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# SYLLOGE ON CHINA

**Focus: Nuclear, Space, Missiles and other Security Issues**

**An Initiative by Indian Pugwash Society and Centre for Nuclear Issues and Arms Control (MP - IDSA)**



INDIAN PUGWASH SOCIETY

## **Beijing gives chipmakers more power in new China semiconductor strategy**

Matthew Gooding

Tech Monitor, March 21, 2023

China is reportedly rethinking its semiconductor strategy in the face of tightening US sanctions, and is set to hand more power to leading chipmakers to help get around the restrictions, which have limited the supply of crucial components from abroad. The Chinese government introduced a new Communist Party science commission and a revamped Ministry of Science and Technology last month, and will now work closely with a small group of semiconductor companies, which will have easier access to government subsidies and more say in the direction of state-backed R&D.

<https://techmonitor.ai/technology/silicon/china-semiconductor-strategy-us-sanctions>

## **The future of the U.S.-China nuclear arms race**

James Jay Carafano

GIS, March 21, 2023

There is already a nuclear arms race between the United States and China. It is fueled by China's determination to reach true great power status, with strategic influence on par with what was achieved by the U.S. and the Soviet Union during the height of the Cold War, when both superpowers gained the capacity for mutual assured destruction. China's quest for nuclear dominance complements other initiatives intended to give Beijing decisive advantages against the U.S., and to hedge against the uncertain future of Russia in the wake of its war against Ukraine. This competition will likely accelerate for a decade or more.

<https://www.gisreportsonline.com/r/china-united-states-nuclear/>

## **China and Russia sign fast-neutron reactors cooperation agreement**

World Nuclear News, March 22, 2023

Russia's Rosatom and China's Atomic Energy Authority (CAEA) have signed a Comprehensive Programme for Long-Term Cooperation in the field of fast-neutron reactors and closing the nuclear fuel cycle. The document was signed by Rosatom Director General Alexei Likhachev and Zhang Kejian, head of the CAEA, on the sidelines of Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to Russia.

<https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/China-and-Russia-to-cooperate-on-fast-neutron-reactors>

## **Biden to stunt growth in China for chipmakers getting US funds**

Mint, March 22, 2023

The Biden administration is set to unveil tight restrictions on new operations in China by semiconductor manufacturers that get federal funds to build in the US. The \$50 billion CHIPS and Science Act will bar firms that win grants from expanding output by 5% for advanced chips and

10% for older technology, according to officials at the Commerce Department, which will disburse the funds.

<https://www.livemint.com/technology/tech-news/biden-to-stunt-growth-in-china-for-chipmakers-getting-us-funds-11679435703124.html>

## **Xi, Putin sign joint statement on deepening comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for the new era**

Global Times, March 22, 2023

Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin jointly signed and released the Joint Statement of the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation on Deepening the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership of Coordination for the New Era at the Kremlin in Moscow. In the statement, the two sides pointed out that China-Russia relations are not the kind of military-political alliance during the Cold War, but transcend such a model of state-to-state relations and have the nature of no-alliance, no-confrontation and not targeting any third party.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202303/1287731.shtml>

## **China Uranium Resource Import Report 2023-2032: Rapid Growth of Nuclear Power in the Region Bolsters Demand**

Yahoo Finance, March 22, 2023

In recent years, China has seen rapid development of nuclear power. By the end of 2022, China had 53 commercial nuclear power units in operation, with a total installed capacity of 55.6 million kilowatts. There are 23 nuclear power units under construction, with a total installed capacity of 24.19 million kilowatts. China's installed capacity of nuclear power generation units under construction has remained the world's largest for many years. As China's installed nuclear power capacity rises, so does the country's demand for uranium resources.

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/china-uranium-import-report-2023-144500654.html>

## **China can sway chip markets without overtaking U.S.: Chris Miller**

Lauly Li

Nikkei Asia, March 23, 2023

The U.S. and its allies will still have the most advanced chip technology in five years' time but should remain cautious about China's impact on the market for less-advanced semiconductors, says "Chip War" author Chris Miller. Speaking to Nikkei Asia in Taipei, Miller also argued that America's political support for Taiwan does not depend on the island's chip sector -- a view at odds with that of industry veteran Morris Chang.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Tech/Semiconductors/China-can-sway-chip-markets-without-overtaking-U.S.-Chris-Miller>

## **China opposes AUKUS nuclear submarine program and coercion of IAEA Secretariat into endorsing it: FM**

Global Times, March 23, 2023

China has expressed its grave concern and firm opposition after the US, the UK and Australia pushed forward nuclear-powered submarine cooperation and coerced IAEA Secretariat to endorse the cooperation, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said at a routine press conference. The nuclear submarine cooperation between the US, the UK and Australia fully exposes the double standards and hypocritical nature of the three countries on nuclear non-proliferation, Wang said at a press conference in Beijing, explaining China's stance on the topic.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202303/1287872.shtml>

## **Concerned about US-led semiconductor decoupling with China, says Chinese envoy to India**

Sandhya Sharma

The Economic Times, March 23, 2023

Expressing anguish over recent geopolitical manoeuvring, China's chargé d'affaires to India said that it is "concerned" over the United States' "decoupling and delinking" with China in semiconductors. In an exclusive chat with ET, Ma Jia said, "Semiconductors are a very specific area of cooperation. Nowadays we are very much concerned over the US (doing) that kind of decoupling and delinking with other parts of the world, especially with China. So, we oppose that."

[https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/concerned-about-us-led-semiconductor-decoupling-with-china-says-chinese-envoy-to-india/articleshow/98936942.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/concerned-about-us-led-semiconductor-decoupling-with-china-says-chinese-envoy-to-india/articleshow/98936942.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

## **PLA expels US destroyer trespassing Chinese territorial waters off Xisha Islands**

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, March 23, 2023

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) expelled a US destroyer when the latter trespassed into Chinese territorial waters off the Xisha Islands in the South China Sea amid continued US attempts to destabilize the region. Without authorization from the Chinese government, guided missile destroyer the USS Milius made an illegal intrusion into Chinese territorial waters off the Xisha Islands, sabotaging the peace and stability in the South China Sea, Senior Colonel Tian Junli, a spokesperson at the PLA Southern Theater Command, said in a press release.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202303/1287822.shtml>

## **China presents national report on nuclear safety to IAEA**

CGTN, March 24, 2023

China presented its national report on nuclear safety during the Joint Eighth and Ninth Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS) at the headquarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, Austria. Dong Baotong, vice minister of ecology and environment and director of the national nuclear safety administration, presented the report during the meeting.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2023-03-24/China-presents-national-report-on-nuclear-safety-to-IAEA-1iqCSPlDgrK/index.html>

## **How to Out-Deter China**

Joel Wuthnow

Foreign Affairs, March 24, 2023

In January 1996, in the midst of a crisis brought about by a series of Chinese missile tests conducted in Taiwan's waters, a Chinese general grimly alluded to a potential nuclear response to any U.S. intervention in defense of the island. "The American people," he warned a U.S. official, "care more about Los Angeles than Taipei." Such saber rattling, however, belied the fact that China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) knew it did not have the military strength to deter the United States from intervening in a war over Taiwan.

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/united-states/deter-china-taiwan>

## **China frees top chip investor to bolster semiconductor efforts**

Qianer Liu and Ryan McMorrow

Financial Times, March 24, 2023

China has released a top chip investor after an eight-month detention as the country battles to bolster its semiconductor industry in the face of Washington's containment efforts. Chen Datong, head of Yuanhe Puhua (Suzhou) Investment Management, also known as Hua Capital, was released this month as Beijing seeks help from chip experts to navigate tough western sanctions, according to two people with direct knowledge of the matter.

<https://www.ft.com/content/ffb81a37-5239-4d5b-80b6-2b318084b460>

## **China, US draw on regional forces to scale up mutual deterrence**

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, March 25, 2023

The competition between China and the US in the Asia-Pacific region has seen the two powers scale up military exercises with their regional counterparts in a bid to discourage each other from using force, analysts said. Defence observers said joint exercises with countries in the region had

become common practice for the PLA and US forces, as a way to indicate their deterrent capabilities.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3214154/china-us-draw-regional-forces-scale-mutual-deterrence>

## **Huawei's chip software heralds breakthrough**

Ma Si

China Daily, March 25, 2023

Huawei Technologies Co said it has developed electronic design automation or EDA tools for chips above 14 nanometers by partnering with domestic companies, marking a crucial breakthrough for China's semiconductor industry amid US government restrictions. Dubbed the "cradle" of integrated circuits, EDA is a software widely used in the sector and is of great importance to the entire process of designing chips.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202303/25/WS641e4a13a31057c47ebb6789.html>

## **China's Africa Belt and Road investment drops as West spends more**

Robert Bociaga

Nikkei Asia, March 25, 2023

China's Belt and Road investment in sub-Saharan Africa fell to a new low last year, showing that increased U.S. and European spending could reduce the region's need to rely on Beijing for funding. China's investment in the region related to Beijing's global infrastructure development strategy dropped 55% to \$7.5 billion last year, according to a recent report from the Green Finance and Development Center at Fudan University in Shanghai.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Belt-and-Road/China-s-Africa-Belt-and-Road-investment-drops-as-West-spends-more>

## **The smart card tracking workers on China's giant Type 075 amphibious assault ship**

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, March 25, 2023

It is the second-biggest vessel in the Chinese navy and so big that sailors on the ship have been issued smart location devices in case they get lost. The People's Liberation Army has issued staff working on the Hainan, a Type 075 amphibious assault ship, with cards that relay a worker's position to a central communications hub, state broadcaster CCTV reported.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3214832/smart-card-tracking-workers-chinas-giant-type-075-amphibious-assault-ship>

## **South Korea to Surpass China in Chip Machine Spending Next Year**

Sam Kim

Bloomberg, March 26, 2023

South Korea is forecast to overtake China in spending on advanced chipmaking equipment next year in a sign of US export controls reshaping global supply chains for semiconductors. The shift underscores China's struggle to secure crucial machines to improve its chips as US curbs make it harder to access equipment purchased from a handful of makers like ASML Holding NV of the Netherlands.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-03-27/south-korea-to-surpass-china-in-chip-machine-spending-next-year#xj4y7vzkg>

## **PLA Navy's Type 055 large destroyer Wuxi achieves operational capability, 'boosting North Sea Fleet's far sea capabilities'**

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, March 26, 2023

The Type 055 large destroyer Wuxi of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy has achieved operational capability after completing a full-course acceptance test recently, becoming the fourth combat-ready 10,000-ton class destroyer of the PLA North Sea Fleet, with experts saying that having more Type 055 ships at the PLA's disposal means higher far sea capabilities.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202303/1287983.shtml>

## **China-Russia bonhomie ominous for India's global chip making dream**

ET Telecom, March 26, 2023

As the US invests billions in local semiconductor manufacturing to end its dependence on China, the bonhomie between Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin can be seen as an effort by Beijing to somehow negotiate on raw materials needed in semiconductor manufacturing. However, in recent days, India and the US have come closer to establishing a semiconductor supply chain and innovation partnership under the framework of India-US Commercial Dialogue. China, which is the leader in chip manufacturing, is wary of the changing dynamics and is keen to explore new avenues to continue holding its leadership position in the global semiconductor industry.

<https://telecom.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/devices/china-russia-bonhomie-ominous-for-indias-global-chip-making-dream/99009230>

## **US reacts to Beijing's "warning off" claim**

ANI, March 26, 2023

A day after China said it drove a US Navy destroyer away from Beijing-claimed waters in the South China Sea, the US 7th Fleet said the same warship sailed through those waters to challenge

the Chinese claims, CNN reported. The "guided-missile destroyer USS Milius asserted navigational rights and freedoms in the South China Sea near the Paracel Islands, consistent with international law," a statement from 7th Fleet spokesperson Lt. jg. Luka Bakic said.

<https://www.aninews.in/news/world/us/us-reacts-to-beijings-warning-off-claim20230326125515/>

## **China's tech cooperation won't be hindered by US 'decoupling'**

Global Times, March 26, 2023

For China and Brazil, which are both large developing countries with common interests and aspirations, the huge benefits of common development as a result of bilateral technology cooperation is not something that can be easily overlooked. Since 1982, when Brazil and China signed an agreement for scientific and technological cooperation, the two countries have inked scores of bilateral accords, particularly in the areas of aerospace, mathematics, climate change, forestry, and energy, among others.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202303/1288013.shtml>

## **China's diplomatic faux pas pushes Manila back into U.S. arms**

Toru Takahashi

Nikkei Asia, March 26, 2023

Given the timing of Marcos' visits, and the content of the economic and security agreements, China, at first glance, seems to have achieved more than Japan vis-a-vis ties with the Philippines. A joint statement issued when Marcos visited China in January mentioned an agreement to "appropriately manage differences through peaceful means." Following the laser incident, the Philippine Foreign Affairs Department criticized Beijing, calling the incident an "act of aggression," and "disturbing and disappointing," as it happened soon after Marcos' visit to China.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/China-s-diplomatic-faux-pas-pushes-Manila-back-into-U.S.-arms2>

## **China's Baidu scraps public launch of ChatGPT-like product**

Nikkei Asia, March 27, 2023

Chinese search engine giant Baidu cancelled a planned livestreamed product launch related to its ChatGPT-like "Ernie bot" that it had advertised as being open to media and the public. The webcast, scheduled for March 27 afternoon, was switched to a closed-door meeting with the first batch of companies that are testing the product, Baidu said in a statement. The reason behind the change in format was in order to satisfy the "strong demand" from 120,000 companies that had applied to test Ernie bot, the company said, adding this would be the first of many closed-door meetings.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/China-tech/China-s-Baidu-scraps-public-launch-of-ChatGPT-like-product>



## **China exemplar of responsible power as it backs a nuclear weapon-free SE Asia**

Global Times, March 28, 2023

When the world is under an increasingly urgent and realistic danger of a nuclear war and possible destruction of nuclear non-proliferation, China has once again demonstrated its strong determination as a responsible major power to protect the region from nuclear threats. During a meeting with the visiting ASEAN Secretary-General Kao Kim Hourn, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Qin Gang said that China is willing to take the lead in signing the Protocol to the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ Treaty) and work with ASEAN to advocate solidarity and win-win cooperation, jointly safeguarding regional security and stability.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202303/1288117.shtml>

## **China grants billions in bailouts as Belt and Road Initiative falters**

James Kynge

Financial Times, March 28, 2023

China has significantly expanded its bailout lending as its Belt and Road Initiative blows up following a series of debt write-offs, scandal-ridden projects and allegations of corruption. A study published on Tuesday shows China granted \$104bn worth of rescue loans to developing countries between 2019 and the end of 2021. The figure for these years is almost as large as the country's bailout lending over the previous two decades.

<https://www.ft.com/content/9b2cb53f-e6f0-479e-bb94-a2e0c8680e88>

## **US maintains intensive military ops around China with 1,000 close-in recon attempts in 2022 despite Ukraine crisis: report**

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, March 28, 2023

The US has maintained intensive military activities around China despite the outbreak of the Ukraine crisis in 2022, a situation that experts said on Tuesday will only provoke China and lead to more countermeasures that go against the US' wishful thinking. Even against the background of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, the US military stressed military deterrence against China, maintained a high level of close-in reconnaissance operations in the South China Sea, and sent vessels and aircraft through the Taiwan Straits, the South China Sea Strategic Situation Probing Initiative (SCSPI), a Beijing-based think tank, said in an annual report on US military activities in the South China Sea last year, which was published.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202303/1288136.shtml>

## **China's response to U.S. curbs a risk for Taiwan: MediaTek chairman**

Lauly Li

Nikkei Asia, March 28, 2023

Taiwan's smaller chip design companies are likely to be hit by China's refocus on older chip technologies amid a crackdown by the U.S., the chairman of the world's largest mobile chip design company has warned. "The U.S. export controls against China's advanced chip sector in October last year has prompted Chinese government funds to flow into the mature chip technology sector, and we believe Taiwan's small and mid-size chip design houses will possibly be the first to be affected," MediaTek Chairman Tsai Ming-kai said at the release of a white paper on the Taiwanese chip design industry in Hsinchu.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Tech/Semiconductors/China-s-response-to-U.S.-curbs-a-risk-for-Taiwan-MediaTek-chairman>

## **China's Nuclear Energy Sector Targeted in Cyberespionage Campaign**

Ionut Arghire

Security Week, March 28, 2023

A South Asian advanced persistent threat (APT) actor has been targeting the nuclear energy sector in China in a recent cyberespionage campaign, Intezer reports. Dubbed 'Bitter' and active since at least 2021, the group is known for the targeting of energy and government organizations in Bangladesh, China, Pakistan, and Saudi Arabia, and is characterized by the use of Excel exploits, and Microsoft Compiled HTML Help (CHM) and Windows Installer (MSI) files.

<https://www.securityweek.com/chinas-nuclear-energy-sector-targeted-in-cyberespionage-campaign/>

## **China aims to move ahead in AI race with deployment of scientific research program**

Global Times, March 28, 2023

China's Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) have jointly initiated the deployment program for AI-driven scientific research - AI for Science - Xinhua News Agency reported. In order to implement the Next Generation Artificial Intelligence Development Plan issued by the State Council, MOST and the NSFC plan to set up a cutting-edge research and development (R&D) system for AI-driven scientific research, closely integrating key issues in mathematics, physics, chemistry, astronomy and other basic disciplines, according to Xinhua.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202303/1288084.shtml>

## **In seeking to curb China, Aukus may well have launched a new cold war – and an arms race**

Richard Heydarian

South China Morning Post, March 28, 2023

China is the gigantic exception, having simultaneously modernised its economy and armed forces in recent decades – its “economic miracle” providing ample resources to modernise its once-antiquated armed forces. When measured in purchasing power parity (relative costs) rather than market exchange rates, China’s defence budget, which is fuelling a sophisticated indigenous military-industrial complex, is comparable to the Pentagon’s.

<https://www.scmp.com/comment/opinion/article/3214795/seeking-curb-china-aukus-may-well-have-launched-new-cold-war-and-arms-race>

## **China spent \$240bn bailing out 'Belt and Road' countries: study**

Nikkei Asia, March 28, 2023

China spent \$240 billion bailing out 22 developing countries between 2008 and 2021, with the amount soaring in recent years as more have struggled to repay loans spent building "Belt and Road" infrastructure, a study published showed. Almost 80% of the lending was made between 2016 and 2021, mainly to middle-income countries including Argentina, Mongolia and Pakistan, according to the report by researchers from the World Bank, Harvard Kennedy School, AidData and the Kiel Institute for the World Economy.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Belt-and-Road/China-spent-240bn-bailing-out-Belt-and-Road-countries-study>

## **China’s new ambassador to N.Korea assumes post amid rising tension in Peninsula caused by the US**

Global Times, March 28, 2023

New Chinese Ambassador to North Korea Wang Yajun arrived in the country to assume his post amid rising tensions in the Korean Peninsula caused by the US' military activities in the region. Experts said the hostility caused by recent US military actions have led to a rising sense of insecurity in North Korea, which is unhelpful for easing tensions and ensuring peace in the region. "We believe Ambassador Wang will play an important role in promoting the traditional friendly and cooperative relations," Mao Ning, spokesperson of Chinese Foreign Ministry, said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202303/1288127.shtml>

## **Air Force secretary labels China's rapid nuclear expansion most 'disturbing' threat he has seen**

Corey Dickstein

Stars and Stripes, March 28, 2023

Air Force Secretary Frank Kendall told lawmakers that increased efforts by China to rapidly expand its inventories of nuclear weapons worries him more than anything he has seen in his long national security career. "I don't think I've seen anything more disturbing in my career than the Chinese ongoing expansion of their nuclear force," Kendall, a former Army officer who has spent decades in Pentagon and other national security roles, told House appropriators during a hearing on Capitol Hill.

[https://www.stripes.com/branches/air\\_force/2023-03-28/air-force-china-nuclear-weapons-9634406.html](https://www.stripes.com/branches/air_force/2023-03-28/air-force-china-nuclear-weapons-9634406.html)

## **China, France celebrate 40th anniversary of nuclear energy cooperation**

Deng Xiaoci and Du Qiongfang

Global Times, March 29, 2023

The 40th anniversary of the nuclear energy cooperation between China and France was marked on Wednesday with representative from both sides reviewing the decades-long history of cooperation, showcasing the achievements and potential of further expanding cooperative relations. At the anniversary event, Liu Jing, deputy director of China Atomic Energy Authority (CAEA) said that China and France have worked together to build landmark projects such as Daya Bay Nuclear Power Plant, Ling'ao Nuclear Power Plant and Taishan Nuclear Power Plant thanks to great attention and care from leaders from both countries over the past 40 years.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202303/1288228.shtml>

## **China threatens retaliation for planned Tsai-McCarthy meeting**

Kathrin Hille

Financial Times, March 29, 2023

China has threatened to retaliate if Taiwan's president Tsai Ing-wen meets US House speaker Kevin McCarthy during a brief US visit as planned. Such a meeting would be "another provocation" that would harm China's sovereignty and territorial integrity and damage peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait, the Chinese government's Taiwan policy body said, pledging to "resolutely hit back". The warning came on Wednesday morning as Tsai was preparing to take off on a 10-day overseas trip.

<https://www.ft.com/content/e8f4c42b-0dbc-41dd-a088-467ccaba51ec#post-42ed85ed-0662-42cd-bba2-a674e54d3c76>

## **Chinese space telescopes accurately measure brightest gamma-ray burst ever detected, highlighting power of international cooperation**

Xu Yelu

Global Time, March 29, 2023

Together with 40 other research institutions worldwide, the Institute of High Energy Physics (IHEP) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) released its latest discoveries, including the brightest gamma-ray burst (GRB) ever detected by humans. With the unique observations made by two Chinese space telescopes, namely Insight-HXMT and GECAM-C, scientists were able to accurately measure how bright the burst was and how much energy it released.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202303/1288163.shtml>

## **Japan and China connect military hotline to reduce tensions**

Isabel Reynolds

The Japan Times, March 31, 2023

Japan and China finished setting up a military hotline aimed at reducing tensions between the two largest economies in Asia, just ahead of a rare meeting of their foreign ministers in Beijing. The installation of equipment and lines has been completed, the Defence Ministry said in a statement, calling it a “linking mechanism” that will build trust between the militaries and avoid unforeseen situations.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2023/03/31/national/china-hotline-ease-tension/>

## **‘Killing your own semiconductor business’: How will US ban on chip exports to China play out?**

Zainudin Afandi

Channel News Asia, March 30, 2023

Ever since the United States announced export controls in October to cut off China’s access to advanced chips and semiconductor manufacturing equipment, Shenzhen businessman Tom Zhang has found it harder to source and distribute chips. Stocks that his company, Smart Jade, were previously able to import from the US to sell to technology companies in China have become difficult to buy.

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/cna-insider/will-us-chips-war-hurt-china-impact-semiconductors-asia-3381811>

## **British Semiconductor Maker May Close Due To National Security Dispute With Chinese Parent Company**

Iain Martin

Forbes, March 31, 2023

A U.K. government order forcing the sale of Britain's biggest microchip factory over national security concerns about its Chinese parent company could lead to the plant's shutdown, according to new corporate filings. Nexperia's acquisition of Newport Wafer Fab in July 2021 for \$75 million (£63 million) has left Britain with only a handful of British-owned foundries capable of producing semiconductors as the U.K. government attempts to safeguard local chip productions and limit China's access to sensitive technology.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/iainmartin/2023/03/31/british-semiconductor-maker-may-close-due-to-national-security-dispute-with-chinese-parent-company/?sh=5e8869a222d0>

## **China launches four satellites, establishing first wheel-pattern formation in space**

Global Times, March 31, 2023

China successfully launched four interferometric synthetic aperture radar (InSAR) satellites developed by Chinese private satellite developer GalaxySpace using the CZ-2D rocket at the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in North China's Shanxi Province, forming the first wheel-pattern satellite formation in the world, GalaxySpace told the Global Times. The four satellites - composed of a master satellite and three assistant satellites - are the world's first X-band InSAR earth imaging system in a four-satellite formation, said the company.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202303/1288340.shtml>

## **Remarks by Ambassador Geng Shuang at the UN Security Council Briefing on Threats to International Peace and Security**

Chinese Mission at the UN, March 31, 2023

Nuclear weapons are the sword of Damocles hanging over our heads. China's position on the issue of nuclear weapons has been clear and consistent. Since its first day in possession of nuclear weapons, China has firmly committed to a defensive nuclear strategy, and honored the pledge to no first use of nuclear weapons at any time and under any circumstances. China has also clearly committed unconditionally not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon states or nuclear weapon free zones. China is the only nuclear weapon state to have made these pledges. China attaches great importance to the status of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of nuclear weapons as the cornerstone of international nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation.

[http://un.china-mission.gov.cn/eng/hyyfy/202304/t20230401\\_11052883.htm](http://un.china-mission.gov.cn/eng/hyyfy/202304/t20230401_11052883.htm)

## **US-China chip war: Japan plans to restrict some equipment exports**

Annabelle Liang

BBC, March 31, 2023

Japan's government says it plans to put restrictions on some computer chip-making exports, following similar moves by the US and the Netherlands. The measures will apply to 23 types of semiconductor manufacturing equipment. Semiconductors, which power everything from mobile phones to military hardware, are at the centre of a bitter dispute between the US and China.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-65134017>

## **China's chip industry will be 'reborn' under U.S. sanctions, Huawei says, claiming breakthrough**

Arjun Kharpal

CNBC, March 31, 2023

China's chip industry will be "reborn" as a result of U.S. sanctions, a top boss at Huawei said, as the Chinese telecommunications giant claimed a breakthrough in semiconductor design technology. Eric Xu, rotating chairman at Huawei, issued fighting words against Washington's tech export restrictions on China. "I believe China's semiconductor industry will not sit idly by, but take efforts around ... self-strengthening and self reliance," according to an official translation of Xu's comments during a press conference.

<https://www.cnbc.com/2023/03/31/chinas-chip-industry-will-be-reborn-under-us-sanctions-huawei-says.html>

*Sylloge on China is compiled by Mr. Niranjana C. Oak with inputs  
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**Nuclear and Arms Control Centre, MP-IDSA  
And  
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