

# 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 Merchants Port Holdings Group authorized to buy company in Brazil**

<https://macauhub.com.mo/2017/11/23/pt-grupo-china-merchants-port-holdings-autorizado-a-comprar-empresa-do-brasil/>

23 November 2017, *Macauhub*

#### **Abstract:**

The Brazilian competition authority, the Administrative Council of Economic Defense (CADE) authorized China Merchants Port Holdings (CMPort) to buy Brazilian port operator TCP Participações, according to official information.

CADE justified its decision on the fact that the transaction does not involve vertical or horizontal integration, and is therefore not an obstacle to free competition.

## **Panama pact to signal surge in investment**

<http://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/article/2120982/panama-pact-signal-surge-investment>

22 November 2017, *South China Morning Post*

### **Abstract:**

With the normalization in relations, Chinese companies will now be looking to extend their activities deep into Latin America – right in the U.S. backyard

## Chinese Hedge Funds Drive Emerging Markets Assets to Record

<http://www.valuwalk.com/2017/11/chinese-hedge-funds-drive-emerging-markets-assets-record/>

21 November 2017, *ValueWalk*

### Abstract:

Hedge fund capital invested in Emerging Markets (EM) rose to a record to begin 4Q17 with the primary contribution coming from the industry-leading performance of Chinese hedge funds. Total EM hedge fund capital increased to \$223 billion (1.48 trillion RMB, 730 billion Brazilian Reals, 14.5 trillion Indian Rupees, 13.2 trillion Russian Rubles, and 834 billion Saudi Reals), according to the latest HFR Emerging Markets Hedge Fund Industry Report, released today by HFR®, the established global leader in the indexation, analysis and research of the global hedge fund industry. As previously reported by HFR, total hedge fund capital globally increased to a record of \$3.15 trillion to begin 4Q17.

**Latin America: During January/September, the volume of steel imports from China decreased 4%, while the average price increased 32%**

<http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/latin-america-during-january-september-the-volume-of-steel-imports-from-china-decreased-4-while-the-average-price-increased-32/>

21 November 2017, *Hellenic Shipping News*

**Abstract:**

During January/September, China exported to the world 57.5 million tons (Mt) of steel, which 52.7 Mt were finished steel and 4.8 Mt of steel-derivatives products, reducing its volume 31% respect to Jan-Sep 2016 (83.3 Mt).

In the same period, Latin America received 5.5 Mt of steel (4.9 Mt were finished steel and 606 thousand tons of steel-derivatives products), presenting for first time in the year a decrease of 4% versus accumulated of 2016 (5.7 Mt). This reduction, in part, is due to China consuming more steel and having better domestic prices.

## **Panama reaffirms adherence to One China Policy, vows to deepen bilateral cooperation**

<http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1076352.shtml>

21 November 2017, *Global Times*

### **Abstract:**

Panamanian President Juan Carlos Varela on Monday reiterates Panama's stance on the One China policy, noting that the two countries' newly established diplomatic ties were based on mutual understanding and agreement.

"I decided to establish diplomatic ties with China a decade ago, and the promise has finally come true. The decision of establishing mutual ties has nothing to do with our trade and economic cooperation, but because of a mutual understanding that both nations deem correct. I think the two nations will have better relations in the future," Varela told People's Daily Online.

## China, Chile expand relations by upgrading FTA

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2017-11/14/content\\_34521754.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2017-11/14/content_34521754.htm)

14 November 2017, *China Daily*

### Abstract:

China and Chile expanded their bilateral business ties by upgrading the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting in Da Nang, Vietnam.

The upgraded FTA covers protocol dealing with government procurement, competition policy and e-commerce businesses.

The agreement will be China's first FTA upgrade with a Latin American country, and will lead to a further diversification of Chilean exports, from both goods to services.



## Chinese FM welcomes Peru to jointly advance FTAAP

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/12/c\\_136745300.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/12/c_136745300.htm)

12 November 2017, *Xinhuanet*

### Abstract:

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with his Peruvian counterpart Ricardo Luna Mendoza here on Saturday, welcoming Peru to jointly advance the process of the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP).

Chinese President Xi Jinping and Peruvian President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski charted out the direction for bilateral ties when they met on Friday, said Wang, adding that the two countries should continue to strengthen strategic mutual trust, as well as communication and cooperation in all fields, so as to further deepen bilateral ties.

## RECENT BACKGROUND

### **A Belt and Road for the Americas?**

<https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/us-china-trade-latin-america-by-luis-alberto-moreno-2017-11>

23 November 2017, *Project Syndicate*

#### **Abstract:**

In a time of global uncertainty, a vision of “made in the Americas” prosperity provides a unifying agenda for the continent. If implemented, the US could reassert its historical leadership among a group of countries that share its fundamental values, as well as an interest in inclusive economic growth and rising living standards.

## China-Panama ties bring benefits beyond Latin America

<http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1076087.shtml>

19 November 2017, *Global Times*

### Abstract:

Panamanian President Juan Carlos Varela embarked on a state visit to China last week, just five months after the establishment of China-Panama diplomatic ties. From accelerated trade exchanges, diplomatic breakthroughs, to the Belt and Road cooperation, the Sino-Panamanian relationship has seen rapid development in recent years, a sign of an irreversible and historic trend.

## **Asian Ems have ‘most promising’ long-term growth prospects: QNB**

<http://www.gulf-times.com/story/571636/Asian-EMs-have-most-promising-long-term-growth-pro>

18 November 2017, *Gulf Times*

### **Abstract:**

Asian emerging markets’ (EMs) growth is expected to remain robust over the long-term, QNB [Qatar National Bank] has said and noted India, China and Southeast Asia are the markets with the greatest growth potential.

But the global financial crisis and the slow recovery in its aftermath placed a major dent in EM investment flows, QNB said.

Now, cautious optimism around the future outlook for the global economy suggests that foreign investment in EMs could accelerate. The question for investors is then, which EMs should they invest in?

## **Opinion: China's path to climate leadership**

<https://www.devex.com/news/opinion-china-s-path-to-climate-leadership-91575>

17 November 2017, *Devex*

### **Abstract:**

As international climate talks in Bonn wrap up, it's important to realize just how much the world has been whipsawed in less than two years. In December 2015, the landmark Paris Agreement charted a course to address our changing climate. Then, in June 2017, U.S. President Donald Trump announced his intention to pull the United States out of that agreement. Now, many around the world are looking to see who will take up climate leadership. Increasingly, they are looking to China.

## **China's economy grows with energy efficiency improved: top climate envoy**

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/17/c\\_136758663.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/17/c_136758663.htm)

17 November 2017, *Xinhuanet*

### **Abstract:**

China's special representative on climate change affairs Xie Zhenhua said China has managed to grow economy and improve energy efficiency at the same time, which is the country's contribution to the global battle against climate change.

Xie made the remarks in response to a question about a media report of the rise of CO<sub>2</sub> globally at a press conference held jointly by the BASIC nations (Brazil, South Africa, India, China) on Wednesday.

## **China's rise didn't have to mean America's fall. Then came Trump.**

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/posteverything/wp/2017/11/15/chinas-rise-didnt-have-to-mean-americas-fall-then-came-trump/>

15 November 2017, *The Washington Post*

### **Abstract:**

There's room for two superpowers to maintain influence in Asia and beyond. But in his nearly-completed first year in office, culminating in last week's trip abroad, Trump has nearly ceded the field to China.

## **Mexican State Looks to Learn from China's Special Economic Zones**

<http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=2446224&CategoryId=14091>

14 November 2017, *Latin American Herald Tribune*

### **Abstract:**

A high-level delegation from the western Mexican state of Michoacan paid a visit Tuesday to a special economic zone in the Chinese city of Suzhou in search of pointers for developing the Pacific port of Lazaro Cardenas.

"We are very interested in knowing about this experience and in seeing how we can learn from the steps they followed," Gov. Silvano Aureoles said in a meeting with representatives of the Suzhou Industrial Park.



## **Latin America is fragmented – countries must improve China relations bilaterally**

<https://www.chinadialogue.net/blog/10213-Latin-America-is-fragmented-countries-must-improve-China-relations-bilaterally/en>

14 November 2017, *chinadialogue*

### **Abstract:**

China knows what it wants from Latin America but does Latin America know what it wants in return?

The region must articulate a strategy for partnering with China, experts said at the second international conference organised by the China-Latin America: Multidisciplinary Focuses network (REDCAEM) in Santiago, Chile, last week.

However, the political fragmentation of Latin America will make this difficult to achieve. “Fifty percent of the region’s GDP is regulated by protected economies like Ecuador, Bolivia and Venezuela, and the other 50% by those like Chile and Peru which are open, market economies,” said Adrian Bonilla, Ecuador’s undersecretary for higher education.

**Remarks: The New Geopolitical Paradigm—Global and Latin America Trends**

<http://www.as-coa.org/articles/remarks-new-geopolitical-paradigm%E2%80%94global-and-latin-america-trends>

4 November 2017, *Americas Society / Council of the Americas*

**Abstract:**

Remarks by Vice President of Americas/Council of the Americas Eric Farnsworth, At the Latin America Steel Conference:

[excerpt] “September 11, 2001, really did shake the United States from a security perspective. China’s entrance into the WTO really has impacted US and global manufacturing and production. The financial crisis in 2008 and 2009 really was a terrible reckoning that cost millions their jobs while feeding the impression, rightly or wrongly, that the economic system was rigged in favor of the powerful and the connected. And the explosion of new media, social media, and non-traditional, push-message media—some from outside the United States such as Russia—really have changed the rules of politics and led to further polarization and, in my view, increasing incivility across the board.”