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DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

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SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **Chang Ling-Chen, a professor at National Taiwan University, trends on Weibo-** “Taiwanese people need to wake up”: This week, the hashtag “Taiwan Professor Urges People of Taiwan To Wake Up” gained over 180 million views after making an appearance on Weibo's top trending lists (台湾教授呼台湾人要觉醒). “The people of Taiwan need to wake up. Are Americans good to us? Taiwan is a Chinese territory. So it needs to be defended, at all costs. The US is using us as an instrument”, she said. Chen argues that Taiwan should not want to get embroiled in a US proxy conflict with China since that would result in deaths on both sides of the Taiwan Strait while the US would remain unaffected. She also stated that the Tsai government is incapable of defending the Taiwanese people. Her remarks on October 27 at the Taiwan Citizen Congress Watch (CCW) conference sparked debate among academics and netizens.

NEWS IN CHINA

- China's exports decreased by 0.3% in October compared to a year earlier; down from 5.7% growth in September for the first time since May 2020, while imports decreased by 0.7% in October compared to a year earlier, down from 0.3% growth in September, according to figures issued by [China Customs](#). Last month, China's economy expanded by 3.9% in the third quarter, up from a 0.4% gain in the second but coronavirus limitations, a protracted real estate collapse, and concerns of a worldwide recession are weighing on the long-term picture. “We expect exports to weaken further over the coming quarters as the global economy tips into a recession”, stated

Capital Economics' China economists
Zichun Huang and Julian Evans-Pritchard.

- Beijing held its 406th press conference on the prevention and control of new coronavirus pneumonia on November 7. Pang Xinghuo, Deputy Director of the Beijing Center for Disease Control and Prevention stated that the current round of epidemic prevention and control scenario is severe and complex, with various sources of input, multiple chains running concurrently, and different strains coexisting. Currently, the majority of transmission chains are effectively controlled, but there is still a risk of transmission in specific branch chains. The Omicron variant's BF.7 branch has taken over as the dominant strain. Public gathering places should improve the monitoring of risk workers, as well as boost nucleic acid testing and health inspections.
- China has reportedly made significant investments in electric vehicles and renewable energy, based on a report by the US Diplomatic Scholars website. The report highlighted China's extensive environmental protection efforts. By 2030, China hopes to reach carbon peak levels, and by 2060, it plans to be carbon neutral. China will reaffirm its ongoing dedication to the global climate agenda at the 27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP27). According to the report, China also contributes money to projects that foster South-South cooperation to assist developing nations in coping with climate change. China reported that it had trained over 100 climate change experts

for Tonga, Samoa, Fiji, and Kiribati and had signed five project documents for material assistance on climate change with these nations.

- "We urge the G7 members to stop clinging to 'the Cold War mentality' and ideological prejudice, stop interfering in other countries' internal affairs, stop repeating lies and fallacies, and stop stirring up regional conflicts and provoking bloc confrontation so as to create a favorable condition for global cooperation", stated Zhao Lijian, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson on a press briefing on Monday. On November 4, the G7 group noted that it would "seek for constructive cooperation" with China on issues of peace, security, global health, climate and the biodiversity crisis. The G7 foreign ministers' joint statement interfered with China's internal affairs and emphasised China's need of upholding the UN Charter. Zhao added that China is an example of true multilateralism and has upheld the UN Charter and firmly opposes statements made by the G7 foreign ministers to smear China.
 - A directive on the study, promotion, and execution of the guiding principles of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China in the military has been released by the Central Military Commission (CMC). It emphasised initiatives in areas such as enhancing Party building in the armed forces, fully implementing the system of ultimate responsibility resting with the chairman of the CMC, enhancing military training and war readiness, and advancing development in defense-related science and technology.
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The directive called for persistently reviewing the guiding principles in order to align military beliefs and action with them and make measures to guarantee that they are incorporated into all facets of military development and work.

INDIA WATCH

- According to data released by China Customs, China's export and import dropped in 2022, directly contributing to the growth of New Delhi's trade deficit with Beijing. Mark Mobius, the renowned investor known as the 'Godfather of Emerging Markets' noted an increasing trend of manufacturing moving from the neighbouring nation to India. Due to the Coronavirus, China's severe lockdowns, and its continuous "technology war" with the US, which has had disastrous effects for manufacturers there, an increasing number of enterprises, notably in the technological hardware industry, are shifting to India. Mobius stated that in order to reduce India's large trade deficit with China, local manufacturing needs to be increased. India should encourage local manufacturers to make the goods that are imported from China in India at even lower cost rather than imposing input restrictions like increased import charges due to its size and demographic advantage over smaller competitors.
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