

China's Benefits-For-All Initiative Makes It Main Engine of Global Economy, Expert Says

CAIRO - The adoption of the principle of benefits for all through reviving the Silk Road makes China a main engine of the world economy, an Egyptian expert in Chinese affairs said.

The China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative "will change the economic map of the world as the number of countries supporting the Chinese initiative reached some 126 countries so far," Samy Kamhawy, an expert in Chinese affairs from Egypt's largest daily newspaper Al-Ahram, told Xinhua. The big number of the countries that participated in last month's second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRF) in Beijing proves the success of China's economic plans, Kamhawy said.



The value of the agreements signed during the forum went beyond 64 billion U.S. dollars, he stressed. The world is developing very dramatically,

Kamhawy noted, adding that limiting economic activities is no longer appropriate nowadays. "The more open countries will ultimately

be the winners," the expert pointed out. "China's economy is very lively as a result of this openness, which China insists on maintaining." "I believe that the most important factors that China should maintain to achieve stable development are continuing to open up to other countries, go on with win-win cooperation as well as help countries achieve development that will ensure better living standards for peoples." "China's contribution to the growth of the world economy is the highest among the major countries because of the diversity and vitality of the Chinese economy and its openness to other economies," the expert said. *...(More on P4)...(8)*

Neighbor News

Iran Guards Chief Says Americans Have Started 'Psychological War'

GENEVA - The United States has started a psychological war in the region, the commander of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards said in a parliament session on Sunday, according to a parliamentary spokesman. The U.S. military has sent forces, including an aircraft carrier and B-52 bombers, to the Middle East to counter what the Trump administration says are "clear indications" of threats from Iran to U.S. forces there. The USS Abraham Lincoln is replacing another carrier rotated out of

the Gulf last month. "Commander Salami, with attention to the situation in the region, presented an analysis that the Americans have started a psychological war because the comings and goings of their military is a normal matter," the spokesman for the parliamentary leadership, Behrouz Nemati, said, summarizing the Guards' commander's comments, according to parliament's ICANA news site. Major General Hossein Salami was appointed as head of the Guards last month. (Reuters)

French FM Warns Iran Nuclear Deal Reactions Could Lead to 'Bellicose Spiral'

TEHRAN - French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian has warned against a bellicose spiral of reactions on an international agreement on Iran nuclear activities. In an interview published online by Le Parisien on Saturday, Le Drian said it was a pity that the United States was not complying with the terms of the deal signed between Iran and six major global powers in 2015 in Vienna, admitting the move prompted Iran to retaliate by suspending parts of its commitments. "It is a pity that the United States is not honoring its commitments," he said while stressing the "responsibility" of the Americans and the importance of dialogue with Tehran

on the issue. The comments came after Iran announced on Wednesday that it will halt implementing some terms of the nuclear deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), until parties to the deal other than US take action to mitigate the negative impacts of US decision in May 2018 to withdraw from the agreement. Iranian President Hassan Rouhani has set a two-month deadline for the parties to either do the necessary actions to save the JCPOA or face Iran resuming a nuclear enrichment program which had been suspended as part of the deal in return for lifting of international sanctions on Tehran. *...(More on P4)...(16)*

Pakistan, China Working Closely to Resolve Issue of Marriages of Pakistani Women

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan and China are working closely to resolve the issue of marriages of Pakistani women and human trafficking by some Chinese nationals. This was stated by Foreign Office spokesperson Dr. Muhammad Faisal in a statement issued here on Sunday. He said that the relevant authorities from both Governments are in close contact on this issue. He, said the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Pakistan Missions in

China are closely monitoring the situation and extending all possible assistance to Pakistani citizens who may have any complaints on the subject. Faisal said all other relevant departments of the government and the concerned Chinese authorities will continue to coordinate on the matter to address the grievances of the affected individuals, bring the culprits to justice, and ensure that such incidents do not recur in future. (Monitoring Desk)

Turkmenistan Elected to Structures of UN Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC)

ASHGABAT - On May 7, 2019, during the work of Organizational session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, Turkmenistan was elected to its three important bodies: Executive Council of the World Food Program for the period of 2020-2022, Commission on Population and Development for the period of 2020-2024 and Commission on Narcotic Drugs for the period of 2020-2023, Trend reports with reference to the Turkmen Embassy in Baku. The election of Turkmenistan to these structures became one more proof of growing reputation of the country in the world, recognition of its major role in the resolution of most con-

temporary issues of present day global development. A significant vector of international activity of Turkmenistan is the provision of food safety and nutritional development on the national, regional and world-wide levels. In this regard, Turkmenistan proposed an initiative to gather the High-Level Food Forum under the auspices of the UN. The meaning of the proposed initiative is based on the notion that such Forum will give effective impulse to the international partnership in the area of global nutrition and thus will assist attaining concrete future resolutions on the UN level in this direction. *...(More on P4)...(17)*

French FM Urges Iran to Show 'Political Maturity' over US Nuclear Deal Pullout

PARIS - French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian has described Tehran's threat to resume nuclear work -- in what would be a contravention of its commitments under the 2015 Iran nuclear deal -- as a "bad reaction", calling on Tehran to show "political maturity". "Iran has had a bad reaction, faced with a bad US decision to withdraw from the Vienna agreements and impose sanctions," Le Drian said in an interview published online by Le Parisien,

referring to the 2015 deal signed in Vienna. "It is a pity that the United States is not honoring its commitments, Iran must show its political maturity," Le Drian added. Iran announced earlier this month that it will stop respecting some limits on its nuclear activities imposed under the landmark 2015 deal. The announcement came exactly a year after the US withdrew from the deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive

...*(More on P4)...(13)*

Guido Tells Supporters He Wants 'Direct Relationship' with Pentagon

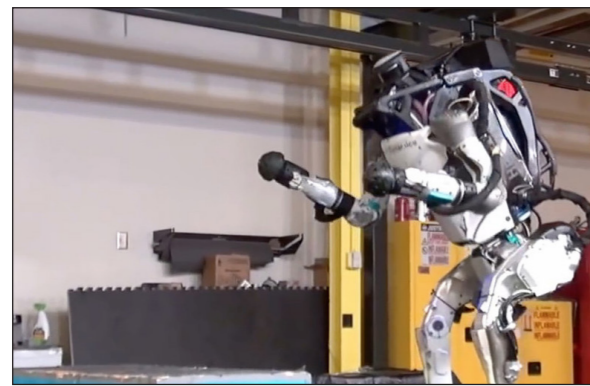
CARACAS - Juan Guaido has asked his envoy in the US to meet with Pentagon officials to request "cooperation" in resolving Venezuela's political crisis, the Washington-backed opposition leader said at a rally in Caracas after a failed coup. "We have instructed our ambassador Carlos Vecchio to meet immediately... with the Southern Command and its admiral to establish a direct relationship," Guaido said at a rally in Caracas on Saturday as he appar-



ently sought to raise the spirits of his supporters after his attempt to seize power failed last week. "We have said from the beginning that we will use all the resources at our disposal to build pressure." The US Southern Command said in a tweet that it is "looking forward to discussing how we can support the future role" of those Venezuelan Navy commanders who would "make the right decision, put the Venezuelan people first & restore constitutional order" by siding with the US-backed self-proclaimed 'interim president'. SOUTHCOM also said that it "stands ready" to act as soon as it is "invited by Guaido

and the legitimate government of Venezuela." The crowd of between 1,500 and 2,000 people gathered on Alfredo Sadel Square, where most...*(More on P4)...(9)*

'Game Change': S. Korea to Create Robots Resembling Humans & Animals for Future Wars



SEOUL - In news that may stir fears of a Robocalypse among the faint-hearted, South Korea's military unveiled plans to design robots that would mimic animals

and humans. The 'biobots' could be deployed in five years. South Korea's Defense Acquisition Program Administration (DAPA) has published a new

document offering a glimpse into the country's grandiose plans to put several kinds of sophisticated biometric robots into military service within the next several years, Yonhap reported. The DAPA said that it would galvanize efforts to design robots that would resemble humans and other living creatures, such as insects, birds, snakes, and possibly other marine life. For the moment, priority has been placed on developing human and insects-like robots.

If the effort pays off, the know-how might be brought into the South Korean Army as early as 2024. The agency called the proposed biometric robots "a game change in future warfare" that will set the direction for the future of the defense industry. Once "enrolled" in the army, humanoid and animatronic robots would be used for a variety of tasks, including rescue and search missions and reconnaissance. *...(More on P4)...(10)*

Inequality Tops Agenda as Lithuanians Choose New President

VILNIUS - Lithuanians began voting on Sunday for a new president in a tight race dominated by concerns over income inequality and poverty in the Baltic state boasting some of the eurozone's strongest growth. Nine candidates are vying to replace two-term independent incumbent Dalia Grybauskaitė, but surveys suggest only three stand a chance of making it to an expected May 26 run-off that would coincide with European Parliament elections.

Centre-left Prime Minister Saulius Skvernelis, conservative ex-finance minister Ingrida Simonyte and independent economist Gitanas Nausėda lead the pack. The main centre-right contender, Simonyte is popular with wealthy, educated urban voters while Skvernelis' populist approach resonates with the rural poor. Nausėda seeks to appeal across the rich-poor divide in the former Soviet republic of 2.8 million people. *...(More on P4)...(14)*

Shanahan Says Military Won't Leave Until Border Is Secure

MCALLEN, Texas - Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan visited a border city in Texas on Saturday and said he intends to accelerate planning to secure the border and bolster the administration's ability to accomplish that without the Pentagon's continuous help. He also offered assurances to perhaps two dozen Border Patrol agents and other officials at the McAllen Border Patrol Station that the Pentagon would not withdraw its military support prematurely.



"We're not going to leave until the border is secure," he said, adding, "This isn't about identifying a problem. It's about fixing a problem more quickly." Shanahan told Congress

this past week that there are 4,364 military troops on the border, including active-duty and National Guard. They are erecting barriers, providing logistics and transportation *...(More on P4)...(11)*

Erdogan Refuses to Budge over Re-Run of Istanbul Vote

ISTANBUL - President Recep Tayyip Erdogan insisted Saturday that he would not bow to international criticism over a controversial decision to re-run mayoral elections in Istanbul. "With God's permission, our people will not bow to threats and the pressure," Erdogan said, speaking in Turkey's biggest city and economic hub. The Turkish leader has come under heavy fire after the country's top election body last week annulled the results of the March 31 mayoral vote in Istanbul and ordered a re-run on June 23.

The original vote was narrowly won by the opposition candidate, dealing the ruling AKP party its first defeat in the city, which has been controlled by the AKP and its predecessors for 25 years. But Erdogan alleged "serious corruption" in the count. The move has been widely condemned by Turkey's Western allies. The United States said that a "healthy democracy" with transparent elections was in Turkey's own interest, while Germany said the decision to annul the election was "not transparent, and incomprehensible to us". *...(More on P4)...(12)*

Asian University for Women to Celebrate Seventh Commencement



Asian University for Women (AUW) hosted its Seventh Commencement Ceremony on the 11th of May 2019 at the Radisson Hotel, Chattogram. The Commencement was presided over by Chancellor Cherie Blair.

CHITTAGONG - Asian University for Women celebrated its Seventh Commencement in Chattogram today to the tunes of Tagore's Anandoloke and Aguner Poroshmoni sung by the University's choir representing students from many countries. 100 students from 12 countries, majoring in Philosophy, Politics and Economics; Economics; Environmental Sciences; and Public Health were awarded with Bachelor's degrees on the occasion.

The Chancellor of the University, Mrs. Cherie Blair, presided over the Commencement. In her address Mrs. Blair commented to the graduating class "You have the talent and the skills, and now the qualifications, to be successful and service-oriented members of the workforce, to be change-makers in your spheres and become ethical and compassionate leaders." She noted that "Equal opportunity is of particular significance to us here at the Asian University for Women. This university is one of the battlegrounds on which women refiguring for their equal right to education." She went on to say that "Whilst individual dedication to upholding these values is crucial, it is also the responsibility of the lawmakers and the policy makers of the world to nurture and protect these principles." Two distinguished guests were honored by AUW with honorary doctorates at the Commencement. Dr. Mohammad Humayon Qayoumi, Minister of Finance and Chief Advisor to the President in the Government of Afghanistan was awarded an honorary degree of laws. Prior to returning to Afghanistan, Dr. Qayoumi was president of California State University East Bay and then served as President of San Jose State University. An engineer with four graduate degrees to his credit, Dr. Qayoumi is an author of eight books and dozens of articles. *...(More on P4)...(15)*