

China Politics Weekly

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Dear friends and colleagues,

Thanks to all of you in Beijing, Wuhan, Hong Kong and Singapore who took time to meet over the past few weeks. I am back in London now, but in bed with a cold, so no commentary this week.

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PBSC Week in Review

Xi Jinping

Party General Secretary; PRC President; Chairman of Central Military Commission

Mar 26

Xi congratulated Hung Hsiu-chu for being elected as the chair of the Kuomintang in Taiwan.

Xi published an article in Pravo Daily, a Czech newspaper.

Mar 25

Xi chaired a meeting of the Politburo.

The Politburo passed two documents: one about integrated military and civilian development and one on the development of the Yangtze River Economic Belt.

Xi met with Russian Presidential Administration Chief Sergei Ivanov.

Mar 23

Xi went on an inspection tour of the National Defense University of the People's Liberation Army.

Xi sent a written instruction to a National Society for Party Building Studies Conference.

Xi urged the NSPBS to adhere to the right political direction, play its role in studying Party building as a leading think tank, and undertake studies on the theoretical and practical issues of Party building.

Mar 22 **Xi chaired a meeting of the Leading Small Group for Deepening Overall Reform.**

The meeting approved a series of documents including those on lawyers, ecological compensation, poverty eradication, child health care and investment. There were also calls for a unified system to deal with investors equally and reduced restrictions on private investment.

Li Keqiang not at the meeting...

Xi extended condolences to King Philippe of Belgium after the terror attacks in Brussels.

Mar 21 **Xi held talks with German President Joachim Gauck.**

The two leaders agreed to strengthen the all-round strategic partnership between the two countries and deepen practical cooperation with the Belt and Road initiative.

Xi met with Nepali Prime Minister K. P. Sharma Oli.

They agreed to expand practical cooperation, speed up the establishment of a China-Nepal free trade area, and boost cooperation on connectivity, energy, post-earthquake reconstruction and industrial capacity.

Li Keqiang
Premier

Mar 27 **Li sent a message to Kazakhstan Prime Minister Karim Massimov to congratulate him on his reappointment.**

Mar 26 **Li sent a written instruction to a meeting to a working group on improving the quality and efficiency of SOEs.**

Mar 25 **Li sent a written instruction to a a State Council teleconference on a new round of rural power grid upgrades.**

Mar 24 **Li attended and delivered a speech at the opening ceremony of the Boao Forum for Asia annual conference in Boao, Hainan.**

Full text of his speech (in English).

Li met with former vice president of Taiwan and chair of the Cross-Strait Common Market Foundation Vincent Siew in Boao, Hainan.

Li met with members of the Boao Forum for Asia board of directors in Boao, Hainan.

Li held a dialogue with entrepreneurs attending the Boao Forum for Asia in Boao, Hainan.

Mar 23 **Li chaired and spoke at the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Leaders' Meeting in Sanya, Hainan.**

Full text of his speech (in Chinese).

Li met with Thai Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha in Hainan, Sanya.

They agreed to press ahead with railway cooperation as well as cooperation in trade, investment and tourism.

Li met with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen.

Li met with Lao Prime Minister Thongsing Thammavong.

They agreed to strengthen bilateral cooperation, especially big projects in railway and hydropower.

This year marks the 55th anniversary of China-Laos relations and the 25th anniversary of the China-ASEAN dialogue.

Li met with Myanmar Vice President Sai Mauk Kham.

Li called on the two countries to strengthen cooperation in building infrastructure, interconnectivity and industrial parks.

Li met with Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Pham Binh Minh.

Li issued a written instruction on the illegal vaccine trade.

Li and leaders attending the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Leaders' Meeting visited the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation exhibition in Sanya, Hainan.

Li and leaders attending the Lancang-Mekong Cooperation Leaders' Meeting held a press conference in Sanya, Hainan.

Mar 22 **Li extended condolences to Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel after the terror attacks in Brussels.**

Mar 21 **Li held talks with Nepali Prime Minister K. P. Sharma Oli.**
They agreed to expand reciprocal cooperation in pursuit of common development.

Li met with German President Joachim Gauck.

Li met with IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde.

He said China will continue financial market reform and will keep yuan "basically stable at an adaptable and equilibrium level".

Li met with overseas delegates attending the China Development Forum.

He said China will continue to open up and build a fair market environment and implement supply-side structural reforms.

Li sent a written instruction to a national work conference on spring farming and forest and grassland fire prevention.

- Zhang Dejiang**
Chair of the National People's Congress
- Mar 27** **Zhang returned to Beijing.**
- Mar 26** **Zhang spoke at a conference with Chinese investors in Kenya.**
- Zhang visited the construction site of the Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway, which is being built by a Chinese company at the Mombasa West Station, Kenya.**
- Zhang inspected the project of China-Kenya cooperation in building the Mombasa Port and Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone.**
- Mar 25** **Zhang visited the CCTV Africa bureau and met with the heads of major Chinese news media in Africa in Nairobi, Kenya.**
- Zhang visited a vocational education cooperation center in the Technical University of Kenya.**
- Mar 24** **Zhang travelled from Rwanda to Kenya.**
- Zhang held talks in Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta in Nairobi, Kenya.**
The two agreed to push forward cooperation in constructing rail and port infrastructure as well as in industrial development and special economic zone building.
- Zhang held talks with Kenyan Senate Speaker Ekee Ethuro in Nairobi, Kenya.**
- Zhang held talks with Kenyan National Assembly Speaker Justin Muturi in Nairobi, Kenya.**
Zhang and Muturi signed an Memorandum of Understanding on establishing a parliamentary exchange mechanism between the two countries.
- Mar 23** **Zhang met with Rwandan President Paul Kagame in Kigali, Rwanda.**
- Zhang held talks with Rwandan Senate President Bernard Makuza in Kigali, Rwanda.**
- Zhang attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of a new office complex that will house the Prime Minister's office and four ministries.**
- Mar 22** **Zhang travelled from Zambia to Rwanda.**
This is Zhang's first trip to Rwanda. Zhang's trip to Africa is aimed at pushing forward implementation of the outcomes of the December 2015 Forum on China-Africa Cooperation. At the summit, Xi announced a three-year USD60 billion aid package to Africa, including a USD5 billion package to African countries for grants and zero-interest loans, USD35 billion in concessional loans and credit lines and USD5 billion to boost the China-Africa Development Fund

and support for small and medium enterprises.

Zhang visited the Kigali Genocide Memorial Center in Gisozi, Rwanda.

Zhang held talks with Rwandan Speaker of Chamber of Deputies Donatille Mukabalisa in Kigali, Rwanda.

Mar 21 **Zhang met with former Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda in Lusaka, Zambia.**

Zhang visited a China-Zambia economic cooperation zone in Lusaka, Zambia.

Zhang visited a Confucius Institute in the University of Zambia.

Mar 19-21 **Zhang attended and spoke at the Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly in Lusaka, Zambia.**

Announced that China will launch a program to train members of parliament of some Asian and African countries to improve the capacity of parliament in developing countries.

Mar 19 **Zhang held talks with Zambian President Edgar Lungu in Lusaka, Zambia.**

The two agreed to expand pragmatic cooperation on industrial capacity, mining and agriculture; President Lungu welcomed more Chinese investment.

Zhang held talks with Speaker of Zambian National Assembly Patrick Matibini.

Yu Zhengsheng

Chair of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference

Mar 25 **Yu attended a Politburo meeting.**

Mar 24 **Yu chaired a bi-weekly consultation session of the CPPCC.**

Focused on promoting science in education and building more science and technology museums.

Mar 23 **Yu met with Nepali Prime Minister K. P. Sharma Oli.**

Liu Yunshan

Head of Party Secretariat; Head of Propaganda

Mar 25 **Liu attended a Politburo meeting.**

Mar 23 **Liu met with representatives at the National Society for Party Building Studies conference and gave a speech.**

Mar 22 **Liu attended a meeting of the Leading Small Group for Deepening Overall Reform.**

Mar 21 **Liu met with German President Joachim Gauck.**

Wang Qishan

Mar 25 **Wang attended a Politburo meeting.**

Secretary of the
Central
Commission for
Discipline
Inspection

Wang met with Russian Presidential Administration chief Sergei Ivanov.

Zhang Gaoli
Executive Vice
Premier

- Mar 25** Zhang attended a Politburo meeting.
- Mar 25** Zhang attended a State Council teleconference on a new round of rural power grid upgrades.
- Mar 23** Zhang chaired and spoke at a meeting of the Olympic Leading Small Group.
- Mar 22** Zhang met with Gazprom CEO Alexei Miller.
The two urged accelerating construction of the Altai natural gas pipeline.
- Mar 22** Zhang attended a meeting of the Leading Small Group for Deepening Overall Reform.
- Mar 21** Zhang chaired and spoke at a telephone and video conference of the Shantytown Working Group.
- Mar 20** Zhang chaired and spoke at the 2016 China Development Forum.

About CPW

China Politics Weekly aims to keep business leaders, investors, diplomats, scholars and other China hands up to date on important trends in China. It is produced by Trey McArver, a London-based consultant providing advice and intelligence to firms and investors engaged in China and the region. You can find out more about Trey and CPW in [this interview](#).

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