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2026 WORLD AI CONFERENCE &
HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON GLOBAL AI GOVERNANCE

2026年7月17日
July 17, 2026

中国·上海
Shanghai, China



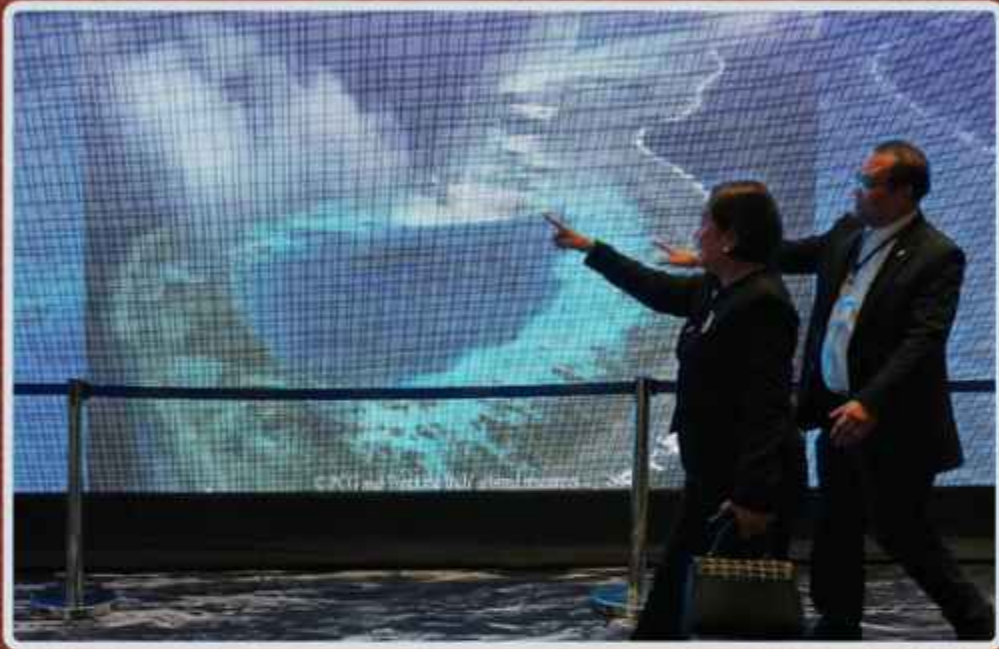
China Expands Global AI Influence Through Shanghai-Based Governance Body

Twenty-nine countries signed an agreement establishing the World AI Cooperation Organization (WAICO) in Shanghai, strengthening China's efforts to shape global AI governance through a parallel multilateral framework. The initiative reinforces Beijing's ambition to influence international technology standards and expand strategic partnerships with developing countries outside existing Western-led governance mechanisms.



China Deepens Strategic Alignment with North Korea Amid Regional Competition

Senior Chinese leader Wang Huning's visit to Pyongyang reinforced Beijing's commitment to expanding political, economic and strategic cooperation with North Korea. The renewed engagement reflects China's efforts to preserve its influence over Pyongyang amid the latter's growing ties with Russia and continuing instability in Northeast Asia.



Philippines Condemns Chinese State Media Over Racist AI-Generated Video

The Philippines lodged a diplomatic protest after a Chinese state media outlet circulated an AI-generated video depicting Filipinos as monkeys. Manila described the content as racist and unacceptable, warning that such narratives damage bilateral relations and further aggravate tensions surrounding the South China Sea dispute.



Taiwan Warns Chinese Maritime Expansion Threatens Pacific Supply Routes

Taiwan reported a sharp increase in Chinese naval and coast guard vessel deployments east of the island, warning that the activity could threaten critical Pacific shipping routes. Taipei viewed the deployments as part of Beijing's expanding military pressure beyond the Taiwan Strait and into wider regional waters.



China Threatens Countermeasures Against New US Visa Restrictions

China denounced new U.S. visa restrictions targeting Chinese nationals as discriminatory and politically motivated, warning of reciprocal countermeasures. The dispute added to growing bilateral tensions over national security, technology, education and strategic competition, signalling further deterioration in U.S.-China relations.



China Objects to UK's Nationalisation of British Steel Assets

Beijing criticised the United Kingdom's nationalisation of British Steel, arguing that it harmed Chinese commercial interests and foreign investment confidence. The dispute highlighted increasing European scrutiny of Chinese ownership in strategically important industries amid broader concerns over economic security and critical infrastructure protection.



South China Sea Encounter Triggers Fresh China–Philippines Confrontation

China and the Philippines exchanged accusations following a confrontation involving their maritime forces in the South China Sea. Manila accused the Chinese Coast Guard of dangerous conduct, while Beijing blamed Philippine vessels for violating Chinese claims, underscoring continuing risks of escalation in disputed waters.



EU Presses China Over Trade Imbalances During High-Level Dialogue

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi met European lawmakers amid continuing European concerns regarding market access, trade imbalances and industrial competition. The discussions highlighted persistent economic disagreements as Brussels continues pursuing de-risking strategies while maintaining diplomatic engagement with Beijing.



US and China Hold Talks Amid Persistent Strategic Differences

U.S. Secretary of State to manage bilateral tensions before a possible Xi Jinping visit. Discussions covered trade, regional security and strategic stability, reflecting continued efforts to prevent escalation despite unresolved disputes across multiple geopolitical issues.



Japan Protests Chinese Live-Fire Naval Drill Near Its EEZ

Japan lodged a formal protest after a Chinese destroyer conducted live-fire exercises close to Japan's Exclusive Economic Zone. Tokyo argued the operation increased regional security risks and demanded greater transparency, reflecting growing concern over China's expanding military activities in nearby waters.



India Presses China on Market Access and Trade Imbalance

India urged China to improve market access for Indian companies and address the widening bilateral trade deficit. New Delhi emphasised removing non-tariff barriers and ensuring more balanced economic engagement, highlighting persistent structural challenges in bilateral commercial relations despite ongoing diplomatic dialogue.



Wang Huning Reinforces Beijing's Assimilation Agenda During Tibet Visit

Senior Chinese leader Wang Huning visited Tibet, stressing ethnic unity, ideological education and long-term social stability. The visit highlighted Beijing's continued emphasis on political control and implementation of integration policies in Tibet, reinforcing concerns regarding cultural assimilation and centralised governance.



China Conducts Fresh Air and Naval Patrols in Disputed South China Sea

China carried out coordinated air and naval patrols in the South China Sea, describing the operations as necessary to protect sovereignty.

The patrols followed expanded military cooperation among the United States, Japan and the Philippines, underscoring intensifying strategic competition and persistent regional security tensions.



China Expands Security Partnerships Across Eurasia

China called for stronger security cooperation with Belarus and Uzbekistan in counterterrorism, law enforcement and regional stability. The initiative reflects Beijing's continued efforts to deepen its strategic footprint across Eurasia while strengthening security partnerships beyond the Indo-Pacific region.



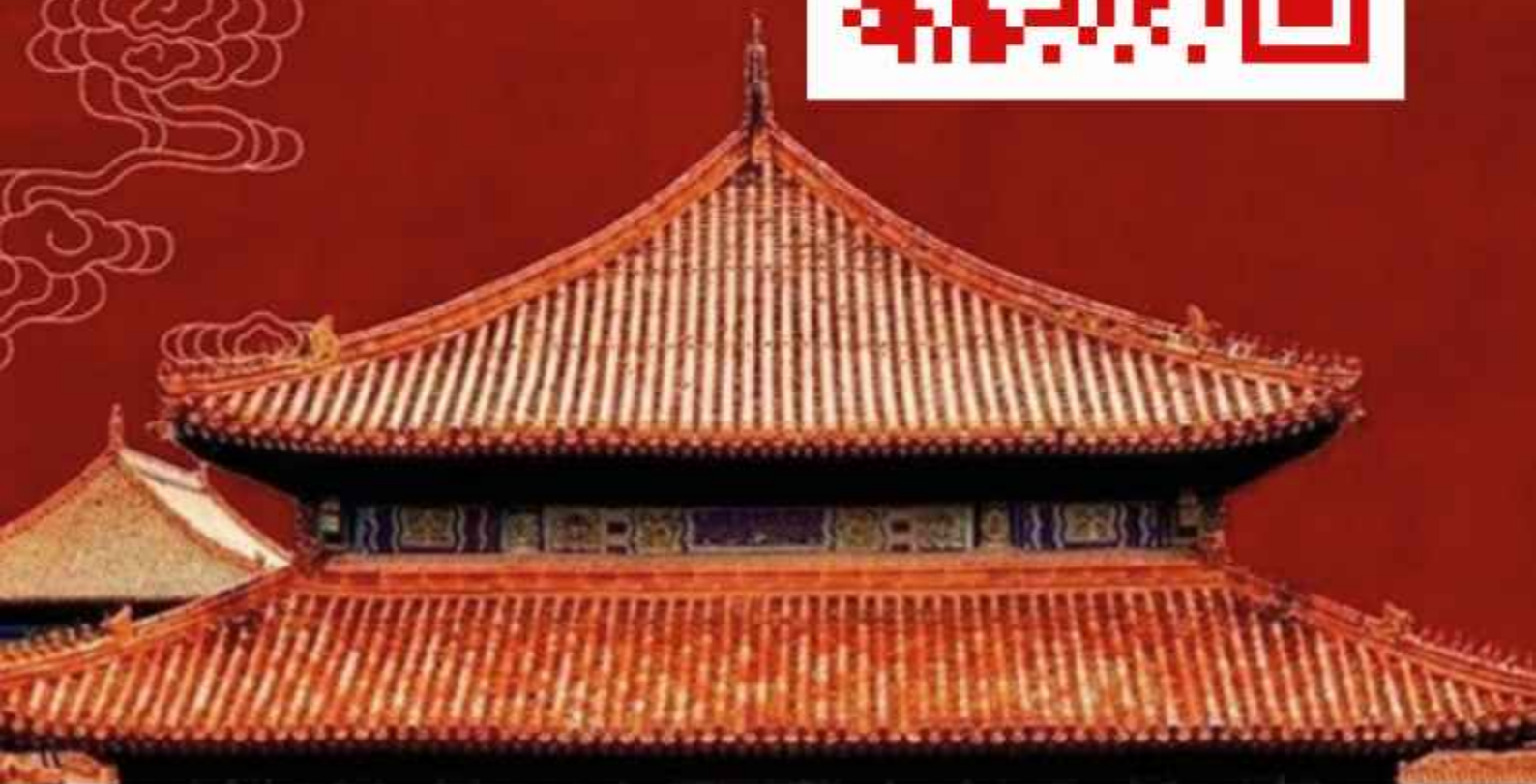
US, Japan and Philippines Strengthen Deterrence Through Joint Maritime Drills

The United States, Japan and the Philippines conducted joint naval exercises in the South China Sea to enhance interoperability and reinforce freedom of navigation. The drills reflected growing regional efforts to counter China's increasingly assertive maritime activities and strengthen collective deterrence.



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