

# China News Digest

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Leite, Tosto e Barros  
A D V O G A D O S

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## LATEST NEWS

### **China, Brazil boost huge potential for cooperation in clean energy technology**

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2017-05/06/content\\_29231231.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2017-05/06/content_29231231.htm)

6 May 2017, *China Daily*

#### **Abstract:**

China and Brazil are showing great potential for technological cooperation in renewable energies such as solar, wind and hydropower, a Brazilian expert said Friday.

Both countries can contribute their latest technological progress in clean energy for win-win cooperation, Amaro Olimpio Pereira, an energy planning professor at the Engineering Postgraduate and Research Institute of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, told Xinhua.

Brazil and China have maintained a comprehensive strategic partnership marked by substantial trade and economic exchanges. The two nations are also members of the BRICS bloc that also groups the emerging economies of Russia, India and South Africa.

## China Trade Data: Brazil Commodities Win, Stocks Lose

<http://www.barrons.com/articles/china-trade-data-brazil-commodities-win-stocks-lose-1494276126>

8 May 2017, *Barron's*

### Abstract:

China's April trade data was a mixed bag, but in general a rise that show improved global demand.

Michael Shaoul at Marketfield Asset Management notes that China's total exports of \$180 billion rose 8% year on year, but 11.3% growth was expected. Hong Kong was a drag on growth, with a 15.3% year-on-year decline in exports. He adds:

China's "imports were reported at \$142.0 billion, up 11.9% year on year but below expectations for an 18% increase. Again, the trend of higher import volumes still appears to be intact in most commodities, but some of the more volatile areas, such as unwrought copper posted disappointing data.

## RECENT BACKGROUND

### **Mexico warns US of alternatives on trade, points to China**

<http://www.cnbc.com/2017/05/12/mexico-nafta-trade-united-states-trump-china-world-economy.html>

12 May 2017, *CNBC*

#### **Abstract:**

Mexico sent a stark message to U.S. President Donald Trump on Thursday, saying an upcoming visit by Mexican officials to China showed Latin America's second largest economy had other places to export to if he tore up the NAFTA trade deal.

"We will use (the China visit) geopolitically as strategic leverage" said Mexican Economy Minister Ildefonso Guajardo, answering questions on trade at the Mexico Business Forum. "It sends the signal that we have many alternatives."

## LatAm imports of Chinese steel surged 8% in Q1 2017

<https://news.metal.com/newscontent/100735860/latam-imports-of-chinese-steel-surged-8-in-q1-2017>

11 May 2017, *SMM News*

### Abstract:

The latest trade statistics released by the Latin American Steel Association (ALACERO) indicates that imports of Chinese steel by the region totaled 1.9 million tons (Mt) during the first three months in 2017.

As per data, China exported 20.2 million tons of finished steel and steel-derivative products to the entire world during the first three months of the current year. Out of this 1.9 million tons were shipped to Latin American countries. Imports of finished steel products totaled 1.7 million tons, whereas steel-derivatives products accounted for 190,000 tons. The total imports of Chinese steel by the region surged higher by 8% when matched with the first three months in 2016.

## **Xiaomi expands in Latin America via Mexico**

<https://www.cnet.com/au/news/xiaomi-expands-in-latin-america-via-mexico/>

10 May 2017, *CNET*

### **Abstract:**

The Chinese smartphone maker on Tuesday said it would start selling two of its phones, the Redmi Note 4 and the Redmi 4X, in Mexico.

“Mexico is a really important market for us and acts as our starting point to reach the rest of Latin America,” Donovan Sung, director of product management and marketing for Xiaomi Global, said in a press release. “We hope to continue growing our presence here with the constant support of our passionate Mi fans.”

## **B&R can build links to South America**

<http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1046250.shtml>

10 May 2017, *Global Times*

### **Abstract:**

Although the Belt and Road was originally conceived as an initiative to reinvigorate Eurasia, by linking up the world's most dynamic and rapidly growing region, such as East Asia, with the world's largest market, such as Europe, it has morphed into something far more ambitious and wide-ranging since it was initially proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013.

South America has become more and more interlinked with Asia in general and with China, in particular. For Brazil, Chile and Peru, China is already their No.1 trading partner. For many others, including Argentina, China is the No.2 trading partner. And these trade flows are growing day by day.

## China's Great Leap Into Latin America

[http://www.realclearworld.com/articles/2017/05/02/chinas\\_great\\_leap\\_into\\_latin\\_america.html](http://www.realclearworld.com/articles/2017/05/02/chinas_great_leap_into_latin_america.html)

2 May 2017, *RealClear World*

### Abstract:

U.S. President Donald Trump's opposition to the North American Free Trade Agreement and his withdrawal from the Trans-Pacific Partnership have led some critics to claim that the United States is turning its back to regional trading partners, and that Trump is thus freeing up China to make inroads into Latin America. But China's presence in the Western Hemisphere is already well-established, having predated Trump's election by almost 20 years. Beijing's involvement in the region is subject to the ebb and flow of the region's economic and political changes, but it stems from the needs both of China and corresponding Latin American capitals.

## Chinese firms win respect in Latin America

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/bizchina/2017-05/02/content\\_29160272.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/bizchina/2017-05/02/content_29160272.htm)

2 May 2017, *China Daily*

### Abstract:

Some have just come, while others have been ploughing on there for years. But no matter how long they have been present in Latin America, Chinese manufacturers, construction groups and service providers are providing a beneficial force to help transform the continent and its people.

Business is by nature profit-oriented, but those from China have shown themselves particularly willing to help empower regional economies, in so doing winning acceptance and approval, according to those interviewed at seven Chinese companies operating in six Latin American countries by Xinhua.

## China marketed its growing armed drone portfolio in Latin America

<http://quwa.org/2017/05/01/china-marketed-growing-armed-drone-portfolio-latin-america/>

1 May 2017, *Quwa Defence News and Analysis Group*

### Abstract:

The Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC) is marketed its growing portfolio of combat aircraft in Latin American by attending Feria Aeroespacial Mexico (FAMEX), which concluded on April 29.

Although Latin America has no shortage of cost-sensitive defence markets, China has yet to successfully land big-ticket contracts, especially for marquee products such as combat aircraft. However, armed UAVs would be a promising point-of-entry considering the dearth of equivalent U.S. and European alternatives. In fact, China has had substantive success in exporting its armed drones, generating committed users in several large markets, most notably Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

## Why China Is Not Bound to Lead Latin America

<http://thediplomat.com/2017/04/why-china-is-not-bound-to-lead-latin-america/>

29 April 2016, *The Diplomat*

### Abstract:

For those in the West who have lived the second half of the 20th century, being under the United States' tutelage was a mere fact of life. As the great victors of World War II and uncontested rulers of nearly every international institution in the world – UN, IMF, World Bank, GATT, NATO etc. – North Americans have transformed Central and South America into their own backyard.

Now change is said to be underway. Recent columns from the *New York Times* and *The Guardian* have drawn attention to the underlying risks of Trump's grand strategy, that America's newborn absenteeism issues an invitation for China to take over as the world's paymaster. NBC News commentator Janis Frayer argued that, since Brazil, Argentina, Chile and Peru have become so economically reliant on China, so will the rest of Latin America fall for Beijing sooner or later. In *The Diplomat*, Antonio Hsiang went as far as to contend that the United States is making China great in Latin America, given Washington's withdrawal from TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership) and criticisms of NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement).