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**WORLD BRIEFS**



**SOUTH CHINA SEA**  
Vietnam urged China yesterday to take responsible and constructive actions in the disputed South China Sea following a Pentagon report that highlighted Beijing's military buildup in the strategic waters. The Vietnamese Foreign Ministry said the country had a legal basis and historical evidence to affirm its sovereignty over the Spratly and Paracel islands.  
More on p11

**CAMBODIA** Prosecutors in the U.N.-backed trial of two leaders of Cambodia's former Khmer Rouge regime on charges of genocide and other crimes called yesterday for life imprisonment as the only appropriate punishment. The Khmer Rouge has been blamed for the deaths of 1.7 million Cambodians during its 1975-79 rule. The current trial began in October 2014.



**INDONESIA** Authorities say they arrested two suspected wildlife smugglers after a raid on a port warehouse in Sumatra uncovered more than 200 pangolins, many of them dead from stress and dehydration.

**PAKISTAN**'s prime minister yesterday denied allegations of corruption and money laundering during a nearly three-hour appearance before a Supreme Court-appointed team investigating his family's offshore companies.

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**MACAU ELECTOR 2017**

# Woman, 55 years old, mainland-born

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**Q&A** MARCEL KHALIFE  
OUD PLAYER, SINGER

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**NEW FRONTIER IN CANCER CARE**

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times  
weekend Guide  
INSIDE





Eric Sautedé



Agnes Lam



Sérgio de Almeida Correia

# Local citizens usually vote conservative, experts say

**T**AKING into account the profile of the typical Macau voter - a mainland-born woman aged between 50 and 64 years old - the Times questioned several experts about the impact of the voter profile on the September 17 election.

After analyzing the official data, French political scientist and commentator Eric Sautedé stated that “clearly there will be a lot less young people among the registered voters”, adding that those below the age of 30 will constitute approximately 16 percent of the electorate compared to almost 19 percent in 2013.

“Then you have a lot more of [voters above the age of] 60,” he continued. These make up 27.5 percent of the latest turnout, compared to 21.6 percent in the previous election.

“Older people are usually more conservative [in their vote] and in Macau they fall prey to all the traditional associations that ‘buy loyalty’ all year long,” he added.

There are also far

fewer voters between the ages of 45 and 55 in these elections. They formed more than 25 percent in the 2013 election, compared to 21 percent this year.

**They feel their votes aren't useful.**

AGNES LAM

Sautedé noted that Macau has 12,000 more women than men and added that women's votes traditionally skew more conservative, especially those of older women.

The political scientist voiced the opinion that associations' ability to mobilize voters would ultimately make the difference.

“Pro-government associations, both traditional and recent ones, have been heavily subsidized in the past four years, and we [have] already seen that this was crucial in the 2013 elections when compared to 2009; especially regard-

ing the three seats of Chan Meng Kam, which is a ‘flawless’ example of patron-client relations optimized for electoral purposes.”

On the list splitting, Sautedé said: “In the case of Chan Meng Kam, they will most probably go for two lists and optimize their estimated vote bank by trying to put four legislators in the house.”

Chan's newcomer, Fujian-born Kyan Su Lone, has been groomed for months and is active in all of Chan's affiliated associations. Kyan is a Xiamen CPPCC member for Macau who has lived in the region since 2001 and, Sautedé added, has been seen campaigning side-by-side with Chan.

As for the chances of the New Macau Association (ANM), Sautedé considers these “tough, because they can only maximize if their two lists work well together. My guess is that a certain number of people are fed up with the status quo and have seen the excesses and hypocrisy of all the pro-business legislators. Ng Kuok Cheong - Au Kam

Sam and Chan Wai Chi-Sulu Sou's tickets could work fine if they finally decided to ‘engineer’ the vote by using a strategic way to evenly split their potential voters.”

Sautedé added that Sou's status as one of the main organizers of the May 2014 demonstrations has won him a lot of respect among young people.

When asked about Pereira Coutinho, Sautedé said, “Having young Jorge Neto Valente as number two on Melinda Chan's list will not help, but then Melinda appeals to a very different electorate.”

He said the addition to Chan's list “will certainly not deprive Coutinho [of] his seat [although it] might make [New Hope] lose his second seat as Leong Veng Chai was the least

voted for back in 2013 and somehow came as a surprise.”

Echoing Sautedé's stance that larger groups tend to vote “conservatively” was local lawyer Sérgio de Almeida Correia, who said that it is obvious that many people are not used to participating in the system and may have spent “little time [in] Macau when compared to their age and lack of experience in political participation.”

This, Correia said, leads older voters to favor people they know or with whom they can find some sort of connection.

“We can't do much about this [voter profile]; in fact, the granting of permanent resident status by the authorities can be even be used as a triage element,” he added.

“This is one of the problems of countries and regions where an engrained culture of electoral participation doesn't exist. This [makes] people more permeable to

the influence of formal and informal powers, but it isn't exclusive to Macau. It happens pretty much everywhere, even in countries with a much more developed political system.”

“I don't think this is the bigger issue but it is clear that it does not contribute to a better enlightenment of the people or to more conscientious participation [...] What is desirable is that people go to the polling stations to vote in a way that is perfectly conscious and clear,” he said.

Correia finds associations' participation in indirect suffrage “anachronistic” and is of the view that it “doesn't make much sense” but said he understands the historical context.

The process of list splitting, he said, “can be in fact a strategy from the stronger lists to avoid other lists to elect members. Sometimes to run more than one list is not just to elect more members, but just to split votes in a way that others can't get enough

## ORIGIN OF REGISTERED VOTERS

Origin	Macau	Taipa/Coloane	Other	Total
Macau	105,354	13,200	177	118,731
P. R. China	154,208	12,426	442	167,076
Hong Kong	6,335	1,554	54	7,943
Other	11,572	1,689	9	13,270
Total	277,469	28,869	682	307,020

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AL ELECTIONS

# Who are the Macau voters?

Renato Marques

**W**ITH the approach of the vote day for the 2017 Legislative Assembly (AL) elections on September 17, the number of presented lists is growing steadily along with the preparations for the campaign period.

According to the official data, this year's election will welcome a total of 25,138 new voters that registered to cast their ballots for the first time.

To learn more about the profile of Macau voters and how this election's new voters might or might not influence changes in the political panorama, the Times researched what the typical voter in the region looks like.

The analysis of several records of both returning voters and new voters in particular, made available by the Electoral Affairs Commission for the Legislative



Assembly election (CAEAL), resulted in the acknowledgement that the typical Macau voter is a woman, aged be-

tween 45 to 64 years old and born on the mainland.

Also well represented in the population sample are men born on the mainland, but with their ages ranging from 50 to 64 years old. This represents the second largest group of potential voters.

The growth in the figures of the age groups 25-29 and 30-34 is mostly due to the registration of new voters during last year (January to December 2016) and also during 2012 prior to the 2013 elections.

The referred age groups, where the difference between genders is negligible, is already accountable for 18.5 percent of all the voters registered for this year's election, thus these groups are expected to have some influence on the final outcome.

Similarly to the larger

groups of voters, the predominance among new voters are still those residents born outside the region, with a larger incidence to the ones born on the mainland (49.5 percent against the 54.4 percent among the total number of voters).

The number of residents born in Hong Kong registered as new voters is also on the rise (+0.8 percent) and those born in Macau (+6.5 percent).

Noteworthy is the relationship between the larger voter groups and the total population figures.

When compared to the latest official figures from the 2016 population by-census of the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC), the official number of registered voters show that, contrary to what has been mentioned several times, not all groups of younger citizens

have been growing.

DSEC notes in the report that the "local population in 2016 were concentrated in the age groups of 25-34 and 50-59, altogether accounting for 35.2 percent of the local population." For the younger cohort (18-24 years old), the percentage of local residents registered to vote is slightly under 50 percent, while in a wider range for older citizens (50-64 years old), it reaches an average of two-thirds of the total population.

The figures also show that the number of voters within the younger groups have been falling. The number of individuals in the 18-24 category registered about 3,500 fewer voters in 2016 than in 2012, which would suggest a relatively lower impact of the young generation on the direct elections for the AL.

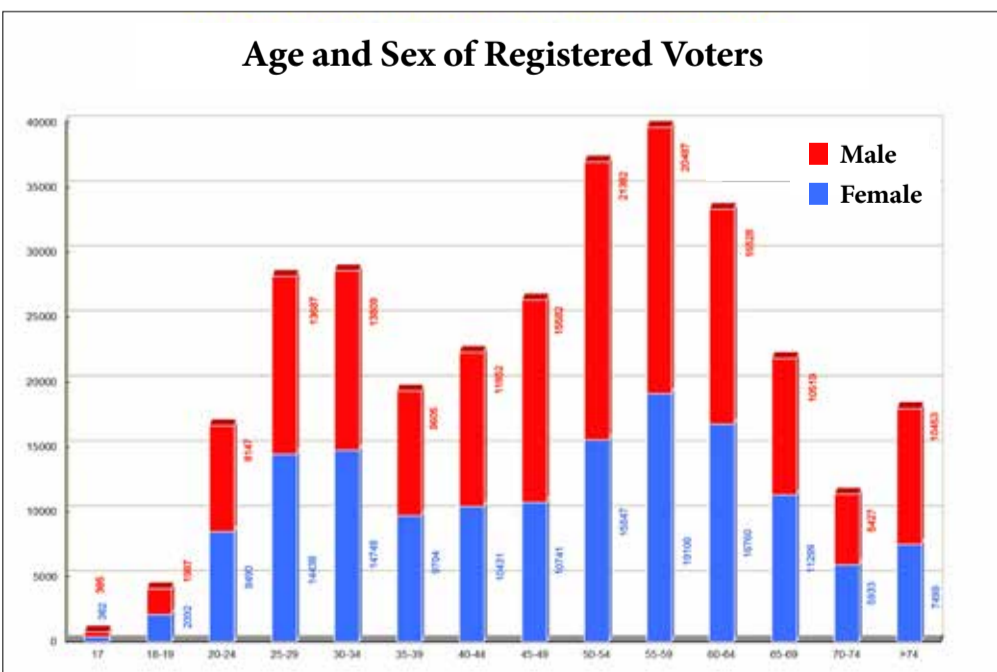
31/12/2012 31/12/2016

AGE GROUP	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL
17	890	814	1704	382	385	767
18-19	2525	2415	4940	2092	1987	4079
20-24	9707	9559	19266	8490	8147	16637
25-29	13193	12886	26079	14438	13687	28125
30-34	9445	8879	18324	14748	13809	28557
35-39	9253	9438	18691	9704	9605	19309
40-44	10020	13510	23530	10431	11852	22283
45-49	12654	17846	30500	10741	15582	26323
50-54	18704	20544	39248	15547	21382	36929
55-59	17752	17284	35036	19106	20487	39593
60-64	11864	10940	22804	16760	16528	33288
65-69	7149	6150	13299	11299	10519	21818
70-74	3767	3533	7300	5933	5427	11360
> 74	6654	9778	16432	7499	10453	17952
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>133577</b>	<b>143576</b>	<b>277153</b>	<b>147170</b>	<b>159850</b>	<b>307020</b>

► for a mandate." Scholar Agnes Lam weighed in on the topic of the numerous older women who form the bulk of the voting pool, remarking that, "this was also the very successful work [of] several local associations and organizations that managed to engage the [elderly] population to become voters." She said it was natural for such individuals to vote for their community leaders. Lam added that there are several generations of what could be considered 'young people',

and named at least three subgroups in this age range. In Lam's opinion, the lack of interest in voting and active participation in the elections is due to different reasons. Some belong to a group which has benefited economically under the current establishment, she said, describing them as "very satisfied and in a more stable situation [so] they don't feel the urge to participate." For most youngsters, the problem might reside in the "lack of hope in changing anything."

They feel there is no chance [in this system] that allows their votes to change anything. They feel their votes aren't useful." Lam added that the stronger fields' strategy of splitting and running two lists "could be the way of gathering more votes [and electing more lawmakers] by breaking into smaller groups which can approach topics that are [closer] to the voters' hearts." There were likely other reasons, she concluded, but did not elaborate. **RM**





**Q&A** MARCEL KHALIFE  
 OUD PLAYER, SINGER

# 'Music is not meant solely for your friends'



**REGARDED** as one of the most prolific Arabic musicians and an icon of humanitarian activism, Lebanese oud master Marcel Khalife will perform tomorrow night at the Macau Cultural Center.

The 67-year-old Khalife was born in Lebanon, and studied the oud (the Arabic lute) at the Beirut National Conservatory of Music, from which he graduated in 1971. In 2005, international cultural organization UNESCO named him an Artist of Peace.

Khalife is known for his informal collaboration with the late Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish – the so-called “poet of the resistance” – who was behind the Palestinian declaration of independence in 1988 and is himself admired throughout the Arab world.

Speaking to the media yesterday, Khalife stressed that the collaboration was in some ways

incidental, and that he had initially failed to seek the poet's approval to use his works.

**- How did you learn to love the oud?**

**Marcel Khalife (MK)** - When I was a little boy, I used to go to a church with my mother and I listened to the religious hymns there. Those hymns created happiness and joy in me, though I never understood what they [meant].

As a child I indulged in [making music] from pots and pans. My parents [...] felt I had some [talent] there, and they decided to buy me an instrument [which they] decided would be the oud.

**- You have been described as the Bob Dylan of the East. What do you make of that?**

**MK** - The similarity, if you like, is confined to the social commitment and the content of

[Bob Dylan's] lyrics. Maybe there are similarities in the [lyrics] but musically, each artist has their own path. It's okay – it doesn't bother me – but I don't think much of it.

**- What was the inspiration behind your collaboration with Darwish?**

**MK** - After I graduated from the Conservatory and went into music as a career, the civil war erupted in Lebanon. I was confined in my village - in my home - because of my differences in political opinion with those who controlled the area.

I wanted to do something and I had access to Darwish's works. I never knew him, had never met him before, but I was spending time taking his poetry and putting it to music. [...] All of a sudden, something that I created in the darkness saw light [...] and it spread like wildfire across the Arab world.

I met Mahmoud [Darwish] seven years after I first recorded the work, at the debut of my first album. Perhaps out of youthful ignorance, I didn't realize that you have to ask the poet whether I can use their poetry for music or not.

Darwish was a noble poet, and actually he had been following my path from afar, so he was happy because my music actually made his poetry more accessible to a broader audience.

When we met for the first time, he called me over: “Young man, come here. Don't you know that those poems have a poet?” He was [joking], but from then on, there was a very strong relationship.

“**During the civil war in Lebanon, even those that did not agree with my views would listen to my music.**”

**- Does your political activism have a spillover effect on your music?**

**MK** - [The message] in my music is not direct. There is no obvious political meaning to my work. It's not a direct reference to any particular cause. I don't like to use a cause for a musical composition. Music has to present itself in isolation of one's political views. What I do, in terms of my political and humanitarian activism, is a different story.

During the civil war in Lebanon, even those who did not agree with my views would listen to my music. In spite of the various warring factions, there are certain aspects of human beings that transcend politics. Music is not meant solely for your friends; it is for everyone.

## 19 acrylics to be shown in latest Franco exhibition



**JOAQUIM** Franco is holding a solo exhibition in partnership with Art For All (AFA) Macau at Art Garden, located on Avenida do Doutor Rodrigo Rodrigues.

The exhibition, titled “Colour Shape Love – Works by Joaquim Franco,” will feature a total of 19 acrylic paintings. According to a statement issued by AFA Macau, the artist's “rich-colored” paintings stem from his “full understanding of the use of colors through a theoretical study of them.”

While some of his abstract works are “simple,” notes AFA, the skill of the artist lies in how he mixes colors in a technical fashion.

The title of the exhibition originates from a belief expressed by Franco that “only love and peace from the inner heart can create art.”

Franco previously worked in theatre as a set designer, but has also been involved in several interior design projects. As a scientific illustrator, a person who visually represents aspects of science, he worked in the fields of archaeology, ethnography and heritage protection.

The exhibition will be inaugurated today at 6:30 p.m. It will remain open to the public daily (except for Mondays and public holidays) on the building's first floor until July 16.

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# A PLAZA OF FLAVORS AND STYLE AT MGM



MGM's Grande Praça is famous for its distinctive food and beverage outlets. It's the case of Rossio and ABA Bar, both contributing with distinct offers to the general feeling of a relaxed and sophisticated atmosphere. This month, Rossio and ABA Bar are tempting their patrons with exquisite, savory offers.



## ABA BAR



## ROSSIO BRINGS BACK WAGYU BEEF BUFFET

Rossio, MGM's top-billed buffet restaurant, will bring back its wagyu beef buffet by popular demand for two weekends this June.

Best known for its sumptuous seafood spread, international cuisine and timeless European decor, Rossio will serve up a variety of wagyu beef dishes cooked in different styles from all over the world.

Beef dishes on offer include succulent roast Australian wagyu ribs, topped off with Rossio's signature fresh seafood and a decadent array of hand-crafted pastries and desserts.

The brunch buffet - available from June 18 for MOP468 per person - offers a range of free flow fruit and vegetable juice, sangria, lemonade or mojitos. Diners craving an extra glass of bubbly can upgrade to the MOP568 package for unlimited Champagne Billecart-Salmon, Brut Reserve, or assorted wines and draft beers. All customers can create their own juice mixes from a selection of fruits and vegetables at the Rossio juice bar.

The lunch buffet, which offers similar delights, will be available from June 17 for MOP288 per person. The dinner buffet is priced at MOP458 per person and will be available between 6pm and 11pm on June 16 as well as June 23 to 25. Over the weekend of June 17 and 18, there will be two sessions from 5:30pm to 8pm and 8:30pm to 11pm, respectively.

The buffet is free for children aged six and below. All prices are subject to 10% service charge.

## DOUBLE UP AT DUSK WITH CRAFT COCKTAILS AT ABA BAR

After a lavish meal at any of the five-star restaurants lining the Grande Praça of MGM, guests can unwind with after-dinner drinks at ABA Bar.

Not to be outdone by its sophisticated F&B neighbors, ABA Bar's small size belies its elegant parlor styling and vast drink selection, which consists largely of premium champagnes and wines imported from the best vineyards around the world. Hard liquor, bar bites and bespoke blends are on the table as well, with the skilled ABA bartenders always game to whip up an artisanal cocktail from the gin trolley in an exciting display for customers.

ABA Bar is a perennial local favorite for intimate pre- and post-dinner tipples: with its romantic views of the plaza and its central aquarium, guests looking to escape the casino rush can sink into the bar's high-backed chairs and sleek satin sofas for a bout of people-watching. The lounge is also a popular weekend haunt among young people working in Macau, with DJs on hand to dish out their latest mix sets.

ABA Bar operates daily from 5pm to midnight. Happy hour starts when the bar opens and ends at 9pm nightly, during which guests can enjoy two selected drinks for the price of one.



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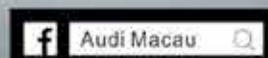
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TECHNOLOGY

# 5G networks still under discussion

Julie Zhu

**T**HE establishment of 5G network infrastructure was discussed yesterday during the 18th IEEE International Symposium on a World of Wireless, Mobile and Multimedia Networks, held at the Macau Polytechnic Institute (IPM).

A panel of experts discussed possible network structures and how the establishment of 5G networks should meet the new requirements for uses in devices such as smart vehicles and other key technologies. The panelists also debated the best approach to the design of a 5G network.

Chan-Tong Lam, associate professor and program coordinator in computer studies at IPM, spoke to the Times regarding 5G developments and prospects in Macau.

"5G is still under discussion [...] people are working on it and it is progressing," said



Chan-Tong Lam

Lam, citing the arguments of different panelists.

Lam noted that like 4G, the technology will eventually be made available in Macau – possibly beginning in 2020 – but that the region will not gain access as soon as other markets.

"We are a little bit behind because Macau is a small town, and the market is not as big as China or the US," explained Lam, adding that the markets will want to apply the technology in other areas first.

"The operators here do not

want to take risks. Normally they would want to wait until this [5G] becomes mature."

Lam believes that the general public, as well as local computing researchers and experts, are aware of progress in 5G network development. He believes that the decision to extend 5G to the public will depend on telecommunications operators, and that the government may influence the industry to speed up the technology's arrival.

However, he said that the application of 5G is a market-driven issue, so there is a

limit to the government's influence.

When talking about how 5G will impact users' lives, Lam noted that 5G means more than what the general public thinks.

"It's going to be faster, but there will be a lot more applications – and not just in terms of speed. Those applications, they all depend on the network. [...] With 5G, they will be broader."

In regards to how local human resources can contribute to the development of 5G, Lam said that Macau does not have sufficient large-scale enterprises for the city's human resources to fully utilize such technology.

However, he added, Macau can always explore and research-related technologies.

More than 130 scholars from 26 countries and regions, as well as 71 universities and research institutes, gathered in Macau to discuss global science and technology trends.

IPM said the intent of the symposium was to showcase and strengthen the research and developments in science and technology in Macau, particularly in wireless communications, the Internet of Things, big data, mobile technology and smart cities. The event concluded yesterday.

## Macau's forex reserves reach MOP152.7b

Foreign exchange reserves reached MOP152.7 billion (USD19.02 billion) at the end of May, the Monetary Authority of Macau said yesterday. The monetary watchdog announced in a press release that the preliminary estimate at the end of May of the MSAR's foreign exchange reserves decreased by 0.9 percent from the revised value of MOP154.1 billion (USD19.24 billion) at the end of April. The trade-weighted effective exchange rate index for the pataca dropped 0.89 points month-to-month, but rose 2.31 points year-on-year to 107.7 in May 2017; implying that overall, the exchange rate of the pataca declined against the currencies of Macau's major trading partners on a monthly basis, but increased on an annual basis.

## MAM hosts ceramics and seals exhibition

The Macau Museum of Art (MAM) is now holding the exhibition "Ceramic and Seals of 108 Heroes of Shui Hu Legend from the MAM Collection," which features ceramic figurines and 194 seals. The ceramic works of the exhibition are by Liu Ousheng, a master of ceramic figurines who incorporated the freehand brushwork skills from Chinese painting into the creation of ceramic figurines from the early 1980s. The seal carving artworks are by Lin Jin and his apprentices, Huang Kuanghua, Cho Sai Keung and Ho Pan. The artworks were donated by Lei Loi Tak, chairman of the Soka Gakkai International of Macau in 2000. The exhibition is open until November 19.

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Juliet Risdon is a Director of JML Property and a property investor.

Having been established in 1994, JML Property offers investment property & homes. It specializes in managing properties for owners and investors, and providing attractive and comfortable homes for tenants.

www.JMLProperty.com info@JMLProperty.com



JULIET RISDON

Welcome to the first in a 5 Part series "The rental process for tenants"

In this series over the next 5 articles we will cover:

- Finding a property
- Securing the apartment
- The process of moving in.
- The first week in your property
- Ongoing living and termination

Finding a great property to rent is a major headache for anyone, and it is especially difficult for newcomers.

There are so many different elements that determine what makes a property 'great'.

Everyone looking for a rental home has a different set of priorities, so the clearer you are on what is important to you, the easier it will be to find a great property to rent.

The first priority for every tenant before they go house hunting is to make a list of what is important to them.

For example, most people are happy to rent a furnished apartment rather than invest money in furnishings themselves.

Again, if you don't plan to buy a car and prefer to rely on pu-

blic transportation, being close to an area where you can catch a bus or a taxi is a top priority.

You might need to find an apartment that takes pets if you have a cat or a dog. In Macau as well as many cities around the world, that one requirement instantly eliminates more than half of all apartments.

Deciding what is most important can be almost impossible for some of us, especially if there is more than one person involved and each has their own wants and needs.

As difficult as it is, prioritizing what you want in your rental apartment will make finding a home you're satisfied with much easier.

Another effective way of finding a great property to rent is to ask friends and colleagues about the places that they already live. Be careful with this though, they will tend to exaggerate the good points in order to justify living there.

If you're looking to rent an apartment in a new building, don't be afraid ask around to see if anyone else knows the property. Schools and parents are a good source of information for this, most people are

very happy to share their thoughts.

Obviously you also have Internet and can conduct research on a certain building or apartment developments.

Bear in mind that no matter how respected or well managed something is, there are always negative views and comments from some people who just did not enjoy their experience. It may have as much to do with the person as the property.



We suggest that you make a master list of questions and priorities before you see a property to avoid signing a contract that you regret weeks later.


A Tenancy Agreement is a legal contract, and it is not something to be entered into lightly.


We also suggest using www.JMLProperty.Com as a good place to start searching of course. Make sure you have done your homework, and hopefully you'll find a great property to call home.


For further information please call me on +853 2835 2699, E-Mail Juliet@JMLProperty.com or visit our website Www.JMLProperty.com, or Facebook Www.Facebook.Com/JML-RealEstate .


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**S**ANDS China's first batch of graduates from its Professionalism Training for Gaming Practitioners program was honored yesterday at The Venetian Macao in a ceremony that also saw the inauguration of its next cohort of students.

Co-organized by the Macau Federation of Trade Unions (FAOM), the Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL) and Sands China Ltd., the training program was launched last July. It is the first of its kind in Macau for gaming employees.

The coursework in last year's program focused primarily on the competencies of occupational professionalism, and was exclusively for dealers. Six hundred dealers participated in the first program, attending 14 hours of training over two full days at Sands Macao.

This year's course began on June 5. Coursework has been expanded to cover an overview of the gaming industry, civic education, occupational professionalism and responsible gaming. The 2017 cohort comprises gaming practitioners from departments such as table games, slots, cage, international marketing, business development, loyalty marketing and security.

New materials in this year's course include an introduction to the current development of

# Sands China launches new training program



the country, the Belt and Road initiative, Macau's development path, and the impact of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge on Macau's gaming and tourism industry.

Wilfred Wong, president of Sands China Ltd, said: "We've made a commitment to have 3,000 of our team members trained in two years, and we aim to have half of our total gaming workforce trained in five years. This training program is beneficial to both the company and to our team members, as it raises their professionalism and knowledge, and contribu-

tes towards Macau's growth as a world center of tourism and leisure."

Nevern, one of the first program's graduates who has worked at Sands China for four years, said that the most important lesson he learned was how to "relieve pressure and adjust himself to his own mood."

He added that the program opened his eyes to the necessity of good interpersonal communications with colleagues, and improved his knowledge of both general and Macau-specific gaming history.

Another graduate, Min, said that the training improved her emotional well-being by helping her relax after work and deal better with her family. **JZ**

## Paulo Chan not worried about casino security threats

**S**PEAKING to the media on the sidelines of yesterday's ceremony, the director of the Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ), Paulo Martins Chan, said he is not worried about security threats to the city's casinos.

"They [the gaming operators] will collaborate with the DICJ, as well as the Judiciary Police [PJ], and last Monday they already submitted the reports about their present security situation, and we will analyze all these reports. the PJ will look at these reports from a technical point of view and afterwards, we will have a meeting with the six

operators again and see what we can do, and what should be improved," said Chan.

Chan said the gaming operators will meet the PJ and the DICJ again "very soon."

"More security measures, more communication between the operators and the PJ will be arranged in order to strengthen local casinos' security."

"According to police evaluation, we are still in a relatively low-risk situation, so we don't believe that [...] we have a high risk. Our customers are still welcome to [visit] Macau to relax and enjoy the atmosphere," said Chan.

AD

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Photo of previous cast member



# Hong Kong follows Fed with hike in threat to property boom

Aibing Guo, Enda Curran and Narae Kim

**H**ONG Kong's de facto central bank followed the Federal Reserve and boosted interest rates for a third time since December, elevating the risk of a selloff in the world's priciest housing market.

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority boosted borrowing costs by 25 basis points to 1.5 percent after the Fed raised its target range by the same amount. The move registered swiftly in markets, with the city's one-month interbank rate, known as Hibor, jumping the most in six months, and a gauge of property stocks in Hong Kong retreating more than 1 percent.

While the city effectively imports U.S. monetary policy due to its currency peg, local banks have been reluctant to pass on higher rates to customers amid fierce competition for mortgages - heightening a property boom as well as fueling depreciation in the Hong Kong dollar. The premium on Libor - the one-month U.S. interbank rate - over Hong Kong's Hibor rate swelled to 79 basis points on Wednesday, the most since November 2008.

"If the interest rate differentials widen further, there will be more arbitrage activities involving fund flows from the Hong Kong dollar to the U.S. dollar," said Norman Chan, chief executive for the HKMA. He warned that a "downward property cycle" may coincide with an upward cycle in mortgage rates, and said investors should remain vigilant.

Efforts by authorities to cool demand through tighter rules for lending and other measures have so far had little impact on home prices in Hong Kong, as developers bid up the cost of



land to new records and borrowing costs remain low. The value of outstanding mortgages jumped by more than a third in the five years through Decem-

ber and now amounts to 47 percent of gross domestic product, more than 10 percentage points higher than in early 1997 before a housing bubble burst.

"In order to get a full follow through in mortgage rates you will probably need a more sizeable move upwards in funding rates than we've seen so

far," said Mark McFarland, chief economist for Asia at Union Bancaire Privee.

Hong Kong's dollar weakened 0.03 percent to HKD7.8001 per dollar as of 1:38 p.m. local time, breaching the midpoint of a trading band monitored by the HKMA. The city's currency has fallen 0.6 percent against the greenback this year, the only decliner among Asian currencies, to its weakest level since January 2016. The Hang Seng Properties Index closed at a two-week low.

"Higher capital requirements for mortgages and loans to certain property developers will definitely give large banks incentives to adjust rates higher, notwithstanding high liquidity and strong competition for market share," said Sabine Bauer, Hong Kong-based senior director at Fitch Ratings Ltd.

Federal Reserve officials kept their outlook for one more hike in 2017 and set out some details for how they intend to shrink their USD4.5 trillion balance sheet this year. Fed Chair Janet Yellen said the unwinding plan could be put into effect "relatively soon" if the economy evolves as the central bank expects.

The plan to shrink the balance sheet is weighing on the market and resulted in the surge in Hibor, said Raymond Yeung, chief Greater China economist at Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd. The "hawkish stance" of the Fed is "worrisome," he said.

**Bloomberg**

## Macau's Base Rate of the Discount Window raised to 1.5pct

**T**HE Monetary Authority of Macau (AMCM) raised the Base Rate of the Discount Window yesterday by 25 basis points to 1.5 percent. It has been the fourth time for the AMCM to raise the policy rate since December 2015.

According to a statement issued yesterday by the AMCM, "as the pataca is linked to the Hong Kong dollar, the movements of policy rates in Hong Kong and Macau should be basically consistent in order to maintain the

effective operation of the linked exchange rate system between the two SARs. As a result, the AMCM raised the Base Rate by 25 basis points, following the Hong Kong Monetary Authority [see above]."

Meanwhile, since the Hong Kong dollar is linked to the U.S. dollar under the linked exchange rate system, the rate hike action of Hong Kong was attributed to the decision of the U.S. Federal Reserve raising the Fed funds rate by 25 basis points on 14 June (U.S. time).

The AMCM explained that interest rates of Macau banks on the retail level, including loan and deposit rates, will be based on the fund costs in the money market and their commercial decisions. The local loan and deposit rates will "remain relatively stable at the current stage," AMCM states. "Nevertheless, if the uptrend of interest rates persists, uplifting loan and deposit interest rates by Macau banks cannot be ruled out in the foreseeable future."

### GREATER BAY AREA

## HKSAR reinforces port hub status

**T**HE Hong Kong government has implemented a number of measures to consolidate Hong Kong's status as a trans-shipment hub to better connect the mainland with the rest of the world.

Professor Anthony Cheung, also Secretary for Transport & Housing, made the statement to legislators yesterday, saying Hong Kong as a major hub port in southern China

will play an important role in the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Bay Area.

According to a statement issued by the HKSAR government, Cheung said that there are three main measures that could potentially boost Hong Kong's maritime services industry; the deepening of the Kwai Tsing Container Basin from 15 to 17 meters so as to enable ul-

tra-large container vessels to be used at the terminals during all tides, the provision of more port back-up sites to expand the terminal back-up yard and the offering of additional barge berths to enhance cargo handling efficiency.

Other measures include the provision of additional land for the development of modern logistics, with the government having set aside 6.9 hectares

of land for logistics since 2010.

Cheung added that after the construction of Hong Kong International Airport's third runway is completed it will be able to handle nine million tonnes of cargo annually, double its current cargo handling capacity.

"We hope that by riding on Hong Kong's high value-added trade and professional services,



Shipping containers sit at Kwai Tsing Container Port Terminals in Hong Kong

world-class infrastructure and manpower development, as well as the global connectivity of an interna-

tional metropolis, Hong Kong will play an important, leading role in the Bay Area development."



STRAIT POLITICS

# Taipei says Beijing wants Taiwan trade offices' names changed

**T**AIWAN said China has been pressuring the governments of five countries in the Middle East, Africa and South America to force the island to change the names of its unofficial representative offices.

The foreign ministry said that Beijing had pressured Nigeria, Bahrain, Jordan, the United Arab Emirates and Ecuador to remove "Republic of China" — Taiwan's formal name — or "Taiwan" from Taiwan's trade offices. None of the five is among Taiwan's 20 remaining official allies.

Antonio Chen, director general of the ministry's Department of West Asia and African Affairs, was quoted by the official Central News Agency as saying that Taiwan's office in Dubai, in the UAE, had already changed its name from the "Commercial Office of ROC (Taiwan)" to the "Commercial Office of Taipei."

Meanwhile, Taiwan has already recalled its representative to Nigeria and suspended its mission's work there after the Nigerian government said it "could not guarantee its safety," Chen was quoted as saying.

Still, Chen said Taiwan needed to keep as many of its overseas offices open as possible.

"Although we feel being belittled, we still have to maintain the offices out of the long-term interests of Taiwan's citizens," he said.

The moves suggest Beijing is in-



Members of the Taiwan embassy in Panama City attend a ceremony where they folded the Taiwanese flag

creasing the pressure on Taiwan, a self-governing democracy that Beijing claims as its territory.

This week, Panama switched diplomatic relations from Taiwan to China, dealing a major success to China in its campaign to isolate the island and increase pressure on President Tsai Ing-wen to accede to Beijing's demand that she recognize Taiwan as part of Chinese territory.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang told reporters yesterday that the "One China" policy was fundamental and Beijing appreciates "these nations' way of handling issues with Taiwan."

With Panama's departure, speculation has grown that other Taiwanese allies will follow suit.

In addition to ratcheting up diplomatic pressure on Taiwan, China has cut off contacts with the island's government, discouraged travel there by Chinese tourists and blocked Taiwanese representatives from taking part in international gatherings such as the World Health Organization's annual assembly. **AP**

SOUTH CHINA SEA

# Vietnam urges China to act responsibly in dispute

**V**IENTNAM urged China yesterday to take responsible and constructive actions in the disputed South China Sea following a Pentagon report that highlighted Beijing's military buildup in the strategic waters.

Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Le Thi Thu Hang told reporters that her government has legal basis and historical evidence to affirm its sovereignty over the Spratly and Parcel islands in the South China Sea and that acts by foreign countries on the islands without Vietnam's permission were illegal.

"It's our view that China as a major power in the region and in the world needs to act in responsible and constructive manner in maintaining peace, stability in the region as well as in the East Sea on the basis of respecting international law," she said, referring to the South China Sea.

In an annual report released

earlier this month, the Pentagon said that as of late last year, China was building 24 fighter-sized hangars, fixed-weapons positions, barracks, administration buildings, and communication facilities on each of the three largest outposts — Fiery Cross, Subi and Mischief Reefs. Each has runways that are at least 8,800 long.

Once complete, the report said China will be able to house up to three regiments of fighters in the Spratly Islands.

China has also built up infrastructure on the four smaller outposts, including land-based guns and communications facilities, the report said.

Vietnam, along with China and the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan claims parts of or all the Spratly islands, which are believed to sit on rich natural resources and occupy one of the world's busiest sea lanes. **AP**

ADVERTORIAL

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### ECCO FATHER'S DAY SPECIAL

Danish footwear brand ECCO has a range of items perfect for celebrating with Dad this weekend — and now is the time to shop. ECCO boutiques at Sands Shoppes are offering a 20% discount on all men's handbags, with selected items at up to 30% off. There's also a free ECCO SOFT 8 Memo Pad when you buy any men's footwear items or leather goods. Enjoy this special offer from 12 to 18 June.

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Shop 519, Level 5, Shoppes at Parisian

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# China approves nine Trump trademarks previously rejected

Erika Kinetz, Shanghai

THE Chinese government has granted preliminary approval for nine Donald Trump trademarks it had previously rejected, in whole or in part, The Associated Press found, a turn that is likely to fuel further allegations that Beijing may be giving the president's family business special treatment.

Trump's decision to retain ownership of his global branding empire has sparked criticism over perceived conflicts of interest and three lawsuits, including one filed yesterday [Macau time] by nearly 200 Democrats in Congress, which allege violations of a constitutional prohibition against accepting gifts from foreign governments. Trademarks lie at the heart of these complaints because they are granted by foreign states and can be enormously valuable — whether they are intended as groundwork for future business activity or defensive measures to protect a brand from squatters.

Publicly available records do not indicate why the nine applications were initially rejected, or why the trademarks were then granted provisional approval eight to 15 weeks later.

"The speed with which these appeals were decided is mind-blowing," said Matthew Dresden, an intellectual property attorney at Harris Bricken in Seattle. "I have never seen any decisions made that quickly. That suggests special treatment. But that's just procedural. Substantively, it's impossible to say whether any of this is unusual."

China's Trademark Office did not respond to requests for comment.

The new provisional approvals further shore up the president's brand in China, conferring potential rights to the use of Chinese versions of his name for beauty salon



services, socks, human resources consulting and advertising, among other things, and the Trump brand, in English, for jewelry and watch repair. If there are no objections, the marks will be formally registered after 90 days.

China has also granted formal approval for dozens of Trump trademarks in the last few weeks, bring to 39 the total number of official registrations China has given the Trump family business since President Trump took office, according to records from China's Trademark Office. Those marks include branded spa and massage services, golf clubs, hotels, insurance, finance and real estate companies, restaurants, bars, and a trademark class that covers bodyguards, social escorts, and concierge services, according to Chinese records.

You Yunting, a partner at DeBund Law Offices in Shanghai, said it's not unusual for trademark rejections to be overturned on appeal. China's Trademark Office

database contained no indication Trump's lawyers had appealed the trademark rejections, but said it can take months for such actions to be publicly noted. If the initial denial was only partial, some elements of the applications can move forward without an appeal, in which case reversals can be swift.

"Considering the political element, the authorities are definitely not going to admit special treatment, but the possibility cannot be excluded," You said. "Even if the Trademark Office helped Trump, it would be very difficult to find the wrongdoing on the surface."

China has defended its handling of trademarks belonging to the president and his daughter, Ivanka Trump, who has also been expanding her collection of Chinese trademarks, as fair and in line with Chinese law.

Ivanka Trump's brand has won provisional approval for at least seven new trademarks since she took on an

official role at the White House.

The Trump Organization now has at least 125 trademarks in China formally or provisionally approved, according to Chinese public records. Just four were invalidated, back in 2013. Three more have been rejected, with appeals pending, and one application is dead, according to China's Trademark Office database.

Three applications were subsequently split so the number of individual trademark decisions is slightly higher than the number of applications in Chinese records.

Trump Organization lawyer Alan Garten said the company has made aggressive efforts to defend its brand in China, "a haven for trademark infringement," and has made no effort to use Donald Trump's political career to influence Chinese trademark officials.

"The Company has not authorized anyone to discuss and is not aware of anyone having discussed Donald J. Trump's status as either a

presidential candidate, President-elect or President of the United States with any representative of the Chinese government in charge of or with the authority to grant trademarks," Garten wrote in a June 9 letter to eight Democratic senators who have raised conflict-of-interest questions about the president's ongoing China trademarking activity.

The data Garten gave to Congress in that letter, however, is at odds with public records in China.

**The speed with which these appeals were decided is mind-blowing.**

MATTHEW DRESDEN  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ATTORNEY

Garten wrote that the company had filed 117 trademark applications in China and said that while some trademarks had been granted provisional approval none have been formally registered since 2015.

But China trademark records indicate that from Feb. 14 through June 7, 39 trademarks were registered. In addition, the public database lists a total of 126 trademark applications made by Donald J. Trump and four applications in the name of his company, DTTM Operations LLC.

Garten said in an email that ownership of 122 Chinese trademarks had been transferred to DTTM Operations in January. He cautioned that China's trademark database can be unreliable. He added that the 117 count does not include trademarks Donald Trump applied for more than a decade ago using the name of his ex-wife, Ivana Trump, as a brand. And he said it also excludes trademarks for the Trump Organization's new Scion brand of hotels.

"That database is not frequently updated and is widely known to contain a multitude of inaccuracies," he said in an email. AP

## AVIATION

# Beijing fines Emirates after plane flew at wrong height

CHINA'S civil aviation authority fined Dubai-based Emirates airline and barred it from adding new routes in the country over the next six months after two of its flights were cited for unsafe operations.

An Emirates plane on April 17 flew at the wrong height, and a plane on May 18 temporarily lost contact with air traffic control, the Civil Aviation Administration of China said. Both aircraft were flying over

the city of Urumqi in China's western Xinjiang region at the time.

The authority said in a statement that it had imposed a fine of 29,000 RMB (USD4,300) on the Middle East's largest airline.

Emirates said in an email that it will cooperate fully with the Civil Aviation Administration of China regarding the two incidents and "complete all actions recommended by the authority."

"Emirates will never compromise on the safety of our passengers and crew," it said. "Safety is our number one priority at all times. Emirates fully complies with the CAAC's requirements on all our flight operations to China."

The civil aviation administration has previously suspended Emirates for contravening its regulations.

In May last year it announced it had suspended the

airline from adding new planes and destinations for six months in relation to a flight in January 2016 that landed with low fuel after two previous attempts were aborted because of strong wind. The administration said the plane's fuel on landing was critically low and the captain had refused to cooperate with their investigation.

Emirates operates 38 weekly flights to five cities in mainland China. AP





**NORTH KOREA**

# Rodman brings gifts to Kim, including President's book 'The Art of the Deal'

Eric Talmadge, Pyongyang

**D**ENNIS Rodman has delivered a message from President Donald Trump to North Korea — sort of.

Yesterday, the former NBA player gave the country's sports minister a copy of Trump's book "The Art of the Deal," a present intended for North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

It wasn't signed by Trump, who was Rodman's boss for two seasons of the "Celebrity Apprentice" reality TV show. Rodman has said his visit has nothing to do with the White House.

While his previous visits in 2013 and 2014 often drew controversy, Rodman has said this week he's just here to meet old friends and have a good time.

He and his small entourage have been spending time hanging out with young North Korean basketball players and visiting local sights.

He watched a North Korean men's basketball team and met Sports Minister Kim Il Guk. Along with the Trump book, other gifts he presented for Kim Jong Un include a copy of "Where's Waldo? The Totally Essential Travel Collection," a mermaid puzzle, two sets of soap and two autographed jerseys.

Rodman also met North Korean Olympic athletes, including judo gold medalist An Kum Ae.

"All of you guys should be proud of yourselves, because, you know, a lot of people don't give you guys credit, because this is such a small country, and not many people from North Korea can compete around the world," Rodman said.

He continued: "But for you guys to come back here in your country, with a medal, that says a lot about North Korea, because people don't really take North Korea so seriously about sports or anything like that."

Rodman, one of the only Westerners to have personally met Kim Jong Un, has been criticized for a prior trip where he sang "Happy Birthday" to Kim and suggested an American missionary was at fault for his own imprisonment in North Korea, remarks for which he later apologized.

But the sports minister made clear Rodman is viewed fondly in Pyongyang.

"In the past, our respected supreme leader met you several times and he used his precious time to watch the basketball match with the players you brought here. In the past he met you, so our people all know you well," Kim Il Guk told Rodman. "And also we feel that you are an old friend."

Rodman's arrival earlier this week came just hours after the North decided to release Otto Warmbier, an American university student who had been imprisoned for 15 years with hard labor for trying to steal a propaganda banner.

Officials in Washington and Pyongyang said Rodman played no role in the release. Behind-the-scenes discussions regarding Warmbier had been underway well before his visit.

Although U.S. citizens are not banned from visiting North Korea, the U.S. State Department strongly advises against it.

With Warmbier's release, three other Americans remain imprisoned in North Korea. **AP**

AP PHOTO



Former NBA basketball star Dennis Rodman presents gifts comprising of autographed basketball jerseys, bath soaps and two books, titled "Where's Waldo?" and "Trump The Art of the Deal" to North Korea's Sports Minister Kim Il Guk, right

**PYONGYANG SAYS IT FREED US STUDENT OVER HUMANITARIAN REASONS**

**NORTH KOREA** said it released an American university student over "humanitarian" reasons in its first official comment since he was returned to his home state of Ohio in a coma. The state-run Korean Central News Agency said Otto Warmbier had been serving hard labor but didn't comment on his medical condition or how the country negotiated his release with the United States. "Warmbier, who had been in hard labor, was sent back home on June 13, 2017, on humanitarian grounds according to the adjudication made on the same day by the Central Court of

the DPRK," the agency said in the one-sentence report, referring to North Korea by its official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The 22-year-old Warmbier, a University of Virginia undergraduate, was convicted and sentenced to 15 years in prison in a one-hour trial in the Supreme Court in March 2016. He was medically evacuated from North Korea and arrived in Cincinnati Wednesday. His father, Fred Warmbier, told Fox News that his son was "terrorized and brutalized" and has been in a coma for more than a year.

**AUSTRALIA**

# Laws would make aspiring citizens pledge to share values

**A**SPIRING Australian citizens will have to make a pledge to share Australian values under proposed new laws introduced to Parliament yesterday.

The law would give Immigration and Border Protection Minister Peter Dutton power to write and revise an Australian Values Statement and it would reduce avenues to appeal his decisions

on citizenship cases. The bill does not spell out what Australian values are and critics argue that getting Australians to agree on what values they share is difficult.

Dutton said citizenship laws had to be reinforced to maintain public support for immigration and the value of citizenship during an increasingly challenging security environment.

"The Australian community expects that aspiring citizens demonstrate their allegiance to our country and commitment to live in accordance with Australian laws and values and be willing to integrate into and become contributing members of the Australian community," Dutton told Parliament.

Dutton said the values statement would cover

respect for religious freedom and gender equality as well as commitment to the rule of law and Australia's parliamentary democracy.

There would also be values-based questions included in a citizenship test.

The bill would also raise the bar on English-language skills for prospective citizens and extends the time that an appli-

cant must be an Australian permanent resident from one to four years.

Kim Rubenstein, a professor in the College of Law and a Public Policy Fellow at the Australian National University, said aspects of the bill were draconian and exclusive, shifting the balance of citizenship in Australia and giving the government unprecedented power.

"One of the most fundamental Australian values is a commitment to the rule of law and Western democratic liberal principles, but this act really shows a lack of appreciation of these core Australian values," said Ru-

benstein, author of "Australian Citizenship Law in Context."

"By introducing this bill, they're failing their own citizenship test, if Australian values are so fundamental," she added.

Activist group GetUp! said the law would create an underclass of migrants prevented from attaining citizenship and from equality with the rest of society.

Australia introduced a formal citizenship test in 2007. Before then, a government official would informally question an applicant about his or her knowledge of a citizen's responsibilities and privileges in an oral test. **AP**



## USA-RUSSIA

# Reports say Mueller probe now examining possible obstruction

Jake Pearson & Mary Clare Jalonick, Washington

**T**HE special counsel appointed to investigate Russian influence in the 2016 presidential campaign is now examining whether President Donald Trump tried to obstruct justice, it has been reported.

Accusations of obstruction arose last month when Trump fired FBI Director James Comey. Last week, Comey testified in a Senate hearing that he believed he was fired "because of the Russia investigation." Comey also testified he had told Trump he was not under investigation.

The Washington Post reported yesterday [Macau time] that special counsel Robert Mueller was seeking interviews with three Trump administration officials who weren't involved in Trump's campaign: Dan Coats, the director of national intelligence; Michael Rogers, the head of the National Security Agency; and Richard Ledgett, the former NSA deputy director.

Trump took to his Twitter account later on to denounce the report.

"They made up a phony collusion with the Russians story, found zero proof, so now they go for obstruction of justice on the phony story. Nice," the president tweeted.

Mark Corallo, a spokesman for



Former FBI director Robert Mueller

Trump's personal lawyer, had responded to the Post report by saying: "The FBI leak of information regarding the president is outrageous, inexcusable and illegal."

The Post report cited anonymous sources who were briefed on requests made by investigators. It was not known whether the FBI was the source of the information. The New York Times also reported the story.

Mueller met with the leaders of the Senate Intelligence Committee in an effort to ensure their investigations don't conflict.

The leaders of the Senate Inte-

lligence committee said in a statement issued Wednesday that they "look forward to future engagements" with Robert Mueller.

Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Richard Burr, R-N.C., and Sen. Mark Warner of Virginia, the panel's top Democrat, didn't provide any other details regarding the meeting. An aide familiar with the meeting said it was held to discuss the investigations, including ways that the parallel inquiries don't interfere with or overlap one another. The aide spoke on condition of anonymity because the meeting was private.

The meeting comes a day after lawmakers questioned Justice Department officials about the probe and Mueller's independence, and after a friend of Trump said the White House was considering firing Mueller.

**They made up a phony collusion with the Russians story, found zero proof, so now they go for obstruction of justice.**

DONALD TRUMP  
ON TWITTER

Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, who appointed Mueller last month, testified earlier this week he has seen no evidence of good cause to fire Mueller.

Also Wednesday, Senate Judiciary Chairman Charles Grassley said his panel will investigate the removal of former FBI Director James Comey and "any alleged improper partisan inter-

ference in law enforcement investigations."

Grassley announced the investigation in a letter to California Sen. Dianne Feinstein, the panel's top Democrat. Grassley's office said the letter is in response to a recent letter from Feinstein requesting that the committee seek details from senior FBI leadership about Comey's interactions with President Donald Trump before he was fired.

The letter said the investigation will also probe Comey's testimony that Loretta Lynch, as President Barack Obama's attorney general, had directed him to describe an FBI probe into Hillary Clinton's email practices as merely a "matter" and to avoid calling it an investigation.

"You and I agree that the American people deserve a full accounting of attempts to meddle in both our democratic processes and the impartial administration of justice [...] It is my view that fully investigating the facts, circumstances, and rationale for Mr. Comey's removal will provide us the opportunity to do that on a cooperative, bipartisan basis," according to the letter.

Feinstein has said the Judiciary Committee should investigate, but had asked Grassley to keep the investigations separate. Grassley said Comey's dismissal and Comey's testimony on Lynch should be looked at together, noting that Comey "took the opportunity in his testimony to clear his own name by denouncing as false the administration's claims that the FBI rank-and-file had lost confidence in Mr. Comey's leadership in the wake of the Clinton email investigation." AP

## SOMALIA

# Survivors tell of restaurant siege by rebels; 31 dead

**A**T least 31 people were killed in the night-long siege of a popular Mogadishu restaurant by al-Shabab Islamic extremists that was ended yesterday by security forces.

Somali survivors early described harrowing scenes in which attackers hunted patrons of the popular Pizza House restaurant. The injured were taken by ambulances.

Al-Shabab claimed responsibility as the restaurant was under siege.

Soldiers surrounded the restaurant building and used guns mounted on the backs of vehicles to neutralize the militants. Troops entered the ground floor while the insurgent snipers held positions upstairs.

All five attackers were kil-

led and after dawn the soldiers secured the building, said senior Somali police office Capt. Mohamed Hussein. The troops' efforts to take control of the restaurant were slowed by the darkness of night, forcing them to wait until morning, said Hussein.

Survivors said they hid under tables and curtains as attackers continued firing in the restaurant and hunted for patrons. Attackers moved from room to room, looking for people, said a survivor.

"I never thought I would have the chance to see the sun again. They were killing people on sight," Saida Hussein, a university student, told The Associated Press. She said she survived the attack by hiding behind a large table

downstairs.

Another survivor, Aden Karie, was wounded by an attacker who spotted him moving behind a curtain in the dark room.

"He shot at me twice and one bullet struck me on the leg," said Karie as he was taken to an awaiting ambulance.

The roofs were blown off the restaurant and nearby buildings from the powerful blasts.

The bodies of five girls thought to have been killed by the militants were found in the restaurant, said police. Inside the building, the body of a Syrian man who worked as a chef at restaurant lay near the rubble of a blood-spattered and bullet-marked wall.

The attack began We-

nesday evening a car bomb exploded at the gate to the restaurant and then gunmen posing as military forces stormed into the establishment.

An ambulance driver with the Amin Ambulance service, Khalif Dahir, said yesterday they had carried 17 bodies and 26 wounded people. Most of the victims were young men who had been entering the Pizza House when the vehicle exploded, Hussein said.

The gunmen "were dressed in military uniforms. They forced those fleeing the site to go inside" the restaurant, witness Nur Yasin told AP.

The blast largely destroyed the restaurant's facade and sparked a fire. While al-Shabab claimed to have attacked the nei-



ghoring Posh Treats restaurant, which is frequented by the city's elite and was damaged in the blast, security officials said the Pizza House was targeted instead.

Security forces rescued Asian, Ethiopian, Kenyan and other workers at Posh Treats as the attack continued, Hussein said.

The Somalia-based al-Shabab often targets high-profile areas of Mogadishu, including hotels, military checkpoints and areas near the presidential palace. It has vowed to step up attacks after the recently elected government launched a new military offensive against it. AP



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13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	RTPi Live
17:00	Revenge Sr 3
18:20	Now Generation (Repeated)
19:10	TDM Talk Show (Repeated) (PT)
19:40	Soap Opera (PT)
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (PT)
21:15	Miscellaneous
22:10	Now Generation
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
01:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:55	RTPi Live

## SATURDAY

10:40	Comedy
11:15	Blaze Riders
12:00	Miscellaneous
12:30	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast (PT)
14:50	Soap Opera
18:35	Miscellaneous
18:55	Miscellaneous
19:50	Animals Anonymous
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (PT)
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
21:10	Drama (PT)
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:05	RTPi Live

## SUNDAY

10:35	Young Adult
11:00	Sunday Mass (Live)
12:00	Miscellaneous
12:30	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	Zig Zag
18:15	Miscellaneous
19:30	Documentary Serie
19:45	Miscellaneous
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (PT)
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
22:00	Documentary Serie
23:00	TDM News
00:10	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:45	RTPi Live

## Offbeat

## LESS VEGAS: LANDMARK 'VEGAS VICKIE' NEON COWGIRL SIGN REMOVED

The famous neon sign of a cowgirl in downtown Las Vegas has been taken down as part of the construction of a planned casino-resort.

After more than two decades on Fremont Street, "Vegas Vickie" was dismantled this week.

Casino owner Derek Stevens says his company is looking for a home for the neon sign. It was created in 1980 and originally dubbed "Sassy Sally" after a casino of that name.

Stevens' company is planning to transform the space previously occupied by the Las Vegas Club.



## cinema



## CINETEATRO

8-14 JUN



## THE MUMMY

ROOM 1

2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30pm

Director: Alex Kurtzman

Starring: Tom Cruise, Sofia Boutella, Annabelle Walls

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min



## RESIDENT EVIL: VENDETTA

ROOM 2

2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30pm

Director: Takahiro Tsujimoto

Starring: Orion Acaba, Erin Cahill, Darin De Paul

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min



## WHO KILLED COCK ROBIN

ROOM 3

2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30pm

Director: Cheng Wei-Hao

Starring: Wei-ning Hsu, Chia-yen Ko, Kaiser Chuang

Language: Putonghua (Chinese, English)

Duration: 116min

## MACAU TOWER

30 MAY - 21 JUNE



## WONDER WOMAN

(3D) 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30pm

Director: Patty Jenkins

Starring: Chris Pine, Connie Nielsen, Robin Wright

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 141min

## this day in history



## 1989 HUNGARY REBURIES FALLEN HERO IMRE NAGY

Former Communist prime minister Imre Nagy, the man who symbolises the 1956 Hungarian uprising, has been given a formal public funeral 31 years after he was executed.

The capital, Budapest, came to a standstill as thousands came to pay their respects to Nagy who in 1956 formed a government dedicated to freeing itself from Soviet communism.

Buildings were draped in black, church bells pealed and there was a one-minute silence across the country.

His coffin was placed on the steps of the Exhibition Hall in Heroes Square, alongside four of his comrades and one empty coffin symbolising the Unknown Revolutionary.

Among the mourners who placed wreaths and flowers were a handful of the 200,000 exiles who had fled the country after Soviet tanks crushed the revolution in November 1956.

General Bela Kiraly a commander of the 1956 uprising paid tribute to Hungary's fallen hero and said the reburial opened "a new epoch".

The ceremony comes at time of political moves away from Soviet influence.

Multiparty elections due to take place next year will see the end of the Communist Party's leading role in Hungary.

Imre Nagy was prime minister of Hungary from 1953 till 1955 when the Communist Party expelled him for, among other things, wanting to release political prisoners and liberalise the economy.

In October 1956 students revolted against the state and demanded the reinstatement of Mr Nagy and he returned to power.

Encouraged by an apparent promise of outside help, Nagy appealed to the UN and Western governments for protection from Soviet troops.

But with the Suez crisis in full swing and no real appetite for fighting the USSR over a crisis in Eastern Europe, the West did not respond.

The Soviet military's response was swift and devastating. Some 30,000 people were killed in Budapest alone and thousands more sought political asylum in the West.

Mr Nagy took refuge in the Yugoslav embassy. He had been assured safe passage by the newly appointed Hungarian leader Janos Kadar but was abducted by Soviet agents while on a bus home.

He was executed exactly 31 years ago on 16 June 1958 after a secret trial in Budapest in which he was accused of high treason.

His body was dumped face down in an unmarked grave in the Kozma Street Cemetery and his relatives were harassed by police whenever they went to lay flowers.

Now he has been reburied there with full honours and Kadar, who remained in power until last year, has been forced into retirement.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

On 6 July 1989 the Hungarian Supreme Court acquitted Imre Nagy of the charges of high treason for which he had been executed.

Janos Kadar, the man who took over from Nagy and ruled the country for the following 30 years died in hospital on the same day.

Although many Hungarians never forgave him for his role in the crushing the 1956 uprising and his support for the Soviet repression of Czechoslovakia in 1968, Kadar's policy of "consumer socialism" turned Hungary into the most economically liberal and modern states of the Eastern Bloc. In August 1989, two months after Nagy was reburied, Hungary played an important part in accelerating the collapse of Communism when it opened its border with Austria, allowing thousands of East Germans to escape to the West.

In June 1990 the country withdrew from any participation in Warsaw Pact military exercises and the following year the pact itself was dissolved.

In 1994 former communists and liberals formed a coalition following elections. Gyula Horn, the leader of the reform communists, pledged to continue free-market policies.



**YOUR STARS**

**Aries**  
Mar. 21-Apr. 19  
You care about people, but right now, you are so driven by ambition you are in danger of seeing people as a means to an end. Don't get too caught up in thinking about the ways in which they can help you

**Taurus**  
April 20-May 20  
You'll be thrilled with your surroundings once you arrive at your destination and so delighted with your accommodations and the various other niceties offered, you'll become a walking billboard.

**Gemini**  
May 21-Jun. 21  
Because you generally rule the roost with uncontested authority, the challenge to your iron control that comes today could leave you momentarily speechless

**Cancer**  
Jun. 22-Jul. 22  
You likely are not feeling emotionally and physically up to it, but you will probably need to confront a personal situation today. Dodging the issue now will only stretch it out and make its effect linger.

**Leo**  
Jul. 23-Aug. 22  
You're a natural leader, but be on guard -- don't allow any arrogance to gain the upper hand. Pushing your weight around may get you some cooperation in the short term.

**Virgo**  
Aug. 23-Sept. 22  
You will really begin to see some solid and gratifying results today if you've been working hard on a creative project -- perhaps related to home improvement or maybe an artistic work

**Libra**  
Sep.23-Oct. 22  
If you're feeling down in the dumps today, you just need to get out of bed and make something happen, regardless of your feelings. Events in the past are over and can't be changed

**Scorpio**  
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21  
Others will be eager to fall into step behind you today, so make sure you have some idea of where you're going. Fixing your sights on a destination shouldn't be a problem, though

**Sagittarius**  
Nov. 22-Dec. 21  
This is a great time to brainstorm, collaborate and form new partnerships with people who really have something interesting to say. You aren't in the same mood as all of your friends.

**Capricorn**  
Dec. 22-Jan. 19  
Getting up in front of a crowd is easy for you today. You could be making an important business presentation, speaking to a classroom of students or making a heartfelt toast at a fabulous holiday party.

**Aquarius**  
Jan. 20-Feb. 18  
Have you been having trouble sleeping? Exhaustion is your constant companion today. Staring wide-eyed at the clock in the middle of the night is no fun and does a real number on your attitude.

**Pisces**  
Feb.19-Mar. 20  
Prepare for an important upcoming meeting so you can make a meaningful contribution and help gather enough information to make an intelligent decision.

**THE BORN LOSER** by Chip Sansom



**SUDOKU**

**Easy**

7	4			1		5		
			7					6
	9	1		2		8		
		4	6	7				3
1								8
	3			9	8	4		
		2		5		1	9	
4					7			
	8		2				4	7

**Easy+**

5			8		7			
3			2	1				6
9		7						2
			8				9	7
			6		2			
8	1				3			
	7					4		8
2			4	5				9
		3		6				5

**Medium**

	2					7	3	
		8				6		5
		4		3	9			
7	5			1				
8			2		5			3
				8			7	9
			4	2		9		
6		9				3		
	3	5						1

**Hard**

	2		9	6				
						8		1
			3					
		3		1	5			
7								2
				8				
				2	4			6
		1					5	

**WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
<b>CHINA</b>			
Beijing	23	36	clear/cloudy
Harbin	17	30	clear
Tianjin	25	36	clear/cloudy
Urumqi	23	35	clear
Xi'an	19	33	cloudy
Lhasa	15	26	cloudy/shower
Chengdu	18	27	overcast
Chongqing	19	25	shower/overcast
Kunming	18	23	moderate rain
Nanjing	19	29	cloudy
Shanghai	20	28	cloudy
Wuhan	19	28	drizzle/cloudy
Hangzhou	19	27	cloudy/overcast
Taipei	23	29	rainstorm
Guangzhou	25	31	thundershower
Hong Kong	27	30	shower
<b>WORLD</b>			
Moscow	11	16	drizzle
Frankfurt	16	32	drizzle/cloudy
Paris	11	29	cloudy
London	11	19	clear
New York	17	25	cloudy/drizzle

**CROSSWORDS**

**ACROSS:** 1- Listen to; 5- 1980s attorney general; 10- Will-\_\_\_-wisp; 14- Met solo; 15- Blew it; 16- Antidote holder, maybe; 17- Trading center; 18- Consisting of three letters; 20- California border lake; 22- Mother of Calcutta; 23- Underground room; 25- Draws; 26- Sway; 27- Winning tic-tac-toe line; 28- Energy units; 32- Latin love; 33- Singer John; 35- Eliel Saarienen's son; 36- Conducted; 37- City in GA; 38- Campaign pro; 39- "\_\_\_ Tu" ('70s hit); 41- Squeeze; 43- Ballet jump; 44- Not acid; 45- Cabinet dept.; 46- Picks up the check; 48- E or G, e.g.; 50- Agreement; 51- Dig out the whole plant; 54- Glass bottle; 55- Having keen hearing; 57- Hog sound; 61- I could \_\_\_ horse!; 62- Elevate; 63- Forearm bone; 64- Hwys.; 65- Titles; 66- Perceived;

**DOWN:** 1- Stage hog; 2- Significant period; 3- Broadcast; 4- Dangerous snake, familiarly; 5- Marsh gas; 6- Mistake; 7- Pennsylvania port; 8- Poivre's partner; 9- Version; 10- Supervise; 11- Make weary; 12- Lukas of "Witness"; 13- First name in scat; 19- Driving peg; 21- Pub preference; 23- Photographic device; 24- Wears away; 25- Implements; 26- Spy in Canaan; 27- Sleek swimmer; 29- Say again; 30- Seedy; 31- Mends a shoe; 34- Big; 40- Ladies of Spain; 41- Template; 42- Walks with long steps; 43- Envious; 47- "Michael Collins" actor; 49- Alley-\_\_\_; 50- The ones here; 51- \_\_\_-friendly; 52- Excellent, slangily; 53- Appraise, charge per unit; 54- Prissy; 56- Bond rating; 58- Land in la mer; 59- U-turn from SSW; 60- Neb. neighbor;

**Yesterday's solution**

A	C	T	A	S	E	S	A	U	A	C	H	E
M	E	R	C	I	L	E	A	S	C	O	A	L
A	D	O	R	E	A	L	A	E	R	A	I	L
S	E	N	O	R	I	T	A	L	H	O	T	S
B	R	A	E	A	E	O	N	T	A	N		
S	A	L	A	A	M	P	S	S	T			
A	L	I	T	B	O	O	K	S	E	L	L	E
D	E	N	I	S	A	P	E	L	A	I	N	E
E	X	A	C	T	I	T	U	D	E	T	A	C
R	E	S	I	D	E	R	L	E				
A	N	O	N	Y	M	D	I	S	C	O	V	E
G	O	B	S	T	Y	A	R	A	M	I	N	O
E	L	E	E	Z	A	N	E	M	E	N	D	S
D	A	R	T	E	R	E	S	P	R	O	S	Y

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- IACM 28 387 333
- Tourism 28 333 000
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BOXING

# Mayweather coming back to fight UFC star McGregor

Tim Dahlberg, Las Vegas

**FLOYD** Mayweather Jr. will come out of retirement to meet UFC star Conor McGregor in an Aug. 26 boxing match that will feature two of the top-selling fighters in the world.

The two fighters both announced the fight Wednesday, after months of speculation about whether Mayweather would return at the age of 40 to face a mixed martial arts fighter who has never had a pro boxing fight.

Odds makers immediately made Mayweather a big 11-1 favorite in a fight that will take place in a boxing ring and be governed by boxing rules. It will take place at 154 pounds.

"It's official," Mayweather said on Instagram next to a video poster of both fighters.

"THE FIGHT IS ON," McGregor tweeted several minutes earlier, posting a picture of himself next to one of Mayweather's father, Floyd Sr.

Mayweather, who retired in September 2015 after winning all 49 of his pro fights, will face the Irish UFC superstar at the T-Mobile arena on the Las Vegas Strip. He had tweeted a picture of himself sparring in recent days to show he was already getting ready for the bout.

"This is really an unprecedented event," said Stephen Espinoza, who heads Showtime Sports,



Floyd Mayweather Jr.



Conor McGregor

which will handle the pay-per-view. "Really we haven't seen anything in modern history that resembles it, it's impossible to predict how many sales this will do."

Espinoza said the fight came together quickly after McGregor and the UFC reached agreement

last month on their end of the deal and Mayweather's team pushed for the fight in recent days.

"All parties were motivated and reasonable and thrilled we could get everything done," he said. "The sky's the limit on this."

Financial terms were not released, though Mayweather got the greater share of revenue when he fought Manny Pacquiao and is expected to have a similar percentage against McGregor.

Depending on pay-per-view sales, both fighters could earn huge purses, though probably

not the USD200 million or so Mayweather earned for Pacquiao.

McGregor, the wildly popular UFC star, is 21-3 in UFC fights, and is coming off a win in November against Eddie Alvarez. Though he hasn't boxed professionally, McGregor did box while growing up and is known for his striking expertise in UFC.

"The reason he's such a superstar is this guy will fight anyone, anywhere and at any time," UFC chief Dana White said about his fighter. "It's the right fight at the right place at the right time."

Mayweather will come off a two-year retirement in a bout that McGregor has been pushing for nearly that long. It finally came together and Nevada boxing officials on Wednesday approved the date for a Mayweather Promotions bout.

Though oddsmakers make Mayweather a big favorite, the thought of the fight has excited many in the MMA world. It has also intrigued some in boxing, though most dismiss McGregor's chances under boxing rules against one of the greatest defensive fighters in history.

Adding to McGregor's challenge the fighters will be using 10-ounce boxing gloves instead of the smaller UFC gloves and he will not be allowed to use the leg kicks or takedowns that are used in mixed martial arts.

Even if the actual bout may not shape up as a great matchup, the run-up to the fight will. Both fighters are noted for their ability to sell their fights, and both have exchanged in trash talking and more to promote their bouts.

"As with every Mayweather and McGregor fight part of the appeal is the spectacle and outsize personalities who are participating in it," Espinoza said. **AP**

FOOTBALL

# Portugal hoping Ronaldo can continue his good form in Russia

Tales Azzoni, Kazan

**PORTUGAL** is hoping a red-hot Cristiano Ronaldo can continue his sparkling form and help the European champions show that their victory at Euro 2016 wasn't a fluke.

With Ronaldo looking at the peak of his game, Portugal trained for the first time in Russia yesterday ahead of its Confederations Cup debut against Mexico on Sunday.

Ronaldo, the reigning world player of the year, is enjoying one of his greatest career runs, having scored 18 goals in his last 11 matches, including two in Real Madrid's 4-1

win over Juventus in the Champions League final. He also scored important goals in the decisive stages of the Spanish league, a competition Madrid won this season for the first time in five years.

"Obviously there are no words to describe what Cristiano means to our country, with everything that he has achieved," Portugal defender Bruno Alves said Thursday. "He is an idol even for the players, and we hope that he can help Portugal with some of his goals and victories."

Ronaldo's recent performances have left him in a strong position to catch

up with Lionel Messi with a fifth world player of the year award. He would almost certainly secure the prize if he can help Portugal win the Confederations Cup, the main warm-up event for next year's World Cup.

Ronaldo has 11 goals in five games with the national team this season, including two in Portugal's 3-0 win at Latvia in European World Cup qualifying last week, the team's last match before the Confederations Cup.

Portugal arrived in Russia as one of the title favorites, and also with a unique chance to show that last year's European

triumph didn't come by accident.

"Portugal always shows ambition in every competition that it plays," Alves said. "Now we have to show on the pitch why we are being considered favorites. We have already shown our strength in the past, and we want to do it again. We want to show that we are able to win more tournaments."

Portugal is making its first appearance in the Confederations Cup, the eight-nation competition played by continental champions plus host Russia and World Cup winner Germany. The other teams are New Zealand,



Cameroon, Chile, Australia and Mexico.

Portugal, which made it to the tournament after beating host France in the Euro 2016 final, is in Group A along with Russia, New Zealand and Mexico.

Portugal won 2-1 the only time it faced Mexico in an official match, in the group stage of the 2006 World Cup in Germany. Portugal won 1-0 in a friendly in 2014.

"Mexico has shown that it is a very good team, always playing attacking football," Alves said. "It is an aggressive team, pressing you all the time, but I think that we have enough quality to win this game."

Cedric Soares and Pepe, who had been practicing separately because they were not fully fit, joined the rest of Portugal's group in yesterday's session at Rubin Kazan's training grounds. **AP**



opinion

**Bizcuits**

Leanda Lee



**CSR DOWNSTREAM: BUSINESS CASE FOR #PLASTICFREEJULY**

Major transformations in the way businesses interact with their communities and the acceptance of responsibilities to all stakeholders have been spearheaded by major disruptions, critical incidents and tipping points.

Not having always been the case, we now endorse the idea of a company having social responsibilities (CSR). In past times, laws have been in place to safeguard a company's primary responsibility - only to its shareholders.

CSR has become an inescapable priority for businesses in pursuit of political legitimacy and community-based license to operate. These benefits of CSR, along with justifications around moral obligations and securing insurance that a good reputation provides, have one great failing; they are based upon the belief that there is a tension between the interests of business and those of society. This perception is not so different from the worn-out idea that philanthropy is a tax on shareholders that earlier laws seen in some jurisdictions were to protect against.

It took community outcry against some horrific incidents and crises before firms started to understand their impact on the world. Minamata disease (mercury poisoning from industrial wastewater), Nike's sweatshops, the Bhopal Disaster, Exxon Valdez oil spill - these cases are repeatedly put forward to impress upon corporates how bottom line profitability comes with broader responsibilities.

The scope of responsibilities has increased over time, from the rights and welfare of employees, environmental impact, to abuse of natural and human resources up the supply chain. Sustainability is to be managed along with profitability. The triple bottom line (social, environmental and financial) are now important measures required by many jurisdictions, investors and customers in strengthening corporate governance.

We have thus seen a convergence of corporate and social interests, and CSR has become a source of opportunity, innovation and competitive advantage: Fair Trade Certification, Organic Cotton Accelerator, B Corporations come to mind. Responsibility to the broader community can become part of the business strategy, integral to the business model and therefore sustainable in the long term as it defines corporate performance.

In Macau, Venetian's SME program supporting local enterprises to deliver products and services to set specifications, quality and timeliness exemplifies this. Cynically, the program can be viewed through the earlier prism of complying with governmental pressure to ensure operational legitimacy. Offering a system of training, financial and technical support to small local business, however, has immediate and long-term impact on the corporate's own supply chain efficiencies.

There is yet another major transformation upon the horizon. We have seen the evolution of the scope of corporate responsibility from shareholders only to any impact starting at the top of the supply chain (raw materials) to the point of after-sales service to the customers. The new wave of pressure now focuses on the other side: downstream, both figuratively and physically.

The profitability that our consumption enables creates waste and environmental destruction that has been palmed off to governments, NGOs and consumers to solve, and innocents are caught in the detritus. These groups are losing the war on clearing up after the consumption that has enabled convenience, wealth creation and pulled others out of poverty: herein a moral and systemic dilemma.

The overfilled landfills constitute a tipping point; ferry accidents between here and Hong Kong due to flotsam may be some of the critical incidents; and should we continue not capturing and retaining in our economies the value of our resources - both natural and economic - we shall start to see major disruptions to the way we live, work and play.

The War on Waste is gaining traction because the tipping points, the critical incidents and disruptions are becoming visible. One campaign in this war is #PlasticFreeJuly. This year over a million people from 130 countries will say no to single-use plastic thus helping to expand the sights of corporate responsibility downstream.

**THE EU COURT ADVISER SAYS BRIDGE IS A SPORT - FOR TAXES AT LEAST**

An adviser to the European Union's top court has an official opinion about something that vexes sports fans and card players alike: is a game like bridge a sport? He says yes - at least when it comes to taxes.

Advocate General Maciej Szpunar said in his advice on a case pitting the English Bridge Union against British tax authorities that to be a sport within the meaning of the VAT system "a physi-

cal element is not necessary."

The EBU wanted a tax exemption linked to sports for entrance fees to tournaments, which the British authorities refused, claiming a sport must have a significant element of physical activity.

The advice will be an important element when the full Court of Justice reaches a decision in the coming months.

UN REPORT

**Migrants sending billions more home than in 2007**

Edith M. Lederer, United Nations

**M**igrants are sending home billions of dollars more than they did a decade ago - and the rate of growth in remittances is almost double the increase in migration, according to a U.N. report released yesterday.

The report commissioned by the International Fund for Agricultural Development says that remittances increased by 51 percent during the decade from 2007 to 2016 while migration rose by 28 percent and population in the home countries of migrants grew by 13 percent.

The Rome-based U.N. agency which fights poverty in rural areas said the report is the first to examine a 10-year trend in migration and remittance flows. It said the findings are based on a series of studies and surveys commissioned by the fund, known as IFAD, and on its analyses of World Bank data.

According to the report, remittances increased in almost all regions of the world, but the sharp rise between 2007 and 2016 was mainly due to Asia which saw an 87 percent increase in money sent home from migrants.

IFAD President Gilbert Houngbo said what's most important is the impact on



AP PHOTO

the lives of family members and others who receive the money.

"The small amounts of USD200 or \$300 that each migrant sends home make up about 60 percent of the family's household income, and this makes an enormous difference in their lives and the communities in which they live," he said in a statement.

According to the report, more than 200 million migrant workers are now supporting an estimated 800 million family members around the world.

And it projects that this year one billion people - one-in-seven people in the world - will be involved in either sending or receiving more than \$450 million in remittances.

"About 40 percent of remittances - \$200 billion - are sent to rural areas where

the majority of poor people live," said Pedro de Vasconcelos, manager of IFAD's Financing Facility for Remittances and the report's lead author. "This money is spent on food, health care, better educational opportunities and improved housing and sanitation."

The study estimates that between 2015 and 2030 an estimated \$6.5 trillion will be sent to low- and middle-income countries.

Over 100 countries receive more than \$100 million in remittances every year, the report said, led by China, India, the Philippines, Mexico and Pakistan.

It said the top 10 sending countries account for almost half the annual remittances: United States, Saudi Arabia, Russia, United Arab Emirates, Germany, Kuwait, France, Qatar, United Kingdom and Italy. AP

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	20-40 Good	
High Density Residential Area	20-40 Good	
Ambient	25-45 Good	

SOURCE: DSI/MG

**WORLD BRIEFS**

**SOMALIA** Islamic extremists attacked a popular Somalia restaurant in an overnight siege and killed 31 people - many at point-blank range - before they were slain by security forces, police said yesterday. More on p14



AP PHOTO

**ISRAEL** Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu promised yesterday to promote plans for an ambitious Mediterranean undersea natural gas pipeline project, in a bid by his country to become a key European energy supplier. Israel is hoping to export much of its newly discovered natural gas to Europe by a proposed 2,200-kilometer undersea pipeline to Cyprus and Greece.

**SYRIA** Government forces are marching toward the last town held by the Islamic State group in the central province of Homs in the latest push by President Bashar Assad's forces.



AP PHOTO

**TURKEY's** main opposition party set off on a 425-kilometer march yesterday from the capital to an Istanbul prison to protest the conviction of one of its lawmakers. Thousands began walking from Ankara, with police at the scene.

**GERMANY-AUSTRIA** Germany and Austria voiced sharp criticism yesterday of the latest U.S. sanctions against Moscow, saying they could affect European businesses involved in piping in Russian natural gas.

**COLOMBIA's** foreign minister said yesterday that the implementation of last year's peace agreement with leftist rebels, ending one of the world's bloodiest and longest-running armed conflicts, "has been more difficult" than expected.

**times square by rodrigo**

