

Media Roundup Issue 95 (27/10/18 – 02/11/18)

1. China refuses help for Australian citizens detained in Xinjiang

25/10/18

Primrose Riordan

The Australian

Three Australian citizens were detained in China's Xinjiang region last year and attempts to secure Beijing's help in finding relatives of the detained Australians were unsuccessful, the Department of Foreign Affairs has confirmed.

DFAT secretary Frances Adamson said the issue of ethnic minorities being arbitrarily detained in Xinjiang was at the top of the list of concerns that the government has raised with China.

DFAT North Asia head Graham Fletcher could not confirm a UN assessment that there were one million people detained in the area in camps but he said it was possible. "It may well be in the range of the number you've mentioned, but we don't know," he said.

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/foreign-affairs/china-refuses-help-for-australian-citizens-detained-in-xianjing/news-story/3fbb8c4fbde39b4cde78cc4b60cfd2de>

2. Labor pledges language boost for Australian schools

25/10/18

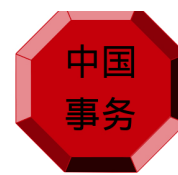
Tom Mclroy

The Australian Financial Review

Falling rates of school students choosing to study Asian languages is leaving Australian graduates at a strategic disadvantage for jobs and opportunities, Labor has warned.

[...]

PwC Asia practice leader Andrew Parker said economic modelling by the firm predicted four of the world's largest economies, measured in purchasing power parity, would be in the Asia Pacific region.



"According to the Brookings Institute, almost nine in ten of the next billion middle-class consumers will be Asian," Mr Parker said.

"If the last 25 years have been about shipping our bulk commodities to Asia, the coming decades will be a story of services and consumption fuelled by a rapidly expanding Asian middle-class.

"If Australians want to be more than just casual observers in the transformation taking place in our region, we will have to become as comfortable operating in Beijing, New Delhi, Jakarta and Tokyo as we are in London or New York today."

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.afr.com/news/labor-pledges-asian-language-boost-for-australian-schools-20181024-h171m6>

3. Opera Australia and the Australian Ballet wow Chinese audiences

25/10/18

Glenda Korporaal

The Australian

It's a tale of two Australian arts companies in China, with very different stories.

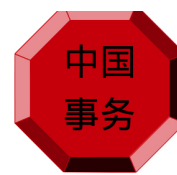
Opera Australia and the Australian Ballet are both finishing up successful tours to China this month: OA on its first trip there (with Moffatt Oxenbould's *Madama Butterfly*), and the AB on its ninth visit (with David McAllister's *The Sleeping Beauty*).

AB, backed by corporate sponsorship and government assistance, has been booked at three of China's top arts venues: the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Beijing, the Jiangsu Centre for the Performing Arts in Nanjing and the Shanghai Theatre Grande, where its tour concludes this weekend.

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/arts/opera-australia-and-the-australian-ballet-wow-chinese-audiences/news-story/1ebb9da39365d2104591b97e6294a807>

4. Canberra adjusts to China's two purposes

26/10/18



Paul Maley
The Australian

Like a sleepwalker shaken from a trance, Australia has woken to the fact that the Chinese government is waging an unprecedented influence campaign in our near region.

[...]

Another ANU professor, Hugh White, says while China may one day seek to establish a strategic footprint in one of these countries, we should be careful about over-reacting.

To White, China's intentions in the Pacific are essentially political. It seeks to undermine the alliance system and erode American influence. This is linked to Beijing's larger goal of pushing America out of East Asia and establishing its own Monroe-style doctrine over the region, essentially a sphere of influence in which it can operate without serious challenge.

"China wants to be the principal political and economic partner for every country in South Pacific," White says.

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/defence/canberra-adjusts-to-chinas-two-purposes/news-story/3d07689b4cb6ce826e3a7eff516a95e5>

5. Back to the drawing board in defence – for Plan B

26/10/18
Marcus Hellyer
The Australian

It is remarkable how quickly and thoroughly the orthodoxy in Australia's strategic policy community has turned. As China's power rose, many analysts still adhered to the view that US power would remain pre-eminent and its commitment to our region unshakeable.

Consequently, there was no need to adjust Australia's Plan A for national security — adherence to the US alliance. But Donald Trump's presidency has brought confidence in Plan A, and in the rules-based global order in general, crashing down.



[...]

But another area of emerging consensus is that there is no point spending more until we know how we will defend Australia. Professor at the Australian National University Michael Wesley has recently written that Australia's defence planners have the hardest profession in government. Their job is going to get a lot harder.

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/defence/back-to-the-drawing-board-in-defence-for-plan-b/news-story/613ffed5729d77b3fe42d33f564aeff2>

6. China and Russia are eyeing up Antarctica — and experts say Australia should be more concerned

28/10/18

Holly Robertson

ABC News

Australia is spending \$2 billion on a new Antarctic icebreaker — the biggest single investment in the history of our Antarctic program.

The state of the art RSV Nuyina — which was floated last month — will primarily support Australia's scientific research team in Antarctica, but it also has another purpose: shoring up our territorial claim to 42 per cent of the icy continent, where countries including China and Russia have been ramping up their presence.

But why does Australia need to lay claim to so much of Antarctica? What has gotten other countries so interested in the region? And why does it even matter?

Read more: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-10-28/china-and-russia-are-eyeing-up-antarctica/10433024>

7. Kevin Rudd urges China and Australia to re-establish “yin yang” balance

28/10/18

Heidi Han

The Australian



Kevin Rudd urged China and Australia to re-establish a “yin yang” balance while warning a Cold War could stem from existing trade tensions between China and the United States.

Rudd was given a star billing at the Australia-China Future Forum in Sydney as Australia’s first Mandarin-speaking prime minister.

“I’m becoming more concerned about the relation between China and the US,” Rudd said in a full mandarin keynote speech.

“They have to find collaborative ground by next year or it might update to a Cold War from existing mess.”

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/kevin-rudd-urges-china-and-australia-to-reestablish-yin-yang-balance/news-story/2d9ff118a6df4e9cd052b714046d6e4b>

8. Bill Shorten says Pacific infrastructure bank not about China

28/10/18

John Kehoe

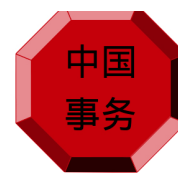
The Australian Financial Review

Opposition leader Bill Shorten will flag that a future Labor government will seek to set up an infrastructure investment bank to fund projects for Australia's small Pacific island neighbours, as part of its foreign policy to better engage with the region.

In a speech to the Lowy Institute to be delivered on Monday, Mr Shorten will signal that greater engagement in the Pacific would not aim to offset China's growing influence, by saying "strategic denial of others" was not the goal of Labor's policy.

"A Labor government will put the Pacific front and centre in our regional foreign policy," Mr Shorten will say, according to extracts of his speaking notes.

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.afr.com/news/policy/foreign-affairs/bill-shorten-sees-pacific-infrastructure-bank-not-about-china-20181028-h17711>



9. Time to ground Australia's China fear in facts

29/10/18

Geoff Raby

Australian Financial Review

As December draws near, thoughts turn to annual anniversaries and remembrances. This December marks the 51st anniversary of one of the more bizarre events in Australia's political history. On December 17, 1967, then prime minister Harold Holt disappeared while swimming at Portsea beach. He was alone at the time and the surf was rough. He was a good swimmer and was familiar with conditions in the area. His body has never been found.

To lose even one prime minister like this would be considered by Oscar Wilde as carelessness. Many theories were advanced, but the wackiest of all gained some traction in the media. Australia was deeply involved in the disastrous Vietnam War, justified to prevent "dominos" falling to Chinese communism in East Asia. It was asserted that Holt may have been taken by a Chinese submarine. Many years later this idiocy was still being repeated.

When China was supposed to have sent a submarine all the way to Portsea to pinch the serving Australian prime minister, it was embarking on the destructive Cultural Revolution. Domestically absorbed by internal political struggles within the Communist Party and externally in grave fear of the Soviet Union.

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.afr.com/opinion/columnists/chinaphobia-is-as-sound-as-holts-mythical-submarine-20181029-h17855>

10. Australia to refocus on the Pacific as China seeks to expand its influence

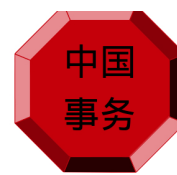
29/10/18

Sam Clench

News.com

THERE is a quiet but critical struggle for international influence happening right on Australia's doorstep.

Its focus is the Pacific Islands, a group of small countries which have drawn the interest of a superpower.



China has showered nations such as Vanuatu, Tonga and the Solomon Islands with cash in recent years. Between 2006 and 2016, it invested \$2.3 billion in the region, according to an analysis from the Lowy Institute.

Some Australian experts are worried. Their fear is that China's intentions are not entirely pure.

"Such indebtedness gives China significant leverage over Pacific Island countries and may see China place pressure on Pacific nations to convert loans into equity in infrastructure," the Lowy Institute has warned.

Read more: <https://www.news.com.au/national/politics/australia-to-refocus-on-the-pacific-as-china-seeks-to-expand-its-influence/news-story/d5a7b30f104e8c0b3098f8d4b11313d0>

11. Chinese military researchers in Aust unis

30/10/18

Angus Livingston

The Australian

Chinese military scientists regularly work undercover in Australian universities on high tech weapons and communications research, a new report has found.

The Australian Strategic Policy Institute has found about 2500 Chinese scientists and engineers from the People's Liberation Army have studied in foreign universities since 2007.

The study claimed some of those Chinese scientists hid their military affiliations while working overseas in areas such as hypersonic missiles and navigation technology.

Author Alex Joske described the practice as a "military-academic onslaught", which had flown under Western radars and risks "harming the West's strategic advantage".

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/latest-news/chinese-military-researchers-in-aust-unis/news-story/c498e1aae5d023d85725198b52b39928>

12. Huawei poses security threat to Australia's infrastructure, spy chief says



30/10/18

Gareth Hutchens
The Guardian

Australia's spy chief has explained why China's Huawei or ZTE could not be allowed to help build Australia's new 5G mobile network, saying a potential threat anywhere in the network could undermine the entire project.

Mike Burgess, the director-general of the Australian Signals Directorate, says if "high-risk vendor equipment" is used anywhere in Australia's evolving 5G network, the future communications system underpinning our water supply and electricity grid and health systems, even self-driving cars, could not be protected.

"The stakes could not be higher," Burgess warned.

"Historically, we have protected the sensitive information and functions at the core of our telecommunications networks by confining our high-risk vendors to the edge of our networks.

Read more: <https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2018/oct/30/huawei-poses-security-threat-to-australias-infrastructure-spy-chief-says>

13. Labor won't follow US lead on China relations, Bill Shorten says

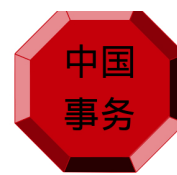
30/10/18

Primrose Riordan and Ben Packham
The Guardian

Bill Shorten has signalled an incoming Labor government will not follow the lead of the United States by portraying China as a strategic threat, saying relations with the Asian superpower would be framed around the Australian national interest.

In a major foreign affairs speech to the Lowy Institute today, the Opposition Leader flagged a more independent-minded foreign policy to balance the US and China relationships, while reinvigorating relationships with Japan and South Korea, and deepening defence and economic ties with India.

Mr Shorten said the US relationship was a pillar of Australia's foreign policy — anchored by the ANZUS treaty — and Australia's interests were best served when the United States was engaged in the region.



Read more (Paywall): <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/foreign-affairs/labor-wont-follow-us-lead-on-china-relations-bill-shorten-says/news-story/0beb4bb6b0ab259335622045ffd0e0dd>

14. Jose Ramos-Horta says Australia aid 'emasculatation' pushing Pacific closer to China

30/10/18

James Elton Pym and Brett Mason

SBS News

Former Timor Leste president Jose Ramos-Horta says small Pacific nations are more interested in using Chinese loans and grants to plug budget holes than “regional power games”.

The "emasculatation" in Australian aid and the amount of money flowing to expensive consultants has forced Pacific nations to accept grants and loans from China, according to the former president of Timor Leste.

In an exclusive interview with SBS News, Nobel peace laureate Jose Ramos-Horta blasted wastage in the Australian aid system, while warning smaller countries in the Pacific region would develop closer ties with China if it helped them plug budgetary shortfalls.

“They are not interested in playing the big power regional power games, Australia vs China or vice versa,” he said.

Read more: <https://www.sbs.com.au/news/jose-ramos-horta-says-australia-aid-emasculatation-pushing-pacific-closer-to-china>

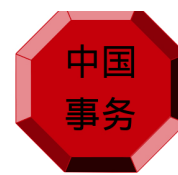
15. Trying to cage Chinese bear could mean missing out on economic benefits

30/10/18

Andrew Clark

Australian Financial Review

China's great philosopher, Confucius, taught people and even nations to behave according to well-understood reciprocal rights and duties. The problem with



current Australia-China ties is a local perception that a rampaging Chinese bear has shredded the Confucian doctrine.

According to this view, contemporary China is about power, and how to get more of it, including working out ways to make smaller regional states such as Australia effectively kowtow to its plans for Asia-Pacific hegemony.

There's an element of Dr Fu Manchu-style stereotyping here – of portraying the Chinese as clever and secretive. The reality is more textured, but the problem for those keen to change the China songbook is cases that match the stereotype, like the claimed compromising of former Labor senator Sam Dastyari by a wealthy Chinese business figure in Australia to support China's territory grab in the South China Sea.

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.afr.com/news/politics/national/trying-to-cage-the-chinese-bear-could-mean-missing-out-on-economic-benefits-20181029-h1786j>

16. Cornell halts China university ties over curbs on academic freedom

30/10/18

Yuan Yang

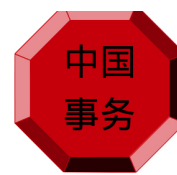
The Financial Times

Cornell University of the US has suspended two academic exchanges and a research programme with China's Renmin University because of concerns over academic freedoms, the first case in years of a foreign university halting a partnership with a Chinese counterpart for such reasons.

The move came after several students of Renmin, a top ranked Chinese institution, said they were punished by the school for speaking out online about workers' rights and for supporting workers' attempts to unionise in the manufacturing hub of Shenzhen this summer, Cornell told the Financial Times.

Although nominally Communist, China's ruling party has little tolerance for student groups speaking out on labour issues, and has painted such groups as part of a foreign-influenced attempt to sow discord.

"The myriad actions Renmin has taken against their students for speaking up on labour issues were too grave a violation of academic freedom," said Eli



Friedman, Cornell's director of international programmes at their school of industrial and labour relations (ILR).

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.ft.com/content/b07c275c-d832-11e8-a854-33d6f82e62f8>

17. The biggest show on Earth

31/10/18

Glenda Korporaal
The Australian

After more than a year of strained relations between Australia and China, Australian business is taking advantage of next week's international import expo in Shanghai to make its next big push into the China market.

With no visits to China this year by a prime minister or foreign minister, and no Australia Week in China in 2018, companies with an interest in selling to China will be out in force in what will be one of the biggest ever gatherings of businesspeople in the world.

In a massive exercise which only a country like China would even contemplate, the first China International Import Expo (now referred to in China by its acronym CIIE) will attract thousands of businesses from more than 130 countries and regions and a raft of world leaders including Pakistan's new Prime Minister Imran Khan and Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev.

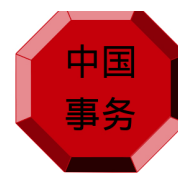
Unlike the famous Canton trade fairs, where buyers from around the world have headed to for decades to buy goods from China, CIIE is a one-way street aimed at giving foreign companies a chance to sell their wares into China.

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/opinion/the-biggest-show-on-earth/news-story/da8ae4af63068831a6bf1e4c053a8d59>

18. Melbourne joins Belt-and-Road

31/10/18

Nick Bisley (Member of the China Matters Advisory Council)
The Interpreter



Most maps of the Belt and Road Initiative, the People's Republic of China's signature international policy program, have sweeping arrows connecting China with almost all corners of the world. Yet even the most ambitious of these do not have any link to Australia's most cultured city, Melbourne.

But the state government of Victoria has done something no other state has yet done to sign a memorandum of understanding with Beijing on the BRI. The move comes with glowing approval of the normally bombastic Global Times and is notable not just for the timely reminder that it is not just the federal government that conducts foreign policy.

BRI has befuddled Canberra for a number of years. BRI's multidimensional qualities – it is simultaneously a vast infrastructure development program, a geopolitical gambit, a bid to develop the China's poor western and southern regions, and an effort to recycle surplus capacity – mean that it brings to the surface the tensions within the Australian government between those that see risk and those who see opportunity in China.

Read more: <https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/melbourne-joins-belt-and-road>

19. Beijing warns Australia about 'prejudice' against Chinese companies

31/10/18

Michael Smith

Australian Financial Review

Beijing has accused Australia of taking a "discriminatory approach" to Chinese companies after a top security official in Canberra warned critical infrastructure could not have been protected if Huawei or ZTE were allowed to build the country's 5G mobile networks.

"We urge Australia to discard its prejudice on ideology and build a fair environment for Chinese companies," a spokesman for China's Foreign Ministry said late on Tuesday when asked to respond to security concerns about Chinese telcos building 5G networks in Australia.



Each week China Matters collates news items about the Australia-China relationship

Australia should encourage business cooperation between the two countries instead of "creating obstacles with various excuses and taking a discriminatory approach", the spokesman said at a regular press conference.

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.afr.com/news/world/asia/beijing-warns-australia-about-prejudice-against-chinese-companies-20181011-h16jjg>

20. Australian exports hit record high despite slowing Chinese economy

31/10/18
Stephen Letts
ABC News

Australia's export boom has hit a new high despite mounting evidence the pulse in China's industrial heartland is weakening.

The trade surplus jumped to \$3 billion in September, thanks to a large leg-up from the already-healthy August surplus being revised up from \$1.6 billion to \$2.3 billion.

It is the third-largest surplus since the Australian Bureau of Statistics started compiling the data in 1971.

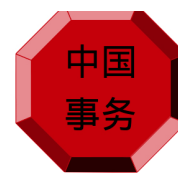
Exports rose by 1 per cent to a record \$37.5 billion, while imports fell 1 per cent to \$34.5 billion.

The exporters benefited from both strong prices — up almost 4 per cent over the September quarter — and higher volumes of goods being shipped out.

Read more: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-11-01/australian-exports-hold-up-despite-slowing-chinese-economy/10455938>

21. Australian website firm targeted by China hackers

31/10/18
Mark Schliebs
The Australian



Each week China Matters collates news items about the Australia-China relationship

An Australian website registration firm was hacked by a team backed by Chinese intelligence agencies as part of a five-year campaign to steal aerospace technology, US prosecutors have alleged.

The company was attacked during efforts to steal turbofan jet -engine technology, used in commercial aviation, in late 2013.

Although it is not named in the US indictment against Chinese intelligence officials and their agents, released yesterday, prosecutors said the Australian company was also identified as being hacked earlier in 2013 by the Syrian Electronic Army, a group of cyber-attackers who support Bashar al-Assad.

In response to questions about the charges, an Australian government spokesman last night said: "These matters are subject to ongoing operational investigations.

Read more (Paywall):

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/technology/australian-website-firm-targeted-by-china-hackers/news-story/ca7966a91e858379e4d48c1bc78953c1>

22. Scott Morrison says Australia will meet testing time between US and China

31/10/18

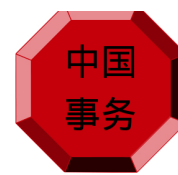
Phillip Coorey

Australian Financial Review

Prime Minister Scott Morrison is confident Australia can navigate a "testing" and higher degree of strategic competition between the United States and China in coming years without jeopardising relations with either.

And he believes Australia, through its championing of free trade deals, both bilateral and multilateral, must act as a regional beacon for trade liberalisation in an era of creeping protectionism.

In his first major speech on foreign affairs since becoming Prime Minister, Mr Morrison will tell the Asia Society on Thursday that Australia will always regard the US as paramount in maintaining security and that without security there can be no prosperity.



"The alliance with the United States is a choice we make about how best to pursue our security interests," he will say.

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.afr.com/news/politics/scott-morrison-says-australia-will-meet-testing-time-between-us-and-china-20181030-h17bcu>

23. Australia should resist US pressure to take on China

31/10/18

Xiaobo Sun

Global Times

After more than several years of tensions, China-Australia ties have recently seen a trace of thaw. Does the administration of Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, who was sworn in on August 24, have a different policy on China from his predecessor Malcolm Turnbull? What should be Australia's approach to developing ties with China? Global Times (GT) reporter Sun Xiaobo talked with Gareth Evans (Evans), chancellor of the Australian National University and former Australian foreign minister, on the sidelines of the 8th Beijing Xiangshan Forum held on October 24-26.

GT: Do you think the administration of Morrison has shown a different policy toward China from the previous one?

Evans: I think just as Turnbull, the previous prime minister, realized that the relationship (between Australia and China) badly needed a resetting, so too has Mr Morrison and he did make a speech quite recently to the Chinese Australian community, which made clear he understood the need to step back from the freeze period in our relationship. I think he said enough to make clear that Australia wants the relationship with China to be on a sound footing.

Read more: <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1125258.shtml>

24. Can US-China relations step back from the edge?

31/10/18

Fu Ying

Bloomberg

China-U.S. relations have deteriorated faster than almost anyone could have expected. The question looms: Are the two countries leaping with their eyes



closed into a so-called Thucydides Trap, with war possible between the rising and the established power? The U.S. is driving this process and should reflect carefully whether it's in Americans' best interests to continue down this path. China also needs to consider how to address the challenges wisely and whether the slide in the wrong direction can be halted.

Tensions caused by trade have started to spread to other areas. The U.S. is now claiming that China has become its main strategic competitor, even accusing it of interfering in elections and seeking to challenge American global hegemony.

At the international level, globalism and multilateralism are under attack, and the resurgence of geopolitical and power competition, mixed with populism and protectionism, are weakening the bonds built among countries in recent decades. These uncertainties seem poised to drag the world back to the turbulent years of the early 20th century.

Read more: <https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2018-10-30/can-china-u-s-relations-step-back-from-the-edge>

25. China's frontier of fear

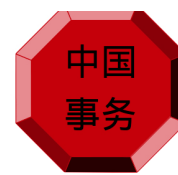
01/11/18

**Mark Doman, Stephen Hutcheon, Dylan Welch and Kyle Taylor
ABC News**

Satellite imagery captured over a remote and highly volatile region of western China lifts the lid on the size and spread of internment camps used to indoctrinate vast numbers of the region's Muslim population.

An investigation by ABC News using new research collated by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) think tank, identifies and documents the expansion of 28 detention camps that are part of a massive program of subjugation in the region of Xinjiang.

Analysis of the data shows that since the start of 2017, the 28 facilities have expanded their footprint by more than 2 million square metres. In the past three months alone, they've grown by 700,000 square metres - that's about the size of 35 Melbourne Cricket Grounds.



The nominally autonomous province is home to about 14 million Chinese citizens belonging to mainly Muslim ethnic groups, the largest of which is the Turkic-speaking Uighur (pronounced WEE-ger) people.

Read more: <https://mobile.abc.net.au/news/2018-11-01/satellite-images-expose-chinas-network-of-re-education-camps/10432924?pfmredir=sm>

26. Australian Navy to use overhauled PNG military base as China concerns grow

01/11/18

David Wroe

Sydney Morning Herald

Australian war ships will make port visits to an enlarged naval base on Papua New Guinea, expanding the Navy's presence to Australia's north as concerns rise over Chinese interest in the region.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison revealed on Thursday afternoon he had signed an agreement with PNG counterpart Peter O'Neill for a joint redevelopment of the naval base at Lombrum, Manus Island.

Australia is expected to pay for much of the upgrade — a signal of the government's eagerness to hold onto its status as PNG's preferred security partner rather than risk having Beijing step in and fill the role.

"This initiative will further enhance interoperability between our defence forces, and deepen our maritime security co-operation, including through increased Australian ship visits over time," Mr Morrison said.

Read more: <https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/australian-navy-to-use-overhauled-png-military-base-as-china-concerns-grow-20181101-p50ddm.html>

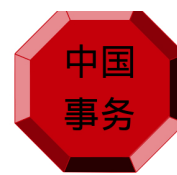
27. Australia's relationship with China becoming a two-track affair

01/11/18

Glenda Korporeal

The Australian

Australia is evolving a two-track relationship with China. As world tensions rise around security — from cyber hacking to military issues, fuelled by populism



Each week China Matters collates news items about the Australia-China relationship

and a more belligerent, anti-China administration in Washington — Australia will inevitably be drawn into some prickly times with China.

But a strong fundamental drive in Australia to do business with China, already the country's largest trading partner, is fostering a much healthier strand of the relationship.

Under Scott Morrison, who has been quietly getting some ticks from Beijing for his more carefully chosen rhetoric, it may be possible to work a more constructive way through the issues, recognising that having some different strands of the relationship is the reality of modern diplomacy.

The two strands were evident in the Foreign Ministry press conference in Beijing this week.

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/opinion/australias-relationship-with-china-becoming-a-twotrack-affair/news-story/b36b0d820f7ea21dbf69f031619b89b8>

28. Leninist logic says China must be checked, and soon

02/11/18

Henry Ergas

The Australian

As Bill Shorten noted in his address to the Lowy Institute on Monday, China is likely to remain Australia's largest trading partner "for the foreseeable future". However, that doesn't mean our interests are necessarily aligned.

Australia is best served by an open, rules-based, international order that provides opportunities not only for China but also for other emerging economies to prosper, including India and our neighbours in Southeast Asia.

However, China's economic policies, and the reaction from the US that they have predictably provoked, pose the greatest threat the open trading system has faced in decades.

Those policies are inextricably linked to the recentralisation that has occurred under "paramount" or "core" leader Xi Jinping, whose goal is to entrench the Chinese Communist Party's grip on power.



Read more (Paywall): <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/opinion/columnists/henry-ergas/leninist-logic-says-china-must-be-checked-and-soon/news-story/8947f9784e0dea893dbbaee6b0266216>

29. China scholar Minxin Pei warns of US push

02/11/18

**Primrose Riordan
The Australian**

The Trump administration is -likely to make further requests of Australia that would sour Canberra's relations with China, including for help in extraditing Chinese spies to the US, China scholar Minxin Pei says.

As experts warned that navigating the US-China tensions was becoming trickier for Australia, Scott Morrison suggested Canberra wished to play a role in de-escalating the tensions.

Australian officials insisted the country does not need to choose between its economic relationship with China and its alliance with the US, and the Prime Minister said he would tell Chinese President Xi Jinping at upcoming meetings that Australia and China should get on with business.

"I think (I will use the meetings) to assure and provide a confidence that Australia and China can get on with business as usual, that the way we run our show is we have clear rules, we welcome investment," Mr Morrison said at an Asia Society event in Sydney yesterday. He noted China was Australia's "customer".

Read more (Paywall): <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/foreign-affairs/china-scholar-minxin-pei-warns-of-us-push/news-story/135a5108fb8bb26d5e88f358a573e295>