



[Strategic partner but rival in Africa: Italy's view on China](#)

Minister Urso is currently on a preparatory mission ahead of PM Meloni's upcoming visit at the end of the month. The discussions are primarily centred around green technology and electric mobility. A preparatory mission. A few days before Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni's planned trip to China, the Minister for Enterprise and Made in Italy, Adolfo Urso, arrived in Beijing this morning for a two-day mission to prepare for the Italian Prime Minister's visit and to meet with both public and private stakeholders. Specifically, Adolfo Urso intends to explore potential collaborations and industrial partnerships with several Chinese companies interested in investing in Italy and with Italian companies already established in China. In the upcoming months, after Giorgia Meloni's visit, the President of the Republic, Sergio Mattarella, will be welcomed to China to "commemorate a significant year for both countries' relations, marking the 700th anniversary of Marco Polo's death." Decode 39.

[Morocco offers US chance to catch up with China in green energy space](#)

Industry Minister Ryad Mezzour advocates for increased US engagement in Africa, emphasising Morocco's strategic position in green energy supply chains, critical minerals and regional integration, while marking 20 years of the US-Morocco FTA. The minister of industry and trade in Morocco, Ryad Mezzour, says that the US must do more to engage with Africa if it ever hopes to diversify green energy supply chains away from China. In Washington this week to mark the 20th anniversary of what remains America's only Free Trade Agreement (FTA) on the continent, Mezzour urged Washington to clarify its regulations and encourage private sector investment. Morocco possesses key minerals and is a gateway to Africa and beyond, he says, but a "rebalancing" of commercial ties with the US is in order. The Africa Report.

[Nigeria Is Surging The Tourism Industry With New Visa Free Entry Policy For 23 Countries Including China, South Africa , Brazil and Turkey](#)

Nigeria, an African country on the Gulf of Guinea, has eased its visa free entry policy for 23 Countries aiming to thrive business travel along with leisure travel. Several natural landmarks and wildlife reserves. Protected areas such as Cross River National Park and Yankari National Park have waterfalls, dense rainforest, savanna and rare primate habitats. One of the most recognizable sites is Zuma Rock, a 725m-tall monolith outside the capital of Abuja that's pictured on the national currency. GDP growth rate: 3.3% annual change (2022). Nigeria is located on the west coast of Africa and is the most populous black country in the world, bordering the North Atlantic Ocean, between Benin and Cameroon. Nigeria covers 356,668 sq miles (923,7770 sq kilometers). It is about the same size as California, Nevada and Utah combined. Travel and Tour World.

[FG receives over 70 students sponsored to study in China](#)

he Federal Government has received 76 students sponsored by the China Civil Engineering Construction corporation CCECC to study in Chinese universities. The students returned to the country after graduation of

their studies to contribute to the development of the transport sector. At an event to honour the graduates on Friday in Abuja, the Vice President, Kashim Shettima said the gesture would close the infrastructure gap in the country. The Vice President represented by his deputy Chief of staff Sen. Ibrahim Hadejia said the effort was also part of president Tinubu's desire to build human capital to fast track The Minister of Transportation, Sen. Said Alkali said the gesture would ensure indigenous participation in the development and operation of railway industry and infrastructural growth of the country. "The transportation sector as enabler of economic growth and gateway to the nation's economy is undergoing a reform that will accommodate your contributions as experts in different fields of transport, management, logistics and administration. The Managing Director of CCECC Nigeria, Mr David Wang said the gesture was part of it's corporate social responsibility through capacity building and transferring technical know-how to young Nigerians. FRCN HQ.

[At least six Chinese nationals dead following militia attack in DR Congo](#)

China confirmed on Thursday that at least 6 of its citizens have died and several others are missing following an attack by armed militia in the Democratic Republic of Congo. It strongly condemned the attack which took place on Wednesday at a Chinese-linked mining site in the gold-rich northeastern Ituri province. Speaking at a regular press conference, Beijing's foreign ministry spokesperson, Mao Ning, said efforts were underway to find the missing Chinese nationals. "We demand that the DRC side hunts down the perpetrators as quickly as possible and strictly punishes them in accordance with the law," she added. Mao also called on the DRC to "take steps to strengthen the protection of Chinese citizens and companies in the area". Attacks on mining sites and convoys are common in the north-eastern part of the DRC and not the first in which Chinese nationals have been impacted. Africa News.

[US sanctions firms for training PLA aircrew in S Africa](#)

Five Eyes intel-sharing outfit tightens screws on schemes that paid ex-Western military pilots well above market rates to train Chinese fliers. The United States sanctioned four companies in Hong Kong, South Africa and the United Kingdom and accused them of using Western and NATO sources to train Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) aircrew in South Africa. The sanctioned firms include Global Training Solutions Limited and Smartech Future Limited in Hong Kong, Grace Air (Pty) Ltd in South Africa and Livingston Aerospace Ltd in the United Kingdom, according to the US Commerce Department's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS). The BIS said the four companies were sanctioned because of their links to the Test Flying Academy of South Africa (TFASA), which was sanctioned a year ago. Livingston Aerospace is owned by former British military pilot Craig Penrice, a former project manager of TFASA. Asia Times.

[China remains king on Kenya's imports despite Ruto's West shift](#)

Kenya spent a total of Sh683.9 billion on imports in Q1 2024. During the period under review, Kenya's total earnings from exports rose to Sh297.9 billion from Sh258.7 billion in Q4 of 2023. Kenya continued to heavily source its imports from China and Asia at large, despite President William Ruto's efforts to push for more bilateral relations with the West. Trade data by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) shows the country imported goods worth Sh126.1 billion from China in the first quarter of this year (January-March), as the Far East country retained its position as the top source for imports. This was however a drop from Sh134.1 billion worth of goods sourced from China in the fourth quarter of last year (October-December), even as China continued to

offer cheaper alternatives for household goods and other merchandise. India was the second top source for the country's imports which totalled Sh72 billion during the period, a slight drop from Sh72.4 billion. The Star.

Chinese "Simba" Dedicates Life to Wildlife Conservation in Kenya

A section of the Chinese community in Kenya has joined unique conservation efforts to help protect the country's animal diversity, which is also the second-largest in Africa. At the heart of this is Qiang Zhuo, a Chinese national whom the Maasai community has baptized "Simba." For the past 14 years, he has made the Maasai Mara, one of Kenya's most popular tourist attractions, his home. The East African nation is known as "The Home of Safari" due to its massive annual wildlife migration. As tourist numbers in Kenya increase, Qiang is working to ensure that this growth continues by protecting wildlife in the Mara, including lions which he said have increased from an estimated 400 to about 700 currently. "With more safe space, I believe all wild animal species can thrive. There are a lot of challenges and threats confronting animals like human-wildlife conflicts, over-grazing, overpopulation, expansion of human settlements and mass tourism," said Simba. China Global South Project.

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