



### NO 'TWO SYSTEMS' ON NATIONAL SECURITY

CE Chui Sai On's message that there is just one way to see national security – as 'one country' – was well received by Beijing emissaries

P2



### MORE AVIATION FIRMS CIRCLING MACAU AIRPORT

P8 GREATER BAY



### BEIJING, WASHINGTON LOCKED IN WORLD WIDE WEB WAR

More countries are adopting China's internet censorship vision in an ideological coup for Beijing unthinkable a decade ago

P11 CHINA

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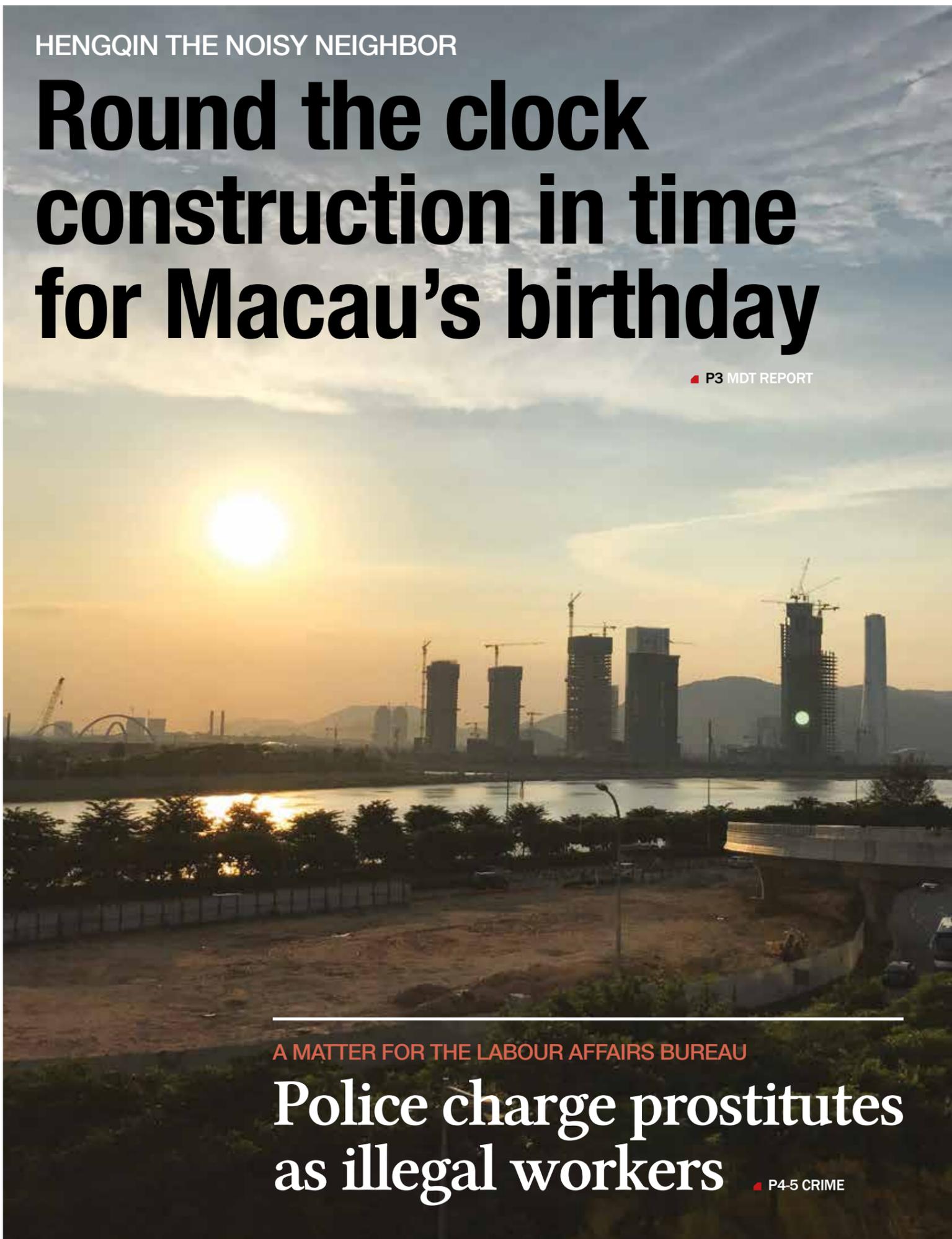
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DANIEL BEITLER

## HENGQIN THE NOISY NEIGHBOR

# Round the clock construction in time for Macau's birthday

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### A MATTER FOR THE LABOUR AFFAIRS BUREAU

# Police charge prostitutes as illegal workers

P4-5 CRIME

### WORLD BRIEFS

**TAIWAN** The former speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, Paul Ryan, says the U.S. wants the rest of the world to be more like Taiwan. Ryan made the comment yesterday at a celebration for the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, which guides U.S. policy toward the democratically governed island, which is claimed by China. [More on p10](#)



**MEDICINE** A drug that's used to help control blood sugar in people with diabetes has now been shown to help prevent or slow kidney disease, which causes millions of deaths each year and requires hundreds of thousands of people to use dialysis to stay alive. Doctors say it's hard to overstate the importance of this study.

**NEW ZEALAND**'s foreign minister confirmed yesterday that nurse Louisa Akavi has been held captive by the Islamic State group in Syria for almost six years, information long kept secret for fear her life might be at risk. [More on p12](#)

More on backpage

## Political commissar leaves Macau

Zhou Wugang, political commissar of the Macau garrison of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, has been promoted to a position at China's Eastern Theater Command. Before leaving Macau, Wu paid a special visit to Chief Executive (CE) Chui Sai On and former CE Edmund Ho. Chui commended Zhou's efforts in adhering to the policy of one country, two systems. Chui said that the garrison had played an important role in assisting in rescue operations following typhoon disasters, and through its extensive participation in the public welfare activities. The position of commissar is temporarily vacant after Zhou's leave.

## Jaywalking cases rise rapidly

A total of 619 jaywalkers were ticketed in the first quarter of 2019, according to the Public Security Police (PSP). This figure already exceeds the total number of cases recorded in the first half of 2018, during which time the police ticketed 580 jaywalkers. Between January and March, the police authority also prosecuted 418 drivers who failed to give priority to pedestrians to pass first. According to Macau's law, jaywalkers may be subjected to a total fine of MOP300.

## IC lends art and cultural spaces under new scheme

In response to the community's demand for arts and cultural spaces, the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) has launched a scheme to open up more arts and cultural spaces to the public for local clubs and individuals to rent upon application. There are 10 arts and cultural spaces in the first phase, which can cover functions including rehearsals and exhibitions. These spaces are located in the Macau Conservatory, Macao Contemporary Art Center, Macau Museum of Art, Macau Museum, Handover Gifts Museum of Macau, Macau Fort Corridor, underground exhibition hall at Kun Iam Statue, and Yao Tsung-I Academy. All facilities are currently open to applications.

## NATIONAL SECURITY

# Gov't to expedite work on message interception, immigration controls



Chief Executive Chui Sai On



**M**ACAU'S Secretary for Security, Wong Sio Chak, said yesterday that the local government was committed to expediting work on laws and regulations that will lead to the implementation of the national security legal framework.

Wong made the comments on the sidelines of the opening ceremony of the National Security Education Exhibition, being held in the Macau SAR for the second consecutive year.

According to Chinese President Xi Jinping, national security promotion involves co-opting the civilian population to fulfill their patriotic duty and be on the lookout for any-

thing that could undermine the country's stability.

The president previously outlined that "national security is of paramount importance for the people to live and work in peace and for realizing the Chinese dream of national rejuvenation."

At the local level, the Macau government has been introducing news laws and regulations to support the implementation of the national security legal framework. These include new restrictions on immigration controls and permits to stay and reside in Macau, as well as a legal framework for the interception of communications.

The government completed

last year individual rounds of public consultation on both of these matters and is now expected to move forward with the legislative process.

Work on other pieces of legislation – covering topics related to respectively counterterrorism, procedural law, and state secret protection – was progressing as scheduled, under the supervision of the Office of the Secretary for Administration and Justice and the Office of the Secretary for Security, according to the government.

Secretary Wong said he hoped all necessary legislative procedures regarding the cybersecurity law could be completed in the first half of

this year, including approval from the Legislative Assembly.

The government expects to submit the new legal framework on immigration controls and permits to stay and reside in Macau to the Legislative Assembly for discussion this year, Wong added.

Wong also said that Macau's security authorities were making every effort to ensure that all major events taking place in the city this year would be carried out in a safe and peaceful manner. The high-profile events include the Chief Executive election and the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Macau Special Administrative Region.

**Chui said the concept of 'one country' on national security issues was not at odds with the 'two systems' principle**

Meanwhile, speaking at the same event, incumbent Chief Executive Chui Sai On yesterday called on the local community to contribute to maintaining national security.

In his address, Chui called on the community to make further effort to discharge its duties and obligations in safeguarding national security and be more vigilant for challenges in times of peace. Specifically, he said, there is an obligation to recognize that the concept of "one country" on national security issues, was not at odds with the "two systems" principle.

The National Security Education Exhibition is co-organized by the Macau Government and the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Macau SAR, and marks what was designated yesterday as the country's fourth National Security Education Day.

The four main themes of the exhibition are: "the road to national rejuvenation", "staying alert to the challenges ahead", "safety and development", and "our responsibilities."

Approximately 150 guests attended the opening ceremony and toured the exhibition yesterday. **DB**

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JULIE ZHU

## HENGQIN

# 24-hour construction to meet Macau's 20th anniversary deadline



Julie Zhu

**Z**HUHAI is likely to continue carrying out 24-hour construction in order to prepare several projects in time for the 20th anniversary of the Macau handover. According to the mainland's plan, the first phase of the majority of Hengqin's construction projects should be finished by 2020, including seven commercial center projects.

One of the biggest projects, which has been planned to start operation in 2019, likely before the 20th anniversary of the handover, is the Hengqin port.

Occupying 1.31 million square meters, the port is expected to become the biggest border checkpoint between the mainland and Macau, and as such, it has been designed to cater for a maximum of 80 million crossings annually.

In October 2018, a report by Macao Daily News said that more than 1,200 construction workers and over 150 heavy machines had been working day and night in order to make the port ready for operation

before the 20th anniversary of the Macau handover.

According to mainland's plan, the first phase of many of Hengqin's construction projects should be finished by 2020.

For a long period, "China Speed" in construction has been admired by the world and by the country itself. Given the recent ambition to turn Hengqin into another Shenzhen, "Zhuhai Speed" may also be worth an endorsement from both its people and Macau people.

However, as Hengqin spends all its efforts on celebrating the 20th anniversary of Macau, building itself into the new high-technology center, the new Chinese medicine zone, the new birthplace of entrepreneurship, and the new transportation hub for the Greater Bay Area, some of its citizens and some Macau residents are suffering from the side effects of the 'Hengqin Speed'.

Noise pollution is right at the top of the list.

A complaint concerning Hengqin construction was made to the Hengqin gover-

ment on its official website. As can be seen under the "complaints" tab, the latest complaint regarding Hengqin construction noise was posted on March 20. The Zhuhai resident complained about noise from a housing project on the island.

"The road project between Hua Fa Shou Fu and Yue Fu Jian has been carried out for nearly two years, and, since 2018, the construction is basically conducted day and night. It severely disturbs the people. It is now 1:46 a.m., there have been many nights like today, when I can't fall asleep," the complainer wrote. "Which department issued the approval? Why do they not care about the residents?"

As of September 2017, there was a total of 117 municipal and housing projects in progress in Hengqin, according to official statistics.

Another complaint submitted by a Zhuhai resident in April 2018 criticized the continuous construction operations in Hengqin:

"We have been tolerating it for two weeks; we can't tolerate anymore. We request

the relevant party to stop the construction [at night] and return to the people a quiet rest time."

Zhuhai's environmental protection bureau replied to the second complaint, saying that the night constructions were not approved by the bureau, and the bureau had already requested the relevant companies to make changes.

However, the level of noise pollution created by some of those projects is still being noticed by residents in both Hengqin and Macau because of the non-stop operations across the Av. dos Jogos da

Ásia Oriental.

Last week, the Times contacted the Macau Environmental Protection Bureau (DSPA) and the Office of the Secretary for Transport and Public Works to ask whether the bureau had received any complaint from Macau residents regarding these non-stop constructions, and if the bureau had communicated with Zhuhai's relevant authorities over concerns that the 24-hour construction operations in Hengqin might cause noise pollution.

As of press time, no reply has been provided to the Times.

## 'China Speed'

**C**URRENTLY, one of the biggest projects under construction in Hengqin is the new port.

The Macau government previously announced the relocation of Macau's Cotai frontier to Hengqin.

The China MCC20 Group Corp. Ltd Hengqin Port Building, which is the landmark of Hengqin Port and is just on the other side of the river to Av. dos Jogos da Ásia Oriental, is currently under construction 24 hours per day in the hope that the project will be completed according to its schedule.

But its construction has been reported as a nuisance for residents of both Macau and Hengqin, who are forced to tolerate incessant noises at any time of the day or night. **JZ**

# Septuagenarian plunges to death at Fai Chi Kei

Renato Marques

A 75-year-old local resident plunged to his own death in the Fai Chi Kei area on the evening of April 12 in case of suicide.

According to the information available, the Judiciary Police (PJ) indicated that the evidence collected supports the classification of suicide.

The man, living only in the company of a domestic helper hired by his family to help take care of him, had previously shown signs of intending to end his life, the helper said to the PJ in her testimony.

Upon hearing this, the man's grandchildren pledged to spend more time caring for him.

On the evening of April 12, the man told the helper that he wanted to walk a little outside the house and get some air.

He left alone and went, as was his habit, to stand by the waterfront.

On that evening the family was alerted by the shouts of passersby, who claimed to have seen the man jumping into the water.

One of the grandsons rushed to his aid and tried to find him with the help of a floatation device placed in that area in case of emergency, while the Fire Services (CB) were called.

After the unsuccessful attempt from the grandson to locate his relative, the man was found only a few minutes later by the CB operation. After being recovered from the water, the man was taken to the public hospital still alive, but in a very weak condition.

He eventually passed away in the early hours of April 14 due to the injuries he sustained.

## CRIME

# Authorities change tack on

Renato Marques

IN an apparent and unexplained change of approach, Macau police authorities are now charging the suspects in three recent prostitution cases for illegal work.

This new approach is a departure from the previous system in which the main stakeholders being held accountable by the judicial authorities were the organizers and facilitators of the prostitution work, including apartment owners.

Now, police are seeking the accountability of six sex workers from mainland China, and accusing them of carrying out illegal work in Macau.

This came after yesterday's joint police press conference, held at the Judiciary Police (PJ) headquarters in which the Public Security Police Force (PSP) spokesperson presented the three cases, all of which he said the police discovered on April 11.

According to the spokesperson, the cases occurred in dif-

ferent locations of the city: Rua de Bocage, Rua de Erva and Rua da Barca. However, the cases were similar in that the police found two sex workers at each location and the six women had arrived from the mainland and were charging the same amount (MOP200) for their services.

Five of the six women told the PSP that they were paying a daily rental fee of HKD600 for the use of the apartment, while the sixth said she was paying HKD550

per day to rent the apartment from which she was working.

The PSP spokesperson noted that the force decided to act on these cases in response to complaints made to the police saying that people were performing unlawful activities in those locations.

When questioned by the police, the women revealed they advertised their services via several channels, but mostly through word of mouth and a website from the mainland.

The six women, whose ages range from 29 to 40, had all arrived in Macau very recently, with the longest-staying of them accruing just five days in the region, after arriving via the airport. The others arrived via the Border Gate checkpoint.

They claimed to have collectively attended to a total of around 30 clients, having earned a collective sum of MOP6,000.

The PSP also informed that since the cases involved instances of illegal work, they have all been forwarded for follow-up with both the immigration authorities

■ The police informed that since the cases involved unauthorized work, they had been forwarded for follow-up with the Labour Affairs Bureau

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Raphael (1483-1520), Hercules and the Centaur, 1505-8 © Trustees of the British Museum  
The presentation of this exhibition is a collaboration between the British Museum and the Cultural Affairs Bureau/Macao Museum of Art.

# prostitution, treat it as illegal work



and the Labour Affairs Bureau, as all the women stand accused of breaching the administrative regulation that dictates the

conditions for non-residents to work in the Macau SAR. Questioned on the topic by the media, the PSP spokes-

person also revealed that none of the apartments used by the women are suspected to have been used as an illegal accom-

modation venue. Accordingly, the police authorities have decided not to forward any of the cases to the Macao Go-

vernment Tourism Office for analysis. None of the owners of the apartments are being charged.

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# Indonesians, Filipinos cast votes ahead of elections

A group representing the Indonesian community has described the remote voting process of its upcoming presidential election as disorganized, with a few community members also reporting some technical issues. The community gathered at the Community Sports Centre of the Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion to

cast their votes for the next presidential election – which will be held in Indonesia tomorrow. In the SAR, there is a total of 2,600 registered voters, 1,000 more compared to the 2014 Indonesian presidential election, while over 80,000 are registered in Hong Kong. The figure does not include

those who turned up at the venue during the election day, as those who were not able to register before the registration’s deadline could register in person. As cited on local Indonesian radio show, KT News, some voters whose registration has been confirmed by the committee did not receive their C6 form – and were

only informed of this on site, requiring them to re-register. The C6 form is needed for voters to receive their voting papers. “I’m registered and they [the committee] even checked it already and found my name in the system but I don’t know why they cannot find my C6 form, so

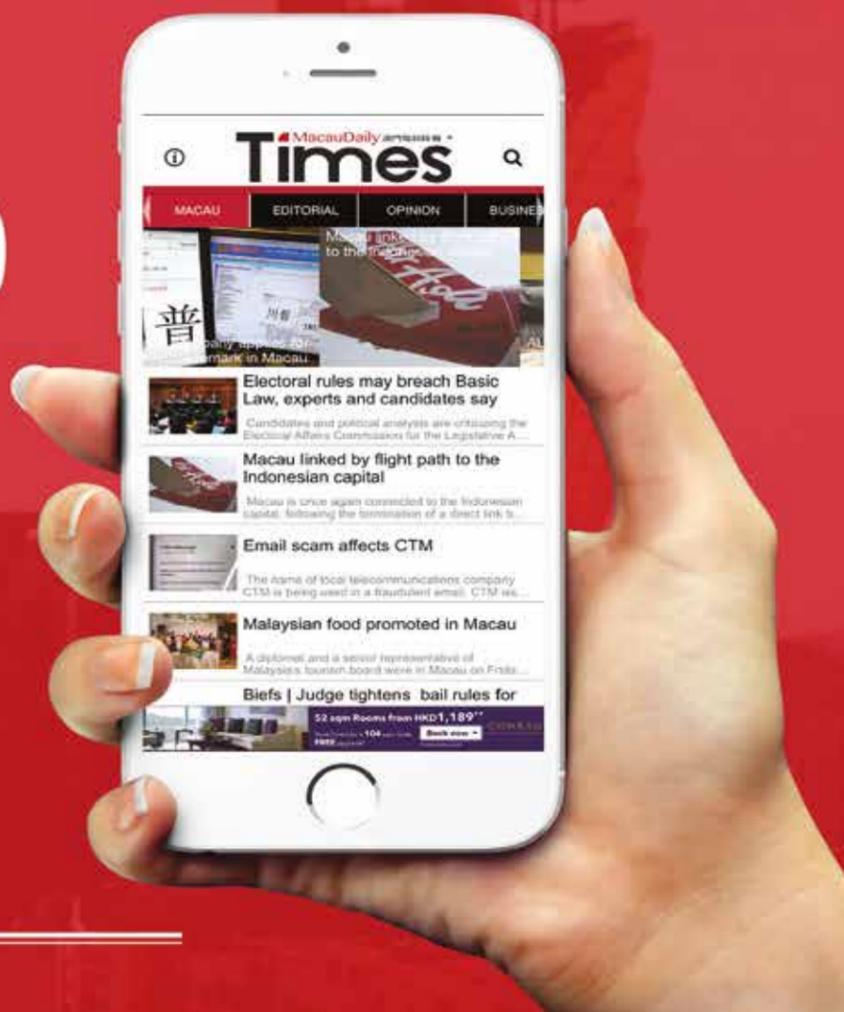
they made me re-register,” said a voter. “The system being not right is an old story,” said another. According to the report, some photos and videos showed that voters were crowded into the voting premises. “The previous one was more organized; this time [it] is a little disorganized,” a voter remarked. The community will either vote for incumbent Joko Widodo or special forces General Prabowo Subianto, in a repeat of the 2014 election. Meanwhile, remote voting for the midterm elections in the Philippines has also already begun in the Macau SAR and will last for a month. The consulate is also using electronic vote counting machines in a bid to make the electoral process more transparent. Some 9,000 overseas Filipino workers are registered voters and are thus eligible to vote throughout the voting period – even on Easter holidays, including Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Filipinos can vote for 12 senatorial posts and one party-list group in the congress. Data from the Commission on Elections - Office for Overseas Voting shows that there are over 1.8 million registered overseas voters from the Philippines. LV

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## News At Hand



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HEALTH

# Two more rubella cases bring total to 19

**T**WO new cases of rubella were found in the region, totaling 19 cases since the start of the year, the Health Bureau (SSM) confirmed.

The SSM said in a statement that the new cases were diagnosed in two locals who are employees of the City of Dreams hotel.

Recently there have been six cases of Rubella at the property, including these new cases.

One of the patients is a 33-year-old female, who started having headaches and muscle pain on April 12, and later developed a fever and rashes. The other patient is a 35-year-old male, who presented himself to medical practitioners with a fever and runny nose on April 12. The following day rashes appeared on his body.

Both turned to the Emer-



gency Department of the Conde de São Januário Hospital and were later tested positive for rubella.

The SSM said that these two patients still have symptoms of fever and rashes, but do not require hospitalization and that their clinical status is now

considered normal. Both were born in mainland China and their history of vaccination against measles remains unknown.

Besides traveling to Gongbei, both people deny any other travel history.

The SSM said that it is monitoring the health sta-

tus of people who have had contact with the patients during the onset of the disease, and that it is giving the hotel guidelines for the improvement of its disinfection measures.

Relatives living with the patients did not present similar symptoms. LV

ECONOMY

# Tourist prices edge up in Q1 on rising food costs

**T**HE city's tourist price index edged up 0.72% year-on-year to 137.92 during the first quarter of 2019. This is attributable to dearer prices of local food products and higher charges for hotel accommodation and restaurant services, according to the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

Among the various sections of goods and services, the price index of entertainment and cultural activities grew by nearly 4% year-on-year due to the rising prices of Lunar New Year-related leisure goods, such as fireworks and firecrackers.

Meanwhile, the price index for accommodation rose by 3.73% year-on-year and the index for food, alcoholic beverages and tobacco grew 3.28%. However, the index for clothing and footwear dropped nearly 7% year-on-year.

Compared to the fourth quarter of 2018, tourist prices in the first quarter of this year dropped by about 1.35%, led by declines in clothing, footwear and accommodation.

The tourist price index reflects the change in prices of goods and services purchased by visitors. Sections of tourist goods and services are selected for the index in order to gain a better understanding of visitors' consumption patterns. DB

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# Gama Aviation latest firm eyeing Macau in GBA expansion plan



Renato Marques

**A**FTER starting to build its network in the Asia-Pacific region with its aircraft management services, U.K.-based Gama Aviation is eyeing the possibilities brought about by the creation of the Greater Bay Area (GBA), the company's Asia branch managing director, Sergio Oliveira e Silva, told aviation media company AIN Publications.

"The Chinese government is doing very good things that in the mid- to long-term will be very good for China," Oliveira e Silva said referring to the GBA initiative, as well as growth opportunities for companies based in Hong Kong, where the

Asia branch of Gama Aviation is headquartered.

For Oliveira e Silva, the initiative brings space that is in short supply at Hong Kong International Airport.

"Three years ago, there were no parking slots; and then there was parking, but no landing slots! It's easier for us now, but it's still not like a normal airport operations. There are still lots of restrictions," he said about the airport in Hong Kong.

In the interview, the Gama Aviation Asia director also noted the difficulties in the operations with other local airports, such as Macau, although its role in the GBA remains promising, he said.

"Macau as one of the core en-

gines for regional development, aims to develop a world-class airport cluster [including] the expansion of Macau International Airport (MIA) [...] to strengthen the function of MIA and Zhuhai Airport and pursue differential development and positive interaction of airports in the Greater Bay Area." Nevertheless, Oliveira e Silva mentioned, "developments [in Macau] will take five or 10 years... Macau is very [bureaucratic]."

The silver lining is that the GBA plan provides at least some answers to the long-awaited question over which airport, between Macau and Zhuhai, would be destined to take the leading role in private jets operations.

In January, TAG Aviation, a private aviation services firm, opened a fixed base operation in Macau, becoming the second provider to do so in the business aviation sector.

Airline executives told the Times that they had been attracted to the Macau International Airport because of its proximity to Hong Kong, space available for business aviation jets and friendly government policies for the sector.

"Now we know it is Macau [that will take the leading role]," said Oliveira e Silva. "It's a nice airport with lots of opportunities [in the longer term]," he noted, mentioning its expansion plans. "There are two bridges to the runway and the plan is to fill

the gap to create a large apron for 20 parking slots - this won't be for some time, but it is the first step in Macau's expansion." Again, noting the slowness of Macau processes, he recalled: "Such proposal comes already from 1994 Master Plan for the airport, but still hasn't happened. At present, aircraft are still not permitted to park for more than three days [in] Macau due to parking limitations."

In Oliveira e Silva's opinion, it is all now subject to the Chinese government. If the Chinese government decides it really wants Macau to become the GBA business aviation airport, it could change in "two-to-three years" and business aviation will have a new home.

GUANGZHOU

## China's largest trade fair opens with strong Belt and Road presence

**T**HE 125th China Import and Export Fair, also known as the Canton Fair, opened yesterday in Guangzhou, capital of south China's Guangdong Province, with over half of companies attending its import fair hailing from Belt and Road countries and regions.

The spring session of the biannual fair holds import exhibitions in its first and third phases, with 1,000 booths booked by 650 enterprises from 38 countries and regions.

These include 383 companies from 21 countries and regions taking part in the Belt and Road initiative, including Russia, Poland, the Philippines and Israel, said Xu Bing, spokesperson for the fair.

Large buyers such as Vip shop, a Chinese online discount retailer, and global retail giants Carrefour and Wal-Mart will attend the import exhibition.

The fair, which will be held from April 15 to May 5, is widely seen as a barometer of China's foreign trade.

The fair covers 1.18 million square meters, with 60,651 booths booked by 25,496 domestic and foreign enterprises. Its export section has 59,651 booths booked by 24,846 domestic enterprises.

The fair features three phases. The first, falling on April 15-19, will mainly showcase home appliances, electronic products, mechanical equipment, hardware, and building materials. The second, from April

23 to 27, will showcase consumer goods, decorations and gifts. The third, from May 1 to 5, will display textiles and clothing, food and medical products.

The fair has signed partnership agreements with industrial and commercial institutions from 33 countries and regions taking part in the BRI. It plans to establish cooperative partnership with all BRI countries and regions within two or three years. **Xinhua**

## Shenzhen spends big on R&D in 2018

**C**HINA'S tech hub Shenzhen saw a robust growth in research and development investment in 2018, which accounted for 4.2 percent of the city's GDP last year, according to Wang Weizhong, the city's Party secretary.

Shenzhen has invested heavily in basic research and sped up construction of national-level laboratories to attract talent and boost technological innovation, Wang said when

addressing the 17th Conference on International Exchange of Professionals, which opened in the city on Sunday.

Wang added that Shenzhen had seen its GDP grow from 196 million yuan (about USD29.2 million) in 1979 to 2.4 trillion yuan in 2018.

Shenzhen is home to a bevy of Chinese startups and tech heavyweights including Huawei and Tencent. **Xinhua**

BLOOMBERG



# Jack Ma draws controversy by lauding overtime work culture

**B**ILLIONAIRE Jack Ma again encouraged tech workers to embrace the industry's extreme-overtime culture, defying a growing social media backlash just days after he made the first controversial comment.

The Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. co-founder once more endorsed the sector's infamous 12-hours-a-day, six-days-a-week routine as de rigeur for passionate young workers. In a lengthy Sunday blog post, China's richest man expanded

on comments from last week, in which he dismissed people who expect a typical eight-hour office lifestyle.

"As I expected, my comments internally a few days ago about the 996 schedule caused a debate and non-stop criticism," Ma wrote. "I understand these people, and I could have said something that was 'correct.' But we don't lack people saying 'correct' things in the world today, what we lack is truthful words that make people think."

Ma's earlier comments stoked

a fierce ongoing debate over tales of programmers and founders dying from unrelenting stress.

Ma told an internal meeting that Alibaba doesn't need people who look forward to a typical eight-hour office lifestyle, according to a post on Alibaba's official Weibo account. Instead, he endorsed the industry's notorious 996 work culture - that is, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., six days a week.

"To be able to work 996 is a huge bliss," China's richest man said. "If you want to join

Alibaba, you need to be prepared to work 12 hours a day, otherwise why even bother joining."

China's tech industry is littered with tales of programmers and startup founders dying unexpectedly due to long hours and grueling stress. The comments from Ma elicited some intense reaction.

"A load of nonsense, and didn't even mention whether the company provides overtime compensation for a 996 schedule," wrote one commenter on the Weibo post. "I hope people

can stick more to the law, and not to their own reasoning."

"The bosses do 996 because they're working for themselves and their wealth is growing," another comment read. "We work 996 because we're exploited without overtime compensation."

Ma's comments come amid a fierce debate. Programmers in China protested their labor conditions on the online code-sharing community Github in March under the banner 996.ICU, a topic that quickly became the site's most popular, with more than 211,000 stars.

**“If you want to join Alibaba, you need to be prepared to work 12 hours a day, otherwise why even bother joining.”**

JACK MA

"By following the '996' work schedule, you are risking yourself getting into the ICU [Intensive Care Unit]," according to a description posted on the "996.ICU" project page. The creator, whose identity is unknown, called on tech workers to come forward with examples of companies abusing staff by demanding uncompensated overtime. Alibaba and its financial affiliate Ant Financial were both named.

Beyond Ma, several of China's most prominent industry figures have also weighed in on the controversy. Richard Liu, chief executive of Alibaba arch-foe JD.com Inc., said in a recent post on his WeChat moments that, while he would never force staff to work a 996 schedule, people who slacked off were not considered his "brothers." **MDT/Bloomberg**

## corporate bits

### MELCO RESORTS RELEASES SUSTAINABILITY REPORT



Melco Resorts & Entertainment has released its latest sustainability report for 2018, bringing together its social and environmental achievements and ambitions under a new strategy - "Above & Beyond". The report outlines ambitious goals, actionable targets and further enhances

its disclosure around key environmental, social, and governance issues that are critical to Melco's business.

Melco's latest sustainability strategy focuses on meeting four key goals by 2030: To achieve carbon neutral resorts with reduction targets across a range of emission

sources; To achieve zero waste across its resorts, eliminate problematic single-use plastics in daily operations and contribute to circular economy in Asia; To be the employer of choice and create the best-in-class working environment for its employees, and to be the best partner to the community both in Macau and around the world; and to inspire guests by seamlessly integrating sustainability in their experience and demonstrate a sustainable future is a better future.

The goals will be implemented across all of Melco's operations via measures related to environmental sustainability, responsible gaming, employee and community engagement as well as governance and ethics.

### USJ HOLDS OPEN DAY FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS STUDENTS



The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) held its annual Open Day at the Ilha Verde Campus on Saturday to provide an opportunity for the general public, in particular, se-

condary school students and parents, to learn more about the learning environment and admissions process of the University.

The Opening Ceremony

was held at 2:30 p.m. and was followed by a guided campus tour.

During the Open Day, booths with information and activities, as well as students' works were exhibited to showcase the diversity of our academic programs and the campus' overall environment.

The University's professors, staff and students, of over 40 nationalities, arranged different cultural experiences for visitors, including booth games, workshops and experiments.

Teaching and learning facilities were open to the public for a glimpse of campus life, and participants also experienced what it would be like to study at USJ by using its different studios and production labs.

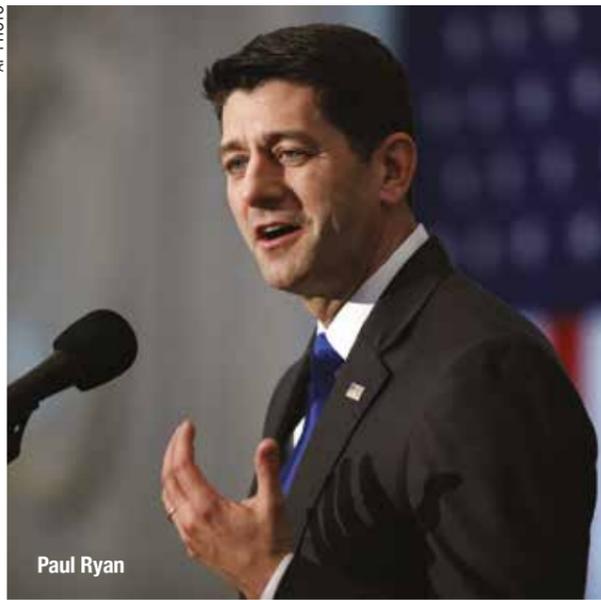
# Paul Ryan says rest of the world should be more like Taiwan

**T**HE former speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, Paul Ryan, said yesterday that the U.S. wants the rest of the world to be more like Taiwan — praise that will likely anger Beijing, which has long been sensitive to cooperation between the U.S. and the democratically governed island that China claims as its own.

“Taiwan is a democratic success story, a reliable partner and a force for good in the world,” Ryan said at a celebration for the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, which guides U.S. policy toward Taiwan.

While the U.S. does not have formal diplomatic ties with the island, the act requires Washington to ensure that Taiwan can defend itself.

“We want the rest of



Paul Ryan

the world to be more like Taiwan,” said Ryan, who led an American delegation to the American Institute in Taiwan, the de facto U.S. embassy. He said both parties care deeply about the “critically

important relationship” between the U.S. and Taiwan.

Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen, who also spoke at the event, praised the two parties’ “enduring partnership” as

one that has “withstood the test of time.”

Taiwan split from mainland China during a civil war in 1949, and only 17 mainly small, developing nations recognize Taiwan as a sovereign nation. Over the past year, Beijing has employed increasingly strident rhetoric around “re-unifying” the island with Communist Party-ruled mainland China, declaring that it has not ruled out the use of force.

Ryan said the U.S. “commitment to Taiwan’s security remains rock-solid.”

Last month, Taiwan asked to purchase new fighter jets and tanks from the U.S., its main supplier of military weapons. American arms sales to Taiwan have long been a thorn in U.S. relations with China. **AP**

# Gov’t says US treats Latin America like its ‘backyard’

**B**EIJING fired back at the U.S. on yesterday after Secretary of State Mike Pompeo criticized China’s role in Venezuela as prolonging the crisis there.

Pompeo’s accusations were “unfounded” and “deliberately drove a wedge” between China and Latin America, Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Lu Kang said at a regular briefing.

“For a long time, the United States has regarded Latin America as its own backyard to pressure, threaten and even subvert political power in other countries at every turn,” Lu said, adding that “some American politicians have been harping on one string” in order to “smear China across the world.”

Pompeo said last Friday that China’s financing of Venezuelan President Nicolas

Maduro’s government helped “precipitate and prolong” the country’s crisis. He accused China of investing more than USD60 billion of “no strings attached” funds that were used for actions such as crushing pro-democracy activists and bankrolling ineffective social programs.

“I think there’s a lesson, a lesson to be learned for all of us: China and others are being hypocritical calling for non-intervention in Venezuela’s affairs,” Pompeo said. “Their own financial interventions have helped destroy that country.”

Hyperinflation, shortages of food and medicine and other hardships have caused more than 3 million Venezuelans — about one-tenth of the population — to flee the country in the last few years. **AP**

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# China wins allies for web vision in ideological battle with U.S.

Lulu Yilun Chen & Yoolim Lee

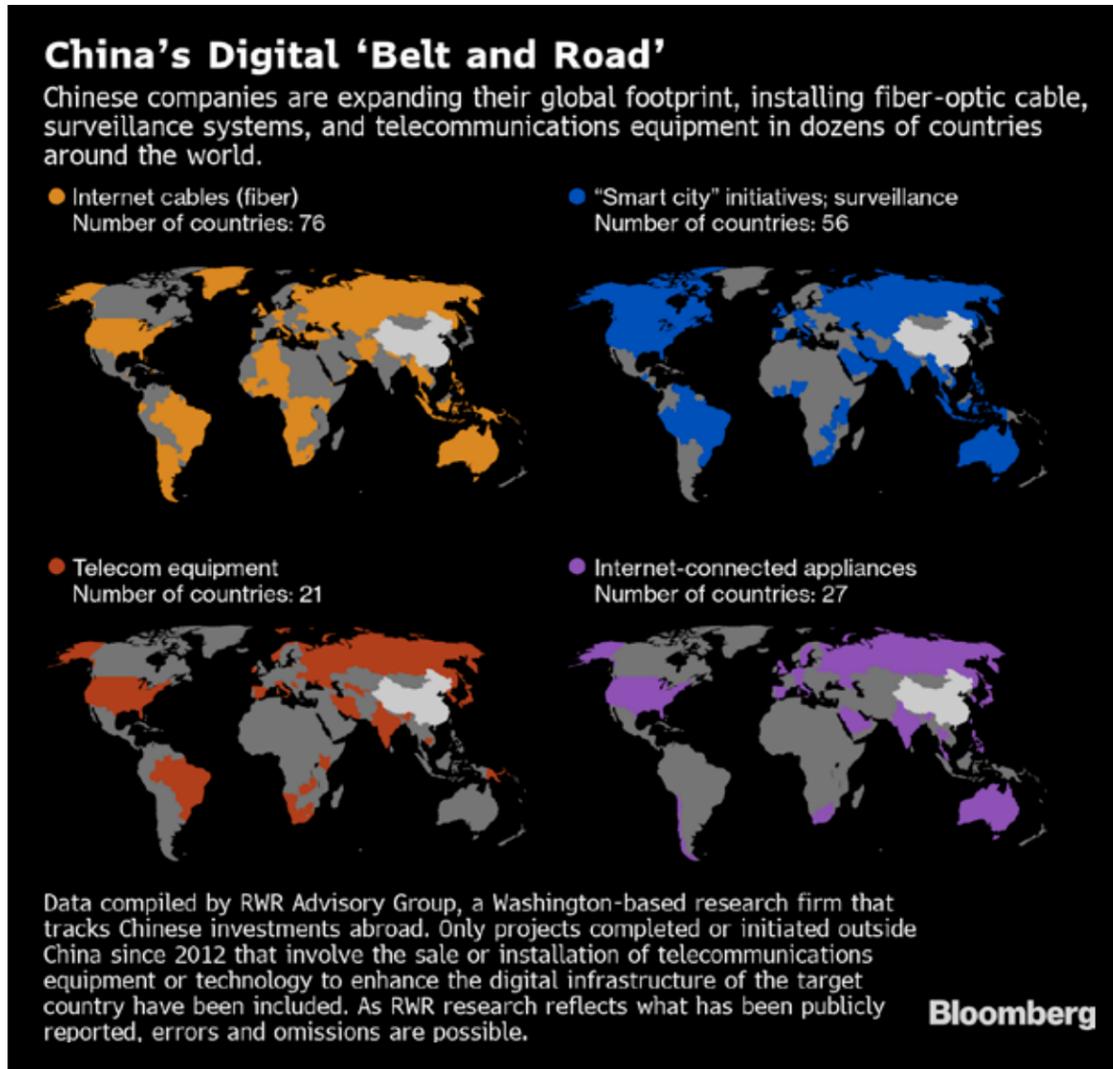
A swathe of the world is adopting China's vision for a tightly controlled internet over the unfettered American approach, a stunning ideological coup for Beijing that would have been unthinkable less than a decade ago.

Vietnam and Thailand are among the Southeast Asian nations warming to a governance model that twins sweeping content curbs with uncompromising data controls - because it helps preserve the regime in power. A growing number of the region's increasingly autocratic governments watched enviously the emergence of Chinese corporate titans from Tencent Holdings Ltd. to Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. - in spite of draconian online curbs. And now they want the same.

The more free-wheeling Silicon Valley model once seemed unquestionably the best approach, with stars from Google to Facebook to vouch for its superiority. Now, a re-molding of the internet into a tightly controlled and scrubbed sphere in China's image is taking place from Russia to India. Yet it's Southeast Asia that's the economic and geopolitical linchpin to Chinese ambitions and where U.S.-Chinese tensions will come to a head: a region home to more than half a billion people whose internet economy is expected to triple to USD240 billion by 2025.

"For authoritarian countries in general, the idea of the state being able to wall off to some extent its internet is deeply appealing," said Howard French, author of "Everything Under the Heavens: How the Past Helps Shape China's Push for Global Power." "This is about the regimes' survival in an authoritarian situation. So that's why they like to do this. They want to be able to insulate themselves against shocks."

The Chinese model is gaining traction just as the American one comes under fire. Facebook and Twitter were used to manipulate the 2016 U.S. election, YouTube was criticized for failing to detect child porn, and American social media allowed a gunman to live-stream the worst mass shooting in New Zealand's history for 10 minutes or more before severing it. Against the backdrop



of wider fears about U.S. social media failings, Beijing's approach now seems a reasonable alternative, or reasonable enough that self-serving governments can justify its adoption.

Vietnam's controversial version went into effect Jan. 1 - a law BSA/The Software Alliance, which counts Apple Inc. and Microsoft Corp. among its members - called chilling and ineffectual. Indonesia, the region's largest economy, already requires data be stored locally. The Philippines has stepped up what critics call a media crackdown, arrested the head of media outlet Rappler Inc. after it grew critical of President Rodrigo Duterte. And last year, the government of former Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak introduced a fake news law used to probe his chief opponent, though the current government may yet repeal it.

One of the latest to buy into the rationale is Thailand, which on Feb. 28 passed a cyber security bill modeled on China's that grants the government the right to seize data and electronic equipment without a court order in the interests of national security. Introduced just weeks

ahead of Thailand's first democratic election since a 2014 military coup, it stoked concerns it could be used to stifle dissent, though the government says it shouldn't affect companies "with good conduct." The Asia Internet Coalition, an organization that groups the likes of Alphabet Inc.'s Google, Amazon.com Inc., Facebook Inc. and Twitter Inc., condemned a bill Amnesty International warns could be used to "cage the internet."

The crux of a Chinese internet model is data sovereignty: information of citizens must be stored in-country and accessible on demand to the authorities, a concept enshrined in Chinese law since 2017. That's raising hackles in Washington, which aims to counter Beijing's sway - a longer-term struggle that may be the single most important episode in world affairs since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Escalating tensions between the two richest economies will impact just about every country across the planet - economically and socially.

The U.S., for its part, worries that the spread of Chinese technology and ideology in Southeast Asia means Beijing

will increasingly push a strategically vital region toward authoritarianism, even as individual countries grow wary of becoming beholden to China. The spread of a Chinese-style internet is a problem for U.S. internet giants from Facebook to Google wrestling with increasingly draconian regulations over what they carry on their platforms, and how they store and handle the information pivotal to their dominance. Fragmented laws governing data are anathema to giant corporations used to harnessing the cloud for everything from search to video.

"If authorities in the region can convince Silicon Valley to play by their repressive rules, we're going to see a drop in standards of privacy, surveillance, and freedom of expression on those platforms," said Tanya O'Carroll, head of technology and human rights at Amnesty International. "How Silicon Valley chooses to engage with the likes of Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia could set major precedents. They must not treat those countries as testbeds to tinker with people's rights online."

For now, U.S. social media is popular enough that

in countries like Thailand they're able to publicly resist attempts to rein in content. But in the longer term, there's a real risk American companies could get supplanted by the likes of WeChat, TikTok and Alipay - Chinese powerhouses that're venturing aggressively abroad, into music and social media or e-commerce. Tencent, Alibaba and Byte-dance Ltd. are also seeding the region's startups, courting a younger mobile-savvy consumer - a generation that politicians need to maintain their grip on power.

**■ Southeast Asia has thus become a testbed for Beijing's political objectives, a jumping-off point in a long-term campaign to extend its influence around the globe**

"This issue was not on my radar and not on other people's radar a year ago," said Brian Harding, deputy director with the Southeast Asia Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. Washington for now is more focused on the political impact of Chinese investments in infrastructure from ports to refineries, he added. "But in terms of the Digital Silk Road, interest is rising very quickly," he said. "Data localization is a real challenge for U.S. companies - localization policies make it difficult to have economies of scale in doing business across the region."

Chinese cadres have long proselytized the concept of a rigidly policed web that can still be a wellspring of innovation. Tencent's billionaire-founder, Pony Ma, joined government officials in declaring in December it's their country's destiny to become an internet power.

Southeast Asia has thus become a testbed for Beijing's political objectives, a jumping-off point in a long-term campaign to extend its influence around the globe. The U.S. fears the Communist Party's vision of a web where governments pull the strings could wind up the model for the next billion users. **Bloomberg**

AP PHOTO



New Zealand nurse Louisa Akavi



Syrian driver Nabil Bakdounes

# Red Cross, New Zealand hope for info on nurse held in Syria

**N**EW Zealand's foreign minister confirmed yesterday that a New Zealand nurse has been held captive by the Islamic State group in Syria for almost six years, information long kept secret for fear her life might be at risk.

The status of nurse and midwife Louisa Akavi, now 62, is unknown, but her employer, the International Committee of the Red Cross, says it has received recent eyewitness reports suggesting she might be alive.

The New York Times on Sunday became the first media organization to name Akavi, ending a more than 5 1/2-year news blackout imposed by New Zealand's government and the Red Cross with the cooperation of international media.

The collapse of the Islamic State group has raised hopes that Akavi and the two Syrian drivers kidnapped with her might now be discovered.

In a statement, the ICRC said that as recently as December, Akavi may have been seen by at least two people at a clinic in Sousa, one of the Islamic State group's last outposts. There were also reported sightings in

2016 and 2017, Red Cross officials said.

"We continue to work together [with the Red Cross] to locate and recover her," New Zealand Foreign Minister Winston Peters said. "This has been a uniquely complex and difficult case. "Louisa went to Syria with the ICRC to deliver humanitarian relief to people suffering as a result of a brutal civil war and ISIS occupation."

"Where a New Zealander is held by a terrorist organization, the government takes all appropriate action to recover them. That is exactly what we have done here," Peters said.

Peters said New Zealand had sent a small multi-agency team, including special forces, to Iraq to gather information on Akavi.

"This has involved members of the New Zealand Defense Force, drawn from the Special Operations Force, and personnel have visited Syria from time to time as required," he said. "This noncombat team was specifically focused on locating Louisa and identifying opportunities to recover her."

Akavi was taken captive in 2013 in the city of Idlib in nor-

thwest Syria. It is believed she was offered for ransom and may have been used as a human shield. New Zealand's government believed at one point that she may have died. But there are hopes her medical skills might have caused her captors to spare her.

## ■ It is believed she was offered for ransom and may have been used as a human shield

Akavi's family said they miss her and are proud of the work to which she's dedicated her life.

"We think about her every day and hope she feels that and finds strength in that," said a video statement issued by family spokesman Tuaine Robati. "We know she is thinking of us and that she will be worried about us too."

New Zealand's government is reported to have opposed the

ICRC's decision to allow The New York Times to report Akavi's name and nationality.

At a news conference yesterday, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern refused to answer questions about Akavi but indicated she was disappointed the ICRC had gone public before her fate had been learned.

"You'll forgive me, I hope, for not commenting on that case," Ardern said. "It remains the government's view that it would be preferable if the case was not in the public domain."

Dominik Stillhart, director of operations for the ICRC, said the organization had decided to permit publication in the hope it would elicit new information on her whereabouts.

"We have not spoken publicly before today because from the moment Louisa and the others were kidnapped, every decision we made was to maximize the chances of winning their freedom," Stillhart said in a statement. "With Islamic State group having lost the last of its territory, we felt it was now time to speak out."

He said the collapse of the Islamic State group in Syria may mean new opportunities

to learn more about Akavi's situation and the ICRC also feared it risked losing track of her in the aftermath of IS's collapse.

Akavi is of Cook Islands descent and lives in Otaki, a small town north of Wellington. She is the longest-held captive in the history of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and Stillhart called her "a true and compassionate humanitarian."

He said strenuous efforts had been made to secure her release. Negotiations in 2013 and 2014 were not successful. In 2014, she was among a group of hostages moved by IS only hours before a raid by U.S. special forces that aimed to free them.

"We call on anyone with information to please come forward," Stillhart said. "If our colleagues are still being held, we call for their immediate and unconditional release."

Stillhart later defended the ICRC's decision to publicize Akavi's case after years of silence.

"Every decision was to maximize the chance of Louisa's freedom [...] and every decision was coordinated with the New Zealand government," Stillhart said at a news conference in Geneva. "That included the difficult decision to go public. We think with new information from the public, we can redirect the investigation for Louisa." **AP**

MALAYSIA

# Gov't says revised China deal shows costs were inflated

Eileen Ng, Kuala Lumpur

**M**ALAYSIA'S prime minister said yesterday a Chinese company building a rail link across the Southeast Asian nation will jointly help to manage and operate the network, part of revised deal that will get the stalled project off the ground at a lower cost and ease strained relations.

The East Coast Rail Link across peninsular Malaysia was suspended after Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad's alliance swept into power last May and said it would review large-scale infrastructure projects to rein in surging national debt that it blamed mostly on corruption in the previous government.

Canceling the project risked alienating China, Malaysia's largest trading partner, which considered the railway connecting Malaysia's west coast to eastern rural states a key part of its Belt and Road infrastructure initiative.

The project was revived last week after the contractor, state-



Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad

owned China Communications Construction Company Ltd., agreed to cut the cost by one-third.

Mahathir said the government chose to renegotiate the deal rather than pay compensation of \$5.3 billion. He said the fact that the project cost can be reduced sharply by \$5.2 billion showed that the cost had been inflated when former Prime Minister Najib Razak's government awarded

the main contract to CCCC in 2016.

The rail project will now cost \$16.7 million per kilometer, down from \$23.2 million previously, he said.

Under the new deal, Mahathir said CCCC will form a 50:50 joint venture company with Malaysia Rail Link to provide technical support and share the operational risk. He said CCCC's involvement as rail operator will help attract

Chinese investment along the rail link corridor.

CCCC has also agreed to refund part of a \$753.4 million advance payment, with 1 billion ringgit \$243 million to be paid over the next two months, he said.

Although the rail project will be shortened by 40 kilometers to 648 kilometers, he said the double-track line will have 20 stations and cut through five states, instead of four previously. He

said the new alignment will also mean avoiding having to tunnel through a mountain range in central Selangor state, which is the longest pure quartz dyke in the world.

The project, which is now slated for completion by the end of 2026 instead of 2024, is largely financed by China.

Mahathir said the government is still negotiating the loan amount with China's EXIM Bank but that it will be reduced substantially and this will result in paying less in interest on the loan.

He said the government is also "taking advantage of the agreement to work out the purchase of palm oil by China," but didn't give further details.

Officials said work on the rail link could resume by next month.

Apart from the rail link, Mahathir's government last year also cancelled two China-backed pipelines costing \$2.3 billion after discovering that 90 percent of the project's costs had been paid but only 13 percent of work had been completed.

The government has said it is investigating whether any money in the rail project had been channeled by Najib's government to repay debts at the 1MDB state investment fund. A massive financial scandal at 1MDB led to the election loss of Najib's coalition last May and Najib is currently on trial for multiple corruption charges linked to 1MDB. **AP**

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Samy Magdy, Cairo

SUDAN

# Activists say military attempted to break up sit-in

**T**HE Sudanese military attempted to break up an anti-government sit-in yesterday outside its headquarters in the capital, Khartoum, but backed off, organizers behind the protests said.

There were no clashes and no one was hurt but the incident set off concerns that the military, which last week ousted Sudan's longtime President Omar al-Bashir after four months of street protests against his rule, could renege on its promises not to use force against the peaceful demonstrators.

Videos circulated online showing hundreds of troops outside the military compound in Khartoum. In the footage, an officer is heard saying they came to open roads, "clean the area" and remove the barricades set up by the protesters to protect their gathering.

Some protesters are then seen in the footage sitting down on the ground in front of the soldiers who subsequently back off. "Revolution," protesters also chant in some of the videos, as well as slogans against al-Bashir's Islamist supporters.

The Sudanese Professionals Association, which is behind the protests, urged people to head to the sit-in yesterday and defend it from any new attempts by the military to disperse the demonstrators.

"There is an attempt to break up the sit-in," the group said. "We appeal everyone to head to the area to protect your revolution and gains."

Previous attempts to break up the sit-in before al-Bashir's ouster last Thursday had killed dozens of people.

Also, Gen. Abdel-Fattah Burhan, the head of the transitional military council, announced an overhaul of the military leadership and appointed a new chief of staff, according to a statement from the military.

AP PHOTO



The statement said Gen. Hashem Babakr was appointed the joint chief of staff, replacing Gen. Kamal Abdel-Marouf al-Mahi who was ousted along with Defense Minister Awad Mohammed Ibn Ouf a day after al-Bashir's overthrow.

Little is known internationally about Babakr.

Since his ouster, al-Bashir — a president of nearly 30 years — has been under house arrest in Khartoum. After his ouster,

which the military said was in response to the demands of the people, the army appointed a military council to rule for two years or less while elections are organized.

Protesters, who are in talks with the military council, fear that the army, dominated by al-Bashir appointees, will cling to power or select one of its own to succeed him. Protest organizers have urged the military to "immediately and unconditio-

nally" hand power to a transitional civilian government that would rule for four years.

The political parties and movements behind the four months of protests said in a joint statement late Saturday that they would remain in the streets until their demands are met. They said a handover to civilian rule would be the "first step toward the fall of the regime."

The military on Sunday urged opposition parties and move-

ments to name a civilian prime minister and Cabinet but not a president to help govern the country.

The U.S., Britain and Norway urged the military authorities in a statement late Sunday to "listen to the calls from the Sudanese people."

"Most pressingly, the continuing peaceful protests must not be met with violence from any quarter," the statement said. **AP**

GERMANY

# Former Volkswagen CEO charged with fraud

AP PHOTO



David Mchugh, Frankfurt,

**G**ERMAN prosecutors have indicted former Volkswagen CEO Martin Winterkorn and four others on charges of fraud and unfair competition, saying he failed to prevent the manipulation of engine software that let Volkswagen cars cheat on diesel emission tests.

Prosecutors in Braunschweig said yesterday that Winterkorn knew about the deceptive software since at least May 25, 2014, despite his public state-

ments he only became aware of the issue shortly before the scandal broke in September 2015.

The prosecutors said the defendants — all of them top Volkswagen managers — were part of an ongoing deception that started in 2006. The company has admitted installing software that could tell when the cars were on test stands for emissions certification. When the cars went on to everyday driving, the emission controls were turned off, improving mileage and performance but emitting

far more than the U.S. legal limit of nitrogen oxides, a class of pollutant that is harmful to health.

The prosecutors say that the defendants added a software update costing 23 million euros in 2014 in an attempt to cover up the true reason for the elevated pollution emissions during regular driving.

Winterkorn and the others face from six months to 10 years imprisonment if convicted on charges of aggravated fraud involving serious losses. Bonuses collected due to

sales based on the deception could be forfeited. Prosecutors said bonus that could be forfeited ranged from around 300,000 euros to 11 million euros.

Volkswagen has paid more than 27 billion euros in fines and settlements in the months and years since being caught. The company apologized and pleaded guilty to criminal charges in the United States, where two executives were sentenced to prison and several others charged, although they could not be extradited. **AP**

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## what's ON



INK PAINTINGS BY YU JIAN  
TIME: 11am-7pm  
UNTIL: April 30, 2019  
VENUE: Macau Military Club  
ADMISSION: Free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 28727066

2019 BRAND STORY – MACAO ORIGINAL FASHION EXHIBITION II  
TIME: 10am-8pm (closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)  
UNTIL: June 23, 2019  
VENUE: Macao Fashion Gallery  
ADMISSION: Free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3341

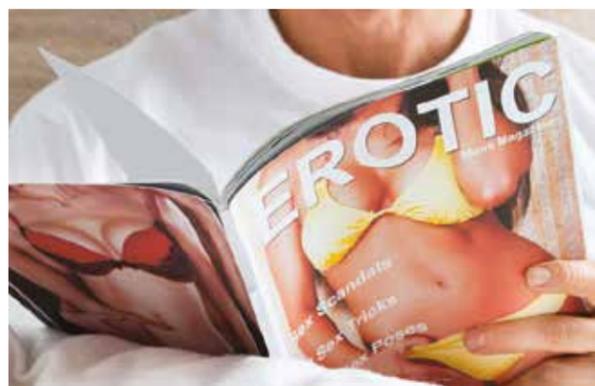
MASTERPIECES OF RUSSIAN ART FROM THE STATE TRETYAKOV GALLERY  
TIME: 10am-7pm (last admission 6:30pm; closed on Mondays)  
UNTIL: April 22, 2019  
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art  
ADMISSION: Free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

ONENESS: CALLIGRAPHY BY PROFESSOR JAO TSUNG-I  
TIME: 10am-6pm (No admission after 5:30pm, closed on Mondays)  
UNTIL: September 30, 2019  
VENUE: Jao Tsung-I Academy  
ADMISSION: Free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2523

STAMPS AROUND THE WORLD – LIECHTENSTEIN, KINGDOM OF STAMPS  
TIME: 9:00am-5:30pm (closed on public holidays)  
Until: May 31, 2019  
VENUE: Temporary Gallery, Communications Museum  
ADMISSION: MOP10  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2871 8063

## Offbeat

## MAN SUES PARENTS FOR GETTING RID OF HIS VAST PORN COLLECTION



An Indiana man is suing his parents for getting rid of his vast pornography collection, which he estimates is worth USD29,000.

The 40-year-old man last week filed a lawsuit in federal court in Michigan, where he moved in with his parents in 2016 following a divorce.

He says that when he moved out 10 months later, they delivered his things to his new home in Muncie, Indiana, but that his 12 boxes of pornographic films and magazines were missing. His parents admit they dumped the porn, which included titles such as "Frisky Business" and "Big Bad Grannys."

The man filed a complaint with police, but the Ottawa County prosecutor declined to press charges. The lawsuit includes an email excerpt from the man's father, who told his son, "I did you a big favor by getting rid of all this stuff."

The man is seeking triple financial damages of roughly \$87,000.

## TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:00	Água de Mar
15:45	Zig Zag
16:00	T2 para 3 Remodelado
16:35	Quem Quer Ser Milionário
17:30	No Trilho dos Naturalistas - São Tomé e Príncipe - Fim
18:30	TDM Desporto (Repetição)
19:35	Os Nossos Dias Sr.2
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	TDM Entrevista
21:50	Escritores a Norte - Vidas com Obra em Casas D'Escritas
22:30	Filhos da Nação Sr.2
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Uma História de Autonomia
00:45	Telejornal (Repetição)
01:30	RTPi Directo

## Cinema



## CINETEATRO

11 - 16 Apr



## SHAZAM

ROOM 1

2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 pm

Director: David F. Sandberg

Starring: Zachary Levi, Djimon Hounsou, Michelle Borth

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 132min

## THE UPSIDE

ROOM 2

2:30, 4:45, 9:30pm

Director: Neil Burger

Starring: Kevin Hart, Bryan Cranston, Nicole Kidman

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 126min



## US

ROOM 2

7:15pm

Director: Jordan Peele

Starring: Lupita Nyong'o, Winston Duke, Elisabeth Moss

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 116min

## BREAKTHROUGH

ROOM 3

2:15, 4:45, 9:15pm

Director: Roxann Dawson

Starring: Chrissy Metz, Topher Grace, Josh Lucas

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 116min

## P STORM

ROOM 2

9:30pm

Director: David Lam

Starring: Chrissie Chau, Louis Koo, Kevin Cheng

Language: Cantonese (Chinese &amp; English)

Duration: 96min

## this day in history



## 1964 'GREAT TRAIN ROBBERS' GET 300 YEARS

Some of the longest sentences in British criminal history have been imposed on men involved in the so-called "Great Train Robbery".

Sentences totalling 307 years were passed on 12 men who stole £2.6m in used bank notes after holding up the night mail train travelling from Glasgow to London last August.

The judge at Buckinghamshire Assizes in Aylesbury, Mr Justice Edmund Davies, said it would be "positively evil" if he showed leniency.

The robbery was the biggest-ever carried out in Britain.

The scale and style of the theft led to comparisons with rail robberies of the Wild West and the hunt for the perpetrators captured the public imagination.

But the judge said the robbers' crime had in no way been "romantic" and was obviously motivated by greed.

The attack on train driver Jack Mills was proof of their violent tendencies, he added.

"Anybody who has seen that nerve-shattered engine driver can have no doubt of the terrifying effect on law-abiding citizens of a concerted assault by armed robbers," the judge said.

Seven of the defendants - Ronald Biggs, Charles Wilson, Douglas Goody, Thomas Wisbey, Robert Welch, James Hussey and Roy James - were jailed for 30 years each.

Four were sent to prison for terms of between 20 and 25 years.

Another defendant, solicitor John Wheeler, 41, was sent to prison for three years.

Wheeler obtained the robbers hide-out - Leatherslade Farm in Bedfordshire.

Judge Davies said Wheeler had no knowledge of the robbery until after it had been committed but should then have informed the police.

"I realise the consequences of your conviction are disastrous, professionally and personally," the judge told Wheeler.

Three men involved in the robbery are still at large including the man said to be the ringleader, Bruce Reynolds.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

All the three remaining gang members were eventually caught.

In 1969 the robbery's mastermind, Bruce Reynolds, was sentenced to 10 years in jail.

In the meantime two gang members had made dramatic escapes from prison.

One of them, Charlie Wilson, was recaptured in Canada in 1968.

The other, Ronnie Biggs, was free for nearly 40 years before he returned voluntarily to Britain from Brazil.

An impoverished Biggs, 71, came back to the UK in 2001 to receive free medical treatment after having suffered a series of strokes.

He was immediately taken to a top-security prison to serve the remaining 28 years of his sentence.

YOUR STARS

**Aries**  
Mar. 21-Apr. 19  
Make sure your thoughts and feelings are independent from your financial woes today. Do some exploring into the brave new world you find yourself in, but don't dwell on why you're there.

**Taurus**  
April 20-May 20  
You know the phrase, once burned, twice shy. You've taken some financial risks and now you're being extra cautious of others. That's both wise and necessary. In fact, make it your new MO.

**Gemini**  
May 21-Jun. 21  
One good thing about friendships is that they are based on something mutual. If you aren't coming at life from the same angle, you might want to rethink the relationship. You have enough strife in other areas.

**Cancer**  
Jun. 22-Jul. 22  
When money flowed, so did your energy. Now things are all a bit stifled. But that shouldn't be a private life problem unless you or your friends let it be. Go ahead, make some noise.

**Leo**  
Jul. 23-Aug. 22  
You deserve some fun, and you can afford it, too. The kind you're up for today is cheap anyway, but you'd be tempted even if it cost the farm. Get out there and enjoy the adventure.

**Virgo**  
Aug. 23-Sept. 22  
You want to rush ahead with your financial plans, but like the rest of the world's, yours are on hold. Make the most of this down time. Force yourself to learn something from it, if not to enjoy it.

**Libra**  
Sep.23-Oct. 22  
It's good to be expressive, to a point. What you have to say is better kept to yourself. If you let out just how you feel about your finances, brace yourself for a less than positive response.

**Scorpio**  
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21  
Be careful taking even small risks. You should know by now how these things can snowball. Once they start getting larger and larger, you have something big and bad on your hands, like interest-only payments on a debt.

**Sagittarius**  
Nov. 22-Dec. 21  
Most worthwhile investments require some planning, research and exploration. But every now and then the unexpected happens, even in today's economic climate. Enjoy your little windfall.

**Capricorn**  
Dec. 22-Jan. 19  
Things get worse before they get better. But while you're slogging along, they're suddenly done, and seemingly out of the blue. Just keep going at your task with structure and discipline.

**Aquarius**  
Jan. 20-Feb. 18  
Don't alienate your connections by showing your hand. Dole out the bad news on a need to know basis only. Keep letting all others think your assets are rosy.

**Pisces**  
Feb.19-Mar. 20  
If it seems an odd day of the week to be worrying about signing legal documents, it is. But that's just the beginning of what's off about this transaction. It's only a matter of time before you become aware of others.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

**Easy**

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

**Easy+**

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

**Medium**

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

**Hard**

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	8							6
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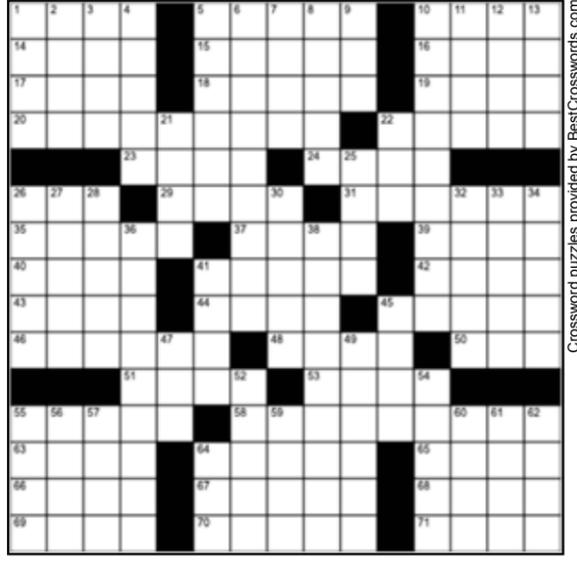
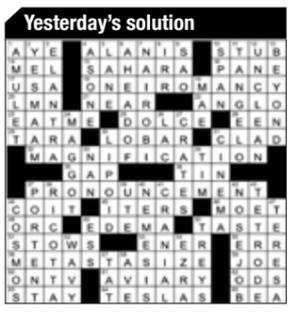
WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
<b>CHINA</b>			
Beijing	12	26	clear
Harbin	8	25	clear
Tianjin	14	24	overcast
Urumqi	17	24	cloudy
Xi'an	10	29	clear
Lhasa	5	19	cloudy
Chengdu	14	27	clear
Chongqing	14	26	cloudy
Kunming	13	26	cloudy
Nanjing	12	24	cloudy
Shanghai	13	18	drizzle
Wuhan	12	26	cloudy
Hangzhou	13	19	drizzle
Taipei	18	22	moderate rain
Guangzhou	19	23	heavy rain
Hong Kong	20	23	cloudy
<b>WORLD</b>			
Moscow	-3	8	drizzle
Frankfurt	2	18	cloudy
Paris	2	16	drizzle
London	5	15	drizzle
New York	10	17	clear

CROSSWORDS

**ACROSS:** 1- Wait \_\_\_; 5- Gymnast Comaneci; 10- San Francisco's \_\_\_ Tower; 14- Humdinger; 15- Manipulating; 16- Gillette brand; 17- Robbie's daredevil dad; 18- Yoga posture; 19- Comparison word; 20- Bell tower; 22- Siouan speakers; 23- Pendulum paths; 24- Bona fide; 26- ABC rival; 29- Beret's place; 31- Shorthand pros; 35- Coeur d'\_\_\_; 37- Ballerina Pavlova; 39- Actress Suvari; 40- Go with; 41- Pear variety; 42- I'd hate to break up \_\_\_; 43- The jig \_\_\_; 44- School founded by Henry VI; 45- Emcee's job; 46- Mild breeze; 48- First name in fashion; 50- Taxpayer's ID; 51- Classic autos; 53- Woes; 55- Doofus; 58- Pedantic or formal quality; 63- Sisters; 64- Weeper of myth; 65- \_\_\_ bitten...; 66- He loved Lucy; 67- Objects of devotion; 68- Horse color; 69- Ed and Mel of baseball; 70- "Olympia" painter; 71- Wraps up;

**DOWN:** 1- One of the Baldwin brothers; 2- Capital of Fiji; 3- K-6; 4- Mea \_\_\_; 5- Subtle difference; 6- Helper; 7- Clock face; 8- Type of sanctum; 9- Khan's title; 10- Gus McRae's occupation in "Lonesome Dove"; 11- Roman emperor after Galba; 12- Dies \_\_\_; 13- Neutral shades; 21- "Laugh-In" first name; 22- Cereal grass; 25- Name of Isaac's eldest son in the Bible; 26- Spanish seaport; 27- World-weary; 28- Frame; 30- Take pleasure in; 32- Bird homes; 33- Lulus; 34- Squelched; 36- Kidney disease; 38- Not workable; 41- Prefix with space; 45- \_\_\_ of Man; 47- Are we there \_\_\_?; 49- Firstborn; 52- You \_\_\_ mouthful!; 54- Campfire treat; 55- \_\_\_-European; 56- Tune for two; 57- Part of MIT; 59- Masked critter; 60- Privy to; 61- Whole bunch; 62- Department store department; 64- Matchsticks game;



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- Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
- Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
- IACM 28 387 333
- Tourism 28 333 000
- Airport 59 888 88
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- [Taipa] Choi Long Meng Chui 3 1/2 3 1/2  
3,398 ft<sup>2</sup> \$17,800,000 (ref: 18045555)
- [Taipa] Va Fat 2 1/2 2 1/2  
550 ft<sup>2</sup> \$4,580,000 (ref: 18115566)
- [Coloane] Hellene Gardens 3 1/2 3 1/2  
1,663 ft<sup>2</sup> \$8,990,000 (ref: 18085559)

**FOR SALE**

- [Taipa] Va Fat 2 1/2 1 1/2  
638 ft<sup>2</sup> \$4,480,000 (ref: 17085533)
- [Taipa] Wa Bao 2 1/2 2 1/2  
1,020 ft<sup>2</sup> \$8,500,000 (ref: 18115568)
- [Taipa] The Buckingham 2 1/2 1 1/2  
1,186 ft<sup>2</sup> \$8,888,000 (ref: 18025544)
- [Taipa] The Manhattan Carpark space  
\$1,950,000 (ref: 17115539)

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**COACH** Michael Cheika said he would not have been able to select fullback Israel Folau for the Wallabies after his latest “disrespectful” social media posts attacking gay people.

Cheika spoke to reporters Monday for the first time since Folau, a devout Christian, posted on Instagram that gay people would go to hell unless they repented.

Cheika was flanked by Daryl Gibson who coaches Folau’s Super Rugby team, the New South Wales Waratahs, and Michael Hooper who captains the Wallabies and Waratahs, and who said he would have been reluctant to play beside Folau after his latest comments.

A day after Folau told a newspaper it would be “God’s will” if he never played again, Rugby Australia on Monday served him with formal notice that he had breached its Code of Conduct, starting a process expected to end with the termination of Folau’s Wallabies and Waratahs contracts.

“We appreciate this matter will attract significant interest but due process must be followed,” Rugby Australia chief executive Raelene Castle told reporters.

“Israel had 48 hours to accept the sanction or have the matter sent to a code of conduct hearing.

“It was made clear to Israel in

**RUGBY**

# Folau says he will quit game if it is ‘God’s will’

AP PHOTO



writing and verbally when I met with him last year that any social media posts or commentary that in any way were disrespectful to people because of their sexuality would result in disciplinary action.”

Cheika said he had already for-

med the view that Folau couldn’t be chosen for the Wallabies after his latest posting. In 2017, Folau was warned by Rugby Australia after his use of social media to express opposition to gay marriage.

Cheika said Folau’s latest com-

ments crossed a line.

“We’ve had the discussion about it after the last time about his right to believe and our support in that,” he said. “But getting out in that disrespectful manner publicly is not what our team’s about.

“We’ve had the discussion about it and that line’s then been crossed. When you play in the gold [Wallabies] jersey, we’re representing everyone in Australia.

“I felt that I needed to talk to him [Folau] about why, but I haven’t had that chance as yet.”

Asked if he would find it difficult to play next to Folau, Hooper, who looked deeply uncomfortable, reluctantly said he would.

“You take your friends warts and all, and your teammates,” Hooper said. “Like was said before, in this current state and being here and talking about this as a rugby player, it makes it hard, it makes it difficult.

“It’s hard being here. We’re rugby players for sure, we are trying to create the best team environment we possibly can and at national level.”

Gibson expressed disappointment that the issue of Folau’s religious views had arisen again.

“I’m disappointed in the fact that we’re here again, second year running, that we’re fronting up around an issue that on a large extent we’d settled and the impact that it has on the team,” he said.

Yesterday’s developments came after Folau told the Sydney Morning Herald newspaper it would be “God’s will” if he didn’t play again. **AP**

AD



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GOLF

# Tiger a major champion again, and race to Nicklaus back on

Doug Ferguson, Augusta

**N**O comeback by Tiger Woods was ever going to be complete without a major.

Now the question becomes how many more he can win.

So much appeal of that red shirt beneath a green jacket involved looking back at all Woods had to overcome to reach that moment — a Masters champion once again — that so many thought would never happen.

The fourth surgery to rebuild his left knee. The private affairs that became public, shattering his image. The balky back that required four more surgeries, the last one out of desperation because he could barely walk, much less play golf. And a new generation of stars he inspired who were younger, stronger and capable.

That's why Woods celebrated his 15th major like never before — fist pumps without a club



AP PHOTO

in his hand, because he couldn't help himself walking off the 18th green.

"Overwhelming," he said with a voice still hoarse from all that screaming.

He went 28 majors over 11 years without winning, and no sooner did he stretch his arms into that familiar green jacket — "Ah, it fits," he said in Butler Cabin — was he asked about the 18

majors Jack Nicklaus won to set the gold standard in golf.

"I don't know if he's worried or not," Woods said. "I'm sure he's home just chilling and watching."

Whether the record is in play, Nicklaus can expect plenty of questions. For years, he could rarely get through any conversation without someone asking him whether he thought Woods could top his mark.

"I thought for a long time that he was going to win again," Nicklaus said on Golf Channel. "The next two majors are at Bethpage, where he has won, and at Pebble Beach, where he has won. So, he has got me shaking in my boots, guys."

The last part was delivered in jest.

The first part was factual.

Woods winning his fifth Masters was not entirely out of the blue. He capped the year of his great comeback last year by winning the Tour Championship

in typical Tiger fashion, by building a lead on a tough, fast course at East Lake and not giving anyone much of a chance to catch him. He also briefly led Sunday in the British Open, and was one shot behind on the back nine at the PGA Championship.

"The win at East Lake was a big confidence booster for me because I had come close last year a couple times," Woods said. "Still have to get it across the finish line, and I didn't quite do it."

So, imagine the effect of winning the Masters, especially the way this one played out. Six players had at least a share of the lead at one point on the back nine — four of them major champions — and there was a five-way tie for the lead when the final group was in the 15th fairway.

It was anyone's game until Francesco Molinari, who earlier hit 8-iron in Rae's Creek on the 12th hole for double bogey, hit a wedge off a tree limb and into the water on the par-5 15th that led to double bogey.

And then it became Woods' game — a two-putt birdie to take the lead, an 8-iron that rolled down the slope next to the hole for a signature moment at this Masters.

"Well, I can win majors now," Woods said with a laugh. **AP**

AD

## ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE TRANSLATIONS

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opinion

Our Desk

Julie Zhu



MEGA PROJECT MAY BE TOO SMALL

The Secretary of Transport and Public Works has voiced the opinion that the mega projects already built in Macau, in addition to the ones which will eventually be built in Macau and in Zhuhai, will soon become too small.

Last year, when the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (HKZMB) opened, many people "wowed", not because of the quality of the bridge, but because how big and underutilized it may be.

A similar thing happened with the Taipa Ferry Terminal. When it first opened, people were quick to criticize the facility's size and emptiness.

Back in January, I tried the HKZMB for the first time. I thought back then that it resembled more of a white elephant project, a feeling which I also had about the Taipa ferry terminal when I used it for the first time.

However, my opinion has changed since I visited the train station in Zhuhai and one of the train stations in Chengdu. Not just changed; my opinion was turned completely upside down when I tried the Hong Kong West Kowloon Train Station.

Recently, I have frequently been using the HKZMB to travel to Hong Kong. During my travels, I started noticing more bus users than the first time I used the bridge.

Later, after I considered what I had seen in mainland China's train stations, I realized how busy the bridge will become in the long term. I cannot predict exactly when it will happen, but I am sure that it is going to.

First of all, I personally believe that the bridge does not serve Macau residents at all. There are only 600,000 people living in Macau, and nobody would invest such a tremendous amount for such a small population. Imagine if all of Macau's casinos existed for just these 600,000 people. It would not be sustainable, not even if the whole population gambled.

Another thing is the price, and how important it can be for the bridge's revenue. For Macau and Hong Kong residents, paying 160 patacas for each ferry ticket to Hong Kong is peanuts, but is it the same for non-SAR residents, particularly mainlanders? The answer is obvious, despite the fact that SAR residents may still argue that mainlanders are rich.

65 patacas is a very attractive price to incentivize mainland tourists to give up the ferries and take the bus, even taking into account the inconvenience of traveling from the HKZMB port to the city centers, especially for the elderly, students, and some of the non-local residents who live and work in Guangdong.

Remember seeing tourists carrying their luggage to the bus? Then combine the 65 patacas and that image.

Since price is the first major factor deciding the eventual demand, the bridge will certainly be busy later, especially as other vehicles will gradually start hitting the lanes.

Another thing always worth considering: China has 1.4 billion people, with Guangdong alone having the largest population of any province, 111.69 million people. Most of Macau's mainland visitors come from this province.

In the past, when Guangdong residents on the west side travelled to Macau and Hong Kong, they needed to take ferries to Hong Kong and back to their cities. Now, they can finish their Hong Kong trip and take a bus to Zhuhai and then take a train at the Zhuhai station.

Last but not least, buses pose a suitable alternative to people who get sick on boats.

THE BUZZ EUROPE LOOKS TO REMOLD INTERNET WITH NEW COPYRIGHT RULES

The European Union has approved a copyright rule that aims to give more protection to artists and news organizations but which critics say will stifle freedom of speech and online creativity and punish smaller web companies.

Artists, celebrities and tech experts have spoken out both in favor and against the EU directive, which the 28 member states are required to adopt as law and got final approval from the European Council today [Macau time]

The most vigorously debated part of the legislation is a section that makes companies responsible for making sure that copyrighted material isn't uploaded to their platforms without permission from the original creator.

It puts the legal onus on platforms to prevent copyright infringement but critics say it will end up having a chilling effect on freedom of expression on the internet and could result in censorship.

Mia Farrow pursues anti-hunger work in South Sudan visit



Human rights activist Mia Farrow (center-left) plays a game with children during a visit to an internally displaced person's camp in the capital Juba, South Sudan

Sam Mednick, Juba

MIA Farrow will never forget the day she watched a baby die in her mother's arms.

"It was a little girl staring at her mother and finally she just stopped breathing. I just moved away and listened to the mother's cry," the actress and human rights activist told The Associated Press in South Sudan's capital, Juba, earlier this month.

She recalled the death as she visited the country again in her new role as envoy for the International Rescue Committee, helping the aid group to promote a global initiative to change the way humanitarian organizations approach malnutrition.

Farrow, who has worked as a UNICEF goodwill ambassador, has spent two decades traveling the world and advocating for human rights, especially for women and children.

Crouching in a displacement camp in Juba earlier this month, she jotted notes while listening intently to women express fears about being sexually assaulted and not having adequate shelter for families during the upcoming rainy season.

"I don't know many people who could endure what they're enduring," Farrow said.

As South Sudan emerges from five years of civil war that killed almost 400,000 people, some 1.5 million people are on the brink starvation, the United Nations and South Sudan's government

said earlier this year.

The International Rescue Committee calls the current approach to fighting malnutrition "inadequate," asserting that it leaves millions of children with acute malnutrition untreated, Mesfin Teklu Tessema, the group's global senior director for health, told the AP.

Farrow has spent two decades traveling the world and advocating for human rights

"What we've seen on the ground, despite everybody's best efforts, we're not able to save as many lives as we could," Mesfin said. With the current approach 50 million children around the world are acutely malnourished and approximately 80% aren't receiving the treatment they need, he said.

The group proposes treating moderate and severe acute malnutrition as one condition, using a single high-calorie therapeutic food instead of two and delivering aid to families in their homes via trained community health workers rather than making people seek care at a clinic. That can mean walking for days in search of help, Mesfin said.

For the approach to be adopted the U.N. needs to agree. The world body remains skeptical.

"There are still a lot of evidence gaps," Lauren Landis, director of nutrition for the U.N. World Food Program, told the AP. The U.N. wants to be sure the treatment is fully tested and works in a wide range of settings, she said.

Both WFP and the U.N. children's agency are supporting similar pilot programs, in a few cases partnering with the International Rescue Committee, looking at how to simplify the detection and treatment of malnutrition.

While sending trained community health workers into remote areas is one way of reaching more people, organizations need to weigh the risks and the benefits, one expert said.

"There are a lot of problems with quality, control, monitoring and accountability," said Sarah Vuylsteke, former deputy head of access in South Sudan. The end goal should remain that everyone is able to access clinics and health care freely, she said.

Having seen the country before and after civil war, Farrow has a clear message for South Sudan's government as it tries to implement a fragile peace deal signed in September.

"Just stop fighting ... and find a way to peace," she said. "Peace is the door out of this misery."

Civilians continue to bear the effects of years of fighting. AP

Station	Air quality	Icon
Roadside	80-110 Bad	
High Density Residential Area	55-75 Moderate	
Ambient	80-110 Bad	

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS



MALAYSIA's prime minister Mahathir said yesterday a Chinese company building a rail link across the Southeast Asian nation will jointly help to manage and operate the network, part of revised deal that will get the stalled project off the ground at a lower cost and ease strained relations. The East Coast Rail Link across peninsular Malaysia was suspended. More on p13



SOUTH KOREAN President Moon Jae-in said yesterday he's ready for a fourth summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to help salvage faltering nuclear negotiations between the North and the United States.



VENEZUELA U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo met with Venezuelan migrants in Colombia as he wrapped up a four-nation tour of South America aimed at pressuring Venezuela's socialist president, Nicolas Maduro. Pompeo went to a migrant center in the border town of Cucuta with Colombian President Ivan Duque.

LATIN AMERICA Beijing has fired back at the U.S. after Secretary of State Mike Pompeo criticized China's role in Venezuela as prolonging the crisis there. China's foreign ministry said yesterday that Pompeo's accusations were "unfounded" and "deliberately drove a wedge" between China and Latin America. U.S. treats Latin America like "its own backyard," the Foreign ministry said.