

**PORTUGUESE PRESIDENT TOURS MACAU TODAY**  
President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa arrived yesterday in Macau after meeting Xi Jinping in Beijing

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**LEONG'S NOT RUNNING FOR TOP POST**  
Secretary Lionel Leong confirmed that he is no longer planning to run for Chief Executive

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**XI URGES YOUTH TO EMBRACE NATIONALISM ON MAY 4 ANNIVERSARY**

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# MacauDaily 澳門每日時報®

# Times

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Goldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

**WORLD BRIEFS**



**JAPAN** Emperor Akihito (pictured) announced his abdication at a palace ceremony in his final address, as the nation embraced the end of his reign with reminiscence and hope for a new era. "Today, I am concluding my duties as the emperor," Akihito said as he stood in front of the throne, as other members of the royal family and top government officials watched. [More on p13](#)



**THAILAND** Netflix announced it is joining with the production company for the movie "Crazy Rich Asians" to make a film about last July's dramatic rescue of 12 village boys in northern Thailand who were trapped with their soccer coach in a flooded cave for more than two weeks.



**IS** When the reclusive Islamic State group leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi appeared in a video this week, he was the latest in a series of most-wanted figures to use the medium to communicate with the outside world. Al-Baghdadi's goal was to dismiss suggestions of the extremist group's defeat and his own often-reported demise, claim responsibility for the recent Sri Lanka bombings on Easter and warn of a "long battle" ahead.

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**PAULO CARDINAL TO PRESIDENT MARCELO**

# Portugal should be vigilant on Macau

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# Many tourists, few demos for Labor Day.

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## editorial

Paulo Coutinho



### SENHOR PRESIDENTE

**I**N an interview published in these pages, lawyer Paulo Cardinal summons up the sentiment of many of us in Macau that Portugal has been failing in its duties to be “vigilant” towards Macau’s affairs especially concerning a certain erosion of the Rule of Law.

His dismissal, along with his colleague Paulo Taipa, is but a symptom of growing authoritarian and arbitrary practices in violation of fundamental rights.

Let’s be clear: their dismissals were political sackings, because they offered opinions against decisions that were in breach of the Basic Law and, thus, of the Joint Declaration which is an international agreement that prevails until 2049. Or so it should.

Portugal has its share of responsibility in the erosion of fundamental principles precisely because, apparently, it has relinquished its legitimate right to intervene in the international arena whenever those rights - postulated by the Joint Declaration - were at risk. There was never a public word from Lisbon on these issues, as far as we know. Let us remind all that evil triumphs when men of good will stay silent.

Portugal is a nation, I firmly believe, of good will. But sometimes the silence is deafening.

The dollars and cents sought after by the much-hailed economic diplomacy cannot impair the sight of nations and men of good will. The grandeur of the Chinese economic reforms is appealing to any country, but cannot obfuscate the essential values that our country stand for, to trade them for a plate of lentils. Cooperation doesn’t mean abdication.

The responsibility of Portugal towards Macau is of historical proportions.

In the course of our multacentennial presence in Macau we have committed errors and wrong-doings but we also helped build a society based on the fundamental rights of freedom, legality and equality. And much of that was accomplished with the dedication and integrity of the common men and women.

This is not an appeal to look after the Portuguese community; we are to a certain extent privileged here compared to others. I care as much for our community as I do for all the communities that work and live in Macau without distinction of race, origin, creed or status.

Macau is also our place in the world. It is not an “extension” of Portugal, I don’t delve in that delusion, but it is an extension of our values, of our way of life.

Or so it should be.



## Leong withdraws candidacy for Chief Executive

**T**HE Economy and Finance Secretary Lionel Leong has confirmed that he is no longer planning to run for the post of Macau Chief Executive (CE).

Leong noted this during comments to the media on the sidelines of the Macau Federation of Trade Unions cocktail event held yesterday afternoon.

Leong pledged to continue his work at his current post until the end of his term, to assist with the transition of the new

government. This implies he will not be resigning to submit his candidacy for the position. The Secretary did not explain what motivated his change of mind.

Leong initially suggested in mid-February that he was “comprehensively” considering running for the position of CE – understood by the public to mean that he was putting his name forward.

Following the tacit withdrawal, Leong expressed

confidence that Macau will elect a Chief Executive that can satisfactorily fulfill his duties in all areas.

Addressing the candidacy of Ho Iat Seng, the Secretary said he believes that Ho meets all the requirements as was noted by Zhang Xiaoming, the director of the Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office of the State Council. Zhang said that Ho fulfills the central government requirements

for the post, which include patriotism, love for the country and for Macau, trust from central authorities, and the capacity for good governance and social recognition. Ho Iat Seng, who was attending the same event, noted that he is currently preparing his team and office to proceed with his campaign for Chief Executive. Ho said he should be able to formalize his candidacy around May 20. **RM**

## Portuguese President tours Macau today

Renato Marques

**T**HE President of the Portuguese Republic, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, arrived yesterday in the Macau Special Administrative Region. His agenda for today is very full, as he will be touring several locations and meeting with both the local authorities and the Portuguese officials in the region. The agenda will open

with a meeting with the Chief Executive (CE), Chui Sai On, to take place at the government headquarters at 11:30 a.m.

After that, de Sousa will meet the Portuguese Consul-General in the MSAR, Paulo Cunha Alves, for a lunch in the Portuguese Consulate, where he will also meet with other representatives of Portuguese community institutions and associations.

In the afternoon, de Sousa has a visit to the Macau Portuguese School scheduled before heading to a welcome dinner hosted by the Macau government at the MGM Macau, which will close the official visit programme.

The visit to Macau is part of the Portuguese President’s visit to China at the invitation of the Chinese President Xi Jinping which commenced last Thursday.

Before Macau, de Sousa toured Beijing and Shanghai, participating in the second “Belt and Road” Forum from April 25 to 27, held in the Chinese capital.

The visit of de Sousa to Chinese territory is held ahead of the upcoming visit of Chui to Portugal later this month, when Macau’s CE will make his last official visit in the capacity of Macau CE to Portugal between May 11 and 19. During Chui’s visit to Portugal, he will have meetings scheduled with de Sousa and also with the Premier, António Costa.

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For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

# Tourism authority buckles up for May 1 holiday

**D**UE to the expected influx of 600,000 tourists during the Labor Day holiday period, as anticipated by the Public Security Police Force (PSP), the Macao Government Tourist Office (MGTO) has made plans to cope with several possible situations.

The Labor Day holiday spans several days in mainland China. This year it ranges across four days, from May 1 to 4, which signals the likelihood of a high number of tourists coming to Macau. The MGTO says it is utilizing technology to streamline experiences for both locals and tourists.

The Office recommends the use of their official mobile apps, namely the "smart application for visitor flows" app, and the "Step Out, Macao" app. The former provides live updates on human flows at various tourist attractions, and the latter has walking tour routes that may interest tourists. Extra staff will also be taken on to take care of enquiries and provide assistance.



The "smart application for visitor flows" app offers predictive data on the density of visitor flows at 20 major tourists attractions for a period of time between the next four hours to a week. Density is presented as "comfortable", "moderate", "lightly congested", "congested", and "heavily congested".

Promotions for the use of these smart tools will be distributed by mobile text messages.

In addition, with help from public broadcaster TDM, the MGTO is broadcasting indications on the forecast level of visitor flows at various attractions on the station's Information Channel from 9 p.m. on April 30 to 11:59 p.m. on May 5.

The PSP's effort in helping tourists make plans on their tours is the "Real-Time Information Platform of Border Ports", accessible on PSP's website.

The platform was created to provide live images on the various border checkpoints for users to get an indication on the various conditions and decide the best time to cross the border. The MGTO is putting the link to the platform on their website.

The Office will also allocate personnel to handle enquiries and assist in visitor flow diversion at various locations, distribute food guides, support entities to organize festive and holiday activities, carry out more rigorous inspections and give reminders to industry operators, among other measures.

With regard to suspicions about illegal tour guides, the MGTO, along with the PSP and the Labor Affairs Bureau (DSAL), is taking special measures during the coming holiday period including conducting joint inspections targeting different spots, placing undercover inspectors on patrol and enhancing supervision at ports of entry and tourist attractions.

## Cambodia charges three with money laundering

A Cambodian court on Sunday charged three Chinese nationals with money laundering after the men were allegedly caught carrying more than USD3.5 million without proper provenance for the money. According to police authorities, the three men said that some of the money was won gambling in Macau, and some was borrowed from relatives. They said the money was brought to Cambodia to invest in real estate. The men were arrested, however, and the money was confiscated due to not having the proper provenance, the website said. The three were officially charged with money laundering under Cambodia's Law on Anti-Money Laundering and Combatting Financing of Terrorism. If convicted, the men could face 10 to 20 years in prison.

## DSEJ head calls for calm in solving disputes

The Director of the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ), Lou Pak Seng, is calling on local parents to solve children's disputes in a calm manner. Recently, two local little boys got involved in a fight, with one of the boys getting injured. The injured boy's father then hit down the other boy's grandfather. The DSEJ provided consultation to one of the two boys. DSEJ chief Lou Pak Seng later said that there are different opinions and disputes regardless of whether they occur inside schools or in public. Lou urges the residents to solve disputes in a calm manner.

## Court reexamines Scott Chiang case conclusions

**D**EMOCRACY activist Scott Chiang was back at Macau's Court of First Instance yesterday, repeating proceedings from last year that were found by Macau's second court to have been improperly handled.

Although the session had been described by the Court of Second Instance as a "re-trial", Chiang yesterday told the Times that it was not the case that the entire trial would be repeated.

He said that yesterday's session was a "not the chance to re-examine the fact or the witnesses," but instead "merely a [reassessment] of the conclusion of the events."

Last year, Chiang and lawmaker Sulu Sou were found guilty of the crime of unlawful assembly, even as they had been brought to

Macau's first court on charges of the more serious offence of aggravated disobedience. Chiang appealed the court's decision, but lawmaker Sou opted to waive his right to appeal in order to return to his Legislative Assembly seat as soon as possible.

There were many unorthodox aspects to the initial ruling of the Court of First Instance, according to lawyers familiar with the case.

For one, the defense lawyers, had not been given the opportunity to prepare an adequate defense for his client since the charge had been altered during the sentencing.

Another point of concern involved the fact that the first court's ruling had not detailed the exact provision in the law Chiang and Sou were said to have violated.

The Court of Second Instance sided with the activist's appeal and ordered that the case be re-trialed.

However, Chiang said yesterday that the court session did not afford his defense the chance to reexamine the facts or witnesses involved in his sentencing.

"It was not the re-trial that we [previously] thought it would be. The Court [of Second Instance] stated that the lower court did not need to redo the whole process, just the part that was handled incorrectly when the charge was changed."

Asked whether he could or would appeal that decision, Chiang said: "I suppose we could... but I don't really see the point."

The Court will announce its verdict on May 14. **DB**

## Victims of taxi accident 'severely injured'

**T**wo of the three pedestrians hit by a taxi that allegedly did not give way at a pedestrian crossing were reported as severely injured and are still under observation at Conde de São Januário Hospital Center.

The accident, which occurred on Monday night outside Harbourview Hotel, opposite Sands Macao, involved three female visitors, the youngest of whom was a two-year-old toddler.

The other 50-year-old victim was the grandmother of the toddler and suffered a cerebral haemorrhage, while the 29-year-old mother of the toddler had cuts on her legs, as cited in a report issued by TDM.

The toddler suffered injuries on her forehead, the back of her head and her waist.

According to the Public Security Police, the taxi driver, who was in his 30s, passed a breathalyser test.

The local driver was detained for allegedly committing reckless driving and three counts of causing bodily harm. Authorities will transfer the suspect to the Public Prosecutions Office while the PSP calls on witnesses to provide information regarding the case.

In a separate incident, PSP informed that a taxi had collided with a motorcycle yesterday in front of Grand Hyatt Macau.

The motorcycle driver was injured and was sent to the hospital.

Earlier this year, a local woman riding a scooter died after crashing into a taxi on Friendship Bridge.

Last year, official data shows that traffic accidents decreased by 6.5% to 13,764, resulting in 4,390 casualties including 10 fatalities. **LV**

## Second phase of Ka Ho prison to be completed June

The second phase of the construction of Ka Ho prison is expected to be completed in June, the Director of the Correctional Services Bureau said earlier this week. The second phase of the prison project includes the prisoners' cells, among other buildings. The third and fourth phases will start right after the completion of the second phase. They will include the installation of an internet system, a telecommunication system, and of a security surveillance system. The new prison can shelter a total of 2,700 prisoners. Currently, the bureau is hiring an additional 73 prison police officers.

Paulo Coutinho

**V**ETERAN advisor Paulo Cardinal who was dispensed by the Legislative Assembly in August last year without plausible cause breaks the silence and in an interview with the Times speaks about his dismissal, about Ho Iat Seng, Sulu Sou and the “paranoia” of security that has damaged the respect for fundamental rights in Macau.

Cardinal says he wants to stay in Macau “although I don’t have a normal job yet.” After more than 25 years living in the territory, he charges “I will not be disposed of like chewing gum.”

In the interview, Cardinal contends that Portugal should be “vigilant” towards Macau’s affairs. “Portugal is a contracting party to the Joint Declaration. Therefore, if Portugal intervenes in this regard, it will have complete legitimacy ... Publicly Portugal does not do this,” the legal expert lamented.

“There is a sort of progressive siege against these values in our system, whether in Macau or in Hong Kong. Without fundamental rights, without the rule of law, there will truly be no “second system.” Hence, we must be resilient.”

The interview with Paulo Cardinal started with the dismissals of him and his colleague, Paulo Taipa, where he lays out the “alternative” theories for his sacking, and vehemently refutes each one.

**Macau Daily Times (MDT) - Do you know already why you were dismissed?**

**Paulo Cardinal (PC) -** The rationale that was passed on to us, subsequently made public, and used as justification was that of a restructuring of the legal team. This is not an acceptable argument to me and the fact that it has not generally been accepted as valid is well known. This has given rise, especially in a small parish-like place as this, to the circus of theories and conjectures, some leading to character assassination. The justification given [by AL President] does not correspond to reality. On the one hand, two good jurists are dispensed with in this restructuring, as was reaffirmed by the President of the AL. He said there were two people too many. On the other hand, precisely two people are hired. This reversal of intentions proves that the justification presented by the AL does not conform to reality. It also proves that it made a mistake and sought to remedy it.

**MDT - It was said that information was passed from the advisors to Sulu Sou.**

**PC -** I did not have access to the internal process [leading to Sou’s suspension], and I personally challenge anyone - and I’m willing to rescind of my right to privacy in this case - to demonstrate whether there were phone calls, emails, SMSs or any messages exchanged via Viber, Skype, WhatsApp, whatever, between me and Sulu Sou. The first time I spoke to Sulu Sou was in the AL after his return from

the awkward suspension.

For many years in my work at the AL, I dealt with very complex and sensitive processes, involving people in high places, and never ever has anyone questioned my honesty in the dispensing of my duties, much less to ever have leaked confidential documents.

A different matter is to ask me if I agree with Sulu Sou. And the answer is clear and it is not secret. Any advocate of more and better democracy and more and better respect for human rights will naturally agree with Sou on many issues.

**The Macau courts should have assessed the substance of Sou’s appeal.**

**MDT - There was one person or people who accused you of prying. But how, and about what, if you had no access to privileged information?**

**PC -** This is a regrettable situation and not deserving of attention because it only represents human misery: the filthiness of the “anything goes” principle; a lack of a conscience in the constant gossip about groundless accusations inside and outside the institution. When someone is flawed in competence, in integrity, in courage, one seeks a scapegoat and invents and exhorts some tale of betrayal. You don’t look at the means, you do not look to the persons (who may even have saved one’s colleague’s job in the past), you don’t care about the consequences. Human misery. Filth.

**MDT - But do you agree with lawyer Jorge Menezes that the ultimate intent was “the discomfort they represented by devoting themselves courageously to the defense of the BL, the Rule of Law, to the defense of the legality and integrity of the juridical system?”**

**PC -** The defense of constitutionality, that is of the Basic Law (BL), of the legality, of the Rule of Law, of the fundamental rights, for me, are natural and necessary to effectively exercise the advisory role. Otherwise, it will not be an advice but a different thing. More like a ‘rubber stamping’ service.

**MDT - Do you think that your sackings will affect the impartiality of other advisors at the legislative and executive levels, who are expected to apply the law and not succumb to political pressure?**

**PC -** Yes, of course it does. There is sheer incompetence of blunt ignorance of the law. The most pernicious incompetence is not having the character and courage

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

# Paulo Cardinal: ‘I will not



to duly perform the duties [of a legal advisor]: willing to do anything to keep the job and [receive] a salary at the end of the month. Of course, people will think ‘if veterans like Paulo Cardinal and Paulo Taipa can be dismissed just like that, it can happen to me, to anyone.’ And that creates fear and anxiety among people, especially when the reasons for the dismissal were not explained. But there are still competent advisors in the AL.

**SULU SOU**

**MDT - Did the Board of the AL and President Ho violate the Members’ Statute or the Rules of Procedure in the process of suspending lawmaker Sou? Was Sulu Sou in the end illegally suspended?**

**PC -** From a technical-legal point of view, several legal norms and norms with weight of law, the Rules of Procedures, were violated in this intra-parliamentary conflict. Some shamelessly. Violated in such a gross manner, that in a couple of cases at least, any reasonable first-year law student would stumble onto these abuses. I said it on TDM-TV before being sacked that in this internal conflict of the Legislative Assembly I agreed about 80% with Sulu Sou. In essence, what I did not agree with regarding Sou’s defense, from what I read in the press, was with the foregoing conclusion that his was not a political act. For me, notwithstanding some doubts about

certain doctrine, it seems to me that this would be a political act. Mr Sou was struck down in this process by successive violations of the Basic Law, the Member’s Statute and the Rules of Procedure. There is no doubt about that. And the very TSI’ decision [on Sou’s appeal], if you read it carefully, often criticizes the performance of the AL and its various bodies.

It is also important to note that the responsibility for the suspension of Sulu Sou does not sit with the AL. It started before, with other stakeholders, that should not be overlooked.

**MDT - The TSI considered that it had no jurisdiction to hear the case. But are you saying that reading between lines the court understood that Sulu Sou was right and was, indeed, illegally suspended?**

**PC -** Yes, the decision of the case is based a priori, we would say, without technical rigor. The issue of [ruling on] the political act. Well, the judge-rapporteur left relatively clear indications that the law and the Rules of Procedure had been violated at several points in the process: “The Commission [of the AL], which had met twice, drew up a document which it called ‘Opinion’ [between commas],” which is to say, it is not actual opinion [parecer]. And when referring to the intended or implied purpose of the decision to suspend [Sou’s] mandate, it is

**I would like to see a reversal of the paranoia of securitization.**

written [in TSI’s ruling], “We are not saying whether or not it was executed well.”

The Court of Second Instance said that it had no jurisdiction to hear the case because they considered it (the suspension of the mandate) a political act. In this part, I disagree with the position of the court, as I stated publicly and expressly in a debate at TDM while I was still AL’s coordinating advisor.

**MDT - There are those who argue that when a political act violates a fundamental right, the courts have jurisdiction to judge this matter.**

**PC -** Yes, the modern doctrine of legal systems in which the rule of law prevails, in several jurisdictions, supports this. This position derives from the need to remove the political act as a tool to escape the jurisdiction and control of the courts. You can see this in Portugal, Spain, Costa Rica, Brazil, Mexico, France... This is my position. For several reasons it would be tedious to present this fully here.

# 'be disposed of like chewing gum'



As one instance, under the Basic Law only Acts of State are withheld from coming under the jurisdiction of the courts of Macau. So, the Macau courts should have assessed the substance of Sou's appeal. Then they could agree or disagree with the alleged violations of fundamental rights.

**MDT - Scott Chiang's re-trial was held yesterday. Do you think Chiang (and Sou) committed the crime of unlawful assembly? I believe you are able to comment on this as you drafted the Commission's Opinion on this law.**

PC - I do not know the case. Also, I can only comment here on what is public and published. And I have published articles on these subjects. On this subject, I must say that the decision in the second court [to re-trial] did not surprise me. It is in line with persistent jurisprudence which in the end says, not anything goes. No surprise decisions are allowed. In this regard, what most disturbs and worries me is the "twisted" use of legislation for the protection of fundamental rights that are [instead] adulterated and used as tools to undermine fundamental rights. In the case of the bill of rights of assembly and demonstration, that has been evident. Another is the law regarding the protection of personal data. There seem to be cases of criminal charges laid which, in the normal course of things, should not have arisen.

## HO IAT SENG

**MDT - From what you know about Ho Iat Seng do you think he would be a good CE?**

PC - In this particular context I must refrain from making comments. If I speak badly, the credibility of my comments will be questioned, and it may be regarded as some sort of revenge. To speak well of him, well, to be honest I do not feel so inclined. But above all, I do not want to speak well of him - and there are, of course, good things to say. He always was, or at least up to one year ago, a very educated, cordial and respectful person. Even this speaking well of him can be read as an attempt to re-enter his good graces, now that he may have the opportunity to become CE. It is absolutely indifferent to me to be either in his good or bad graces.

**MDT - If the new CE is elected as a single candidate, could this be harmful to the democratization of the MSAR?**

PC - First, remember that I am not a voter. Neither I nor you can elect the CE. We must not forget this. Then, it is not yet known if there will be other candidates. In the face of publicly spoken names from the outset, there would be candidates that could potentially be better for Macau and there would be candidates who could potentially be worse than Ho Iat Seng for Macau.

I do not know the platform. That is, he announced that he wants to improve the well-being of the population. Of course, I agree with him. If he is elected CE, as a Macau citizen, obviously I wish him the best of luck in performing his duties. The better he does it, the better it will be for the population.

A different question is what I desire from the new CE. I would like to see a reversal of the paranoia of securitization; I would like to see improvements in the quality of life - health, environment, etc.; I would like to see a real reinforcement of fundamental rights; I would like to see an end to the prosecution of people for taking part in peaceful demonstrations.

## POLITICAL REFORM

**MDT - You are a critic of the current political system. Shouldn't we have advanced further with political reform?**

PC - Yes, clearly. That was the letter and spirit of the Sino-Portuguese Joint Declaration (JD) and the Basic Law: A promise of gradual democratization. It has not happened. Note that under the Macau BL, unless the mini-constitution itself is altered, the Legislative Assembly can never be fully elected. But it could [feasibly] have a single appointed legislator and the rest elected by universal suffrage. The power thus would become more legitimized and fall in line with the intentions, with the original promises made.

**MDT - The current model, as far as I remember, was based on positive discrimination. Does that argument still make sense under the current circumstances?**

PC - No, not at all. Before the handover, the mixed model of representation of the AL was indeed based on positive discrimination to allow the Chinese community to have a seat at the legislative branch, at a time when the vote was an exclusive right of Portuguese citizens. When participation in direct elections was made universal, during the mandate of Governor Almeida e Costa, the [accommodations made] were to protect the Portuguese/Macanese minority representation at the AL with either appointed or indirectly elected members. Now, this model makes no sense because there is no longer any positive discrimination. Do you see any Portuguese/Macanese or any other representation of the non-Chinese communities?

**Any advocate of more and better democracy, better respect for human rights will naturally agree with Sulu Sou on many issues.**

**MDT - Currently, the President of Portugal is visiting Macau. Do you think that Portugal should play a more active role in the protection of fundamental rights and the rule of law in the MSAR in view of the Joint Declaration and its historical responsibilities?**

PC - Portugal is a contracting party to the JD. This is a truly international treaty and has been submitted by both parties, Portugal and China, to the United Nations. Therefore, if Portugal intervenes in this regard, it will have complete legitimacy. It will not be an intrusion. It would be vigilant to ensure compliance with this bilateral treaty, which granted this population the right to live in a different system from that of the mainland. Publicly Portugal does not do it, I do not know if it does in other ways, through diplomatic channels, for example. The U.K. does it, publicly, with by-annual reports on Hong Kong.

**MDT - In China, however, there are voices, with institutional weight, who believe that the Joint Declaration was extinguished with the enforcement of the Basic Law. Does this make any sense?**

PC - It does not make any sense. I know of those statements and attempts. They are perverted and politically motivated and reveal a difficult cohabitation with International Law. And the will to rewrite history: it is inadmissible. Moreover, after one more of these "acts" about a year ago which had implied that the JD is not in force, is merely a "historical relic," China itself, through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs, came out publicly saying that the Joint Declaration was still in force.

## I WANT TO STAY

**MDT - Returning to the beginning of the interview. Your life was naturally affected on several levels. I know that you are finishing a doctorate in Coimbra: from a professional/academic point of view has this been affected? At what stage is the dissertation?**

PC - Yes. [My life has been] Deeply altered. And with the bitter taste of injustice. Professionally I do not regret anything, I must say. My conscience is clean regarding the fulfillment of my duties and functions until December 31, 2018. I have dedicated more time to the dissertation but not just that.

**MDT - What is the topic of the dissertation?**

PC - The topic is Autonomy and Fundamental Rights in Macau.

**MDT - Do you think that autonomy and fundamental rights are threatened in Macau?**

PC - I think they are being threatened, degraded. Infrequently there is a sort of progressive siege against these values in our system, whether in Macau or in Hong Kong. Without fundamental rights, without the rule of law, there will truly be no "second system." Hence, we must be resilient.

**MDT - Do you want to continue in Macau? Despite having seen many doors close, will you continue in Macau?**

PC - Yes. For various reasons, like family reasons, which I shall not elaborate here. But not only these. I was wronged. I was [politically] sacked. Doors didn't open to me on January 1, 2019. It was said that, modesty aside, with my CV, I would not be short of offers. January went by as did February and March. But I'm resilient. I have no weight on my conscience, and I am not a piece of chewing gum to be used, chewed and thrown away. I will continue here, where I have lived for more than a quarter of a century, where I was married, where my son was born, while I can and want to.

## GAMING

# Vancouver's once rollicking casinos hit by dirty money crackdown

Natalie Obiko Pearson  
& Paula Sambo

WHEN Parq Vancouver, a glimmering waterfront casino, opened amid much to-do in late 2017, few would've anticipated that a dirty money crackdown was about to throw the city's roaring gambling business into turmoil.

Vancouver-area casinos for years had been accepting millions of dollars in questionable cash from gamblers showing up with suitcases and hockey bags bulging with bills, according to British Columbia Attorney General David Eby. But new rules implemented last year to more tightly identify sources of funds have put a damper on that rollicking trade.

"The anti-money laundering regulations in British Columbia have been a problem," says Andrew Hood, a Toronto-based equity analyst at M Capital Partners Inc. who covers Dundee Corp., one of Parq's two owners. "The regulations were supposed to cut down on illicit gambling but, of course, that hurt volumes across casinos."

For Parq, one of the province's largest-ever private developments, the clampdown came at a delicate time. The plan was to replace costly construction financing with cheaper debt after opening but business picked up slower than expected amid the new restrictions. It lost nearly CAD153 million (USD114 million) in 2018, according to a March 28 Dundee filing. Now Parq's in a race to refinance debt in order to make an interest payment this week on a second-lien loan, according to S&P Global Ratings.

## LOAN PAYMENT

Parq Holdings LP has a \$150 million second-lien term-loan that was arranged by a syndicate of financial institutions led by Credit Suisse Securities in 2014, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. The amount of interest isn't disclosed, but Parq had deferred an interest payment by one month to April 30 and its ability to pay hinges on the company refinancing its debt, S&P said earlier this month when it downgraded Parq Holdings LP to CCC, eight notches below investment grade, from B-.

"We still believe that, absent a debt recapitalization, the company will be unable to materially address its high fixed charges and financial sustainability," S&P said, adding there's a risk of a payment default or a debt restructuring within the next 12 months.

BLOOMBERG



## OTTAWA OWNER

Privately held PBC Group, an Ottawa-based real estate developer, is the majority owner of Parq with 63 percent. Dundee, a Toronto-based public holding company with investments in agriculture, resources and real estate, owns the remainder. PBC and Dundee declined requests to be interviewed for this story.

Parq's \$220 million first-lien term-loan due in December 2020, which would be paid first in the event of a default, is down just one percent over the last 12 months, according to Bloomberg data. That may be because creditors believe Parq's assets are worth more than the loans - the resort generated CAD43.5 million in revenue in the three months ended Dec. 31, up 36 percent from the same period in 2017, according to disclosures by Dundee. Interest on its senior debt hovers around 10 percent at \$22 million a year.

If not for its untimely launch, Parq would've seemed a sure bet in a city that'd become a magnet for wealthy Asian high rollers known to drop more than CAD500,000 - source undeclared - at gaming tables.

## THE CITY THAT HAD TOO MUCH MONEY

The shimmering copper-hued casino-cum-hotel complex finally offered an upscale option in downtown Vancouver with a second-floor entrance leading directly into the neighboring

BC Place stadium - on opening night, VIPs waltzed across for a Coldplay concert.

Parq was everything its kitschy rivals with their all-you-can-eat buffets in the suburbs were not: its understated decor was bathed in natural light, its elevated outdoor park boasted 200 real pines unlike the copses of fake trees at the busy River Rock Casino Resort near the airport. Its fine dining options included tea buds painted in gold. It's two luxe hotels in one: a 329-room JW Marriott and the boutique-styled Douglas with 188 rooms.

Vancouver had also appeared a uniquely promising market.

"The revenues in Vancouver have grown consistently within the past 10 years; pretty much every other market has not seen a raise in table revenues," Scott Menke, chief executive officer of Paragon Gaming Holding Co., the Las Vegas-based casino developer and operator that spearheaded Parq's construction, told Bloomberg News ahead of its opening in 2017. Paragon abandoned the underperforming asset in February this year, selling its stake to PBC.

## HORGAN CRACKDOWN

British Columbia Premier John Horgan's government has been spearheading Canada's anti-money laundering charge, and its hiring of an independent investigator to probe the gambling industry coincided almost to the day with Parq's ill-timed

opening in September 2017.

Explosive details have filtered out: at Great Canadian Gaming Corp.'s River Rock, dubbed the "epicenter" of hot money by the investigator, CAD13.5 million in 20-dollar bills had been accepted in a single month in 2015 and couriers were delivering cash to patrons in late-night drop offs. In another instance, a gambler was permitted to convert CAD3.1 million, mostly in twenties, into chips at Gateway Casinos & Entertainment Ltd.'s Starlight Casino.

In January 2018, the government-owned British Columbia Lottery Corp., responsible for managing casinos in the province, hastily implemented new measures requiring gamblers to provide a bank receipt on the source of funds for any buy-ins amounting to CAD10,000 or more within a 24-hour period. It also hired Ernst & Young to audit three years of transactions at River Rock but concluded in February that "there was no systemic pattern of money-laundering activity."

Be that as it may, gambling at River Rock isn't the roaring business it once was either - the anti-money laundering measures appear an irritant to patrons.

## QUICK CHANGES

"The changes in procedures were implemented extremely, extremely quickly," Great Canadian Gaming Chief Executive Officer Rod Baker told

investors on a call last May. "I think it's even more challenging for our guests when they've been used to doing things a certain way for a certain amount of time, and then all of a sudden, you know, they get turned away and they got to figure out - they got to go to the bank that day."

The company reported last month that table drop - the amount of money patrons used at tables to buy chips - fell 16 percent in 2018 to CAD298 million at its 10 properties in British Columbia, driven by a decline at River Rock. Revenue from British Columbia also dipped 3 percent due in part to the new source-of-funds procedures, it said.

Meanwhile, Dundee has said it's seeking to bring in a new partner to Parq by Tuesday. All told, investors had pumped more than CAD1 billion in long-term debt and equity into Parq by the end of 2018, according to filings. Dundee, which put in CAD142 million of that, has said it doesn't expect to fully recover its investment and that it could take another year or two before Parq is closer to stable operations.

"They don't necessarily think they're going to get their money back," said Hood. "But they do think that they'll get a substantial portion back and that's why they don't just give up and sell it. **Bloomberg**

Alfred Liu &amp; Matt Turner

**H**SBBC Holdings Plc spent 150 years building a financial fortress around Hong Kong that touches nearly every aspect of life in the former British colony.

One of the bank's biggest threats? A pack of upstart virtual lenders, which barely existed two months ago, backed by the likes of Standard Chartered Plc and Chinese internet insurer ZhongAn Online P&C Insurance Co.

Few if any of the world's largest financial companies dominate a single market quite like HSBC does in Hong Kong, a city of 7.5 million people that accounted for roughly 60 percent of the bank's pretax income in 2018. That makes HSBC a juicy target for the handful of "virtual" lenders vying to shake up the commercial hub's banking market after securing first-of-their-kind approvals last month.

HSBC already offers digital services as well as maintains branches in Hong Kong, so clients can use whichever channel they want, a bank spokeswoman said by email. These include trade transactions through blockchain technology, while HSBC's PayMe mobile wallet has more than 1.5 million users, she said.

The bank's adjusted revenue from Hong Kong rose 14 percent last year, the spokeswoman said, and it hired additional staff in the Hong Kong-China region.

HSBC, which owns about 60 percent of subsidiary Hang Seng Bank Ltd., has the biggest share across all major banking businesses in Hong Kong, according to an analysis by Goldman Sachs

# HSBC's fortress Hong Kong faces its biggest threat in years



Group Inc. It's also been the city's biggest mortgage lender in the secondary market for the past two years, data from Centaline Mortgage Broker Ltd. show.

One of the three note-issuing banks in Hong Kong, HSBC dominates revenue share in the city - more, if one includes Hang Seng Bank. As well as mortgages, commercial banking

powers the top line.

Pretax profit at the London-based lender as a share of Hong Kong's gross domestic product dwarfs the same ratio at rest of the world's biggest banks, data compiled by Bloomberg show. While Hong Kong is far smaller than China or the U.S., it's also a regional financial hub, servicing not only China but much of the

Asia-Pacific region.

HSBC's revenue from Hong Kong accounted for one third of its global total last year. While small compared to many of the world's major markets, Hong Kong's attractiveness in banking is buoyed by its status as the world's most expensive place to buy property - a position that has contributed to the biggest

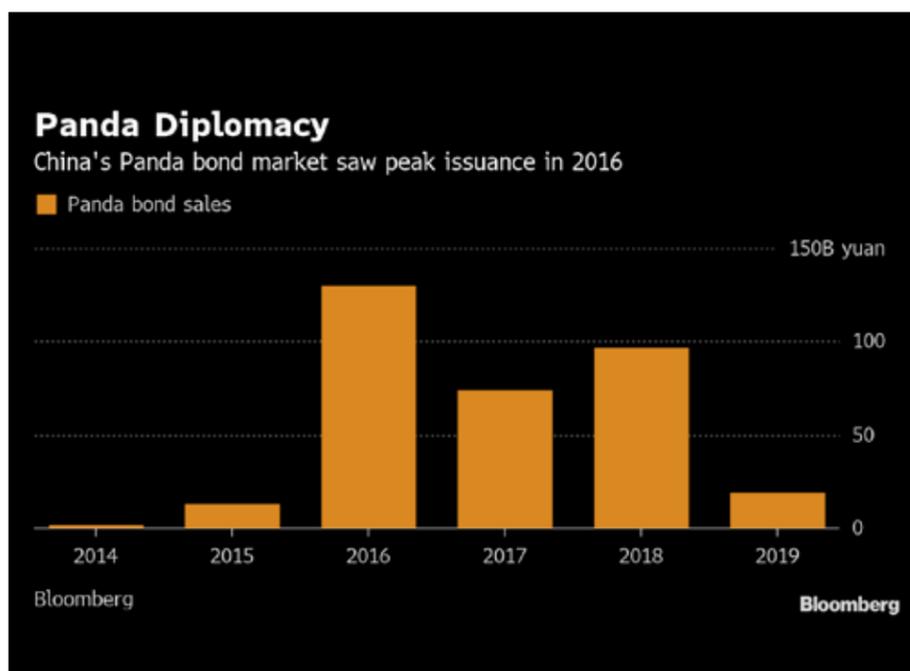
wealth gap among developed economies.

About 30 percent of the city's total banking revenue is up for grabs for the new virtual lenders, Goldman Sachs analysts said in September. That translates to roughly \$15 billion, of which \$3 billion could come from HSBC and \$1.7 billion from Hang Seng Bank, they said. **Bloomberg**

## FORUM

Ina Zhou, Bloomberg

# Austria joins Portugal in seeking to tap China's bond market



**A**USTRIA is working on plans to sell Panda bonds as it races with Portugal to become the first euro-zone country to issue debt in the Chinese currency.

Austria's Treasury Agency signed a memorandum of understanding with Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd. to cooperate on a plan for Austria's government to issue Panda bonds, according to a release dated April 28 on the official WeChat account of ICBC. The bank was named lead underwriter and bookrunner for the deal, with Bank of China and HSBC as joint lead underwriters, the statement said.

Austria would be the highest-rated sovereign to

issue Panda bonds, helping to deepen ties between the two countries, according to the statement. In December, Xinhua reported that Portugal was actively preparing to issue such bonds.

China set up the panda bond market more than a decade ago for offshore issuers of yuan debt. Issuance slumped when China devalued the yuan in 2015, igniting fears of continuous depreciation. In 2016 and 2017, authorities began opening the domestic market to help offset capital outflows and promote greater use of the yuan.

China has vowed to push ahead with opening its bond market to foreign investors, with People's Bank of China Deputy Governor Pan Gongsheng saying in January it was crucial for the development of the nation's financial markets. Bloomberg

Barclays Global Aggregate Index started adding the country's government and policy bank notes in April. There are 275 billion yuan (USD41 billion) of Panda bonds outstanding, according to Bloomberg-compiled data.

Poland was the first European sovereign to print Panda bonds in August 2016, followed by Hungary's debut offering in July, 2017.

The latest agreement was signed after a three-day Belt and Road Forum in Beijing, where leaders from 37 countries attended, including Sebastian Kurz, the Chancellor of Austria. The plan will widen the investor base for Austria's treasury bonds and encourage Chinese domestic investors to "share the fruit of its economic development," the statement said.

# Hengqin leader proposes visit restrictions eased

A government official in Hengqin has proposed providing visa-free access to foreigners who enter the island from Macau, according to a report by public broadcaster TDM.

The proposal was told by the Director of the Administration Committee of Hengqin New District, Yang Chuan, to Zhou Peng, deputy head of the economy department of the Liaison Office in Macau.

Zhou led a group to Hengqin to visit the district's special tourism project, and also to attend a talk featuring the development plan of Hengqin's international tourism and leisure island.

During the talk, Yang made several other proposals: to form a Hengqin tourism association as soon as possible; to enhance communications between Macau and Hengqin's tourism industry; to explore cooperation between the two regions' tourism industries; and to study a cross-border tourism project.



Regarding the visa-free proposal, Yang hopes that more overseas travelers who come to Macau visit Hengqin without having to apply for a Chinese visa.

Although the proposal was made, there has been no news yet concerning any visa-free access scheme for

tourists to enter Hengqin.

Previously, mainland China granted several convenient visa schemes for foreign visitors, including visa-free access to Hainan island, and a 144-hour visa-free transit facility for some cities on the mainland.

However, the above men-

tioned visa mechanisms China has issued for foreigners come with a batch of restrictions. For example, tourists who wish to use the 144-hour transit visa-free scheme are only given permission to visit certain cities in the vicinity of the port through which they entered China. **JZ**

# Guangdong to offer 144-hour visa-free transit

**STARTING** tomorrow, nationals from 53 countries can enjoy a 144-hour visa-free period when transiting through southern China's Guangdong Province.

The new move, approved by China's State Council, is an extension of the 72-hour visa-free transit policy currently adopted in the province.

They can enter Guangdong via its three airports, namely Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport, Shenzhen Bao'an International Airport and Jieyang Chaoshan International Airport, and exit via the province's 32 ports.

The policy applies to passengers from 53 countries including Britain, the United States, Australia, Japan, Denmark, France, Germany and Russia. They are required to carry effective international travel documents and have onward travel tickets with confirmed dates and seats within 144 hours.

Lin Weixiong, vice director of the Guangdong provincial public security department, said the policy was expected to attract more overseas tourists and boost tourism and civil aviation in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area.

Since 2013, the State Council has approved 72-hour visa-free transit in 18 cities for eligible international travelers and later extended the period to 144 hours in a number of cities, including Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing, Shijiazhuang and Shenyang. **Xinhua**

AD



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# iPhone co-creator says he leaves China investment to the experts

Yoolim Lee

**M**OST people wouldn't dream of leaving Bali right before the eve of Nyepi, the March new year's carnival of firecrackers and giant monster puppets, but Tony Fadell had a different party in mind.

Last month, he left his family on the Indonesian island and flew to Singapore, where he beamed as he high-fived the team running one of his investments, Impossible Foods Inc. The executives were there to commemorate their plant-based meat substitute making its way into dumplings and skewers in a handful of Singaporean restaurants, the latest step in Impossible's expansion into Asia.

Fadell, who oversaw the design of the iPod and iPhone and went on to co-found smart-thermostat maker Nest, had pride of place among the hubbub of investors and celebrity chefs.

He became an early convert and consigliere to Impossible five years ago, long before the Silicon Valley company's products could be found throughout Hong Kong and before Burger King announced the Impossible Whopper in the U.S. When he first invested, early attempts at the plantburger cost several hundred dollars to make.

Since then, the 50-year-old hardware pioneer has offered Impossible a steady stream of strategic advice and helped connect the company with potential investors and recruits, says Nick Halla, Impossible's senior vice president of international.

"This is what it's all about," Fadell says in an interview, the first about his 10 months (and counting) in Asia. "Truly important things take a long time to create."



After three decades in Silicon Valley, Fadell moved his family to Paris in 2016, where he developed a European network for his investment portfolio, Future Shape. The company has funded more than 200 startups, and Fadell is looking to up that number in Asia, visiting a startup incubator in Hyderabad and biotech labs in Singapore.

A firsthand look at how Indonesians get by without bank accounts or credit cards led him to invest in financial technology startups he declined to name. He's excited about an unnamed battery company, and evaluating startups that are trying to deal with Asia's sea of plastic garbage.

But in China, the biggest venture market after the U.S., he finds it difficult to process the sheer number of startups and is avoiding direct investments.

"China is completely different from the rest of the world, and my pattern-matching mechanism just doesn't work there," he says. "So I just left that to experts over there."

Fadell discovered his wanderlust as a young employee of Apple spinoff General Magic in the early 1990s, when business trips to Sony's Tokyo headquarters took him outside North America for the first time. "I was like, 'Whoa!'" he recalls. A few years later, he spent 16 weeks backpacking across Latin America, then traveled the Middle

East in similar fashion. "If you are a designer or entrepreneur, you have to see different ways of living," he says. "It's the sights, sounds and smells that inspire you."

The engineer went on to fortune and glory at Apple, leaving in 2010 to start Nest, the maker of internet-connected thermostats and other devices. He formed Future Shape around the time he sold Nest to Google for USD3.2 billion in 2014.

Unlike typical venture capital firms, Future Shape runs entirely on Fadell's money—a "very healthy nine figures" is as much as he'll say. That means he can both act faster and be more patient than most comparably sized investors. Eric Gilmore, the

founder of logistics-software startup Turvo Inc., says Fadell cut off his pitch with a characteristically loud "Let's go!" and got him a check within days. But that's not to say Fadell is careless. Founders he's backed describe him as extremely hands-on, with sometimes maniacal attention to detail. One says Fadell rewrites almost all of his startup's press releases.

Fadell doesn't lead financing rounds or take board seats, but when he's in, he's all in. He pushes founders at all hours via email, phone, WhatsApp, and Skype. Here's a typically wide-ranging and rapid-fire email, sent to CashShield Chief Executive Officer Justin Lie in December:

"What a great set of customer logos! How are your staffing plans coming along? Got some recruiter(s) yet? Product marketing and UI/UX any progress? Customer journey? Sales plans/strategy for 2019? Patent strategy? How was your team trip to Bali?"

Lie and other founders in the Future Shape portfolio say they appreciate Fadell's brotherly strictness, and that one of his most frequent questions is, "How can I help?" Often, that means working his Apple connections. Eric Almgren says Fadell's contacts were key to getting Foxconn Technology Group and Samsung to partner with and invest in his data-transfer company, Keyssa.

Fadell, whose home base remains Paris for now, says he's trying to pass on the lessons he learned from Bill Campbell, a longtime Apple board member who died in 2016.

"Bill always knew the right questions to ask at the right moment," he says. "He had an infectious energy that enabled him to dig deep and have the tough conversations, but also helped you see the bigger picture." Which is another way of saying, don't worry if the burger costs a few hundred bucks to make today—think about what it might be worth in a few years.

Bloomberg

## corporate bits

### SANDS CHINA HOLDS CAREER SEMINAR FOR LOCAL STUDENTS IN WUHAN



Sands China Ltd. recently held a career development briefing session in Wuhan, targeted at local residents who attend university in Hubei province's capital city.

According to a statement issued by the gaming opera-

tor, the two-day session assisted students in exploring the range of career opportunities available to them in Macau after they graduate.

Students at the briefing session learned more about the macroeconomic con-

ditions of the SAR, its integrated tourism and leisure industry, and Sands China's corporate culture.

The session attracted students from Wuhan University and the Huazhong University of Science and Technology.

Wen Hongyan, Sands China's senior vice president of human resources, said: "A career development briefing session like this helps deepen students' understanding of Macau's development prospects, employment opportunities and our company."

"We hope this event can help attract Macau students studying abroad to return to work in Macau," the executive added.

### MGM GATHERS COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO CREATE ART INSTALLATION



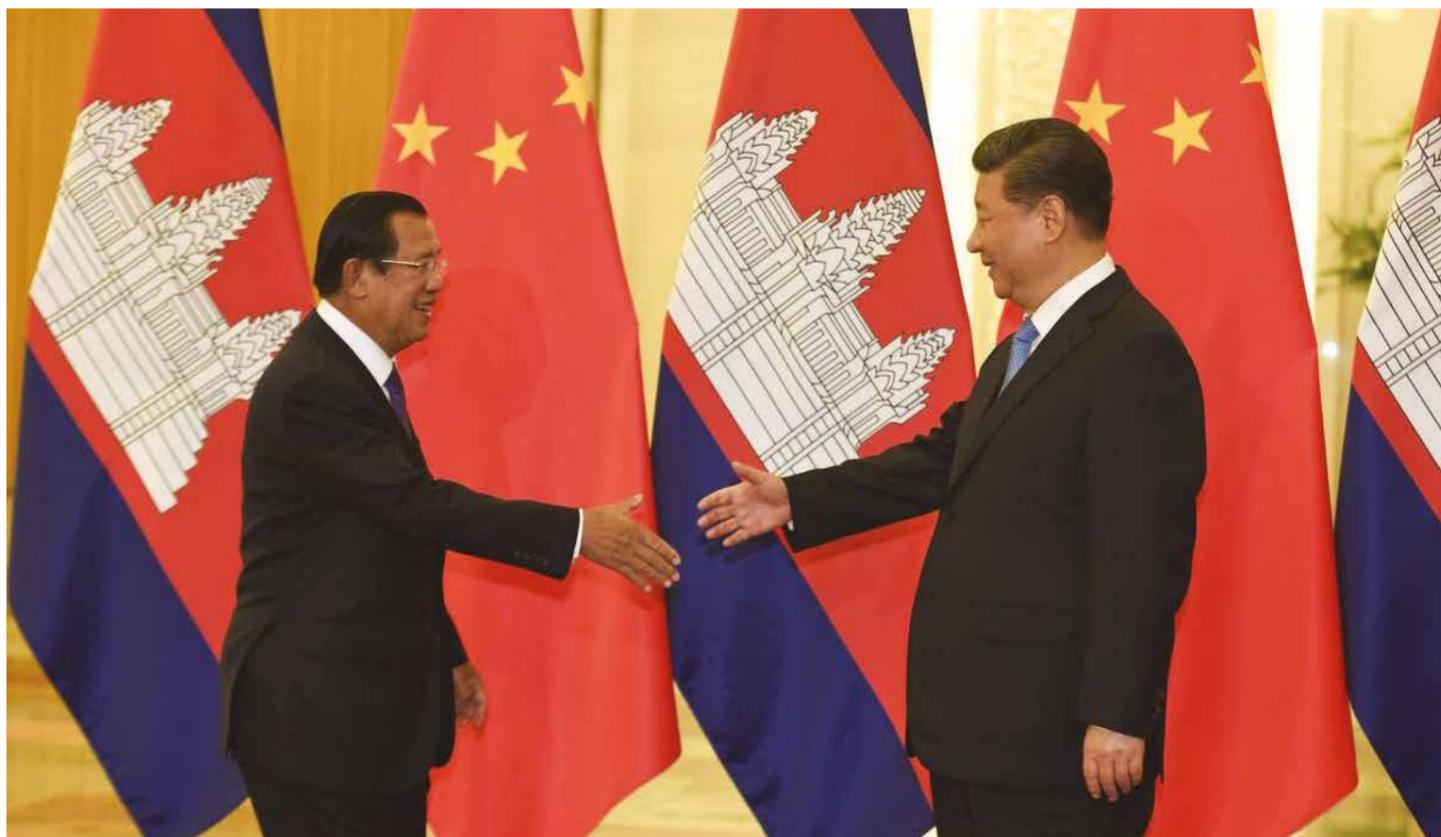
MGM recently organized "Celebrating Macau SAR 20th Anniversary, joining hearts and hands for a greater community," in which they invited several community partners to create an art installation.

The installation, titled "Together, we added colors to our community," is an engraved wooden wall installation. It features iconic historical landmarks of Macau and is decorated with 150 hand-painted wooden letter boxes created

by members of 20 local welfare organizations and MGM volunteers.

"This collaborative artwork celebrates love, passion and teamwork, and captures the city's unique East-meet-West beauty. It represents a common thread connecting MGM with the community's past, present and future," the gaming operator noted in a statement.

During the ceremony, MGM also announced its joint programs with General Union of Neighbors' Association of Macao (UGAMM), and Sheng Kung Hui Macau Social Services Coordination Office, in which they will provide assistance and support to the needy using suitable auxiliary tools and related daily necessities.



## Taiwan reports voyage of two US warships through Taiwan Strait

**T**wo U.S. warships sailed through the Taiwan Strait over the weekend, Taiwan's defense ministry said Monday, in a move that Beijing said threatened to hinder U.S.-China relations.

The ministry said the ships made the passage on Sunday, sailing from south to north through the waterway that divides the self-governing island from mainland China.

Beijing frequently objects to the movement of foreign military vessels in the strait based on its claim to Taiwan as its own territory, to be annexed by force if necessary.

Taiwan's defense ministry said U.S. ships were free to sail through the Taiwan Strait as part of their "strategic Indo-Pacific tasks." Despite the lack of formal diplomatic ties, the U.S. is a key ally of Taiwan and provider of defensive weapons.

China has been increasingly willing to protest actions by foreign militaries in areas it considers its home waters or sphere of influence. That especially applies to the Taiwan Strait and South China Sea, which China claims almost in its entirety.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said Monday that China has expressed concern to the U.S. about the warships.

The U.S. should handle Taiwan-related issues "prudently" in order to avoid negatively impacting its relationship with China, Geng said, adding that "the Taiwan issue is the most important and sensitive issue in Sino-U.S. relations."

Last week, Beijing complained to France about a French warship traversing the Taiwan Strait, and blamed British naval activity in the South China Sea for a downturn in bilateral relations.

China's defense ministry said the French warship entered its territorial waters, but China's recognition of the boundary between territorial and international waters is often blurred. China has sought to restrict the activities of foreign militaries in its surrounding waters and maintains its own interpretation of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which defines the rights and responsibilities of nations sailing the world's oceans. **AP**

## Gov't to help Cambodia if EU pulls tariff agreement, PM Says

Philip J. Heijmans

**C**HINA has pledged to help Cambodia if the European Union moves forward with its threat to withdraw its lucrative tariff agreement, the Southeast Asian country's leader said.

The announcement, posted to Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen's Facebook page at the conclusion of a five-day visit to Beijing on Monday, followed meetings with both President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Keqiang. He did not specify what the agreement entails.

One of China's biggest supporters in Asia, Cambodia has come under attack by its traditional western partners in recent years for undermining democracy and alleged human-rights violations.

Last year Hun Sen extended his 33-year-rule in what was widely regarded as a sham election, prompting the EU in February to trigger an 18-month process for withdrawing Cambodia's tariff-free access for most goods under the "Everything But Arms" initiative. Hun Sen, meanwhile, blasted the EU for interfering in his coun-

try's internal affairs.

If the EU follows through on its threat to withdraw from the trade agreement it could devastate Cambodia's USD5 billion garment sector, the country's largest industry employing some 750,000 people.

In addition to the promise of protective aid, Hun Sen also returned home from China with an \$89 million package to bolster Cambodia's military and a preliminary contract with mobile telecommunications giant Huawei Technologies Co. to develop a 5G network.

China has invested vast sums of capital to bolster the Cambodian economy in recent years. By far the country's largest foreign investor, China has provided \$12.6 billion in foreign investment from 1994 to mid-2018, according to the Council for the Development of Cambodia.

Most recently, China funded a \$2 billion expressway linking the capital Phnom Penh to coastal Sihanoukville as part of China's ambitious Belt and Road infrastructure initiative. That project broke ground in March. **Bloomberg**

### DRUG SMUGGLING

## Court sentences six foreigners for drugs; Canadian gets death

Yanan Wang, Beijing

**A** court in southern China handed down sentences yesterday to at least six foreigners involved in an international methamphetamine operation, including a Canadian given the death penalty.

The Jiangmen Intermediate People's Court in southern Guangdong province sentenced 11 people who produced more than 63 kilograms of methamphetamine,

an illegal drug.

Among them were one American and four Mexicans, who were all given life sentences or death sentences suspended by a period of two years. The court statement did not make clear which individual received what sentence, nor did it give their full names.

The Canadian sentenced to death was identified as "Fan Wei," but it was unclear whether that's the person's legal name. A person identi-

fied as Wu Ziping, whose nationality was not specified, was also handed the death sentence.

The sentence is likely to further strain Sino-Canadian relations, which have frayed since Canada arrested a Chinese tech executive last December at the request of the U.S. Since then, China has detained two Canadians and delayed some Canadian exports in apparent retaliation.

According to the court, Fan Wei and Wu conspi-

red to manufacture and sell the drugs in 2012, and brought the others — described as "drug-making technicians" — on board. Between July and November of that year, the court says, the group set up a "den" in Guangdong's Taishan city, where they produced and sold more than 63 kilograms of methamphetamine and 365.9 grams of dimethylamphetamine.

A court employee reached by phone declined

to give further details on the case.

In a separate drug smuggling case, China sentenced Canadian Robert Lloyd Schellenberg to death in a sudden retrial January — one month after Canadians Michael Kovrig and Michael Spavor were detained on vague national security allegations. The moves were widely seen as punishment for Canada's arrest of Meng Wanzhou, chief financial officer of the Chinese telecom company Huawei.

China has also suspended the license of two major Canadian canola exporters, alleging that officials discovered hazardous organisms in canola seed shipments. **AP**

Sam McNeil, Beijing

## TRADE

# Mnuchin hopes for 'substantial progress' in China talks

**U**.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said yesterday he hopes for "substantial progress" in talks with Chinese officials aimed at ending a tariff war over Beijing's technology ambitions.

Mnuchin and Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer were to have a working dinner and then meet today with Chinese negotiators to discuss the standoff between the two biggest global economies, which has rattled financial markets.

"We hope to make substantial progress," Mnuchin told reporters.

The secretary said he wouldn't talk about specific issues but said, "we've made a lot of progress."

A Chinese team is scheduled to visit Washington next week for another round of negotiations.

Mnuchin expressed hope Monday the two sets of talks will progress enough for U.S. officials to recommend to President Donald Trump whether to make a deal with Beijing.

President Donald Trump raised U.S. duties on USD250 billion of Chinese imports in response to complaints Beijing steals or pressures companies to hand over technology.

Washington is pressing China to scale back plans for government-led creation of globally competitive companies with advanced technologies in robotics and other fields. Beijing's trading partners say such support violates its market-opening

AP PHOTO



U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin (left) upon his arrival at a hotel in Beijing

commitments.

Beijing has retaliated by raising import duties on \$110 billion in U.S. goods.

Financial markets have been steadied by statements from both governments that they are making progress, but no formal agreements have been announced.

The negotiators are still discussing how to ensure that Beijing would adhere to whatever commitments it makes, and whether the Trump administration would keep tariffs on Chinese imports to maintain leverage over Beijing.

Mnuchin told Fox Business Network that an enforcement

mechanism just "needs a little bit of fine tuning."

U.S. officials and businesses assert that China has failed to keep past promises concerning its trade practices.

Trump also wants to narrow America's huge trade deficit with China — \$379 billion last year — by pressing Beijing to

agree to accept more U.S. exports.

Critics worry any agreement might hurt other countries by shifting Chinese demand away from them. They also worry it might marginalize the World Trade Organization, which is meant to enforce global free trade rules for everybody. **AP**

## Xi urges youth to embrace nationalism on key anniversary

**P**RESIDENT Xi Jinping urged China's youth to maintain self-reliance in a nationalist-themed address to mark the 100th anniversary of a popular uprising against the government's failure to stop foreign interference.

Xi spoke before an audience of young Chinese in Beijing yesterday, ahead of the anniversary of the May Fourth Movement, during which college students led mass protests in the capital. The demonstrations were triggered by negotiations in France over how to divvy up Germany's colonial possessions, with Chinese settlements such as the port of Qingdao - then Tsingtao - going to Japan.

Xi presented the ruling Communist Party as the legitimate heir to the aspirations of the May Fourth - and a China in which patriotism and revolutionary

AP PHOTO



fervor are best channeled through the ruling party. The movement played a part in inspiring later protests, including the Tiananmen Square demonstrations 30 years ago.

"The youth of the new

era must maintain composure in the face of external temptations, uphold the rules," Xi told a crowd that including top party leaders at the Great Hall the People. "Refuse to be opportunistic and

stay away from thinking oneself too clever. Think about where your happiness comes from and understand how to repay it with a grateful heart. Thank the party, thank the country and thank society

and the people."

"Through the May Fourth Movement, the youth of China discovered their own power. The Chinese people and the Chinese nation discovered their own power," Xi said.

He added that the Chinese people "have unprecedented confidence in their path, in their theory, in their system, and in their culture," a reference to the doctrine of self-confidence that has been part of his efforts to centralize power.

Xi is tightening his grip on power ahead of a series of politically sensitive anniversaries for the country. June 4 will mark 30 years since the bloody Tiananmen massacre, whose commemoration will be prohibited. The 70th anniversary of Mao Zedong's founding of the People's Republic of China, in October, will be widely celebrated.

**KEY ANNIVERSARY**

The student-led movement against the Treaty of Versailles talks helped

inspired future communist revolutionaries including a young Mao and Zhou Enlai, and modeled the kind of grassroots patriotism the party has long hoped to inculcate in the country's youth.

But spontaneous student protests are hardly something the government wants to encourage just a month before the anniversary of Tiananmen, which saw tanks quash student-led calls for democracy. The party has spent almost three decades teaching the virtues of patriotism after launching a patriotic education campaign in the aftermath of Tiananmen.

In his speech, Xi called on young Chinese to integrate their "narrow conceptions of themselves into a broader conception of the nation."

"China's youth must continue to uphold the spirit of May Fourth and take the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation as their duty," Xi said. **Bloomberg**



Soldiers return to their base following an operation searching for explosives and suspects tied to a local group of Islamic State militants in Kalmunai

# Sri Lanka lifts social media ban imposed after Easter blasts

**Bharatha Mallawarachi & Krishan Francis, Colombo**

SRI Lanka's president lifted a nationwide ban on social media sites yesterday, a day after he used emergency powers to ban veils worn by conservative Muslim women as part of a security

clampdown following Easter suicide bomb attacks.

President Maithripala Sirisena ended the blocking of Facebook, WhatsApp, YouTube and other popular sites, but asked the public to "act in a responsible manner" on social media, according to a government statement.

The government had said it was seeking to curb the spread of misinformation when it blocked social media in the wake of the April 21 bombings at churches and luxury hotels that killed 253 people.

Sri Lankan officials have warned that suspects linked

to the attacks are still at large.

On Monday, the Islamic State group's shadowy leader claimed to appear for the first time in five years in video released by the extremist group's propaganda arm. Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, to whom the suicide bombers in the Easter attacks apparently pledged their loyalty, claimed the bombings in Sri Lanka were "part of the revenge" that awaits the West.

Authorities initially blamed the attacks, targeting three hotels and three churches, on a local militant named Mohammed Zahran and his followers. Then the Islamic State group on April 23 released images of Zahran and others pledging their loyalty to al-Baghdadi.

Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith, the archbishop of Colombo and the Catholic Church's top official on the island, has been a vocal critic of the government's apparent failure to share near-specific intelligence on the Easter plot and some of the suspects involved.

Ranjith told reporters that the ban on niqab, a black veil made of thin fabric, often with a small opening from which a woman's eyes can peer out, was a good step. AP

## NEW ZEALAND

# Police arrest man after finding suspected bomb

NEW Zealand police said they arrested a 33-year-old man yesterday after they found ammunition and a package containing a suspected explosive device at a vacant property in Christchurch.

The city is where a gunman killed 50 people at two mosques on March 15. Police said at the time that the gunman had a number of weapons as well as two improvised explosive devices in his car. Police have not yet said whether they think the latest incident has any link with the March attack.

Police Superintendent John Price said in a statement Tuesday that a defense force bomb squad had rendered the package safe.

Police evacuated a number of nearby houses and temporarily imposed a no-fly zone as the incident unfolded. They removed the cordons Tuesday evening.

A 28-year-old Australian, Brenton Tarrant, has been charged with 50 counts of murder and 39 counts of attempted murder in the March mosque attacks. Tarrant has not yet entered a plea and remains in a high-security prison in Auckland pending his next court appearance on June 14. AP

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Emperor Akihito (right) leaves after a ritual to report his abdication to the throne at the Imperial Palace yesterday.

# Emperor announces abdication as Japan marks end of era

Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

**J**APANESE Emperor Akihito announced his abdication at a palace ceremony yesterday in his final address, as the nation embraced the end of his reign with reminiscence and hope for a new era.

"Today, I am concluding my duties as the emperor," Akihito said as he stood in front of the throne, as other members of the royal family and top government officials watched.

"Since ascending the throne 30 years ago, I have performed my duties as the emperor with a deep sense of trust in and respect for the people, and I consider myself most fortunate to have been able to do so. I sincerely thank the people who accepted and supported me in my role as the symbol of the state," Akihito said in his last official duty as emperor.

His reign runs through midnight, when his son Crown Prince Naruhito becomes the new emperor and his era begins.

Naruhito will ascend the Chrysanthemum throne today. In a separate ceremony he will receive the imperial regalia of sword and jewel as well as imperial seals as proof of his succession as the nation's 126th emperor, according to the official palace count, which historians say could include mythical figures until around the 5th century.

Many people gathered outside the palace compound hours before the abdication ceremony despite unseasonably wet and cold weather, and even though they are not allowed to look inside.

"We came because today is the last day of [the emperor's era of] Heisei, and we feel nostalgic," said Akemi Yamauchi, 55, standing outside the palace with her husband.

"We like the current emperor. He has worked hard for the people, he is very thoughtful, and kind to everyone," said her husband, Kaname. The couple came from Kyoto, Japan's ancient capital where emperors lived until about 150 years ago.

Messages have come from global leaders.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in expressed gratitude in a letter to Akihito for his emphasis on peace and contributions to developing relations between Seoul and Tokyo. U.S. President Donald Trump expressed "appreciation" for his contribution to the two countries' close relations. Trump had a courtesy meeting with Akihito during his 2017 Japan visit and will be the first foreign leader in May to meet the new emperor.

Japanese television talk shows displayed a countdown to the midnight transition, and programming was dominated by the abdication and looking back

at major events in Akihito's era, including the 2011 tsunami, a deadly earthquake in Kobe in 1995, and the Tokyo subway nerve gas attack in 1995 that shook Japan's sense of safety and confidence.

Security was extremely tight around the palace and across downtown Tokyo with thousands of police mobilized. Police arrested a man on Monday night on suspicion of placing a pair of kitchen knives last week on the school desk used by Akihito's grandson.

**■ Akihito took the throne in 1989 and devoted his career to making amends for a war fought in his father's name**

Akihito, 85, took the throne in 1989 and devoted his career to making amends for a war fought in his father's name while bringing the aloof monarchy closer to the people.

With his commoner-born wife, Empress Michiko, he reached out to the people, especially

those who faced handicaps and discrimination, as well as those hit by disasters, illuminating the hardships of people often overlooked by society. Akihito was the first emperor to marry a commoner, one of many changes he brought to the palace. The couple also chose to raise their three children instead of leaving them with palace staff, and decided to be cremated upon their deaths in a smaller tomb side by side, also a tradition-breaking step.

Jeff Kingston, Asian studies director at Temple University, Japan Campus, says Akihito has served Japan's "chief emissary of reconciliation," while acting as "consoler in chief" in reaching out to the people. Akihito was also a "strong advocate of the vulnerable and the marginalized in the Japanese society," he said. "I think the people really warmed to him and felt that the monarchy was relevant to their lives because of these efforts by Akihito."

Recent media surveys have shown public support for the imperial family at 80%, the highest ever for the institution.

Such respect did not come overnight. Akihito grew up during World War II and was 11 when his father Hirohito announced the end of the war on radio. Akihito embraced his role as peacemaker and often represented his father on reconciliatory missions as young crown prince,

decades before he became the emperor himself.

He is the first emperor in Japan's modern history whose era did not have a war. Though he has avoided outright apologies, he has stepped up his expressions of regret in carefully scripted statements on the war.

Akihito visited China in 1992 and offered what was considered the strongest expression of regret over the war. He has also visited the Philippines and other Pacific islands conquered by Japan that were devastated in fierce fighting as the U.S.-led allies took them back.

That leaves his son Naruhito — the first emperor born after the World War II — largely free of the burden of wartime legacy, allowing him to seek his own role. Naruhito has said he would largely emulate his father's pacifist stance and compassion for the people, but also said he hopes to seek a role of his own, possibly in issues related to water, which he studied Oxford University in the early 1980s. That, or disaster resilience, or environment, could appeal more to his people who are predominantly from postwar generations.

Akihito will be known as the emperor emeritus and will no longer have official duties after he abdicates. He won't even attend his son's succession rituals so as not to interfere with the serving emperor.

Akihito is expected to enjoy his retirement, going to museums and concerts, or spending time on his goby research at a seaside Imperial villa. Akihito and Michiko will move to a temporary royal residence before eventually switching places with Naruhito. **AP**

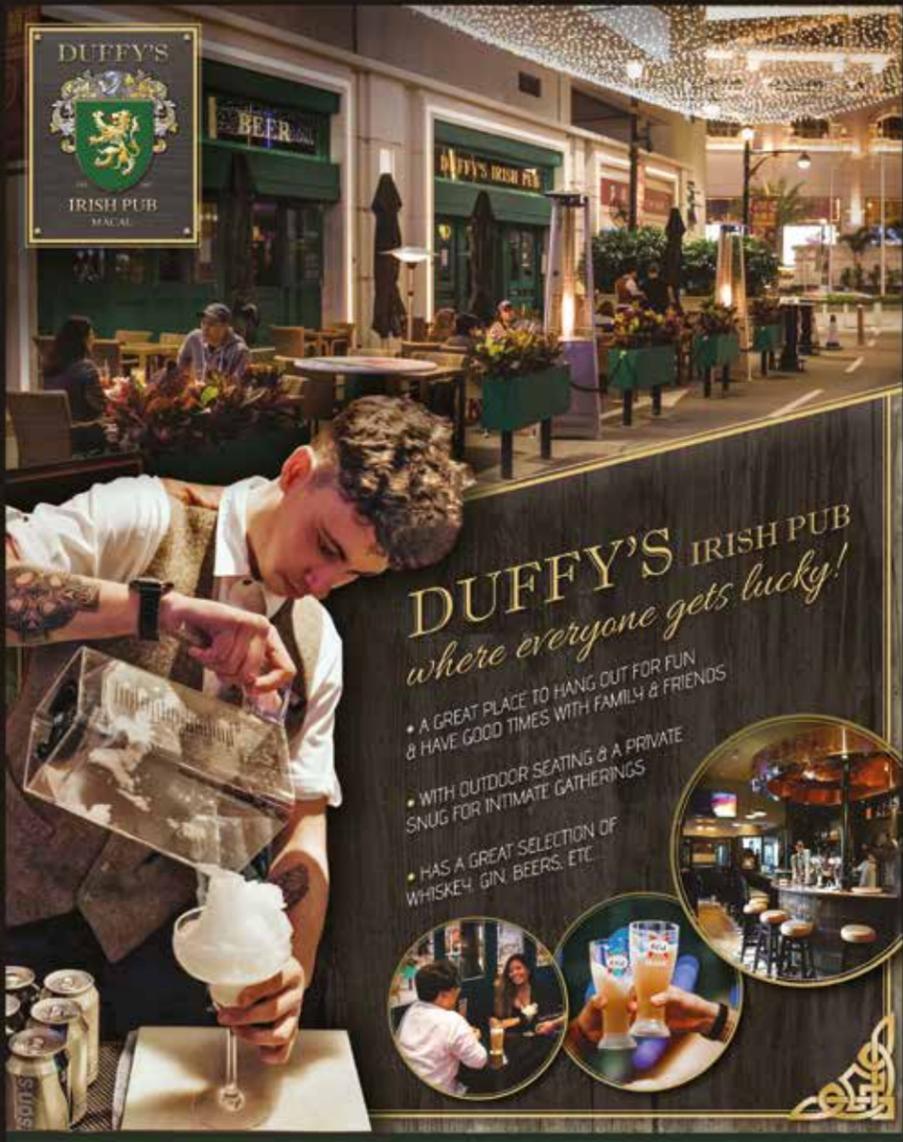


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US

# Trump sues banks to block House subpoenas for records

Michael Balsamo, Washington

**P**RESIDENT Donald Trump, his family and the Trump Organization filed a lawsuit against Deutsche Bank and Capital One in an attempt to block congressional subpoenas seeking their banking and financial records.

The lawsuit by Trump, sons Donald Jr. and Eric and daughter Ivanka was filed yesterday [local time] in federal court in New York. The Trump Organization and the Donald J. Trump Revocable Trust are among the other plaintiffs.

Two House committees subpoenaed Deutsche Bank and several other financial institutions earlier this month as part of investigations into the Republican president's finances.

House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff, D-Calif., said at the time that the subpoenas were part of an investigation "into allegations of potential foreign influence



on the U.S. political process." He has said he wants to know whether Russians used laundered money for transactions with the Trump Organization. Trump's businesses have benefited from Russian investment over the years.

The Trumps want a federal judge to declare the subpoenas unlawful and unenforceable. The lawsuit also seeks to block

the financial institutions from disclosing information and complying with the subpoenas.

"The subpoenas were issued to harass President Donald J. Trump, to rummage through every aspect of his personal finances, his businesses, and the private information of the President and his family, and to ferret about for any mate-

rial that might be used to cause him political damage," the lawsuit said.

The suit also charges that the congressional committees — the House intelligence committee and the House Financial Services Committee — "ignored the constitutional limits on Congress' power to investigate" and that the subpoenas "lack any legitimate

legislative purpose."

When the subpoenas were issued April 15, Eric Trump, executive vice president of The Trump Organization, called the subpoenas "an unprecedented abuse of power and simply the latest attempt by House Democrats to attack the President and our family for political gain."

Deutsche Bank, a German asset management firm, has lent Trump's real estate organization millions of dollars over time.

**■ The Trumps want a federal judge to declare the subpoenas unlawful and unenforceable**

"We remain committed to providing appropriate information to all authorized investigations and will abide by a court order regarding such investigations," Deutsche Bank spokeswoman Kerrie McHugh said in a statement.

Capital One did not immediately respond to a request for comment. **AP**

POLITICAL CRISIS

## Venezuela's Guaidó takes to streets in military uprising

Scott Smith, Caracas

**V**ENEZUELAN opposition leader Juan Guaidó took to the streets with activist Leopoldo Lopez and a small contingent of heavily armed soldiers yesterday in a bold call for the military to rise up and oust socialist leader Nicolas Maduro.

"I want to tell the Venezuelan people: This is the moment to take to the streets and accompany these patriotic soldiers," said Lopez in his first public appearance since being detained in 2014 for leading anti-government protests. "Everyone should come to the streets, in peace."

Lopez said he has been freed by members of the military responding to an order by Guaidó, whom the U.S. and dozens of other governments recognize as Venezuela's rightful leader.

As Lopez spoke, the-



re were sporadic efforts with tear gas to break up the protesters who gathered on a highway overpass in wealthier eastern Caracas. It appeared to have been fired from inside the Carlota air base. But more people gathered as they sensed what could be their strongest opportunity yet to overthrow the government.

"It's now or never," said one of the young soldiers, his face covered in the blue bandanna preferred by the few dozen soldiers

who stood alongside Guaidó and Lopez.

Socialist party boss Diosdado Cabello downplayed the significance of the rebellion, saying most of Caracas was in complete calm. He called on government supporters to amass at the presidential palace to defend Maduro from what he said was a U.S.-backed coup attempt.

The tumultuous events started when Guaidó appeared in an early morning video shot next

to the air base. He was surrounded by the heavily armed soldiers backed by a few armored vehicles

Guaidó said soldiers who had taken to the streets were protecting Venezuela's constitution.

Venezuelan Information Minister Jorge Rodríguez said on Twitter that Maduro's government is confronting a small "coup attempt" led by military "traitors" backed by right-wing opponents. **AP**

TURKEY

## Rights group: 3,000 prisoners on hunger strike

**T**HE number of prisoners who have joined a hunger strike to press Turkish authorities to end the isolation in jail of Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan has increased to close to 3,000, a human rights group said yesterday.

Human Rights Association head Ozturk Turkdogan told The Associated Press that a total of 2,983 people in 90 prisons across Turkey are refusing food in protest of jail conditions for Ocalan, whose family members and lawyers have reportedly been denied visits.

Hunger strikers in Turkey traditionally refuse food

but take vitamins and salt and sugar solutions, which help prolong life.

Turkdogan said 15 of the hunger strikers are now also refusing vitamins.

Ocalan, the leader of the outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party, or PKK, has been serving a life prison term on Imrali island, near Istanbul, since 1999. His group is considered a terror organization by Turkey and its western allies.

Turkdogan's group says Ocalan has not seen his lawyers since 2011 while pro-Kurdish legislators last visited him in 2015. His brother was allowed a half-hour visit on Jan. 12.

Ocalan has in the past conveyed messages to his rebel group through his lawyers.

Hundreds of Kurdish inmates ended a similar hunger strike in 2012, heeding a call by Ocalan.

Turkish authorities have not commented publicly on the hunger strikes. **AP**

## what's ON



## SEE SAW ZINE?

TIME: 12pm-8pm (closed on Tuesdays)  
UNTIL: July 12, 2019  
VENUE: Taipa Village Art Space  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2857 6212

## STROLLING AND FEELING: WATERCOLOUR PAINTINGS OF LAI IENG

TIME: 10am-7pm (no admittance after 6:30pm; closed on Mondays)  
UNTIL: June 16, 2019  
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art  
ADMISSION: Free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

## STAMPS AROUND THE WORLD - LIECHTENSTEIN, KINGDOM OF STAMPS

TIME: 9am-5:30pm (closed on public holidays)  
UNTIL: May 31, 2019  
VENUE: Temporary Gallery, Communications Museum  
ADMISSION: MOP10  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2871 8063

## PHOTO-SCRIPTS

TIME: 10am-7pm (closed on Mondays)  
UNTIL: June 2, 2019  
VENUE: Contemporary Art Center - Navy Yard No.1  
ADMISSION: Free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4000

## 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

## Offbeat

## WANDERING HORSE: STROLLING MARE CAUSES STIR IN FRANKFURT



Not far from the glass and steel towers of Germany's banking capital, a 22-year-old Arabian mare is causing a stir with her languid daily strolls through a Frankfurt neighborhood.

Owner Werner Weischedel says his old nag Jenny, who's recently found social media fame after a local news show about it went viral, has been taking her 20-kilometer daily jaunts for 14 years - preferring to escape the confines of her home field to nibble on tasty vegetation on the Main river banks.

"Everybody knows her," the 79-year-old said yesterday.

Jenny ambles along cobblestone streets and pedestrian paths, avoiding joggers, families and vehicles.

Surprised newcomers occasionally call authorities, so she wears a note on her neck: "My name is Jenny, I didn't run away, I'm just going for a walk."

## TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repetição)
13:30	Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
15:00	12.12.12: O Concerto para Auxilio ao Ciclone Sandy
17:00	Conferência de Imprensa do Presidente da República de Portugal (Directo)
18:00	No Ar
18:30	Linha da Frente
19:00	TDM Entrevista (Repetição)
19:35	Os Nossos Dias Sr.2
20:30	Telejornal
21:15	Montra do Lilau
21:50	LiteraturAqui
22:20	Network Negócios
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Resumo Liga dos Campeões 2018/2019
00:10	Júlio Pereira ao Vivo em Macau
01:05	Telejornal (Repetição)
01:50	RTPi Directo

## cinema



## CINETEATRO

24 Apr - 01 May

## AVENGERS: ENDGAME

ROOM 1  
2:30, 5:45, 9:00pm  
ROOM 2  
4:15pm

Director: Anthony Russo, Joe Russo  
Starring: Brie Larson, Scarlett Johansson, Karen Gillan  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 181min

## P STORM

ROOM 2  
2:15, 7:30, 9:30pm  
Director: David Lam  
Starring: Chrissie Chau, Louis Koo, Kevin Cheng  
Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)  
Duration: 96min



## WONDER PARK

ROOM 3  
2:15, 5:45pm  
Director: Dylan Brown  
Starring: Sofia Mali, Jennifer Garner, Ken Hudson  
Language: Cantonese  
Duration: 85min

## THE QUEEN'S CORGI

ROOM 3  
4:00, 7:30pm  
Director: Vincent Kesteloot, Ben Stassen  
Starring: Jack Whitehall, Julie Walters, Tom Courtenay  
Language: Cantonese  
Duration: 85min

## HOTEL MUMBAI

ROOM 3  
9:30pm  
Director: Anthony Maras  
Starring: Dev Patel, Armie Hammer, Nazanin Boniadi  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 123min

## this day in history



## 1973 THOUSANDS STRIKE OVER PAY AND PRICES

About 1.6 million workers joined the Trades Union Congress' call for a one-day strike today in protest at the government's pay restraint policy and price rises.

The worst affected industries were the railways, car manufacturing, newspaper production, mining and docks.

Despite the large turn-out many of the big unions voted against industrial action and thousands of workers carried on working when they could. Many were sent home as factories closed because essential staff were on strike and many more simply could not get to work due to transport problems.

Almost all rail services were disrupted or halted after the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef) stopped work.

The much larger National Union of Railwaymen had voted against strike action but its members were unable to operate services with their Aslef co-workers.

The rail strike affected the Post Office and has resulted in a huge backlog of mail - even though members of the two largest Post Office unions did not join the day of action.

British Leyland car plants were severely hit by the strike by engineering workers in the Midlands, North-West and Scotland.

Vauxhall, Ford and Chrysler plants were also at a standstill losing the companies millions of pounds.

Other major engineering factories affected were Rolls-Royce at Bristol, GEC at Trafford Park, Manchester, Hawker Siddeley and British Aircraft Corporation in the North-West and Dunlop tyres at Birmingham and Speke.

British Steel Corporation saw 30,000 of its 230,000 workers walk out and 113 of the National Coal Board's 281 pits were on strike with further support for the action in South Wales and Scotland.

Strikes were accompanied by huge protest rallies in London, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool and Glasgow.

In Liverpool, the leader of the Transport and General Workers Union, Jack Jones, told supporters: "The government would be foolish to ignore the very sincere feelings not only of those protesting today but those millions of others who are fed up with the way prices are continuing to rise."

A new round of talks is due to take place later this month between the government and the TUC over counter-inflation measures.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

The then Conservative government under Edward Heath had a policy of limiting wage increases to control rising inflation.

This policy was legally enforced but under Harold Wilson's Labour government which won the election of 1974, pay increases were limited by voluntary agreement with the unions.

That year, the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) was set up to help settle industrial disputes.

But food and house prices still managed to outstrip wage rises and labour unrest continued on into 1979 and the infamous "winter of discontent" when strikes crippled the country.

Prolonged industrial action discredited not only the unions but also the Labour Party with which they were associated. They had much to do with Labour losing the 1979 election leading to a prolonged period of Conservative rule under Margaret Thatcher.

Her government imposed major restrictions on the unions in the 1980s and made secret ballots before a strike compulsory. "New" Labour has loosened its traditional links with the unions in the mid-1990s.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 The Moon is urging everyone to make time for romance...

Taurus April 20-May 20 You're still trying to figure out what to do about the current situation at work...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Of course, you know that there's really no such thing as a coincidence...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You've been playing this for what seems like forever: your family's honorary peacemaker...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 The past couple of weeks have been 'interesting,' one might say...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Ready to go over your finances? Well, good. Of course, you may have ulterior motives...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 Your emotions are right there on your face, for all the world to see...

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 That feeling you've had recently? That this might not be the very best moment...

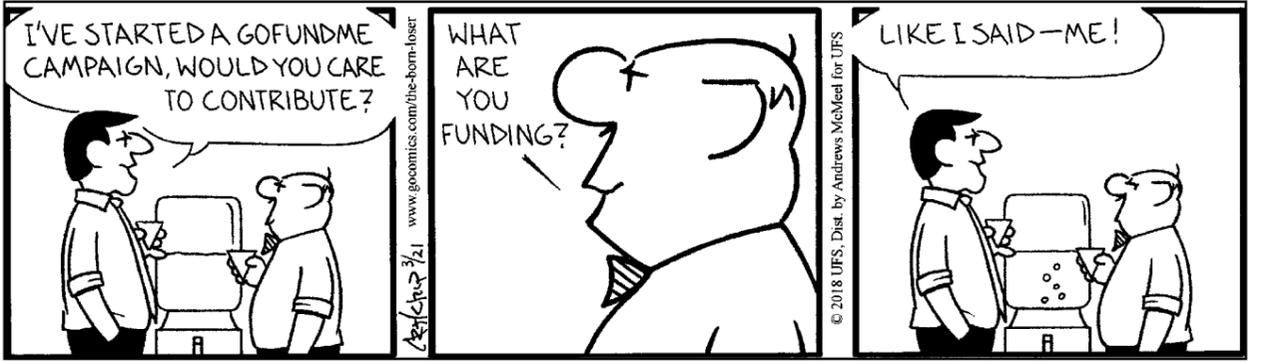
Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 The full moon may be waning, but your enthusiasm certainly isn't.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 If ever there was a time that's perfect for you to figure out a plan...

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You don't have to sit there any longer. It's time for someone to tell you exactly what they think of you...

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You believe that you've spent far too long on this project, waiting for someone to come around...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 Sudoku grid for 'Easy' difficulty.

Easy+

9x9 Sudoku grid for 'Easy+' difficulty.

Medium

9x9 Sudoku grid for 'Medium' difficulty.

Hard

9x9 Sudoku grid for 'Hard' difficulty.

WEATHER

Weather forecast table with columns for MIN, MAX, and CONDITION for various cities in China and the World.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Engine parts; 5- Suffer; 8- Sentry's shout; 12- Heavenly hunter; 14- Fairy tale beginning; 15- Melange; 16- Chili con ...; 17- From the top; 18- Evergreen tree; 19- Skin emollient; 21- Chauffeur; 23- Jerk; 24- U-turn from WSW; 25- Slip a cog; 26- Series of ten; 30- Shorthand whiz; 32- Hotpoint rival; 33- Entertainment; 37- Actor O'Shea; 38- Vehicles with runners; 39- "A Death in the Family" writer James; 40- Greek philosopher; 42- Beach locale; 43- Convocation of witches; 44- Logic; 45- Period; 48- Part of ETA; 49- Pay-...-view; 50- Adventurous expedition; 52- Directed toward one's residence; 57- Scissors sound; 58- Breyers rival; 60- I swear!; 61- Gillette brand; 62- Big book; 63- Silk dye; 64- Belgian river; 65- Urge; 66- Diet successfully;

DOWN: 1- Caesar's partner; 2- Shrinking sea of Asia; 3- Joan of art; 4- Unit of loudness; 5- Oscar winner Paquin; 6- Swelling reducer; 7- Lubricity; 8- Kachina doll carver; 9- Animated; 10- Cruise ship; 11- It's human; 13- Gambling state; 14- Dingly pair; 20- Legal ending; 22- Russo of "Tin Cup"; 24- Piano piece; 26- Lady of Spain; 27- Chieftain, usually in Africa; 28- Colombian city; 29- Win by ...; 30- Refine metal; 31- Mutual of ...; 33- Sacrifice site; 34- Swelled heads; 35- Pianist Peter; 36- Adolescent; 38- Temperance; 41- Winter Palace ruler; 42- Tranquil; 44- Dreamer's acronym; 45- Sontag composition; 46- Talks wildly; 47- Ablaze; 49- Model's stance; 51- On ... with: equal to; 52- Song in praise of God; 53- Fleece; 54- ...-ran; 55- Reformer Jacob; 56- Sand hill by the sea; 59- Buck's mate;



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Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
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Airport 59 888 88



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[Taipa] Choi Long Meng Chui 3 3 3
3,398 ft² \$17,800,000 (ref: 18045555)
[Taipa] Hellene Gardens 3 3 3
1,663 ft² \$8,990,000 (ref: 18085559)
[Taipa] Nice Court 3 2 2
1,600 ft² \$8,980,000 (ref: 19045002)

FOR RENT

- [Taipa] Manhattan 3 2 2
1,366 ft² \$24,800/mth (ref: 19030002)
[Taipa] Ocean Garden 4 4 4
3,700 ft² \$35,000/mth (ref: 18040674)
[Taipa] Nova Park 2 2 2
1,134 ft² \$16,400/mth (ref: 17020638)
[Macau] Office
1,813 ft² \$21,000/mth (ref: 19010699)

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# BUNNY NIGHTS

EVERY WEDNESDAY

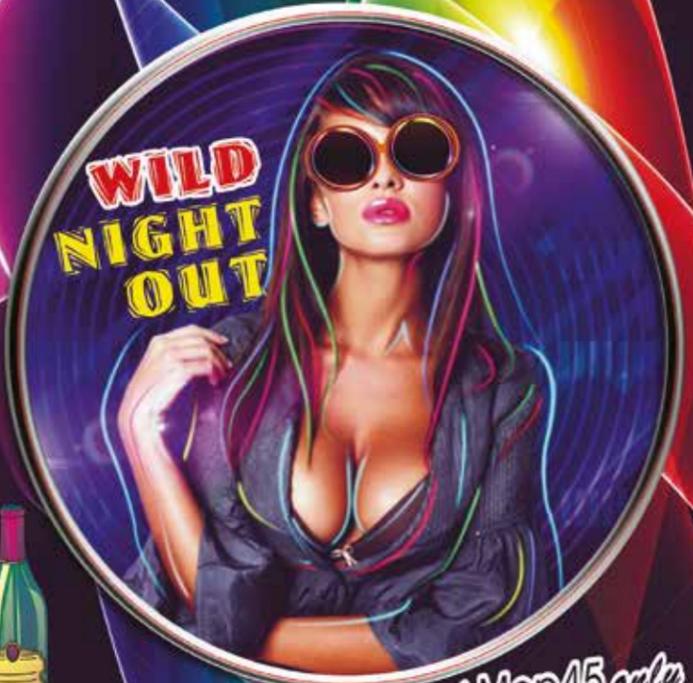


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AP PHOTO



Tottenham Hotspur's Son Heung-min

## FOOTBALL | CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

# No Madrid, no Ronaldo: Fresh feel for semis

Steve Douglas

Thursday, 3:00am  
Barcelona v Liverpool  
H 1.95, D 3.8, A 4.2

**T**HERE'S a fresh feel to the lineup for the Champions League semifinals this season, even if it contains some of the most storied teams and recognized players in Europe.

This time there's no Real Madrid, the three-time defending champion and Europe's dominant team of this generation.

There's no Cristiano Ronaldo, the superstar forward who has virtually made this competition his own in recent years.

And there's no Juventus, Bayern Munich and Atletico Madrid — frequent last-four representatives of late.

Instead, the survivors this year in the biggest club competition in world soccer are a surprise package from England, a blast from the past from the Netherlands, and two more aristocrats of the European game looking to end lean spells in the Champions League — by their lofty standards, anyway.

Few could have foreseen one of the semifinal matchups being Tottenham vs. Ajax.

Tottenham hasn't bought a player in the last two transfer windows, needed a last-gasp draw at Barcelona's Camp Nou to get out of its group, and has

beaten Borussia Dortmund and Manchester City to reach its first European Cup semifinal in 57 years.

Hailing from the largely ignored Dutch league, Ajax is back in the semis for the first time since 1997 and seeking a fifth European Cup title — and first since 1995. Much like Monaco two seasons ago, Ajax has emerged from nowhere to stun some of the top teams on the continent, its youth-filled team beating Madrid and Juventus — Ronaldo's past and present teams — in the knockout stage.

The other semifinal is just as intriguing and features teams expected to get this far.

However, it remains something of a mystery as to why Bar-

celona — led by Lionel Messi — has only made it to the last four once in the previous five years. That was in 2015, the year it won the title for the fifth time.

Liverpool is also a five-time European champion and a power again in the English Premier League under Juergen Klopp. It is a second straight year in the semifinals for a team that has such a special relationship with this competition, yet before last season its most recent last-four appearance was in 2007.

The matches will see Luis Suarez and Philippe Coutinho come up against Liverpool, where they were stars before joining Barcelona.

Suarez played four seasons in England before making the move to Spain in 2014, while Coutinho spent six seasons with Liverpool before a high-profile and drawn-out transfer to the Spanish powerhouse last year.

While Suarez has thrived with Barcelona after leaving Liverpool, becoming the perfect foil for Lionel Messi in attack, Coutinho is yet to show the same form that made him a key player

for the English club. The Brazil playmaker hasn't been a regular starter for Barcelona and has been jeered occasionally by parts of the crowd at Camp Nou Stadium.

Barcelona has no fresh injuries to report following a weekend in which it won the Spanish league for the 26th time.

Liverpool is locked in a title race in the Premier League, one point behind Man City with two games to go. That means Klopp hasn't been able to rest players — unlike his counterpart at Barca, Ernesto Valverde — and he played a virtually full-strength team on Friday in a 5-0 win over Huddersfield.

Roberto Firmino missed that game with a groin injury and the Brazil striker remains a doubt for the first leg against Barcelona today [Thursday, 3am].

Liverpool and Barcelona last met in the Champions League in 2007, with Liverpool advancing on away goals in the Round of 16. Liverpool has won all three of the teams' two-legged European encounters. **AP/Oddschecker.com**

## RUGBY

# Wales coach Gatland says England has not approached him

**W**ALES rugby coach Warren Gatland says England has not approached him about replacing Eddie Jones.

Gatland has been linked to the England job by the media since he announced he was stepping down

after nearly 12 years in the Wales role, after the Rugby World Cup this year. Jones is contracted to England to 2021 but has a break clause if the team flops at the World Cup in Japan.

Gatland said yesterday

the England Rugby Union was not among the "quite a number of" suitors who have contacted him about his future.

"It is a matter of making the right decision at the right time, so it's just weighing those things

up," the New Zealander said.

"To be honest, my whole focus is about the next six or seven months, Wales and the World Cup.

"I haven't spoken to England at all. They were quite clear in what they

were doing, in terms of they wouldn't be making any appointments or talking to anyone until post-Rugby World Cup."

Gatland was speaking at the announcement of his preliminary World Cup squad, of which 36 of the 42 players helped Wales win the Six Nations Grand Slam in March. It included uncapped Cardiff Blues players, prop Rhys Carre and wing Owen Lane.

Also in were British Lions No. 8 Taulupe Fa-

letau, who has missed most of the season after breaking an arm twice, and other injured loose forwards Aaron Shingler and James Davies.

Wales, on a 14-test winning streak, will play warm-up games against England and Ireland home and away in August and September. They will also have training camps in Switzerland and Turkey, and begin the Rugby World Cup on Sept. 23 against Georgia. **AP**

opinion

**Animal Farm**  
Albano Martins



**WRITING IN WATER, AGAIN?**

1. I wrote in one of the local newspapers late January that lower economic growth, as measured by GDP growth, was usually a sign that inflation could be reduced if the indicators worked well. That is not always the case in Macau; just look at the evolution of the rent component in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which for years was stubbornly negative while in fact real estate went up and everyone felt the rents increasing!

As is well known, last year Macau's official inflation rate was 3.01 percent and by 2019 it is expected to be 2.93 percentage points - my forecast.

A local university indicates 3.9 percent for 2019. It had indicated 3.3 percent for 2018. But I think some ivory-tower theorists do badly, which is not, as you know, the first time we are caught up in these writing exercises in the sky.

I wrote at the end of January that "for me, the CPI [in 2019] will grow less, but I don't believe that this will happen in the first months of the year. No, in those first months we should still see an increase in inflation (measured by the average variation of the last twelve months) and only after May will we begin to see inflation begin to fall." This results from the process of calculating inflation, not from a special forecast of this retired economist!

I said, "For now, January should close at 3.11 percentage points and the maximum should be only one hundredth more, to 3.12 percent"! Inflation was in January 3.11 percentage points! Good shot!

For the months that followed, February and March, the greyhounds did not give me time enough to play with simulators. Official statistics do however point to a February and March inflation in Macau (measured by the average variation of the last twelve months) of 3.09 and 3.10 percent.

This is more or less a confirmation of what I was saying, that inflation would still grow from December 2018, although I predicted it would fall somewhere up to the end of the year.

For April, whose values will only be known officially on May 21 or 22, I predict that inflation will reach 3.08 or 3.09 percentage points, already going down! Who wants to bet?

2. It makes no sense at all that the labor relations law does not allow for long fixed-term employment contracts. Why should teachers in private schools have precarious contracts? What kind of territory is this?

Above all, private schools are heavily subsidized by education services. Being naturally typical of that class intelligentsia, the teachers would even say that it is fine, because it seems that they do not have capacity to fight for their own interests, even when the labor law itself clearly states in article 19 that term contracts can only be concluded "to satisfy the temporary needs of a company".

Now, how can something that extends for years be temporary?

Even with the many exceptions the law may allow, common sense must always prevail. The law must be the same for all, and a constant violation of this principle only hurts the entire society for whom the law applies!

Humanity is lacking in these labor relations: As in many other situations. There is no justice or truth. This kind of values does not honor employers or employees, let alone our Government, nor is it the way forward towards any form of progress.

Precariousness is morally inadmissible in a modern, civilized world. With these types of relationships, education only loses. Everyone loses just for a few to put more money in their pockets!

The future of this land is where the loss is greatest.

**THE BUZZ** INSTAGRAM STORY AIMS TO ENGAGE NEW GENERATION WITH HOLOCAUST

Much as Anne Frank's diary gripped the older generations, an Instagram account based on a true 13-year-old Jewish victim's journal, called Eva.Stories, is generating buzz among the young.

"If we want to bring the memory of the Holocaust to the young generation, we have to bring it to where they are," said the project co-producer, Mati Kochavi, an Israeli high-tech billionaire who hails from a family of Holocaust victims, survivors and educators. "And they're on Instagram."

Kochavi and his daughter, Maya, have created

a series of 70 Instagram stories that chronicle the downward spiral of Eva Heyman's life in the fateful spring of 1944 when the Nazis conquered Hungary.

Heyman was one of approximately 430,000 Hungarian Jews who were deported to Nazi concentration camps between May 15 and July 9, 1944. Of the estimated 6 million Jews killed in the Holocaust, around 568,000 were Hungarian, according to Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial.

**'Hadestown' leads Tony Award nominations with 14 nods**



Reeve Carney (left) and Eva Noblezada during a performance of "Hadestown"

**H**ADESTOWN," singer-songwriter Anaïs Mitchell's Broadway debut, earned a leading 14 Tony Award nominations yesterday, followed by the jukebox musical "Ain't Too Proud," built around songs by the Temptations, which received a dozen nominations.

The musical "Hadestown," which intertwines the myths of Orpheus and Eurydice and Hades and Persephone, bested more familiar names, including stage adaptations of the hit movies "Tootsie" and "Beetlejuice," which both also got best musical nods. The giddy, heartwarming "The Prom" rounds out the best new musical category.

"Hadestown" also was the only new musical on Broadway directed by a woman, Tony Award nominee Rachel Chavkin, who earned another one.

"I'm trying not to swear, but I am so proud of the 14 nominations. There is just not a weak spot on the team," she said by phone.

The best-play nominees are the Northern Irish drama "The Ferryman," from Jez Butterworth; James Graham's "Ink," about Rupert Murdoch; Taylor Mac's Broadway debut, "Gary: A Sequel to Titus Andronicus"; Tarell Alvin McCraney's "Choir Boy"; and Heidi Schreck's "What the Constitution Means to Me," a personal tour of the landmark document at the heart of so many American divisions.

Des McAnuff, who directed "Ain't Too Proud," pointed to the timeliness of his musical, which charts the rise, sacrifices and challenges facing the 1950s group that sang "Baby

Love" and "My Girl." "I think when people come to the Imperial Theatre, they'll find that the story is as pertinent now as it was when they lived it," he said. "It applies to Black Lives Matter and what's going on in this country in terms of the tensions today."

Theater veterans were surprised to see Aaron Sorkin's adaptation of "To Kill a Mockingbird"; "Hillary and Clinton," about Hillary Clinton's 2008 presidential campaign; and the stage adaptation of the media satire film "Network" not getting best play nods, though they did earn recognition in other categories.

McAnuff said it has been a strong season for plays and wildly eclectic. "To me, that's what the American theater's about," he said, adding he was surprised that Sorkin wasn't recognized for his "brilliant" adaptation but "that speaks to the fact that there's so many worthy works out there."

The nomination for "Tootsie" means composer and lyricist David Yazbek could be one step closer to getting back-to-back wins. His show "The Band's Visit" won best new musical last year.

Laurie Metcalf got an acting nod for "Hillary and Clinton" and if she wins the Tony this year, she will be the first person to win acting Tonys three years consecutively. (She won in 2018's "Three Tall Women" and "A Doll's House, Part 2" in 2017).

A sweet "Kiss Me, Kate" and a dark "Oklahoma!" make up the best musical revival category; they were the only eligi-

ble nominees. The best play revival nominees are "Arthur Miller's All My Sons," "The Boys in the Band," "Burn This," "Torch Song" and "The Waverly Gallery."

Ali Stroker, the first actress who needs a wheelchair for mobility known to have appeared on a Broadway stage, earned a Tony nomination for "Oklahoma!"

Nominees for best actor in a play include Paddy Considine from "The Ferryman," Bryan Cranston in "Network," Jeff Daniels in "To Kill a Mockingbird," Adam Driver from "Burn This" and Jeremy Pope in "Choir Boy." Pope is also up for a featured role in "Ain't Too Proud — The Life and Times of the Temptations."

The category of best actress in a play includes Annette Bening in "Arthur Miller's All My Sons," Laura Donnelly in "The Ferryman," Elaine May in "The Waverly Gallery," Janet McTeer in "Bernhardt/Hamlet," Metcalf in "Hillary and Clinton" and Schreck from "What the Constitution Means to Me."

Those nominated for best actor in a musical are Brooks Ashmanskas from "The Prom," Derrick Baskin in "Ain't Too Proud — The Life and Times of the Temptations," Alex Brightman from "Beetlejuice," Damon Danno in "Rodgers & Hammerstein's Oklahoma!" and Santino Fontana in "Tootsie."

Nominees for best leading actress in a musical are Stephanie J. Block in "The Cher Show," Caitlin Kinnunen and Beth Leavel both in "The Prom," Eva Noblezada in "Hadestown" and Kelli O'Hara in "Kiss Me, Kate." AP

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	40-60 Moderate	
High Density Residential Area	30-50 Good	
Ambient	30-50 Good	

SOURCE: DSI/MG

**WORLD BRIEFS**

**US** The Democratic chairs of two congressional committees that subpoenaed President Donald Trump's financial records say his lawsuit to try to block their efforts is "meritless." Trump, three of his children and the Trump Organization filed the suit against Deutsche Bank and Capital One in an attempt to block the subpoenas. [More on p15](#)



**VENEZUELAN** opposition leaders calling for a military uprising against the government of President Nicolas Maduro gained quick messages of support yesterday from US VP Mike Pence (pictured) and other members of the Trump administration amid a possible turning point in the South American nation's political crisis. [More on p15](#)



**GERMANY** An American art museum is demanding that German far-right party AfD stop using one of its paintings, portraying a 19th-century slave auction, on an anti-Muslim campaign poster. The poster for the European Parliament elections shows the painting 'Slave Market' from 1866 by the french artist Jean-Leon Gerome.



**SPAIN's** Socialist party is ready to negotiate deals with rival parties on certain issues after it won a general election but failed to obtain a parliamentary majority, a senior Socialist official said yesterday. After capturing 123 seats in the 350-seat parliament in Sunday's ballot, the Socialists need to get the support of smaller rival parties to pass legislation.