

# CHINA WATCH

No. 54

May 2015

## POLITICAL ISSUES

### ALGERIA

#### 1) Algerian PM to make historic China visit

Beijing, Thursday, 23 April 2015

Algerian Prime Minister Abdelmalek Sellal will become the first Algerian head of government to visit China since it won independence in 1962 and he will be in China from 28 April.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-04/23/c\\_134178540.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-04/23/c_134178540.htm)

#### 2) Algerian PM's China visit to boost bilateral partnership

Algiers, Monday, 27 April 2015

Prime Minister Sellal will head a large delegation of government officials and business community during his three-day visit to China.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-04/28/c\\_134189582.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-04/28/c_134189582.htm)

#### 3) China's top political advisor vows stronger partnership with Algeria

Beijing, Tuesday, 28 April 2015

Chairperson of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) Yu Zhengsheng met with the Algerian Prime Minister Sellal and pledged to upgrade comprehensive strategic partnership.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-04/28/c\\_134193289.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-04/28/c_134193289.htm)

#### 4) China, Algeria pledge closer partnership

Beijing, Wednesday, 29 April 2015

Chinese President Xi Jinping met with Algerian Prime Minister Abdelmalek Sellal and discussed means to improve the bilateral ties.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-04/29/c\\_134197013.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-04/29/c_134197013.htm)

#### 5) China, Algeria pledge further cooperation

Beijing, Wednesday, 29 April 2015

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and Algerian Prime Minister Sellal promised to cooperate in areas like infrastructure, construction, agriculture and tourism.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-04/29/c\\_134197052.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-04/29/c_134197052.htm)

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## **IRAN**

### **6) FM hails Iran's nuke talks as 'important step' towards comprehensive deal**

**Lausanne, Wednesday, 1 April 2015**

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi hailed the recent round of talks on Iranian nuclear issue as an "important step" towards a comprehensive deal.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-04/01/content\\_19974180.htm](http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-04/01/content_19974180.htm)

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### **7) Seize the moment for breakthrough in Iran nuclear talks**

**Beijing, Thursday, 2 April 2014**

As the deadline for the recent round of talks on Iranian nuclear issue loomed closer, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi advised all the negotiators to be determined to cap the lengthy talks with a deal and meet each other halfway.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-04/02/content\\_19983945.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-04/02/content_19983945.htm)

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### **8) Iran deal good for Sino-US relations: FM**

**Beijing, Saturday, 4 April 2015**

During a telephonic conversation with US Secretary of State John Kerry, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that the framework nuclear deal would be good for boosting relations between China and the US.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-04/04/content\\_19999665.htm](http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-04/04/content_19999665.htm)

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### **9) Xi calls for fair, balanced, all-win Iranian nuclear deal**

**Jakarta, Thursday, 23 April 2015**

Chinese President Xi Jinping met Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and assured him that his country stands ready to work for a fair, balanced and all-win agreement on the nuclear issue.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015xivisitpse/2015-04/23/content\\_20521115.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015xivisitpse/2015-04/23/content_20521115.htm)

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### **10) Iran hopes to promote comprehensive cooperation with China**

**Jakarta, Thursday, 23 April 2015**

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Ebrahim Rahimpour said that Iran hopes to expand comprehensive relations with China as "the new atmosphere is much better than the past."

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015xivisitpse/2015-04/23/content\\_20519829.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015xivisitpse/2015-04/23/content_20519829.htm)

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## **YEMEN**

### **11) 104 Chinese nationals evacuated from Yemen back in Beijing**

**Beijing, Wednesday, 1 April 2015**

The first group of 104 Chinese nationals evacuated from Yemen arrived in Beijing.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/beijing/2015-04/01/content\\_19966122.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/beijing/2015-04/01/content_19966122.htm)

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### **12) China helps 10 countries evacuate nationals from Yemen**

**Djibouti, Friday, 3 April 2015**

Chinese missile frigate Linyi evacuated a total of 225 nationals belonging to 10 countries from Yemen till 2 April.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-04/03/content\\_19995132.htm](http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-04/03/content_19995132.htm)

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**13) Evacuation of foreigners based on humanitarianism: FM spokesperson**

**Beijing, Friday, 3 April 2015**

Foreign ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said that China's evacuation of foreigners from Yemen is a special rescue mission based on humanitarianism and has been performed at the request of relevant countries like Pakistan, Ethiopia, Singapore and several European countries.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015xivisitpse/2015-04/03/content\\_20038861.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015xivisitpse/2015-04/03/content_20038861.htm)

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**14) Chinese warship carrying evacuees from Yemen arrives in Djibouti**

**Djibouti, Tuesday, 7 April 2015**

A Chinese missile frigate Linyi arrived at the port of Djibouti, carrying 83 Chinese and Sri Lankan nationals from Yemen.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-04/07/content\\_20014542.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-04/07/content_20014542.htm)

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**15) Fleeing war-torn Yemen, Chinese, foreign nationals share the same boat**

**Djibouti, Tuesday, 7 April 2015**

Evacuation of foreign citizens from Yemen by China marked the first time that China has helped evacuate foreigners from an overseas crisis.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015xivisitpse/2015-04/07/content\\_20038745.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015xivisitpse/2015-04/07/content_20038745.htm)

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**16) China helps evacuate 279 foreign citizens from Yemen**

**Beijing, Tuesday, 7 April 2015**

According to the Chinese embassy in Yemen, China has helped evacuate a total of 279 foreigners aside from 629 Chinese nationals from Yemen since 29 March.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-04/07/content\\_20019497.htm](http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-04/07/content_20019497.htm)

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**17) China calls for ceasefire in Yemen**

**Beijing, Tuesday, 7 April 2015**

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said that China called for ceasefire in Yemen based on Russia's proposal for a UN resolution on humanitarian respite.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-04/07/content\\_20020034.htm](http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-04/07/content_20020034.htm)

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**18) Turmoil in Yemen halts projects: ambassador**

**Beijing, Friday, 10 April 2015**

China's ambassador to Yemen Tian Qi said that China's ongoing cooperative programs in Yemen "have come to a halt" because of the turmoil in that country.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/epaper/2015-04/10/content\\_20405858.htm](http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/epaper/2015-04/10/content_20405858.htm)

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**19) Evacuation from Yemen ending as situation deteriorates**

**Beijing, Saturday, 11 April 2015**

With the security situation in Yemen rapidly deteriorating, some countries like China have almost finished evacuating their citizens.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-04/11/content\\_20419229.htm](http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-04/11/content_20419229.htm)

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**20) Xi urges quick steps toward a political solution to crisis**

**Beijing, Sunday, 19 April 2015**

During a telephonic call to Saudi Arabia's King Salman Chinese President Xi Jinping said that efforts should be stepped up to seek a political solution to the crisis in Yemen.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2015-04/19/content\\_20472081.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2015-04/19/content_20472081.htm)

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## **ECONOMIC ISSUES**

### **IRAN**

**21) Iran deal makes China upgrade exports**

**Beijing, Friday, 10 April 2015**

With the lifting of the sanctions on Iran after a framework agreement was reached, trade between China and Tehran increased.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2015-04/10/content\\_20400266.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2015-04/10/content_20400266.htm)

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## **MULTILATERAL ISSUES**

### **IRAN**

**22) Iran, UAE become AIIB prospective founding members**

**Beijing, Wednesday, 8 April 2015**

Iran and the UAE have been approved as founding members of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, China's Ministry of Finance announced.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-04/08/content\\_20024635.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-04/08/content_20024635.htm)

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### **ISRAEL**

**23) Israel requests to join Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank**

**Jerusalem, Wednesday, 1 April 2015**

Israel has sent a letter requesting to join the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank initiated by China, Emmanuel Nahshon, spokesperson of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs said.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-04/01/content\\_19973848.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-04/01/content_19973848.htm)

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**24) Israel welcomes founding membership of China-proposed AIIB**

**Jerusalem, Thursday, 16 April 2015**

Israel welcomed the approval of its application to become a founding member of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-04/16/content\\_20446377.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-04/16/content_20446377.htm)

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### **LEBANON**

**25) Lebanon, China issue joint credit cards to enhance "Silk Road"**

**Beirut, Thursday, 2 April 2015**

Lebanese Fransabank said that it has cooperated with China's UnionPay to issue credit cards, a move aimed at enhancing the "Silk Road" initiative of China.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-04/02/content\\_19980479.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-04/02/content_19980479.htm)

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## **TURKEY**

### **26) 'Belt and Road' initiative to boost China, Turkey cooperation**

**Ankara, Thursday, 23 April 2015**

The Chinese embassy in Ankara hosted an academic forum to discuss the "Belt and Road" initiatives. The general consensus of the participants was that the initiatives will boost bilateral economic cooperation and investment.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-04/23/content\\_20517515.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-04/23/content_20517515.htm)

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## **UAE**

### **27) Road and belt initiative win-win for UAE and China**

**Dubai, Friday, 10 April 2015**

Chang Hua, China's ambassador to the UAE said that China's "Belt and Road" initiative presents a good opportunity to boost the strategic partnership between the two countries.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-04/10/content\\_20402596.htm](http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-04/10/content_20402596.htm)

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### **28) UAE can play unique role in the "Belt and Road" initiatives**

**Dubai, Tuesday, 14 April 2015**

The UAE was approved as one of the founding members of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-04/14/content\\_20429317.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-04/14/content_20429317.htm)

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## **MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES**

## **IRAN**

### **29) Chinese carmakers taste success in Iran**

**Beijing, Saturday, 18 April 2015**

Several Chinese automobile companies like Anhui Jianghuai Automobile have expanded their business in Iran by providing assembled cars which cost almost 30 percent less than a new car.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2015-04/18/content\\_20465014.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2015-04/18/content_20465014.htm)

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## **LEBANON**

### **30) China to send more engineering troops to Lebanon**

**Beijing, Wednesday, 29 April 2015**

The Chinese government decided to send an additional 200-strong construction engineering team to Lebanon at the request of UN. According to the Ministry of Defence, the troops will be sent to Tyre in south Lebanon to help with ongoing construction projects, repair infrastructure and provide humanitarian aid.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-04/29/content\\_20581134.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-04/29/content_20581134.htm)

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## **UAE**

### **31) China investment on the rise in Dubai's property market**

**Dubai, Wednesday, 15 April 2015**

In 2014, 1,023 Chinese investors contributed about AED1.77 billion in the Dubai real estate market.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2015-04/15/content\\_20435505.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2015-04/15/content_20435505.htm)

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**32) Abu Dhabi joins Welcome Chinese initiative**

**Abu Dhabi, Wednesday, 15 April 2015**

Chinese Tourism Academy started a new programme called "Welcome Chinese" specifically designed for Chinese travellers. It covers 20 hotels in Abu Dhabi as well as the Galleria shopping mall and two amusement parks - Ferrari World and Yas Waterworld.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2015-04/15/content\\_20435504.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2015-04/15/content_20435504.htm)

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**TERRORISM/ ISLAMIC STATE**

**33) China willing to cooperate with Turkey to fight terror**

**Beijing, Wednesday, 15 April 2015**

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hong Lei said that China would be willing to cooperate with Turkey to fight terrorism. The statement was issued in response to media reports about two Islamic State members from China being arrested on the Turkey-Syria border on 7 April.

*Source: China Daily, Beijing*

[http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-04/15/content\\_20441277.htm](http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-04/15/content_20441277.htm)

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