

## Media Roundup Issue 2 (07/12/16 – 13/01/17)

### 1. "China-US trade war the single biggest economic threat to Australia"

**11/01/17**

**David Taylor**

**ABC News**

I can't recall a time in recent history when there was so much uncertainty.

Unfortunately uncertainty and insecurity go hand-in-hand. The world seems full of insecurity right now — no better represented than by the looming threat of a trade war between Australia's largest and third largest trading partners.

I asked one of Australia's leading independent economists, Saul Eslake, what a trade war between China and the United States would mean for Australia.

He's normally quite conservative with his commentary but on this occasion he actually said to me: "We just have to hope that it doesn't happen."

*Read more: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-01-11/trade-war-between-us-and-china-a-major-threat-to-australia/8172562>*

### 2. "Keating wary of potential US-China war"

**13/01/17**

**SBS News**

Former prime minister Paul Keating says Canberra must be wary of any US "adventurism" over South China Sea tensions.

Former prime minister Paul Keating is adamant Canberra needs to tell the incoming Trump administration from the get-go that Australia will sit out any US "adventurism" over South China Sea tensions.

*Read more: <http://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/2017/01/13/keating-wary-potential-us-china-war>*

### 3. "Penfolds wine trademark legal win an encouraging sign for Australian businesses in China"

**13/01/17**

**Bill Birtles**

**ABC News**

A court victory that will allow Treasury Wine Estates (TWE) to use its preferred transliteration for Penfolds in China is being seen as a landmark victory.

The decision in the Beijing High People's Court found an intellectual property (IP) squatter, who had registered the "Ben Fu" trademark in 2009, failed to make genuine use of it.

The court ruled the trademark be cancelled, allowing TWE to use the branding freely for its wines in China.

*Read more: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-01-13/penfolds-legal-win-encouraging-for-australian-business-in-china/8180892>*

### 4. "Bellamy's big China mistake"

**11/01/17**

**Angus Grigg**

**Australian Financial Review**

Jumping at shadows is easy to do in China and judging from Wednesday's announcement, Bellamy's Australia did exactly this last year.

The infant formula maker appears to have been spooked by rumours, which began in April, suggesting China's Customs Bureau was set to tighten up on products coming into the country via courier, mail and the suitcases of tourists.

That's the so-called "Daigou" or personal shopper channel, which had been the main route into China for Bellamy's and plenty of other foreign products.

*Read more: <http://www.afr.com/business/bellamys-big-china-mistake-20170111-gtpp20>*

## 5. "China's smog delays coal and iron ore cargo"

**13/01/17**

**Australian Financial Review**

A huge traffic jam of hundreds of ships carrying coal and iron ore, much of it Australian, into China has built up outside key ports like Tianjin and Caofeidian, just as winter demand hits its peak ahead of the Chinese New Year holiday later this month.

Major northern Chinese ports have suspended loading of ships several times since December 20 due to poor visibility largely caused by smog that has enveloped large parts of northern China at various times in recent weeks.

*Read more: <http://www.afr.com/business/transport/shipping/chinas-smog-delays-coal-and-iron-ore-cargo-20170112-gtqqhe>*

## 6. "Tillerson comments show Australia will have to wade into South China Sea dispute"

**12/01/17**

**Primrose Riordan**

**Australian Financial Review**

Australia should expect the United States to ask Australia to do more to support US operations in the South China Sea if secretary of state nominee Rex Tillerson is serious about setting a course for confrontation with Beijing, defence experts say.

In his first comments on the South China Sea issue, Mr Tillerson said China should be denied access to islands it has built in the contested area – a stance which Euan Graham, International Security Director at the Lowy Institute said was troubling, as it went far beyond the sentiments of most defence hawks.

*Read more: <http://www.afr.com/news/tillerson-comments-show-australia-will-have-to-wade-into-south-china-sea-dispute-20170112-gtqbs7>*

## 7. “China coal plan fuels exporters’ hopes”

**09/01/17**

**Stephen Bartholomeusz**

**The Australian**

In the final days of 2016 China unveiled its latest plan for its coal industry. After the dramatic surge in thermal and metallurgical coal prices last year, it’s probably good news for the Australian industry.

The qualification relates, as it does to many aspects of global trade and markets this year, to the trade policies adopted by the Trump administration in the US and, in particular, their impact on China’s exports and on the value of the US dollar.

The extent to which Trump’s policies impact China’s steel industry — both its export volumes and the cost of the raw materials for steelmaking — could have a big impact on its demand for metallurgical coal.

*Read more: <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/opinion/stephen-bartholomeusz/china-coal-plan-fuels-exporters-hopes/news-story/a47bbf069b631bd10c1a8cd74e55536e>*