

News on China | No. 25



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Geopolitics

Brazilian Foreign Minister's visit to China advances coordination on multilateralism and global governance reform

The fifth China–Brazil Comprehensive Strategic Dialogue was co-chaired in Beijing on 1 June 2026 by Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and Brazilian Foreign Minister Mauro Vieira during Vieira's visit to China. The meetings focused on coordination within the United Nations and BRICS, as well as discussions on reform of global governance. Both sides also addressed WTO reform, expanded trade now exceeding US\$160 billion, and broader economic cooperation. The discussions reflected shared efforts to strengthen bilateral coordination and advance a more multipolar international order with greater participation from Global South countries.

Read More:

- [Brasil de Fato, 1 June 2026](#)
- [CGTN, 2 June 2026](#)

China Deploys Medical Expert Team to DR Congo to Support Ebola Response

A five-member Chinese medical expert team arrived in Kinshasa on 2 June for a three-month mission to support Ebola response efforts in the Democratic Republic of Congo. According to the World Health Organization, the outbreak has recorded more than 300 confirmed cases and around 60 deaths. The team will work with local authorities on surveillance, diagnosis, and treatment. Beijing said the deployment is part of ongoing health cooperation with Africa and reflects support for global public health efforts. China added that it is closely monitoring the situation and stands ready to provide further assistance if needed.

Read More:

- [Global Times, 3 June 2026](#)
- [UN News, 2 June 2026](#)



National Politics

Revised Trade-Secret Rules Extend Protection to Data and Algorithms for Digital Economy

New rules issued by China's State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) on trade secrets took effect on 1 June, updating a framework first established in 1995 that predates cloud computing and artificial intelligence. The measures extend protection to data and algorithms in the digital economy, introduce confidentiality requirements for remote work and cross-border collaboration, and allow extraterritorial enforcement in cases affecting China's domestic market. They also set fines of up to 5 million yuan (about US\$725,000), strengthening the legal framework for the country's digital economy.

Read More:

- [China Daily, 2 June 2026](#)
- [Digital Watch Observatory, 2 June 2026](#)



Economy

Unitree Becomes First Embodied-Intelligence Firm Listed on China's STAR Market

Approval was granted by the Shanghai Stock Exchange on 1 June 2026 for Unitree's listing on the STAR Market, making it the first embodied-intelligence firm to enter the exchange. The Hangzhou-based

humanoid robotics company secured approval just 73 days after its 20 March filing, the fastest under the China Securities Regulatory Commission's mid-2025 fast-track channel for hard-tech firms. It will raise about 4.2 billion yuan (US\$620 million). The company reported 2025 revenue of 1.7 billion yuan (US\$236 million) and net profit of 280 million yuan (US\$39 million), reflecting strong growth in China's robotics sector.

Read More:

- Caixin, 2 June 2026
- CGTN, 1 June 2026

Central Funding for Childcare Subsidies Rises 10.6% to US\$14.65 Billion to Support Families

China's Ministry of Finance has allocated 99.9 billion yuan (about US\$14.65 billion) in central funds this year for childcare subsidies, with total spending expected to reach around 110 billion yuan (about US\$16.1 billion) including local contributions. The policy supports a broader family assistance system that includes a universal 3,600-yuan (about US\$510) annual allowance per child under three, phased free preschool education, expanded tax deductions, and reduced childbirth costs. The measures are part of efforts to build a more childbirth-friendly social policy framework.

Read More:

- Xinhua, 4 June 2026
- The State Council of China, 5 January 2026



Agriculture and Environment

Second Teosinte Gene Lifts Maize Protein to 15%, Cutting Reliance on Imported Soybean Meal

A research team from the Chinese Academy of Sciences reported in *Nature* on 4 June 2026 the identification of a second gene from maize's wild ancestor, teosinte, that enhances nitrogen metabolism. When combined with a gene identified in 2022, the allele raises kernel protein content from 10% to 15% in inbred lines and above 12% in widely cultivated hybrids, without reducing yield. The development could offer a domestic pathway to reduce reliance on imported soybean meal, potentially displacing around 30 million tonnes of imports annually.

Read More:

- Xinhua, 4 June 2026
- bioengineer.org, 3 June 2026

National Parks Quadruple a Sichuan Village's Income While Turning

Herders into Paid Rangers

China's unified national parks system, launched in October 2021 and now covering 230,000 square kilometres, is designed to integrate local communities into conservation rather than displace them. In Fazhan village, beside the Giant Panda National Park, per capita income has quadrupled since a 2017 pilot, while guesthouses have doubled. A "one household, one ranger" scheme has turned more than 17,000 former herders into salaried ecological wardens, reflecting a model of social and environmental integration.

Read More:

- Sixth Tone, 28 August 2023
- China Daily, 2 June 2026



Science and Technology

Homegrown Rapeseed Gene Chip Ends Two-Decade Foreign Monopoly, Cutting Costs to One-Eighth

A "Zhongxinyou No.1" solid-state gene chip, jointly developed by the Jiangxi Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Huazhong Agricultural University and Suzhou Laso Biotech, carries over 17,000 genome-wide markers and more than 1,500 functional loci. It enables breeders to assess oil content and disease resistance in seedlings immediately after germination, reducing rapeseed variety development from around ten years to as little as three. The technology ends nearly two decades of foreign dominance in solid-phase chip fabrication and cuts costs to one-eighth.

Read More:

- Global Times, 28 May 2026
- South China Morning Post, 23 January 2026



People's Life and Culture

Killing of Stolen Celebrity Dog Fuels Push for Animal-Protection Law

A border collie with over 1.5 million online followers was stolen in Henan and later sold for US\$25 to a meat trader before being killed, triggering public outrage in China. The case has renewed calls for an animal-protection law, building on repeated legislative proposals and growing public support. A 2020 state-broadcaster poll found over 280,000 of 299,000 respondents in favour of such legislation, reflecting rising awareness of animal welfare across the country.

Read More:

- South China Morning Post, 3 June 2026
- Princeton Legal Journal, 2022

Yangshao Petal Pottery, 6,000 Years Old, Reborn as Fashion in China's Guochao Heritage Drive

Unveiled at the 22nd China (Shenzhen) International Cultural Industries Fair, the “Blossoms of China” initiative brought together the Miaodigong Museum, designer Zhang Yichao and 24 specialists to translate 6,000-year-old Yangshao Culture (仰韶文化) petal motifs into contemporary apparel. The designs draw on Neolithic symbols linked to the character 华 (hua) in “Huaxia” (China), a foundational concept of Chinese civilisation dating to c. 5000–3000 BCE. The project highlights the cultural reinterpretation of heritage within China's guochao drive, positioning the country's garment industry as both global manufacturer and cultural producer capable of shaping international design narratives while drawing on deep historical continuity and identity today.

Read More:

- **China Daily**, 29 May 2026
- **Petal**

motifs:

