



**Vatnik Soup** @P\_Kallionemi

Feb 11, 2026 · 21 tweets · [P\\_Kallionemi/status/2021557322951295345](https://twitter.com/P_Kallionemi/status/2021557322951295345)

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In today's Wumao Soup, we'll tell you 15 things about the People's Republic of China that you didn't learn from TikTok, Douyin or DeepSeek.

1/20



This is our 2nd Wumao Soup. In the 1st one, we introduced how the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) online propaganda works. Now we'll cover some of the big topics they hide or lie about. Think of it as an antidote soup to their propaganda.

2/20



Vatnik Soup   
@P\_Kallionemi · [Follow](#)



In today's Wumao Soup, I'll introduce how and where the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) online propaganda and influence operations work. Due to China's massive population and advances in AI, CCP-aligned online content has become increasingly visible.

1/20



10:38 AM · Jul 1, 2025



 2.9K   Copy link

[Read 64 replies](#)



1 - Tiananmen Square massacre

Yes, it happened. Yes, it was a massacre. Vatniks, wumao, and tankies in the West deny it, while China censors the slightest mention of it, even the date it happened.

3/20



CHINESE CORNER

## How June 4th Became May 35th 4 min read

June 5, 2018 Yakexi

**Evading the censors with a bit of math – Yakexi**

May 35th. It may look like a typo to you, but it is a real thing on the Chinese internet. It is one among a long list of code words used by netizens referring to June 4th 1989, when the Chinese government brutally cracked down the pro-democracy protests in Tiananmen Square. Nearly 30 years later, people use courage, creativity and a bit of math skills to commemorate this tragedy.

## 2 - Mao Zedong's democide

The founder of the People's Republic of China is responsible for millions of deaths, yet he's still revered by the regime, even more than Stalin by Putin. Imagine if Hitler were still celebrated in Germany and Hitlerism were its official ideology.

4/20



Weekly edition   World in brief   United States   China   Business   Finance & eco

Science & technology | Sparrowcide in China

## How the persecution of sparrows killed 2m people

The birds were almost wiped out during China's Great Leap Forward



PHOTOGRAPH: GETTY IMAGES

Oct 22nd 2025 | 3 min read

**I**N 1958, UNDER the rule of Mao Zedong, China began the Great Leap Forward, a four-year attempt to transform the country from an agrarian society into a modern industrialised one. It was a disaster: the industrialisation was stillborn, and the collectivisation of farming caused one of the biggest famines ever recorded. Somewhere between 15m and 50m people are thought to have died.

Picture 11:04, 29-Sep-2017

## Chairman Mao's portrait renewed on Tiananmen ahead of 68th National Day of China

Share



The annual renewal of late Chairman Mao Zedong's portrait at Tiananmen Square was completed in the early hours of Thursday to mark the upcoming National Day. / Photo: VCG



Because of the Tiananmen gate's position at the front of the Palace Museum, or the ancient Imperial City, the gate has great political significance. Over the years, portraits of Chinese and world leaders were displayed there. / Photo: VCG

### TOP NEWS



Inside China's domestic agenda: Key priorities in 2025

China 09:11, 30-Dec-2025



China holds central rural work conference

China 07:14, 30-Dec-2025



Ministry: Drills around Taiwan warn secession, external interference

China 02:09, 30-Dec-2025

### 3 - Taiwan is a country

Taiwan was never part of the People's Republic of China, so no, it can't be "separatist" from it nor a "renegade province." China wants to conquer it through a murderous process called "war". But they'll call you a warmonger if you're against that.



Just like Russia, they deny their target's legitimacy to justify invading them. Both invaders rant about their "historical mission" to expand their empire, and the same vatniks justifying Russia's invasion of Ukraine are already encouraging a Chinese invasion of Taiwan.

6/20



Chinese Embassy in US ✅

@ChineseEmbinUS

X.com

#China #Taiwan #US

**“In the face of  
the **repeated provocations** from  
the ‘Taiwan independence’ forces  
and the large-scale arms sales of  
the United States to Taiwan,  
it is only natural that  
we firmly oppose them and  
take **forceful countermeasures.**”**

FM Wang Yi, December 30, 2025



**Lin Jian 林剑** ✅ @SpoxCHN\_LinJian · 2h

The Taiwan question is China's internal affair. Realizing complete national reunification is a lawful act to safeguard sovereignty and territorial integrity, and a historical mission that we must fulfill. Any attempt to block the overriding trend of history is doomed to fail.

Hua Chunying 华春莹  @SpokespersonCHN · 4h

China government official

Baidu Maps show that there are 38 Shandong dumpling restaurants and 67 Shanxi noodle restaurants in Taipei. Palates don't cheat. #Taiwan has always been a part of China. The long lost child will eventually return home.

Ben Norton  @BenjaminNorton · Nov 11, 2022

The US government is aggressively pushing for war with China, openly backing separatists in Taiwan (which is part of China)

A top US general threatened China, vowing, "We will support them [separatists] militarily," to "train them and equip them" for war

scmp.com

Top US general vows military support for Taiwan, warns Beijing against...  
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mark Milley says PLA likely 'evaluating' and 'recalculating' plans to take the island as amphibious...

#### 4 - Free Tibet

As a precedent to China's planned invasion of Taiwan: they invaded, conquered, and annexed Tibet 75 years ago. Notice how no one dares suggest a referendum on independence. Curious.



##### 5 - Hong Kong

Hong Kong didn't "choose stability." Beijing broke its own treaty obligations, dismantled autonomy, jailed opposition figures, and criminalised dissent. Again, no referendum on self-determination.

8/20



BACKGROUNDER

## *Hong Kong's Freedoms: What China Promised and How It's Cracking Down*

PUBLISHED December 3, 2014 10:06 a.m.

UPDATED December 15, 2025 2:50 p.m.

[Credits](#)

Beijing has tightened its grip on Hong Kong in recent years, dimming hopes that the financial center will ever become a full democracy.

- Before the British government handed over Hong Kong in 1997, China agreed to allow the region considerable political autonomy for fifty years under a framework known as “one country, two systems.”
- In recent years, Beijing has cracked down on Hong Kong’s freedoms, stoking mass protests in the city and drawing international criticism.
- Beijing imposed a national security law in 2020 that gave it broad new powers to punish critics and silence dissenters, which has fundamentally altered life for Hong Kongers.

## Jimmy Lai, Hong Kong pro-democracy figure, sentenced to 20 years in prison

Family of media tycoon say he will 'die a martyr behind bars' amid widespread criticism from press freedom groups



Jimmy Lai is arrested by police at his home in April 2020. The media tycoon was sentenced to 20 years in prison on Monday. Photograph: Vincent Yu/AP

**Amy Hawkins** Senior China correspondent

Mon 9 Feb 2026 11.27 CET

Jimmy Lai, the media mogul and prominent pro-democracy activist, has been sentenced to 20 years in prison in [Hong Kong](#) for national security offences, a punishment his daughter said could mean "he will die a martyr behind bars".

Claire Lai said the sentence was "heartbreakingly cruel" given her 78-year-old father's declining health, while her brother Sebastien Lai called the sentence "draconian" and "devastating".

The sentencing is the culmination of a years-long saga that critics say [represents Hong Kong's transformation](#) from a mostly free city to one where dissent is fiercely suppressed by the Chinese Communist party-controlled authorities.

Lai was [convicted in December](#) on charges of sedition and conspiracy to collude with foreign forces. He had pleaded not guilty to all charges. The collusion convictions carry a maximum penalty of life imprisonment.

The judges in Lai's case described him as the "mastermind" behind the conspiracies. They granted him minor deductions on his sentences on health grounds.

### 6 - Uyghur genocide

The Chinese government has detained over a million Uyghurs and other mostly Muslim Turkic minorities in Xinjiang, imposing mass internment, forced labor, cultural and religious repression, and reproductive controls – textbook genocide.

# The Big Business of Uyghur Genocide Denial

A New Lines investigation reveals a network of charities funneling millions into left-wing platforms that take Beijing's side on the genocide allegations — and they're all connected to an American tech magnate

**Alexander Reid Ross**

Alexander Reid Ross is an award-winning geographer and author living in Portland, Oregon

January 18, 2022

**Courtney Dobson**

Courtney Dobson previously worked in academia and the nonprofit sector in Russia, the U.K., and the U.S.



Rally in front of the British Embassy in D.C. ahead of an April 22 vote in the British House of Commons on whether or not to declare that a genocide is underway in Xinjiang province and China's treatment of the Uyghur Muslims on April 16, 2021 / Drew Angerer / Getty Images

**A** monthslong investigation by *New Lines* can reveal that over the past five years almost \$65 million has filtered through various entities connected with people who have defended the Chinese government and downplayed or denied documented human rights violations committed by Beijing against the Uyghur and Turkic Muslim minorities.



REUTERS



EVERYTHINGNEWS

DECEMBER 16, 2020 / 3:21 AM / UPDATED 3 YEARS AGO

# China accused of forcing 570,000 people to pick cotton in Xinjiang

By Emma Batha



...

Spokesperson 发言人办公室 @MFA\_China · 12h

China government official

The US should stop using the so-called human rights, religious and ethnic issues to meddle in China's internal affairs.



7 - Ghost towns

Cities where no one lives, trains that no one rides, shopping malls where no one goes shopping. The "Chinese miracle" is debt-fuelled and a huge bubble of government-planned projects ignoring market demand and wasting resources.

10/20



8 - Ecocide

Caves filled with garbage. Overfishing the seas. Coal mining. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. China is basically the biggest polluter in the world. But of course you'll see cute videos of some isolated tiny green project somewhere.

11/20

 **Vatnik Soup**    
@P\_Kallioniemi · [Follow](#)

How China's massive overfishing endangers global ecosystems



Watch on X

THIS IS THE WORLD'S  
BIGGEST UNREGULATED

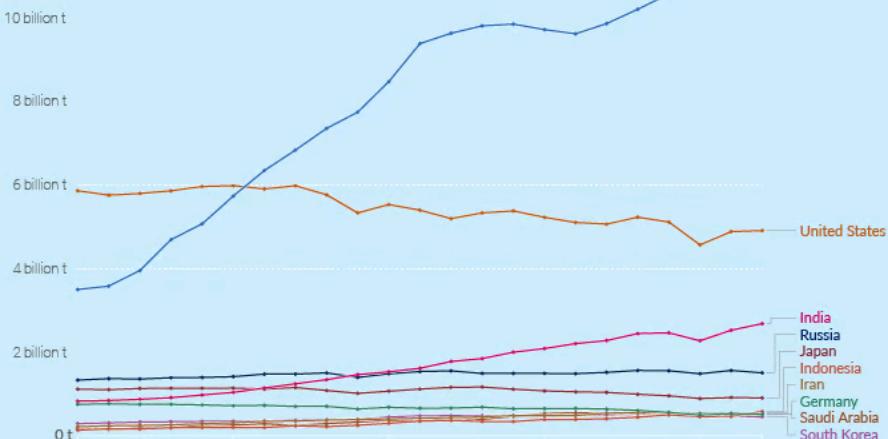
4:30 PM · Feb 9, 2026

 3.5K   Copy link

[Read 76 replies](#)

## Annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from fossil fuels and industry<sup>1</sup>  
Land use change is not included.



Source: Our World in Data based on the Global Carbon Project (2024) <https://ourworldindata.org/co2-emissions> • CC BY

### 9 - China just disappears people

Like in Russia, you can get rich or famous in China - as long as you support the regime. If not – public figures regularly “disappear” from public view. If they reappear at all, it's to make public confessions or suddenly alter their views.

12/20

# Bao Fan: Why do Chinese billionaires keep vanishing?

9 March 2023

**Peter Hoskins**

Business reporter



Billionaire dealmaker Bao Fan

**The disappearance last month of technology industry dealmaker Bao Fan has rekindled interest in a recent Chinese phenomenon - vanishing billionaires.**

**The founder of China Renaissance Holdings - with a client list that has included internet giants Tencent, Alibaba and Baidu - is seen as a titan in the country's tech sector.**

Mr Bao's case has followed a well-trodden path: he went missing for days before his company announced that he was "co-operating in an investigation being carried out by certain authorities in the People's Republic of China".

As has also become customary, there has been no word yet on which government body is carrying out the probe, what it is about or Mr Bao's whereabouts.

The mystery shrouding his disappearance comes after a number of Chinese business leaders have gone missing in recent years, including Alibaba boss Jack Ma.

While vanishing billionaires tend to get much more attention, there have also been a number of less publicised cases of Chinese citizens going missing after taking part in, for example, anti-government protests or human rights campaigns.

## Peng Shuai: Weibo post sparked 'huge misunderstanding'

8 February 2022



Reuters

Ms Peng, seen here at the Australian Open in 2019, insisted she never disappeared from public life

**Tennis star Peng Shuai says there has been a "huge misunderstanding" over a post in which she claimed she was forced into having sexual relations with a former Chinese party leader.**

The November 2021 social media post was swiftly deleted and Ms Peng disappeared for weeks, sparking global concern.

But now, speaking to France's L'Equipe newspaper, Ms Peng says she never alleged she suffered a sexual assault.

However, the interview was done in highly controlled circumstances.

The BBC's China correspondent Stephen McDonell compared it to a propaganda exercise, saying it left more questions than answers.

L'Equipe had to submit questions in advance, and the interview was conducted at the Winter Olympics under the presence of a representative from China's Olympic Committee who also translated her comments from Chinese.

Ms Peng told the outlet she was living a normal life - a line which has also been used by Chinese state officials about her previously. She also expressed thanks for the concern directed towards her.

"I would like to know: why such concern?... I never said anyone sexually assaulted me," she told L'Equipe.

The 36-year-old sporting star also hinted she could retire from professional tennis.

### 10 - Chinese police stations abroad

China is operating illegal overseas police stations to monitor, intimidate, and coerce Chinese nationals abroad, when threatening their families back home is not enough to silence them or force them to support the regime.

# Man admits running secret Chinese 'police station' in NYC

19 December 2024

**Kelly Ng**  
BBC News



Prosecutors say the outpost at Manhattan's Chinatown was used to help Beijing identify pro-democracy activists in the US

An American citizen has pleaded guilty to helping run what has been described as the first known secret police station in the US on behalf of the Chinese government.

Prosecutors say Chen Jinping and his co-defendant Lu Jianwang opened and operated the station in Manhattan's Chinatown neighbourhood in early 2022 on behalf of China's Ministry of Public Security (MPS).

At least 100 such stations have been reported worldwide across 53 countries, with rights groups accusing China of using the outposts to threaten and monitor Chinese nationals abroad.

But China has denied that they are police stations, saying they are "service stations" providing administrative services to nationals overseas.

The outpost, which occupied an entire floor above a ramen stall, did provide basic services like renewing Chinese citizens' driver licenses, but it also helped Beijing identify pro-democracy activists living in the US, say federal authorities.

Matthew Olsen, an assistant attorney general in the US Department of Justice, called the attempt to operate the undeclared overseas police station "a clear affront to American sovereignty and danger to our community that will not be tolerated".

The station was closed in the autumn of 2022 after the Federal Bureau of Investigation launched an investigation.

But Chen and Lu destroyed text messages they exchanged with an MPS official when they learned of the probe, prosecutors said.

Canada

## RCMP investigating Chinese 'police' stations in Canada

Human rights group says more than 50 exist worldwide, including 3 in Greater Toronto Area



[Idil Musa](#) · CBC News · Posted: Oct 26, 2022 9:54 AM EDT | Last Updated: October 26, 2022



Listen to this article

Estimated 7 minutes



There are at least three Chinese police outposts in and around Toronto in predominantly Chinese neighbourhoods, according to a report by human rights group Safeguard Defenders who say they're being used to pressure some nationals to return to China. Now, the RCMP says it's investigating whether any criminal activity is taking place.

11 - COVID pandemic

When Chinese doctors tried to warn the world early, the authoritarian regime silenced them. And then switched to totalitarian controls once the virus had already spread.

14/20

# The Chinese doctor who tried to warn others about coronavirus

6 February 2020

Stephanie Hegarty

Population Correspondent



Dr Li posted this picture of himself from a hospital bed on 31 January - a day before he was diagnosed with coronavirus

**Dr Li Wenliang, who was hailed a hero for raising the alarm about the coronavirus in the early days of the outbreak, has died of the infection.**

His death was confirmed by the Wuhan hospital where he worked and was being treated, following conflicting reports about his condition on state media.

Dr Li, 34, tried to send a message to fellow medics about the outbreak at the end of December. Three days later police paid him a visit and told him to stop. He returned to work and caught the virus from a patient. He had been in hospital for at least three weeks.

He posted his story from his hospital bed last month on social media site Weibo.

"Hello everyone, this is Li Wenliang, an ophthalmologist at Wuhan Central Hospital," the post begins.

It was a stunning insight into the botched response by local authorities in Wuhan in the early weeks of the coronavirus outbreak.

Dr Li was working at the centre of the outbreak in December when he noticed seven cases of a virus that he thought looked like Sars - the virus that led to a global epidemic in 2003. The cases were thought to come from the Huanan Seafood market in Wuhan and the patients were in quarantine in his hospital.

## China

• This article is more than 3 years old

# 'What was it for?': the mental toll of China's three years in Covid lockdowns

As the government abandons 'zero Covid', it may take decades for ordinary Chinese people to recover - and many aren't sure it was worth it



■ A worker in PPE guarding the entrance to a neighbourhood in lockdown in Jing'an district, Shanghai, on 29 March 2022. Photograph: Héctor Retamal/AFP/Getty Images

**Verna Yu**

Sat 17 Dec 2022 02.00 CET

**A**fter China's abrupt scaling back of its zero-Covid restrictions, many ordinary Chinese people are struggling to cope with the mental trauma from three years of frequent lockdowns and are demanding answers for the heavy price they have paid.

On Friday, one of the top shared posts on Sina Weibo - China's Twitter-like platform - was an article citing medical experts as saying depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder suffered by the population would probably take between 10 and 20 years to recover from.

Lu Lin, a fellow at the Chinese Academy of Sciences, said at a forum on Friday that as many as 20% of health workers, patients and members of the public may be suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and nearly one-third of those quarantined at home have displayed symptoms of depression, anxiety and insomnia. Other experts called for emergency services to support the community's mental health.

## 12 - Authoritarian regime

China has no free elections and no independent courts. The hukou (household registration) is a de facto caste system, limiting where people can live, work, get healthcare, or send their kids to school.

Freedom House Donate

**FREEDOM IN THE WORLD 2025**

## China

**9** /100

**NOT FREE**

Political Rights	-2 /40
Civil Liberties	11 /60

LAST YEAR'S SCORE & STATUS  
9 /100 **Not Free**

A country or territory's Freedom in the World status depends on its aggregate Political Rights score, on a scale of 0-40, and its aggregate Civil Liberties score, on a scale of 0-60. See the [methodology](#).



**A Note About Related Territories**

Territories are sometimes assessed separately from related countries if they meet certain criteria, including significantly different conditions for political rights and civil liberties, and boundaries that are sufficiently stable to allow annual comparisons.

**Related Territories: 2025 Global Freedom Score Overview**

<b>Hong Kong</b> <b>40</b> / 100 <span style="background-color: #c8a234; display: inline-block; width: 150px; height: 15px; vertical-align: middle;"></span> <b>PARTLY FREE</b>	<b>Tibet</b> <b>0</b> / 100 <span style="background-color: #800080; display: inline-block; width: 150px; height: 15px; vertical-align: middle;"></span> <b>NOT FREE</b>
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© FT montage: Gilles Sabrie/FT

Chinese society

## How a Mao-era system creates second-class citizens in modern China

Calls grow to scrap hukou household registration system to unleash pent-up consumption

Joe Leahy and Tina Hu in Beijing

Published DEC 27 2024

Not until Kim reached middle school in Beijing did she discover that a piece of Communist party bureaucracy would shape her life – as it does for many of China's 1.4bn people.

Because her family was not originally from Beijing, she was required under arcane residence laws known as the *hukou* system to finish her schooling and sit the country's gruelling university entrance exam in her parents' distant home village.

The daughter of successful businesspeople, Kim refused to go, arguing she had never lived in the village. This cost her access to university, ruining her career prospects.

The CCP regime even tries to control how many children people can have: first with the one-child policy, including the horrors of forced abortions, and now, predictably, with top-down orders in the other direction. Peak authoritarian central planning at work.

Asia & Pacific

## Horrors of one-child policy leave deep scars in Chinese society

October 30, 2015 More than 10 years ago



The Chinese Communist Party announced that it will allow couples to have two children instead of limiting them to just one. (Video: Jenny Starrs/The Washington Post, Photo: WILLIAM HONG/The Washington Post)

By [Simon Denyer](#)

BEIJING — His wife was seven months pregnant with their second child when the group of people barged into his home and took her away. He followed them to the local hospital, where — against medical advice and despite his pleadings — they jammed a needle into her belly.

“They grabbed my wife’s body like they were grabbing a pig, four or five people holding her hands and legs and head, and injected a shot into her belly,” the man said, asking not to be named for fear of retribution. “Neither my wife nor I signed any consent form.”

## China to hike tax on condoms in attempt to boost falling birth rate

From 1 January, contraceptives will be subject to a 13% VAT rate - part of a carrot-and-stick approach by the government to increase births



China is trying to boost its birth rate but incentives are having little effect. Photograph: Oscar Wong/Getty Images

**Amy Hawkins** Senior China correspondent

Thu 18 Dec 2025 01.51 CET

China is set to impose a value-added tax (VAT) on condoms and other contraceptives for the first time in three decades, as the country tries to boost its [birthrate](#) and modernise its tax laws.

From 1 January, condoms and contraceptives will be subject to a 13% VAT rate - a tax from which the goods have been exempt since [China](#) introduced nationwide VAT in 1993.

The measure was buried in a VAT law passed in 2024 in an effort to modernise China's tax regime. VAT accounts for nearly 40% of China's total tax revenue.



She said no: marriages in China plummet to record low

[Read more](#)

After imposing a strict one-child policy for more than 30 years, China has over the past decade been introducing a suite of "carrots" to induce people to have more children in a [bid to boost the falling birthrate](#).

As well as raising the limit on the number of children permitted per couple to three, provinces have been [experimenting](#) with offering discounts on IVF treatment and cash subsidies for extra children. Some local governments offer newlyweds extra days of paid leave to encourage people to tie the knot.

### 13 - Censorship: "the great firewall of China"

No free press, no freedom of speech, and like in Russia, Twitter is blocked in China. So basically, anyone tweeting to defend the regime that blocks normal people from tweeting: very suspicious, you can assume they're a wumao.

## Why China censors banned Winnie the Pooh

17 July 2017

Share  Save 

Stephen McDonell

BBC News, Beijing



This meme showing Xi Jinping and former US President Barack Obama began circulating in 2013

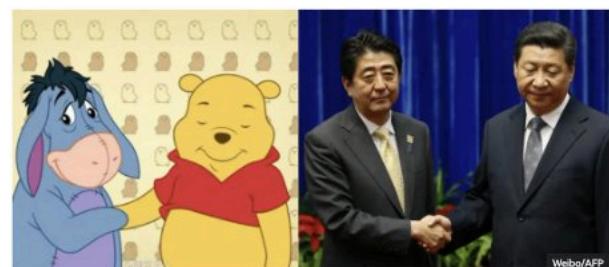
**The blocking of Winnie the Pooh might seem like a bizarre move by the Chinese authorities but it is part of a struggle to restrict clever bloggers from getting around their country's censorship.**

When is a set of wrist watches not just a set of wrist watches? When is a river crab not just a river crab? Inside the Great Firewall of China of course.

Winnie the Pooh has joined a line of crazy, [funny internet references to China's top leaders](#).

The Chinese name for and images of the plump, cute cartoon character are being blocked on social media sites here because bloggers have been comparing him to China's president.

When Xi Jinping and Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe endured one of the more awkward handshakes in history netizens responded with Winnie the Pooh and Eeyore shaking hands.





Zhang Heqing 张和清 ✅ @zhang\_heqing · 10h

Chinese railways vs. American trains. The latter says a lot about the current state of the US government, if not an understatement.

Credit @Nezhaisback

...



Zhao DaShuai 东北进修 🇨🇳  
@zhao\_dashuai

Follow back

Elon Musk, you must use your influence as the head of DOGE to dismantle the US 6th generation fighter program (NGAD).

It's an incredibly wasteful white elephant project.



Elon Musk ✅ X @elonmusk · 1d

Meanwhile, some idiots are still building manned fighter jets like the F-35 🗑️ 😊

14 - Imperialist hybrid aggression

China is bullying the Philippines and other countries with its fishing and military vessels, showing again its true colours.

Expect wumaos to somehow blame it on the US, or do their usual cringe comparisons and

"whataboutism" about it.

18/20

≡ 🔎 thejapan times

ASIA PACIFIC

## China seizes disputed reef near key Philippine military outpost

China Coast Guard officers unfurl a national flag on Sandy Cay reef, near the Philippine-held Thitu Island, in disputed waters of the South China Sea this month in this screen shot taken from Chinese state broadcaster CCTV.

BY JESSE JOHNSON  
STAFF WRITER

SHARE/SAVE Apr 27, 2025

Listen to this article 4 min

China has "enforced maritime management and exercised sovereign jurisdiction" over an uninhabited reef in the disputed South China Sea, planting the country's flag on the tiny sand bank just kilometers from a key Philippine military outpost.

Photographs released by Chinese state-run media on Saturday showed China Coast Guard officers unfurling the flag as part of an effort to effectively seize Sandy Cay reef, which Beijing calls Tiexian Jiao, earlier this month. The reef, located in the flash point Spratly Island chain, is also claimed by Taiwan, Vietnam and the Philippines.

Sandy Cay also sits just over 3 kilometers from Thitu Island, known as Pag-asa by Manila, which is home to Philippine military facilities — including a military-grade runway — and some 250 residents.

## Japan and the Philippines sign a new defense pact as they face growing China aggression

JAN 16, 2026 ▾

Story by the Associated Press



Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi, left, and Philippine Foreign Secretary ... ▾

**Manila (AP) — Japan** and the Philippines signed a defense pact on Thursday that would allow the tax-free provision of ammunition, fuel, food and other necessities when their forces stage joint training to boost deterrence against China's growing aggression in the region and to bolster their preparation for natural disasters.

Japan has faced increasing political, trade and security tensions with China, which was angered by Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's remark that potential Chinese action against Taiwan could spark Japanese intervention.

Japan and the Philippines have also had separate territorial conflicts with Beijing in the East China Sea and South China Sea that have continued to flare and threaten to draw in the United States, a treaty ally of the two Asian nations.

15 - China is helping Russia

China is helping Russia invade Ukraine, and in return Russia could help China invade Taiwan. And it would be harder for the US to squeeze out of its obligations to defend Taiwan, the Philippines, and Japan...


≡

# How Russia is Helping China Prepare to Seize Taiwan

Oleksandr V Danylyuk and Dr Jack Watling  
26 September 2025 ① 7 Minute Read



**Russia has agreed to equip and train the PLA to air-drop armoured vehicles and special reconnaissance capabilities.**

Chinese President Xi Jinping has directed the People's Liberation Army (PLA) to be ready to militarily seize Taiwan by 2027. A large-scale amphibious operation is highly risky, with the sites suitable for landing craft to deliver troops and equipment ashore constrained by the gradient and load bearing capacity of the beaches. Seizing airfields could allow troops to flow in by air, but as Russia discovered during its invasion of Ukraine, runways can be quickly denied. The PLA is therefore eager to identify ways of diversifying both the methods and locations at which it can move units onto Taiwan.

Further Russian and Chinese collaboration: Russian and Chinese flags fly during a field review of troops after Exercise Vostok-2018. Image: President of the Russian Federation, [www.kremlin.ru/](http://www.kremlin.ru/) / Wikimedia Commons

WRITTEN BY

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## China bankrolling Putin's war to gain advantage over West, MPs told

Beijing's huge support for Russian aggression against Ukraine part of larger threatening posture, air marshal tells Commons committee



A British Challenger 2 tank in Estonia where UK forces are taking part in Operation Cabrit Credit: Ben Birchall/PA

**Tom Cotterill**  
Defence Editor

03 February 2024 5:46pm GMT

China has become the main financial backer for Russia's [war against Ukraine](#), MPs have been told.

Air Marshal Ed Stringer, a former head of RAF intelligence, said Beijing was "covertly" ramping up its support for Moscow as it sought to gain an economic advantage over the West.

"China has discretely built supply lines going to [drone factories in Russia](#)," he told the Commons defence committee on Tuesday.

"Open source suggests 60 per cent of the Russian war effort is being covertly bankrolled by China... so there's a huge amount of support from China."

The retired officer added: "Russia can only maintain this war because China is essentially bankrolling it."

Observers fear China poses an [increasing threat to the UK](#), with Beijing-backed hackers having [targeted the phones of aides](#) to former prime ministers Boris Johnson, Liz Truss and Rishi Sunak in an effort to steal government secrets.

At the same time, concerns have been raised after the Government chose to approve plans for a [Chinese super-embassy](#) in London, which The Telegraph revealed would be located alongside some of the City's most sensitive communications cables.

On Tuesday, MPs were warned Beijing was seeking economic dominance over the West and could use its influence over Moscow to "distract" [Nato](#) while it builds up its own military.

... than ignoring the Budapest Memorandum about Ukraine. It is also obvious that China is observing how the invasion goes in Ukraine and the world's response to decide whether or not to invade Taiwan.

The only way to avoid World War 3 is therefore still to support Ukraine.



Zhang Meifang 张美芳 ✅

@CGMeifangZhang

🇨🇳 China government official

⋮



8:53 AM · 23 Dec 22

1,763 Retweets 297 Quote Tweets 7,285 Likes

Chinese propaganda is less sophisticated than the Russian one, but... the amount of energy needed to refute wumao BS is still an order of magnitude bigger than that needed to produce it. Fact-based research takes time and effort. Please support our work:

**Vatnik  
SOUP**

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