

# **CHINA WATCH**

**No. 38**

**January 2014**

## **POLITICAL ISSUES**

### **EGYPT**

#### **1. China wants stability in Egypt**

**Beijing, Monday, 16 December, 2013**

Meeting visiting Egyptian Foreign Minister Nabil Fahmy in Beijing, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that China regards Egypt as a major regional power and an important strategic partner.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/16/c\\_132972743.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/16/c_132972743.htm)

*See also Xinhua, Beijing:* [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/16/c\\_132971539.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/16/c_132971539.htm)

#### **2. China condemns Egypt bombing**

**Beijing, Tuesday, 24 December, 2013**

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said that China condemned a bomb attack in Egypt that left 14 dead and more than a hundred other wounded.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/24/c\\_132992895.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/24/c_132992895.htm)

### **ISRAEL**

#### **3. Visiting Chinese FM meets with his Israeli counterpart**

**Jerusalem, Thursday, 19 December, 2013**

Before his meeting with the Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that Israel pledges to further strengthen its cooperation with China in trade, water management, health care, agriculture and green energy.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-12/20/c\\_132982249.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-12/20/c_132982249.htm)

#### **4. China pushes Israel-Palestine peace talks**

**Beijing, Thursday, 19 December, 2013**

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with various Israeli and Palestinian leaders as he continued his tour of the Middle East. Wang held separate talks with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. During the talks, he outlined Beijing's commitment to finding a peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/video/2013-12/19/c\\_132980442.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/video/2013-12/19/c_132980442.htm)

---

**5. Israeli President appreciates China's role in Mideast peace process**

**Jerusalem, Thursday, 19 December, 2013**

During a meeting with the Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, Israeli President Shimon Peres appreciated China's constructive support in efforts to bring peace between Israel and Palestine.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/20/c\\_132983084.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/20/c_132983084.htm)

---

**6. Chinese FM urges Israeli's, Palestinians to support peace talks**

**Jerusalem, Friday, 20 December, 2013**

At a peace forum co-sponsored by the Chinese Embassy in Israel and the Chinese Office to the Palestinian National Authority, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi urged Israelis and Palestinians to forge consensus on peace and lend support to the ongoing peace talks.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/21/c\\_132985215.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/21/c_132985215.htm)

---

**7. Chinese FM: China willing to deepen cooperation with Israel**

**Beijing, Friday, 20 December, 2013**

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with the Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem and expressed a willingness to deepen pragmatic cooperation in various areas.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/video/2013-12/20/c\\_132983852.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/video/2013-12/20/c_132983852.htm)

*See also -* [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/20/c\\_132983700.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/20/c_132983700.htm)

---

## IRAN

**8. Iranian president meets Chinese state councillor on ties, nuclear issue**

**Tehran, Sunday, 8 December, 2013**

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani met with the Chinese State Councillor Yang Jiechi and discussed bilateral ties and the Iranian nuclear issue.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/09/c\\_132951400.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/09/c_132951400.htm)

---

**9. China urges diplomatic solution on Iran after US blacklisting**

**Beijing, Monday, 16 December, 2013**

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said that China urges all parties to be committed to a diplomatic solution to Iranian nuclear issue in the wake of the U.S. blacklisting companies and individuals suspected of evading sanctions against Iran.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/16/c\\_132972481.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/16/c_132972481.htm)

---

## JORDAN

**10. Chinese state councillor meets Jordan's FM**

**Beijing, Monday, 2 December, 2013**

Chinese state councillor Yang Jeichi met with the Jordanian Foreign Minister Nasser Judeh and discussed measures to cement political mutual trust, deepen all-round cooperation and strengthen multilateral coordination.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/02/c\\_132935660.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/02/c_132935660.htm)

---

### **11. Foreign Chiefs of China, Jordan hold talks in Beijing**

**Beijing, Sunday, 1 December, 2013**

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi held talks with the Jordanian Foreign Minister Nasser Judeh and stressed upon the unique influences Jordan has on the Middle East, Arab and the Islamic community.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/01/c\\_125789561.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/01/c_125789561.htm)

---

## **PALESTINE**

### **12. Palestinians highlight upcoming visit by Chinese FM**

**Ramallah, Tuesday, 17 December, 2013**

Palestinian Minister of Foreign Affairs Riyad Al-Maliki said that the visit by the Chinese Foreign Minister is very important given the ongoing peace negotiations with Israel.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-12/17/c\\_125875285.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-12/17/c_125875285.htm)

---

### **13. Chinese, Palestinian FMs meet to discuss ties**

**Ramallah, Wednesday, 18 December, 2013**

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with his Palestinian counterpart Riyad Al-Maliki to push forward bilateral ties.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/19/c\\_132980011.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/19/c_132980011.htm)

---

## **SYRIA**

### **14. Geneva II Conference on Syria to provide opportunity: Chinese FM**

**Beijing, Saturday, 14 December, 2013**

In a phone talk with U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that the upcoming Geneva II conference on Syria will provide a window of opportunity to break the stalemate on the Syrian issue.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-12/14/c\\_132968316.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-12/14/c_132968316.htm)

---

### **15. China to continue supporting Syria's weapons disposal work**

**Beijing, Thursday, 19 December, 2013**

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said that China will continue to support disposing of Syria's Chemical Weapons.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/19/c\\_132981524.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/19/c_132981524.htm)

---

### **16. China expects Geneva II conference on Syria to be held as slated**

**Beijing, Monday, 23 December, 2013**

Foreign Ministry spokesperson said that China expressed hope that the upcoming international conference on Syria will be held as slated.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/23/c\\_132989953.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/23/c_132989953.htm)

---

### **17. FM spokesperson: China's efforts in settling Syrian issue**

**Beijing, Friday, 27 December, 2013**

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying summed up China's efforts to push for proper settlement of the Syrian issue and mentioned assistance for destruction of Syria's chemical weapons and humanitarian aid.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/27/c\\_133002056.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/27/c_133002056.htm)

---

### **18. China says agreement reached on shipping Syria's Chemical Weapons**

**Beijing, Tuesday, 31 December, 2013**

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Qin Gang said that a multilateral agreement has been reached among US, China, Syria, Denmark, Norway and Russia for escorting Syria's chemical weapons out of the country and destroying them.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/video/2013-12/31/c\\_133009181.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/video/2013-12/31/c_133009181.htm)

---

## **YEMEN**

### **19. China condemns Yemen defence ministry attack**

**Beijing, Friday, 6 December, 2013**

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hong Lei said that China condemned the deadly terrorist attack on the Yemeni Defence Ministry Complex that killed 52 people.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/06/c\\_132947505.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/06/c_132947505.htm)

---

## **ECONOMIC ISSUES**

## **ISRAEL**

### **20. Israel keen on increasing trade with China**

**Beijing, Monday, 30 December, 2013**

During a meeting in his Jerusalem office of the Ministerial Committee on Advancing Economic Ties with China, Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that consistently increasing trade with China is one of the main horizons for ensuring the continued growth of the Israeli economy.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-12/31/c\\_125935643.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-12/31/c_125935643.htm)

---

## **IRAN**

### **21. Iran's non-oil trade totals 62.5 billion USD in 9 months: report**

**Beijing, Saturday, 28 December, 2013**

According to the latest report released by Iran's Customs Administration, China, Iraq and the UAE remained the top three importers of Iranian goods during the first nine months of the current Iranian year that began on 21 March.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/business/2013-12/28/c\\_133003410.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/business/2013-12/28/c_133003410.htm)

---

## **UAE**

### **22. UAE blue chip firms footprint abroad**

**Beijing, Thursday, 26 December, 2013**

Dubai Islamic Bank CEO Dr. Adnan Chilwan said that he was interested in expanding to China as Dubai begins to establish itself as the capital of the global Islamic economy.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-12/26/c\\_132996390.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-12/26/c_132996390.htm)

---

## MULTILATERAL ISSUES

### **23. Chinese FM to visit Middle East, N. Africa**

**Beijing, Thursday, 12 December, 2013**

Chinese Foreign Minister will visit Palestine, Israel, Algeria, Morocco, and Saudi Arabia during 17-26 December 2013.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/12/c\\_132963226.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/12/c_132963226.htm)

---

### **24. Chinese FM discussed ties, Middle East with Kerry over phone**

**Beijing, Monday, 16 December, 2013**

Foreign Minister Wang Yi called US Secretary of State John Kerry to discuss bilateral ties and exchanged views on Israeli-Palestinian peace talks and the Syrian issue.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/16/c\\_125862475.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/16/c_125862475.htm)

---

### **25. China says foreign minister's Middle East visit achieve expected goals**

**Beijing, Friday, 20 December, 2013**

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said that Chinese Foreign Minister's visit to Israel and Palestine has achieved expected goals.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/21/c\\_125893955.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/21/c_125893955.htm)

---

### **26. Chinese FM pledges support to Arab countries**

**Algiers, Sunday, 22 December, 2013**

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi pledged support to Arab countries during a joint press conference with his Algerian counterpart Ramtane Lamamra.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/22/c\\_132987076.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/22/c_132987076.htm)

---

### **27. China keen to boost strategic ties with Gulf States: FM**

**Riyadh, Thursday, 26 December, 2013**

In meeting with the GCC General Secretary Abdullateef Al Zayani in Riyadh, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi underlined China's keenness to promote strategic cooperation and ties in all fields with GCC countries.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/26/c\\_132996386.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/26/c_132996386.htm)

---

## MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

### EGYPT

### **28. Despite difficulties, Egypt's Red Devils maintain hope for Club World Cup**

**Cairo, Sunday, 8 December, 2013**

Al-Ahly coach Mohamed Yousef expressed hope that his team will achieve great heights in the Club World Cup, where his team would play Guangzhou Evergrande of China, the Asian Champions.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/sports/2013-12/09/c\\_132951393.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/sports/2013-12/09/c_132951393.htm)

---

### **29. Egypt's state TV to air highest-rated Chinese show**

**Cairo, Thursday, 19 December, 2013**

Egypt's State TV signed a protocol with China Radio International on airing a popular Chinese soap opera for the first time in the channel's history.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/culture/2013-12/20/c\\_125887809.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/culture/2013-12/20/c_125887809.htm)

---

**ISRAEL**

**30. Israeli seeks fortune in China**

**Haikou, Thursday, 12 December, 2013**

Yuval Golan, an employee at the Israeli Embassy in the Netherlands set up his own tourism and marketing business in Haikou, China.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/12/c\\_132963436.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/12/c_132963436.htm)

---

**31. Israeli Nobel Prize laureate selected foreign academician of CAS**

**Beijing, Thursday, 19 December, 2013**

Israeli bio-chemist Aaron Ciechanover along with eight other foreign scientists was elected foreign academicians of the Chinese Academy of Sciences for 2013.

*Source: Xinhua, Beijing*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/19/c\\_132981595.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-12/19/c_132981595.htm)

---

**COMPILED BY DIPANWITA CHAKRAVORTTY**

Dipanwita Chakravortty is a doctoral candidate in School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Email: [dipa.chaks@gmail.com](mailto:dipa.chaks@gmail.com)

---

As part of its editorial policy, the MEI@ND standardizes spelling and date formats to make the text uniformly accessible and stylistically consistent. The views expressed here are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views/positions of the MEI@ND. Editor, **MEI@ND: P R Kumaraswamy**