

# China Politics Weekly

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Dear friends and colleagues,

I am back from travels and the World Cup is over, so the newsletter should come out more frequently over the next few weeks. In the interest of getting this issue out, no commentary this week.

I have been considering various ways to improve and expand CPW- if any of you have ideas or would like to get involved, please get in touch.

Your comments and feedback are always welcome. Old issues are always available at [www.chinapoliticsweekly.com](http://www.chinapoliticsweekly.com). Sign up or unsubscribe by sending an email to [info@chinapoliticsweekly.com](mailto:info@chinapoliticsweekly.com).

## PBSC Week in Review

- Xi Jinping**      **June 13**      **Xi set off for Latin America.**  
*Will attend BRICS summit in Brazil and visit Argentina, Venezuela and Cuba.*
- Xi stopped in Rhodes, Greece on his way to Brazil.**  
*Interesting choice. Li Keqiang just in Greece a few weeks ago. Bilateral relations looking very strong, China investing a lot in Greece, most notably through Piraeus Port acquisition. Trying to use Greece as trade bridgehead into Europe?*
- Xi met with Prime Minister of Greece Antonis Samaras.**
- Xi met with Greek President Karolos Papoulias.**
- June 11**      **Xi participated in a Central Military Commission ceremony to promote four officers the rank of general.**  
*All four said to be Xi's people. Xi is clearly trying to get control of the military and clean it up. I'd expect purge of Xu Caihou is just beginning of larger crackdown on corruption in military.*
- June 10**      **Xi met with American Secretary of State John Kerry and Secretary of the Treasury**

- Jacob Lew.**
- June 9** **Xi spoke at the opening of the annual US-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue.**  
*Text of the speech (in Chinese).*
- Xi met with Putin's Chief of Staff Sergei Ivanov.**
- Xi met with former Prime Minister of Australia John Howard.**
- Xi held talks with President of Ethiopia Mulatu Teshome.**
- July 8** **Xi chaired a meeting with leading economists to discuss China's economy.**
- Xi met with World Bank President Jim Yong Kim.**
- Xi received the credentials of seven new ambassadors to China.**
- July 7** **Xi attended a ceremony and gave a speech commemorating the 77th anniversary of the outbreak of the war with Japan.**
- Xi met with German Chancellor Angela Merkel.**
- July 4** **Xi met again with President of South Korea Park Geun-hye.**
- Xi met with Prime Minister of South Korea Jung Hong-won.**
- Xi gave a speech at Seoul University.**
- Xi spoke at a forum on bilateral economic and trade cooperation in Seoul.**
- Xi met with with Speaker of Korea's National Assembly Chung Ui-hwa.**
- Xi returned to Beijing.**
- July 3** **Xi held talks with President of South Korea Park Geun-hye.**
- Xi published an editorial in several Korean newspapers.**
- Xi arrived in Seoul, South Korea for an official visit.**
- July 2** **Xi met with former US Treasury Secretary Hank Paulson.**
- July 1** **It is announced that Xi has appointed five new ambassadors.**  
*Yu Hongyang, formerly ambassador to Iran, appointed ambassador to Turkey.*
- June 30** **Xi chaired a meeting of the Politburo.**  
*Discussed fiscal and tax reforms, hukou reforms and discipline reforms.*

**Xi met with Indian Vice President Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari.**

**Xi sent congratulations to Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz on his reelection as president of Mauritania.**

**June 27** **Xi attended a national meeting on frontier and coast defense.**  
*According to Xinhua, Xi said one cannot help thinking of China's modern history when the country was so weak and destitute that it was for everyone to bully. Foreign aggressors broke China's land and sea defense hundreds of times, plunging the Chinese nation into the abyss of calamity, Xi added, calling on the people not to forget the history of humiliation and to build a strong frontier.*

**Xi held talks with President of Myanmar Thein Sein.**

**June 26** **Xi sent congratulations to the African Union on the opening of its 23<sup>rd</sup> summit.**  
*No similar message from Obama- China always a step ahead in Africa.*

<b>Li Keqiang</b>	<b>July 11</b>	<b>Li sent a congratulatory note to the 2014 Eco Forum Global Annual Conference held in Guiyang, Guizhou.</b>
		<b>Li met with Francis Gurry, Director-General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).</b>
	<b>July 9</b>	<b>Li chaired an executive meeting of the State Council.</b> <i>Meeting decided to eliminate purchase tax for electric vehicles and discussed supporting growth of insurance industry.</i>
		<b>Li met with MNC CEOs at the Second Roundtable Summit of the Global CEO Council hosted by the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC).</b> <i>CEOs of Volkswagen, Siemens, IBM, Standard Chartered and Nokia there, among others.</i>
		<b>Li met with Prime Minister of Malta Joseph Muscat.</b>
	<b>July 8</b>	<b>Li met with World Bank President Jim Yong Kim and World Health Organization Director General Margaret Chan.</b>
		<b>Li met with President of Ethiopia Mulatu Teshome.</b>
	<b>July 7</b>	<b>Li held talks with German Chancellor Angela Merkel.</b>
	<b>July 6</b>	<b>Li met with German Chancellor Angela Merkel.</b>
	<b>July 3-4</b>	<b>Li went on an inspection tour to Changsha, Hunan.</b>

	July 2	<b>Li chaired an executive meeting of the State Council.</b> <i>Discussed improving government audits, promoting innovation and increasing tourism.</i>
	July 1	<b>Li met with Vice President and Deputy Chairman of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) James Wani Igga of South Sudan.</b> <i>Unusual for the Premier to meet with a vice president of such a relatively small country. China worried about its oil interests in South Sudan, <i>as evidenced by recent diplomatic efforts in the region.</i></i>
	June 27	<b>Attended meeting on frontier and coast defense.</b>
<b>Zhang Dejiang</b>	July 7	<b>Zhang met with German Chancellor Angela Merkel.</b>
	July 3	<b>Zhang held talks with Hannes Germann, president of the Council of States of Switzerland's Federal Assembly.</b>
	July 1	<b>Zhang met with Jean Besson, chairman of the French Parliament's France-China Friendship Group.</b>
	June 27	<b>Zhang chaired an NPC Standing Committee meeting.</b> <i>Appointed Chen Zhenggao as new Minister of Housing and Urban-Rural Development. Move not a surprise as former minister Jiang Weixin was above retirement age and not appointed to 18<sup>th</sup> Central Committee.</i>  <i>Chen is said to be close to Premier Li, and <i>apparently all about shantytown renovation.</i></i>  <b>Zhang presided over a lecture for the NPC Standing Committee on building a fairer and more sustainable social security system.</b>  <b>Zhang presided over an NPC chairmen's meeting.</b>  <b>Zhang met with President of Myanmar Thein Sein.</b>
	July 10	<b>Yu chaired a CPPCC symposium to discuss the South-North Water Diversion Project.</b>
<b>Yu Zhengsheng</b>	July 7	<b>Yu attended a ceremony commemorating the 77th anniversary of the outbreak of the war with Japan.</b>  <b>Yu met with a delegation from Taiwan's General Chamber of Commerce.</b>
	July 3	<b>Yu chaired a CPPCC meeting on deepening judicial system reforms.</b>
	June 27	<b>Yu met with Taipei mayor and KMT vice chairman Hao Lung-bin.</b>

*Both sides seem to be eager to enhance cooperation. Meeting comes as Zhang Zhijun becomes first head of Taiwan Affairs Office to visit Taiwan. Importantly, Zhang also met with key DPP figures, who seem to be more open to cross-straits cooperation than in years past.*

**Yu met with representatives from the China Overseas Chinese Entrepreneurs Association.**

**June 26** Yu chaired a CPPCC symposium on how to improve the employment prospects for college graduates.

**Liu Yunshan** July 5 Liu chaired a meeting of the Mass Education Campaign Leading Small Group.

July 3 Liu met with attendees of the Silk Road Economic Belt Media Cooperation Forum.

**Wang Qishan** July 3-4 Wang went on an inspection tour to Inner Mongolia.

**Zhang Gaoli** July 9 Zhang met with John Podesta, senior advisor to President Obama on environmental policy.

July 2-5 Zhang went on inspection tour to Ningxia and Gansu.

June 27 Attended meeting on frontier and coast defense.

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