



### [Chinese weapons are taking over in Africa](#)

Sales are helped by low prices and a lack of scruples. When soldiers from China have made forays onto African battlefields, they have done so cautiously as un peacekeepers. The sales teams that market their weapons overseas are far more gung-ho and have been fanning out across the region—armed with brochures and freebies—in search of new customers. They are signing deals with an increasingly diverse list of clients, from historic friends to would-be buddies, keen to be kitted out with Chinese weaponry. Among the weapons China has delivered are warships to Djibouti and Mauritania and drones to Nigeria and Congo, according to a database maintained by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (sipri), a think-tank. It found that no fewer than 21 countries in sub-Saharan Africa took major deliveries of Chinese arms between 2019 and 2023. The Economist.

### [Diplomats laud FOCAC for enhancing Africa-China partnership, South-South cooperation](#)

African diplomats have praised the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) for strengthening the partnership between the two sides and promoting South-South cooperation. At a high-level conference on Ethiopia's role in FOCAC in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa on Tuesday, diplomats said of the many partnership platforms Africa has today, FOCAC remains the most strategically intertwined and far-reaching in its depth, scope and level of cooperation. "FOCAC is the result of genuine efforts to institutionalize the China-Africa partnership and is considered a model for South-South cooperation," said Tefera Derbew, the Ethiopian ambassador to China, while presenting a paper on the FOCAC platform at the conference. Xinhua.

### [Biden looks to counter China's influence as he rolls out red carpet for Kenya](#)

When Kenyan President William Ruto touched down in Beijing seven months ago, he was welcomed on the tarmac with a red carpet and cordons of Chinese troops standing at attention. Among the goals of his three-day state visit in October: securing another \$1 billion in loans from China to help complete infrastructure projects. On Wednesday, when he arrived at Joint Base Andrews to begin another state visit – this time to Washington – he again found a red carpet and troops. This time, however, a special emissary was sent to greet his plane: first lady Dr. Jill Biden. President Joe Biden is leaning on the highest trappings of American diplomacy this week to boost ties with the East African nation, including designating Kenya a major non-NATO ally – the first in sub-Saharan Africa – and hosting a sunset state dinner on the White House South Lawn. CNN

### [When ancient Egypt comes to China](#)

The Shanghai Museum announced on Monday ticket pre-sales for its exhibition, On Top of the Pyramid: The Civilization of Ancient Egypt, which it claims is the largest showcase of ancient Egypt civilization in Asia. Running from July 18 this year to Aug 17, 2025, On Top of the Pyramid: The Civilization of Ancient Egypt will feature 492 displays of 788 artifacts from various periods of Egypt's history, says Shanghai Museum director Chu

Xiaobo. Chu introduces such highlights as statues of pharaohs, including those of Tutankhamun, Amenemhat III and Ramses II; a complete set of mummies' coffins; gold jewelry belonging to a queen; and recently discovered painted coffins, animal mummies and statues from the Saqqara region. China Daily.

### [Blast in sugar factory kills 11 in Tanzania](#)

Eleven people have been killed and two others injured in an explosion at a sugar factory in Tanzania's eastern district of Mvomero, authorities say. The blast happened after a heavy duty steam pipe burst as workers were starting production on Wednesday night, the fire and rescue team said. As well as Tanzanians, citizens of Brazil, India, China and Kenya are among the dead, officials say. Alex Mkama, the regional police commander, said that his team was investigating the cause of the incident. The explosion occurred at about 01:00 local time on Thursday [23:00 GMT Wednesday] at a factory run by Mtibwa Sugar Estates Limited, one of Tanzania's main sugar manufacturers. All the deceased were electrical and machine staff who were working in the control room at the time, Mr Mkama added. BBC.

### [Kenya youths see potential in China firms](#)

Chinese enterprises are attracting college talent from Kenya and other African countries in technology and other career paths, as hundreds of college students flocked to a career fair that kicked off on Wednesday in Kenya's capital Nairobi. The job fair, which lasts until Friday, held at the University of Nairobi, attracted 54 recruiters from Kenya and various other countries, and international organizations based in Kenya. About half of the employers are Chinese companies, according to the Confucius Institute at the university. Wang Shangxue, director of the institute, said the recruitment exercise not only enables Chinese companies to select the best Kenyan students, but also guides the students in selecting the best path to their desired careers. Samuel Amukowa, a high school student at Reverend Muhoro Secondary School for the Deaf, was hoping to pursue a career as a sign language interpreter. However, after visiting the Huawei Kenya stand at the career fair, he was able to explore different avenues to reach his aspirations. China Daily.

### [China-Uganda Economic and Trade Cooperation Promotion Conference signs six projects](#)

The conference led to several collaborations including on-site signings for projects on the export of household appliances and the import of agricultural and sideline products from Africa, the construction of a land port, the procurement of equipment for the Lubowa International Hospital in Uganda, medical gloves and other products sold in Uganda. Daily Monitor.

### [Leading Arab military power eyes entry into a China-headed bloc](#)

On May 22, Algeria took a significant step by applying to become a dialogue partner of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization [SCO]. This status will allow Algeria to eventually pursue full membership after a period of serving as a dialogue partner and observer. Founded in 2001 by China along with five other former Soviet states, the SCO has since expanded to include Pakistan, India, and Iran. Notably, since the late 2010s, member nations have engaged in increasingly coordinated joint military exercises. During the Cold War, Algeria was one of five Arab republics that closely aligned with the Soviet Union. After neighboring Egypt shifted allegiance to the Western Bloc in the 1970s and in light of Western military interventions in Iraq, Libya, and Syria, Algeria remains one of the few Arab states operating outside the Western sphere of influence. Bulgarian Military

### [Illegal Chinese Timber Trade Fuels Insurgency in Mozambique](#)

Officially, Mozambique bans the export of raw timber in an effort to protect what's left of the country's rapidly shrinking forests. But whatever laws are in place are largely disregarded as more than 500,000 tons of timber leave the country each year — 90% of which goes to China, according to a new report by the Environmental Investigation Agency. This illicit timber trade is also very lucrative, generating more than a billion dollars that helps to fund a deadly insurgency ravaging northern Mozambique. China Global South Project.

### [China's CNOOC signs oil exploration, production contracts with Mozambique](#)

State-run China National Offshore Oil Co (0883.HK), opens new tab said on Friday it had signed oil exploration and production concession contracts with Mozambique's energy ministry and national energy company ENH. The contract is for five offshore blocks in waters off the African nation and covers a total area of about 29,000 sq km (11,200 sq miles) with water depths from 500 m to 2,500 m (1,640 ft to 8,202 ft), it said in a statement. The first phase of the exploration period is four years, with five CNOOC subsidiaries serving as operators in the exploration and development phases, having independent operator rights and interests. Reuters.

---

Please note: The news items presented here are for informational purposes. The views expressed within them are those of the authors and/or individuals quoted, not those of the Africa Policy Institute.

---