

OPINION: AI ETHICS AND GOVERNANCE P.20

FEATURES: DOUBLE 11, BOOM OR BUST? P.28

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Cover Photo: The Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, the U.S., on October 29 (XINHUA)

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## China and the U.S.: Dream Team?

More passenger flights. Intergovernmental discussions on artificial intelligence. Resumption of high-level military communication. These are among the initiatives to strengthen bilateral exchanges agreed upon by Chinese President Xi Jinping and his American counterpart Joe Biden during their recent meeting in San Francisco.

President Xi traveled to the U.S. from November 14 to 17 for this summit as well as the 30th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting. The visit attracted much attention against the backdrop of rising regional conflicts and sluggish economic growth.

During the summit, the leaders of the world's two largest economies charted the course for the sustainable development of China-United States relations, building on the consensus reached when they met in Bali, Indonesia, a year ago.

China is committed to a stable and healthy relationship with the U.S. At the same time, there is no denying that they have their differences and disagreements. However, these should not be a barrier that alienates the two global players; instead, they should always team up to find solutions through consultations as partners with mutual respect.

Both countries need to focus on their

common interests across a wide range of areas such as trade, agriculture and climate change management. Mutually beneficial cooperation can go a long way toward bridging differences. There is also an urgent need for the two to set a good example on the international stage and assume their responsibilities as major countries.

With growing instability and uncertainty in the global economy, the APEC forum serves as a key platform for economic cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region. This region is the world's most economically prosperous one and has remained on track to contribute about two thirds of global growth in 2023, according to a report by the International Monetary Fund. Solidarity and cooperation are what brought the Asia-Pacific economies together in the first place. With this in mind, they should continue collaborating to generate new growth for the region and beyond.

China and the U.S. are two giants in the Asia-Pacific region. While the latter has technological and financial prowess, China has huge market potential. In this sense, it is imperative that the two giants work together to transcend their differences and bring badly needed development to the world. **BR**



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PHOTO BY AP/WIDEWORLD

## DIGGING DEEP

The Yuejin 3-3XC Well of China Petrochemical Corp. (Sinopec) in the Tarim Basin of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region in northwest China on November 15. Sinopec has completed the 9,432-meter deep oil and gas well, setting a new record for the deepest onshore well in Asia, the company announced that day.



## Monumental

A visitor views a sculpture at the Xizang Art Museum in Lhasa, capital of Xizang Autonomous Region in southwest China, on November 15. The new art museum opened that same day, exhibiting nearly 300 works by famous international artists. The museum is the first regional-level art museum in Xizang.

## Post-Flood Reconstruction

Beijing has formulated plans for promoting post-flood reconstruction projects in areas affected by the floods in late July and early August, according to the Beijing Municipal Commission of Development and Reform, *Beijing Daily* newspaper reported on November 12.

The affected areas include the city's districts of Fangshan, Mentougou and Changping. As of November 11, 142 related projects had started construction. The projects involve multiple aspects such as residential housing, infrastructure, public services, ecological environment, village reconstruction and industrial revitalization.

The post-disaster reconstruction plans also include tasks to enhance the city's capabilities in disaster prevention and mitigation, urban drainage, emergency management and meteorological support.

In neighboring Hebei Province, which was also affected by the floods, reconstruction efforts are also continuing. According to a conference held in the province on November 11, which was attended by top provincial officials, Hebei will comprehensively study the winter living conditions of the affected residents and ensure the supply of gas and electricity to ensure that local people can live comfortably and have warm homes during the winter.

## Passenger Throughput

The annual passenger throughput of civil aviation in Xizang Autonomous Region in southwest China is expected to surpass 6 million by late 2023, a Chinese official said on November 10.

Xizang will have seven airports, with 154 air routes connecting 70 cities by the end of 2023, Yan Jinhai, Chairman of the government of Xizang, said at a press conference on the newly released white paper titled CPC Policies on the Governance of Xizang in the New Era: Approach and Achievements.

According to the white paper, a comprehensive transport system has been developed and

steadily improved in Xizang. Yan said that the total road length in Xizang has exceeded 120,000 km and bullet trains have started operating there.

## Sports Parks

Jiangsu Province in east China plans to build 500 km of fitness trails and at least 50 sports parks or fields, and promote at least 100 sports venues open to the public with low or no entrance fees next year, according to the provincial sports department.

Jiangsu announced the plan at a national meeting held on November 13 to advance the development of public service systems for fitness and physical activity in the city of Zhangjiagang.

Chen Shaojun, Director of the Jiangsu Sports Bureau, noted that the province currently has 317,900 sports venues, with a per-capita sports venue area of 4.03 square meters.

The ninth edition of the Jiangsu Fitness Games in 2024 will include 33 events popular among the public. These will be determined by online voting and sports associations, according to Zhang Haitao, Deputy Director of the Jiangsu Sports Bureau.

## Pilot Trainees

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy has been continuously exploring and optimizing the scope of recruitment, selection methods and training programs for carrier-based aircraft pilot trainees, gradually forming a distinctive selection and recruitment model.

This was revealed at the PLA Navy's aviation recruitment conference in Qingdao, Shandong Province in east China, on November 14.

In recent years, the scope of recruitment for carrier-based



aircraft pilot trainees in the PLA Navy has been expanding.

Geographically, recruitment now covers 31 provincial-level regions, with the establishment of 14 naval youth aviation schools nationwide.

In terms of trainee sources, recruitment now includes mainstream high school graduates, graduates of youth aviation schools, recent graduates of military and civilian universities, and college-students-turned-soldiers.

In terms of gender composition, the recruitment and selection process in 2023 included female carrier-based aircraft pilot trainees for the first time, creating the potential to produce China's first female carrier-based aircraft pilot.

## Forest Food

China's annual output of forest food has exceeded 200 million tons, data from the National Forestry and Grassland Administration showed, Xinhua News Agency reported on November 11.

Forest food refers to the food produced in forests or woodlands, including edible fruits, flowers, leaves and branches.

Forest resources are a key component in ensuring a

diversified food supply in China, Gao Junkai, an official with the administration, said.

China has more than 226.7 million hectares of forests and 8,000 woody plant species, which contain rich food resources, Gao added.

There is still much room for the development of China's forest food industry in the future, he said, adding that China will work to promote the transformation and upgrading of the commercial forest industry through a range of measures.

## Cancer Survival Rate

The Chinese Government has unveiled an eight-year action plan for cancer prevention and treatment, aiming to achieve an overall five-year survival rate of 46.6 percent among cancer patients by 2030.

The plan, covering the 2023-30 period, was jointly formulated by 13 government agencies, including the National Health Commission.

According to the plan, by 2030, the ability of cancer screening and early diagnosis and treatment will be significantly enhanced, and the rising trend of cancer incidence and mortality will be curbed.

Measures will be taken to



## En Route

Staff members load cargo onto an aircraft at Taoxian International Airport in Shenyang, Liaoning Province in northeast China, on November 13. An e-commerce air cargo route linking Shenyang and Chicago in the United States was opened that same day.

improve the country's cancer prevention and treatment network, which covers medical institutions at the national, provincial, prefectural and county levels.

By 2030, tumor registration will be expanded to cover all county-level areas, according to the plan.

The government also moves to raise the early diagnosis rate of key cancer types in high-incidence areas and the screening coverage

rate of breast cancer, noting that it aims to increase the cervical cancer screening rate to 70 percent by 2030.

With the promotion of tumor registration, cancer screening and early diagnosis and treatment across the country, the five-year survival rate among cancer patients in China has increased to 40.5 percent from 30.9 percent a decade ago, official data showed.



## Let It Flow

A staff member operates machinery at the working site of the Bozhong 19-6 Condensate Gas Field Phase I Development Project in China's Bohai Sea, on November 14. The project commenced production that same day. The gas field will supply a stable flow of clean energy to the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei and the Bohai Rim regions.

## Yuan Loans

China's yuan-denominated loans rose by 20.49 trillion yuan (\$2.8 trillion) in the first 10 months of this year, according to the People's Bank of China, the country's central bank.

In October alone, the yuan-denominated loans rose by 738.4 billion yuan (\$101.7 billion).

The M2, a broad measure of money supply that covers cash in circulation and all deposits, had climbed 10.3 percent year on year to 288.23 trillion yuan (\$39.7 trillion) as of late October.

The growth rate was unchanged from the end of September and down 1.5 percentage points from the end of October last year.

The M1, which covers cash in circulation plus demand deposits, stood at 67.47 trillion yuan (\$9.3 trillion) as of late October, up 1.9 percent year on year. The growth rate was 0.2 percentage points lower than at the end of September and 3.9 percentage points lower than at the end of

October last year.

The M0, the amount of cash in circulation, went up 10.2 percent from a year ago to 10.86 trillion yuan (\$1.5 trillion) at the end of last month.

Newly added social financing, a measurement of funds that individuals and non-financial firms receive from the financial system, came in at 31.19 trillion yuan (\$4.3 trillion) during the first 10 months, 2.33 trillion yuan (\$320.9 billion) more than the same period last year.

At the end of October, outstanding yuan loans rose 10.9 percent from a year earlier to 235.33 trillion yuan (\$32.4 trillion).

## Auto Exports

Automobile exports of the country logged steady growth in October, data from the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers showed.

The country shipped 488,000 vehicles overseas that month, up 44.2 percent

year on year, according to the association.

In breakdown, exports of passenger vehicles stood at 421,000 units in October, soaring 50.5 percent from the same period last year.

Exports of commercial vehicles rose 14.5 percent year on year to 67,000 units during the same period.

## Internet backbone

China has launched the world's first ultra-high-speed next-generation Internet backbone with a bandwidth of 1,200 gigabits per second (1.2T), according to a press conference in Beijing on November 13.

The project, jointly developed by Tsinghua University, leading telecom operator China Mobile, Chinese tech giant Huawei and CERNET.com Corp., the commercial arm of the China Education & Research Network (CERNET), boasts a transmission network spanning more than 3,000 km linking the three cities of Beijing,

Wuhan in Hubei Province and Guangzhou in Guangdong Province.

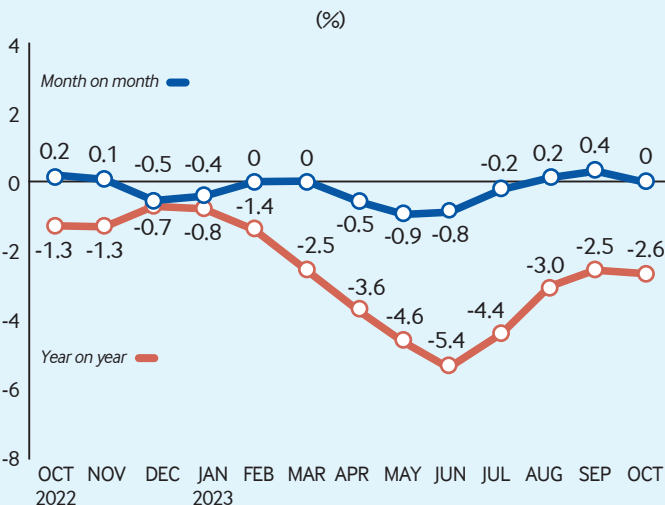
As a major technological achievement of the national Future Internet Technology Infrastructure (FITI) project, it has been running stably and reliably, successfully passing a range of tests since trial operation started on July 31.

The FITI backbone is operated based on China's proprietary key technologies such as the next-generation Internet core router 1.2T ultra-high-speed IPv6 interface and the ultra-high-speed multi-path aggregation. Both the software and hardware involved are made domestically.

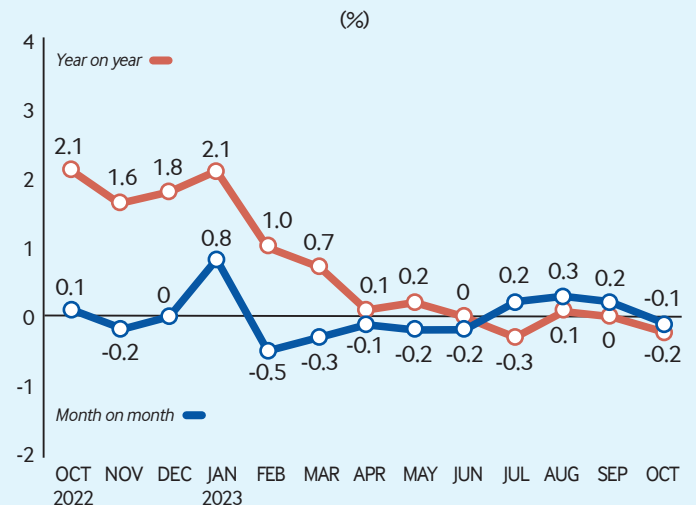
The FITI, built by 40 Chinese universities including Tsinghua University, is based on IPv6 technology—IPv6 being the most recent version of Internet Protocol. The core nodes of its high-performance backbone network are distributed across 40 universities in 35 cities nationwide.

## NUMBERS

China's Producer Price Index Growth



China's Consumer Price Index (CPI) Growth





In April 2021, the high-performance backbone network of the FITI first started operation, achieving interconnection with IPv4/IPv6 test facilities both at home and abroad.

## Negative Lists

China will accelerate the rollout of national and pilot free trade zone (FTZ) versions of negative lists for cross-border trade in services to boost opening up, the Ministry of Commerce said on November 9.

The negative lists identify the sectors and businesses that are off-limits or restricted.

The country released its first negative list in services trade at the Hainan Free Trade Port in July 2021, specifying that domestic and overseas service providers should enjoy equal access in sectors not on this list, ministry spokesperson He Yadong said at a press conference.

Regarding negative lists for foreign investment access, such lists have been reduced by more

than 80 percent since 2013, when the negative list approach was first adopted in China's inaugural pilot FTZ in Shanghai, data from the ministry showed in September.

## Insurance Brokers

Two foreign-funded insurance brokerage companies, BMW (China) Insurance Brokers Co. Ltd. and ERGO-FESCO Broker Co. Ltd., have received regulatory approval to set up in Beijing, according to the National Financial Regulatory Administration.

These two companies have received authorization to conduct insurance brokerage businesses, including working on insurance plans for policyholders as well as reinsurance brokerage, on the Chinese mainland.

In recent years, Beijing has taken concrete measures to expand high-level financial opening up and facilitate cross-border investment and financing to attract more foreign

financial institutions and long-term capital.

With Beijing promoting the construction of the Integrated National Demonstration Zone for Opening up the Services Sector and the China (Beijing) Pilot Free Trade Zone in recent years, the city has attracted six foreign financial institutions and representative offices of two foreign banks, according to the Beijing branch of the National Financial Regulatory Administration.

## Photovoltaic Power

As of late September, nationwide installed capacity of distributed photovoltaic (PV) power generated by households had reached about 105 million kilowatts (kW), covering more than 5 million households in China's rural areas, data from the National Energy Administration (NEA) showed.

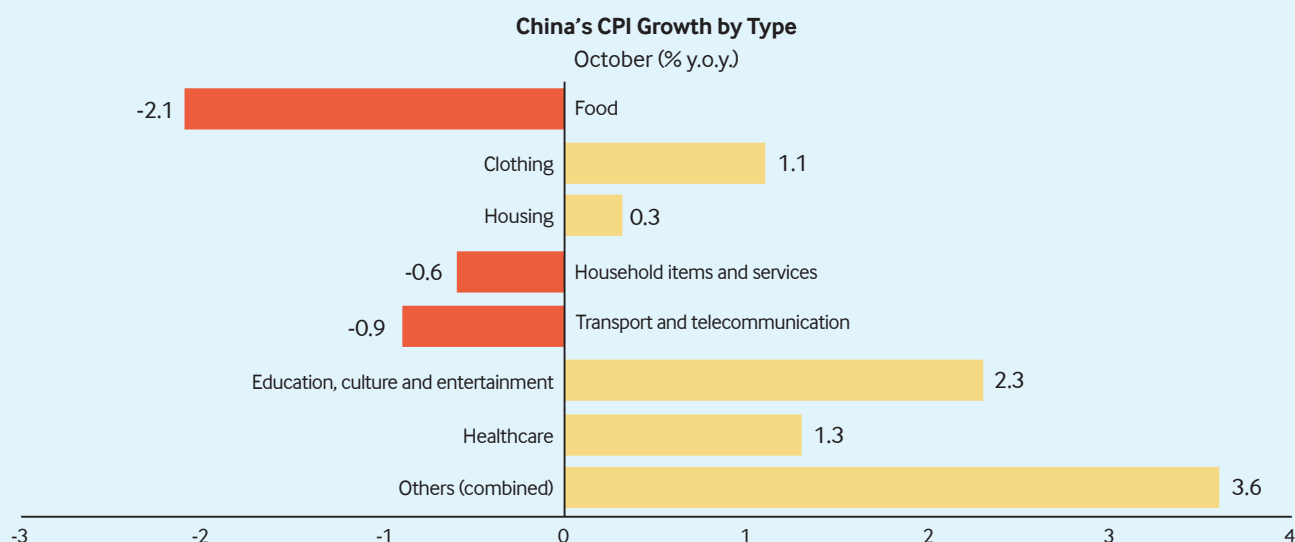
In recent years, China's distributed PV power generated by households has developed rapidly, the NEA said, adding

that this has played a vital role in ensuring the safe and reliable supply of electricity, promoting the green transformation of energy as well as driving the growth of farmer income.

In the first three quarters of this year, newly added installed capacity of household PV power stood at 32.98 million kW, accounting for about half of the newly installed capacity of distributed PV power, according to the data.

The figure also represents more than one quarter of China's total installed capacity of PV power in the first nine months, according to the NEA.

Citing projections from related departments, the NEA said that the development potential of distributed PV power generated by Chinese rural households is huge, as nearly 27.3 billion square meters of total roof area, covering more than 80 million rural households, can be installed with PV power generation equipment.



(Source: National Bureau of Statistics)

# THIS WEEK WORLD



## UNITED NATIONS

Representatives at a Security Council meeting at the UN Headquarters in New York on November 15 vote on a draft resolution calling for urgent and extended humanitarian pauses and corridors in Gaza. The resolution won the support of 12 of the 15 council members



## INDONESIA

An employee of a local store sells goods via livestreaming in Jakarta on November 10. Merchants there are busier than usual due to the Double 11 online shopping festival, an event originating in China in which e-commerce platforms offer discounts in the days around November 11



## CAMBODIA

King Norodom Sihamoni lights the ceremonial victory fire inside the Independence Monument during the Independence Day celebration in Phnom Penh on November 9







## UNITED STATES

Chair of California Energy Commission David Hochschild delivers a speech at the Green Innovation and Sustainable Development Forum in San Francisco on November 13



## BRAZIL

Coffee enthusiasts at the SIC (international coffee week) 2023 in Belo Horizonte on November 9. The three-day event, featuring activities such as lectures, courses and competitions, attracted more than 20,000 participants from over 40 countries and regions



## UNITED KINGDOM

Pro-Palestinian protesters rally in London on November 11. Hundreds of thousands of people took part in the rally there, calling for an immediate ceasefire in the Gaza Strip





# THIS WEEK PEOPLE & POINTS

## ↓ MOST GENEROUS INDIVIDUALS

**Yang Guoqiang** and his daughter **Yang Huiyan** have been named China's most generous people for the first time. Their charitable donations amounted to \$820 million from September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023, according to the recently released Hurun China Philanthropy List, a ranking of Chinese philanthropists.

Yang Guoqiang is founder of Country Garden Group, one of China's largest private real estate developers based in Guangdong Province. In March, Yang Huiyan became chairperson, replacing her father. The company's market value is HK\$21.27 billion (\$2.72 billion).

Now in its 20th year, the list, compiled by Hurun Research Institute, includes 34 philanthropists from 17 cities, who donated over 100 million yuan (\$13.7 million) each over the one-year period. Education continued to be the biggest destination for donations made by listed philanthropists, with 58 percent contributing to this sector.



## Fake Birth Certificates, Concealed Kidnap

**China Youth Daily**  
**November 8**

Several hospital officials, including the head of Jianqiao Hospital in Xiangyang, Hubei Province, have been detained and are currently under investigation for allegedly colluding with illegal agencies to sell fake birth certificates.

According to an online post created by Shangguanzhengyi, an influencer who claims to have worked undercover at the hospital for a

year, fake birth certificates were sold to potential buyers for 96,000 yuan (\$13,000). The hospital would fabricate not only birth certificates, but also entire personal profiles, including hospital records and vaccination certificates.

These dirty facts are, as many netizens have pointed out, only the tip of the iceberg. Provided that the allegations are true, severe punishment is a must. It is, however, not enough. Authorities should also dig deep into the darker truths that lie at the root of these fake birth certificates—the complicated underworld of child trafficking. Hopefully, these investigations may not only lead to the rediscovery of missing children, but also help expose a larger and more hidden web of criminal activities.



## Keep on Truckin'

**Lifeweek**  
**November 20**

For years, China's manufacturing boom has been bolstered by robust government backing, highly efficient factories and an integrated transportation network. While container ships, freight trains and air cargo frequently appear in news headlines and social media trends, people seem to have forgotten that there is another vital engine of the country's mighty manufacturing machine—trucking services.

According to data released by the

“No economy, no nation, no society can truly flourish in isolation.”

**Rebeca Grynspan**, Secretary General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in a recent interview with Xinhua News Agency

“China is a great place to advance the frontiers of research, and also to discuss potential ethical and societal issues in the introduction of new digital technology.”

**Antonio Frisoli**, CEO of robotic technology company Next Generation Robotics, during the 2023 World Internet Conference Wuzhen Summit, which concluded on November 10

Ministry of Transport in 2021, in 2020, China had more than 17 million truck drivers, who together carried 74 percent of the total volume of goods transported within the country. To catch up with the pace of China's economic boom, trucking service providers have been working extra hard.

A particular field that poses many challenges for truck drivers is the transportation of pharmaceuticals. Cold chain logistics requires uninterrupted temperature control from departure all the way to where they are administered. As a result, dedicated commitment on the driver's part is required to ensure sound delivery.

Export is another extremely demanding field. An example is cross-border freight transport between Laos and Yunnan, China's southwesternmost province. The China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative, which aims to boost connectivity along and beyond the ancient Silk Road routes, has facilitated the flow of goods between China and Laos, generating a huge demand for cross-border trucking services. While this demand has created job opportunities, truck drivers crossing the border have to navigate unfamiliar surroundings. Despite difficulties, hundreds of thousands of them diligently race back and forth on this route to support the rapidly expanding trade between the two countries.

## Cancer Cluster

**Rednet.cn**  
**November 9**

Chinese social media have been lately shaken by an unusual string of cancer diagnoses among former oncology laboratory researchers. The lab where they worked focuses on breast cancer research and is affiliated with the Second Hospital of Sun Yat-Sen University in Guangzhou, a large hospital in Guangdong Province.

The news was first leaked allegedly by a friend of one of the researchers involved. The hospital later confirmed that two of its surgeons

and a visiting doctor who have worked in the lab were recently diagnosed with cancer. The rare cluster of cancer cases has agitated a wave of public concerns over laboratory safety.

Apart from the risks of exposure to chemical carcinogens, the hospital's delayed response is another major factor fueling public outrage. This perceived reluctance to admit the truth has backfired, not only hurting its own reputation but also inflicting pain on the victims.

The tragedy cannot be reversed. What the hospital can still do, is to ensure that the affected receive proper treatment and to openly share the truth after a thorough investigation.

### ↓ EMINENT MATHEMATICIAN WINS AWARD

World-renowned mathematician **Shing-Tung Yau** won this year's Shaw Prize for Mathematical Sciences for his work on problems arising from general relativity and string theory.

Born in 1949 in Shantou, Guangdong Province, Yau is chair professor and director of the Yau Mathematical Sciences Center at the prestigious Tsinghua University in Beijing. He is a member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. Yau has won numerous top international awards. His research is believed to have had a deep and lasting impact on both mathematics and theoretical physics.

The Shaw Prize, founded by Hong Kong-based media mogul and philanthropist Run Run Shaw (1907-2014), has recognized remarkable achievements in mathematical sciences, astronomy and life sciences annually since 2004. Yau and Vladimir Drinfeld from the University of Chicago shared this year's mathematics prize.



“While accelerating the construction of public infrastructure, such as the renovation of dilapidated neighborhoods in cities and the construction of affordable housing, the government also seeks to strictly control new debts being hidden by local governments.”

**Zheng Shanjie**, head of the National Development and Reform Commission, in a recent interview with Xinhua. “Hidden debts” are those owed by local governments that they don't include in their balance sheets

“The current geopolitical tensions are extremely complex. In such times, the unifying power of sport is more important than ever before.”

**Thomas Bach**, President of the International Olympic Committee, at the 2023 International Federation Forum in Lausanne, Switzerland, on November 13



COVER STORY

# REGIONAL AND GLOBAL RECOVERY

Asia Pacific should strive to communicate and cooperate more as uncertainty grows  
By Ma Miaomiao