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DISCOVER CHINA, DISCOVER THE WORLD

《习近平谈治国理政》导读

DECODING THE BOOK OF
XI JINPING:
THE GOVERNANCE OF CHINA



Japan urged to return looted Chinese artifacts

Founder of a Japanese civic group that aims to urge Japan to return looted Chinese cultural relics told GT that "cultural aggression must not remain obscured" 3

Straits Forum kicks off, ex-KMT chairman attends

Straits Forum opened Sunday in Xiamen, drawing over 7,000 participants from the island of Taiwan, including ex-KMT chair Ma Ying-jeou who leads a youth delegation 4

The practice of 'following a good blueprint through to the end'

The sixth installment of the "Decoding the Book of Xi Jinping: The Governance of China" series focuses on how China employs development strategies and medium- to long-term planning 8-9

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An outdoor screen shows the national flags of China and Kazakhstan in Astana, capital of Kazakhstan on June 15, 2025.

Photo: cnsphoto

► Local excitement grows ahead of event, highlighting co-op potential

Anticipation builds in Astana for 2nd China-C.Asia Summit

By Hu Yuwei and Zhao Juecheng in Astana

While the second China-Central Asia Summit is set to open, preparations are in full swing in Astana as public and scholars eagerly anticipate the event, the Global Times observed on Sunday.

At the invitation of Presi-

dent of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Chinese President Xi Jinping will attend the second China-Central Asia Summit in Astana from June 16 to 18, a Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson announced on Friday.

Global Times reporters visited the summit venue, the Palace of Independence in As-

tana on Sunday, and observed that local staff were busily engaged in on-site arrangements. Preparations were in full swing to welcome leaders, delegates from China and the five Central Asian nations, as well as global media personnel.

The national flags of China and Central Asian countries are hoisted in front of the venue.

This site, which previously hosted the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in 2024, serves as a pivotal venue for official functions, forums and conferences. Alongside prominent landmarks in Astana, such as the international airport, the Triumphal Arch and the

Israel, Iran trade strikes amid rising tensions, hostilities

By Deng Xiaoci

Israel and Iran have launched fresh attacks on each other's major cities, with intense exchanges of fire continuing into a third day on Sunday, multiple media outlets reported.

Iran has launched more ballistic missiles toward Israel while Israel attacked several different areas in Tehran, including Niavaran to the north, and around the Valiasr and Hafe Tiz squares in the city center, Al Jazeera reported Sunday.

Israeli media has reported that Iranian strikes targeted a power station in Hadera and the Netanyahu family's residence in the coastal town of Caesarea, news outlet Middle East Eye reported.

Iran's spokesperson says, starting tonight, metro stations and mosques will be available as bomb shelters for the public.

Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) launched late Saturday night a "large-scale combined offensive operation" against Israel, involving a significant number of missiles and drones, the IRGC's official news outlet Sepah News reported.

Per Al Jazeera on Sunday, the Israeli military says its forces have "completed another wave of attacks in western Iran" targeting missiles storage and launching infrastructure in the past hour. There was no immediate comment from Iran, it said.

Israel's Operation Rising Lion against Iran is expected to take "weeks, not days," CNN reported on Saturday night, citing White House and Israeli officials. The operation is moving forward with "implicit US approval," the sources added.

2
Mechanism

2
US-Iran

'Mechanism provides regional countries with certainty'

► Anticipation, from Page 1

Beijing Palace across Astana, Chinese flags were specifically raised.

A highlight of China-Central Asia Belt and Road cooperation, the Astana urban light railway – the first in Central Asia – marked a breakthrough with two trains lifted into place on June 11 and 12.

On the day of the train lift, local crowds gathered, snapping photos and applauding as it settled, showing their excitement and expectation for the project. One local told media "Thanks to China!"

The political, academic and media circles of the five Central Asian countries have also paid great attention to and are looking forward to this summit.

Kazakhstan's Ambassador to China, Shakhmat Nuryshev, told the Global Times in a recent interview that the first China-Central Asia Summit launched a new regional collaboration model, and the second summit will inject fresh momentum into deepening ties.

Sheradil Baktygulov, director of the Institute of World Policy of Kyrgyzstan, said that the shared political will of Xi and the leaders of Central Asia is key to the sustained development of China-Central Asia cooperation, the Xinhua

News Agency reported.

"This cooperation not only strengthens bilateral ties, but also lays the foundation for a new model of multilateral collaboration in the Eurasian region," he added.

Aygul Rahimova, a reporter from a Turkmenistan newspaper, told the Global Times on Sunday that the people of Turkmenistan are aware of the summit. Newspapers, television, and online resources are covering the upcoming events, generating interest among local people.

"As a journalist, I hope that this summit will serve as an important platform for strengthening ties between Turkmenistan and China, as well as with other Central Asian countries. We expect that issues such as economic cooperation, investment in infrastructure and energy projects will be discussed. Turkmenistan, with its rich natural resources, can benefit from joint projects with China, which in turn will contribute to the economic development of our country and improve the well-being of our people," Rahimova said.

Closer cooperation

Central Asia stands as the only region in the world where every country is

a strategic partner of China. China and the five Central Asian countries have signed cooperation agreements under the Belt and Road Initiative and vowed to work together to build a closer China-Central Asia community with a shared future. Observers noted such comprehensive cooperation reflects the high level of political mutual trust, the deep neighborly friendship, and the broad scope of pragmatic cooperation between China and Central Asian nations.

The 2023 Xi'an summit marked the first-ever meeting of heads of state under the China-Central Asia cooperation mechanism. In the city's time-honored embrace, they agreed to host the top-level gathering every two years alternately in China and Central Asia.

Last year, this mechanism was further institutionalized with the establishment of a secretariat in Xi'an, capital of Shaanxi, Xi's home province, Xinhua reported.

In recent years, China-Central Asia cooperation has grown richer, with a comprehensive and multidimensional framework taking shape. Efficient ministerial cooperation mechanisms in trade, industry and investment, agriculture, transportation, customs, public security and emergency management

established within the framework are operating smoothly, Xinhua reported.

In April, the sixth China-Central Asia Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held in Almaty, laying the comprehensive political groundwork for the upcoming second China-Central Asia Summit later this year and facilitated in-depth discussions on advancing China-Central Asia cooperation in all aspects.

All sides agreed that China serves as a stabilizing force in a turbulent world, and has demonstrated leadership in supporting multilateralism. They also expressed support for international trade rules and their rejection of unilateral protectionist practices, reported Xinhua.

Zhao Long, deputy director of the Institute for Global Governance Studies at Shanghai Institutes for International Studies, told the Global Times on Sunday that the China-Central Asia mechanism can provide regional countries with certainty amid external shifts. Stability and development are key agenda of this mechanism. The deeply intertwined development visions and cooperation goals between Central Asian nations and China highlight a distinct cooperation approach different from the Western ones with clearly defined power and responsibilities, said Zhao.

US-Iran nuclear negotiation stalled as military confrontation intensifies

► Israel, from Page 1

When asked about the length of the operation, the White House official, unnamed in the CNN report, stated it depended on Iran's response.

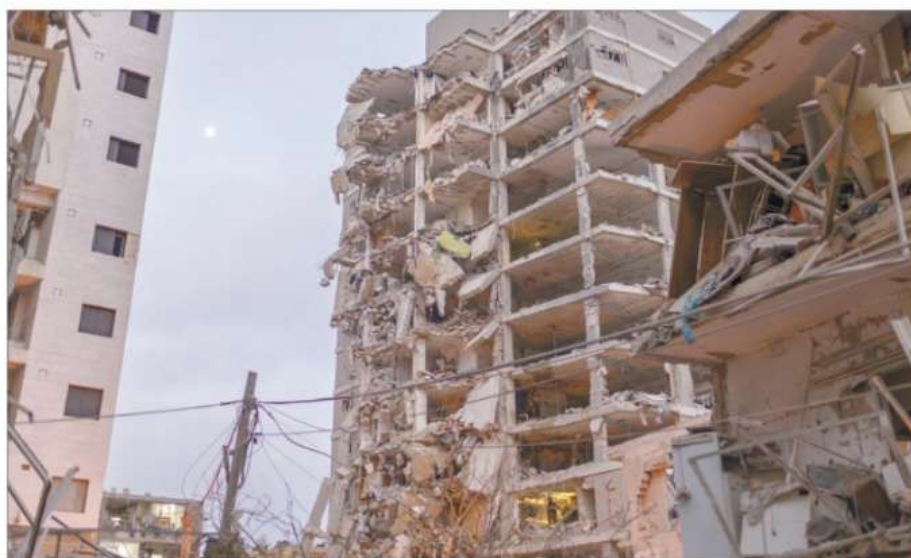
Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi confirmed to Al Jazeera that the next round of Iran-US nuclear negotiations, scheduled for Sunday in Oman, has been cancelled.

US President Donald Trump has pledged that Iran and Israel "will make a deal" to pause their conflict, insisting that "many calls and meetings (are) now taking place" to get both sides to halt fighting, CNN reported Sunday.

Citing Israeli and American officials, Axios reported Sunday that Israel has urged the US over the past two days to join its newly launched military campaign against Iran, but the US is currently not considering such a move.

Gao Tiankuo, a Chinese student in Iran, told the Global Times on Sunday that despite the tension has been escalating several times since the Palestine-Israel conflict, it was first time that he witnessed in such a direct way conflict between Iran and Israel.

Gao said that "despite everyone's concerns, based on my observations on Friday morning in the streets and markets, apart from more patrol police



A ballistic missile launched from Iran hits and damages a building in Bat Yam, Israel, on June 15, 2025. Israel and Iran continued intense bombardments on one another's territories for the third day. Photo: VCG

than usual, the smell of exhaust on the streets and the bustling noise of the market crowd reminded me that daily life in Tehran was not greatly affected. However, the anti-aircraft gunfire that night made me worried again, as it was the first time we saw the air defense system operating in central Tehran," Gao said.

Global reaction

Chinese Foreign Minister

Wang Yi had a phone call with Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi on Saturday, during which Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, said that China condemns Israel's violation of Iran's sovereignty, security and territorial integrity, and firmly opposes the reckless attacks targeting Iranian officials and causing civilian casualties.

China supports Iran in safeguarding its national sovereignty, defending its legitimate rights and interests, and ensuring the safety of its people, he said.

Wang also spoke to his Israeli counterpart, Gideon Sa'ar, over the phone on Saturday.

Wang said that China firmly opposes Israel's use of force against Iran in violation of international law.

He added that there is still

room for a diplomatic solution to the Iranian nuclear issue as military means cannot deliver lasting peace.

China urged both Israel and Iran to resolve differences through dialogue and seek peaceful coexistence, Wang said, adding that China is willing to play a constructive role in supporting these efforts.

The sixth round of negotiations set for Sunday in Oman have been called off, with Tehran saying it would not attend talks with Washington as long as Israel kept up its attacks, AFP reported.

Song Zhongping, a military expert, told the Global Times on Sunday that the conflict could go on for weeks and the risk of a full-scale regional war hinges on factors like the US' stance and Arab countries' positions.

Speaking with the Global Times on Sunday, Liu Zhongmin, a professor at Shanghai International Studies University's Middle East Studies Institute, said that Israel's attack, launched amid recent rounds of Iran's nuclear talks with the US, not only caught Iran off guard but also highlighted Washington's waning influence over Israel, complicating the situation further.

