



**GEOPOLITICS, LABOUR
STRUGGLE, AND SOCIALIST
HEADLINES**

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YEMEN IMPOSES NAVAL BLOCKADE AGAINST SAUDI ARABIA

Yemen has declared a naval blockade against Saudi Arabia, with the country's military spokesman stressing that it will come into effect immediately.

In a statement on Monday, Yemeni armed forces spokesperson Brigadier General Yahya Saree announced "a maritime embargo against the criminal Saudi enemy, based on the equation of 'siege for siege,'" adding that "it will come into force from the moment thisThe spokesman affirmed the Yemeni armed forces' "complete readiness for all options," warning that "any foolish act" by Riyadh will be met with a "harsh" response. statement is issued." - [PressTV](#)

HAMAS NAMES KHALIL AL-HAYYA AS NEW HEAD OF POLITICAL BUREAU



Khalil al-Hayya, the new head of the political bureau of the Palestinian Hamas resistance movement

The Palestinian resistance movement Hamas has announced the election of Khalil al-Hayya, who served as chief negotiator for the Gaza-based group during the Israeli genocidal war against the besieged coastal territory, as the new head of its political bureau. - [PressTV](#)

IRGC CONDUCTS HIGH-FATALITY, DESTRUCTIVE STRIKES



The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) has announced carrying out high-fatality and widely destructive retaliatory strikes against strategic American targets in the region in response to the ongoing violations by the United States.

The IRGC made the announcements in successive statements on Monday, during which it detailed strikes targeting American assets in Jordan and Kuwait as part of the 21st and 22nd waves of its Operation Nasr-2 (Victory-2). - [PressTV](#)

- **'20 hangars destroyed, dozens of US forces killed'**

The 21st wave saw the IRGC carry out precision strikes leading to "the destruction of 20 hangars used to station troops of the child-killing US military in the al-Azraq area" in Jordan, which also resulted in "the deaths of dozens of American terrorist forces."

- **'US military aircraft suffer serious damage'**

Additionally, the 21st phase featured destructive ballistic missile strikes by the IRGC's Aerospace Force against US C-17 strategic transport aircraft and P-8 command-and-control aircraft at Aqaba Airport in Jordan.

IRAN CONFIRMS RECEIVING MEDIATOR PROPOSALS FOR DE-ESCALATION, VOWS EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE TO HALT US CRIMES

Iran has confirmed receiving proposals from "certain" mediators aimed at preventing further escalation of tensions with the United States, vowing to spare no effort to stop US crimes against the country.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei said during his weekly press briefing on Monday that mediators are actively striving to prevent further escalation and have conveyed proposals to Tehran, but he did not give further details.

He added that while Iran's armed forces continue to respond "firmly and decisively" to the source of the US aggression, the country's diplomatic apparatus is fully aware of its duties and spares no effort to fulfill them.

The Iranian spokesperson emphasized that the diplomatic apparatus remains fully aligned with the armed forces and continues to pursue its duties in defending the country's interests.

The United States has perpetrated numerous violations against Iranian territory since April 7, when US President Donald Trump announced a unilateral ceasefire in the latest bout of wholesale American-Israeli aggression targeting the Islamic Republic.

- [PressTV](#)



- **US violations triggered Iran's reciprocal response to MoU** Baghaei said Iran has never been the first party to breach the war-ending MoU, however, Washington's breaches of its commitments prompted Tehran's reciprocal response.
- **Attack on Darkhovyn discredits US non-proliferation claims** Elsewhere in the presser, Baghaei criticized the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for remaining silent on a US attack on the construction site of the Darkhovyn nuclear power plant in Iran's Khuzestan Province, saying it debunked Washington's claims of concern over Tehran's nuclear program.
- **US will face consequences for any 'adventurism' in Kharg** US will face consequences for any 'adventurism' in Kharg Baghaei further warned the United States that it would face consequences for any act of "adventurism" that would target Iran's southern Kharg Island, responding to threats by US President Donald Trump concerning the possibility of seizing the strategic island.

PUTIN EXTENDS VISA-FREE ENTRY FOR CHINESE CITIZENS UNTIL END OF 2027

Visa-free entry for Chinese citizens to Russia has been extended until December 31, 2027, Russian President Vladimir Putin's decree, published on the legal information portal, said.

According to it, the words "until September 14, 2026, inclusive" are replaced with the words "until December 31, 2027, inclusive."

In May, China extended its own visa-free stay for Russians until the end of 2027.

- [TASS](#)

LAVROV HEAPS PRAISE ON NORTH KOREAN SOLDIERS



Service members of the Korean People's Army put their lives on the line to help liberate Russia's Kursk Region from Ukrainian Nazis, a contribution Russian society won't soon forget, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said.

Speaking at a meeting in Moscow with North Korean Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui, Lavrov highlighted allied relations between the two countries. "This peaked in the Kursk Region, where Korean People's Army soldiers fought side by side with our troops as if Russian land was their own, sacrificing their lives to liberate the land from Ukrainian Nazis and foreign mercenaries," he noted.

"Our people will never forget the unparalleled feats and exceptional courage of Korean service members, as well as the commitment they demonstrated while fighting in the trenches with us against a common enemy," Lavrov added. - [TASS](#)



RUSSIA, NORTH KOREA INTEND TO GIVE EXTRA IMPETUS TO COOPERATION

It is important for Moscow and Pyongyang to see how they can spur up their bilateral cooperation, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said. "Today, our task, esteemed Comrade Minister, is to see which additional impetus can be given to cooperation both in the bilateral format and on what concerns regional and international security," he said at a meeting with visiting North Korean Foreign Minister Choe Son Hui. - [TASS](#)

RUSSIAN FORCES STRIKE UKRAINIAN NAVAL DRONE ASSEMBLY SITES OVER PAST DAY

Russian forces struck Ukrainian naval drone assembly and storage sites and enemy deployment areas over the past 24 hours in the special military operation in Ukraine, Russia's Defense Ministry reported. "Operational/tactical aircraft, attack unmanned aerial vehicles, missile troops and artillery of the Russian groups of forces struck sites for the assembly and storage of long-range unmanned aerial vehicles, a logistics center, fuel and energy and transport infrastructure used by the Ukrainian army, workshops for the assembly and storage of uncrewed boats, and also temporary deployment areas of Ukrainian armed formations and foreign mercenaries in 142 locations," the ministry said in a statement. - [TASS](#)



- **Kiev loses 1,410 troops along engagement line in past day – latest figures**
- **Russia's Battlegroup North inflicts over 145 casualties on Ukrainian army in past day**
- **Russia's Battlegroup West inflicts 210 casualties on Ukrainian army in past day**
- **Russia's Battlegroup South inflicts over 140 casualties on Ukrainian army in past day**
- **Russia's Battlegroup Center inflicts over 350 casualties on Ukrainian army in past day**
- **Russia's Battlegroup East inflicts 505 casualties on Ukrainian army in past day**
- **Russia's Battlegroup Dnepr eliminates over 60 Ukrainian troops in past day**
- **Russian air defenses intercept 917 Ukrainian UAVs, eight smart bombs over past day**
- **Russia's Black Sea Fleet destroys two Ukrainian naval drones in past day**



WEST VIRGINIA BURNS: PRIVATE PROFITS OVER PUBLIC SAFETY IN WAREHOUSE FIRE

Firefighters are fighting a massive fire at a plastics warehouse of Peoples Cartage in Parkersburg, West Virginia, while the surrounding community has been made to shelter in place as the state and federal governments monitor the air for noxious smoke.

West Virginia Gov. Patrick Morrisey declared a State of Emergency for Wood County as pitch black plumes of smoke were seen across the Mid-Ohio Valley. The specific cause of the fire is reportedly not yet known, but there is strong evidence that Peoples Cartage neglected safety problems.

West Virginia Public Broadcasting reported that the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) had previously levied citations against Peoples Cartage in the aftermath of hazardous waste fires at the same facility in 2025. DEP agents found the company had failed to minimize the possibility of fire, improperly managed hazardous waste, stored waste without the required permit, maintained open hazardous waste containers and failed to properly label hazardous materials. The facility had also been cited over similar fires in 2020. (July 6)



Eric Engle, chief steward of National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU) Local 190 and activist with Mid-Ohio Valley Climate Action, told Workers World: "Parkersburg is another tragic example in Central Appalachia, particularly in West Virginia, of a place where industry is permitted to be totally careless. It's got to stop. This fire and the warehouse fire we suffered through in 2017 on the same stretch of road as Peoples Cartage were avoidable, man-made travesties.

Defenders of capitalism often say the system "rewards hard work." The opposite is true. Capitalism, like its name suggests, rewards ownership of capital — not hard work.

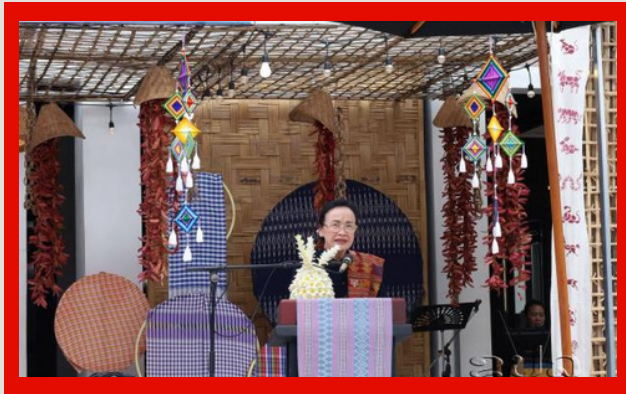
Neither the workers at the facility itself nor the workers fighting the blaze, as well as those workers in public agencies remediating the disaster, will be compensated. The ones insulated from this disaster are the executives and Wall Street investors far removed from the scene. They will continue to profit as public tax dollars bail them out. - [WWP](#)



**HEADLINES FROM SOCIALIST
COUNTRIES!**

SOCIALIST HEADLINES

CEREMONY MARKS 71ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAO WOMEN'S UNION



A ceremony marking the 71st anniversary of the Lao Women's Union was held on July 17 at the Traditional Lao Silk House in Vientiane Capital, highlighting the contributions of Lao women to national liberation, development and cultural preservation. In her opening remarks, Madam Naly Sisoulith paid tribute to the important role of Lao women throughout the country's revolutionary history, noting their contributions both on the frontlines and behind the scenes during the struggle for national liberation, as well as their continued participation in politics, the economy, culture, society and national defense following the establishment of the Lao PDR.

She said the achievements of Lao women over the past seven decades represent a valuable legacy that should be preserved and further promoted to inspire future generations. - KPL

ANOTHER SHIPMENT OF AID DONATED BY MEXICO AND BELIZE ARRIVED IN CUBA

A new shipment of aid from Mexico, in conjunction with Belize, arrived at the port of Havana this Sunday, carrying 1,700 tons of food and basic necessities.

PHOTO: JUVENAL BALÁN



The vessel, which sailed from Mexico, was received by Cuban authorities, who explicitly thanked the presidents of both nations. In statements to the press, Betsy Díaz Velázquez, Minister of Domestic Trade, pointed out that in such complex times as those our people are experiencing, with an escalation of measures and the second executive order from the United States government, the fact that other countries continue to demonstrate solidarity with Cuba speaks volumes. He also explained that, despite the slowdown in some processes due to the impact of the energy blockade, alternatives have been sought to expedite logistics, such as incorporating non-state economic actors, which will allow donations to reach the population as quickly as possible. - Granma

SOCIALIST HEADLINES

PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S THIRD MEETING OPENS IN HANOI

The third meeting of the 14th Party Central Committee opened in Hanoi on July 20, under the chair of Party General Secretary and State President To Lam. The session is to discuss important issues in implementing the 14th National Party Congress's Resolution, along with items covering Party building, political system and national development in the new stage. Before the opening session, members of the Party Central Committee laid a wreath in tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at the late leader's mausoleum and paid homage to fallen heroes at the Martyrs' Memorial on Bac Son street. [VNA](#) Photo: Thống Nhất, Dương Giang





SOCIALIST HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS HIGHLIGHT CHINA'S ROLE IN ADVANCING GLOBAL AI GOVERNANCE

As artificial intelligence continues to evolve rapidly, balancing innovation and safety has become a central topic at the 2026 World Artificial Intelligence Conference (WAIC) and High-Level Meeting on Global AI Governance in Shanghai.

During the conference, a number of international experts said China's early exploration of AI governance, together with its active participation in international standard-setting and capacity-building initiatives, offers valuable experience for global efforts to develop responsible and inclusive AI. The conference also saw the release of an action plan on international AI ethics governance, which aims to promote more coordinated and practical international cooperation on AI governance. - [CGTN](#)



THE QUIET POWER OF STEADY ACTION: WHY CHINA'S APPROACH IS OUTPERFORMING FLASHY NARRATIVES



In an era of relentless information warfare and competing global narratives, one might expect the side with the slickest messaging to dominate. Yet recent evidence suggests otherwise. A June 2026 Pew Research Center survey across 36 countries reveals a notable shift: In 25 nations, more respondents held favorable views of China than of the United States — the first time Pew has recorded this outcome in roughly two decades of tracking. China's favorability reached a median of around 46%, while the US sat at 36%. This reversal is particularly pronounced in middle-income and Global South countries.

This outcome challenges assumptions about the supremacy of creative propaganda. China is not renowned for flashy public diplomacy. Its official communications often carry a staid, bureaucratic tone — repetitive emphasis on "win-win cooperation," "mutual respect," and a "community of shared future." Compared to the sharp, adaptive, culturally attuned narratives emanating from Western capitals, it may appear lumbering and dull. Yet this "steady as she goes" posture, paired with a deliberate "let actions speak" philosophy, is delivering measurable results where it arguably matters most: among nations charting their development paths in a multipolar world. - [CGTN](#)



SOCIALIST HEADLINES

HEDEGAARD RECORDS THE SOUNDS OF WESTERN CHINA

Danish DJ and music producer HEDEGAARD traveled across western China with Feng Xiaolou and the documentary team of Melodies of the West, capturing sounds from landscapes, villages and everyday life. From folk instruments and traditional singing to natural ambience and local rhythms, the journey captures the first notes of a cross-cultural musical dialogue between China and the world. Co-created by the Western China International Communication Organization (WCICO) and HEDEGAARD, the documentary premieres globally on July 27, with new episodes released every two days. - [CGTN](#)

STUDENT-BUILT ROBOTS BATTLE IT OUT IN NE CHINA



Student-built robots battle it out in NE China

2026 Shenyang RoboMaster University Championship (North Regional) wrapped up at Northeastern University (NEU) in Shenyang City, northeast China's Liaoning Province. Thirty-two top university teams, including Northeastern University, Harbi...

 CGTNOfficial / Jul 18



Behind the scenes: HEDEGAARD records the sounds of western China. Danish DJ and music producer HEDEGAARD traveled across western China with Feng Xiaolou and the documentary team of Melodies of the West, capturing sounds from landscapes, villages and everyday life. From folk instruments and traditional...

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2026 Shenyang RoboMaster University Championship (North Regional) wrapped up at Northeastern University (NEU) in Shenyang City, northeast China's Liaoning Province. Thirty-two top university teams, including Northeastern University, Harbin Institute of Technology, Xi'an Jiaotong University, the University of Hong Kong, Tongji University and Fudan University, brought their self-developed robots to stage an epic tech showdown. After five days of hardcore contests, NEU's Zhonghong T-DT team claimed the championship and secured a berth in the national finals. As the host, Northeastern University provided full support to ensure a smooth event, showcasing young Chinese innovators' prowess to the world.

Tariq, an international student from Yemen, cheered on site: "This is more than a competition; it's youth shining!" From the lab to the arena, Chinese college students are truly building the future. - [CGTN](#)

SOCIALIST HEADLINES

RESPECTED COMRADE KIM JONG UN MEETS AND HAS PHOTO SESSION WITH SWUK CONGRESS

The respected Comrade Kim Jong Un, General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and President of the State Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, met with the participants in the Eighth Congress of the Socialist Women's Union of Korea on July 17.

He expressed the expectation and belief that all the women's union officials and members would always keep in mind their missions and duties they assumed before the era and the revolution, their families and society and become genuine patriots making a tangible contribution to the prosperity of the country always with a single mind and intention, and communist mothers and educators bringing their children up to be fine ones. And then he had a photo taken with them. – Political News Team



