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# SYLLOGE ON CHINA

Focus: Nuclear, Space, Missiles and other Security Issues

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## **China, CEECs have strong potential for energy cooperation: researchers**

Wang Sheng

Global Times, September 25, 2020

China and Central and Eastern European countries (CEECs) have strong potential for energy cooperation, as CEECs' energy demand is expected to total 350 million tons of standard oil by 2030, a researcher from government think tank the Electric Power Planning & Engineering Institute (EPPEI), said at a conference. "Prosperous projects based on China-CEECs cooperation in the energy sector include oil and gas infrastructure construction, coal-fired plants with green technologies, hydropower, new energy, nuclear power, and other fields," said He Zhao, director of the international division at the EPPEI. Yu Gang, deputy general manager at China Energy Engineering Corp, also sees great potential for energy cooperation between China and the CEECs, thanks to the Belt and Road Initiative.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1202045.shtml>

## **PLA aircraft's moves target "Taiwan independence" secessionists: Spokesperson**

China Military Online, September 24, 2020

Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory, and the PLA will resolutely defeat the "Taiwan independence" forces attempting to separate Taiwan from China, said Senior Colonel Tan Kefei, spokesperson for China's Ministry of National Defense (MND), at a regular press conference in Beijing on September 24. According to reports, the PLA's aircraft have been conducting drills in the airspace over Taiwan Straits recently. Tan explained that those moves aim to demonstrate the PLA's resolve and capability to safeguard national sovereignty and territorial integrity, which targets foreign interference and the few "Taiwan independence" secessionists and their activities.

Speaking of the response from the leader of Taiwan region, hoping the mainland exercise restraint, Tan commented that, regardless of the safety and well-being of Taiwan compatriots, the Democratic Progressive Party authority in Taiwan has constantly instigated hostility and confrontation across the Taiwan Straits, and engaged in "pro-independence" provocations, which endangered the Straits' peace and stability. "Its attempt at 'Taiwan independence' is doomed to fail.

[http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-09/24/content\\_9908284.htm](http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-09/24/content_9908284.htm)

## **Two Chinese aircraft carriers complete routine training and sea trials**

China Military Online, September 24, 2020

Chinese naval aircraft carriers Liaoning and Shandong have recently completed routine training and sea trials respectively, said Senior Colonel Tan Kefei, new spokesperson for China's Ministry of National Defense, at the regular press conference. In response to the US media reports that the two Chinese aircraft carriers have performed maritime training missions at the same time to improve the capability of "Dual Carrier Operations", Tan stated that the two aircraft carriers have respectively

completed routine training and sea trials, and their moves aimed to test the performance of weapons and equipment and the troops' training level, improve the capabilities to perform tasks as well.

[http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-09/24/content\\_9908283.htm](http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-09/24/content_9908283.htm)

### **Military drills in Tibet are scheduled, not target any country: Defense Spokesperson**

China Military Online, September 24, 2020

The drills conducted by the Tibet Military Command of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) in recent days are within the annual training plan and not targeted at any specific country, said Senior Colonel Tan Kefei, new spokesperson for China's Ministry of National Defense, at a regular press conference. Snr. Col. Tan stated that the PLA Tibet Military Command recently organized several round-the-clock live-fire training exercises, in a bid to test the troops' adaptability and strike capability in ultra-high-altitude areas.

[http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-09/24/content\\_9908287.htm](http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-09/24/content_9908287.htm)

### **China's space-tracking ship departs for new monitoring mission in Pacific Ocean**

Xinhua, September 24, 2020

Space-tracking ship Yuanwang-5 has departed from a port in east China's Jiangsu Province on Thursday for a maritime monitoring mission in the Pacific Ocean. This is the third voyage of the ship this year. It will spend more than 100 days at sea and is scheduled to return in early 2021. Yuanwang-5 has spent 143 days at sea in 2020 carrying out four maritime monitoring missions, providing support for China's first Mars probe and the APSTAR-6D telecommunication satellite.

[http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-09/24/c\\_139393936.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-09/24/c_139393936.htm)

### **China's Chang'e-4 probe switches to dormant mode**

Xinhua, September 24, 2020

The lander and the rover of the Chang'e-4 probe have been switched to dormant mode for the lunar night after working stably for a 22nd lunar day, according to the Lunar Exploration and Space Program Center of the China National Space Administration. The lander was switched to dormant mode at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday (Beijing Time) as scheduled, and the rover, Yutu-2 (Jade Rabbit-2), at 11:18 p.m. on Wednesday, said the center on its official social media platform accounts.

A lunar day is equal to 14 days on Earth, and a lunar night is the same length. The Chang'e-4 probe, switching to dormant mode during the lunar night due to the lack of solar power, has survived 630 Earth days on the far side of the moon as of Thursday, and the rover has traveled 547.17 meters. During the 22nd lunar day, Yutu-2 explored an impact crater about 1.3 km northwest of the landing site.

[http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-09/24/c\\_139394069.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-09/24/c_139394069.htm)

## **Chinese military steps up anti-mine drills as Taiwan builds sea defences to thwart invasion**

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, September 23, 2020

China's military incorporated mine-sweeping exercises into some of its latest naval drills targeting Taiwan, according to recent reports from state media. Taiwan has been investing in minelayers and developing sophisticated underwater mines in the hope of thwarting the People's Liberation Army's plan to take over the island within three days – a move that could buy time for other forces to come to the island's aid, according to military analysts. In two recent naval exercises conducted by the PLA's Eastern and Southern theatre commands, the military's mine sweepers and minehunters played important roles in helping the flotillas clear sea lanes from underwater mines, state-run China Central Television reported.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3102577/chinese-military-steps-anti-mine-drills-taiwan-builds-sea>

## **China-India border row: risk of tangled ties if New Delhi looks to third parties, says expert**

Matt Ho

South China Morning Post, September 23, 2020

Beijing advised to consider how to prevent border differences spilling into other aspects of bilateral relations, if India is revamping its China policy framework laid since 1988 then China must recalibrate too, says observer. Ties between China and India could become even more tangled if New Delhi invites interference from other parties such as the United States, according to a leading Chinese foreign policy expert. With the world's two most populous developing countries in a border stand-off for nearly five months, Beijing is aware of the growing need to recalibrate its approach to the South Asian giant. The conflict developed into the deadliest clash between their countries in four decades and a no-firing agreement that had been upheld for years was violated in recent weeks with the exchange of warning shots.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3102578/china-trails-us-sixth-generation-jet-project-gets-airborne>

## **Mars probe makes midcourse maneuver**

Zhao Lei

China Daily, September 22, 2020

China's Tianwen 1 Mars probe carried out its second midcourse correction maneuver on Sunday night, according to the China National Space Administration. The robotic spacecraft ran its four 120-Newton thrusters for 20 seconds at around 11 pm after receiving control signals from its ground controllers, the administration said in a statement on Monday morning. By Monday morning, Tianwen 1 had traveled 160 million kilometers in an Earth-Mars transfer trajectory toward the red planet and was nearly 19 million km from Earth, it added. China launched Tianwen 1, the country's first independent

Mars mission, on July 23 at the Wenchang Space Launch Center in Hainan province, opening the nation's planetary exploration program.

<https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202009/22/WS5f683e9ea31024ad0ba7acab.html>

### **Lunar mission due by end of this year**

Zhao Lei

China Daily, September 22, 2020

Chang'e 5, the next mission in China's lunar exploration program, will demonstrate and test the country's technological and engineering capabilities in space, according to a key figure in the project. Yu Dengyun, deputy chief designer of China's lunar exploration program, said on Sunday that Chang'e 5 will be launched by a Long March 5 heavy-lift carrier rocket at the Wenchang Space Launch Center in Hainan province by the end of 2020. The 8.2-metric-ton robotic probe has four components — an orbiter, lander, ascender and re-entry module. After the probe reaches lunar orbit, the components will separate into two parts, with the orbiter and re-entry module remaining in orbit while the lander and ascender descend to the lunar surface.

The lander and ascender will make a soft landing and then get to work on tasks such as using a drill to collect underground rocks and a mechanical arm to gather lunar soil. After the surface operations are completed, the ascender's rocket will lift it to lunar orbit to dock with the re-entry module. It will transfer lunar samples to the module, which will carry them back to Earth.

<https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202009/22/WS5f693171a31024ad0ba7ae1e.html>

### **China launches new satellite to monitor ocean environment**

Xinhua, September 21, 2020

China on Monday sent a new ocean-monitoring satellite into orbit from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in Northwest China. A Long March-4B rocket carrying the Haiyang-2C (HY-2C) satellite took off at 1:40 pm (Beijing Time), according to the launch center. The HY-2C, the country's third ocean dynamic environment satellite, can provide all-weather and round-the-clock observation of wave height, sea surface height, wind and temperature. Onboard equipment enables the new satellite to provide information on the identification of vessels, and to receive, store and transmit buoy measurement data in China's offshore and other marine areas.

Developed by the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation, the HY-2C will form a network with the previous HY-2B and subsequent HY-2D, scheduled for launch next year, to carry out high-precision maritime environment monitoring. The planned satellite network will be capable of carrying out 80 percent of the world's sea surface wind monitoring within six hours, said sources with the China National Space Administration.

<https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202009/21/WS5f684c0da31024ad0ba7ace3.html>

## **Space science and technology take center stage in Fujian**

Zhao Lei

China Daily, September 18, 2020

The 2020 China Space Conference opened in Fuzhou, capital of Fujian province, on Friday morning. The four-day conference is hosted by the Chinese Society of Astronautics and the China Space Foundation and will consist of 16 events such as forums and themed exhibitions. High-ranking officials from the Fujian provincial and Fuzhou city governments, executives from State-owned space contractors and leaders from the private space sector are taking part in the event, the largest of its kind in China this year.

At the opening ceremony, Chinese researchers announced 10 most challenging subjects in space science and technology such as nuclear-powered spacecraft, heat-resistant materials for reusable aerospace vehicle and space debris clearance. In addition, State-owned space enterprises inked agreements with Fujian province on cooperation in aviation and space industries.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202009/18/WS5f647235a31024ad0ba7a76a.html>

## **PLA conducts combat-ready patrols and exercises in Taiwan Straits**

China Military Online, September 18, 2020

Recently, the naval and air forces assigned to the Eastern Theater Command (ETC) of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) conducted the combat-ready patrols and joint air-sea exercises in the Taiwan Straits to test the joint operations capability of multiservices and arms, said Air Force Senior Colonel Zhang Chunhui, spokesperson for the PLA Eastern Theater Command, in a written statement. Zhang said that the relevant moves are necessary measures to deal with the current situation across the Taiwan Straits and will help enhance the capability of troops under the PLA Eastern Theater Command to safeguard the national unity, territorial sovereignty and security.

The PLA ETC troops will resolutely perform their duties and missions, and have the confidence and determination to thwart any attempt by any person or force to carry out "Taiwan independence" separatist activities in any form, Zhang stressed in the statement.

[http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-09/18/content\\_9905003.htm](http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-09/18/content_9905003.htm)

## **Shandong to establish new rocket factory**

Zhao Le

China Daily, September 18, 2020

The State-owned space conglomerate China Aerospace Science and Technology Corp is working with local authorities in Shandong province to set up a manufacturing complex for solid-propellant carrier rockets, according to a project insider. Jin Xin, deputy project manager of the Long March 11 solid-propellant rocket at the China Academy of Launch Vehicle Technology, said on Wednesday in

Shandong's Yantai that his academy and the city government of Haiyang, a city administered by Yantai, are cooperating to construct the 800-hectare complex that will be capable of producing 20 solid-propellant rockets each year. The Beijing-based academy is China's dominant maker of carrier rockets and a subsidiary of China Aerospace Science and Technology Corp.

"It will be tasked with manufacturing our Long March 11 and Smart Dragon series solid-fuel rockets," he said. "Construction work is underway and is expected to be done before May 2021." The complex will be able to make and test all types of major parts on a solid-propellant rocket, including its engines. Furthermore, it will also hold satellite production and testing facilities, according to Jin. The project is intended to facilitate sea-based launch missions and nurture local space-related industries in Shandong. It was initiated by the provincial and Yantai governments in June 2019 after a Long March 11 carried out China's first sea-based launch from a submersible in the Yellow Sea that month, Jin said. On Tuesday morning, China conducted its second sea-based launch, firing a Long March 11 rocket from a ship in the Yellow Sea to deploy nine small satellites.

<https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202009/18/WS5f640a3ca31024ad0ba7a4ab.html>

### **China issues white paper on its armed forces' participation in UN peacekeeping operations**

Xinhua, September 18, 2020

China on Friday released a white paper on the participation of the country's armed forces in the United Nations (UN) peacekeeping operations. The white paper, titled "China's Armed Forces: 30 Years of UN Peacekeeping Operations," was released by the State Council Information Office.

[http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-09/18/c\\_139378152.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-09/18/c_139378152.htm)