

Chinese President Xi Jinping, also General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee, delivers a keynote speech at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) CEO Summit in Da Nang, Viet Nam, on November 10 (XINHUA)

## Sharing progress

### Xi's APEC participation and visits to Viet Nam, Laos consolidate cooperation on common development concerns

By Yu Lintao

When Chinese President Xi Jinping, also General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, went to Viet Nam to attend the 25th APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting, followed by state visits to Viet Nam and Laos, there was keener world attention to the itinerary than usual. It was Xi's first overseas trip after the 19th CPC National Congress, which charted out the path China would follow for the next five years.

With China assuming greater responsibilities in international affairs, Xi's Southeast Asia visit was to be an indication of China's foreign policy, especially vis-à-vis its neighboring countries.

#### Committed to globalization

The Asia-Pacific region today is witnessing uncertainties in economic development as multilateral free trade agreements face the threat of being downgraded to bilateral ones and restrictions are being imposed on free trade and investment. This has made protectionism a major risk to the region's growth at a time when it lacks major economic drivers.

The trend of rising trade protectionism is bound to jeopardize APEC's fundamental architecture of free trade and its major goal of realizing open, inclusive and integrated development.

In his speeches at the APEC meetings in Viet Nam's central port city Da Nang, Xi urged the 21-member bloc to remain true to APEC's founding purpose: to advance trade and investment liberalization and facilitation, build an open economy, uphold and strengthen the multilateral trade regime, and help rebalance economic globalization.



Chinese President Xi Jinping attends a grand welcome ceremony hosted by Nguyen Phu Trong, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Viet Nam Central Committee, ahead of their talks in Hanoi, Viet Nam, on November 12 (XINHUA)

"We need to take determined steps toward a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific in line with the agreed roadmap, and herald a new round of development in the Asia-Pacific in the course of opening up," Xi said.

Emphasizing the importance of an open economy, innovation-driven development, connectivity and inclusive development, Xi outlined pragmatic ways to achieve common development. They include furthering economic globalization, fostering an open economy, and promoting trade and investment liberalization.

"History has taught us that closed-door development will get [us] nowhere, while open development is the only right choice," Xi said. "Looking ahead, China will open still wider and its development will deliver even greater benefits to the rest of the world."

Xi's sharing of China's development experience indicates China's commitment to interconnected development and building a community of shared future for mankind, said Shen Dingli, a professor on international studies at Shanghai's Fudan University.

#### A special bond

The China-Viet Nam relationship has always been regarded as camaraderie plus brotherhood. Xi held talks with the country's top leadership, including General Secretary of the Communist Party of Viet Nam (CPV) Central Committee Nguyen Phu Trong, Vietnamese President Tran Dai Quang and Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc.

During the discussions with Nguyen Phu Trong, both leaders agreed to maintain the tradition of high-level exchanges, adhere to a friendly policy toward each other's country, and enhance strategic communication and political mutual trust. They also agreed to deal with differences in a proper way so that China-Viet Nam relations would move in the right direction. In addition, the two sides consented to deepening party-to-party exchanges and stepping up experience-sharing in party and state governance.

Xi said that with the international and regional situations in the new period undergoing profound changes, the China-Viet Nam relationship is becoming more significant.

Nguyen Phu Trong called it a matter of great significance that Viet Nam was Xi's first overseas destination after the 19th CPC National

Congress. Viet Nam, he added, is willing to work with China to strengthen exchanges on party and state governance, carry forward traditional friendship, and strive to lift the relations between the two parties and two countries to a new level.

In recent years, the two neighbors have deepened and broadened practical cooperation in many fields.

China has been Viet Nam's biggest trading partner for 13 years in a row, and Viet Nam has become China's biggest trading partner among Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries. Bilateral trade in 2016 reached nearly \$100 billion. There are over 300 passenger flights between the two countries every week.

To reinforce the pragmatic cooperation, the two sides have agreed to further synergize their development strategies by signing a memorandum of understanding on the joint implementation of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative and Viet Nam's Two Corridors and One Economic Circle plan.

Wang said the docking of the two development initiatives would push the China-Viet Nam comprehensive strategic cooperation partnership to a new stage.

During Xi's visit, a series of consensuses were reached on strengthening cooperation on trade and maritime issues. A joint statement issued during the visit said the two sides agreed to jointly implement the five-year China-Viet Nam economic and trade cooperation plan starting from this year and implement several key cooperation projects. The two governments also decided to push for the early completion of the Hanoi light rail project. They will also complete the designing of a standard-gauge railway linking Hai Phong, Hanoi and Lao Cai cities in Viet Nam, part of a cross-border railway network that connects China with Viet Nam's eastern coast, as scheduled.

The joint statement also said China and Viet Nam are committed to promoting sustained, stable and balanced development of bilateral trade. China is willing to expand its imports from Viet Nam and prioritize the assessment of the import of Viet Nam's dairy products to China. China will also open up markets for select categories of fruits from Viet Nam and cooperate in such fields as agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

On maritime cooperation, China and Viet Nam agreed to implement the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea and strive for an early conclusion of a code of conduct on the basis of consensus through consultations.

Xi also laid a wreath at Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum and attended the inauguration and handover ceremony of the Viet Nam-China Friendship Palace, a China-sponsored project. A center for cultural activities, the palace can accommodate 1,500 people. It will also house a tea room, a Chinese medicine therapy room and a library.

#### Community of shared future

Xi's trip to Laos marks the first visit by a Chinese head of state and top CPC leader to this neighboring country in 11 years.

In Laos, Xi met with Bounnhang Vorachit, General Secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and President of Laos; Prime Minister Thongloun Sisoulith; and Lao National Assembly President Pany Yathotu.

The leaders of the two countries pledged to maintain the fine tradition of high-level exchanges to guide the development of bilateral ties in the new era.

Chen Fei, a researcher with Beijing-based think tank The Charhar Institute, said the strong traditional friendship between the two countries has laid a solid foundation for the bilateral ties to develop in the new era.



Chinese President Xi Jinping (C) and Lao President Bounnhang Vorachit attend the foundation-laying ceremony for the China-built Mahosot Hospital in Vientiane, Laos, on November 14 (XINHUA)

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China has been one of the major contributors to Laos' foreign assistance. Now it is also the largest foreign investor in Laos and the second largest trading partner of the country.

Xi's visit yielded a long list of bilateral cooperation outcomes. According to a joint statement issued during the trip, the two countries reaffirmed their firm support in issues related to each other's major interests and agreed to accelerate the synergy of the Belt and Road Initiative and Laos' development strategy.

China and Laos have agreed to jointly build a China-Laos economic corridor, forge ahead with landmark projects such as the China-Laos Railway, and elevate the scale and level of their economic and trade cooperation to promote their economic complementarity.

They will also deepen cooperation on industrial capacity, finance, agriculture, energy and water conservancy, in addition to telecommunication, infrastructure and healthcare.

Xi's visit also saw a series of cooperation documents inked in fields as diverse as building the China-Laos economic corridor, a digital Silk Road, electricity and science and technology.

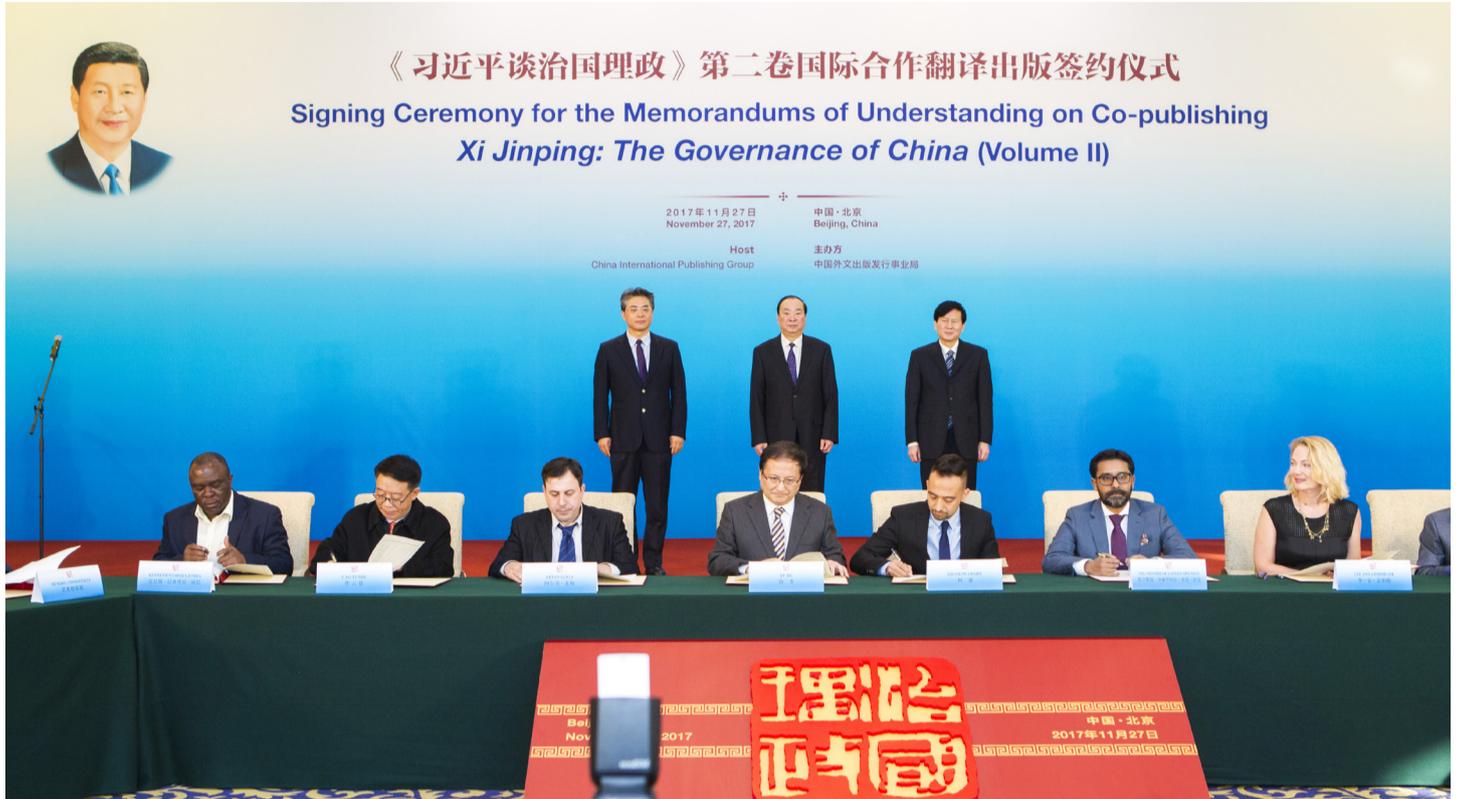
Constructed with Chinese financial support, the 414-km China-Laos Railway, linking the border gate between China's Mohan and Lao's Boten towns with the Lao capital Vientiane, is a key project in Laos under the Belt and Road Initiative. Chen said it would transform landlocked Laos into a land-linked nation, injecting new impetus into national development.

Lattanamongy Khounnyvong, Lao vice minister of public works and transport, said Laos is an agricultural country that needs three days to send its vegetables to China. But once the railway is completed, it will need only three and a half hours. The improved transportation will also help Laos attract more foreign investment.

## A new chapter

A second volume of selected works by Xi Jinping yields insight into China's governance

By Wang Hairong



Representatives of China's Foreign Languages Press and publishing organizations from 16 foreign countries sign agreements on co-publishing *Xi Jinping: The Governance of China (Volume II)* in Beijing on November 27 (WANG XIANG)

Although still about a month away from the onset of the coldest spell in Beijing's winter, late November mornings are fairly chilly. Yet the prospect of low temperatures did not dampen Diana Olenja's enthusiasm and excitement about visiting Beijing.

Shortly after daybreak on November 27, she arrived at the Diaoyutai State Guest House. As the Kenya Literature Bureau's public relations manager, she came to sign an agreement on co-publishing *Xi Jinping: The Governance of China (Volume II)*.

"We are going to translate the book into Kiswahili and publish it in Kenya," she told *Beijing Review*. Kiswahili is one of the most widely used languages in Africa, spoken by more than 50 million people in countries such as Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia.

On that day, Foreign Languages Press, a publishing house under the China International Publishing Group (CIPG), signed agreements on co-publishing the book with 16 publishing organizations from 16 countries: Italy, Poland, Ukraine, Albania, Romania, Kenya, Tajikistan, Viet Nam, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Laos, Mongolia, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan.

All the publishers are influential and well-known in their home countries, and all took part in translating and publishing the first volume of the book, said Zhang Fuhai, President of CIPG.

The first volume, published in September 2014, is now available in 24 languages and 27 editions and has sold more than 6.6 million copies worldwide.

"CIPG is ready to work closely with our overseas partners in introducing this great work to the world," Zhang said at the agreement-signing ceremony.

### A seminal book

The book, published in Chinese and English on November 7, is hailed as an authoritative work on Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era. The Thought was established as a new component of the guide for action of the Communist Party of China (CPC) at the 19th CPC National Congress, which concluded in Beijing in late October.

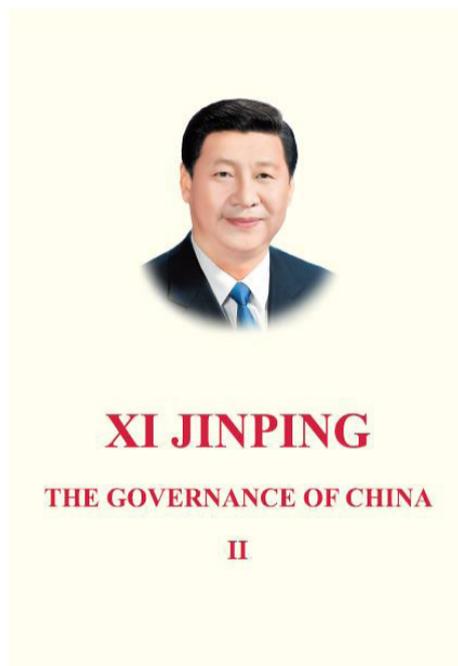
The book collects 99 of Xi's spoken and written works from August 2014 to September of this year, arranged into 17 sections by topic.

"It is a vivid account of the great endeavor of the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at the core in leading the Party and the Chinese people to uphold and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics," Zhang said.

"It also provides an insight into Xi's charisma and personality, opening a new window for Chinese and foreign readers to better understand Xi's beliefs and the Party," he added.

"Within the book, you can see the historical development of Xi's ideas," Robert Lawrence Kuhn, a U.S. expert on China studies and Chairman of the Kuhn Foundation, told Xinhua News Agency. "You can see it inducing itself as these ideas come together, building up to what has been crystallized as Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era."

The publication of the book "is a major event in the political life of the Party and the state," said Wang Xiaohui, Executive Deputy Director of the Policy Research Office of the CPC Central Committee and deputy head of



the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee. It will help the general public learn about the Party's innovation theories and the international community understand China's development path and development concepts comprehensively and objectively, he added.

In particular, Wang said the book embodies the Party's people-oriented governance philosophy. Guided by such philosophy, a large number of measures have been taken since 2012, through which more than 60 million people have been lifted out of poverty, 13 million-plus new urban jobs have been created, and the growth rates of the incomes of urban and rural residents have outpaced the speed of economic expansion. A social security system covering both urban and rural residents has been basically established, and people can enjoy significantly better health and medical services than before, according to Wang.

In the book, readers can find decoded frequently cited concepts in China's political discourses such as the Four-Pronged Comprehensive Strategy, the Five-Sphere Integrated Plan and the Two Centenary Goals.

Not only was the text of the book carefully chosen, but also the 29 photos in it. The pictures, selected to capture various facets of Xi's official functions, are grouped into two clusters, one on domestic affairs and the other on diplomatic activities.

Several pictures exhibit Xi's concern for people's livelihoods. For instance, one photo portrays Xi with villagers of Liangjiahe in Yanchuan County, northwest China's Shaanxi Province, while reviewing poverty alleviation efforts on February 13, 2015. Xi used to live and work in the village decades ago, when he was sent to the countryside as an educated youth.

Some photos feature him in multilateral meetings hosted by China, including the 22nd APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in Beijing in November 2014, the inauguration ceremony of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in Beijing in January 2016, the 11th G20 Summit in Hangzhou in September 2016, the Leaders' Roundtable Summit of the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in Beijing this May, and the Ninth BRICS

Summit in Xiamen this September. These pictures demonstrate that China is playing an increasingly important role in international affairs.

### Not lost in translation

Xi's book not only reveals his governance thoughts, but also his personality and linguistic style.

"He is good at expressing his views and understanding of major issues in light of China's history and culture as well as his personal experiences," said Sun Yeli, Deputy Director of the Party Literature Research Office of the CPC Central Committee, "He is also good at telling stories about China and the Party, quoting classical allusions, in an insightful and penetrating way, and with vivid and colloquial language."

While such a language style has strong appeal, it also poses a challenge for the translators. The 29-member translation team of the English version, coordinated by Foreign Languages Press, comprises top-notch national talent.

"We have formed a high-caliber, dedicated, very responsible and efficient translation and publishing team," Feng Xin, head of the English Department of Foreign Languages Press, told *Beijing Review*.

The whole team consists of senior language consultants from China, foreign copyeditors who have lived in China for years, and translators who love their job and pursue excellence, he said.

The task is also time-pressing. "We were racing against time," Feng said. To save time while not compromising quality, they established an efficient, streamlined work procedure. "Every morning, senior consultants met to discuss problems they identified and offered their solutions afterward," he said. Meetings were also held to address technical issues such as how to make headlines eye-catching, footnotes accurate and style consistent throughout the book.

"This work procedure enabled us to complete the translation of about 100,000 Chinese characters and revise and finalize another 200,000 Chinese characters in a little over a month," Feng said.

"In the translation process, we put ourselves in the shoes of foreign readers as much as possible, always thinking about how to convey the meaning of the original text accurately and at the same time, make it easier for readers to understand," said Liu Kuijuan, deputy head of the English Department of Foreign Languages Press. "This requires us to be faithful to the original and be flexible at the same time," she explained.

"Translation is not mechanical rendering of one language into another; it is a creative process," Liu said. She said the book includes Xi's remarks at a meeting with secretaries of county-level Party committees, which mentioned many historical figures and poems and contained metaphors and political concepts, making them difficult to translate. "This requires a translator to comprehend the original text, convert it into another language and make adjustments," she said.

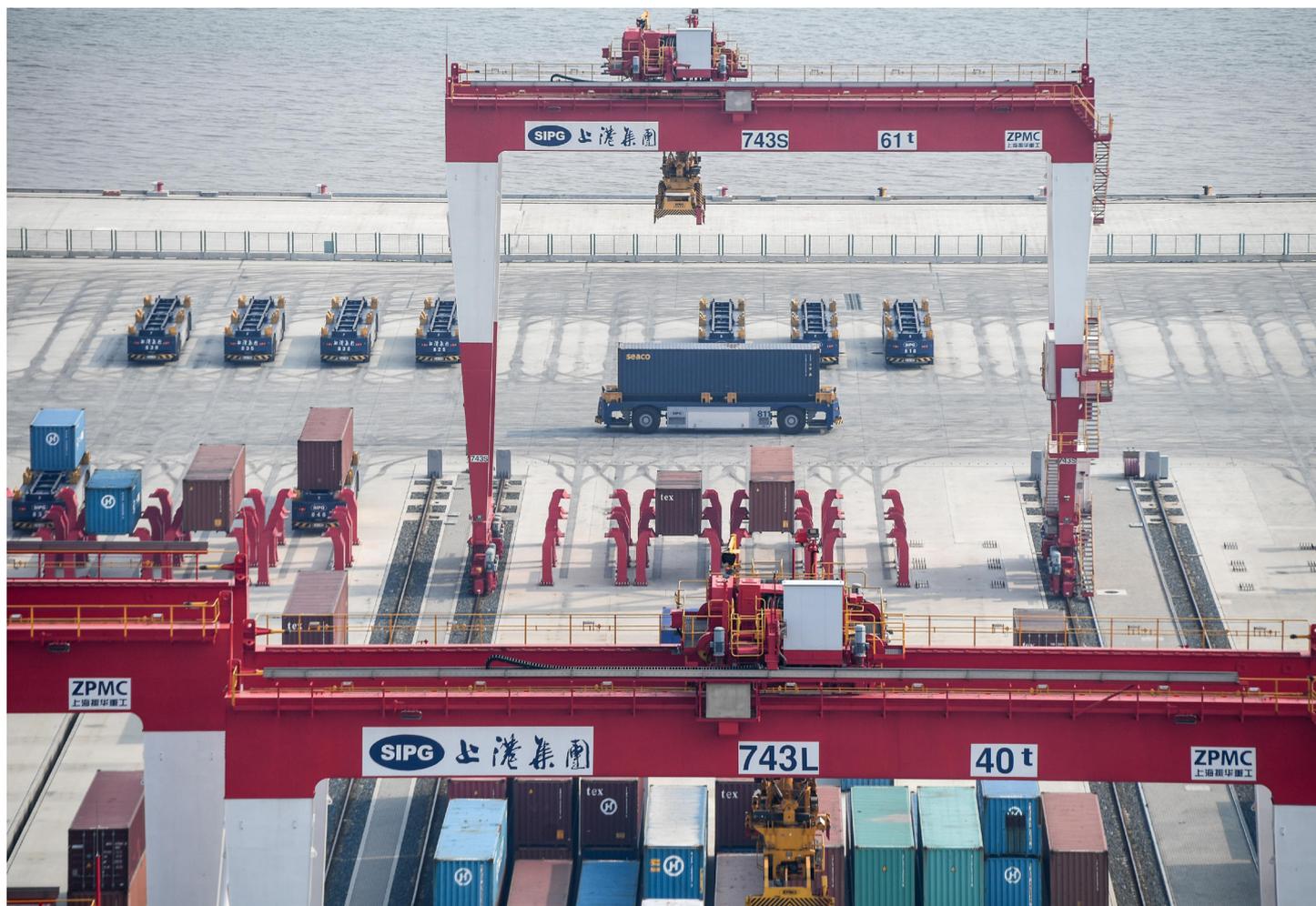
Literal translation of some metaphors might cause confusion, so in such cases, it is better to put them in plain and understandable language, said Wang Qin, a senior translator.

Now, Chinese and English versions of the book are available in bookstores.

# A new port of call

## China mulls its first free trade port areas in Shanghai

By Wang Jun



An automatic guided vehicle test runs on a ground in the Fourth Phase of the Yangshan Deep-Water Port in Shanghai, the world's largest automated container terminal (XINHUA)

When President Xi Jinping, also General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, outlined China's development blueprint for the next decades in his report to the 19th CPC National Congress on October 18, he laid out a series of ambitious plans. Among them is a pledge to "grant more powers to pilot free trade zones (FTZs) to conduct reform and explore the building of free trade ports."

The move has "in effect raised the standard for developing the test field for reform and opening up and shown us a new direction with higher standards for ushering in a more comprehensive and in-depth landscape for opening up," said Gao Feng, spokesman for the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM).

"Under the unified leadership of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council, MOFCOM, together with the provinces, municipalities and departments involved, is studying issues concerning the building of free trade ports on the basis of high-standard, high-quality pilot free trade zones," Gao told a press conference in Beijing on October 26.

Plans are being formulated for free trade port areas in Shanghai, China's largest business hub and home to the country's first pilot free trade zone, according to Gao. In addition, the pilot free trade zone in Zhejiang Province, one of the country's most economically developed coastal regions, has set the goal of transforming itself into a pilot free trade port up to international standards to facilitate trade in bulk commodities, such as oil products.

Chen Bo, Executive Director of the Free Trade Zone Research Center of Huazhong University of Science and Technology in Wuhan, Hubei Province, said, "The evolution of free trade zones to free trade ports is of great significance to reform and opening up. The aim of free trade ports is to open China wider."

Shanghai reportedly has submitted a tentative program for piloting the establishment of free trade port areas, and is discussing the scheme with MOFCOM. An implementation plan is expected to be completed within the next few months, Chen said.

### Shanghai FTZ version 3.0

The concept of free trade port was first proposed in the State Council's plan for deepening the opening up of the China (Shanghai) Pilot FTZ, issued on March 31, which was the third document of its kind for the Shanghai FTZ.

According to the plan, free trade port areas will be set up in the Yangshan bonded port area and Shanghai Pudong Airport's comprehensive bonded area. Industry insiders consider the plan's major highlight to be the two new areas.

"The Port of Shanghai serves the Yangtze River Delta and the entire country, therefore improving its efficiency will serve both the regional and the national economy. This is why the government decides to set up free trade port areas," said Sun Yuanqing, Deputy Director of the FTZ Institute of Shanghai University of Finance and Economics. "Combining free trade areas and port operations will be conducive to developing transit and high-end processing trade and promoting innovation."

Chen said the State Council's plan requires the highest international standards of opening up to be adopted in Shanghai's planned free trade port areas. This means it is intended to compete with top ports worldwide which have the best management professionals and resources, such as Hong Kong of China and Singapore. "From this point of view, the free trade port areas in Shanghai will be more open than the current free trade zone," he said.

Currently, Hong Kong, Singapore and Dubai are known as the most robust free trade ports in the world. Researchers believe they can provide valuable references for China's free trade ports.

But compared to these small economies, China has to protect its domestic industries from being negatively impacted during the opening-up process. "If we are to compete for global resources in the way of Hong Kong and Singapore, we must prepare a lot," Chen warned.

"The Chinese mainland has made rapid progress in recent years, and our ports are not inferior to Singapore and Hong Kong in terms of handling capacity and infrastructure, but we still have great room for improvement in management efficiency and international business," said Bai Ming, Deputy Director of the International Market Research Department

of the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation. He added that it will take time for the Chinese mainland to open up further because it involves various institutional reforms.

### What to do?

Shanghai, which has container trade with more than 500 ports in 214 countries and regions, has been the world's busiest container port since 2010. It handled 37.13 million 20-foot equivalent units (TEUs) of containers in 2016, an increase of 3.5 percent year on year.

Shanghai needs to learn from international experience and apply the highest international standards in the process of building free trade ports, Sun said.

At a press conference in April, Zhu Min, Deputy Director of the Shanghai Municipal Commission of Development and Reform, stressed that the city will refer to foreign practices in building free trade ports, research the latest development trends in international trade and investment, and take into account China's conditions. "Shanghai will set up free trade port areas in the existing areas under special customs supervision. We are carrying out institutional innovation and working out a new supervision system up to international standards and suitable to China's conditions. And we are working with related central government departments on specific management measures," he said.

Chen suggests Shanghai learn from the practices of Hong Kong, Singapore and Dubai in order to make itself a global hub for freight, professionals and financial resources, as well as a provider of services of high added value. "Major measures of opening up and trade facilitation as well as innovative trade and financial patterns must be included in the scheme. In this way, can we demonstrate our resolve to build free trade ports and become prominent in the global competition," he said.

"Since little potential remains in onshore financial business, Shanghai should focus on the development of offshore trade in the future and further expand offshore financial business and futures trading," said Chen, who hopes to see some breakthroughs in the implementation scheme for free trade port areas in Shanghai.



An aerial view of the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone (XINHUA)

# Standing by law

## A judge explains her understanding of justice with her actions

By Yuan Yuan



Liu Li (right) checks documents before opening a court session (COURTESY PHOTO)

At a recent exhibition held by Beijing Higher People's Court on civil cases that made pioneering steps during trials, a divorce case in 2013 that saw the issuance of the first temporary restraining order in Beijing was on display.

Liu Li, the judge of the case who granted the order against a husband charged with domestic violence, is now the head of the Aoyuncun Tribunal, affiliated to Chaoyang District People's Court in Beijing.

### Order of protection

While handling the high-profile case, the pressure was huge, Liu recalled. Kim Lee, the plaintiff, posted on her microblog pictures taken in 2011 of her bruised face and said she was beaten by her husband Li Yang, founder of Crazy English, a well-known language training school.

Lee, from the United States, then sued Li for abusing her with domestic violence and requested a divorce.

The involvement of a foreign litigant and a famous figure as well as the issue of domestic violence soon made media headlines, putting a lot of pressure on Liu.

Liu spent much time collecting evidence and researching domestic violence. "We didn't have a law specifically on domestic violence at that time, which made the case more difficult," Liu told *Beijing Review*. "We also needed to keep a cool head and not be affected by media reports."

After four court hearings, Liu ruled that Lee was the victim of domestic violence and granted her a restraining order against Li.

"Before that, Beijing never issued a restraining order," Liu said. "We were under pressure for the possible consequences of the grant."

This order is regarded as a milestone in cases of domestic violence and it also sped up the introduction of related legislation. In March 2016, China's first anti-domestic violence law came into effect. Liu contributed many suggestions in the process of the law's formulation.

### The complication

Having graduated from law school in 2002, Liu joined Chaoyang District People's Court. Now she has dealt with more than 3,000 cases involving more than 8,000 litigants.

"Beijing is a megacity with a population of more than 20 million. Chaoyang, as the most populous district in the city, always faces complicated disputes," Liu said. "Besides, it is where many foreigners stay, which makes the situation more complex."

In 2008, before Beijing hosted the Summer Olympic Games, the Aoyuncun Tribunal was assigned to deal with all civil disputes involving foreign litigants in the district. "We felt great pressure due to the large workload," Liu said. "But we learned a lot in handling transnational cases."

Of the 33 judicial officers in the tribunal, only 13 are qualified to hear cases. According to a statement released by the tribunal in September, it heard more than 5,000 cases in 2016 and this year, the number is expected to reach 6,000.

"These disputes concern many issues including divorce and property transactions," Ouyang Hua, a colleague of Liu, told *Beijing Review*.

A senior local woman was scared by her neighbor's dog and fell to the ground, resulting in a hip fracture. She then sued the dog's owner, a woman from South America, for financial compensation. "But when we accepted the case and tried to contact the defendant, we found she already went to Chile," Ouyang said. "This is the problem that we always come across in dealing with foreign-related cases." The case has not concluded.

"We are exploring ways to deal with such cases more effectively," Liu said. Besides foreign-related cases, the number of other cases has also soared as the nation pushes forward with judicial reform.

How to streamline the court hearing process and efficiently assign work is Liu's biggest challenge. Every Friday afternoon the judges gather together to discuss complicated cases and study new problems.

Liu makes notes on every case she regards as typical and important, and now she has five thick notebooks. "I hope more high technology can be adopted in case hearings and we can share litigants' information through an internal system of the judicial authorities," she said.

### Not just about the case

"A judge's duty is not just limited to being fair in trials, but extends to taking possible actions to reduce potential risks," Liu said. "This might help to save a life or a family or even change a social phenomenon. For me, this is the biggest pride of being a judge."

The Aoyuncun Tribunal's jurisdiction includes some major highways and roads. In the course of handling hundreds of cases concerning traffic accidents in the area, Liu found that Laiguangying North Road is a location where many serious accidents occurred. She then did some research on the spot with colleagues.

"It is a very busy road and had a large construction site. Many heavy trucks were busy rushing in and out, but the traffic signals and lights were not designed properly," Liu said.

Liu made a detailed record based on the research and submitted it to the Beijing Traffic Management Bureau, which soon reacted by rearranging nearby traffic signals and assigning staff to help ease traffic along the relevant section.

As a member of the Communist Party of China (CPC), Liu was elected as a delegate to the 19th CPC National Congress in Beijing in October. At the quinquennial political event, she said she will put forth proposals on advancing the rule of law in the country.

# Key Concepts in Chinese Thought and Culture



**K**ey Concepts in Chinese Thought and Culture constitutes the essence of what is considered the best of traditional Chinese culture. Accurately defining China's core cultural concepts and better sharing Chinese way of thinking with the world are important means to promote China's cultural exchanges with other countries.

The purposes of this book series, *Key Concepts in Chinese Thought and Culture* project, undertaken by Beijing Foreign Studies University and its Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press, are to select the concepts in Chinese thought and culture that reflect the characteristics of the country's traditional culture and the Chinese people's way of thinking, which embody the core values of China; objectively and accurately define the concepts in concise, easy-to-understand language; and encourage government offices, social organizations, and media outlets in China to use these concepts in international communication to tell China's story well and effectively communicate what China has to say to keep the world better informed of China's national conditions, history, and culture.

## Getting to Know CHINA through KEYWORDS

### Community-Level Self-Governance

China's increasing prosperity and progress have been accompanied by greater democracy at the community level in both urban and rural areas throughout the country, increased orderly participation of its citizens in political life, and a multiplication of democratic practices. Community-level democratic self-governance involves, inter alia, a network of rural villagers' committees, urban residents' committees and workers' congresses. Within these organizations people can directly participate in elections, policy-making, management and oversight. [More>>](#)

### Consultative Democracy

China's socialist democracy finds expression in two processes: electoral democracy, which allows the people to exercise their rights through elections, and consultative democracy, which ensures that consultations are conducted with the people before major policy decisions are made. Both processes are designed to achieve the broadest possible consensus on issues of common concern. Socialist consultative democracy is a form of democracy developed by the CPC and the Chinese people by taking into account China's realities and its political and cultural traditions. [More>>](#)

## Major events in September

### November 1: Xi stresses commitment to good China-Russia relations

**Keywords: Xi Jinping; Dmitry Medvedev; China-Russia relations**

President Xi Jinping stressed China's commitment to developing and deepening relations with Russia during a meeting with Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev.

### November 7: China plans to finish fifth Antarctic station by 2022

**Keywords: China; Antarctic station**

China plans to finish its fifth station in the Antarctic in next five years, said Yang Huigen, director of the Polar Research Institute of China.

### November 8: China to maintain macroeconomic policy in 2018

**Keywords: Li Keqiang; China; macroeconomic policy**

Premier Li Keqiang said on November 8 that China would maintain the stability of its macroeconomic policy, and continue reform and opening up in 2018.

### November 9: Xi, Trump agree on leading role of head-of-state diplomacy in Sino-U.S. ties

**Keywords: Xi Jinping; Donald Trump; Sino-U.S. ties**

President Xi Jinping and visiting U.S. President Donald Trump agreed on maintaining the strategic leading role of head-of-state diplomacy in developing bilateral relations.

### November 11: China starts extending supervisory system reform to nationwide

**Keywords: Zhao Leji; anti-graft**

New supervision commissions will be subject to the centralized and unified leadership of the Party and supervise all exercising public power, said Zhao Leji, China's anti-graft chief.

### November 14: Xi's APEC attendance, state visits chart new course for China's major-country diplomacy in new era: FM

**Keywords: Xi Jinping; APEC; Viet Nam; Laos**

President Xi Jinping's attendance at Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meetings and state visits to Viet Nam and Laos chart a new course for major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era, said Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

### November 15: China launches new meteorological satellite

**Keywords: China; meteorological satellite**

China launched a new meteorological satellite, Fengyun-3D, at 2:35 a.m. Beijing Time on November 15 from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in northern Shanxi Province.

### November 23: China earmarks \$7.5 billion for environmental protection

**Keywords: China; environmental protection**

China has made an appropriation of 49.7 billion yuan (\$7.5 billion) for supporting environmental protection this year, said an official with the planning and finance department of the Ministry of Environmental Protection.

### November 27: Xi's second book on governance to be published in 16 countries

**Keywords: Xi Jinping; Foreign Languages Press; second volume**

Major publishing houses from 16 countries have signed memorandums with the Foreign Languages Press (FLP) to translate and publish the second volume of Chinese President Xi Jinping's book on governance, according to an FLP statement on November 27.