

Internet usage reaches 100 pct among residents aged 18-40: MAIR survey

Armando Neves

The Macau Association For Internet Research (MAIR) released its “Internet Usage Trends In Macau 2025” survey on its official website yesterday, which showed that Internet usage has reached 100 percent among residents aged 18-40.

The survey was designed and overseen by MAIR, with fieldwork executed by E-Research-Solutions (eRS). Conducted between March and April via random-digit-dial telephone interviews, the study polled 1,213 Macau residents aged 6 to 84.

The term “netizen” refers to any resident who accesses the internet via devices including but not limited to computers, smartphones, or tablet devices, the survey noted.

The survey reveals that this year 93 percent of local residents are Internet users, marking a 4.0 percent increase from pre-pandemic levels. Smartphone adoption reached 91 percent, similarly reflecting a 4.0 percent increase compared to the pre-pandemic.

The survey further indicates that adult Internet users’ e-government service utilisation rate has surged from 43 percent in 2017 to 81 percent in 2025, with a satisfaction

score of 7.3 out of 10. Additionally, online shopping has become ubiquitous, with 81 percent of adult netizens making digital purchases.

The survey reveals that nearly 50 percent of respondents have adopted generative AI, with younger demographics, students, and working professionals emerging as primary user groups. The most frequent applications include information retrieval, research, and Q&A, with weekly usage being the most common pattern. DeepSeek ranks as the most widely used AI tool, followed by ChatGPT.

The survey highlights the rapid adoption of mobile payments, with 89 percent of residents now using this method, a 2.34-fold increase from the pre-pandemic adoption rate of 38 percent. Meanwhile, the survey also pointed out that residents’ security concerns regarding mobile payments have declined by 36 percent compared to pre-pandemic levels.

The survey concludes by emphasising the critical need to focus on youth digital literacy development, strengthen cybersecurity education, and establish a robust cybersecurity protection framework. ■



Netizens look at their phones at a bus stop in the city centre yesterday evening. – Photo: Armando Neves

Israeli intelligence chief thanks CIA for help in Iran war

JERUSALEM – The head of Israel’s Mossad intelligence service thanked the US Central Intelligence Agency yesterday for its help in “joint” operations during the recent 12-day war with Iran.

In a video distributed to Israeli media on the second day of a fragile ceasefire between the warring countries, Mossad chief David Barnea thanked his agents for their work making Israel “safer, more powerful and better prepared for the future”.

“I also wish to express my gratitude and appreciation to our key partner – the CIA – for the joint action and the operations that were

successfully carried out, as well as to its director, who supported the Mossad in making the right decisions,” added the spy chief, who rarely offers public remarks.

Israel’s attacks on Iran starting June 13 targeted not only the Islamic republic’s missile and nuclear facilities, but also senior military figures and atomic scientists.

Analysts say the strikes underlined how Israel’s intelligence services had succeeded in penetrating the Iranian state, although the extent of the purported help provided by the CIA is unknown. –AFP

Trump compares ‘devastating’ Iran strike to Hiroshima

THE HAGUE – President Donald Trump yesterday likened Washington’s strike on Iran’s nuclear facilities to the US dropping atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to end World War II.

“Actually, if you look at Hiroshima, if you look at Nagasaki, you know that ended a war too,” Trump said as he wrapped up NATO’s summit in The Hague.

“This ended a war in a different way, but it was so devastating.”

Trump has ferociously defended his assertion that the US strikes using bunker-busting bombs “obliterated” Iran’s underground Fordo nuclear facility.

US media has reported that a classified preliminary US

intelligence report concluded that American strikes on Iran had set back Tehran’s nuclear programme by just a few months – rather than destroying it.

“Was it bad? It was really bad,” Trump said. “It was obliterated.”

In the wake of the strikes on Iran, Trump announced that he had secured a ceasefire between Iran and Israel to halt their 12-day war.

On August 6, 1945, the United States bombed Hiroshima, killing 140,000 in the explosion and by the end of the year from the uranium bomb’s effects.

Three days later, a US plane dropped a plutonium bomb on Nagasaki, leaving around 74,000 people dead by the end of the year. Japan surrendered on August 15.

–AFP



US President Donald Trump gestures during a press conference on the last of the two-day NATO Heads of State and Government Summit in The Hague yesterday. –AFP

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The Macau Post Daily

Wang Yi meets envoys from EU, member states

Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with diplomatic envoys to China from the European Union (EU) and its member states yesterday in Beijing.

– Story on p. 7

Starmer faces major rebellion over welfare cuts

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer yesterday doubled down on controversial plans to cut disability and sickness welfare, amid the biggest rebellion by lawmakers of his premiership.

– Story on p. 11

Spain upholds fine against Rubiales for Hermoso forced kiss

A Spanish court yesterday confirmed the 10,800-euro (US\$12,550) fine disgraced former football federation chief Luis Rubiales received for forcibly kissing Jenni Hermoso, a sentence feminist groups condemned as too lenient.

– Story on p. 12

Customs seizes 1.375 tonnes of beef tongue at parallel-trading den

Armindo Neves

Macau Customs Service officers raided a parallel trading den in the peninsula's northern district on Monday where they seized 1,375 kilogrammes of frozen beef tongue worth around 50,000 patacas in total.

According to a Macau Customs Service statement on Tuesday, that afternoon officers caught a 33-year-old local man in charge of the den who hired parallel traders to smuggle frozen beef tongue from

Macau to the mainland.

The suspect will be fined in compliance with the relevant provisions listed in the External Trade Law, the statement said.

Moreover, the statement added, the man also violated the Food Safety Law as the supposedly frozen beef tongue was stored merely at room temperature, adding that the Customs Service has meanwhile transferred the case to the Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) for follow-up action. ■



These undated handout photos released by the Macau Customs Service on Tuesday shows the seized frozen beef tongue stored at room temperature at a parallel trading den in the northern district.

'Relatively low' probability of Strong Wind Signal No.3 today: observatory

Armindo Neves

The Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG) said on its website last night that there was only a "relatively low" probability for the Strong Wind Signal No.3 to be hoisted today.

The bureau hoisted the Standby Signal No.1 at 16:30 p.m. yesterday and said that at that time the tropical cyclone remained about 410 kilometres from Macau in the South China Sea.

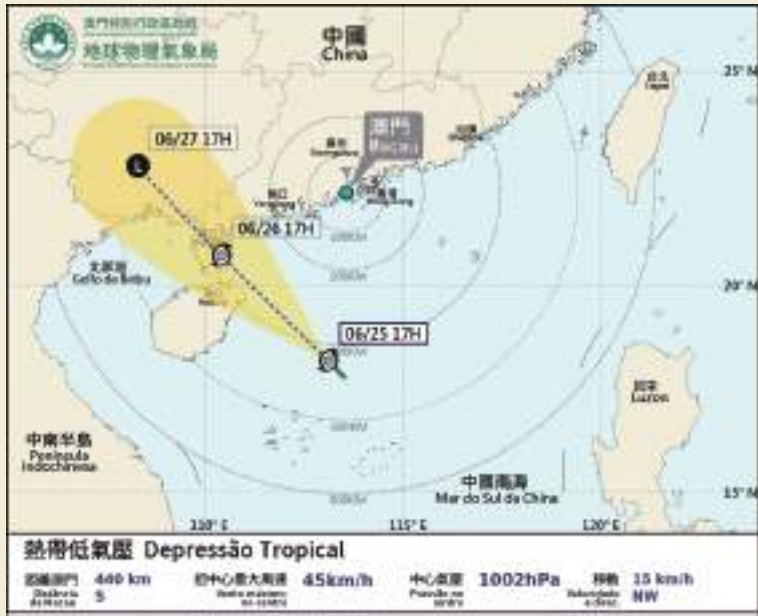
Depending on its location and strength, Macau's observatory classifies a tropical cyclone into tropical depression, tropical storm, strong tropical storm, typhoon, strong typhoon, and super typhoon.

Signal No.1 is the lowest of

Macau's tropical cyclone warning signals. It is hoisted when a tropical cyclone comes within 800 kilometres from Macau. Its higher warning typhoon signals are the No.3, No.8, No.9, and No.10.

The bureau said last night that the tropical cyclone was predicted to move northwest, after which it was forecast to approach western Guangdong Province and Hainan Province today, when the tropical cyclone's rain cloud was expected to result in frequent showers affecting Macau today.

Consequently, the website said, the bureau concluded that there was a "relatively low" probability that it would need to hoist the Strong Wind Signal No.3 today. ■



This handout photo provided by the Macau Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG) yesterday shows the unnamed tropical cyclone moving in the South China Sea towards western Guangdong and Hainan.

Police nab 2 locals for drunk driving

Ada Lei

The Public Security Police (PSP) separately arrested a local man and a local woman on Saturday and Monday respectively for drunk driving, with their blood alcohol concentration standing at 1.91 grams per litre and 1.79 grams per litre respectively, PSP spokeswoman Lai In Hong said during a regular press conference yesterday.

In the first case, Lai identified the male suspect as a local university student in his twenties surnamed Sousa.

According to Lai, the Public Security Police (PSP) received a report early Saturday morning about an accident on Estrada Governador Albano de Oliveira (柯維納馬路) in Taipa, where a taxi collided with the motorcycle driven by Sousa. When police arrived at the scene, they found the taxi parked on the road and Sousa lying on the ground. Sousa was rushed to the hospital with minor injuries. A breathalyser test revealed that Sousa had a blood

alcohol concentration of 1.91 grams per litre, confirming his drunk-driving offence.

Lai noted that the taxi driver was turning left when Sousa attempted to overtake on the inside, resulting in a collision. Under questioning, Sousa admitted to drinking alcoholic beverages nearby before driving home.

In the second case, Lai identified the suspect as a female in her forties surnamed Fok, who told the police that she's jobless.

According to Lai, PSP officers patrolling along Rua dos Mercadores (營地大街) in the city centre early Sunday morning noticed a car being driven erratically. After ordering the driver to stop for inspection, they noticed that the driver, Fok, was reeking of alcohol. And a breathalyser test revealed that Fok had a blood alcohol concentration of 1.79 grams per litre, confirming her drunk-driving offence.

Under questioning, Fok admitted to drinking alcoholic beverages



Public Security Police (PSP) spokeswoman Lai In Hong looks on during yesterday's regular press conference. - Photo: Ada Lei

Gongbei Customs busts 2 drivers smuggling 60 used mobile phones

Ada Lei

Zhuhai's Gongbei Customs officers at the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge have recently arrested two male bus drivers separately for smuggling 60 used mobile phones in total from Macau to the mainland, according to a statement from the Gongbei Customs.

The statement noted that last Tuesday, Gongbei customs officers at the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge checkpoint in Zhuhai noticed that the driver of a Macau single-plate bus acting strangely and stood out because of his bulky frame. Upon inspection, they found 30 used mobile phones concealed behind transparent elastic bandages around the driver's waist, crotch, and thighs. Four minutes later, officers seized another 30 used mobile phones concealed in the same manner on a different driver of a Macau single-plate bus.



This undated handout photo provided by Zhuhai's Gongbei Customs yesterday shows the suspects smuggling used mobile phones hidden behind transparent elastic bandages around their waist, crotch, and thighs.

In the statement, Gongbei Customs reminded the public that according to relevant regulations, evading customs supervision by hiding or bringing goods subject to taxes into the mainland constitutes smuggling. If the circumstances are severe enough to constitute a crime, criminal liability will be pursued. ■

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MAINLY CLOUDY.
OCCASIONAL SHOWERS.
A FEW THUNDERSTORMS.
FORCE 4 TO 5 SOUTHEASTERLY WINDS, OCCASIONALLY FORCE 6 WITH GUSTS.
RELATIVE HUMIDITY WILL RANGE BETWEEN 80% AND 98%.



25°C~28°C

Source: SMG

New Hope list submits political platform, calling for 15,000-pataca cash handout

Tony Wong

The New Hope electoral list submitted its list of candidates and political platform for the upcoming direct legislative election to the Legislative Assembly Electoral Affairs Commission (CAEAL) yesterday.

The 2025 direct and indirect legislative elections will take place on September 14.

Each direct election list must field at least four and no more than 14 candidates.

The New Hope list, which won two seats four years ago, has fielded current lawmaker José Maria Pereira Coutinho as its first-ranked candidate for the 2025 direct election, but the list, the electoral vehicle of the Macau Civil Servants Association (ATFPM), has fielded current legislator Che Sai Wang, its second-ranked candidate in the 2021 direct election, only as its third-ranked candidate for the upcoming direct election.

Based on Macau's proportional representation system, it is quite difficult for an electoral list to win more than two seats in the direct election.

Instead, the New Hope list has now fielded Chan Hao Weng, its fourth-ranked candidate in the 2021 direct election, as its second-ranked candidate for the 2025 direct election. Chan stood as a candidate for the direct legislative election for the first time four years ago.

Che has been a candidate of the New Hope list since the 2013 direct election, ranking fifth in both 2013 and 2017.

Coutinho was first elected in the direct election in 2005 after he had failed in his first election bid in 2001. Coutinho, whose parents were born in Goa when it was still a Portuguese colony, is a prominent member of Macau's community of mixed Portuguese-Asian descent and upbringing, customarily known as the Macanese.

Coutinho previously worked in the Economic Services Bureau (DSE) – which was upgraded to the Economic and Technological Development Bureau (DSED) in 2021 – where he headed the Intellectual Property Department between 1999 and 2001.

Coutinho is the veteran leader of the influential Macau Civil Servants Association (ATFPM).

Coutinho was re-elected in 2009, 2013, 2017 and 2021. The New Hope list won two seats in the 2013 direct election, when the list's then second-ranked candidate Leong Veng Chai was elected. Leong failed in his re-election bid in the 2017 direct election when he was the second-ranked candidate as the list won only one seat at that time.

The New Hope list comprises 11 candidates for the upcoming direct legislative election.

Chan, the list's second-ranked candidate for the upcoming direct election, is currently a public servant working in the Sports Bureau (ID), while sitting lawmaker Che, the list's third-ranked candidate for the 2025 direct election, previously worked in the Transport Bureau (DSAT).

Speaking to reporters after submitting his electoral list's



Current directly-elected lawmaker José Maria Pereira Coutinho (right), the first-ranked candidate of the New Hope list, speaks to reporters at the Public Administration Building on Rua do Campo yesterday as the list's second-ranked candidate Chan Hao Weng looks on. – Photo: Tony Wong

political platform and list of candidates at the Public Administration Building on Rua do Campo, Coutinho said that his list's political platform will focus on issues such as local residents' employment, traffic, housing, sports facilities, and an increase in senior citizens' pensions.

Coutinho also said that his electoral list decided to field Che as its third-ranked candidate this time, instead of the second-ranked candidate, as Che "could not fully commit himself to the position" of a lawmaker.

Coutinho said that the upcoming direct election could be expected to be very competitive, saying that his list is aiming to secure at least one seat this time.

He also said that fellow trade

unionist and high-profile Macanese community activist Rita Santos, who was present at yesterday afternoon's submission of the list's candidacy list and political platform, had decided not to stand in the election because she wanted to spend more time with her family.

Coutinho denied that her decision was prompted by the recent announcement from Macau's Public Prosecutions Office, which revealed that Portugal's prosecution authority had requested judicial assistance regarding a certain association leader in Macau.

"The request pertains to a criminal case linked to the Portuguese parliamentary elections, in which some individuals are alleged to have violated Portuguese election laws in Macau," the

announcement stated.

Local Portuguese media have identified Santos as a person of interest in the case. Santos remained silent yesterday. She had been widely expected by local observers to be New Hope's second-ranked candidate.

Only eight candidacy lists will compete for the 14 seats at stake in the 2025 direct election, the smallest number of lists since the first direct legislative election was held in 2001 after the establishment of the Macau Special Administrative Region (MSAR) on December 20, 1999.

Coutinho said that his list's political platform calls for the government to increase the amount of its wealth-sharing cash handouts to 15,000 patacas from the current 10,000 patacas.

Coutinho said that his election platform calls for the government to increase its pension for senior citizens to 4,500 patacas per month.

The government announced earlier this year that it will increase the monthly pension for senior citizens to 3,900 patacas from the current 3,740 patacas, adding that the increased amount is scheduled to take effect later this year.

The list also calls for free tuition fees for local residents enrolled in the city's public higher education institutions.

Today is the deadline for the submissions of lists of candidates and political platforms, when the Macau-Guangdong Union (UMG) list, the only remaining direct election list yet to submit its list of candidates and political platform, will make the submissions. ■

10th Anniversary Macau Golf Masters tees off

Rui Pastorin

An opening ceremony was held yesterday for the 2025 Macau Golf Masters at the Macau International Golf course in Cotai, this year marking its 10th Anniversary and gathering 147 participants, including 41 golfers with intellectual and/or physical disabilities, according to a statement yesterday by the Charity Association of Macau Business Readers.

The statement said that the tournament, which ends tomorrow, features players from 17 different countries, including Special Olympics golf delegations, Paralympic

athletes, and both current and former G4D (Golf for the Disabled) Tour players.

The first round of the competition took place yesterday, the statement said. Athletes are competing across both the 9-hole Team Competition and the 18-hole Individual Stroke Play events, according to the statement.

The first and second days are Masters Competitions held under competition formats inspired by Special Olympics golf rules, while tomorrow's Grand Finale will see "an inclusive team tournament where each corporate team is paired with one of the world's top golfers from the World League and the top four

qualifiers from the Challenger League".

Yesterday's event also featured warm-up and practice sessions that included golf clinics for local residents, many from community-based non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

The statement quoted tournament Director Stefan Kuehn as saying: "The 10th anniversary of the Macau Golf Masters is more than a milestone – it's a movement".

He added: "This week we celebrate not only excellence in golf but the power of diversity, the joy of team spirit, and the importance of visibility for athletes of all abilities." ■



This poster downloaded from the Macau Golf Masters Facebook page last night promotes the ongoing event.



This photo provided by the Charity Association of Macau Business Readers yesterday shows a group photo of the athletes, guests and representatives of the 2025 Macau Golf Masters taken at the Macau International Golf course in Cotai.

Photos taken by Yolanda Kog and recently provided by Red Pills Clown Care group.

‘When We’re Sick’ hopes to inspire ill kids & show them they aren’t alone

Interview by Rui Pastorin

In 2019, a group from the Red Pills Clown Care programme started visiting hospitalised children with the hopes of bringing laughter and joy, as well as easing feelings of distress and discomfort during treatment.

The regular visits, mainly taking place at Kiang Wu Hospital, are continuing – but during the COVID-19 pandemic things had changed. Suddenly, reaching the sick children became difficult, but with some effort, it was possible using Zoom.

With situations like that, the programme’s founder Bobo Leong Ka Wai thought there had to be another way to continue conveying that same care, warmth and happiness that they want to bring. And then it hit her: “What if we do a book?”

That is exactly what they did. With a story penned by author Nicole Wong Weng Chi and artwork by Yolanda Kog, which was shortlisted for the Longlist of the Children’s Publishing Category in the Professional Track of the 2025 BIBF International Illustration Awards in Beijing, a picture book titled “When We’re Sick” was recently published by Own Theatre (自家劇場)**, which the group is part of.

The Beijing International Book Fair (BIBF) is one of the most influential book fairs in Asia.

Through the book, they hope to inspire hospitalised children to be brave and show them that they are not alone, as well as prepare them for situations they might encounter. The *Post* recently interviewed Leong, Kog and the book’s editor Sara Lo Tak Wai to learn more about it.

Currently available in Chinese only, the book tells a story inspired by an accumulation of the group’s visits and the children they interacted with over the years, according to Leong and Lo, while it also features interactive sections.

The book presents real situations that the children face, Leong added, with the book providing a way to prepare the kids and even their parents and other members of the public. “We go to the hospital and face different kids with their own difficulties and challenges”, Lo noted.

Beyond that, Leong and Lo also emphasised that while children can make a physical recovery with the help of hospitals and their doctors, they also need to heal emotionally, something that a friendly hospital environment can certainly help with and that they also hope to show.

Through the book, the group hopes to give children courage and perhaps even open discussions about something that is not easy to talk about, with the main message – how can we cope with hardships and challenges that might lie ahead, as well as how can we accompany the children who are in need?

Regarding the book’s illustrations, Kog said that through visits with the group and asking hospital staff, as well as having a deep understanding of Wong’s text, she interpreted what kids might encounter using their perspectives, ranging from the machines they will see, the medicines they might take and the food they have to eat.

Colour plays a prominent role in this book, an idea by Wong, who Kog worked in tandem with to put it all together. Wong “links the pain of sick children with different colours, which inherently provides a strong visual imagination space of colours”, said Kog. In particular, the warmth and vibrancy of orange to the cold and lonely blue are two of the base colours of the book, representing two different kids, worlds and situations.

“These two colours carry strong emotional tones in the book”, Kog elaborated, adding that a girl with red spots “enters the cold world of sick children with warmth and love, dispelling their fears and darkness, and bringing laughter and love”.

Kog added that two important symbols are also found throughout the book, one of which is a whale-shaped pillow that represents freedom. The other is a “red nose”



Red Pills Clown Care programme founder Bobo Leong Ka Wai (centre), “When We’re Sick” editor Sara Lo Tak Wai (left) and artist and illustrator Yolanda Kog pose after the recent *Post* interview in the city centre.

that symbolises love, Kog said, adding that it shows: “You are not alone. There is someone who is always next to you”.

With this in mind, Lo added that everyone can be a figurative “red nosed clown” to be at the ill children’s bedside to give them support and courage to face their challenges.

Support from the community

Meanwhile, Leong highlighted that they are grateful as they have received “quite a lot of support” from different local sectors such as private companies and clinics to help get their book to the children, noting that it made them feel like they were not alone. “They loved our idea and we got quite good results”, she said. Through their help, they were able to get 200 books donated to children, she said.

Looking ahead

While the book is currently only available in Chinese, it delivers a message beyond words. But down the line, the three interviewees said that they hope to publish versions in Portuguese and English as well, along with more editions. Lo emphasised that engaging with more and more people is very important, with everything geared towards doing good things for the patients.

“If this can attract more people to get involved and if we have enough resources to continue our project, I think this will be very meaningful. It is good for the whole society, and good for our community.

The book is on sale in selected bookshops in Macau.

*The group’s visits started in 2019 and, aside from the pandemic period when this wasn’t possible, the group, which currently comprises 14 members, estimates that they do around 30 visits per year, according to Leong and Lo.

**Own Theatre was founded in 2013 and is a group engaged in original theatrical productions, community outreach and artistic exchange platforms. They regularly provide clown care services in local hospitals and continuously develop stage clown projects, according to a previous statement recently provided to the *Post*.

China's new consumption patterns drive domestic demand upgrade

Analysis

TIANJIN – Pet owners are splurging on smart litter boxes, blind boxes are flying off shelves overseas after going viral in China, and new tea drinks are becoming the go-to choice for young people.

With continuously optimized retail efficiency and the rising spending power of young consumers, China's consumption sector has witnessed a notable shift toward new channels and product categories.

At the 2025 Haihe International Consumption Forum in north China's Tianjin Municipality yesterday, heated discussions on such topics as ways to ignite new engines for domestic demand came under the spotlight.

Participants noted that new consumption – characterized by behaviors and methods driven by new technologies – has become an important force in meeting people's needs. This has unleashed consumption potential and boosted economic development, thereby activating new growth drivers for China's economy.

Artificial intelligence is reshaping the consumption landscape on both supply and demand sides. Thierry Delmarcelle, chief strategy and innovation officer of Deloitte Asia Pacific, said at the event that AI can boost consumption and accelerate China's transition toward becoming a consumption-driven economy.

For example, the penetration rate of Navigate on Autopilot (NOA) – an important AI application scenario – in passenger vehicles is expected to reach 20 percent by the end of this year.

In March, China unveiled an action plan to boost consumption, prioritizing it as a key economic task for 2025. The plan proposed an "AI Plus" initiative to promote the integration of AI and spending.

The automotive industry is undergoing a sweeping intelligent transformation. Changan Automobile has announced it will halt its development of non-intelligent new products. BYD has equipped more than 20 new energy vehicle models with intelligent driving systems. And Li Auto's intelligent driving systems logged a total mileage of about 3 billion kilometers in 2024.

This consumption upgrade wave driven by new spending patterns is not only evident in high-value, durable goods like automobiles, but

also in subtle changes in everyday consumption scenarios.

Roger Hu, managing director and partner of Boston Consulting Group, noted during the forum that China's shopping habits are breaking into clear layers, with consumption scenarios for similar products becoming increasingly diversified.

"For example, a consumer drinks eight cups of water a day. Among these, there is water for staying alert, water for relaxing, and water for socializing to bridge distances," Hu said, adding that given China's massive consumer base, meeting the demand for "each cup of water" represents an opportunity in market segmentation for consumption.

Wang Pu, co-founder of drink brand Chi Forest, said that significant consumer attention to Chinese brands and growing demand for healthy consumption have motivated companies to upgrade their technologies and products.

Chi Forest launched a new product in 2023 that uses traditional Chinese medicine ingredients to meet consumer demand for both taste and health benefits. "Sales of this product exceeded 100 million yuan within four months of its launch, making it one of our fastest-growing new products," Wang said.

New consumption patterns such as those related to the green economy, the culture and tourism economy, and the debut economy have gradually become new engines driving spending, with supportive policies accelerating across regions.

Wang Yagang, deputy director general of the Tianjin municipal bureau of commerce, said that Tianjin is accelerating its cultivation of landmark debut economy clusters. Since last year, the city has hosted over 400 related events, and it will soon introduce policies to support the debut economy.

Zhu Keli, founding dean of the China Institute of New Economy, noted that from the consumption perspective, the debut economy effectively transforms consumer curiosity into purchasing power.

"As new business forms and models like the debut economy continue to grow, the role of new economic drivers will become increasingly prominent, serving as indispensable sources of momentum to promote the high-quality development of China's economy," Zhu said. (More on p.6) – Xinhua

Local man loses 4,000 patacas in job scam: police

Ada Lei

A middle-aged local man has fallen victim to a job scam, losing 3,517.10 yuan (4,000 patacas), Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesman Cheong Un Hong said during a regular press conference yesterday.

According to Cheong, the police received a report on Tuesday from a local man who had been defrauded out of 4,000 patacas. The victim saw a job advertisement on Telegram in late-April and contacted the poster, who claimed that the position involved working in Japan as a website customer service representative, offering a monthly salary of up to 600,000 yen (33,200 patacas).

The victim was interested in the job and provided personal information including his passport details to the scammer. On May 2, he paid 2,455 yuan as a "visa fee" at the scammer's request. Following the scammer's instructions, he transferred an additional 1,062.10 yuan for a "tax card" on May 6. However, the scammer continuously used various excuses to delay the job application process.

Eventually, the victim discovered that the conversation records with the scammer had been deleted, and he could no longer contact the scammer. Realising he had been scammed, he reported a

total loss of 3,517.10 yuan to the police on Tuesday. ■



Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesman Cheong Un Hong looks on during yesterday's regular press conference. – Photo: Ada Lei

Macau to host 2025 CTA tour professional finals

The 2025 CTA Tour Professional Finals (Macao) and China's National Tennis Championships will take place in the Macau on December 1-7, marking the fifth consecutive year of the year-end tennis spectacle here.

The announcement was made during a press conference held at Grand Lisboa Palace in Cotai, which noted that the event will feature men's and women's singles and doubles, with 16 singles players and eight doubles teams competing in a round-robin group stages, followed by knockout rounds.

Macau Sports Bureau (ID) President Luis Gomes, that the

continuation of this event in Macau will further promote local tennis development, advance the integration of "sports+tourism," and contribute to the diversification of Macau's economy.

Notably, Gomes pointed out, the 2025 "Zheng Jie Cup" Elite Junior Tennis Training Camp will debut in Macau. Zheng Jie, a Grand Slam doubles champion and vice chairman of the Chinese Tennis Association, told the press conference that the program is designed to promote junior tennis development.

The 2025 CTA Tour commenced in April in Huzhou, Zhejiang Province. – Xinhua, MPD



This handout photo provided by the organisers of the 2025 CTA Tour SJM Professional Finals (Macao) shows Sports Bureau (ID) President Luis Gomes delivering a speech at the press conference at Grand Lisboa Palace (GLP) in Cotai yesterday.

STOCK MARKETS

Hang Seng Index closes 1.23 pct higher

HONG KONG – The Hong Kong stock market rallied yesterday with the benchmark Hang Seng Index up 1.23 percent to close at 24,474.67 points.

The Hang Seng China Enterprises Index climbed 1.13 percent to end at 8,859.29 points, while the Hang Seng Tech Index jumped 1.15 percent to close at 5,359.02 points.

– Xinhua

APRESENTAÇÃO DO LIVRO / 新書發佈會

FORTUNA, CASO, TEMPO E SORTE

BIOGRAFIA DE
LUÍS VAZ DE CAMÕES

命運、機遇、時代與氣運
賈梅士傳

DE ISABEL RIO NOVO

28 DE JUNHO / 6月28日 | 17:00

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Summer Davos: Powering global innovation, China delivers stability and renews vitality

TIANJIN – Voices at the ongoing 16th Annual Meeting of the New Champions have hailed China as an emerging beacon of stability and vitality, driving global innovation against a backdrop of economic uncertainty.

The three-day event, also known as the Summer Davos, which opened in the northern Tianjin Municipality, bringing together over 1,700 leading figures from more than 90 countries and regions to explore how entrepreneurship and emerging technologies can unlock more dynamic and resilient economies.

China's resilience amid global uncertainties and its steady, innovation-driven growth have captivated participants, many of whom believe the country is well-positioned to contribute even more to the world.

STABILIZER IN UNCERTAINTIES

In his speech at the opening of the event on Wednesday, Premier Li Qiang noted that the international economic and trade landscape is undergoing a profound change, and called on the international community to take constructive actions in carrying out international economic and trade cooperation.

China is willing to do whatever it takes to help tackle the difficulties and challenges facing the global economy,



Premier Li Qiang addresses the opening of the 16th Annual Meeting of the New Champions, also known as the Summer Davos, in the northern Tianjin Municipality, yesterday. – AFP

he stressed, adding that China will continue to deepen its integration and connectivity with the world market and strengthen industrial collaboration with various countries.

“We need to proactively take more practical measures to safeguard free trade and multilateralism and promote the stable development of the world economy,” Li said.

Despite global economic headwinds, China's GDP in 2024 grew 5 percent year on year to 134.91 trillion yuan, contributing about 30 percent to global economic growth,

with the country targeting a growth rate of around 5 percent in 2025.

“I'm relatively optimistic for the Chinese economy, both on medium-term and long-term... China is pivoting from manufacturing of goods into more services and digital trade. We are also seeing a lot of new technologies being applied,” World Economic Forum President Borge Brende told Xinhua in an exclusive interview.

In a forum session with Brende, former British Prime Minister Tony Blair described China as “probably the most remarkable

story of transformation” in recent decades and urged countries to seek understanding and remain engaged with China, rather than isolate it.

AT FOREFRONT OF INNOVATION

Innovation has been at the heart of China's economic growth. Ranking second globally, China's research and development expenditure increased by 8.3 percent in 2024. The country has made significant breakthroughs in fields such as quantum technology, artificial intelligence and robotics, solidifying its position as a global innovation hub.

Premier Li highlighted that China is striving to develop itself into a super-sized consumption powerhouse on the solid foundation of a manufacturing powerhouse, and is willing to share its original technologies and innovative scenarios with the world.

The Chinese government will continue to foster a first-class business environment that is market-oriented, law-based and internationalized, and always keep the doors wide open and warmly welcome businesses from all countries to invest and deepen their roots in China, Li said.

Speaking at the forum, Michael Gelchie, CEO of Louis Dreyfus Company, said that China's commitment to enhancing its business environment, promoting

innovation-driven development, and its vast, dynamic consumer market are creating opportunities for global trade and reinforcing confidence in international cooperation.

To open wider, China has rolled out a series of measures to attract foreign investment, including further relaxing market access restrictions, enhancing intellectual property protection, and optimizing the business environment.

These efforts have certainly paid off. In 2024, 59,080 new foreign-invested enterprises were established in China, up 9.9 percent year on year. The country attracted an annual overseas investment of over 1 trillion yuan for three consecutive years from 2021 to 2023.

Major multinational corporations such as Louis Dreyfus and Honeywell have expanded their presence in China, citing the country's robust market potential and favorable business environment as key factors.

The size, resilience and innovation vitality of the Chinese market have laid a solid foundation for multinational enterprises to set foot in China, and the country's prowess in scientific and technological innovation, digital economy and low-carbon development has carved out broad space for businesses, said Yu Feng, president of Honeywell China, at the event. – Xinhua

Mainland pledges all-out support for Taiwan compatriots stranded in Israel-Iran conflict

BEIJING – The Chinese mainland will make every effort to help evacuate Chinese nationals, including those from Taiwan, affected by the ongoing conflict between Israel and Iran, a mainland spokesperson said yesterday.

The Chinese Embassy in Israel has issued notices for Chinese citizens—including Taiwan residents holding a mainland travel pass – to

register for evacuation assistance as regional tensions surged.

Zhu Fenglian, spokesperson for the State Council Taiwan Affairs Office, told a press conference that some Taiwan compatriots have already been safely relocated to neighboring countries since the outbreak of clashes.

“We have always reached out to affected Taiwan compatriots at the

first opportunity to provide necessary assistance, be it in natural disasters such as typhoons and earthquakes or war-related emergency evacuations,” Zhu noted.

Affected Taiwan compatriots seeking help are advised to contact the nearest Chinese embassy or consulate, or call Chinese foreign ministry's 24-hour consular protection hotline 12308. – Xinhua

China firmly opposes Britain's statement on 'China Audit': embassy spokesperson

LONDON – China firmly opposes the “erroneous remarks” in Britain's statement on the so-called “China Audit” and the groundless accusations against China, a spokesperson for the Chinese embassy in Britain said yesterday.

“We firmly oppose the erroneous remarks in the UK's statement and report that spread ‘China threat,’ make groundless accusations against China, and interfere in China's internal affairs,” said the spokesperson.

The spokesperson made the remarks following British Foreign Secretary David Lammy's statement on the “China Audit” in the House of Commons, the lower house of the parliament, on Tuesday. Also on Tuesday, Britain released its National Security Strategy report, which also mentioned China multiple times.

Facts fully demonstrate that China has always been a builder of world peace, a contributor to global development, and a defender of the international order, said the spokesperson, adding that China's development does not pose a challenge or threat to any country; rather, it brings opportunities for

shared development to countries around the world.

Accusations such as Chinese espionage, cyber-attacks, and transnational repression against Britain are “entirely fabricated, malicious slander,” said the spokesperson.

Issues related to Taiwan, Hong Kong and human rights are purely China's internal affairs, which brook no interference from any external force, the spokesperson said.

“China's determination to safeguard its territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests is unwavering. We will never allow any external force to provoke or stir up trouble,” said the spokesperson.

The spokesperson urged Britain to see the situation clearly, adopt the right mindset, and completely abandon Cold War mentality and ideological bias.

“Only by maintaining a correct perception of China and adhering to mutual respect and open cooperation can dialogue and exchanges across various fields between China and the UK proceed smoothly, and bilateral relations achieve steady and sustained progress,” the spokesperson said.

– Xinhua

Global Greek, Plato study communities launched in Chongqing

CHONGQING – Two new global academic alliances dedicated to studying contemporary Greece and Platonic philosophies were launched yesterday in Chongqing Municipality, marking another milestone in cultural exchanges between the Chinese and Greek civilizations.

The “Global Contemporary Greek Studies Community” and “Global Platonic Studies Community” were unveiled at the opening of the Second Global Forum on Mutual Learning among Civilizations at Southwest University. The ceremony also saw the establishment of an area studies institute and a classical studies institute under the Center of Chinese and Greek Ancient Civilizations (KELKIP).

These platforms aim to pool global scholarship for dialogues

bridging ancient wisdom and modern challenges, with particular focus on perspectives from Global South countries. Scholars are encouraged to collaboratively reinterpret classical thoughts to address contemporary global issues.

“Another similarity that runs through all Greek thought and is present in the thinking of Confucius is dialogue, as a means of teaching and presenting opinions, often opposing, in order to find common ground,” said Evgenios Kalpyris, Greek ambassador to China, in his address. He emphasized that millennia-old insights provide guidance against modern crises.

Cui Yanqiang, KELKIP's Chinese director, noted the new institutes solidify the center's dual focus – illuminating modernity

through classical perspectives while reconstructing antiquity through contemporary frameworks.

Chloe Balla, chairperson of Greek KELKIP Steering Committee, highlighted the distinctive social integration of Chinese philosophy: “I'm also fascinated by the way that the ancient Chinese philosophy has managed not to be confined in the academic world, but it's part of Chinese society. So, for Chinese people, Confucius is something that they can refer to.”

Centered on “Ancient Wisdom for the Global South,” the forum features parallel discussions on Plato studies, modern Greek research, and China-Europe relations from civilizational perspectives, attracting over 60 scholars from more than 20 countries. – Xinhua

Taiwan's recovery in WWII testifies to its status as part of China: spokesperson

BEIJING – The history of Taiwan's recovery from Japanese occupation in World War II demonstrates that Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory, a Chinese mainland spokesperson said yesterday.

Zhu Fenglian, spokesperson for the State Council Taiwan Affairs Office, made the remarks at a press conference.

China on Tuesday announced commemorative activities to mark the 80th anniversary of the victory in the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War. The activities include a gathering around October 25 to commemorate the 80th anniversary of Taiwan's recovery from Japanese occupation.

Taiwan's recovery is a significant

achievement of the victory in the war, forged through the dauntless struggles and sacrifices of all Chinese people, including those in Taiwan, and is worthy of commemoration by compatriots on both sides of the Strait, Zhu noted.

Zhu also criticized Taiwan's Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) authorities for glossing over and whitewashing Japanese colonial rule, in disregard of historical facts, to serve their separatist agenda, calling their acts despicable and a betrayal of the nation.

She called on the people of Taiwan to join their mainland compatriots in remembering the war history, upholding the overall interests of the Chinese nation, and working together for national reunification. – Xinhua

Taiwan leader's distorted view of history destined for dustbin

Commentary

BEIJING – Taiwan leader Lai Ching-te has once again exposed his separatist intentions – this time by twisting history to fit a narrative divorced from fact and steeped in distortion and deceit.

In the first of a planned series of speeches, Lai delivered not a reflection of historical truth but a calculated mix of falsehoods and misinterpretations crafted to advance his political agenda to seek "Taiwan independence."

The historical record is clear: the island's bond with the Chinese mainland are deeply rooted and amply evidenced. Most of the island's population, including its ethnic minorities, are descendants of migrants from the Chinese mainland over successive periods.

Numerous historical records and documents have chronicled the development of Taiwan by the Chinese people, with the earliest accounts tracing back to the Three Kingdoms period (220-280). Starting from the Song and Yuan dynasties (960-1368), the central governments of China all set up administrative bodies to exercise jurisdiction over Taiwan.

In 1624, Dutch colonialists invaded and occupied the southern part of Taiwan. In 1662, Zheng Chenggong, a general of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), led an expedition and expelled the Dutch colonizers from Taiwan.

The subsequent Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) also set up administrative bodies in Taiwan. In 1684, a Taiwan prefecture administration was set up under the jurisdiction of Fujian Province. In 1885, Taiwan's status was upgraded to a province of China.

While Taiwan has its own historical trajectory, it has never

existed as a country separate from China. Lai, however, went so far as to claim that China only began its relationship with Taiwan in the late Ming and early Qing dynasties, falsely equating Zheng Chenggong's reclaiming of Taiwan and the Qing Dynasty's governance with foreign occupations by the Dutch and Spanish colonists.

One must not forget that people on both sides of the Taiwan Strait have long stood shoulder to shoulder in the face of foreign aggression. For instance, after the outbreak of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression in the 1930s, at least 50,000 people from Taiwan joined their mainland compatriots in fighting the Japanese invasion, driven by the belief that "to save Taiwan, one must first save the motherland."

The courage and sacrifices of the people in Taiwan in resisting foreign aggression are part of the shared memory of the Chinese nation. Yet Lai has sought to reframe this legacy as "Taiwanese defending their own country," distorting historical truth to advance his "Taiwan independence" narrative.

As many in Taiwan have noted, Lai's remarks were riddled with hollow slogans, fragmented history, and a worldview increasingly detached from reality. By distorting historical truth and repackaging it into a fabricated narrative, Lai sought to stir confrontation, deepen social rifts, and deploy historical distortion as political propaganda to mobilize public sentiment and tighten his grip on power.

But fabricated claims that run counter to history, reality and legal principles will never stand the test of time. Lai's separatist remarks are destined to be swept into the dustbin of history. – Xinhua

Wang Yi meets envoys from EU, member states



Foreign Minister Wang Yi (front, center), also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, poses with diplomatic envoys to China from the European Union (EU) and its member states in Beijing yesterday. – Xinhua

BEIJING – Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with diplomatic envoys to China from the European Union (EU) and its member states yesterday in Beijing.

Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, said that as this year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the EU, the two major constructive forces in the world today should enhance mutual trust, handle differences properly, pool their strengths, and elevate the China-EU Comprehensive Strategic Partnership to a new level.

3-point proposal

Wang put forward a three-point proposal for the future development of China-EU relations.

First, the two sides should uphold mutual respect, particularly by earnestly respecting each other's core interests and major concerns. Wang noted that achieving complete national reunification is the long-cherished aspiration and

historic mission of the Chinese nation, and that China will never allow the Taiwan region to be separated from the motherland.

China hopes the EU will continue to adhere firmly to the one-China principle and oppose separatist activities for "Taiwan independence" in any form, he stressed.

Second, the two sides should adhere to the established positioning of their partnership. Wang said that China and the EU are partners, not rivals, and certainly not enemies.

There are no territorial disputes or geopolitical conflicts between China and the EU, let alone any fundamental clashes of interests, Wang said, noting that China hopes to work with the EU to make cooperation the prevailing trend of China-EU relations.

Third, the two sides should adhere to multilateralism. China firmly upholds the international system with the United Nations (UN) at its core, the international order underpinned by international law, and the basic norms of

international relations based on the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, Wang said, noting that China consistently stands for peace talks and rejects the use of force.

The three global initiatives, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), and, particularly, the vision of building a community with a shared future for humanity – all of which were proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping – have contributed China's wisdom and solutions to the international community.

"China and the EU should follow the trend of the times, enhance understanding, build trust, achieve mutual success, and light up the world," Wang added.

The head of the EU delegation to China and diplomatic envoys of EU member states to China said that China has always been an important partner for the EU.

The EU is willing to work hand-in-hand with China for the future, develop a constructive, stable EU-China relationship, address global challenges, uphold multilateralism, and promote world peace and security, they said. – Xinhua

China ready to work with other BRICS countries for peace, stability in Middle East: FM spokesperson

BEIJING – China is ready to join hands with other BRICS countries to continue working for a peaceful and stable Middle East, a foreign ministry spokesperson said yesterday.

Brazil, the BRICS chair, has released the BRICS Joint Statement on the Escalation of the Security Situation in the Middle East Following Military Strikes on the Territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In response to a related query, spokesperson Guo Jiakun said at a daily news briefing that BRICS is a force for progress that champions global peace and stability and defends international fairness and justice.

Following the escalation of the situation in the Middle East, BRICS released a joint statement calling for ceasefire, dialogue and consultation, which played a constructive role for deescalation

of tensions in the region, Guo said.

At last year's BRICS Summit in Kazan, Russia, President Xi Jinping noted that BRICS should be "committed to peace" and "act as defenders of common security," Guo said, adding China stands ready to work with other BRICS countries to continue working for a peaceful and stable Middle East.

– Xinhua