

3 AUGUST 2022

# DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

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## SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **Anonymous welcomes Nancy Pelosi to Taiwan on a Chinese government website:** On Wednesday, August 3, the decentralized global hacktivist collective Anonymous broke into a Chinese official website to welcome U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi on her latest trip to Taiwan. According to Anonymous spokesman "Allez-opi omi," the [Heilongjiang Society Scientific Community Federation](#) webpage was hacked. The group posted an HTML website that, among other things, read "Taiwan welcomes US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi" and featured the phrases "Taiwan Numbah Wan," Taiwan's national anthem, a picture of Pelosi, and Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen. According to the decentralized group, a DDoS attack on the website of the Office of the President was the motivation for the breach of the Chinese government site.
- **"1.4 Billion People Do Not Agree with Interference in China's Sovereignty Issues":** Tuesday night saw the promotion of the hashtags "1.4 Billion People Do Not Agree with Interference in China's Sovereignty Issues" and "The United States Plays with Fire & Will Burn Itself by Taiwan Involvement Provocation" on official Chinese channels. Flight radar livestreams were watched by millions of Chinese internet users, with one feed from China.org reaching over 70 million views at one point. Soon after, Hu Xijin announced on Weibo and Twitter (both in Chinese and English) that the PLA would be conducting live-fire drills and military drill operations in the outlying areas of Taiwan from August 4 to 7.

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# NEWS IN CHINA

- China's prohibition on fine sand supplies to Taiwan has little effect. Beijing's retaliatory actions following Pelosi's visit include a ban. Following the arrival of U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, China suspended the export of natural sand to Taiwan. This impact has been minimized by Taiwan. Taiwan's domestic demand for natural sand increased by around 0.64 percent and 0.75 percent, or 450,000 and 540,000 tons, over the last two years, respectively. According to the Bureau of Mines, just 70,000 and 170,000 tons were imported from China in 2020 and 2021, respectively. The bureau also stated that Taiwan is becoming less dependent on sand imports as a result of enhanced dredging activities at waterways and reservoirs. The embargo is reportedly one of a number of reprisal measures put in place by Beijing in response to Pelosi's keenly observed visit to Taiwan. Also prohibited from importation into China as of this Wednesday are Taiwan's citrus fruits, chilled white-striped hairtail, and frozen horse mackerel (Aug. 3).
- In its most recent opening-up initiative, China is considering allowing international multinational organizations to set up finance enterprises in the nation. According to a draft document made available by the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission, international multinational groups would be permitted to form finance companies directly or through Chinese investment firms that have received foreign funding. Both Chinese and foreign-funded finance companies are subject to the same market access restrictions in the draft. Updates

have been made to the report, which is now available for public comment, in areas including company regulation and market access needs. According to China's economic situation, the threshold for establishing a finance company has increased, with higher capital, revenue, profit, and compensated capital requirements for prospective corporate groups.

- China took over the rotating presidency of the United Nations Security Council on Monday with the goals of promoting discussion and cooperation for shared security and aiding Africa's capacity-building for long-term peace as a top priority. According to Zhang Jun, China's permanent representative to the UN, the Security Council has to reexamine the importance of communication and collaboration for global security. "The council must reiterate its commitment to upholding common security and assume its proper obligations. China has therefore suggested holding a briefing on August 22 with the theme "Maintenance of international peace and security: advance common security through communication and collaboration," "He discussed the Security Council's August work schedule during a press briefing. Zhang explained that the delivery of weapon-grade fissile material and associated technologies and equipment is a part of the US, UK, and Australian nuclear submarine cooperation (AUKUS). The goals and tenets of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty are broken by such an action. It poses significant dangers for nuclear proliferation and might start an arms race in the area,
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- endangering the security and stability of the region. The Chinese ambassador drew attention to the United States and the United Kingdom's repeated expressions of worry about Iran and the Korean Peninsula's nuclear problems while endorsing their collaboration with the AUKUS.
  - Beginning next month, China will grant zero-tariff treatment to 8,786 commodities, or 98 percent of currently taxable imports from 16 LDCs. This announcement was made by the Customs Tariff Commission of the State Council. The decision, which will go into effect on September 1, will support market opportunity sharing with these countries, including Togo, Djibouti, Laos, and Rwanda, push for shared growth, and promote the creation of a community with a shared destiny for all people, according to the statement. This policy move would progressively extend to all LDCs with diplomatic links to China and shall be centred on the development of written communications, it was further said. According to experts, this move will boost the stability and recovery of the global economy by increasing China's purchases from least-developed countries, particularly those of agricultural products and production materials. Before this action, the commission declared in December that China will provide tariff concessions to least-developed nations that have forged diplomatic ties and successfully concluded a letter exchange with China.
  - While China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) conducted live-fire military drills across the Taiwan Strait on Tuesday, Russia

- backed Beijing in its opposition to Nancy Pelosi's anticipated visit to the sovereign island of Taiwan, labelling it a "provocation." At a news conference, spokeswoman for the foreign ministry Maria Zakharova stated that Moscow stands against Taiwanese independence "in whatever form." As Pelosi was expected to arrive on Tuesday evening, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP official)'s media was silent about the political unrest throughout the Taiwan Strait after Chinese leader Xi Jinping advised President Joe Biden not to "play with fire."

## INDIA WATCH

- The rotating system's current presidency of China serves as a stark reminder of the futility of multilateral and intergovernmental diplomacy. When it comes to obtaining a permanent seat on the security council, efforts made by India for more than a decade appear to have been in vain. The organization's elitist nature and China's fear of losing its higher rank among "Low Developed Countries" are both evidenced by the delays in amending the charter until the next presidential cycle. It is crucial to recognize that this conflict is being fought on multiple fronts, with China obstructing India's admission and Brazil strengthening ties with the South East Giant. Even in regional international organizations where the two vie for the top positions, like BRICS and ASEAN.
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