

# **CHINA WATCH**

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No. 08

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## **POLITICAL ISSUES**

Bahrain

### **1. China welcomes Bahrain's lift of emergency state**

**Saturday, 4 June 2011**

The Chinese Foreign Ministry welcomed Bahrain's decision to lift the state of emergency and to launch national dialogue. It hoped for a speedy resumption of social stability and realization of long-term peace in the country.

**Source:** People's Daily Online

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90776/7400426.html>

Also See: [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/30/c\\_13959027.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/30/c_13959027.htm)

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Iran

### **2. China, Iran celebrate 40th anniversary of diplomatic ties**

**Beijing, Wednesday, 8 June 2011**

At a reception to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the establishment of their diplomatic relations China and Iran exchanged views on further enhancing friendly cooperation.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/08/c\\_13918093.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/08/c_13918093.htm)

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### **3. China calls for diplomatic efforts over Iranian nuclear issue**

**Vienna, Thursday, 9 June 2011**

Acknowledging the Iranian nuclear issue to be both complicated and sensitive, China has advocated a new round of nuclear talks between Iran and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council plus Germany (G5+1) to be held at the earliest.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2011-06/09/c\\_13918137.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2011-06/09/c_13918137.htm)

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#### **4. China pushes Iran to return to talks**

**Beijing, Tuesday, 14 June 2011**

Chinese President Hu Jintao met his Iranian counterpart on the sidelines of a Shanghai Cooperation Organization meeting and told him that six-nation talks were the best way to guarantee Iran's right of peaceful use of nuclear energy. He also urged Ahmadinejad to "take substantial steps" to establish trust and "promote the process of dialogue."

**Source:** Reuters

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/06/14/china-iran-nuclear-idUSL3E7HE2MD20110614>

Also See: [http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/afp\\_world/view/1135404/1/.html](http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/afp_world/view/1135404/1/.html)

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Israel

#### **5. China hopes to strengthen military co-op with Israel**

**Beijing, Monday, 13 June 2011**

Meeting his Israeli counterpart Ehud Barak, Chinese Defence Minister Liang Guanglie said that China was willing to further strengthen military cooperation with Israel to contribute to the development of bilateral relations.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/13/c\\_13927147.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/13/c_13927147.htm)

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#### **6. Chinese vice premier pledges closer relations with Israel**

**Beijing, Tuesday, 14 June 2011**

In a meeting with Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak, Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang hailed the healthy growth of the bilateral relations over the years and vowed to consolidate traditional friendship, deepen cooperation in various areas, and promote greater achievements of bilateral relations.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/14/c\\_13929590.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/14/c_13929590.htm)

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## **7. Israeli President meets with Chinese Culture Minister**

**Jerusalem, Tuesday, 21 June 2011**

Israeli President Shimon Peres met with the Chinese Minister of Culture Cai Wu ahead of the Israeli Presidential Conference and both lauded the other country's achievements and contributions to regional peace and development.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/21/c\\_13942330.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/21/c_13942330.htm)

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## **8. Israeli PM meets Chinese official**

**Jerusalem, Thursday, 23 June 2011**

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with the Chinese Culture Minister Cai Wu and said that cultural exchanges are the basis of bilateral cooperation. Both parties pledged to consolidate their friendship and deepen cooperation.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/23/c\\_13945013.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/23/c_13945013.htm)

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Libya

## **9. China urges Libyan parties to consider AU's roadmap**

**Beijing, Tuesday, 7 June 2011**

In a statement issued by its Foreign Ministry, China called on the relevant parties in Libya to prioritize the interests of the country and its people and consider the African Union (AU) road map for solving the current crisis.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/07/c\\_13915677.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/07/c_13915677.htm)

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## **10. China considers offering further humanitarian aid to Libya**

**Beijing, Thursday, 9 June 2011**

Deeply concerned about deteriorating humanitarian conditions in Libya, China is considering providing further humanitarian to the war torn country.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/09/c\\_13919496.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/09/c_13919496.htm)

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**11. Chinese deputy FM calls for political solution to Libyan crisis**  
**United Nations (New York), Thursday, 16 June 2011**

Address a meeting of the UN Security Council, Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Zhai Jun called on the international community to promote efforts towards finding a political solution as well as to increase humanitarian assistance to the country.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/16/c\\_13932061.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/16/c_13932061.htm)

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**12. China recognizes NTC as "important dialogue partner"**  
**Beijing, Wednesday, 22 June 2011**

China has recognized Libya's opposition party, the National Transitional Council (NTC) as "an important dialogue partner" as it hosted the NTC leader, Mahmoud Jibril in Beijing. Though he recognized the Libyan crisis to be an internal issue, Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi said that, China is concerned at Libyan people's suffering.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/22/c\\_13944106.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/22/c_13944106.htm)

Also See: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/06/22/uk-china-libya-idUSTRE75L18O20110622>

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Morocco

**13. China praises Morocco's progress in constitutional reforms**  
**Beijing, Friday, 24 June 2011**

The Chinese Foreign Ministry in a written statement hailed the progress that Morocco has made in its constitutional reforms and hoped that the reforms would continue forward smoothly.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/24/c\\_13948835.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/24/c_13948835.htm)

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Sudan

**14. China urges north, south Sudan to adhere to peace option**  
**Monday, 13 June 2011**

Holding talks with the Sudanese President Omar al- Bashir, the Chinese Special Envoy on African Affairs Liu Guijin urged northern and southern Sudan to adhere to the peace option. He also reiterated China's support for the political process in Darfur.

**Source:** People's Daily Online

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90777/90855/7407607.html>

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**15. China welcomes withdrawal agreement on disputed Abyei**  
**Beijing, Tuesday, 14 June 2011**

China has welcomed the agreement reached by north and south Sudan to withdraw their troops from the country's disputed oil-rich area of Abyei.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/14/c\\_13929481.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/14/c_13929481.htm)

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**16. Sudanese justice minister praises Sino-Sudanese partnership**  
**Damazin, Saturday, 18 June 2011**

Sudanese Minister of Justice Mohamed Bushara Dousa lauded the standing partnership between Sudan and China saying that it represents a model that aspires for peace and realization of peoples' interest. He also appreciated China's stance of supporting various development projects in the country.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/19/c\\_13937423.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/19/c_13937423.htm)

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**17. China to maintain constructive role in Sudan peace process**  
**Beijing, Tuesday, 21 June 2011**

China has said that it will maintain a positive and constructive role in promoting the peace process between the north and south Sudan.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/21/c\\_13942157.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/21/c_13942157.htm)

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**18. Al-Bashir commends China as "strategic partner"**  
**Khartoum, Sunday, 26 June 2011**

Prior to his visit to China, Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir has said that China is a strategic partner for Sudan in various fields, including the political, economic, commercial and cultural fields.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/indepth/2011-06/26/c\\_13950833.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/indepth/2011-06/26/c_13950833.htm)

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**19. China says Sudan divide on agenda as Bashir visits**  
**Beijing, Tuesday, 28 June 2011**

On the eve of Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir's arrival in China, the Foreign Ministry stated that the visit would help advance traditionally friendly China-Sudan relations and that issues regarding north and south Sudan and the resolution of the problems in the Darfur region would be discussed.

**Source:** Reuters

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2011/06/28/uk-china-sudan-idUKTRE75R1HV20110628>

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## **20. Chinese leaders meet with Sudanese President** **Beijing, Wednesday, 29 June 2011**

Calling Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir's current China trip an important visit in China-Sudan relations, Chinese leaders vowed to boost bilateral cooperation and support Sudan's efforts in national reconciliation.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/29/c\\_13957283.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/29/c_13957283.htm)

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Turkey

## **21. China, Turkey to increase religious exchanges** **Beijing, Wednesday, 22 June 2011**

In a meeting between Chinese Vice Premier, Hui Liangyu and the head of Turkey's Religious Affairs Department, Mehmet Gormez, the two countries pledged to strengthen exchanges between the religious groups of both countries.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/22/c\\_13944521.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/22/c_13944521.htm)

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Syria

## **22. China supports dialogue, coordination in Syria** **Beijing, Tuesday, 21 June 2011**

The Chinese Foreign Ministry has stated that China supports dialogue and coordination among relevant parties in Syria to resolve their internal differences. It also called upon the international community to continue to play a constructive role in promoting peace and stability in the country.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/21/c\\_13942015.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/21/c_13942015.htm)

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**23. China says referring Syrian issue to UNSC "unnecessary"**  
**Vienna, Thursday, 9 June 2011**

China is of the view that the Syrian nuclear issue under debate at the International Atomic Energy Agency should be solved within the IAEA framework and need not be referred to the United Nations Security Council.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/09/c\\_13920584.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/09/c_13920584.htm)

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Yemen

**24. Yemen's crisis should be solved through dialogue**  
**Sana'a, Tuesday, 28 June 2011**

The Chinese Ambassador in Sana'a has said that Yemen's prolonged political crisis would only be solved through internal dialogue and peaceful means. He also reaffirmed the Chinese position of supporting the security, stability and unity of Yemen.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/28/c\\_13952899.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/28/c_13952899.htm)

Also See: [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/02/c\\_13908164.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/02/c_13908164.htm)

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## Economic Issues

Iraq

**25. China Opens Oil Fields in Iraq**  
**Beijing, Tuesday, 28 June 2011**

The China National Petroleum Corporation, a state-owned enterprise has begun operations at Al-Ahdab oil field in Iraq, making the field the first major new area to start production in Iraq in 20 years.

**Source:** The New York Times

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/06/29/world/asia/29chinairaq.html>

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Sudan

**26. Chinese charity assists Sudan to improve health care system**  
**Beijing, Saturday, 4 June 2011**

The China Foundation of Poverty Alleviation (CFPA) has joined a five-year charity program, which will donate 60 million Yuan (US\$9.3 million) to equip Sudan with more advanced medical facilities and technologies. It has also helped Sudan improve its maternity and family health care system, supporting the establishment of a hospital in Abu Ushar.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/04/c\\_13911121.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/04/c_13911121.htm)

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Turkey

## **27. Turkey plans to open a bank in China**

**Istanbul, Thursday, 2 June 2011**

At the opening of the First Turkish-Chinese Business Forum in Istanbul Turkish State Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Ali Babacan announced that the country planned to open a bank in China, while giving the Bank of China a license to open an office in Turkey.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/02/c\\_13908061.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-06/02/c_13908061.htm)

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