

China News Digest

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A D V O G A D O S

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LATEST NEWS

Chile calls for closer ties between Mercosur, Pacific Alliance

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-12/22/c_136843771.htm

22 December 2017, *Xinhuanet*

Abstract:

Chilean Foreign Affairs Minister Heraldo Munoz on Thursday called for closer ties between Latin America's two leading trade blocs.

The Southern Common Market (Mercosur), which gathers South American countries, and the Pacific Alliance, which includes most of the region's Pacific coast countries, should work more closely together, Munoz told the 51st Leaders Summit of Mercosur and Associated States, hosted by Brasilia from Dec. 18 to 21.

Brazil's Petrobras receives \$3 billion in China Development Bank loan

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-petrobras-credit/brazils-petrobras-receives-3-billion-in-china-development-bank-loan-idUSKBN1E8380>

14 December 2017, *Reuters*

Abstract:

Brazil's state-controlled oil company Petroleo Brasileiro SA on Thursday received \$3 billion under a \$5 billion loan from China Development Bank, the company said in a securities filing.

The remaining \$2 billion will be disbursed by CDB in January. Petrobras said it will prepay other liabilities.

Latin American and Caribbean exports to China increased by 30 percent in 2017

<http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/latin-american-and-caribbean-exports-to-china-increased-by-30-percent-in-2017/>

19 December 2017, *Hellenic Shipping News*

Abstract:

Exports from Latin America and the Caribbean have increased by around 13 percent in 2017 and are nearing the \$985 billion mark. This sharp acceleration contrasts with the 3.3-percent drop of 2016, according to 'Trade Trend Estimates for Latin America and the Caribbean,' a new report published by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

The main explanation for this growth is the recovery in exports to China, which are up by 30 percent, and to the United States, which grew by 10 percent. These two destination markets accounted for two-thirds of total growth. The 12-percent increase in intraregional flows also contributed significantly to the region's trade performance.

Daily briefing: Trump targets China, Brexit talks, 2017 statistics

<https://www.ft.com/content/2487df1e-e334-11e7-97e2-916d4fbac0da>

18 December 2017, *Financial Times*

Abstract:

US president's national security strategy to accuse Beijing of maintaining 'repressive vision'

RECENT BACKGROUND

China deserves to spread its influence, just like any other country: China Daily columnist

<http://www.straitstimes.com/asia/east-asia/china-deserves-to-spread-its-influence-just-like-any-other-country-china-daily>

22 December 2017, *The Straits Times*

Abstract:

For most of this year, many US politicians were busy with their witch-hunt against Russia. However, of late they have found a new target as they are afraid of the growing Chinese influence in the United States and the rest of the world.

By singling out Moscow and Beijing as the prime threats to Washington, the US National Security Strategy that was released on Monday (Dec 18) will trigger more such witch-hunts, which some China experts in the US worry would fan anti-Chinese sentiments or Sinophobia.

Renewed confidence - a review of China's economy in 2017

<https://gbtimes.com/renewed-confidence-a-review-of-chinas-economy-in-2017>

22 December 2017, *gbtimes*

Abstract:

China's economy came back with renewed vigor this year, boosting confidence in the world's second largest economy after stock market and capital outflow troubles in previous years.

The country undoubtedly reached the government's GDP growth target of around 6.5 percent for this year, largely thanks to continued credit expansion and public investment. While the government showed no intention of loosening its grip on economic activity, private Chinese firms continued to drive a technological revolution that involves everything from e-commerce and mobile payments to artificial intelligence and driverless cars.

China is eating America's lunch in Latin America – and Trump is helping

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/news-columns-blogs/andres-oppenheimer/article191041634.html>

21 December 2017, *Miami Herald*

Abstract:

Trump's diatribes against Mexico, his anti-immigration tirades, his anti-free trade stances and his decision to withdraw from the 195-country Paris Climate Accord are giving China a golden opportunity to expand its influence in Latin America.

In addition, China got more room to grow in the region after Trump's withdrawal from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) between the United States and 11 countries from Asia and Latin America that, in part, was aimed at curtailing China's growing economic influence in the world.

Strive for community with a shared future

<http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1081479.shtml>

21 December 2017, *Global Times*

Abstract:

China watchers the world over are focusing on how Chinese diplomacy will play out, as it enters a “new era.” That is the notion given to the historical construct that General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee Xi Jinping presented at the 19th National Congress of the CPC in October, which offers a profound understanding of China’s development over the next few decades. How will China build a community with a shared future for humanity? What role will China take in future global governance? The Global Times asked four experts for their opinions and insights on these key questions.

Trade, China, and Consequences

https://www.theepochtimes.com/trade-china-and-consequences_2390625.html

19 December 2017, *The Epoch Times*

Abstract:

Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau concluded a visit to China recently, but it failed to launch anticipated negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA). This appeared to result in part from his voicing of the Canadian commitment to the rule of law, a clean environment, media freedom, gender equality, and our Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Chinese investors target Latin American startups as U.S. VCs shy away

<https://venturebeat.com/2017/12/17/chinese-investors-target-latin-american-startups-as-u-s-vcs-shy-away/>

17 December 2017, *VentureBeat*

Abstract:

Traditionally, Latin America has turned to the United States for trade and financing opportunities from institutions such as the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). However, under the Trump Administration, economic relationships between Latin America and the United States are more uncertain than ever. As a result, Latin American countries are strengthening ties with a new major trading partner: China.

China shakes the world

<https://www.ft.com/content/71c9a0bc-e345-11e7-8b99-0191e45377ec>

17 December 2017, *Financial Times*

Abstract:

Nation's strategy of shifting from coal to gas having a significant impact on LNG markets.

Latin America Needs a China Strategy

<https://www.bloombergquint.com/global-economics/2017/12/14/latin-america-needs-a-china-strategy>

14 December 2017, *Bloomberg Quint*

Abstract:

To judge by the pomp and shuttle diplomacy, Latin America and China are best of friends. Witness the bonhomie in Punta del Este, where delegates from 33 nations in the Americas just rolled out the red carpet for authorities from Beijing and scores of corporate bigwigs at a business summit -- one of many parleys celebrating what Uruguayan President Tabare Vazquez hailed as “the new normal China,” and his region’s chance to engage with a “champion of world trade and engine of global commerce.”

China: aid, trade and investment

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/254211-china-aid-trade-and-investment>

10 December 2017, *The News International*

Abstract:

In Pakistan, there has been increasing interest and academic curiosity about the growing role of China as an 'aid provider'. An analyst has even termed China as a "new leader on [the] foreign aid front". An article published in a local newspaper states that "since the turn of the century, China is estimated to have disbursed nearly as much aid as the [US]".

While there is no doubt that China has emerged an important development actor within the global landscape, it is grossly misleading to categorize all Chinese financial flows as 'aid'. The article states that the "total Chinese foreign aid between 2000 and 2014 of \$354.3 billion to 140 countries and territories was not far behind the US total of \$394.6 billion". It further adds that: "Pakistan is likely to displace Russia from its top position of Chinese aid recipients as Islamabad is expected to consume as much as \$60 billion of Chinese flows between 2017 and 2027".