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# DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

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## SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **Luxury Fashion Houses Are Helping Revolutionize the Beauty Industry in China:** It is a well-known fact that the entertainment industry can be brutal to its women. Even when ageism is disregarded as a construct of the past, the show-biz sector is yet to embrace inclusivity of age and beauty. Despite ongoing debate over ageism and adequate representation of all women in the entertainment industry all across the globe, China is seeing a slow shift towards acceptance, ever since, popular actress Hai Qing spoke out on ageism in the Chinese film and entertainment industry. Exposure to progressive shows on television and discussion on social media have sparked debate and discussion on women empowerment and equality. Such construction of progressive thinking is slowly helping to break existing prejudice associated with beauty and age. Amidst such changes, the fashion industry has embraced the beauty of ageism in China. Top luxury brands like Gucci, Prada and Louis Vuitton are collaborating with more middle-aged Chinese actresses and incorporating a localized and inclusive strategy to make fashion more relatable to the Chinese public, which is a major market for their global sales.

## NEWS IN CHINA

- In a new national security strategy released by the White House on Wednesday, Washington has stated strong remarks towards Beijing. The 28-page strategy outlines Biden's national security priorities for the States and describes China as "the only competitor with both the intent to reshape the

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international order and, increasingly, the economic, diplomatic, military, and technological power to do it.” As the current geopolitical scenario is at an “inflection point” as China seeks to rewrite the rules of the global order, “it is clear that the next ten years will be the decisive decade,” the document says. The document’s release comes ahead of the much-awaited Chinese Communist Party’s 19th National Congress this weekend and highlights the importance of the PRC to the global economy and acknowledging the possibility for both nations to coexist peacefully, and contribute to human progress together, amidst growing competition. At the same time, the document focuses on Washington’s support for the idea of “one China” and rejects any support for Taiwanese independence.

- With global economy facing a huge slump due to the aftermath of the pandemic, the ongoing Ukraine war and inflation triggered by aggressive US monetary tightening, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Tuesday lowered its growth estimate for China’s economy this year from 3.3% to 3.2%. The Washington-based institution cut China’s economic forecast for next year from 4.6% to 4.4% – a huge slump from 8.1% expansion as seen in 2021. In comparison, the IMF’s 2023 gross domestic product (GDP) growth estimates for India remained unchanged, at 6.1%, respectively. As China’s economic growth seems bleak due to Beijing’s hardline zero-COVID policy, a property sector downturn and a volatile political situation, the predicted economic expansion this year will be the country’s lowest growth rate in

four decades. This doesn’t just affect China but also the rest of the world, according to the IMF, given China accounts for one-fifth of the global economy and is integral to supply chains. “In short, the worst is yet to come, and for many people 2023 will feel like a recession,” the report said.

- Chinese authorities announced the establishment of more national parks in the country on Wednesday which marked the first anniversary of the establishment of the first batch of national parks in the country. The first five parks namely, Northeast China Tiger and Leopard, Three-River-Source National Park, Giant Panda National Park, Wuyishan National Park and National Park of Hainan Tropical Rainforest - cover a total area of 230,000 square kilometers in 10 provinces, ranging from north to south China and protects nearly 30% of state-level key species of wild animals and plants on land. The establishment of the parks have significantly raised the population of many aboriginal and endangered species while protecting and restoring the ecology and wildlife. China plans to establish the world’s largest national park system with an additional 50 selected national parks, covering around 10% of the country’s total land area, according to China’s National Forestry and Grassland Administration, reported to CCTV on Wednesday. The selected parks will aim to protect China’s most representative and diverse ecosystems including more than 80% of the state-level key protected wildlife species and their habitats.
  - On Wednesday, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson, Mao Ning delivered the
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message of prospective development of bilateral ties with Europe. According to [reports](#), German Chancellor Olaf Scholz recently extended his support for globalization, and the importance of efficient collaboration with all countries for economic growth. Executive Vice-President of the European Commission Valdis Dombrovskis, supported the same idea and stated that the EU's trading relationship with China "needs more balance and reciprocity". Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao told a daily news briefing on China's equal views on globalization and opposes decoupling. With the world economy hitting a stagnancy, staying open and engaging in cooperation and economic growth and engaging in trade ties is best for the Global economic recovery, Mao said. Last year, China-EU trade volume exceeded 800 billion U.S. dollars for the first time and the two-way investment went beyond 270 billion U.S. dollars in cumulative terms. This year, trade total for the first eight months saw a significant rise by 8.8%, with 575.22 billion U.S. dollars' worth trade between China and EU.

## INDIA WATCH

- In its National Security Strategy released on Wednesday, President Joe Biden and his administration has identified the potential power that China exudes over geopolitics, but its aggressive policies and ambition to be a global power instigates a cutting-edge rivalry with Washington. The document mentions the centrality of the Indo-Pacific as the world's most significant region, highlights the need to connect America's allies and partners in Europe and the Indo-Pacific, and refers to India as a

key partner. "As India is the world's largest democracy and a major defense partner, the United States and India will work together, bilaterally and multilaterally, to support our shared vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific," the strategy says. As the US recognises the power of Beijing in geopolitics, it proposes for a foreign policy of collaboration with countries that shares America's vision for the future of international order, from Quad and AUKUS in the Indo-Pacific to I2-U2 in West Asia to the US-European Union Trade and Technology Council. The document [highlights](#) significant importance to the Indo-Pacific strategy that includes an effective system of collaboration to increase greater strategic stability and reduce the risk of unintended military escalation to manage the current competition responsibly. Coming to India, the significance of the South Asian nation was mentioned multiple times in different context, highlighting its importance to the Indo-Pacific region as well as to the mentioned strategy laid down by Washington. As a member of the G7, a body of strong democracies, as well as a part of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework, an economically significant coalition for an economically important region, India has become a part of the three out of six pillars mentioned in the document.

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