has hit an all-time low in a citywide assessment by authorities, while their English performance reached a record high. Results for this year's Territory-wide System Assessment (TSA), released on Thursday, showed passing rate for mathematics for Primary Three students fell to 84.7 per cent, down 0.7 percentage points from a year earlier. The latest result was a record low since the assessment began in 2004. The mathematics...

• Russia's 'eastward pivot' gains steam as Putin confirms new China border railway (2026-11-05 04:00)

Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed into law a deal to build a second standard-gauge railway track at a key border crossing with China, as Moscow looks to accelerate its eastward pivot and boost ties with Beijing ahead of the Apec summit. According to a document posted on Russia's official legislative information portal on Monday, Putin has now signed a law ratifying the railway deal reached with Beijing during the Russian leader's visit to China in May. The two sides have agreed to...

• Concorde lands in Hong Kong's Kai Tak for the first time in 1976 – from the SCMP archive (2026-11-05 03:15)

This article was first published on November 6, 1976. Concorde arrives, softly, softly by Mark Giles The supersonic age hit Hongkong yesterday (November 5, 1976) – not with a bang, as many expected, but with a whisper. Concorde, the Anglo-French airliner, arrived from Manila on a demonstration flight with Mrs Imelda Marcos, wife of the Philippine President, as special guest. While the aircraft stopped over before returning to the Philippines, the First Lady and her party found time to do some...

• Joshua Wong jailed for 10 years over bid to instigate sanctions on Beijing, Hong Kong (2026-11-05 03:13)

Jailed Hong Kong opposition activist Joshua Wong Chi-fung has been sentenced to 10 years behind bars for his role in a global campaign to instigate sanctions against mainland China and the city in the aftermath of the 2019 anti-government protests. The High Court on Thursday sentenced Wong for conspiring with fugitive ex-lawmaker Nathan Law Kwun-chung and other activists to collude with foreign forces after Beijing imposed the national security law on Hong Kong on June 30, 2020. Wong, who turned...

• Will New Zealand's election reshape its 'softly-softly' approach to Trump? (2026-11-05 02:30)

Cost of living issues are expected to dominate this weekend's election in New Zealand, but the outcome could also determine whether Wellington maintains its cautious approach to US President Donald Trump or pursues a more independent foreign policy, analysts have said. With the major parties locked in a close contest ahead of Saturday's vote, the next government's approach to Washington, as well as its defence priorities, could hinge on the smaller parties needed to form a coalition. Robert...

• Hunt in Canada after multiple grizzlies suspected of killing mother and daughter (2026-11-05 02:02)

More than one grizzly may have been involved in a bear attack that relatives say left a mother and daughter dead in Bella Coola along the province's central coast, the Conservation Officer Service in British Columbia said. The service's Inspector Jeff Tyre said in a video message that the second body had been found in a search by Royal Canadian Mounted Police and conservation officers on Tuesday afternoon that followed the discovery of the first set of remains a day earlier. He said it's "not...

• 200 strangers pack wedding banquet of shunned Chinese man, bringing roast pigs, private chefs (2026-11-05 02:00)

A groom in southwestern China who feared an empty wedding reception found himself surrounded by hundreds of supportive strangers after his online appeal went viral. Twenty-four-year-old Xu, from Zhaotong in Yunnan province, recently posted a video on Douyin inviting internet users to his wedding banquet on October 31. In the clip, Xu explained that he had grown up facing stigma and bullying in his rural community for being an "orphan," a label associated with low social status. He hoped a few...

• Chinese banks explore local e-CNY wallets for foreign firms via upgraded platform (2026-11-05 02:00)

Beijing is expanding its central bank-backed digital currency network to offshore institutions, including Hong Kong branches, while banks are also exploring local e-CNY wallets for foreign firms to deepen cross-border integration. "We currently have 30 domestic banks as e-CNY operators. Right now we're working to extend this capability to offshore banks," Lu Yuan, deputy head of the People's Bank of China's digital currency research institute, said on a panel at Hong Kong's Fintech Week. "We...

• Why Hong Kong wealth managers want broader access to mainland China's Nasdaq-style markets (2026-11-05 01:00)

Most asset managers in Hong Kong expect broader access to mainland China's two Nasdaq-style stock markets to strengthen the city's private wealth business, an industry survey shows, as hard-tech firms continue to attract investors despite a recent pullback. The report, released by the Private Wealth Management Association (PWMA) and KPMG China, surveyed most of the association's 44 institutional members, ranging from Agricultural Bank

of China (Hong Kong) to UBS, as well as asset managers and...

• Star mathematician Ma Xiao leaves the US for China – and a career pivot to AI (2026-11-05 01:00)

Two years ago, Chinese mathematician Ma Xiao helped crack a century-old puzzle known as Hilbert's sixth problem. The problem – which has baffled generations of mathematical physicists – centres on an elusive bridge connecting the chaotic frenzy of microscopic atoms with the predictable laws of fluid motion. The breakthrough, published in the Annals of Mathematics, helped propel Ma's collaborator Deng Yu to the 2026 Fields Medal – the discipline's highest honour – and secured Ma a coveted faculty...

• UK man charged over hidden camera in toilet on Japan-Singapore flight (2026-11-05 00:52)

A man who allegedly hid a camera in a toilet on a Scoot flight from Japan to Singapore was charged on Thursday. Hugh Lutley, a 52-year-old British national, was handed one charge each of voyeurism and obstruction of justice by deleting evidence. He is accused of operating a camera at about 5.10pm on October 7 with the intention of observing passengers performing a private act. The alleged offence took place on board Scoot flight TR821, which was travelling from Osaka, Japan, to Singapore,...

• Hong Kong helps mainland Chinese firms go global – but can they really win now? (2026-11-05 00:36)

When Shenzhen-listed digital infrastructure provider Runjian Corporation expanded into the Middle East and Southeast Asia through Hong Kong, adapting meant more than translating software interfaces or navigating local data privacy laws. It also meant changing the company's working practices and abandoning the expectation, carried over from its domestic operations, that one mainland Chinese employee could match the output of three local hires. "When expanding overseas, companies must do more than...

• South Korea wants a cyber tsar, but can it beat complacency? (2026-11-05 00:00)

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung's push for a centralised cybersecurity agency after his passport details were leaked could face widespread inertia despite what he considers a national security priority. Tech experts warn that creating a new organisation alone will do little to address the deeper problem of complacency, with businesses and government agencies viewing tighter cybersecurity as an unnecessary expense until a serious breach occurs. Lee's proposal comes amid growing scrutiny of...

• Nasa's 22-year-old Swift satellite telescope falls from orbit in fiery finale (2026-11-04 23:46)

Nasa's Swift satellite telescope, which spent two decades studying the most powerful known blasts of energy in the cosmos, tumbled out of orbit as expected on Wednesday and burned up in Earth's atmosphere over Indonesia, the space agency reported. The fiery demise of the Neil

Gehrels Swift Observatory, weighing roughly 3,200 pounds (1,452kg), came less than threemonths after a rescue spacecraft failed its mission to boost the satellite to higher orbit andextend its life. The US Space Force...

• What's the message for China as Japan weighs US$500 billion defence surge?
(2026-11-04 23:00)

China could face a substantially more capable Japanese military over the coming years as Tokyo considers nearly doubling its five-year defence spending to as much as 80 trillion yen (US$508 billion), according to media reports in Japan. Observers said such a build-up could strengthen Japan's ability to deter or respond to People's Liberation Army operations around Taiwan and the East China Sea, as well as withstand attacks and sustain prolonged operations in a regional conflict. The reported...

• Data centre dissent: why American voters aren't buying Trump's China AI pitch
(2026-11-04 22:56)

Strong voter backlash in the US midterm elections against AI infrastructure projects, including data centres, indicates that framing the domestic buildout as key to competing with China failed to convince Americans and underscores the need to address local concerns, according to analysts. "The argument that we need to build more data centres to win in AI against China no longer seems to have the kind of resonance it did before, if it ever did, frankly," said Kyle Chan, a fellow at the Brookings...

• China, US defence officials agree to improve 'communication' to reduce risks
(2026-11-04 22:08)

US and Chinese defence officials met in Washington for the first meeting of a Crisis Communications and Prevention Working Group established under an agreement announced in September when leaders of the two nations met. The two sides agreed on the importance of "advancing practical communication measures" to reduce risks between the US and China, according to a Pentagon readout of the meeting released Tuesday. Delegates also discussed "additional channels" to promote "effective" crisis...

• Zelensky honours Melania Trump with Ukraine award for brokering Oleshky truce
(2026-11-04 21:44)

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky on Wednesday awarded US first lady Melania Trump a national honour for her role in brokering a partial ceasefire that allowed the evacuation of civilians from a Russian-occupied town. "I hereby decree that the Order of Princess Olga, First Class, be awarded to Melania Trump, first lady of the United States of America," a decree read on the Ukrainian presidential website. The text acknowledged her "significant personal contribution to humanitarian support...

• Asian-American voters, younger turnout fuel blue wave for Democrats in midterms (2026-11-04 21:31)

Democrats scored a sweeping victory in Tuesday's midterm elections, with Asian-Americans and other voters of colour playing a key role, according to a new voter poll released on Wednesday. The 2026 Midterm Election Voter Poll surveyed 10,141 voters, including 2,130 Asian-American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) voters, between October 20 and November 3. It offers insights into voting trends across racial groups. Taeku Lee, a Harvard professor of government and a researcher for the poll, said...

• 5 takeaways from US midterms as Democrats sweep Congress and Trump faces Iran reckoning (2026-11-04 21:24)

A Democratic victory that reached from Texas to Kansas changed the terms of Donald Trump's final two years in office. When the new US Congress convenes in January, Democrats will control both chambers. They can block his legislation, challenge spending on the war in Iran and scrutinise the deals he strikes with Beijing. The day after his party lost control of Congress, Trump invited reporters to the construction site of his new White House ballroom to watch workers raise the final steel...

• Canada to curb reliance on US despite Trump team's crushing midterm loss, minister says (2026-11-04 21:10)

Canada's push to reduce economic dependence on the US will not change after President Donald Trump's Republican Party suffered a crushing midterm election defeat, an official said on Wednesday. Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney has maintained that trade with the US, a cornerstone of the Canadian economy, will not return to a pre-Trump normal and that his country must urgently diversify its trading relationships. US Democratic Party leaders have been critical of Trump's trade war with Canada...

• Bob Dylan comes knockin' on pope's door as Leo welcomes legend to Vatican (2026-11-04 20:47)

Bob Dylan came knockin' on Pope Leo's door on Wednesday, as the American singer-songwriter and poet visited the American pope at the Vatican during a break between concert dates in Italy. The Vatican said the encounter was brief, with Leo giving Dylan a rosary and Dylan presenting the pope with a copy of his autobiography, Chronicles: Volume One. Leo had quoted from an unpublished protest song Dylan penned in 1963, "Go Away You Bomb", in his 2026 book Disarmed and Disarming: Peace Is a Gift. Leo...

• Ex-prince Andrew becomes first UK royal in 156 years to get witness summons (2026-11-04 20:23)

The former prince Andrew has been called to testify as a witness in a civil fraud trial, marking what is believed to be the first time in more than 150 years that a member of the royal family has received a witness summons, British media reported on Wednesday. The summons comes

after a judge at the High Court in London gave the green light last month for the former prince,now known as Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor, to be called to testify about payments heallegedly received from the parties in...

• Chinese scientists make a toothbrush that uses mild electric shocks to reduce plaque (2026-11-04 19:00)

No matter how thoroughly you brush your teeth in the morning and evening, the battle against bacteria is almost certain to be lost. Within a few hours of brushing, it will return in force and rebuild a solid defence line on the surface of your teeth. From ancient times to now, humanity has essentially had only one way of dealing with it, whether it was using twigs and sticks or the first bristled toothbrushes, which date back to 10th century China. But even today’s most advanced electric brushes...

• Who won in China? In the US midterms, Susan Collins and the local firefighters (2026-11-04 18:59)

Republican Senator Susan Collins won in China on Tuesday. So did the volunteer firefighters. Voters in several small American communities with China in their names cast ballots in Tuesday’s US midterm elections. Their local contests had little to do with Beijing and a great deal to do with fire engines, budgets and paving. In China, a lakeside town in northeastern Maine, Collins outpolled Democrat Troy Jackson by 1,333 votes to 871, according to the town’s general election return. Statewide,...

• US Congress welcomes record number of lawmakers of Chinese descent (2026-11-04 16:01)

The incoming US Congress is set to include a record six lawmakers of Chinese descent after Democrat Richard Pan won a California House race. Pan defeated incumbent Kevin Kiley in California’s 6th Congressional District by 15 percentage points, according to the latest results on Wednesday morning, adding another Chinese-American member to the House when the 120th Congress convenes in January. “I’m proud to be part of the growing Asian-American representation in Congress,” Pan said in a statement...

• Traffic gridlock at Malaysia-Singapore causeway after Woodlands blackout (2026-11-04 15:41)

A massive power outage at the Woodlands checkpoint in Singapore caused a heavy traffic jam on most major roads leading to the Malaysian checkpoint in Johor Bahru on Wednesday. Although all counters were operating at optimum level at the Bangunan Sultan Iskandar Customs, Immigration and Quarantine complex in the southern state of Johor, the jam lasted for many hours due to a build-up of vehicles from the Singapore side. It is learnt that the issue started at about noon on the Singapore side. A...

• How Democratic sweep could slow AI growth in US – and help China's ambitions (2026-11-04 15:00)

The Democratic Party's sweeping midterm election victory and takeover of both houses of Congress could slow down the pace of artificial intelligence development in the US, with implications for both the global AI trade and the technology rivalry between Washington and Beijing, analysts said. The assessment comes as concerns about AI and the data centres that power it proved to be a contributing factor in the backlash against the Republican Party and US President Donald Trump, a vocal supporter...

• Danish students join European wave of youth strikes over education cuts (2026-11-04 14:27)

Thousands of young Danes took to the streets on Wednesday to protest over a government plan to cut student allowances, adding to a wave of European youth anger. Under the banner "Enough is Enough", 11 high school and university student associations marched from Copenhagen's City Hall Square to parliament over the proposed cuts to free up funds for defence spending. Student protests that started in France have spread in recent weeks to other European countries. Some 40,000 students were on strike...

• Republicans face prospect of 'civil war' as Trump's air of invincibility starts to fade (2026-11-04 14:00)

In the weeks leading up to the midterm elections, US President Donald Trump displayed unwavering confidence in his star power, urging supporters to close their eyes and "pretend I'm on the ballot". But Tuesday night's disastrous results for the Republicans – the first time in 20 years both houses of Congress have changed hands at the same time – have punctured the aura of invincibility that once shielded Trump and allowed him to keep potential critics in line with the threat that opposing him...

• What will the US midterms mean for trade policy on China? (2026-11-04 14:00)

The Democrats' comprehensive victory in the US midterm elections could embolden Congress to assert greater authority over trade policy and scrutinise the deals President Donald Trump made with China, analysts say, though a dramatic shift in Washington's trade policy is unlikely. "Congress, including pro-free trade Republicans who have been intimidated into standing down, might be inclined to reassert some degree of congressional authority on trade," said Stephen Olson, a former US trade...

• Can or not? 2 migrant workers in Singapore using recycling machine sparks debate (2026-11-04 13:45)

The refund is small – 10 Singapore cents (8 US cents) per bottle – for each return under Singapore's Beverage Container Return Scheme (BCRS). But the uproar is big. Since BCRS reverse vending machines became fully operational on October 1, Singapore's social media has been flooded with videos and posts criticising people for raiding bins and holding up others

by returning containers by the bag-load. A recent controversy was sparked by a post on October28 showing two town council workers...

• Needles, nails, pins found in Halloween sweets across Austria, Germany (2026-11-04 13:34)

Austrian police have launched an investigation after small metal objects such as nails, needles and pins were found in Halloween sweets at several locations across the country. Police received 13 reports of metal objects found in sweets collected by children at Halloween, federal criminal police said in a statement on Wednesday. Although no reported cases have required medical treatment, police urged parents and children to “carefully check ⋯ all Halloween sweets before they are eaten”. “Any...

• India vows to dig its way out of China machinery curbs (2026-11-04 13:30)

India’s ambitious plans to construct high-speed railways, metro networks and strategic roads through the Himalayas could be hampered by China’s proposed restrictions on tunnel-boring machines, exposing a dependence on foreign technology that New Delhi may find difficult to overcome. Experts say while the curbs are unlikely to halt construction, they could slow major projects and have intensified calls for India to develop its own advanced tunnelling equipment. The restrictions also threaten to...

• Bad to worse? Europe’s relief over US midterms tempered by prospect of Trump backlash (2026-11-04 13:14)

Follow the SCMP’s live coverage here After almost two years in which the transatlantic alliance verged on collapse, a Democratic landslide in the US midterm elections was welcomed in Europe on Wednesday, even if few believed it would be a panacea for ailing ties. The Democratic Party swept both chambers of the US Congress in a crushing rebuke of US President Donald Trump’s two-year record. For Europe, that period has led to a shattering of the post-war order and deep schisms in the Western...

• What is the one big thing that could stop Xi, Putin and Trump meeting at Apec? (2026-11-04 13:00)

With just a fortnight until the Apec summit in Shenzhen, preparations are reportedly under way for the first meeting between the leaders of China, Russia and the United States. If the talks go ahead, they could bolster Beijing’s diplomatic standing, although the different priorities of each power were likely to limit consensus and yield few, if any, concrete concessions, observers said. Officials from Beijing, Moscow, and Washington had been holding serious talks to arrange the first trilateral...

• Philippine police find child sex abuse material on devices linked to Thomas Markle (2026-11-04 12:54)

Philippine police said on Wednesday that three memory cards and a mobile phone turned over by the son of Meghan Markle’s estranged father contained child sexual abuse material. Last

week, Philippine police said they were investigating a laptop found alongside images of childabuse at an alleged former residence of Thomas Markle, whose daughter is married toBritain’s Prince Harry. Philippine interior minister Jonvic Remulla said at the time the countryplanned to take “appropriate legal actions”...

• Singapore passes tougher anti-haze laws, fines to increase 10 times against offenders (2026-11-04 12:43)

Singapore’s parliament on Wednesday passed tougher penalties against companies responsible for forest fires in Indonesia, including curbs on related business dealings, as the city state doubles down on enforcement following one of its worst haze episodes in more than a decade. The amended Transboundary Pollution Haze Act will see penalties on such companies increase tenfold to a maximum fine of S$1 million (US$780,000) a day, capped at a total of S$20 million. The Act has been invoked twice...

• UK foreign minister hints at formal slavery apology but says payouts ‘not feasible’ (2026-11-04 12:26)

Britain’s Foreign Secretary Ed Miliband has said it was “not feasible” for the country to pay reparations for slavery, after King Charles III expressed remorse amid calls for a formal apology and compensation. “It’s not the right answer. It’s not practical. It’s not feasible for us, but there are things we can work on cooperatively,” Miliband told the BBC in an interview aired on Wednesday. He added that London would not “shift our position on reparations”. Miliband also hinted that Britain...

• Hong Kong’s No 2 official credits government for success in university rankings (2026-11-04 12:00)

Hong Kong’s strong performance in the latest regional university rankings – with five institutions among Asia’s top 10 – is the result of sustained government investment and clear policy direction, the city’s No 2 official has said, as a global alliance of 23 universities eyes the Northern Metropolis for collaboration opportunities. Addressing leaders from more than 50 top universities across five continents at the World Class University Presidents Forum 2026 on Wednesday, Chief Secretary Eric...

• DeepSeek engineer defends push for open-source AI smarter than humans despite higher risks (2026-11-04 12:00)

DeepSeek is committed to open-source artificial intelligence to accelerate the arrival of artificial general intelligence (AGI), even if it heightens safety risks, a company engineer says, defying growing safety concerns from the US and scrutiny in China over whether the strategy poses national security risks. Speaking on Tuesday on an AI panel at the World Internet Conference (WIC) in Wuzhen, DeepSeek engineer Gao Xi said open-source development promoted shared innovations and technical...

• Medical watchdog member quits to represent Tin-yu's father at her death inquest (2026-11-04 11:52)

A prominent patients' rights advocate and lawyer has resigned from Hong Kong's medical watchdog to represent the father of Chau Tin-yu at an inquest into her death, after she spent four years in a vegetative state following an alleged medical blunder. Alex Lam Chi-yau, chairman of Hong Kong Patients' Voices and a lay member of the Medical Council, submitted his resignation to council chairwoman Professor Grace Tang Wai-king on Wednesday amid concerns about a conflict of interest. His resignation...

• Indonesia says Asean diplomacy 'must not stop' despite Singapore row (2026-11-04 11:48)

A senior Indonesian diplomat said on Wednesday that dialogue "must not stop" among Asean members, amid a diplomatic row between Jakarta and Singapore over transboundary haze. Ties between the Southeast Asian neighbours have been tense after wildfires in Indonesia blanketed the city state in toxic smog for months. Complaints from Singapore over the air quality were met with sharp rebukes from Indonesian officials. Despite a visit to Jakarta by Singapore's Foreign Affairs Minister Vivian...

• In Asia, midterms spark worries about diplomatic uncertainty, economic pressure (2026-11-04 11:33)

Follow the SCMP's live coverage here In the wake of Democrats' sweeping victory in congressional elections, Asian countries are weighing how their ties with the US will shift under a lame-duck Trump administration. Observers expect the "blue wave" midterm results will push the Trump administration to heighten pressure on Washington's Asian allies for greater US investment and increased defence cost-sharing. In South Korea, analysts have predicted that managing relations with Washington will...

• Education chief dismisses push for final-year university internships amid AI threat (2026-11-04 11:03)

Hong Kong's education minister has shot down a suggestion to turn the final stretch of undergraduate degree programmes into an internship period to boost employability, amid a fall in entry-level jobs due to the rise of artificial intelligence (AI). Secretary for Education Christine Choi Yuk-lin said on Wednesday that university courses should not be changed solely to meet manpower needs or be based on single indicators such as labour market supply and demand data. She was responding to lawmaker...

• Lawyer dismisses rumours of Malaysia's Najib settling US$12.3 million fine (2026-11-04 11:00)

Lawyers for Malaysia's jailed former prime minister Najib Razak on Wednesday dismissed speculation about his imminent transfer to house arrest, as his former ruling party struggles to raise the 50 million ringgit (US$12.3 million) fine needed to bring him home. The rumours came

as Najib’s United Malays National Organisation (Umno) seeks to build on recent electoralvictories, with analysts saying his return to house arrest could give the party a boost amongsupporters ahead of the next general...

• Roll-out of HK$5m anti-terrorism bollards in Causeway Bay draws mixed reactions (2026-11-04 10:58)

The installation of anti-ram bollards costing HK$5 million (US$637,230) has begun at a busy crossing in Hong Kong’s Causeway Bay to prevent vehicles from mounting crowded pavements, sparking debate over whether the safety barriers justify the price tag. By Wednesday afternoon, workers had installed four fixed bollards along the pavement outside the landmark Sogo department store, while construction continued on the ground behind temporary barriers. Officials said the bollards and crash barriers...

• Hongkongers to draft end-of-life treatment refusals online from next year (2026-11-04 10:45)

Hongkongers will be able to create advance medical directives electronically, setting out which life-sustaining treatments they do not wish to receive when terminally ill on the city’s eHealth record platform as early as next year, authorities have said. In a written reply to lawmakers on Wednesday, Secretary for Labour and Welfare Chris Sun Yuk-han said the electronic service for advance medical directives, which currently exists only in paper form, would be rolled out “in phases”. After...

• Legal body’s new office boosts Hong Kong’s role as exchange hub, ex-minister says (2026-11-04 10:41)

The opening of an international legal body’s first overseas office in Hong Kong reflects the city’s importance as a hub for legal exchange, underpinned by its broad legal framework and strong ties to mainland China, a former justice minister has said. Teresa Cheng Yeuk-wah, secretary general for the International Organisation for Mediation (IOMed) and the city’s former secretary for justice, said on Wednesday that the opening of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law...

• Yachts, jewels and jets: Hong Kong’s luxury expo connects brands with new customers (2026-11-04 10:31)

Hong Kong’s first luxury expo is more than a showcase, offering international brands opportunities to find partners and develop business, the city’s financial chief has said, while exhibitors said bringing different sectors under one roof could help them reach new customers. The inaugural Festival of Connoisseurs, organised by Informa Markets, is the first exhibition supported by the government’s HK$100 million (US$12.7 million) initiative to attract high-quality, large-scale international...

• Jakarta wants Russia not to recruit Indonesians in its war. Should Prabowo call Putin? (2026-11-04 10:30)

Indonesia has called on Russia to stop recruiting its citizens to fight in Ukraine, with analysts saying the appeal may only be ineffective if President Prabowo Subianto directly pressures his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin on the issue. On Sunday, Indonesia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokeswoman Yvonne Mewengkang said: "The Indonesian government asked the Russian government to take all necessary steps to ensure that no Indonesians will be recruited into the Russian military or any other...

• Indonesian military helicopter on wildfire mission crashes off Borneo, killing 1 (2026-11-04 10:26)

An Indonesian military helicopter carrying eight people on a firefighting mission crashed in waters off Borneo island on Wednesday, killing a crew member, the army said. The Southeast Asian archipelago has for months been struggling to control wildfires that have burned through large swathes of Sumatra, Borneo and Papua islands, causing choking haze that drifted to neighbouring Malaysia, East Timor and Singapore. The helicopter took off on Wednesday morning from Seruyan district in Borneo's...

• US midterm takeaways: Trump's blame game, Elon's space lasers and the rest of the world (2026-11-04 10:00)

Follow the SCMP's live coverage here Democrats won control of both chambers of the US Congress in Tuesday's midterm elections, dealing a heavy blow to President Donald Trump as voters vented frustration over rising costs and the Iran war. With Democrats set to take over Congress in January, they will have the power to block Trump's agenda and investigate his administration. Under these conditions, the president is expected to face a far more constrained final two years in office, with...

• Abandoned by parents after cancer diagnosis, Chinese woman dies after solo battle (2026-11-04 10:00)

A Chinese influencer who became known for bravely battling bone cancer after her parents abandoned her following her diagnosis has died, prompting widespread mourning online. On October 27, the account of anti-cancer influencer Miracle Xia Xia posted an obituary announcing that she had died in a Shanghai hospital. The video shows Xia Xia choosing her own memorial portrait, turning it black and white, and typing her own eulogy on her phone. She apologised to her followers for becoming a...

• Blow for Netanyahu as Israeli election body rejects claims of Arab party fraud (2026-11-04 09:24)

Israeli electoral authorities on Wednesday rejected allegations promoted by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of fraud by Arab parties, who could hold the key to removing him from power after a divisive vote. President Isaac Herzog will at noon officially receive the results of

the October 27 election as he decides whether to give Netanyahu or his rival, Gadi Eisenkot, thefirst chance to form a government, with neither commanding enough votes alone. The CentralElections Committee said it had...

• Trump suffers midterms trouncing weeks before Xi meeting (2026-11-04 09:24)

Democrats won control of both houses of Congress in midterm elections as US voters punished President Donald Trump over inflation, corruption and rising healthcare costs. The party was on track for at least 54 Senate seats after upset wins in long-standing Republican strongholds including South Carolina, Texas and Kansas. In the House of Representatives, Democrats were set to pick up dozens of seats and gain a double-figure majority. A collapse in Trump's approval ratings amid record petrol and...

• Ex-HKEX vice-president and mother charged over alleged confidential data access (2026-11-04 09:01)

A former vice-president of the Hong Kong stock exchange's operator and his mother have been charged by the city's corruption watchdog over allegedly accessing confidential information of listed companies, which yielded more than HK$500,000 (US$63,720) in investment profits. Geoffrey Tong Po-hang, 39, former vice-president of Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing (HKEX), and his mother Leung Yiu-chun, 68, appeared in Eastern Court for mention on Wednesday afternoon. They jointly face one count of...

• Australian PM Albanese takes swipe at ex-UK leader Liz Truss over backpacker visa rules (2026-11-04 08:43)

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on Wednesday took aim at former UK leader Liz Truss and the thousands of British backpackers flocking to cities like Sydney, as the government seeks to tweak visa rules and ease pressure on the local job market. Truss, who lasted just 49 days in office before being forced to resign in 2022, called the travel arrangement "a major achievement of our trade deal with Australia and hard fought!" "Young Brits no longer have to do farm work as part of their...

• As US-Iran war shows, China's influence can't secure its line to Gulf oil (2026-11-04 08:30)

China is becoming increasingly important to the Gulf's economic future. Yet the Gulf remains capable of disrupting China's own. That is the contradiction exposed by the US-Iran war. Beijing's importance as an energy customer, investor and technology partner has grown, but its ability to guarantee the maritime routes connecting the Middle East to East Asia remains limited. The next contest in global energy will concern not only who produces and consumes it, but who can preserve access when...

• Taiwan flags massive PLA naval mobilisation, spike in air sorties (2026-11-04 08:26)

Taiwan expressed concern on Tuesday over more than 100 People's Liberation Army naval vessels and mainland Chinese coastguard ships sailing across the western Pacific, including the Liaoning strike group conducting drills in the Philippine Sea. The maritime deployment overlapped with a sharp spike in PLA aerial activity near the island. Taiwan's defence ministry reported 49 sorties of PLA aircraft in the 24 hours to 6am on Tuesday, marking the highest single-day total this year. The number...

- 'Fake democracy' or a plus for Beijing? Chinese internet users on the US midterms (2026-11-04 07:11)

Follow the SCMP's live coverage here Chinese social media users have voiced mixed views on the US midterm elections, criticising American politics while debating the implications of President Donald Trump's political future for China. Held on Tuesday, the midterm elections saw Democrats win control of both chambers of the US Congress, taking the House of Representatives and the Senate from the Republicans. Democrats reached the 218-seat threshold needed for a House majority and also secured...

- Indonesia's Prabowo sacks chief of staff as wiretap scandal tests alliance with Widodo (2026-11-04 07:02)

In one of the biggest scandals to hit the Indonesian National Police (Polri), President Prabowo Subianto on Wednesday sacked his chief of staff, former national police chief Listyo Sigit Prabowo, after his arrest for allegedly wiretapping the president, cabinet ministers, politicians and journalists. The government raised the stakes on Wednesday when presidential spokesman Prasetyo Hadi addressed reporters in Jakarta, warning that the surveillance could amount to "treason" and endanger state...

- Tencent unveils Hy4 as open-weight AI race with DeepSeek, Z.ai, Alibaba heats up (2026-11-04 07:01)

Chinese tech giant Tencent Holdings has rolled out its latest flagship artificial intelligence model, Hy4, seeking to challenge top open-weight rivals with enhanced agentic capabilities built to power its enterprise software ecosystem. Released on Wednesday, the large language model (LLM) introduced visual understanding for the first time. Hy4 could process images, analyse complex charts and conduct visual mathematical reasoning, according to the Shenzhen-based company. Tencent said the release...

- US midterm shift could squeeze China on AI, but bring clarity to bilateral talks (2026-11-04 06:49)

Follow the SCMP's live coverage here Beijing has vowed to continue working with Washington towards a "constructive relationship of strategic stability" following the Democrats' sweeping victory in the US midterm elections on Wednesday. But analysts said a Democratic-controlled US Congress would ramp up pressure on Beijing over Taiwan, artificial intelligence (AI) and export controls, though it might also eliminate uncertainties in

negotiations. When asked by reporters about the results on...

• Malaysia’s debut Hyrox fitness event in beer sponsorship row (2026-11-04 06:25)

Organisers of Malaysia’s first Hyrox fitness competition agreed on Wednesday to exclude the event from a partnership with beer brand Carlsberg after Muslim entrants threatened to pull out and authorities warned they would withhold approval over the alcohol sponsorship. The tie-up had angered some participants who said it conflicted with both their faith and the event’s promotion of fitness, highlighting tensions over alcohol marketing in Muslim-majority Malaysia. “We understand why this has...

• Operator should lose tender marks in future over meter glitch, experts say (2026-11-04 06:12)

Hong Kong authorities should waive related fines and introduce a penalty mechanism for the city’s parking meter operator after a four-hour outage disabled about half of all meters, an industry expert and a lawmaker have suggested. They also called for clearer refund terms for Octopus card users on Wednesday, a day after the government promised to issue refunds to affected drivers. A back-end glitch cut off communication with about 11,000 parking meters from 8.20am to 12.15pm on Tuesday. The...

• ‘I wasn’t on the ballot’: Trump deflects blame as Democrats on track to control Congress (2026-11-04 05:48)

Follow the SCMP’s live coverage here In what appears to be an early attempt to distance himself from the Democrats’ historic gains, US President Donald Trump has sought to shift attention away from his party’s performance in the midterm elections, taking to social media to remind voters that he “wasn’t on the ballot”. “I wasn’t on the Ballot and if I was, we would have won IN A LANDSLIDE! Thank you for your attention to this matter,” Trump wrote as early results showed Democratic gains in places...

• John Lee begins Beijing, Shanghai trip to deepen mainland economic ties (2026-11-04 05:33)

Hong Kong’s leader has begun a four-day visit to Beijing and Shanghai to deepen economic ties with the mainland, calling for closer collaboration on finance and innovation and technology (I&T), and pledging to help Chinese enterprises expand overseas. Speaking at the annual Beijing-Hong Kong Economic Cooperation Symposium on Wednesday, Chief Executive John Lee Ka-chiu said the Northern Metropolis would create a new platform for the two cities to cooperate on research and innovation. The...

• US voters unleash blue wave, handing Congress to Democrats and rebuking Trump (2026-11-04 05:33)

Follow the SCMP’s live coverage here After weeks of insults, fearmongering and eye-popping spending on advertising, Americans settled down to vote on Tuesday, unleashing a blue wave

that saw Democrats projected to take the House and the Senate, in a sharp rebuke to USPresident Donald Trump and his controversial governing style. In a stunning development, theAssociated Press also projected that Democrat James Talarico won the Texas US Senate election,defeating Republican nominee Ken Paxton and...

• Chinese firms' third-quarter dividend growth lags global average amid market slump (2026-11-04 05:31)

Chinese listed firms' third-quarter dividend payments lag behind the global average, according to a report by Capital Group, throwing doubt over the effectiveness of Beijing's ongoing stock market stabilisation plans. In China, dividends only rose 5.3 per cent on a core basis in the third-quarter, compared with global growth of 7.5 per cent, according to the Dividend Watch report released by Capital Group on Wednesday. Globally, 88 per cent of companies in the Capital Group index increased...

• Why North Korea's Kim sees no need for another Trump 'photo-op summit' (2026-11-04 05:14)

Kim Jong-un's powerful sister on Wednesday rejected holding any further talks with the United States, days after the FBI accused North Korea of stealing more than US$6 billion from a cryptocurrency exchange and Washington launched a new round of sanctions aimed at Pyongyang. Analysts say the latest developments have all but killed off the chances of another Trump-Kim summit, despite the US president's continued warm words for North Korea's supreme leader and apparent openness to meeting him...

• Crash landing for K-dramas? Waning output threatens genre's future (2026-11-04 05:14)

Twelve South Korean industry groups urged the government on Wednesday to invest in and support production of Korean television dramas, known as K-dramas, warning that the country's production base risked collapse. K-dramas have been hugely popular globally, but the number produced has fallen about 30 per cent from 141 titles in 2022, according to the Korea Drama Production Association. Three domestic broadcast networks cut drama output from 91 titles in 2012 to 32 in 2023, and some...

• Frequently labelled as communists, who are the Democratic Socialists of America? (2026-11-04 03:41)

Follow the SCMP's live coverage here For years, the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) had little influence over the machinery of the Democratic Party. That is beginning to change. The organisation has more than doubled its membership since 2024, reaching roughly 120,000, while growing numbers of DSA-backed candidates are positioning to expand its presence in Congress from two members to as many as seven. The breakthrough came in New York, where Zohran Mamdani's victory in the 2025 mayoral...

• Malaysian police arrest woman over viral shopping mall brawl (2026-11-04 02:52)

Malaysian police have arrested a 25-year-old woman who allegedly caused a disturbance by assaulting visitors at a shopping centre in Kuala Lumpur, with the suspect admitting her involvement in the incident. Dang Wangi OCPD Assistant Commissioner Ahmad Azwan Amin Nordin said the local woman was arrested at about 5.40pm on Tuesday in Bandar Sri Damansara to assist in investigations. “Initial investigations found that the suspect admitted to being involved in the incident,” he said in a statement...

• Chinese woman invites late ex-husband’s mother to live with her 12 years after divorce (2026-11-04 02:00)

A woman from central China has moved many online after inviting her ex-mother-in-law to live with her following the deaths of her ex-husband and ex-father-in-law. Lin, from Henan province, recently flew more than 1,000km to Guangdong province in southern China to bring her ex-mother-in-law to live with her, despite having divorced her ex-husband 12 years ago. Lin made the decision after her ex-father-in-law died of an illness in 2024 and her ex-husband died last year. Lin’s ex-mother-in-law,...

• Chinese scientists discover thickening ground ice in parts of warming Tibet (2026-11-04 02:00)

The Tibetan Plateau, home to the world’s largest expanse of alpine permafrost, is warming at about twice the global average but, counter-intuitively,researchers have found that ice in parts of the Tibet autonomous region is actually thickening. A team from Peking University found that shallow ground ice has unexpectedly increased over the past 20 years, affecting more than a third of the plateau’s permafrost, a phenomenon driven largely by natural climate factors. The authors noted that the...

• Will US midterm results lead to disruption in Washington’s ties with China? (2026-11-04 01:35)

Follow the SCMP’s live coverage here The United States’ midterm elections are unlikely to deliver a “disruptive” shock to relations between Beijing and Washington despite potential volatility over the issue of Taiwan, according to a prominent Chinese expert in US studies. Chen Dongxiao, president of the Shanghai Institutes for International Studies, said any shift in the make-up of the US Congress would mainly complicate President Donald Trump’s domestic agenda. The impact on foreign policy...

• Baidu’s new AI simulator gives robotaxis a crash course in rare road hazards (2026-11-04 01:30)

For autonomous vehicles, the hardest lessons to learn are the ones that can test the skills of even the most experienced human drivers: an errant cyclist darting through a red light, or an animal bolting into oncoming traffic from behind a corner. The Chinese tech giant Baidu has developed a new AI-driven simulator to prepare its Apollo robotaxis for just such rare but high-stakes road hazards, as the firm looks to gain an edge in the fast-growing self-driving taxi

market. The system, Apollo...

• Praised as heroes, stung by criticism: firefighters torn over Tai Po blaze report (2026-11-04 00:30)

After spending 12 gruelling hours battling the Tai Po inferno, frontline firefighter Ah Fai* could not have imagined that, barely a year later, his department would find itself under the harsh glare of public scrutiny. The trauma of that night is still raw. He remembers burning debris from the bamboo scaffolding raining down from above, blocking one of the main entrances of Wang Fuk Court. “Our colleagues simply had no chance of getting in,” he said. Those who eventually breached the towers were...

• China training Solomon Islands police to use water cannons under security pact (2026-11-04 00:00)

China is helping to train Solomon Islands police to use water cannons as part of an ongoing security partnership that is viewed with scepticism by the West. The Chinese embassy said on Tuesday that six officers from the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force took part in a week-long training exercise, without giving dates. The programme helped familiarise officers with the use of crowd control vehicles and different scenarios in which they may be used, the embassy said. The programme cultivated a...

• Vietnam surpasses Indonesia on per-person GDP. Is Thailand next? (2026-11-04 00:00)

Vietnam’s average economic output per person is set to overtake Indonesia’s, according to the International Monetary Fund. Gross domestic product per capita, which provides a snapshot of a country’s standard of living, is projected to rise 8.9 per cent to US$5,259 in Vietnam this year – nearly double the figure a decade earlier and overtaking Indonesia’s US$5,153. This would also rank Vietnam fifth among members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, behind Singapore, Brunei, Malaysia...

• US midterms: what happened while Asia slept, and when to expect results (2026-11-03 23:57)

Polls began closing across the United States on Tuesday evening in midterm elections that will decide whether US President Donald Trump’s Republicans keep control of Congress, after a day of voting disrupted by floods and machine glitches but largely free of the problems many had feared. The first polls closed at 6pm Eastern Time (7am Hong Kong time), with most states following over the next several hours. The last state to close polls will be Alaska, at 1am Eastern Time (2pm Hong Kong time)....

• Trump says US close to trade deal with Canada, Carney says work remains (2026-11-03 23:42)

US President Donald Trump said on Tuesday the United States was close to making a trade deal with Canada, but Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney said work remained to be done

and that Washington had dropped some demands. “Canada is very good, we’re going tomake a deal with Canada very soon. We’re going to make a great deal,” Trump said in aninterview with Fox News. Canada and the US have slapped billions of dollars in tariffs on eachother in recent months. The imposition of tariffs on...

- Trump’s fate in balance as US midterm elections put House, Senate up for grabs (2026-11-03 23:00)

This live article is freely available to our registered users. Please log in or create an account. Unrivalled US-China relations analysis: get real-time updates and exclusive boots-on-the-ground reporting from our US and China bureaus. Subscribe now with great savings to stay ahead. Americans are awaiting the results of midterm elections that will determine control of Congress and shape the next two years of Donald Trump’s presidency, with consequences for US-China relations, global trade and...

- Spain’s transport minister resigns after train crash that killed 69 (2026-11-03 21:55)

Spain’s transport minister handed in his resignation on Tuesday following a train crash that killed 69 people last week, one of the worst railway disasters in Europe this century. Oscar Puente, who had earlier pledged to work “tirelessly” to restore confidence in the world’s second-largest high-speed rail network, also said he was withdrawing from the country’s coming general election. Last week’s crash, along with another disaster earlier this year, have overshadowed campaigning for the...

- China’s new nightmare: a Japanese containment arc in the Indo-Pacific (2026-11-03 21:30)

Just weeks after US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping invoked their countries’ World War II alliance at the White House, Keen Sword 27 turned symbolism into hardware. The 11-day exercise, which wrapped up on October 29, deployed US Marine NMESIS anti-ship launchers and MADIS air-defence systems to Yonaguni – Japan’s westernmost island, just 110km (70 miles) from Taiwan. Japan mobilised its new Type 25 missile, with a reported 1,000km range, from Kumamoto for the system’s...

- Greenland ratifies Trump deal despite questions about value (2026-11-03 19:24)

Greenland’s parliament on Tuesday ratified the Arctic island’s security agreement struck earlier this year with US President Donald Trump, although some opposition party members questioned the deal’s economic value. The US, Denmark and Greenland in September signed the agreement, aimed at ending tensions after Trump’s repeated threats to take control of the strategically located and mineral-rich island, a self-governing Danish territory. The deal expands the US military’s role in Greenland,...

- Fake bomb threats on flights and cruise ship cause travel disruption in Europe (2026-11-03 19:04)

At least seven flights and a cruise ship in Europe received bomb threats on Tuesday, causing disruption at airports although no devices were discovered. At least two flights to Warsaw, two to Sofia, two to Rome and one to Murcia airport in Spain were subjected to the threats on Tuesday, and another flight to Sofia had been threatened a day earlier. An airport in Warsaw was briefly shut, and the Italian Air Force accompanied one of the flights to Rome while an Israel-bound cruise ship was...

- China accuses Philippine politicians of 'intolerable' conduct as tensions rise (2026-11-03 18:42)

Amid continuously escalating tensions, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Tuesday accused a handful of Philippine politicians of "egregious, irrational and intolerable" conduct, urging Manila to rein in their anti-China rhetoric, state media reported. Wang made the remarks during a phone conversation with Philippine Foreign Minister Theresa Lazaro, as China-Philippines relations were currently facing what he described as "malicious interference", according to Xinhua. "Some Philippine...

- UK's King Charles calls slavery 'monstrous injustice', as PM mulls apology (2026-11-03 18:08)

King Charles called the transatlantic slave trade "a monstrous injustice" on Tuesday, opening a Commonwealth summit in which UK leader Andy Burnham is holding talks about apologising for Britain's role in slavery. The monarch told the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Antigua and Barbuda that slavery "still casts a shadow over these islands and other members" of the 56-nation group, many of which are former British colonies. "As I have said before, that shameful chapter of history is...

- Trump axes US$3.8b annual military aid for Israel: 'they no longer need it' (2026-11-03 15:33)

US President Donald Trump said on Tuesday that Washington was ending a 10-year security aid deal with Israel that allowed US$3.8 billion in annual aid to its ally until 2028. Trump said Israel was "fine" with him ending the aid, which began in 2019 and was signed under his predecessor, Barack Obama, three years earlier. "We'll help Israel if they need it," he added in an interview on US current affairs show Fox and Friends, saying that he had agreed with Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin...

- Indonesian police arrest 3 for tapping Prabowo's phone (2026-11-03 14:46)

Indonesian authorities have arrested three people for allegedly tapping President Prabowo Subianto's phone, according to police on Tuesday, with media reports suggesting one of the suspects may be a senior official. Prabowo, who took office in 2024, has come under increasing pressure for his government's handling of the economy and destructive wildfires in the Southeast Asian archipelago. Top detective Asep Safrudin identified the suspects only by their initials, LSP, ASN, and EH, and said they...

• Hong Kong BN(O) visa holders exempt from UK’s proposed 10-year settlement wait (2026-11-03 14:27)

Hongkongers moving to the United Kingdom under the British National (Overseas) visa scheme will be exempt from plans to double the qualifying period for settlement to 10 years, according to an official announcement. But they will still face stricter English-language requirements and tighter rules on criminal records, alongside existing conditions such as completing five years of continuous residence and passing the Life in the UK test. British Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood on Monday outlined...

• Spanish police open manslaughter inquiry after footballer dies from on-pitch clash (2026-11-03 14:20)

Spanish police have opened an investigation into possible involuntary manslaughter after a soccer player died following an on-field collision with the opposing team’s goalkeeper in a second-division match. Tenerife forward Jesus de Miguel died after he suffered cardiac arrest from the on-field collision, his club said on Tuesday. He was 30. De Miguel was challenging for the ball near midfield on Monday when he was struck in the chest by the onrushing Andorra goalkeeper Jesus Owono during added...

• Israel deepens Somaliland ties with first ambassador, testing Horn of Africa balance (2026-11-03 14:00)

Last week, Somaliland, a breakaway region that declared independence from Somalia in 1991, welcomed its first ambassador from Israel. Diplomat Michael Lotem presented his credentials in Hargeisa, while officials laid the cornerstone for an Israeli embassy. The ceremony, announced by Israel’s foreign ministry on Sunday, formalised a relationship that began with mutual recognition in December. Somalia, the African Union, Arab states and China strongly oppose the move, reaffirming Somaliland as...

• China’s AI ‘shock’, EU ‘kill switch’, Ukraine hope, Mbappe fiasco: 7 global relations reads (2026-11-03 14:00)

We have selected seven of the most interesting and important news stories covering global relations from the past few weeks. If you would like to see more of our reporting, please consider subscribing. 1. China warns EU not to ‘fantasise’ on trade approach after ‘kill switch’ threat Beijing warned Brussels not to “fantasise” that taking a hard line will force it into concessions, as the bloc confirmed plans for a gung-ho new “kill switch” that would allow Brussels to “immediately” kick China...

• Cuba flight, Taiwan trade pushback, Panama probe: 7 Latin America relations reads (2026-11-03 14:00)

We have selected seven of the most interesting and important news stories covering Latin American relations from the past few weeks. If you would like to see more of our reporting,

please consider subscribing. 1. Air China scrambles to fly stranded passengers out offuel-starved Cuba As a US oil embargo deepened Cuba's energy crisis, dozens of Air Chinapassengers found themselves stranded on the island. Read the full story here. 2. Paraguay techminister defies Beijing sanctions, vows to...

• Top Chinese general meets Russian defence minister days after Politburo appointment (2026-11-03 13:35)

Zhang Shengmin, China's most senior uniformed general, met Russian Defence Minister Andrey Belousov in Beijing on Tuesday in his first publicly reported meeting with a foreign official since he became a member of the Politburo. Zhang, the vice-chairman of China's Central Military Commission (CMC), pledged to deepen military cooperation and strategic coordination with Russia during the meeting at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse. He was elected to the Politburo last week at a key Communist Party...

• In Israel, Arab lawmakers key to unseating Netanyahu amid divided opposition (2026-11-03 13:32)

The Israeli opposition bloc led by Gadi Eisenkot pledged on Tuesday to form a government quickly to oust Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu but remained unclear on how, with divisions over whether to ally with Arab lawmakers. Meeting for the first time since an election a week ago brought an inconclusive result, the five opposition party heads consulted on strategy at a hotel in Herzliya, the tech industry hub north of Tel Aviv where former military chief Eisenkot lives. In a joint statement, the...

• Hong Kong set for first taste of autumn as a strong northeast monsoon approaches (2026-11-03 13:28)

Hong Kong could be in store for its first real taste of autumn early next week, with temperatures forecast to dip below 20 degrees Celsius (50 Fahrenheit) as a strong northeast monsoon approaches the Guangdong coast. The Hong Kong Observatory said the monsoon would bring windy conditions to the region over the weekend, with offshore areas and high ground expected to experience strong winds at times on Saturday. Temperatures across southern China were expected to fall between early and midweek...

• Indian navy frees hijacked Iranian fishing crew off Somalia (2026-11-03 13:12)

Indian naval forces freed an Iranian fishing boat and its crew of 20 hijacked off Somalia after an operation lasting more than 48 hours, India's Defence Ministry said on Tuesday. The rescue of the Azini was completed on Monday in the Arabian Sea, more than 3,000km (1,860 miles) from Mumbai, Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said. An official with the Puntland Maritime Police Force said Indian forces disarmed 12 suspected Somali pirates, confiscated their mobile phones and released them. He...

• Chinese court hears US$53.5 billion Covid defamation case against US state of Missouri (2026-11-03 13:00)

A Chinese court has begun hearings in a defamation case filed by authorities and institutes in Beijing and Wuhan against the US state of Missouri over accusations tied to Covid-19. In a notice on Monday, the Wuhan Intermediate People's Court said it held a hearing on Friday and legal proceedings were continuing. The case was jointly filed on April 30, 2025 by the Wuhan government in Hubei province, the Chinese Academy of Sciences and its subordinate entity, the Wuhan Institute of Virology (WIV),...

• German tourist missing in Indonesia's Bali after landslide amid rainy season (2026-11-03 12:35)

A German tourist was among two men still missing on Tuesday after a landslide struck a glamping resort on the island of Bali in Indonesia. Heavy rains on Sunday afternoon caused the landslide, which struck the Eco Park Pelaga Glamping Retreat in Petang district at around 11pm, The Bali Times reported. Three tents collapsed while a fourth fell into the Tukad Yeh Kilap River and was swept away by the currents. The 4-hectare (10-acre) property, which houses 25 tents, sits on a steep cliff beside...

• The new Canada is much like the old one (2026-11-03 12:30)

I came of age in Canada during the Pierre Trudeau years – the Trudeau whom Canadians actually respect – as a high school student from Hong Kong. Back then, Canadian politics meant deliberate independence from the United States. Some Canadians today, especially younger ones, seem amazed that Prime Minister Mark Carney, a Liberal like Trudeau, is charting foreign, defence and economic policies more independent of the US while moving closer to Europe. That is because they grew up in a US-led global...

• South Korea revokes Unification Church leader's bail after secret visits exposed (2026-11-03 12:24)

A South Korean court revoked the Unification Church leader's bail in a bribery case on Tuesday after footage emerged of her visiting the secretive movement's headquarters in breach of release conditions. Han Hak-ja, 83, was sentenced to two years in prison in August for providing luxury items, including a designer handbag, to former first lady Kim Keon-hee while her husband Yoon Suk-yeol was president, in an attempt to secure policy favours. She was granted bail two months later on health...

• Alibaba's Joe Tsai champions open-source AI at Wuzhen Summit amid US pushback (2026-11-03 12:00)

Open source is the only viable path to creating a sustainable artificial intelligence industry, Alibaba Group Holding chairman Joe Tsai said on Tuesday, as the Chinese technology giant doubles down on its open-source AI strategy. Speaking at the opening ceremony of the annual World Internet Conference Wuzhen Summit in eastern China's Zhejiang province, Tsai pointed

to a growing convergence around open ecosystems among domestic tech companies, assurging AI demand rubs up against persistent...

• China tests wave-piercing stealth trimaran as unconventional naval fleet grows (2026-11-03 12:00)

China appears to be testing a stealthy new trimaran at sea, according to a photograph circulating on social media, in what could be a further effort to develop unconventional naval platforms. The image first emerged on Weibo on Sunday and appears to show a vessel featuring an inverted wave-piercing bow, three-hull design and angular superstructure surfaces that could be intended to reduce its radar signature. The vessel, which is fitted with a prominent antenna mast and multiple dome-shaped...

• 5 Hong Kong universities in Asia's top 10, with 3 in top 5 after more than a decade (2026-11-03 12:00)

Five Hong Kong universities have been ranked among Asia's top 10, with three of them in the top five for the first time after more than a decade and the University of Hong Kong (HKU) retaining its No 1 spot, according to an annual UK survey. Meanwhile, three universities in mainland China were ranked in the top 10. Peking University held on to second place, Tsinghua University leapt from ninth to third and Fudan University dropped from fifth to sixth, giving the mainland two universities in the...

• Indonesia under mounting pressure to scrap VAT on sanitary pads amid rising living costs (2026-11-03 11:40)

The Indonesian government is facing mounting pressure to scrap the value-added tax (VAT) on sanitary pads and other menstrual hygiene products, with critics arguing it adds to the financial burden for women from low-income families already struggling to buy basic necessities. While the 11 per cent tax on such products is not new, the issue has gained traction amid public anger over rising living costs. Students took to the streets of Jakarta last week to protest against the government's handling...

• Why a midterm mauling for Trump will not bring Asia trade relief (2026-11-03 11:30)

Since returning to the White House in January last year, US President Donald Trump has upended the global trading order with his scattergun approach to tariffs and launched a war on Iran that sent oil prices soaring. On Tuesday, American voters hurting from nagging inflation and the high cost of living that have defined Trump's second term have the opportunity to deliver their verdict on his Republican Party in the midterm elections. Polls suggest that the Republicans, who currently control both...

• Mind-controlled drone-flying at Hong Kong's Being Human Festival among varied programme (2026-11-03 11:15)

Think you can steer a drone using nothing more than your own concentrated thoughts? It may sound like science fiction, but mind-controlled drone-flying is one of the free activities the public can take part in at the upcoming Being Human Festival in Hong Kong. Running from November 5 to 15, the festival is the first Hong Kong edition of the UK's national festival of the humanities, which was founded in 2014. Organised by the University of Hong Kong (HKU)'s Faculty of Arts under the theme...

- Beijing offers to boost China-Pakistan corridor safety as terror threat grows (2026-11-03 11:00)

China has pledged to work with Pakistan to advance "high-level security cooperation" and ensure the safety of a joint flagship infrastructure project that has become a target for terrorists. That was the message Liu Haixing, head of the Communist Party's International Department, conveyed in talks with Pakistan defence forces chief Asim Munir and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday, as part of his first official visit to the South Asian country since taking office just over a year ago. In...

- China-US AI investment gap narrower than figures suggest: report (2026-11-03 11:00)

The AI investment race between China and the US is closer than headline figures suggest, even though the technology is expected to make a greater contribution to economic growth in America, according to a Chinese think tank. The findings come as artificial intelligence becomes a focal point of technological competition between Beijing and Washington, with investment levels, computing power and the commercial applications of AI all under greater scrutiny. According to a report released recently...

- Journalists may need judicial review to access land records under new rules (2026-11-03 10:39)

Hong Kong journalists will have to rely on judicial review if the government refuses to provide land records in future, with authorities pledging to simplify applications and deliver records in as little as one to two working days. Officials made the pledge on Tuesday as lawmakers raised concerns over possible restrictions on media access during the first meeting of a Legislative Council subcommittee examining eight pieces of subsidiary legislation for the proposed land record search arrangement...

- Chinese University of Hong Kong to offer free AI dementia screening to 2,700 seniors (2026-11-03 10:37)

The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) will launch its first free, district-based dementia screening programme next year, using artificial intelligence (AI)-powered retinal imaging to detect early signs of cognitive decline in 2,700 older residents within two years. The programme will be implemented in Wong Tai Sin, which has one of the highest proportion of elderly residents among Hong Kong's 18 districts. Participants identified as being at risk will be paired with volunteers to receive...

• Spanish police dismantle Madrid housing protest camp ahead of snap election (2026-11-03 10:28)

Police on Tuesday dismantled a sprawling tent camp in Madrid which had spearheaded protests over Spain's housing crisis for more than a month and prompted early elections, police and activists said. Officers closed off much of the Spanish capital's emblematic Puerta del Sol square on Tuesday morning as municipal cleaning staff swept away remaining debris, tents and tarpaulin. The Madrid camp sprang up in September, after Spain's chronic housing crisis burst into the centre of public debate...

• Hong Kong homeowners prompt government rethink on proxy vote proposals (2026-11-03 10:04)

Hong Kong homeowners' pushback against proposals to limit proxy votes and restrict meeting attendance to relatives has prompted authorities to study alternatives to resolve estate management issues behind the deadly Tai Po fire. In a paper submitted to the Legislative Council on Tuesday, the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau revealed the findings of its month-long public consultation on amendments to the Building Management Ordinance, part of proposed reforms after the Wang Fuk Court fire that...

• Home-swapping holidays surge among China retirees to travel affordably, foster connections (2026-11-03 10:00)

A growing number of Chinese retirees are embracing home-swapping holidays, exchanging keys with strangers to travel on a budget and expand their social circles. The concept dates back to European teachers in the 1950s and gained global popularity through the 2006 film The Holiday. In China, it emerged among young people in 2023 amid soaring hotel prices. During China's National Day holiday in October, average per-person travel spending reportedly fell to about 894 yuan (US$135) per trip, a...

• China's HQ series intercepts 2 new missile types as PLA tests weapon platform (2026-11-03 10:00)

A People's Liberation Army air defence unit has for the first time intercepted two new types of missile simultaneously during a drill – including one that made a sudden change of direction, according to state television. The CCTV report on Monday said it was a rapid response operation by the ground-based Shenwei Missile Battalion – under the PLA Central Theatre Command Air Force – which is equipped with Hongqing surface-to-air missiles. It did not disclose the type of missiles intercepted or any...

• What is it? PNG says it's an artillery shell. China says it's a wine bottle (2026-11-03 09:59)

China's embassy in Papua New Guinea has disputed reports that a suspected Chinese-made artillery shell was found in a shipping container in Port Moresby, saying the object was instead a

shell-shaped wine bottle. The embassy said in a social media post on Tuesday it was awaitingthe official findings of an investigation by the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary (RPNGC). Itcited an on-site verification by a company involved in the case, which said the object was a winebottle. “It poses no...

- Mid-air helicopter collision on Nepal’s Everest kills Indian tourist (2026-11-03 09:52)

An Indian tourist was killed and a New Zealand national injured when two helicopters collided and crashed while attempting to land in Nepal’s Everest region on Tuesday, police said. There are few roads in the Himalayas, and helicopters are widely used to transport tourists, climbers and supplies, as well as carry out emergency evacuations. Nepal’s challenging terrain and rapidly changing weather make aviation operations particularly hazardous. The small helicopters operated by Fishtail Air and...

- Fake ‘students’ at Indonesia police rally raise questions over efforts to counter dissent (2026-11-03 09:21)

A rally organised by Jakarta police to promote national unity has instead raised questions about whether the Indonesian government is using public events to blunt dissent, with questions raised over the identities of some participants after one admitted in a television interview that he had been paid to attend while posing as a university student. The controversy has fuelled criticism of what analysts describe as an intensifying effort to drown out opposing voices, while drawing attention to the...

- Japanese voters yearn for ‘strong politician’ like Trump, but without his showmanship (2026-11-03 09:15)

A new public opinion poll released on the eve of the US midterm elections indicates that while few Japanese favour President Donald Trump’s policies, most say they wish Japan had a “strong” head of state who could make difficult decisions. Analysts suggest that while many Japanese believe a strong leader will stand up for the nation on the world stage and not shy away from bold policies, this does not mean they want someone with the bombast, showmanship and arrogance associated with...

- Hong Kong seeks to balance finance growth against cyber risks (2026-11-03 09:01)

Chinese Vice-Premier He Lifeng said that building Hong Kong “remains a key strategy for China” as he outlined four ways for the city to boost its long-term prospects and support the country’s development. The city should strengthen its role as a centre for international finance and the offshore yuan market, promote high-quality economic and social development, support technological innovation and align with China’s 15th five-year plan, he said in a video address to the Global Financial Leaders’...

- ‘At some point it’s going to be too much’: global financiers grapple with AI risks (2026-11-03 09:00)

The artificial intelligence boom is creating an unprecedented demand for capital and infrastructure, raising questions about whether debt markets, power grids and corporate productivity can keep pace with the technology’s expansion, executives of global asset management firms warned at a Hong Kong summit. Investment in AI infrastructure could reach US$10 trillion over the next five years, approaching the size of the US$12 trillion US bond market, said Emmanuel Roman, CEO of Pimco. “At some point...

• Hong Kong records 15th straight quarter of growth as GDP rises 5.2% (2026-11-03 08:59)

Hong Kong’s economy grew by 5.2 per cent year on year in the third quarter, marking its 15th consecutive quarter of expansion, while retail sales rose by 6.4 per cent in September. For the first three quarters combined, the economy expanded by 5.1 per cent, its fastest growth for the period in five years, advance estimates released by the Census and Statistics Department on Tuesday showed. This compared with increases of 4.2 per cent in the second quarter and 5.9 per cent in the first. On a...

• Singapore hit-and-run: organiser of fund for orphaned boy vows transparency (2026-11-03 08:50)

An organiser behind a fundraiser for a boy whose parents died in an alleged hit-and-run accident in Singapore has vowed transparency, thanking donors for their “overwhelming” kindness amid debate over the campaign’s authenticity. Farah Diyanah Razid, who identified herself as a family member of the victims on the crowdfunding platform Give.Asia, said all contributions collected through the drive were intended solely for the child’s welfare and future. The clarification came after social media...

• 2 Pakistani police officers guarding polio workers killed by suspected militants (2026-11-03 08:45)

Suspected militants riding a motorcycle shot and killed two police officers assigned to protect polio workers during a door-to-door vaccination campaign on Tuesday in northwestern Pakistan, officials said. The drive-by shooting in Mohmand, a district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province that borders Afghanistan, also wounded a third officer. The police officers were travelling to a nearby village to guard vaccination teams when they came under fire, police officer Ayaz Khan said. The attackers fled...

• How Hong Kong can turn 30,000 youth placements into lasting careers (2026-11-03 08:30)

Hong Kong will launch a 30,000-place youth employment and internship programme in the first quarter of 2027. Before applications open, the government should decide what it is buying: a temporary increase in headcount or a durable increase in professional capability. The distinction matters because the entry-level labour market is already changing. According to an annual survey by Baptist University, the starting-pay advantage of bachelor’s degree holders over sub-degree graduates narrowed by 17...

• China’s historic first space docking in 2011 – SCMP archive (2026-11-03 08:15)

This article was first published on November 4, 2011. China a step closer to building its own space station by Stephen Chen Encouraged by yesterday (November 3, 2011) morning’s historic rendezvous and docking of the Shenzhou VIII spacecraft, Chinese authorities said construction of a space station will begin as soon as 2013. “We will do two more rendezvous and docking flights next year,” said Wu Ping (武平), spokeswoman for the manned space programme, at a press conference in Beijing yesterday....

• Protests in Indonesia over haze; Malaysia’s 1MDB scandal lingers on: 7 Asia highlights (2026-11-03 08:15)

We have selected seven stories from the SCMP’s coverage of Asia over the past week that resonated with our readers and shed light on topical issues. If you would like to see more of our reporting, please consider subscribing. 1. Indonesia’s haze crisis becomes rallying point for student anger at Prabowo The protests, taking place in several spots around the capital, have been organised by student leaders from the University of Indonesia along with a coalition of student organisations from...

• Melaka election tests Malaysia’s fragile unity government as partners clash (2026-11-03 08:00)

Malaysia’s unity government is facing an increasingly uncomfortable test ahead of the Melaka state election, with parties governing together at the federal level reverting to old rivalries as they compete for votes in a contest that could foreshadow shifting alliances before a national poll due by February 2028. Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim’s ruling Pakatan Harapan (PH) coalition is under pressure to put on a strong showing against federal partners Umno, which is widely expected to retain power...

• Chinese drug iza-bren doubles lung cancer survival window in phase 3 trial (2026-11-03 08:00)

An anticancer drug developed by Sichuan Biokin Pharmaceutical took centre stage in a late-breaking oral presentation at the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) Congress in Madrid last week. Researchers said the drug, iza-bren, showed a significant advantage over platinum-based chemotherapy in a phase 3 randomised, double-blind clinical trial conducted at 73 hospitals in China and involving 432 patients with advanced lung cancer. The median progression-free survival (PFS) – the length of...

• Vice-Premier He Lifeng vows support for Hong Kong as international financial centre (2026-11-03 07:59)

Beijing says it will introduce extra measures, as needed, to bolster Hong Kong as an international financial centre, with Vice-Premier He Lifeng pledging continued support in a speech on Tuesday. Delivering a keynote speech at the opening of the 2026 Global Financial Leaders’ Investment Summit in Hong Kong via video link, He said finance was the most

important leg of the city’s “four centres and one highland” agenda and stressed that usingthe advantages of the “one country, two systems”...

• Hong Kong launches single check-in scheme for select mainland China flights (2026-11-03 07:57)

Travellers flying from Hangzhou or Wuhan to overseas destinations via Hong Kong on different airlines can have their baggage checked through to the final destination under a newly launched service that aims to streamline connections between mainland Chinese cities and other countries. Under the new one-stop service that launched on Tuesday, travellers departing from Hangzhou Xiaoshan International Airport or Wuhan Tianhe International Airport will not need to check in their baggage again when...

• Transport authorities demand answers after 4-hour parking meter outage (2026-11-03 07:36)

Hong Kong’s transport authorities have launched an investigation into a four-hour outage of the city’s parking meter system on Tuesday morning and ordered operator HKT to submit a report. The Transport Department said Hong Kong Telecommunications had notified it at about 8.20am that the system was out of service and urgent repairs were under way. Shortly after noon, the department said the system had resumed normal operation following repairs. “The Transport Department will continue to urge the...

• China moves to simplify forex settlements, ease cross-border business (2026-11-03 07:00)

China plans to expand foreign exchange settlement services and streamline cross-border trade payments, in a move to lower transaction costs and facilitate international commerce. The State Administration of Foreign Exchange (Safe) on Monday released a draft notice for public consultation outlining nine measures to facilitate current-account foreign exchange transactions. The proposals aimed to “broaden the applicable scenarios, scope and types of services” and “further reduce businesses’ fund...

• Outrage in Philippines as pet remains found dumped in sacks on vacant plot (2026-11-03 06:53)

The discovery of dozens of pet remains dumped in sacks along a roadside in the Philippines has sparked public outrage and raised questions over whether the country’s animal welfare laws adequately protect pets after death. A pet crematorium in Bacoor, Cavite province – nearly three hours’ drive from the dumping ground in neighbouring Bulacan province – has been ordered to shut following complaints from pet owners, as police investigate allegations that the business improperly disposed of animals...

• China’s ‘Lipstick King’ hawks tokens as AI gets mass-market Singles’ Day push (2026-11-03 06:30)

China's "Lipstick King" has traded make-up swatches for artificial intelligence. Top live-streamer Li Jiaqi on Monday evening teamed up with an executive from Alibaba Group Holding to pitch AI subscriptions, selling nearly 100,000 monthly packages in just 30 minutes, according to data provided by the e-commerce giant. The broadcast on Taobao and Tmall – Alibaba's largest domestic online marketplace – marked the first time generative AI products have taken centre stage during the annual Singles' ...

• Singapore eyes regional haze control centre in Indonesia as Asean chair (2026-11-03 06:08)

Singapore will work with Asean member states to strengthen the implementation of an agreement on transboundary haze when it chairs the regional bloc next year, the country's environment minister said on Tuesday. It will also work with the bloc to establish the Asean Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution Control in Indonesia, said Minister for Sustainability and the Environment Grace Fu. In response to questions in parliament, Fu said the coordinating centre will strengthen...

• 2½ years' jail for Hong Kong district councillor who had sex with 13-year-old girl in 2011 (2026-11-03 05:46)

A Hong Kong district councillor has been sentenced to two years and six months in jail for having unlawful sex with a 13-year-old girl 15 years ago, with a judge noting he had shown no remorse towards a victim he claimed to have loved. District Court Judge Stanley Chan Kwong-chi on Tuesday noted that Sei Chun-hing, a 39-year-old Yuen Long District Council member, was aware of the "red line" of sex with a minor when they started dating in October 2010. At the time, she was 13 and Sei 23. Chan...

• Malaysia's halal chicken scandal exposes hygiene breaches at filthy plant (2026-11-03 04:40)

Malaysia's halal safeguards are under scrutiny after filthy conditions and suspected slaughtering breaches at a chicken plant sparked demands to explain how it ignored warnings and operated for years without certification. The hygiene failures at the Puchong facility came to light after authorities seized more than 6.5 tonnes of chicken during a raid last week. The factory, which processes more than 40,000 chickens daily and supplies businesses across the Klang Valley in Kuala Lumpur, is accused...

• US strikes Iran's Qeshm Island ahead of midterms as Trump says deal 'could happen' (2026-11-03 04:39)

The United States has attacked an Iranian island in the Strait of Hormuz, the latest in a series of covert, limited strikes ahead of the US midterm elections, as President Donald Trump signalled progress in talks with Tehran. Iran's Qeshm Island was struck on Monday, The Wall Street Journal reported, citing US officials, some of whom framed the strikes as defensive and aimed at deterring Tehran's attacks on commercial ships in the critical chokepoint. Iranian media reported that five blasts were...

• Beijing removes Hong Kong housing chief Winnie Ho after Tai Po fire resignation (2026-11-03 04:19)

Beijing has formally removed Hong Kong's housing chief, Winnie Ho Wing-yin, from her post, after she resigned last week to take political responsibility for the deadly Tai Po fire. According to the state-run Xinhua News Agency, the State Council removed Ho from office on Tuesday on the recommendation of Chief Executive John Lee Ka-chiu. The announcement gave no reason for the decision and did not name a successor. In a government statement, Lee said Ho had indicated she would "shoulder the...

• Xi Jinping meets foreign leaders: tracker, October 2026 (2026-11-03 04:19)

Chinese President Xi Jinping met four foreign leaders in October – two each from Africa and Europe – with the month dominated by the Communist Party Central Committee's fifth plenum. The pace will probably pick up in November. Xi has already met Oman's Sultan Haitham bin Tariq, and he will host an Apec summit on November 18–19. The Shenzhen event will probably feature talks with US President Donald Trump, Russian President Vladimir Putin and other regional leaders.

• 'Speak last': China's fifth plenum moves to rein in party leaders (2026-11-03 03:59)

A key document endorsed by the Communist Party proposed stronger oversight of principal leaders below the central level, barring them from demanding personal allegiance from their leadership teams – a demand that is only for the top leaders. The proposal is part of a 17,000-word resolution approved at the fifth plenum of the 20th Central Committee, the full text of which was published by state news agency Xinhua on Sunday. The four-day plenum last week emphasised internal governance, discipline...

• New York state reports first measles-linked death in over 30 years (2026-11-03 03:55)

The New York State Department of Health said on Monday that a child in Lewis County had died in connection with an ongoing measles outbreak, marking the state's first known measles-associated death in more than 30 years. Last month, Governor Kathy Hochul declared a State Disaster Emergency in response to the measles outbreak across areas of New York and neighbouring states. "The Department has offered resources to Lewis County to assist with community outreach and support local vaccination...

• Tokenised gold bar to advance Hong Kong's ambitions as digital, metal trading hub (2026-11-03 03:54)

Hong Kong's plan to start an interbank tokenised gold transaction project marks a crucial step in its quest to make itself a key global hub for the precious metal, according to analysts. The city planned to launch a gold token representing a standard 400-ounce gold bar, referencing HAU, Hong Kong's ticker for gold prices launched earlier this year, said Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury Christopher Hui Ching-yu during the annual Fintech Week event on

Monday. He said the effort...

• Hong Kong will ‘rethink playbook’, offer stability amid global shifts: John Lee (2026-11-03 03:31)

Hong Kong is rewriting its economic playbook amid intensifying geopolitical tensions and the rapid advancement of artificial intelligence (AI), and is pivoting towards commodity trading, fintech and green finance, the city’s leader has said, while pledging to provide stability for investors. Addressing the annual Global Financial Leaders’ Investment Summit on Tuesday, Chief Executive John Lee Ka-chiu also said the city’s first five-year plan was a long-term road map that provided market...

• South Korea rushes to reissue passports to President Lee, wife after data leak (2026-11-03 03:00)

South Korea’s foreign ministry said on Tuesday it was taking steps to reissue passports for all 168 people affected by an online leak of sensitive personal information, including President Lee Jae Myung and first lady Kim Hea-kyung, as police investigate how the data was exposed. “The foreign ministry is swiftly taking measures to ensure the smooth reissuance of passports for all affected individuals, including the president and first lady,” ministry spokesman Park Doo-soon said during a...

• Man, 61, arrested for allegedly spiking drink of Japanese DJ at Hong Kong nightclub (2026-11-03 02:53)

A 61-year-old Hong Kong man has been arrested for allegedly spiking the drink of Japanese disc jockey Mao Hamasaki at a Tsim Sha Tsui nightclub over the weekend, leaving her in intensive care. The police on Tuesday said that after investigations by the Yau Tsim crime squad, officers arrested the suspect in Central on Monday in relation to an alleged drugging attempt at PP Club on Mody Road the previous day. The man has been detained and is being investigated for allegedly administering poison...

• Learjet may have broken up before crashing in Florida, investigators say (2026-11-03 02:46)

The National Transportation Safety Board said on Monday a Learjet 60 that crashed on Sunday in a residential area in Palm Beach County, Florida, killing all nine people on board, may have broken up before hitting the ground at high speed. The private Bombardier-made jet had taken off from Austin, Texas, and was headed to the Bahamas. Heavy rainfall and thunderstorms were occurring in the area where it went down. Nasa Administrator Jared Isaacman, posting on X, highlighted the harrowing...

• Chinese delivery driver divorces American teacher he married 4 months after love confession (2026-11-03 02:00)

A food delivery driver from northeastern China, whose whirlwind marriage to an American teacher captivated social media, has announced their divorce. Liu Hao, 28, from Liaoning province, met Hannah Harris, 31, an English teacher from Alabama, in November 2024 after delivering food to her flat. Charmed by Liu, who greeted her in the lift with the simple English phrase “Hello, I love you,” Harris soon bonded with him over their shared love of food, sport and pets. The relationship progressed...

• Is Sara Duterte’s impeachment case being sped up due to Filipinos’ ‘growing impatience’? (2026-11-03 02:00)

The impeachment trial of Philippine Vice-President Sara Duterte-Carpio may soon draw to a close after the prosecution decided to drop several of her charges, a move that legal experts have said is intended to speed up the trial and secure a conviction by focusing on the strongest evidence against her. Beyond the trial, the decision could have significant political implications for the 2028 presidential race, with a swift verdict potentially removing a strong candidate, according to analysts. On...

• Hong Kong’s malls must evolve into green sanctuaries to stay relevant (2026-11-03 01:30)

Retail is making a comeback in Hong Kong. Deloitte China reported an encouraging HK$203 billion (US$25.9 billion) in sales volume in the first half of 2026, beating expectations. Accordingly, they forecast the retail market to reach HK$412 billion by the end of this year. A retail revival should directly translate into reduced vacancies for the city’s bricks-and-mortar stores. However, while high street vacancies dropped to 9.1 per cent, the lowest since 2020, vacancies in prime shopping centres...

• Australia jails Singaporean tourist for fatally driving over man who stole backpack (2026-11-03 01:20)

A 29-year-old Singaporean man was sentenced to five years and nine months’ jail in Australia on Monday after he killed a man who stole a backpack from his rental car. Lincoln Ng Jing Kai chased the man in a car and knocked him off his e-bike before driving over him. He was originally charged with murder, but pleaded guilty to manslaughter in August after prosecutors agreed to accept the lesser charge. Sentencing him, Judge Terence Palmer said Ng’s actions “involved an element of taking the law...

• China’s Communist Party plenum targets passive ‘nice’ guys in anti-corruption push (2026-11-03 01:00)

China’s ruling Communist Party has pledged to target “old nice persons” within its ranks as it steps up its anti-corruption drive ahead of a major leadership reshuffle next year. Rendered in Chinese as lao hao ren, the term refers to unprincipled, conflict-averse officials who turn a blind eye to misconduct to protect their own careers and social standing. A resolution adopted at the close of the party’s 20th Central Committee’s fifth plenum last week signalled a crackdown on this culture of...

• First Northern Metropolis Marathon trips up as runners hit out at poor arrangements (2026-11-03 00:30)

Water shortages, gruelling course conditions and a lengthy post-race walk marred Hong Kong's inaugural Northern Metropolis Marathon on Sunday, participants have said, prompting calls for organisers to overhaul arrangements if the event is to return. As the city seeks to establish itself as a premier hub for mega-events, experts warned the problems went beyond teething issues. They urged organisers to ensure they had the professional expertise required to host similar events in future. Organised...

• OpenAI executive urges caution in China-US AI talks, warns of distillation threats (2026-11-03 00:03)

A top OpenAI executive said on Monday that Washington needs to be "clear-eyed" and "aware" about sharing information with Beijing during coming talks on artificial intelligence (AI), while also warning about the threat posed by alleged Chinese distillation attacks. "Be very clear-eyed. Be very aware of what information you are able to expect in return for what you are sharing, and start to build a foundation," said Caroline Zier, OpenAI's deputy lead for national security, during a discussion at...

• North Korea's low-cost drone push exposes South Korea's red tape trap (2026-11-03 00:00)

North Korea is rapidly advancing its drone warfare capabilities by drawing lessons from the Russia-Ukraine war, even as South Korea's efforts to keep pace remain bogged down by procurement delays and bureaucratic red tape, observers warn. They also caution that cryptocurrency theft has become a crucial source of funding for Pyongyang's weapons programmes, following US Federal Bureau of Investigation allegations that North Korean state-backed hackers stole more than US$6 billion from Binance, the...

• As sales slow, carmakers in China turn to overt marketing tactics and face controversy (2026-11-03 00:00)

Chinese carmakers' marketing tactics are under the spotlight after a controversy surrounding a comment by an Xpeng employee drew harsh criticism from middle-aged consumers. The incident comes as regulators step up quality checks on the reliability of automotive companies, according to industry officials and analysts. During a live-streamed new model launch ceremony on October 15, an Xpeng product manager used the term "Lao Deng" – a slang term referring to middle-aged people who appear to be...

• US midterm elections 2026: all you need to know (2026-11-03 00:00)

Americans go to the polls on Tuesday, November 3, in midterm elections that could reshape the final two years of Donald Trump's second term as president. Control of both chambers of Congress is in play, along with 36 governorships. Polls suggest Democrats go into the vote with

an advantage, but the outcome will hinge on a few dozen closely fought races. More than 100million people are expected to vote if turnout matches the 2022 midterms. By October 12, arecord US$3.8 billion had been spent on...

- Sister of North Korea's Kim slams FBI's Binance hack allegations as 'grave' provocation (2026-11-02 23:40)

North Korea on Tuesday slammed the FBI's allegations that Pyongyang was behind the theft of US$6 billion from cryptocurrency platform Binance, with Kim Jong-un's powerful sister labelling it a "grave political provocation". Kim Yo-jong, in a statement released on Tuesday by the KCNA state news agency, said the FBI's claim was "absurd rhetoric and nothing new", given earlier US allegations that North Korea was behind last year's major hack of Bybit. "It is a grave political provocation against...

- Trump's approval rating is near a career low ahead of elections, poll finds (2026-11-02 23:11)

US President Donald Trump's approval rating held near a career low as a broad swathe of the US electorate saw their vote in Tuesday's congressional midterm elections as a way to oppose the Republican president, according to a Reuters/Ipsos poll completed on Monday. The poll results underscore Republican vulnerabilities brought on by a surge in fuel prices since Trump launched a war on Iran in February. Voters in the nationwide poll said they preferred Democrats over Republicans - 46 per cent to...

- Netanyahu is pressing Trump to attack Iran after US midterm elections, officials say (2026-11-02 22:16)

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is pushing for another wave of strikes on Iran after Tuesday's midterm elections in the United States, according to two regional officials and a third person familiar with the matter. A return to full-scale war with Iran could help Netanyahu to form an emergency government after he and his far-right allies lost their parliamentary majority in last week's elections. US President Donald Trump has alternated between threatening major strikes while pushing...

- Will 'strategic stability' with China go out the window if Trump loses the midterms? (2026-11-02 22:00)

US President Donald Trump is likely to continue on a path of trying to stabilise ties with Beijing – even if the Democrats flip the House of Representatives, according to analysts. But they said if the Republicans lost control of the House in this week's midterm elections, the framework of "strategic stability" agreed to by Washington and Beijing could be put to the test. One Chinese academic warned that other Republicans could pose the biggest risk to Sino-American ties in Trump's final two...

• US judge dismisses Trump administration's Harvard race data admissions case (2026-11-02 21:49)

A federal judge on Monday dismissed a lawsuit by US President Donald Trump's administration seeking to force Harvard University to turn over records for an investigation into whether it continues to consider race in its student admissions process. US District Judge Myong Joun in Boston rejected the US Department of Justice's lawsuit, which Harvard contends was filed as part of a broader campaign by the Republican president's administration against the Ivy League school. The judge stressed that...

• Long delays for Hong Kong court cases demand urgent action (2026-11-02 21:30)

Justice delayed, it is often said, is justice denied. If that is true, many court users in Hong Kong are being failed by the system. Those involved in criminal cases at the Court of First Instance must wait 358 days on average for the hearing, the judiciary revealed last week. The figure for the District Court is 354 days, way above the court's 100-day target. This is a cause of concern. The glacial process has prompted the Law Society to call for drastic measures. Justin Yuen Hoi-ying, chairman...

• US midterm elections: Trump ends campaign, calls Democrats 'most dangerous ever' (2026-11-02 21:29)

US President Donald Trump ended the midterm campaign season on Monday by calling the Democratic Party's candidates the "most extreme and dangerous" in American history, the day before voters decide which party controls Congress. Speaking at the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool in Washington, which reopened after a renovation by his administration, Trump called the elections "the most important midterm, I believe, in our lifetime". "These are the most dangerous candidates ever put up," he...

• As AI solves maths puzzles faster than humans, mathematicians face uncertain future (2026-11-02 20:31)

Artificial intelligence (AI) is now solving maths puzzles that have long stumped humans, prompting mathematicians around the world, including in China, to ponder not only whether machines will replace them, but also what achievement and research in their field will mean in the future. In early October, OpenAI released manuscripts showing progress on 372 categories of mathematical problems, including many which have long defied solutions. This week, the American AI firm announced three further...

• Lindsay Clancy back in court in bid to dismiss charges she killed her 3 young children (2026-11-02 20:14)

Lindsay Clancy returned to court on Monday in a bid to dismiss the charges that she murdered her three young children. The hearing on Monday was the second time the Massachusetts mother has been in court since her trial ended with a deadlocked jury in September after jurors were unable to agree on a verdict. Its focus was a motion from the defence to dismiss the

charges on double jeopardy grounds. The proceedings grew heated as defence lawyer KevinReddington urged the judge to investigate the...

• Russia bombs aid centre and shelter in southern Ukraine, killing 24, authorities say (2026-11-02 19:06)

At least 24 people have been killed in a Russian air strike in Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia region, civil defence authorities said on Monday. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky wrote on social media that another five people were injured in the attack on a school distributing humanitarian aid in Komyshuvakha. Zelensky described the strike as an "utterly horrific Russian attack", saying the settlement had been hit several times by aerial bombs over the course of the day. Zelensky said Russia had...

• UK exempts carers from plan to impose long delays on migrants seeking residence (2026-11-02 18:21)

Britain watered down plans on Monday to impose long delays on immigrants seeking to receive permanent residence, announcing exemptions for hundreds of thousands of care workers to defuse a political outcry within the governing Labour Party. The government had announced plans last year to require lower-skilled workers to wait 10 to 15 years to receive permanent residence, up from five years previously. But under the plans unveiled on Monday, it said hundreds of thousands of workers in the care...

• Trump administration asks Supreme Court to set aside 20,000 disputed California ballots (2026-11-02 17:57)

On the eve of the US midterm elections, the Trump administration asked the Supreme Court on Monday to temporarily block California from counting mail-in ballots from more than 20,000 registered voters who federal officials allege are probably non-US citizens. Escalating a legal fight that could affect thousands of voters, the Justice Department filed the emergency request as it seeks to prevent counting the disputed ballots until each voter's citizenship status can be verified. A federal appeal...

• Martha Stewart sorry for 'insensitive' homeless Halloween costume post on social media (2026-11-02 17:03)

American lifestyle guru Martha Stewart has apologised for an "insensitive and not funny" Halloween costume after she appeared to dress up as a homeless person. "It's hard to admit when you've really screwed up," the billionaire, 85, wrote on Instagram after she deleted a photo of herself in ripped jeans, a torn jumper and a dirtied face. Stewart also held a clipboard that read "I Am Hungry Help Me!!" Social media users quickly slammed her as out of touch. "I know many people are suffering...

• Mother, 72, on trial in France over 1980s torture killing of 4-year-old daughter (2026-11-02 16:33)

A 72-year-old woman on Monday went on trial in France accused of torturing her four-year-old daughter to death in the 1980s, after a DNA match reopened the cold case. The main defendant walked briskly, head dropped and face hidden with a scarf, as she left the courtroom in the town of Blois at lunchtime, pursued by child rights activists crying “shame” and calling for justice. Her husband, a 74-year-old from whom she is now separated, earlier struggled up the courthouse’s steps with a cane,...

• US Postal Service in sprint to deliver millions of ballots by Tuesday (2026-11-02 15:59)

From longer hours and extra staffing to special lines in its branches, the US Postal Service (USPS) is taking an array of special actions to make sure mail-in ballots for the midterm elections are counted on Tuesday. This year more than ever, the pressure is on the USPS to deliver. President Donald Trump ordered the agency to write rules that would bar it from delivering ballots if the states did not agree to turn over lists of eligible voters and some voters have expressed concern about...

• Northern Metropolis land clearance linked to surge in stray animals, study finds (2026-11-02 15:24)

Over 40 per cent of stray animals taken in by shelters in Hong Kong in the first half of the year came from the Northern Metropolis development area, a study has found, with volunteers warning that more than 1,000 face abandonment as land resumption accelerates. The Animal Welfare Advocacy Alliance, which released the findings on Monday, called for a review of euthanasia policies, the relaunch of a “trap-neuter-resettlement” programme, and the introduction of a positive duty of care for...

• Belgian government on the brink after budget talks collapse (2026-11-02 15:09)

Belgium’s King Philippe sought on Monday to defuse a political crisis after overnight budget talks collapsed, prompting Prime Minister Bart De Wever to offer his resignation. De Wever tendered his resignation during a 90-minute meeting with the king on Monday morning after coalition parties failed to break months of deadlock over next year’s budget. The Royal Palace said the king would consider De Wever’s offer but would also consult the leaders of the other coalition parties from Tuesday. “In...

• How Xi Jinping and Communist Party elders shaped key plenum document addressing wrongdoing (2026-11-02 15:00)

Retired cadres were consulted during the eight-month drafting of a landmark document on building China’s Communist Party endorsed at a major political meeting in Beijing last week, according to state media. A detailed account published by Xinhua on Monday gave a behind-the-scenes look into how the 20th Central Committee finalised its resolution on “persevering with full and rigorous party self-governance”, adopted at the fifth plenum, which ended on Thursday. The 17,000-Chinese character,...

• Japan weighs US$500 billion defence spending plan: sources (2026-11-02 14:45)

Japan's government and ruling coalition are considering nearly doubling defence spending over the next five years as part of Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's push to strengthen the country's military capabilities, according to two people familiar with the matter. If adopted, defence build-up spending for the five years from April 2027 would be set at 70 trillion to 80 trillion yen (US$457 billion to US$508 billion), up about 1.8 times from the roughly 43 trillion yen allocated under the...

• Supermarket fridges in Europe hit by new cyberattack: 'everything is destroyed' (2026-11-02 14:18)

A hacking attack on European supermarkets spread across the continent on Monday, hitting fridges and freezers from Sweden to Belgium and forcing stores to throw away food in an incident that echoed a similar attack in France last month. The attack, which raised temperatures in refrigerator and freezer units at dozens of stores, hit supermarket groups Ahold Delhaize and Colruyt in Belgium and Luxembourg, as well as Swedish grocers ICA and Coop. Furniture-to-meatballs retailer Ikea also saw at...

• Legal body's new Hong Kong office targets developing Southeast Asian economies (2026-11-02 14:02)

An international legal body's new regional office in Hong Kong aims to help developing Southeast Asian economies and promote the wider use of uniform commercial law across the Asia-Pacific, its secretary general has said. Ignacio Tirado, secretary general of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (Unidroit), said its new Asia-Pacific Liaison Office was receiving financial support from the Hong Kong government and seeking additional sponsors. He was speaking after the...

• Echoes of Rome in ancient China? What Beijing's 1,800-year-old ship find reveals (2026-11-02 14:00)

Three ancient wooden boats unearthed in Beijing and dating back about 1,800 years offer new evidence of shipbuilding technology and cultural exchanges between ancient China and the rest of the world, according to researchers. The researchers unveiled details of "the first physical evidence of ancient inland water transport" in the Chinese capital at the closing ceremony of the 2026 Beijing Public Archaeology Season on Saturday, according to an official social media account of the Beijing...

• 'Queen of the Chinese', drone war fears, cancer drug on sale: 7 US-China relations reads (2026-11-02 14:00)

We have selected seven of the most interesting and important news stories covering US-China relations from the past few weeks. If you would like to see more of our reporting, please consider subscribing. 1. The 'Queen of the Chinese' and a forgotten history on the US-Mexico border Interest in the history of the Chinese community in the Lone Star State is

growing. “There’s a real resurrection in understanding the influence of the Chinese inTexas,” Linda Chew, a retired judge in the US state’s...

• Asean seeks to sign FTA with EU. Can Singapore help resolve the Myanmar hurdle? (2026-11-02 13:30)

Singapore is pitching itself as a bridge between the European Union (EU) and Asean, as the two blocs continue their protracted discussions to seal a free trade agreement (FTA). However, Myanmar’s political uncertainty is a major hurdle towards an EU-Asean FTA, and Singapore will have to play a key role to break the deadlock when it assumes the chairmanship of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations next year, according to an analyst. At a joint press conference with German Chancellor...

• China’s EDA champion buys start-up to address weak link, support Huawei’s Tau Scaling Law (2026-11-02 13:30)

Empyrean Technology, China’s top provider of electronic design automation (EDA) tools, plans to acquire a majority stake in a domestic start-up, reinforcing Beijing’s drive for tech self-sufficiency and bolstering support for Huawei Technologies’ semiconductor ambitions. The Beijing-based firm said in a Shenzhen Stock Exchange filing on Sunday that it would acquire a 50.38 per cent stake in Easy-Logic Technology for 218.8 million yuan (US$33 million). Once completed, the start-up would be...

• Blogger may have revealed how many Z-10ME helicopters Pakistan bought from China (2026-11-02 13:05)

Pakistan’s contract to buy Chinese Z-10ME attack helicopters covers 30 airframes, according to an image circulating on Chinese social media. The image was shared by a prominent military blogger on Sunday and marks the first time a concrete number for Pakistan’s fleet of the helicopters has surfaced since Islamabad officially inducted them into service in August last year. In the post, the blogger known as Sashoujian said that on July 11 China National Aero-Technology Import and Export...

• China’s fifth plenum: cadre promotion rules overhauled, focusing on problem-solving (2026-11-02 13:00)

China’s ruling Communist Party has overhauled its personnel process in its search for clean and battle-tested cadres ahead of next year’s major leadership reshuffle. New rules were included in a resolution adopted at the 20th Central Committee’s fifth plenum last Thursday and published by state news agency Xinhua on Sunday. Analysts said that as provincial and ministerial reshuffles begin ahead of the 21st party congress, the fifth plenum sent a clear message: Beijing wants proven crisis...

• 3 former Hong Kong leaders head funeral committee for educator Ng Hon-mun (2026-11-02 12:54)

Funeral proceedings for Ng Hon-mun, an influential pro-Beijing educator and long-serving Hong Kong deputy to the National People's Congress (NPC), will begin on Wednesday, with three former city leaders heading the funeral committee. Ng died peacefully on October 18, aged 100. His wake will be held at Hong Kong Funeral Home in North Point from 5pm on Wednesday, followed by a memorial gathering at 7pm. A public memorial service will take place at 10am on Thursday, according to an obituary seen by...

- Ex-boyfriend planned to kill yoga instructor, Hong Kong murder trial hears (2026-11-02 12:50)

A 23-year-old yoga instructor was found dead floating in a blood-filled bathtub in a luxury Hong Kong hotel room after sustaining more than 40 wounds, a court heard on the opening day of her former boyfriend's murder trial. Prosecutors told a High Court jury on Monday that the accused, Alex Lo Chun-ming, planned to kill his ex-girlfriend Chow Wai-yin with a sharp knife at the Ritz-Carlton hotel in West Kowloon on June 29 and 30, 2022. Chow, known as "Aqua", was popular on social media and had...

- Laos banks on wind energy to power renewables push (2026-11-02 12:35)

Rising from verdant ridge lines of southern Laos, 133 Chinese-built wind turbines help power Vietnam's surging growth and represent part of a regional rush to diversify energy sources. "The view is beautiful. They're bigger than trees," 23-year-old Toukta Phonsala said inside her wooden stilt house in Dak Wai village, her baby bouncing on her lap. Hydroelectric dams have proliferated across Southeast Asia in recent years, but production drops off in the dry season and critics lament the...

- Finland and Norway's call to Putin tests European unity over Russia (2026-11-02 12:30)

When Finnish President Alexander Stubb and Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store called Russian President Vladimir Putin on October 27, they took an unusual diplomatic step at a time when direct high-level contact between European governments and Moscow has been limited. The call, initiated by the two Nordic leaders ahead of renewed peace negotiations, also drew criticism from Denmark over the lack of broader European coordination. The call did not signal a change in Finland or Norway's...

- Raising the bar: Taiwan trims draft exemptions to add thousands to armed forces (2026-11-02 12:19)

Taiwan is tightening its military service exemption rules in a sweeping overhaul expected to halve the exemption rate and add thousands of conscripts to the armed forces each year as the island grapples with persistent manpower shortages. Under the revised standards, which took effect last week, men will generally be exempt on weight grounds only if their body mass index (BMI) exceeds 45, while the height threshold for exemption has been lowered to 144cm (4.7 feet). Rules covering hypertension...

• As UN peacekeeping mission in Western Sahara ends, refugees cling to hopes of return (2026-11-02 12:15)

At 51, Binina Mohamed is as old as the conflict that drove her from the Western Sahara region into a refugee camp in southern Algeria, where she has spent her life among tens of thousands of others facing a similar fate. The confrontation over her native land, often described as Africa's longest-running territorial dispute, was brought back into focus this weekend by a UN Security Council row that led to the end of a decades-old peacekeeping mission there. The Western Sahara conflict pits...

• HKEX extends overnight derivatives trading as Hong Kong chases global market flow (2026-11-02 12:12)

Bourse operator Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing (HKEX) is taking a further step towards round-the-clock trading by pushing back the closing bell for its after-hours derivatives market by 75 minutes from next year, according to a statement released on Monday. The derivatives After-Hours Trading (AHT) session would extend to 4.15am from 3am, Hong Kong time, starting in March 2027, subject to regulatory approval and system readiness, according to HKEX. It added it was also considering a further...

• Hong Kong's first national security law convict among 4 released early, sources say (2026-11-02 11:52)

The first person convicted in Hong Kong under the Beijing-imposed national security law and three others jailed in related high-profile cases have been released early, the South China Morning Post has learned. Sources said Tong Ying-kit, who was sentenced in July 2021 to nine years in prison for inciting secession and engaging in terrorist activities, had been granted early release. The news emerged three years after Tong expressed regret in an official television documentary produced by the...

• Talks are the only way out, China tells Iran as US threat hangs over Middle East (2026-11-02 11:45)

China's top diplomat has again stressed the need for a political settlement to strife in the Middle East, telling a senior Iranian official in Beijing on Monday that armed conflict was not the way out. "As conflicts in the Middle East drag on and risk further spillover, dialogue and negotiation remain the only viable path forward," Wang Yi told Ali Bagheri Kani, deputy secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council. "All parties should ⋯ focus on a political settlement in a rational and...

• Meta says it met Hong Kong privacy watchdog over AI-enabled glasses concerns (2026-11-02 11:39)

Meta Platforms has confirmed it discussed privacy concerns surrounding smart glasses with Hong Kong's privacy watchdog, as the US tech giant's AI-enabled eyewear goes on sale in the city amid mounting international scrutiny. The company briefed Hong Kong media on Monday,

days after the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCPD) warned that smartglasses could enable covert recording, excessive collection of personal data, and the processingof sensitive information through...

• China's CXMT defends bet on risky new DRAM architecture to circumvent US chip curbs (2026-11-02 11:30)

Chinese memory chip giant ChangXin Memory Technologies (CXMT) is pressing ahead with an alternative chip architecture that US rival Micron Technology has chosen to bypass, highlighting an industry divide over how best to pack more data onto silicon under cost and geopolitical constraints. The Hefei-based company planned to send customers samples of its first server-grade dynamic random-access memory (DRAM) product built on the $4F^2$ architecture by the end of this year, according to a summary of...

• French school protests resume on smaller scale as holidays end (2026-11-02 11:13)

French student protests resumed on Monday on a much smaller scale than in past weeks as pupils returned from a two-week break, with youngsters trying to blockade a few high schools in Paris, Marseille and Rennes, French media reported. By 0830 GMT some 41 high schools – about 1 per cent of those nationwide – were blockaded, the Education Ministry said. Hundreds of France's more than 3,000 high schools were blockaded in the weeks before the break. The protests, which began in the Paris suburbs...

• Japan launches new national agency to boost disaster response (2026-11-02 10:47)

Japan on Monday launched a new national agency focused on disaster management with the goal of making the country better prepared should there be a megaquake along the Pacific coast or in Tokyo, or an eruption of Mount Fuji. More than 350 workers at the National Disaster Management Agency will oversee preparedness, emergency response and reconstruction efforts. The agency is not being created in anticipation of any specific calamity, but rather is meant to fill a gap amid worries about whether...

• Turkey signed US-led Artemis Accords. Its moon rovers will hitch a ride with China (2026-11-02 10:14)

Turkey has signed America's rule book for the moon, but its first ride to the lunar south pole – the icy region both Washington and Beijing are racing to reach – will probably come from China. A team of more than 120 students and professors at Middle East Technical University (METU) in Ankara has built prototypes of two AI-powered rovers for Chang'e-8, a Chinese mission originally planned for 2028. Turkey is not part of the International Lunar Research Station, a base China plans to build on the...

• Hong Kong police arrest man after hit-and-run at checkpoint sparks 10-hour hunt (2026-11-02 10:10)

Hong Kong police arrested a man on suspicion of furious driving after a 10-hour manhunt sparked by a hit-and-run crash at a cross-boundary checkpoint in the early hours of Monday. Police said a car hit a barrier gate at the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge checkpoint at 1.17am. The incident was classified as a damage-only traffic accident and a hit-and-run. Officers located the car near Hoi Wing Road in Tuen Mun's Castle Peak area at about 10.30am and gave chase, intercepting it on Hoi Wong Road at...

- Beijing doubles down on Type 071 amphibious warships, signalling a Taiwan focus (2026-11-02 10:06)

Beijing is accelerating production of its Type 071 amphibious transport docks by expanding construction to a second shipyard, potentially strengthening its ability to move troops and military equipment across the Taiwan Strait in a conflict. The expansion comes amid long-standing United States assessments that Beijing lacks enough landing ships and logistical support for a large-scale assault on Taiwan, suggesting the People's Liberation Army (PLA) may be moving to address a significant...

- How Hong Kong's fintech strategy is progressing – and where growth still lags (2026-11-02 10:00)

Hong Kong has touted rapid progress in the first year of its five-year fintech strategy, pledging to double down on artificial intelligence and tokenisation even as many initiatives face the challenge of achieving commercial scale. Tokenisation, for instance, had moved from the sandbox "into the real world", said Eddie Yue Wai-man, chief executive of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), at the city's annual FinTech Week conference on Monday. Hong Kong had authorised 17 tokenised public funds...

- Millions in China moved by student who quit school to care for seriously ill mother (2026-11-02 09:55)

Millions of people in China were moved by the story of a secondary school graduate who put off university to care for her seriously ill mother – and of the classmates who donated their treasured collections to help her. Cao Feng, a graduating student at Yuwang Secondary School in central China's Anhui province, recently decided to give up her place at university so she could care for her mother, who is hospitalised in Shanghai. Cao's mother, Cuiping, 47, has generalised myasthenia gravis, a...

- India offers Asean counterterrorism lessons, but will one size fit all? (2026-11-02 09:38)

As India seeks to expand its security cooperation with Southeast Asia by sharing its battle-tested counterterrorism expertise, defence analysts say its experience would only partly meet Asean's needs given the differences in threat perception and domestic priorities. Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh made the offer at the Asean Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) in Cebu on Thursday. Citing Operation Sindoor as an example of India's counterterrorism capabilities, he offered to share...

• China and Oman unite in Mideast peace call on sultan’s ‘historic’ Beijing visit (2026-11-02 09:20)

China and Oman have called for a peaceful resolution and full ceasefire between the US and Iran, stressing that safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz must be restored. The call came during talks in Beijing on Monday between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Oman’s Sultan Haitham bin Tariq. In their joint statement, Beijing and Muscat encouraged the United States and Iran to resume dialogue and reach a “comprehensive agreement that includes the nuclear issue”. The two sides also affirmed that...

• Beijing launches US$15b asset swap to support China’s markets after sell-off (2026-11-02 09:15)

China’s central bank announced on Monday it would start a fresh round of a swap facility that would channel about US$15 billion into the struggling onshore stock market, after its worst monthly sell-off in a decade dealt a heavy blow to investor confidence and threatened to add new risks to the country’s financial system. The People’s Bank of China will start the one-year swap on Tuesday. The facility allowed institutional investors to exchange illiquid assets for liquid ones with the central...

• Beijing urges Hong Kong to bring in more governance talent with integrity, competence (2026-11-02 09:11)

Beijing’s office overseeing Hong Kong affairs has called on the city to improve its systems for nurturing, appointing and managing governance talent as a way to bring in more personnel with integrity and competence into the governing team. In a commentary, the theoretical study group of the State Council’s Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office (HKMAO) stressed that the city would only enjoy more room to open up and develop when national security was firmly safeguarded. It urged greater attention to...

• The Apec moment Hong Kong needs to seize (2026-11-02 08:30)

The first Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) forum finance ministers’ meeting to be held in Hong Kong focused on openness, cooperation and resilience. These themes go to the heart of a question confronting the city: as globalisation becomes more difficult and the rules and security boundaries governing international markets grow more complex, what can Hong Kong still offer cross-border commerce? Globalisation is not over. Capital still seeks opportunities overseas, while technology,...

• As BYD and Geely hit sales highs, pressure mounts on China’s smaller carmakers (2026-11-02 08:00)

China’s two largest carmakers, BYD and Geely Auto, recorded their strongest monthly sales of the year in October, bucking a downward trend in the world’s largest automotive market as smaller rivals come under increasing pressure to turn a profit. Shenzhen-based electric vehicle

(EV) giant BYD handed over 490,168 cars to customers at home and abroad last month, up 11per cent year on year, while Hangzhou-headquartered Geely delivered 310,183 petrol andelectric cars worldwide in the same period,...

• Japanese ex-adult film actress recalls ‘terror’ after alleged drugging in Hong Kong (2026-11-02 07:53)

Former Japanese adult film actress Mao Hamasaki has spoken out about the “terror” and “harm” of drugs after fighting for her life when she consumed a suspected spiked drink while performing as a disc jockey in Hong Kong on Sunday. Hamasaki, who is recovering in hospital, wrote in Japanese on her social media X account that she would be examined by a psychiatrist on Monday afternoon. “And if all goes well, I should be able to be discharged,” she said. “My consciousness is completely clear, and I...

• Tempers fray as thousands of Bangladeshi garment workers protest for pay rise (2026-11-02 07:29)

Thousands of Bangladeshi garment workers blocked a major highway and clashed with police on Monday, demanding a monthly minimum wage more than double their current pay, as protests spread across industrial hubs. The South Asian nation of 170 million people is the world’s second-biggest garment exporter behind China, manufacturing clothes for some of the largest international brands. Hundreds of workers in Gazipur, north of the capital Dhaka, blocked the Dhaka-Tangail highway, vandalising several...

• China touts AI milestone: models generate more tokens than used in training (2026-11-02 07:00)

For the first time, the amount of inference data generated by artificial intelligence systems in China has surpassed the amount of data used to train those systems, according to a new government-backed report, illustrating how the country is increasingly adopting AI at scale. The report released on Saturday by the China Centre for Information Industry Development (CCID), which operates under China’s Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), cited recent official data showing that...

• China’s fifth plenum: everything you need to know from the war on corruption to promotions (2026-11-02 06:52)

We have put together stories from our coverage of China’s fifth plenum. If you would like to see more of our reporting, please consider subscribing. 1. ‘Unwritten rules’ become newest target in Communist Party’s war on corruption The Communist Party of China has pledged to vigorously crack down on the “unwritten rules” that enable corruption in the party, deepening its long-running campaign to keep officials in line. 2. At China’s fifth plenum, Communist Party puts discipline and loyalty to Xi...

• Chinese start-up says it is developing country's first home-grown new-energy business jet (2026-11-02 06:51)

A newly established Chinese start-up is developing what it describes as the country's first home-grown new-energy business jet, adding to China's efforts to cut aviation emissions. Beijing Airlink Aircraft, a Chinese private aircraft manufacturer founded in March, unveiled scale models of two variants of its Belyn 100 series at the Nanchang Aviation Industry Expo on Saturday. The company said its core team was drawn mainly from Tsinghua University's School of Aerospace Engineering and China's...

• South Korea probes death of frontline soldier near North Korean border (2026-11-02 06:25)

A South Korean army staff sergeant died after suffering external injuries at a frontline unit in Cheorwon near the North Korean border on Monday morning, Seoul's Defence Ministry said. Military and civilian investigators were examining the exact cause and circumstances of his death, the ministry said. A unit member found the twenty-something staff sergeant collapsed with a severe head injury inside a building at about 7.15am and reported it, according to the Chosun Biz. The death comes amid...

• Iran warns new war with US could last longer as Trump threatens 'the hammer' (2026-11-02 05:58)

Iran warned on Sunday that any renewed war with the United States could last longer than the previous round of fighting, after US President Donald Trump said he still had to "take care" of more targets. Diplomatic efforts to end the Middle East war have been punctuated by repeated threats from the United States and Israel to resume bombardments as they hold crucial elections. "A potential future war could last longer than [the] previous conflict, and the American president would not be in a...

• Launch of global legal body's office in Hong Kong seals city's law hub status: John Lee (2026-11-02 05:48)

The opening of the first regional office of an international legal body in Hong Kong will cement the city's position as a global law hub, support its drive to attract global organisations and talent while deepening regional cooperation in legal issues, Chief Executive John Lee Ka-chiu has said. Lee's remarks came as the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (Unidroit), an independent intergovernmental body that aims to modernise and coordinate cross-border private law,...

• How South Korea can play pivotal role in Philippines' military modernisation drive (2026-11-02 05:41)

The Philippines' military modernisation drive could offer South Korea an opportunity to transform its role as a major arms supplier into a deeper defence partnership, analysts say. This prospect gained fresh momentum after Philippine Defence Secretary Gilberto Teodoro Jnr and

his South Korean counterpart, Kang Shin-chul, agreed to deepen cooperation in militarymodernisation, defence technology and joint training on the sidelines of an Asean securitysummit in Cebu last week. Teodoro reaffirmed...

• New renovation body will draw legitimate contractors back to market, sector says (2026-11-02 05:31)

Hong Kong's new renovation monitoring body will encourage legitimate consultants and contractors previously plagued by intimidation from bid-rigging syndicates to return to the market, industry representatives have said, potentially lowering costs for homeowners in the long run. Renovation and construction sector players said on Monday that the new Building Maintenance Support and Services Council, headed by Financial Secretary Paul Chan Mo-po, would heighten scrutiny of the tendering process,...

• Elite path for China's returning students, CCP promotions: 5 weekend reads you missed (2026-11-02 04:45)

We have put together stories from our coverage last weekend to help you stay informed about news across Asia and beyond. If you would like to see more of our reporting, please consider subscribing. 1. China narrows the path to elite official training scheme for overseas graduates 2. Are the latest party promotions a sign of a new political trend in China? 3. Soft power on display as China's first lady Peng Liyuan hosts German counterpart 4. Can Connie Chan become San Francisco's first...

• Malaysian police probe viral video of father slapping woman who allegedly hit his children (2026-11-02 04:32)

Malaysian police have launched an investigation into a fight at a shopping centre in Kuala Lumpur after a viral video showed a man slapping a woman who allegedly assaulted his two young children. While police have not officially identified the venue, social media users claim the incident took place at the Ombak KLCC shopping centre. The 35-second clip circulating on social media shows a heated argument between the pair after the man confronted the woman over her actions. The altercation turns...

• Police armed with assault rifles patrol Sydney in Australian first after Bondi attack (2026-11-02 04:20)

A new police unit armed with military assault rifles has begun patrolling the streets of Sydney, in an Australian-first measure set up in response to the Bondi Beach attack last December. The Armed Response Command (ARC) would deploy at major events, crowded public spaces, sporting venues and places of worship to conduct "high visibility" patrols, New South Wales state police said. The move comes after two men opened fire on a Jewish celebration at the famous beach, killing 15 people in an...

• To fly or not to fly: Chinese mechanic reports short-lived GE engine blades in Boeing 787 (2026-11-02 04:00)

A Chinese aviation specialist has reported that some high-pressure turbine blades in US-made GE Aerospace engines powering Boeing 787 aircraft have suffered unexpectedly early damage, leaving airlines with a difficult choice: replace the engines or continue flying under strict inspection requirements. The findings raise questions about the reliability of American aerospace products amid growing scrutiny of US manufacturing quality. According to the study, cracks can develop in some blades within...

• 2 cleaning firm executives charged for taking HK$75 million in bribes from supplier (2026-11-02 03:37)

Hong Kong’s corruption watchdog has charged two former senior executives of a Hong Kong-listed cleaning company with allegedly accepting more than HK$75 million (US$9.6 million) in bribes linked to the procurement of cleaning vehicles and their maintenance services. William Fung Chi-wang, 54, former director of Johnson Cleaning Services Company and former chief executive of its parent firm, and Jimmy Lee Sai-leung, 57, the company’s ex-general manager, were charged last Friday with one count of...

• China’s fifth plenum readout (2026-11-02 03:29)

This article is the official English translation of the original Chinese document released by Xinhua.

• Chinese scientists found giant ‘chimneys’ in deep water that could alter submarine warfare (2026-11-02 03:13)

Chinese researchers have mapped how energy from surface wind surges thousands of metres into the seabed, revealing massive underwater conduits they called “inertial chimneys”. The discovery, based on data collected by a US-funded ocean sensor array off the east coast of Japan, coupled with future long-term underwater monitoring, can provide underwater acoustic environmental support for marine detection and communication, the team said. The scientists from the Institute of Oceanology of the...

• Ex-Kissinger partner on how China, US can evolve together or die together (2026-11-02 03:05)

Joshua Cooper Ramo is chairman and CEO of Sornay, an investment and advisory firm. Previously he was CEO of Kissinger Associates. Ramo is the author of the new book Darwin’s Lock: America, China and the Shared Future of Nations. His 2004 analysis of “the Beijing consensus” contrasted the Western and Chinese economic development models. He is the author of two New York Times bestselling books and now lives in Shanghai with his family. For other interviews in the Open Questions series, click...

• Indian royals carve out new calling decades after losing their thrones (2026-11-02 03:01)

In a sprawling palace in western India, the “queen” or Maharani of Baroda welcomes guests with fragrant rose petals, presenting torchlit dances of Hindu myths. Dressed in glittering finery, Radhikaraje Gaekwad is a queen in name only, a modern businesswoman presiding over a world her ancestors once ruled. “The key has been that we have adapted,” the 48-year-old said in her vast Lakshmi Vilas Palace, describing how India’s former royals have found new roles, from cultural ambassadors to...

• Exhausted Chinese working mums book solo hotel stays to escape childcare and sleep (2026-11-02 02:25)

Across China, a growing number of middle-aged working mothers are quietly checking into hotel rooms alone, desperate to get a few hours of uninterrupted sleep. Caught between demanding daytime jobs and an exhausting “second shift” of housework and parenting, many women see these solo hotel stays as their only real escape, according to multiple mainland reports. One 34-year-old mother, who lives with her husband, in-laws, and kindergarten-age daughter, shared on RedNote that she had no personal...

• In South Korea, Lee’s overseas trips fuel familiar battle over presidential perks (2026-11-02 02:12)

President Lee Jae Myung’s overseas trips have again drawn attention to South Korea’s shifting political standards, adding to a familiar cycle of disputes over presidential golf and the presidential plane whenever power passes between conservative and liberal administrations. The controversies centre on taxpayer money and the public’s attitudes towards presidential privilege, with governing parties defending certain activities as necessary for diplomacy or official duties and the opposition...

• What can Cambridge teach Hong Kong about building university towns? (2026-11-02 02:00)

Strong government-industry partnership and interdisciplinary education are what make a university town financially viable and successful, the head of a University of Cambridge college has said, sharing the UK’s experience as Hong Kong develops its Northern Metropolis plan. In an interview with the South China Morning Post, Professor Girish Menon, president of Lucy Cavendish College, said Hong Kong’s cosmopolitan character made it “best placed” to place young people at the heart of its university...

• Apec China summit: from traffic curbs to tree planting, Shenzhen’s plans enter final phase (2026-11-02 02:00)

Construction workers have been working late into the night in downtown Shenzhen as the city makes its final preparations for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in two weeks’ time. On a weekday night, a South China Morning Post reporter saw at least 50 construction workers gathered at an intersection about 1km (just over half a mile) from the Apec venues in the central district of Futian, laying down pebbles and planting trees along the pavements. The main road that leads up to the...

• Heat director Michael Mann accidentally shoots self at gun range (2026-11-02 01:39)

Michael Mann, the acclaimed director of crime classics Heat and Collateral, accidentally shot himself at a gun range in Los Angeles, resulting in minor injuries, a statement released on Sunday said. “On Saturday, at a gun range, a weapon accidentally discharged while holstered resulting in a superficial injury to film director Michael Mann. He was treated and is being released,” a representative of the filmmaker said in a statement. The Los Angeles Police Department confirmed that they had...

• Why reforms alone won’t prevent a repeat of Tai Po fire (2026-11-02 01:30)

In the end, it was Winnie Ho Wing-yin, housing secretary at the time of the Wang Fuk Court fire in Tai Po, who took the rap. Her resignation came after weeks of talk within political circles suggesting that bureau chiefs would not have to bear responsibility for the tragedy that killed 168 people and displaced 1,984 families. These suggestions were met with shock. Some spoke out against such talk, including Andrew Fung Wai-kwong, former information coordinator for the Chief Executive’s Office,...

• Has Hong Kong’s IPO boom hit a wall – or is a year-end rush still to come? (2026-11-02 01:00)

Hong Kong’s initial public offering (IPO) momentum has cooled sharply in the fourth quarter amid market volatility and tighter regulatory scrutiny, but industry players say a year-end rush of listings could still help the city secure a top-three global ranking for 2026. The market has slowed significantly since October, with only three new listings, all of which closed below their offer prices on debut. Two other IPO candidates shelved their listings after completing procedures, testing Hong...

• North Korean hackers behind Japan’s massive GMO data leak, investigation finds (2026-11-02 00:58)

An analysis by Japan’s GMO Internet Group found that a North Korea-linked hacking group was likely behind the cyberattack on the company last month, sources close to the matter said, citing characteristics of the malware used and other traces left by the perpetrators. The company appears to have already reported the matter to the government and will now focus on determining the full circumstances. Kyodo News, working with security experts, also found that five IP addresses used to access a...

• Drug maker Rohto plans clinical trials in Hong Kong as OASES’ first Japan partner (2026-11-02 00:30)

Top university research, cross-border data exchanges and access to mainland China’s large market have attracted Japanese firm Rohto Pharmaceutical to conduct clinical trials in Hong Kong, making it the first company from the country to partner with the city’s government under a flagship investment initiative. Rohto, known for its over-the-counter eye care and

skincare products, is among the latest batch of 18 firms recruited by the Office for AttractingStrategic Enterprises (OASES), a...

• Will losing US midterms see Trump double down or signal beginning of the end? (2026-11-02 00:00)

Tuesday's US midterm election is both hugely consequential and not so consequential even as the world waits to see the American voters' verdict on Donald Trump's presidency – and the impact that verdict will have on his temperament, plans and possible petulant response, analysts and former government officials said. On the one hand, an expected strong showing by opposition Democrats could bring more Congressional scrutiny over some of the most unconventional, maximalist and disruptive policies...

• Humans vs AI art: why game studios hire Southeast Asian talent (2026-11-02 00:00)

Video game companies have long been at the vanguard of artificial intelligence, using it in its more nascent form to dictate non-player character behaviour, simulate crowds and adjust game difficulty on the fly years before the advent of chatbots like ChatGPT. Today, the technology is increasingly being deployed to write code, create visual assets and even synthesise real-time voice-overs, supplanting humans who would have otherwise done the work. Yet studios do still pay people to animate their...

• Hong Kong summit to test Wall Street sentiment amid geopolitical strains, tech volatility (2026-11-01 23:30)

When hundreds of global finance leaders converge in Hong Kong this week, the question on their minds will be whether traditional investment strategies remain viable against escalating geopolitical friction and the rapid ascent of artificial intelligence. Investors have been keen for an answer – or at least clear clues – given that US President Donald Trump has been threatening a new round of strikes on Iran, and after Friday's sharp sell-off in technology stocks elevated concerns about the...

• Joshua Cooper Ramo on whether the US can handle the stress test of China's rise (2026-11-01 22:00)

Joshua Cooper Ramo is chairman and CEO of Sornay, an investment and advisory firm. Previously he was CEO of Kissinger Associates. Ramo is the author of the new book Darwin's Lock: America, China and the Shared Future of Nations. His 2004 analysis of "the Beijing consensus" contrasted the Western and Chinese economic development models. He is the author of two New York Times best-selling books and now lives in Shanghai with his family. For other interviews in the Open Questions series, click...

• 9 dead after plane crashes near Trump's Florida home, erupting in a massive fireball (2026-11-01 21:31)

Nine people were killed on Sunday when the Learjet they were travelling in plummeted into a neighbourhood in southern Florida, just miles from US President Donald Trump’s resort home of Mar-a-Lago, officials said. Several unverified clips depicting the deadly crash and posted to social media show an aircraft nearly vertical slamming at high speed into the ground and triggering a large fireball, leaving a flaming crater near a busy roadside. “Today’s plane crash in Palm Beach County, Florida is a...

- Democratic divisions shake up pivotal Michigan Senate race as congresswoman breaks ranks (2026-11-01 21:00)

A Democratic congresswoman in Michigan broke ranks with her party on Sunday to endorse the Republican candidate in her state’s key US Senate race against left-wing progressive candidate Abdul El-Sayed. In a startling display of party infighting just two days before the November 3 midterm election, Haley Stevens, who lost a bruising primary to El-Sayed in August despite being backed by the Democratic establishment, said she was endorsing Republican Mike Rogers. “This is a very close election, we...

- Binance sees spike in withdrawals as exchange returns online after US$6.3 billion hack (2026-11-01 19:53)

Binance customers pulled US$3.64 billion, or 2.1 per cent of its assets, as the world’s biggest cryptocurrency exchange went back online on Sunday after hackers the FBI links to North Korea stole billions from the platform last week. Binance said withdrawals were stabilising after an initial spike and deposit volumes had remained “substantial”. The exchange said it had now covered 95 per cent of the US$6.3 billion of stolen assets. The theft, which analysts believe may be the biggest financial...

- Bulgarian acting president Iliana Iotova wins run-off election, exit polls show (2026-11-01 19:14)

Bulgaria’s acting president Iliana Iotova, who favours dialogue with Moscow and opposes military aid to Ukraine, won a presidential run-off vote on Sunday, exit polls showed. The vote took place amid security concerns in the European Union and Nato member following a series of drone attacks on commercial vessels in the Black Sea. The race for the largely ceremonial post pitted Iotova, an ally of Prime Minister Rumen Radev, against Andrey Gyurov, a banker and former caretaker prime minister...

- Longest truce of Ukraine war ends in Kherson region (2026-11-01 18:25)

The longest truce of the Ukraine war, brokered by US first lady Melania Trump and limited to just the Kherson region, ended on Sunday after Russia refused the offer of an extension, Ukrainian officials said. The rare pause in fighting, brokered by US first lady Melania Trump and which began early on Tuesday, enabled a humanitarian mission to the Russian-occupied city of Oleshky and came as the Ukraine war grinds through its fifth year. Neither side reported violations after the truce began, in...

• France opens ‘attempted murder’ probe over petrol bomb attacks on security forces (2026-11-01 18:01)

France on Sunday opened an attempted murder investigation after petrol bombs were thrown at security forces during Paris protests, as footage of an officer engulfed in flames sparked outrage. On Saturday, clashes erupted in Paris and other cities after hundreds of thousands of people staged a third weekend of protests against soaring living costs. The Paris police prefecture said several hundred rioters had attacked security forces with projectiles. While riots were less widespread than two...

• 6 dead, dozens injured in Halloween weekend gun violence across US (2026-11-01 17:02)

Dozens of people were injured and at least six people died in mass shootings as gun violence broke out at nightlife districts in half a dozen cities across the country over the Halloween weekend. Police in Dallas, the site of the deadliest violence, said four people were dead and 15 are injured following a handful of shootings in a Dallas neighbourhood, a centre of music, restaurants and nightlife in the city. Police in college towns such as Fayetteville, Arkansas; Birmingham, Alabama; and...

• Former Apple Daily publisher joins mainland China tour for rehabilitated offenders (2026-11-01 15:33)

A former publisher of the now-defunct Apple Daily newspaper has joined a Hong Kong government-organised mainland study tour for rehabilitated offenders, telling a state-owned broadcaster he felt “very proud” as a Chinese national after experiencing the country’s technological advances first-hand. Cheung Kim-hung, a key prosecution witness in former media boss and Apple Daily founder Jimmy Lai Chee-ying’s national security trial, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to collude with foreign or external...

• Communist Party pledges to reach deeper into China’s tech, digital platform sectors (2026-11-01 15:00)

China’s ruling Communist Party will step up “party building” across the country’s tech sector and deploy digital tools to fight corruption, according to a landmark document adopted at a key political plenum. These tools include a digital discipline inspection platform and a big-data supervision platform. The party will also crack down on corruption involving the internet, virtual currency, cross-border funds and blockchain technology, according to the document formally approved on Thursday at...

• Somali piracy resurges as Iranian vessel seized carrying 23 crew (2026-11-01 14:54)

Somali pirates have seized an Iranian fishing vessel carrying 23 people, the European Union’s Maritime Security Centre Indian Ocean (MSCIO) said, warning that the ship was approaching a commercial shipping lane and could become a floating base for further attacks. The Azini was hijacked on Thursday between the coastal towns of Bandar Bayla and Hafun in northeastern

Somalia, a maritime security officer with the Puntland Maritime Police Force said on Sunday.The officer said that 12 pirates seized...

- ‘Less than a minute’: Hong Kong travellers praise Japan’s new tax refund at airports (2026-11-01 14:43)

Hong Kong tour groups returning from Japan have praised a smooth roll-out of the country’s new tax refund arrangement that requires travellers to complete refund procedures at airports or ports rather than at shops. Under the “pay first, refund later” scheme, which took effect on Sunday to curb illicit domestic reselling and tax evasion, international tourists must now pay the 10 per cent consumption tax upfront at the counter. Travellers are now required to complete customs verification before...

- Could a midterm defeat tame Trump? Not on foreign policy, Chinese experts say (2026-11-01 14:00)

A potential lame-duck phase may not deter US President Donald Trump from pursuing more “transactional” or “risky” foreign policy moves after the midterm elections, Chinese experts warn, while casting doubt on expectations of a powerful Democratic wave. Amid a season of high-stakes contests that could reshape global politics, the US vote on Tuesday stands out. The election, which will determine who takes control of the US Congress, could result in Trump and his fellow Republicans no longer...

- China’s Xi says strict party governance has positive impact, does not stifle growth (2026-11-01 13:47)

Chinese President Xi Jinping has mounted a direct defence of the campaign for strong Communist Party governance and internal discipline, describing them as a “fundamental guarantee” for China’s rise and warning against any easing of scrutiny, according to state media. Xi took the floor as the party’s 20th Central Committee closed its fifth plenum on Thursday, to directly address the scepticism over the sweeping campaign, state news agency Xinhua reported on Sunday. According to “side notes”...

- Bhutan builds 108 stupas for mindfulness city in tourism push (2026-11-01 13:30)

Tens of thousands of volunteers helped raise 108 Buddhist stupas in Bhutan on Sunday, marking the Himalayan kingdom’s ambitious plans for a “mindfulness” city aimed at driving economic growth. The 15-metre tall solid towers – sacred Buddhist monuments found across the Himalayas – stretch along 12 kilometres (7.5 miles) of riverbank near the Indian border, at the site of the future Gelephu Mindfulness City. More than 40,000 volunteers took part in building the structures as “a physical form of...

- Clarify crime thresholds and immunity in bid-rigging law: Hong Kong Bar Association (2026-11-01 12:36)

The Hong Kong Bar Association has called on the government to clearly define criminal thresholds and resolve whistle-blower immunity rules under its plan to outlaw bid-rigging following the deadly Tai Po inferno. A task force formed by the association, which represents the city's barristers, spent 10 months reviewing four key areas of law and released a 140-page report on Sunday in the hope of providing direction to address the shortcomings that led to the deadly Wang Fuk Court blaze last...

• Washington's unending vendetta against Cuba (2026-11-01 12:30)

Last week, the United Nations General Assembly called for the 34th time for an end to the US embargo on Cuba. The resolution passed by 130 votes to 17, with 25 abstentions. It came as Cuba struggles with a severe energy crisis, mainly caused by a US fuel embargo, imposed after the abduction of Venezuela's president to New York. The energy blockade is only the latest of America's crimes against the Cuban people. Sergio Vigoa de la Uz, Cuba's ambassador to Namibia, laid out the human costs of US...

• High Court redevelopment plan 'not workable', Hong Kong Bar Association warns (2026-11-01 12:05)

The Hong Kong Bar Association has warned that a proposed phased redevelopment of the High Court, which could span more than a decade, is "not workable" and risks deterring legal practitioners from joining the bench. The association, the professional body for barristers, urged the government to consider faster alternatives, such as repurposing the existing District Court building. In an exclusive interview with the South China Morning Post on Sunday, association chairman Jose-Antonio Maurellet SC...

• US first lady Melania Trump unlikely to travel to Apec summit in China (2026-11-01 12:00)

US first lady Melania Trump is unlikely to travel to China with the president for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Shenzhen this month. "First lady Melania Trump is not scheduled to attend the events in person," her office said in response to a query about her travel plans. President Donald Trump is scheduled to visit the Philippines for this year's Association of Southeast Asian Nations summit before travelling to the November 18-19 Apec event, where he will meet his Chinese...

• Self-improving AI the key step towards AGI but safety is key: Z.ai founder (2026-11-01 12:00)

Using artificial intelligence to build even smarter systems will make artificial general intelligence (AGI) more achievable, though it would need to be done safely, leading Chinese computer scientist Tang Jie said at an event in Shanghai on Saturday. The remarks underscore how AI companies in the US and China are both chasing the holy grail of recursive self-improvement (RSI), where increasingly powerful AI systems also become better at improving themselves in an ever-accelerating...

• Big Apple vs Pearl of the Orient? How higher taxes in New York may open door for Hong Kong (2026-11-01 12:00)

On November 4 last year, Zohran Mamdani won the New York mayoral election on a promise to make the city more affordable, with expanded social programmes funded in part by raising taxes on the city's wealthiest residents and most profitable corporations. Nearly a year since his upset victory, he has secured one major piece of that agenda: a surcharge on high-end second homes. He also continues to push for higher corporate and income taxes. The proposals have intensified criticism of Mamdani, a...

• US-Iran talks: UAE 'braced for the worst', hoping for diplomacy (2026-11-01 11:35)

The UAE is hoping for a breakthrough in negotiations between Iran and the United States while being prepared for the worst, a senior official said on Sunday, following threats of a resumption of the Middle East war. "We're hoping that there is a diplomatic breakthrough," diplomatic adviser to the UAE president Anwar Gargash said during a conference in Manama, Bahrain. "It is not the interest of the region to go through another round … But I think we're also, as we've shown before, braced for the...

• How could a single gene-editing injection treat inherited eye diseases? (2026-11-01 11:00)

In the third of a four-part Health Matters wellness series on frontier medicine in Hong Kong, Fiona Sun examines how a local start-up is testing a gene-editing therapy that could tackle a group of inherited eye diseases at their genetic source and what it will take to turn it into a treatment patients can access. For 15 years, Professor Zheng Zongli has worked to make gene-editing therapies safe enough to treat diseases with limited treatment options. His path has taken him from a PhD in medical...

• Indian opposition unites to demand Modi electoral chief's resignation (2026-11-01 10:13)

Thousands protested in Delhi on Sunday to demand the resignation of India's election chief over a revision of voter lists, the latest in more than a month of opposition demonstrations challenging Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Led by Congress party chief Rahul Gandhi, Sunday's protesters say the controversial revision benefits Modi's Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party. Analysts say the protests and growing support for the opposition form the worst crisis for Modi since he came to power in...

• DeepSeek unveils AI 'super agent' in coding race with OpenAI, Anthropic (2026-11-01 10:00)

Chinese artificial intelligence start-up DeepSeek has previewed a plan for a more autonomous AI agent that can handle multiple tasks with minimal human intervention, as it steps up competition with US rivals OpenAI and Anthropic in developing coding assistants. The proposed system, dubbed super agent, aimed to reduce the need for humans to coordinate multiple AI agents and monitor their progress, addressing a key bottleneck in managing today's increasingly complex workflows, according to a...

• At 97, China’s first female conductor still performs in public, wowing audiences (2026-11-01 10:00)

China’s first female conductor, Zheng Xiaoying, is 97 years old, but she continues to give outstanding performances to audiences. In August, the nonagenarian conducted the Chinese-language version of the opera Carmen in Xiamen, in southeastern China’s Fujian province, where she lives. Tickets for the performance were like gold dust, and audiences marvelled, as always, at her elegant, expressive conducting. Zheng has led a remarkable life. Born in Shanghai in 1929, she began studying piano at age...

• From rifles to radar: China upgrades its African arms trade as Russia and the West retreat (2026-11-01 10:00)

For decades, China has supplied African militaries with small arms and land-based equipment such as armoured vehicles, trucks and artillery. Now, it is selling them more specialised weapons, including armed drones and electronic warfare systems. Analysts noted that China’s African arms sales were shifting qualitatively to air-defence systems, armed drones and electronic warfare gear once dominated by Russia and the West. In April, four vehicles identified by defence analysis group Janes as...

• Turkey moves Kurdish militant leader as part of peace process (2026-11-01 09:45)

Turkey has moved the country’s Kurdish militant leader to a newly built part of an island prison where he has been incarcerated since 1999 as part of efforts to end decades of conflict, a senior Kurdish official said. Improving prison conditions for Abdullah Ocalan, who heads the Kurdistan Workers’ Party, or PKK, has been a key Kurdish demand in the push to end the 42-year-long conflict between the militant group and Turkish authorities. Ocalan has been imprisoned in a penitentiary on the island...

• El Nino, weak monsoon behind Hong Kong’s warmest October in 142 years (2026-11-01 09:15)

Hong Kong sweltered through its warmest October on record, as an extremely strong El Nino, a weak northeast monsoon and a persistent anticyclone aloft over southern China combined to drive temperatures to unprecedented levels, the weather forecaster has said. The Observatory forecaster said on Sunday that the mean maximum temperature for October was 30.5 degrees Celsius (86.9 Fahrenheit), the mean temperature 27.6 degrees and the mean minimum 25.8 degrees – all the highest for any October since...

• China’s global initiatives offer ray of hope in a turbulent world (2026-11-01 08:30)

The 2026 Global Governance Forum in Xiongan, Hebei province, wrapped up on October 25. Against a backdrop of acute strains on multilateralism and a widening global governance deficit, the forum galvanised a shared sense of urgency across the international community for reform and solidarity. More than a century ago, Karl Marx noted that, “Philosophers have hitherto

only interpreted the world in various ways; the point is to change it.” That insight strikes at thevery heart of today’s global...

• Armour vs altitude: India’s light tank dilemma along China border (2026-11-01 08:00)

India’s new high-altitude combat tank was designed to go where its heavier armoured fighting vehicles cannot: the thin mountain air, narrow roads and small bridges along its disputed border with China. In its base configuration, the Zorawar weighs some 25 tonnes – light enough to be flown all the way to the Line of Actual Control – but a push to make it strong enough to withstand high-calibre autocannon fire could add an extra seven tonnes to that loadout. Reports of renewed stand-offs between...

• Beijing ramps up maritime patrols around Taiwan, prompting Taipei to shadow ships (2026-11-01 07:32)

Beijing has stepped up its maritime presence around Taiwan, deploying coastguard patrols from the island’s eastern approaches to waters near Quemoy and remote Dongsha Island. China Coast Guard spokesman Jiang Lue said that a formation led by the vessel Hushi had carried out routine law enforcement patrols east of Taiwan on Saturday to reinforce administrative control and safeguard maritime navigation. “Since October, the Hushi task group has been strengthening control over the relevant waters to...

• As US midterms near, Trump administration ramps up rhetoric with bigoted, racist memes (2026-11-01 07:11)

The Trump administration’s online accounts are circulating images of a pumpkin carved with a sombrero design and a fake Halloween-themed background around a black man apparently accused of food assistance fraud, in social media posts slammed by critics as inflammatory rhetoric. Only days before the midterm election, the posts coincide with the government’s sweeping campaign to show its aggressive immigration enforcement and highlight efforts to crack down on fraud to save taxpayers money when...

• Malaysia’s Loke decries school dinner alcohol claims as political attack (2026-11-01 07:00)

Malaysian Transport Minister Anthony Loke Siew Fook has dismissed a recent claim on social media that students were forced to serve alcohol at an old boys’ association reunion and centenary dinner, calling the allegations a politically motivated attack against him. The DAP secretary general, who is also a former student of St Paul’s Institution, claimed the individual who allegedly uploaded the post had been looking for every possible opportunity to attack him. “In the social media post, the...

• No guarantee building contractor lists can be ‘100% clean’: Chris Tang (2026-11-01 06:49)

Hong Kong’s security chief has conceded that keeping pre-qualified lists of building repair contractors completely free of criminal elements will be challenging, even with a new

government measure to combat bid-rigging through background vetting by enforcementagencies. Speaking in two televised interviews on Sunday about the administration's responseto a report on the deadly Tai Po fire – which found the Fire Services Department boreresponsibility alongside three other government bodies –...

• Could Taipei's unexpectedly tight mayoral race add to cross-strait tensions? (2026-11-01 06:00)

Taipei Mayor Wayne Chiang Wan-an faces an unexpectedly tough re-election fight in a race closely watched for its potential to damage the main opposition party Kuomintang and further strain the island's relations with Beijing. Just five months ago, Chiang appeared comfortably positioned for a second term in a city where the KMT has traditionally enjoyed an advantage over the ruling Democratic Progressive Party. A poll by local cable news network TVBS in late May put him 28 percentage points ahead...

• US or China? Why Kazakhstan refuses to pick sides as it eyes AI revolution (2026-11-01 06:00)

Driving along the wide boulevards of Astana during a recent trip to the Kazakh capital, signs of China's growing commercial footprint were everywhere. Chinese cars were becoming a common sight on the streets here, as brands from BYD to Changan made aggressive inroads in a market once dominated by South Korea's Hyundai and Kia, said the driver who picked me up from the airport in a gleaming Changan electric vehicle. But it was not the rise of Chinese tech that had brought me to this energy-rich...

• Singapore turns up heat on power-hungry air conditioning with cool revolution (2026-11-01 05:34)

Long dubbed an "air-conditioned nation", Singapore is experimenting with cooling alternatives from chilled beams to "passive displacement" to curb its thirst for energy-guzzling air conditioning. The city state has the highest per-capita air conditioner ownership rate in Southeast Asia, with about 99 per cent of private residences equipped with cooling units. Singapore's local building sector accounts for one-fifth of its emissions, while cooling itself accounts for 40 to 60 per cent of a...

• Hate paper straws? Asia's new alternatives are another eco trap (2026-11-01 05:00)

For Singaporean flight attendant Chloe Tan Zi Ling, 35, the problem with paper straws is their impracticality. "It softens before we can finish the drink, so we have to gulp it down without a straw," she said, adding that reusable metal alternatives left an unpleasant taste in her mouth. Her frustration reflects a wider debate over Asia's shift away from plastic straws, with a recently released South Korean study finding that conventional plastic straws performed better than paper and other...

• Ex-Japanese adult film actress in intensive care after alleged drugging in Hong Kong (2026-11-01 04:45)

Former Japanese adult film actress Mao Hamasaki was admitted to intensive care at a Hong Kong hospital after being allegedly drugged while working in a club in Tsim Sha Tsui on Sunday morning. Hamasaki's manager published a post on her Facebook page at 5.40am on Sunday morning, with two photos showing her in a wheelchair being taken to an ambulance. The post read "drugged while working". Hamasaki had performed as a disc jockey at several clubs on Halloween night until the early hours of Sunday,...

• 'Be alive': Hongkonger with muscular dystrophy turns 18, against all odds (2026-11-01 04:00)

Celebrating one's 18th birthday is not typically a poignant occasion, but for outgoing Hongkonger Chen Tsz-kin, adulthood began last week with a mixture of excitement and anxiety. At 18 months old, Chen was diagnosed with Duchenne muscular dystrophy, a genetic condition that causes muscles to weaken over time. Doctors told his mother, Michelle Li Yuan-feng, that people with the incurable illness had an average life expectancy of 18. "I felt like a brand new self waking up this morning. It's been...

• Guangzhou reclaims crown as China's busiest airport after US$8 billion mega expansion (2026-11-01 04:00)

Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport has reclaimed its position as China's busiest airport, handling more than 67 million passenger trips in the first nine months of 2026 following a major expansion last year, the municipal government announced. The airport overtook Shanghai Pudong International Airport, which handled 66.58 million passenger trips during the same period, official data showed. Baiyun had fallen behind Pudong in 2024 and 2025. The expansion took half a decade to complete and...

• Far from home, close to grief: why millions of Filipino migrants dread Undas (2026-11-01 04:00)

For over three decades, Dolores Balladares Pelaez has lived and worked in Hong Kong without once returning to the Philippines for Undas, the annual two-day observance honouring the dead. This year, she is arranging prayers from afar for her late father and four siblings, but will once again miss the gathering back home. On Thursday morning, the 56-year-old domestic helper called her mother and niece in Laguna province to discuss hiring a prayer leader to visit the family home. Her sisters-in-law...

• 3 Hong Kong Chinese-language newspapers raise retail prices by HK$3 (2026-11-01 03:44)

Three Chinese-language newspapers in Hong Kong have raised their retail prices by HK$3 (40 US cents) this month, marking the first sector-wide adjustment in two years. Ming Pao's price rise took effect on Sunday, increasing its single-copy price from HK$12 to HK$15, up 25 per cent. Two financial broadsheets will follow suit on Monday. The Hong Kong Economic Times

(HKET) will raise its price from HK$12 to HK$15, while the Hong Kong Economic Journal (HKEJ)will increase its price by 20 per cent...

• Will Argentina's citizenship scheme lure property buyers from mainland China and Hong Kong? (2026-11-01 03:00)

Argentina is the latest country seeking to lure investors with an investment-for-citizenship programme, providing another residency and diversification option for the wealthy, including those from mainland China and Hong Kong, according to analysts. Buenos Aires in October announced two principal investment routes for applicants. One is a US$350,000 non-refundable contribution to the National Treasury and a subscription to a US$800,000 government bond created specifically for the programme,...

• 'Flirtatious' US$2,500 photo shoots for 'lonely' middle-aged women spark backlash in China (2026-11-01 02:00)

A Chinese photographer is facing fierce public backlash for charging middle-aged women inflated fees while allegedly subjecting them to sexually suggestive remarks during photo shoots. Known online as "Duan Gongzi," 48-year-old army veteran Duan Xiaozhou has amassed nearly 400,000 followers on Douyin. At his Wuhan studio, he charges 16,800 yuan (US$2,500) for 36 unedited portraits. Duan promotes his sessions as empathetic exchanges intended to capture clients' authentic selves. But...

• Russia surpasses France in African youth appeal, still trails China: survey (2026-11-01 02:00)

Russia's influence has surged among young people across Africa in recent years, leaping over former colonial power France while still trailing China, a survey of African youths has found. Many young Africans now perceive Russia to be an ally, observers said, warning its rivals to take the shift seriously as the continent becomes increasingly critical to both Moscow and Beijing. According to the African Youth Survey commissioned by the South Africa-based Ichikowitz Family Foundation, 54 per cent...

• South Korea's latest chart sensation has a secret: the singer isn't human (2026-11-01 02:00)

A little-known South Korean music act has climbed the charts with a viral hit that has caught listeners off guard – not just for its sudden popularity, but because its vocals were generated entirely by artificial intelligence. Meomuru's single, "Have You Become the Adult You Dreamed Of?", climbed to No 2 on Melon's Top 100 – South Korea's flagship streaming chart – earlier this week. The track's popularity has turned Meomuru into one of the country's most-talked-about acts. The song was created...

• Hong Kong's art trading hub ambitions rest on more than headline sales (2026-11-01 01:30)

A Vincent van Gogh painting not shown publicly for more than 60 years recently drew hundreds of people to Sotheby's Hong Kong. Painted in May 1890, Châtaigniers en fleurs (Chestnut Trees in Flower) is a major work from his Auvers-sur-Oise period and could set an auction record. For three days, Sotheby's opened the private collection to public viewing in Hong Kong. Its brief stay raises a question about the city's art hub ambitions: what lasting expertise can be built around a masterpiece that...

• Pump pressure: how rising fuel costs leave Hong Kong drivers running on fumes (2026-11-01 01:00)

Van driver Wong Siu-po, 48, felt life was becoming more difficult than ever as rising fuel prices cost him an additional HK$5,000 (US$640) a month, about a third of his monthly income. With an 11-year-old daughter and an unemployed wife to support, he feels the pressure mounting. "I need to work three hours longer per day to make up for the loss of income," he said. "I will cut down on air conditioning to save costs." Wong's plight echoed survey findings showing that nearly 98 per cent of...

• Woman arrested for threatening to shoot Trump at Florida rally (2026-11-01 00:59)

A 21-year-old woman who posted on social media that she was planning to shoot US President Donald Trump at his rally in Florida's Daytona Beach has been arrested, authorities said. Trump visited Daytona on Friday to help drum up the vote for Republican gubernatorial candidate Byron Donalds. But the night before, investigators said Allison Albro shared an online post showing a photo of herself captioned, "Going to the Trump rally in my city tmr so I can shoot him with my glock! Wish me luck...

• Southeast Asia's EV boom sidelines local car parts suppliers (2026-11-01 00:00)

Southeast Asia's electric vehicle boom risks leaving the region's smaller companies behind, as Chinese automotive giants bypass local part-makers in favour of imported components and locked-in supplier networks. Local manufacturers across Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia are facing a double squeeze: demand is weakening for parts used in petrol and diesel cars, collectively known as internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles, while steep barriers to entry also keep them out of EV supply...

• FBI blames North Korea for stolen billions from Binance in biggest hack in history (2026-10-31 23:49)

The theft of billions of dollars from Binance within a matter of minutes, the biggest cryptocurrency heist in history, was orchestrated by North Korean hackers, the FBI said on Saturday. The bureau said in a statement that this week's attack was tied to "malicious cyber activity" by an entity known as TraderTraitor, the same actors behind a US$1.5 billion Bybit hack last year. The FBI asked cryptocurrency exchanges, blockchain analytics companies and others to block transactions linked to...

• How the Zhuhai air show charted China's path from catching up to flying high (2026-10-31 22:00)

When Zhuhai hosted its inaugural air show in November 1996, the event showcased the J-8IIM fighter, a second-generation fighter equipped with Russian radar and weapons, alongside a limited line-up of home-made aircraft. Imported planes were the focus and Chinese audiences curiously studied the much more advanced foreign designs. They crowded around two Russian fourth-generation Su-27 fighters and were wowed as the jets performed their famous cobra manoeuvre, sharply braking in mid-air. At the...

• Hongkongers need more than 4 walls and a roof to make a home (2026-10-31 21:30)

What kind of living space can truly be called a "home"? That was the question on my mind when I visited United Court, a transitional housing estate in Tung Tau, Yuen Long, run by the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council. While there, I shared my thoughts on building a mental health-friendly community. Nine years ago, I took part in a community-based poverty study and interviewed residents in inadequate housing. I still remember families describing their living space as little more than a...

• Judge throws out Trump lawsuit against Wall Street Journal over Epstein birthday letter (2026-10-31 20:24)

Saying the US president was "grasping at straws", a federal judge on Saturday threw out Donald Trump's US$10 billion lawsuit against The Wall Street Journal and media mogul Rupert Murdoch over a story reporting on his ties to wealthy financier Jeffrey Epstein. US District Judge Darrin Gayles in Miami dismissed the suit with prejudice, ruling that the president did not prove the defendants made defamatory statements with actual malice as required by law. The ruling said the lawsuit had attempted...

• G20 foreign ministers end Atlanta meeting without consensus on key issues (2026-10-31 19:32)

As Washington seeks to loosen China's dominance over critical minerals, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio urged other members of the Group of 20 (G20) to strengthen supply chains and secure strategic trade routes as the group's foreign ministers' meeting drew to a close in Atlanta on Saturday. Rubio said there was a "universal recognition" among the G20 members over the importance of issues like critical minerals, supply chain security and freedom of navigation. "The first step is at least some...

• Clashes break out at France's Halloween protests, as hundreds of thousands take to streets (2026-10-31 18:23)

Police fired tear gas and clashed with protesters in Paris and elsewhere on Saturday as hundreds of thousands marched across France against soaring living costs and police violence, with some demonstrators dressed as clowns and witches for Halloween. While the third consecutive weekend of nationwide protests was largely peaceful, tensions erupted in several

cities later Saturday. After a march on the outskirts of Paris in bright sunshine, clashes brokeout between police and some demonstrators...

• German police fire water cannon during tense ‘Gen Z’ protests (2026-10-31 17:35)

German police fired water cannon to disperse firework-hurling protesters on Saturday and were also pelted with other projectiles, as tensions rose at the end of massive youth-led protests. In Berlin, Frankfurt, Cologne and dozens of other cities, demonstrators turned out for the protests organised by the group “GenZ regelt!” (GenZ has got this), the latest by disillusioned youth in Europe. Thousands of police were deployed across the country and, after mostly peaceful demonstrations, tensions...

• Quad not ‘anti-China’, says Rubio as first summit in two years set before Trump-Xi talks (2026-10-31 16:17)

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said on Saturday that the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, or the Quad, was not an “anti-China” coalition, as the grouping’s top diplomats finalised preparations for the leaders’ summit in the Philippines next month. Rubio’s statement comes just weeks before US President Donald Trump is scheduled to meet Chinese leader Xi Jinping in Shenzhen, China. “It is not an anti-China or anti-anybody coalition,” Rubio said at a press conference on the sidelines of the...

• Hong Kong man falls from luxury housing complex, striking domestic helper below (2026-10-31 15:28)

A Hong Kong man believed to have accidentally fallen from a height struck a domestic helper on the podium of a luxury housing estate in West Kowloon on Saturday, with the pair sent to hospital. Police said they received a report at 7.43pm that the man had fallen at 1 Austin Road West and landed on the podium, hitting the woman. A police spokesman said both were conscious at the scene, with the man taken to Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the woman sent to Kwong Wah Hospital. He added that...

• DR Congo Ebola deaths top 5,000, cases recorded in other African nations (2026-10-31 15:14)

Deaths in the Democratic Republic of Congo’s (DRC’s) Ebola outbreak have topped 5,000 as the country grapples with the relentless spread of the disease and cases are recorded in other African countries, the latest government data on Saturday shows. Data from the government’s Ministry of Health showed that the disease has killed 5,026 people out of 10,351 infected, at a nearly 50 per cent lethality rate. The surge is sparking concerns among experts regarding the authorities’ ability to contain...

• HKT says US order ‘ceased’ as firm reportedly agrees to exit American market (2026-10-31 14:39)

A leading Hong Kong telecommunications carrier has confirmed that an order requiring it to justify its operation in the United States has been ceased, after the company reportedly agreed to wind down its business under pressure from a US regulatory agency over national security concerns. A spokeswoman for Hong Kong Telecom (HKT) told the South China Morning Post on Saturday that the Order to Show Cause issued by the US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in October requiring it to justify...

• Iran’s supreme leader warns US, Israel against war (2026-10-31 14:16)

Iran’s supreme leader Mojtaba Khamenei on Saturday warned the United States and Israel against returning to war, according to a written statement, following threats from the Islamic republic’s foes of a possible resumption of strikes. “If the enemies once again launch military or terrorist attacks, it is the armed forces of the Islamic Republic and the Iranian nation that will determine the time and conditions for ending them,” said a statement attributed to Khamenei posted on his website. The...

• China narrows the path to elite official training scheme for citizens graduating overseas (2026-10-31 14:00)

China is further narrowing access to a key government recruitment programme for overseas-educated graduates, limiting their pathways into the country’s civil service and party-state system. More than a dozen provincial-level regions, including Beijing and Shanghai, opened applications for the 2027 xuandiaosheng recruitment rounds in September and October. Xuandiaosheng, or the “selected graduates” system, is designed to select and train university graduates to become elite cadres and officials...

• Chinese archaeologists set for hi-tech excavations with AI and deep-sea robots (2026-10-31 13:30)

Chinese archaeologists are set for a hi-tech turn, with the latest five-year blueprint aiming to deploy AI and deep-sea robots to trace Chinese history, decipher the origins of East Asian humans and expand the country’s cultural soft power. Scientists will develop technologies such as remote sensing, ancient DNA analysis, underwater archaeology robots and artificial intelligence (AI) models for virtual restoration of excavated artefacts, according to the 15th five-year work plan for...

• Soft power on display as China’s first lady Peng Liyuan hosts German counterpart (2026-10-31 13:00)

Chinese first lady Peng Liyuan hosted her German counterpart, Elke Budenbender, in Beijing on Friday for a tea reception in a bid to showcase Beijing’s soft power and foster closer bilateral ties. Peng stressed the rich cooperation with Germany in areas including education and culture, according to official news agency Xinhua. She also expressed hope that people from the two countries would “visit each other more often, continuously deepen mutual understanding and foster closer people-to-people...

• Wine and Dine Festival vendors report Halloween boost in sales and footfall (2026-10-31 12:46)

Vendors at Hong Kong's Wine and Dine Festival reported a stronger turnout and signs of improving business on Saturday as the annual event entered the weekend, coinciding with Halloween celebrations and extended opening hours until 1am. Some exhibitors said visitor numbers had increased noticeably compared with the first two days of the four-day festival, while others expressed cautious optimism about sales amid a challenging retail environment. Henry Leung, a staff member at food and beverage...

• UK PM Burnham 'open' to slavery apology, but not reparations (2026-10-31 12:06)

Prime Minister Andy Burnham said on Saturday he was "open" to the UK issuing a formal apology for its role in the transatlantic slave trade, but ruled out financial reparations. The Labour leader made the remarks days before attending a Commonwealth leaders summit in Antigua and Barbuda, as King Charles III tours the Caribbean. "I want to express my sorrow and regret for the pain and suffering of so many millions and to recognise the way it still shapes our world today," Burnham wrote in the...

• Is Beijing's 2027 military milestone now a US readiness deadline over Taiwan? (2026-10-31 12:00)

America's push for 2027 combat readiness in the Indo-Pacific is raising questions over whether a year that US military officials linked to a possible People's Liberation Army attack on Taiwan has instead become a planning benchmark. The preparations come despite a US intelligence assessment published in March that mainland Chinese leaders "do not currently plan" to attack Taiwan in 2027, "nor do they have a fixed timeline for achieving unification". General Ronald Clark, commander of US Army...

• 200 nations at Cop17 commit to biodiversity goals amid missed opportunities (2026-10-31 11:16)

Nearly 200 nations have struck hard-fought agreements at a UN biodiversity summit, but the outcome was accompanied by disappointment over missed opportunities to address humanity's destructive toll on nature. Delegates cheered on Friday as crucial texts were approved in overtime but the celebrations were tempered by acrimonious debates and regret over limited progress on some of the most contentious issues. The Cop17 summit in Armenia sought to revive a landmark commitment to halt and reverse...

• With 'Kissinger moment' over, US and China urged to foster new 'bridge builders' (2026-10-31 11:00)

Beijing and Washington have been urged to foster a new generation of talent to bridge gaps between the countries and strengthen people-to-people exchanges amid growing frictions and concerns about a lack of China expertise in the US. Academics and experts from the two

countries gathered in Shanghai on Friday at the China-US Intergenerational Dialogue 2026. Theywere seeking a new crop of “bridge builders” like Henry Kissinger, the former US secretary ofstate who helped to engineer the historic...

• China places former Sinopec and CNOOC boss Fu Chengyu, 75, under corruption probe (2026-10-31 10:48)

Fu Chengyu, the former chairman of leading oil giants Sinopec and China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC), is under investigation for corruption by the country’s top watchdogs. The Communist Party’s Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI) was investigating Fu for alleged “serious violations of discipline and law”, a euphemism for corruption, state news agency Xinhua reported on Saturday, quoting a notice posted on the commission’s website. He is “currently undergoing...

• Bars expect 50% jump in sales on final night of Hong Kong’s ‘Halloween Month’ (2026-10-31 10:30)

Hong Kong’s inaugural “Halloween Month” has been a boon for businesses, with bar and restaurant operators in Lan Kwai Fong expecting sales on Saturday to rise by more than 50 per cent compared with last year. With Halloween falling on a weekend this year, businesses were expecting a bumper turnout as the Tourism Board’s inaugural campaign for the celebrations wrapped up. Operators noted a surge in visitors from mainland Chinese cities in the Greater Bay Area. “It’s been very well received by...

• Hong Kong may raise GDP forecast as growth poised for 5-year high: Paul Chan (2026-10-31 10:20)

Hong Kong’s economic growth this year could be the city’s strongest in five years, with potential for further upward revisions after the full-year forecast was previously raised to a range of 3.5 to 4.5 per cent, the finance chief has said. Financial Secretary Paul Chan Mo-po said on Saturday that the city’s economy grew by 5.1 per cent in the first half of the year, driven by strong export momentum and investment growth. “Although the third-quarter figures have not yet been released, I can...

• Africa suffering in ‘strongmen’ era, says governance watchdog (2026-10-31 10:06)

Democracy and rights are declining in Africa as leaders take their cues from the rise of strongmen in other parts of the world, the head of a governance monitor told AFP. Mo Ibrahim, 80, is a Sudanese-British billionaire who made a fortune in telecoms and ploughed it into monitoring and encouraging better governance across Africa. The Mo Ibrahim Foundation’s latest report, finds broad progress on economic opportunity and human development over the past decade, but also steep declines in...

• Apple Intelligence to roll out on iPhones in China in December with Alibaba backing (2026-10-31 10:02)

Apple’s long-awaited artificial intelligence features will be officially launched in China in December, ending two years of regulatory uncertainty as the US tech giant seeks to bring advanced technologies to its second-largest market with the help of Alibaba Group Holding. The first batch of Apple Intelligence services will roll out to Chinese iPhone users alongside the iOS 27.3 update in December, following an open beta test with developers starting November 4, the US company said in a...

- How ancient Chinese stayed cosy using gadgets found in classical literature, historic artwork (2026-10-31 10:00)

In ancient China, without electricity, how did people stay cosy at home during freezing winters? The answer lies in warming baskets, which have been used for more than 2,000 years. A traditional warming basket featured a charcoal brazier beneath a bamboo cover. One of the earliest written references to the device dates back to the Qin and Han dynasties (221 BC–220). At first, the basket served as a stove to keep a room warm. Later, people added incense to the brazier and placed a basin of water...

- AI could turn China’s social credit system into surveillance tool: government-funded study (2026-10-31 10:00)

China’s social credit system, stereotypically imagined as an all-powerful numerical scoring project for authoritarian control, has gained notoriety in the West – although people inside the country actually feel little of its presence or practical influence. In a government-funded study, however, a Chinese legal scholar warned that deploying artificial intelligence (AI) risked turning the rating system into a “large-scale surveillance tool”. The paper was published in the Journal of Sichuan...

- Tai Po fire report: lessons from a tragedy (2026-10-31 09:30)
- Russia-occupied Oleshky evacuees arrive in Belarus, Ukraine next (2026-10-31 09:22)

Three planes carrying residents evacuated from the Russian-controlled frontline Ukrainian city of Oleshky landed at Gomel airport in Belarus, the Belta state news agency reported on Saturday. The evacuees, wishing to leave for Ukraine, travelled by bus via the Crimean peninsula to the Russian town of Anapa before flying to Belarus and will proceed to Ukraine via a border crossing, Belta said. Starving and exhausted residents were evacuated as part of a joint relief operation by...

- Appeal for private flight to bring critically ill British baby home from Hong Kong (2026-10-31 08:56)

A UK-registered air ambulance and family support charity has issued an urgent appeal for a donated private flight to bring a critically ill baby boy home from Hong Kong. Lia’s Wings said on Friday that nine-month-old Matthew, from Nottinghamshire, had travelled to Hong Kong with his mother several months ago to visit relatives. He fell ill with influenza A and suffered three cardiac arrests, leaving him critically ill in hospital. His brain was reportedly deprived of

oxygen for 47 minutes. His...

• Both Japan and China can help Bangladesh reach its full potential (2026-10-31 08:30)

In the Land of the Rising Sun, Bangladesh looks forward to a new dawn. The hope that comes with Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's visit to Japan goes beyond the deals signed or the financial support expected. It shows a country that has emerged from authoritarian rule and wants to turn its new political voice into bigger economic chances and freedom of choice. For a government chosen by the people, foreign policy must answer one question: how does it make life better for the people who gave it...

• Can battery swapping and energy storage power CATL's next phase of growth? (2026-10-31 08:00)

Contemporary Amperex Technology Ltd (CATL) has doubled down on new businesses including battery swapping and energy storage as the world's largest battery maker seeks new growth drivers amid intensifying price wars and mounting pressure on profitability. But the new path is far from straightforward. Established players like Nio have already built a strong presence in battery swapping, while BYD has reinforced its position in energy-storage systems. Lucas Zhang Liutong, director of Hong...

• Hong Kong has released the full report on Tai Po fire tragedy. Here's all you need to know (2026-10-31 07:30)

We have put together 10 stories from our coverage on the full report of the Wang Fuk Court fire, released almost a year since the tragedy claimed 168 lives. If you would like to see more of our reporting, please consider subscribing. 1. John Lee apologises for Tai Po fire, unveils reforms as housing chief resigns Hong Kong's leader has apologised for last year's deadly Tai Po fire, vowing extensive civil service and legislative reforms and an overhaul of government departments as his housing...

• China joins global race to reawaken brain-injury patients through ultrasound therapy (2026-10-31 07:00)

After spending three months in a coma following a brain haemorrhage, a patient in China has regained the ability to speak, eat and walk with support – part of an early clinical trial using targeted sound waves to help "wake up" severely damaged brains, according to state media. The technology, developed by a coalition including the Chinese Academy of Sciences' Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology, used focused ultrasound waves to stimulate regions deep within the brain without requiring...

• Malaysia's Melaka poll begins as 79 cleared in test for Anwar's coalition (2026-10-31 06:57)

Malaysia's Melaka state began its election campaign on Saturday after 79 candidates were cleared to contest a poll testing whether Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim's governing partners

can turn an opportunistic alliance with his Islamist opponents into a platform for nationalpower. The coastal state south of Kuala Lumpur heads to the polls on November 14, handingthe United Malays National Organisation (Umno) and the Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party (PAS)another opening to deepen cooperation after...

• New renovation body may offer bigger subsidies for ageing Hong Kong districts (2026-10-31 06:48)

Hong Kong's planned renovation monitoring body will consider larger subsidies for homeowners of ageing buildings in older districts or with high elderly populations who use its supervision services for major repairs, the finance chief has said. Financial Secretary Paul Chan Mo-po said on Saturday that the Building Maintenance Support and Services Council, set up to curb malpractice in the industry after the Tai Po fire report, would be non-profit but would have to recover its costs, since owners...

• US, South Korea and Japan reaffirm North Korea denuclearisation stance (2026-10-31 06:43)

The United States, South Korea and Japan reaffirmed their commitment to the "complete denuclearisation" of North Korea on Saturday, as Pyongyang continues to reject disarmament ahead of possible talks with Washington. Speculation is mounting over a potential meeting between US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un at next month's Apec summit in China, with Trump making repeated overtures to Pyongyang for nuclear talks. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, South Korean Foreign...

• Data of nearly 17,000 mainland students leaked in Hong Kong exams body breach (2026-10-31 06:06)

The personal data of nearly 17,000 students based in mainland China who applied to take two international exams through the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) has been leaked after its information system was compromised. The authority said the leaked data included the names, dates of birth and email addresses of about 16,900 students. It added that there was no evidence that the Diploma of Secondary Education (DSE) Examination or any other tests had been affected. "The HKEAA...

• Beijing blasts US ban on device testing in China, warns of supply chain disruptions (2026-10-31 06:01)

China's Ministry of Commerce has voiced firm opposition to a decision by the US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to bar device testing in China by 2028. "This has seriously harmed the interests of China and other trading partners, seriously undermined the stability of China-US economic and trade relations, and seriously disrupted the stability of global industrial and supply chains," it said in a statement on Friday night. "[We] hope the United States will face the calls of the industry,...

• Hong Kong woman, 66, loses HK$2.7 million in money-laundering phone scam (2026-10-31 05:29)

A 66-year-old Hong Kong woman was swindled out of HK$2.7 million (US$344,158) in a phone scam after a caller alleged that her bank account had been involved in money laundering. Police said the woman, who lives in Sau Mau Ping, told the force at about 5am on Saturday that she had received the call earlier this month from a suspected scammer. He claimed her bank account, the one she used to buy insurance online, had been involved in money laundering and allegedly instructed her to transfer funds...

• Hong Kong socialite Abby Choi's remains found in soup pots and fridge, court told (2026-10-31 05:23)

Slain Hong Kong socialite Abby Choi Tin-fung's remains were stored in two soup pots and a refrigerator after her body was dismembered with an electric saw in a rural village flat, a court has heard. The High Court trial took a turn towards the end of its fifth week when Choi's former father-in-law, Kwong Kau, changed his plea to guilty on a charge of illegally disposing of her body. His admission came after the court heard how some of the 28-year-old's remains were found in Lung Mei village in...

• From digital pets to robot pals: how AI is changing Hong Kong classrooms (2026-10-31 05:09)

Hands shot up in a Hong Kong Primary Two classroom as pupils debated what their digital pet needed more, meal vouchers or the latest game cards. Their teacher at SKH Kei Oi Primary School in Sham Shui Po had created the virtual pet using artificial intelligence (AI) and web tools for a lesson on saving and budgeting. With each spending decision, the pet's mood and savings changed on screen, helping pupils discover the consequences of careless spending. Such lessons are becoming more common...

• As AI cyber risks grow, Chinese chip expert urges shared ethics standards with US rivals (2026-10-31 05:00)

The co-founder of Chinese chip giant Cambricon Technologies urged the introduction of universal ethical requirements for leading Chinese and American artificial intelligence models on Friday to mitigate growing risks to society. Chen Yunji's remarks at an event in Shanghai come as the rapid advance of AI systems globally has resulted in a string of high-profile cyberattacks that have threatened critical infrastructure and breached government servers. Predicting that AI advances would develop...

• Shenzhen too pricey? Cost-conscious Hongkongers dig deeper into mainland China (2026-10-31 04:00)

Seventy-something Hong Kong retiree Leung Ching says a meal for four in Shenzhen, the megacity in mainland China roughly an hour's train ride away, that cost just over 300 yuan (US$45) a few years ago now runs to 500 to 600 yuan. It would cost around HK$1,000

(US$127.50) in Hong Kong, but only 300 yuan in Guangzhou and just 200 yuan in Zhongshan,two cities within two hours of Hong Kong. “Shenzhen is becoming less and less affordable,” said Leung, a retired vendor. Last year, consumer prices in...

- Mao vs Rao: Cell Press probe clears editor but Chinese biologist keeps up pressure (2026-10-31 04:00)

Prominent biologist Rao Yi is refusing to back down after Cell Press said it had found no evidence that top journal editor Steve Mao sought bribes from Chinese scientists. In a statement published on Thursday evening, Cell Press – one of the world’s leading scientific publishers, owned by Elsevier – said its investigation had “largely concluded” and “found no evidence to support the aforementioned allegations”. Nevertheless, Rao, a tenured chair professor at Peking University who stepped down as...

- Kim Jong-un urges drone expansion as North Korea showcases new unmanned tech (2026-10-31 03:21)

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un attended an exhibition devoted to drones and called for rapidly expanding the country’s drone technology, state media reported on Friday, as his military escalates threats against South Korea and the United States. Acquiring advanced drones is a top priority for Kim, who now wants to strengthen conventional and nuclear capabilities to counter what he calls US-led security threats. It is unclear how far North Korea’s drone programme has progressed. Experts say...

- Hong Kong’s Jumbo Floating Restaurant catches fire before opening, kills 34 – SCMP archive (2026-10-31 03:15)

This story was first published on October 31, 1971. Aberdeen was yesterday (October 30, 1971) rocked by a tremendous explosion followed by fire which swept through the $14 million Jumbo Restaurant, killing 13 and injuring at least 42 others on board. It happened so quickly that within five minutes, fire engulfed the four-decked floating restaurant, reducing it to a charred hulk. Hundreds of people leapt for life from the decks and from the pagoda-shaped towers of the palatial restaurant. It was...

- Scary deals? What makes Hong Kong shun death-linked homes while France embraces the risk (2026-10-31 03:00)

Even as Hong Kong remains the world’s least affordable housing market, many buyers still shun heavily discounted homes linked to an “unnatural death”, such as murder or suicide, according to property agents. Prices for such properties could fall by as much as 50 per cent, while rents were typically about 20 per cent below market rates, they added. The aversion stands in stark contrast to parts of Europe, particularly in France, where buyers are often willing to purchase homes under a “vente en...

• Trump insists Republicans ‘have a shot’ in midterms as rallies resume amid health concerns (2026-10-31 02:48)

President Donald Trump on Friday insisted Republicans “have a shot” at success in the US midterms despite a feverish end to the campaign for elections that will decide control of Congress. Trump reversed course and reinstated two rallies in Kansas and Iowa a day after cancelling them, a move which had raised questions about his health and about the state of the race. “There’s such love in these all over the country,” Trump said, referring to his rallies, before rattling off a series of insults...

• Trump and Milei under pressure to explain role in Flavio Bolsonaro’s dramatic escape to US (2026-10-31 02:16)

US President Donald Trump and Argentina’s Javier Milei faced mounting pressure on Friday to explain the role their countries played in helping Flavio Bolsonaro flee Brazil after he had his passports cancelled. The 45-year-old Brazilian senator bolted his country two days after being defeated by incumbent Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva in a presidential election on Sunday. He had been ordered to surrender all his passports due to an ongoing investigation into him on suspicion of money...

• ‘Zero-cost’ lifestyle: China cash-strapped youth embrace thrifty living for mental relief (2026-10-31 02:00)

A growing number of young people in China are embracing a “zero-cost” lifestyle, seeking out free perks, complimentary gifts, and trial services. Across mainland social media, tens of thousands of posts share tips on scoring free samples at shopping malls or booking test drives with no intention of buying. One popular variation is mall-walking, in which budget-conscious shoppers stroll through air-conditioned malls while spending next to nothing. A classic routine might go like this: grab a...

• G20 talks expose deep rift as Russia stays defiant while Rubio pursues sideline diplomacy (2026-10-31 01:45)

Russia showed no sign on Friday of softening its stance on Kyiv as G20 foreign ministers opened talks in the United States, with the Ukraine and Iran wars deepening rifts between the sprawling forum’s members. Sharp disagreements emerged around the table, with EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas accusing Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov of presenting “lies” on issues like the conflict in Ukraine. “He put forward a lot of lies, a lot of false narratives” that Europeans were able to push...

• Dark past of Japan’s Unit 731 buried under airport expansion (2026-10-31 01:30)

A village that sent hundreds of men to one of imperial Japan’s most notorious wartime units is being demolished to make way for a runway at Tokyo’s Narita International Airport. Unit 731 carried out lethal experiments on captives, many of them Chinese, to develop biological weapons during the second world war. Around 300 of its roughly 3,000 personnel came from

Kamo, a neighbourhood in Shibayama town, Chiba prefecture, east of the capital. Its founderand commander, Lieutenant General Shiro...

• Bordeaux officials hail exclusive 5-year deal for Hong Kong to host Vinexpo (2026-10-31 01:00)

Having a presence in Hong Kong and the rest of China is “very important” for Bordeaux, an official from the world-renowned French wine-producing region has said, even as consumption declines on the mainland. The comments by deputy mayor Fabien Robert came as Vinexpo, a premier international wine and spirits trade exhibition that began in Bordeaux, signed a deal for its Asian edition to be hosted solely by Hong Kong from 2027 to 2031. “To be in Hong Kong every year, I think it’s a message .....

• Are the latest Communist Party promotions a sign of a new political trend in China? (2026-10-31 01:00)

Beijing promoted 10 officials to full membership of the Communist Party’s Central Committee at a major political gathering this week, where the normally routine process of filling vacancies took on new significance. The names of the officials who have filled the vacant slots were included in a communique released at the end of the fifth plenum of the party’s 20th Central Committee on Thursday. The event, which focused on party discipline and the fight against corruption, confirmed that 24 full...

• New Everest film hopes to nudge US-China relations into a higher altitude (2026-10-31 00:02)

The film Everest: The Other Side, a collaborative US-China project that opened on Friday in 515 US cinemas and that will premiere at 700 IMAX theatres in China on November 6, starts with a majestic shot of the world’s tallest mountain. Then the music builds and more challenging weather rolls in, foreshadowing what is at stake. The film invokes a well-trod narrative for fans of the mountaineering genre: a mix of the grit and sacrifice driving world-class climbers, along with no small amount of...

• ‘I’m terrified’: AI comes for Southeast Asia’s graduate jobs (2026-10-31 00:00)

Nafeesa Azman has applied for hundreds of jobs over the past two months, yet the 24-year-old Malaysian marketing graduate is yet to find a permanent role that pays what she needs or uses the skills she spent years, and a good deal of money, developing. Natthanicha Intawong, a final-year media arts student in Bangkok, describes the terror many of her peers feel as they prepare to enter a jobs market that artificial intelligence is already beginning to scythe through. For Joshua Nai, a Singaporean...

Source: The Diplomat China

• How China's Naval-Air Reach Is Offsetting the Malacca Dilemma (2026-11-06 16:25)

China remains exposed to maritime disruption, but its expanding regional reach is increasing the military and political costs of exploiting that vulnerability.

• Does China Have a Plan for Dealing With a Democratic Congress? (2026-11-06 16:20)

Should Beijing treat Trump as a "lame duck," or should Xi Jinping continue to invest in cultivating him?

• Mbappe's Mao Mess: The Expansion of China's Emotional Assertiveness (2026-11-06 13:45)

The Mbappe incident stands out because of the entirely apolitical context of his alleged offense and the strikingly disproportionate response from China

• The US Midterm Elections: Views From China (2026-11-05 14:05)

Most Chinese analysts don't expect a sea change in U.S. foreign policy, but there are some implications for China to consider.

• What China's Half-Empty 5th Plenum Says About Its Next Leaders (2026-11-05 12:50)

Empty seats and back-row observers at the Communist Party's latest plenum hint at how Xi will remake the elite in 2027.

• Pakistan's Abrupt (and Aborted) Revocation of Taiwan's Overflight Privileges (2026-11-04 14:07)

Pakistan announced that Taiwanese airlines would not be allowed to fly over the country, before abruptly rescinding the change. Is this a new strategy from Beijing?

• The Danger of Being a Female Livestreamer in China (2026-11-03 18:39)

When a fan thinks he owns you, online entitlement can morph into real-world violence.

• The 5th Plenum and the CCP'S Dark Warning to the Unfaithful (2026-11-02 18:57)

14 years later, the Chinese Communist Party is still carrying out the relentless anti-corruption crusade that has become the signature program of Xi Jinping's rule.

• China's AI Data Centers Move West, But Their Tax Revenue Stays East (2026-11-02 15:37)

If nothing changes, cities like Ulanqab will struggle to turn their computing boom into a real development advantage.

Source: US-China Perception Monitor

• How States Earn the Right to Rule w/ Dingxin Zhao (2026-11-06 13:00)

The post How States Earn the Right to Rule w/ Dingxin Zhao appeared first on U.S.-China Perception Monitor.

- Controlling the Narrative: Information, Image, and Influence in China’s Diplomacy w/ Maria Repnikova (2026-11-05 14:48)

The post Controlling the Narrative: Information, Image, and Influence in China’s Diplomacy w/ Maria Repnikova appeared first on U.S.-China Perception Monitor.

- What the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Plenums Reveal About the CCP’s Political Direction (2026-11-03 21:08)

The Fifth Plenum of the 20th Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party has concluded. By examining the official Xinhua communiqué alongside the documents issued after the previous two plenums, we can discern important changes in the CCP’s political direction over the past three years. The post What the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Plenums Reveal About the CCP’s Political Direction appeared first on U.S.-China Perception Monitor.