

## Media Roundup Issue 17 (22/04/17 – 28/04/17)

### 1. Turnbull pressures China to rein in North Korea's nuclear threats

**24/04/2017**

**Simon Benson and Primrose Riordan  
The Australian**

Malcolm Turnbull has privately increased pressure on the Chinese government to rein in North Korea as the Trump administration looks to Australia to play a lead strategic role in the region to leverage its unique relationships with the US and China.

As tensions with North Korea continue to escalate in the wake of its threats to mount a nuclear attack on Australia, it emerged that the Prime Minister held private talks with a senior Chinese politburo official where North Korea was discussed a day before his meeting on Saturday with US Vice-President Mike Pence. *The Australian* understands Mr Pence told the Prime Minister during one meeting on Saturday that Australia had a unique and critical role to play on a global scale being the only country to have a formal alliance with the US as well as a strategic relationship with China.

*Read More (Paywall):* <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/turnbull-pressures-china-to-rein-in-north-koreas-nuclear-threats/news-story/ec15a21fdda22cd943f451c3b317649e>

### 2. Extradition treaty still on the table, Turnbull tells Chinese security chief

**24/04/2017**

**Primrose Riordan  
The Australian**

The Turnbull government has reassured China it is still trying to ratify the controversial China extradition treaty.

The commitment was made by Malcolm Turnbull, Foreign Minister Julie Bishop and Attorney-General George Brandis in a meeting with China's powerful domestic security chief Meng Jianzhu on Friday.

The meetings in Sydney were part of a new “high-level security dialogue” established between the two countries, taking place the day US Vice-President Mike Pence arrived in Australia for a state visit.

*Read More (Paywall):* <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/foreign-affairs/extradition-treaty-still-on-the-table-turnbull-tells-chinese-security-chief/news-story/bdaf13a4cc87497904abdcc62492e47a>

### 3. Australia and China in pact against cyber theft

**24/04/2017**

**Jamie Smyth**

**Financial Times**

Australia has agreed a cyber security pact with Beijing under which both countries have pledged not to conduct or support the theft of intellectual property or trade secrets from each other.

The agreement follows a specific request made by Malcolm Turnbull, Australia’s prime minister, to Chinese Premier Li Keqiang during his state visit to Australia last month, and reflects growing concern in the west about state-sponsored hacking and cyber crime.

*Read More:* <https://www.ft.com/content/9df81164-28b5-11e7-9ec8-168383da43b7>

### 4. ‘Highly unusual’: Turnbull government releases China extradition statement under pressure

**24/04/2017**

**James Massola**

**Sydney Morning Herald**

The federal government appears to have been forced to release details of a high-level ministerial meeting with a top Chinese official, three days after the meeting took place in Sydney and only once Chinese media published the communique from the meeting.

Attorney-General George Brandis and Foreign Minister Julie Bishop met with Meng Jianzhu, the head of the Chinese Communist Party's Central

Commission for Political and Legal Affairs, in Sydney last week, just one day before US Vice President Mike Pence arrived in Sydney.

Chinese news agency Xinhua reported details of the meeting, including the entire joint communique - in which Australia reaffirmed "its commitment to pursue ratification of the bilateral extradition treaty" - on Saturday. But the Australian government only belatedly released the communique on Monday afternoon, three days later, after inquiries from Fairfax Media.

*Read More:* <http://www.smh.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/highly-unusual-turnbull-government-releases-china-extradition-statement-after-pressure-20170424-gvr1as.html>

## 5. China ramps up police co-operation with Australia

**26/04/2017**

**Primrose Riordan**

**The Australian**

The Chinese government has trumpeted its pursuit of corrupt “fugitives” as part of an international dragnet, after releasing a report revealing its boosted ties with Australian officials.

China’s Central Commission for Discipline Inspection’s latest report on Operation Fox Hunt said it has ramped up law enforcement co-operation with Australia, days after a recommitment from the Turnbull government that it would support an extradition treaty with China.

*The Australian* revealed on Monday that Malcolm Turnbull, Foreign Minister Julie Bishop and Attorney-General George Brandis had assured China’s domestic security chief, Meng Jianzhu, that the federal government remained committed to the deal despite being forced last month to cancel attempts to ratify the extradition treaty — first signed in 2007 by the Howard government — in the face of internal, Labor and crossbench opposition.

*Read More (Paywall):* <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/foreign-affairs/china-ramps-up-police-cooperation-with-australia/news-story/b9d5cd5664a7c4e63bf9e91fa4021501>

## 6. Wise judgement needed in times of closed borders: China expert

**26/04/2017**

**Julie Hare**

**The Australian**

The \$20 billion international education sector could be in the firing line if a “geo-economic” war broke out between the US and China and Australia was seen to side too “blindly and zealously” with the US line, the National Press Club heard today.

Jane Golley, a China expert with the Australian National University said that Australia had to balance its pro-US rhetoric and anti-China messaging, particularly in an era of closing borders and protectionist trade policies.

“International education is very important in this context,” Dr Golley told the National Press Club. “(Chinese president) Xi Jinping can act quickly by simply limiting or stopping student visas. It would be a very quick tool.

“Chinese students might not like it, but I think he would be prepared to do that just to send a message our way.”

*Read More (Paywall): <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/higher-education/wise-judgement-needed-in-times-of-closed-borders-china-expert/news-story/70d82f683596cdaebf242f2aa4ff08da>*

## 7. China takes issue with ‘deputy sheriff’ gibe

**27/04/2017**

**Primrose Riordan**

**The Australian**

A senior Chinese academic has spoken out against a Sydney aged-care provider, which accused Australia of being America’s “deputy sheriff” in a submission to a government foreign policy inquiry.

Xue Er, a researcher for the Beijing-based think tank Pangoal Institution, said the submission was misleading and caused confusion about the Chinese government's intentions in Australia.

Xue Er is the pen name of Jiang Wensheng, a former Chinese public servant, who works for the research institution, which claims it is independent from the Chinese government. The unusual intervention from Mr Jiang was in response to reports in *The Australian* that the Chinese Australian Services Society, a non-profit aged-care and childcare provider, had lodged a submission to the Department of Foreign Affairs foreign policy white paper.

*Read More (Paywall):* <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/foreign-affairs/china-takes-issue-with-deputy-sheriff-gibe/news-story/0ff4a53046bf21ac732ed122654320c8>

## 8. China and Australia film projects a boon to local industry

**27/04/2017**

**Rowan Callick  
The Australian**

Australian and Chinese producers are planning to make an ambitious list of 14 films together, mostly shot in Australia from Chinese screenplays using Chinese actors, chiefly bankrolled by China, but with substantial technical involvement from the local industry.

Co-operation in filmmaking between Australia and China – which is on the verge of becoming the biggest box-office market – previously has been slow, with just five films shot since the countries signed a co-production treaty 10 years ago. They include the drama *33 Postcards*, featuring Guy Pearce and Zhu Lin, and *The Dragon Pearl* with Sam Neill and Wang Ji.

But the two nations' filmmakers are starting to collaborate closely in something of a rush after a long process of first assessing each other's strengths.

*Read More (Paywall):* <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/arts/film/china-and-australia-film-projects-a-boon-to-local-industry/news-story/797d614676e338872c9637baf096817f>

## 9. China right to be cautious on capital flows, says RBA's Philip Lowe

**27/04/2017**

**Jacob Greber**

**Australian Financial Review**

Reserve Bank of Australia governor Philip Lowe has backed China's refusal to fully liberalise the flow of capital in and out of its economy as a short-term way of managing the huge disruptions caused by the rapid emergence of the renminbi as a global reserve currency on par with the US dollar.

However, Dr Lowe warned that controls can only ever be a temporary fix as the RMB's internationalization becomes one of the "biggest forces shaping the global financial system over the next decade or so".

"As the RMB becomes a truly global currency it is likely to change the way the Chinese economy operates," he told a function in Sydney on Thursday.

*Read More (Paywall): <http://www.afr.com/news/economy/china-right-to-be-cautious-on-capital-flows-says-rbas-low-20170427-gvu0u1>*

## 10. Ongoing anxieties for Australian firms doing deals in China

**27/04/2017**

**Rowan Callick**

**The Australian**

There's a big weight of expectation in Australia, among the same people who earlier believed the graph of China's GDP growth would rise inexorably, that Chinese investment would surge even higher.

But this week, someone who works intimately in the world of Chinese foreign investment – the chairman of ACAPITAL, an investment fund backed by China Investment Corp – explained in a briefing in Beijing why the spike in such

investment last year was just that, a spike, and the total would fall this year back to the 2015 level or below.

*Read More (Paywall):* <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/opinion/rowan-callick/ongoing-anxieties-for-australian-firms-doing-deals-in-china/news-story/888d8c26fdc91f4fc71ce882ac106d29>

## 11. 'Most wanted' Chinese fugitive believed to be hiding in plain sight on leafy inner west street

**28/04/2017**

**Kirsty Needham**

**Sydney Morning Herald**

A leafy street in Sydney's Burwood has been listed by China's feared corruption investigators as the possible residence of one of its 'most wanted' international fugitives.

Ji Dongsheng, a former manager at Henan Securities in Zhengzhou, has been on China's list of 100 most wanted officials for two years, and is believed to be living in Australia.

Now China's Central Commission for Discipline Inspection has posted the addresses of 22 corruption suspects who have fled overseas, 10 of who are living in the United States, four in New Zealand, and five in Canada.

*Read More:* <http://www.smh.com.au/national/wanted-chinese-fugitive-believed-to-be-hiding-in-plain-sight-on-leafy-inner-west-street-20170427-gvu73h.html>