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# CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA



## ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON CHINA AND ASIA

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### I. Social Media Chatter in China

- Officials had been put under investigation due to social media pressure: A total of 17 officials were under <u>investigation</u> on the case of a chained woman. The woman was rescued after the video of her chained sparked nationwide outrage in Chinese social media. The Jiangsu provincial authorities announced that the Chinese government vowed to take necessary measures to protect women's rights.
- Global Times twitter comment against Taiwan became a sensation: Global Times, the Chinese state-affiliated media, had <u>responded</u> to the post of Taiwan President condemning Russia's action in Ukraine attracted global attention. The Twitter account of Global Times responded claiming Taiwan's sovereignty had "never existed" that within a matter of time the "secessionist regime" of Taiwan would be eradicated.

### II. News in China

- Zhang Jun, the Chinese ambassador to the United Nations, called on all parties involved in the crisis to remain restrained and avoid escalating the situation any further. The situation in Ukraine had escalated after Russian President Vladimir Putin a special military operation in the Donbas region on February 24th. He added that China would continue to promote peace in its ways to avoid the current conflict.
- Chinese national embassy in Ukraine <u>issued</u> a security alert to Chinese nationals and companies in Ukraine to remind them to stay at home. It had also advised Chinese citizens to affix the Chinese national flag on their cars while they travel.
- Hua Chunying, the spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, expressed China's dissent in <u>imposing</u> illegal unilateral sanctions as the US and allies have announced severe sanctions against Russia in the face of Ukraine crisis escalation.
   She stated that the Chinese government believes imposing sanctions was never an "effective way" to solve problems.
- China's housing minister <u>promised</u> to keep the real estate market stable this year and ensure the demands for homes were met after a series of efforts by the authorities to boost sales in the property sector. The property prices had fallen dramatically since certain regulations were imposed to decrease the debt in the sector.
- According to the South China Morning Post, Yuan was still on its four-year high while major stock markets and world currencies declined after Russian President Putin ordered a military operation in Ukraine. Beijing-based analysts said that low volatility rates and stable purchasing power have made the yuan rally up to 6.3 per US dollar on the risk-off sentiment.

## III. India Watch

• The world is keen to know China's responses to the Ukraine crisis as it escalates to unprecedented levels. South China Morning Post reported that China is currently facing a "dilemma" over the Ukraine crisis as it gives tough choices for China. On one hand, China has to maintain its good relations with Moscow, while on the other, China does not want to compromise its international standing on Taiwan. Ukraine is also an important partner to Beijing as it remains the number one trading partner for Kyiv.