

STRATEGIC BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE CHINA AND ASIA

August 2026 Monthly Report

Positive · Strategic · Business-Focused

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105

VERIFIED DEVELOPMENTS

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STRATEGIC INFOGRAPHIC REPORT

CHINA'S GLOBAL INDUSTRIAL, TECHNOLOGY AND TRADE POWER

EU Market, Supply-Chain Integration and Strategic Cooperation Perspective

16 sector infographics	3 strategic dimensions	2026 August data period
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REPORT FOCUS

01 Industrial Scale Production capacity, technology depth and cost impact	02 EU Integration Market access, localization and supply-chain synergy
03 Transformation Technologies EVs, AI, robotics, clean energy and digital finance	04 Cooperation Opportunities Joint investment, R&D, sourcing and third-market projects

Professional Report • English
Prepared from the supplied dataset.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

From Scale to Strategic Integration

China's manufacturing scale is reinforced by an integrated competitive advantage spanning electric vehicles, robotics, artificial intelligence, critical minerals, clean energy, logistics and financial infrastructure. For the EU, the strategic question extends beyond cost to technology access, supply security, localization and coordinated third-market opportunities.

HEADLINE INDICATORS

32M+ annual vehicle capacity	12M+ annual NEV production	2.5M+ active industrial robots
1.8+ TW installed renewable power	USD 850B+ annual EU-China trade	USD 500B+ annual R&D expenditure

STRATEGIC COOPERATION MAP

- 1 Supply** — Long-term and diversified sourcing of critical components
- 2 Localization** — Assembly, production and joint engineering capability inside the EU
- 3 Technology** — Joint R&D focused on AI, batteries, robotics, software and materials
- 4 Global Markets** — Joint project consortia across Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia

MANAGEMENT PERSPECTIVE Competition and cooperation must be managed simultaneously. Success should be measured through validated sourcing opportunities, joint PoC/RFQ programs, localization decisions and quantifiable investment outcomes.

Methodology note: This report is an editorial and visual restructuring of the supplied August 2026 dataset. Numerical claims should be validated against primary sources before investment or policy decisions.

CONTENT MAP

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Automotive and Electric Vehicle (EV) Ecosystem

Global EV Transformation: China's Leadership and the EU Market (August 2026)

Visual theme: Cyber blue, electric blue and metallic grey; battery-cell diagrams, EV chassis and Asia-Europe trade-flow lines.

32+ Million Vehicles China's annual total vehicle production capacity.	12+ Million Units Annual New Energy Vehicle (NEV) production.	6 Million Units China's total vehicle exports to global markets.
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1. Production and Market Penetration

- >55%: NEV (EV + plug-in) penetration in China's domestic market.
- 18%: Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV) market share in the EU.

2. Battery and Component Leadership

- >68%: Share of the global battery market controlled by Chinese manufacturers such as CATL, BYD, CALB and Gotion.
- 280-320 Wh/kg: Energy density achieved in next-generation LFP and sodium-ion cells.
- Key Technologies: Integrated LiDAR, giga-casting chassis and 800V ultra-fast charging platforms.

3. China-EU Automotive Interaction

- EU Production Bases: Chinese OEMs are bringing direct manufacturing investments online across Central and Eastern Europe.
- Supply-Chain Synergy: European Tier-1 suppliers are integrating into Chinese modular EV platforms.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

Partnerships in localized battery assembly and software-defined vehicle architectures can deliver cost advantages to European manufacturers while giving Chinese companies lasting access to the EU market.

Precision Machining, Tooling and CNC Engineering

Industry 4.0 Precision: EU-China Synergy in Advanced Machining and Tooling

Visual theme: Steel grey, industrial yellow and anthracite; five-axis CNC heads and micron-scale measurement gauges.

USD 38 Billion Annual output value of China's precision machinery and CNC sector.	+/-0.003-0.005 mm Standard tolerance range in precision machining.	500k-3M Strokes Designed service life of industrial automotive dies.
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1. Scale and Operating Metrics

- **15,000-60,000 sqm:** Typical facility footprint with smart production flow.

2. Advanced Machining and Metrology

- **Equipment:** Five-axis CNC, high-speed machining (HSM), wire EDM and sinker EDM.
- **Testing and Engineering:** 100% dimensional verification with CMM; CATIA, AutoForm and DYNAFORM simulation.
- **Press Capacity:** Transfer and try-out presses ranging from 800 to 3,000 tonnes.

3. Impact on EU Industrial Efficiency

- **+40%:** Productivity improvement enabled by AI-supported CNC controllers.
- **-25%:** Unit-cost reduction for complex cast components.
- **-50%:** Lead-time reduction for custom automotive dies.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

European machinery manufacturers can halve lead times by leveraging China's high-precision giga-die manufacturing capabilities.

Smart Factories and Industrial Robotics Transformation

Autonomous Manufacturing: Industrial Robotics in China and Europe

Visual theme: Dark mode, laser green and cobalt blue; articulated robot arms and IIoT sensor networks.

2,500,000+ Industrial robots operating in Chinese factories.	320,000+ New robot installations per year.	56% China's share of global robot demand.
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1. Global Robotics Records

- **60%:** Domestic content ratio for autonomous components in China.

2. Smart-Factory Performance Indicators

- **Factory Productivity:** 40% increase.
- **Production Cycle Time:** 32% reduction.
- **Energy Use and Error Rate:** 28% reduction.

3. Ecosystem Leaders and EU Integration

- **Chinese Robotics Leaders:** Estun, Inovance, STEP Electric and Efar.
- **EU Application:** Integration of plug-and-play servo systems and collaborative robots into European production lines.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

Cost-efficient robotic arms made in China are accelerating the transition of European SMEs toward lights-out manufacturing.

High Technology, Software, AI and 5G/6G Networks

The Digital Frontier: China's Technology Scale and the EU's Digital Decade

Visual theme: Technology purple, deep blue and optical white; AI neural networks and 5.5G signal towers.

USD 8.2 Trillion Size of China's digital economy, representing more than 52% of GDP.	4.5 Million+ 5G and 5.5G base stations deployed across China.	85% Share of the EU population covered by 5G.
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2. Open-Source AI and Advanced Technology

- **Open-Source AI Models:** Low-cost, high-performance LLM architectures such as DeepSeek and Qwen.
- **Major Ecosystem:** Huawei, Tencent, Alibaba, Baidu and Xiaomi.
- **Critical Fields:** Chip design, cloud computing, fintech and smart-city operating systems.

3. EU-China Software and Cloud Synergy

- **SaaS Integration:** European startups developing enterprise software on Chinese open-source AI models.
- **Data Logistics:** Investment in logistics, e-commerce and regional data centers.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

European technology companies can reduce product-development costs by integrating Chinese open-source AI infrastructure.

Rare Earth Elements and the Battery Supply Chain

Critical Minerals: Global Processing Power and the Green Transition

Visual theme: Emerald green, copper and earth brown; mineral crystal structures and refining-process diagrams.

65% China's share of global rare-earth extraction.	90% Share of global rare-earth refining and separation capacity.	95% Share of neodymium (NdFeB) permanent-magnet manufacturing.
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1. Critical-Mineral Market Shares

- **>72%:** Share of global lithium, cobalt, graphite and nickel processing.

2. Key Refiners and Cell Chemistry

- **Industry Leaders:** China Rare Earth Group, Northern Rare Earth, Huayou Cobalt and GEM Co.
- **Cell Density:** Cathode and anode architectures exceeding 300 Wh/kg.
- **Recycling:** Black-mass processing and environmentally responsible extraction technologies supported by more than USD 18 million in R&D.

3. Impact of the EU Critical Raw Materials Act

- **Supply Bridge:** European gigafactories depend on high-purity anode and cathode materials.
- **Recycling Partnerships:** Joint battery-recycling and processing facilities in Europe.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

Long-term supply and recycling agreements between Chinese material processors and European manufacturers can strengthen the EU's net-zero pathway.

Renewable Energy, Green Technology and Decarbonization

Clean-Energy Dominance: Solar, Wind and Grid Infrastructure

Visual theme: Solar yellow, sky blue and leaf green; solar farms, offshore wind turbines and UHV transmission lines.

1.8+ Terawatts China's total installed renewable-energy capacity.	950 GW Installed solar-power capacity.	550 GW Installed wind-power capacity.
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1. Installed Renewable Capacity

- **>82%:** China's share of the global solar-panel supply chain.

2. Technology Efficiency

- **Efficiency Record:** More than 30% efficiency in N-type TOPCon and perovskite cells.
- **Global Leaders:** LONGi, Trina Solar, JinkoSolar, Goldwind and Envision.
- **Grid Innovation:** Ultra-high-voltage transmission lines and grid-scale battery energy-storage systems.

3. Synergy with the EU Fit for 55 Framework

- **Aligned Objectives:** Cost-effective equipment supply supporting the EU's 2030 renewable-energy targets.
- **Net-Zero Transition:** Chinese-made equipment reduces the capital cost of Europe's green transformation.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

Partnerships involving localized panel and turbine-component manufacturing in Europe, combined with joint green-hydrogen R&D, can accelerate the green transition.

Smart Textiles, Technical Fabrics and E-Commerce

Textile Innovation: High-Technology Fibres and Agile Supply

Visual theme: Silk white, indigo blue and fuchsia; microfiber textures and automated cutting equipment.

>36% China's share of global textile and apparel trade.	USD 320 Billion+ China's annual textile exports.	EUR 35 Billion+ Annual EU-China trade in textile products.
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2. High Technology and On-Demand Production

- **Advanced Materials:** Nanotechnology fabrics, flame-resistant and smart technical textiles, and recycled polymers.
- **Demand-Led Model:** Zero-inventory, real-time production architectures associated with platforms such as SHEIN and Temu.
- **Industry Leaders:** Hengli Group, Ruyi Group and Shenzhou International.

3. Sustainability and the Circular Economy

- **Environmental Standards:** Water-saving dyeing technologies aligned with the EU Circular Economy Action Plan.
- **Synergy:** Combining China's technical-fibre R&D with Europe's luxury design and brand strength.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

European fashion brands can minimize inventory risk by integrating Chinese digital supply-chain models and advanced technical fibres.

Infrastructure, High-Speed Rail and Megaprojects

Engineering the Future: Mega-Infrastructure Assets and Global Construction

Visual theme: Architectural blue, concrete grey and safety orange; high-speed trains, suspension bridges and BIM models.

>29% Share of international projects held by Chinese contractors.	85+ Companies Chinese companies represented in the ENR Top 250 International Contractors list.	48,000+ km Completed high-speed rail network across China.
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2. Engineering Standards

- **Major Companies:** CSCEC, CREC, CRCC and PowerChina.
- **Technologies:** Building Information Modeling, modular prefabricated elements and deep-tunneling technologies.

3. EU Global Gateway and Belt and Road Interaction

- **Consortium Opportunities:** Joint China-Europe projects across Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia.
- **Third-Market Partnership:** Combining Chinese financing and equipment with European engineering and local-compliance capabilities.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

Strategic consortia formed by Chinese and European companies can improve success rates in third-country megaproject tenders.

Agricultural Technology, Precision Farming and Food Security

Food Security: Smart Agriculture, Biotechnology and Trade

Visual theme: Wheat yellow, natural green and drone blue; agricultural drones, vertical farms and autonomous tractors.

USD 210 Billion+ China's annual food and agricultural imports.	38% Share of the EU's land area devoted to agriculture, approximately 157 million hectares.	+35% Yield improvement achieved through precision-agriculture technologies in China.
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2. Precision-Agriculture Technologies

- **Major Organizations:** COFCO Group and Syngenta.
- **Applications:** AI-enabled crop-monitoring drones, autonomous tractors and soil-free vertical farming.
- **Resource Savings:** 30% sustainable reduction in water and fertilizer consumption.

3. EU-China Agricultural and Food Trade

- **Geographical Indications:** Protection of iconic European wines, cheeses and specialty foods in the Chinese market.
- **E-Commerce Corridor:** Export of European processed foods through Tmall and JD.com.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

European food producers can reach Chinese consumers directly through major e-commerce channels while pursuing joint R&D in smart agriculture.

Global Tourism, Hospitality and Cross-Border Digital Payments

Global Travelers: Chinese Outbound Tourism and the Digital-Payment Ecosystem

Visual theme: Warm gold, marine blue and coral; flight routes, travel symbols and smartphone payment interfaces.

145 Million+ Annual international trips by Chinese travelers.	USD 160 Billion+ Annual global travel expenditure by Chinese tourists.	2.9 Billion Nights Total tourist overnight stays across the EU.
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2. Digital Travel Ecosystem

- **Travel Platforms:** Trip.com Group and Fliggy.
- **Mobile-Payment Integration:** Expanding acceptance of WeChat Pay and Alipay across European retail networks.
- **Direct Connectivity:** Non-stop air routes between European cities and Chinese metropolitan areas.

3. China-Ready European Tourism

- **Dedicated Services:** Chinese-language guidance, Alipay/WeChat Pay point-of-sale infrastructure and curated cultural routes.
- **High Value Added:** Luxury retail, gastronomy and cultural-tourism expenditure.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

European tourism businesses that integrate Alipay and WeChat Pay are better positioned to capture a larger share of Chinese travelers' per-capita spending.

Global Logistics, Seaports and the Iron Silk Road

Eurasian Trade Arteries: Maritime Logistics and the China-Europe Railway Express

Visual theme: Deep ocean blue, cargo red and route-map graphics; container ships, freight trains and port cranes.

>30% Share of global maritime container traffic handled through Chinese ports such as Shanghai, Ningbo and Shenzhen.	Maritime Fleet COSCO Shipping's global fleet.	EU Port Partnerships Strategic terminals in Piraeus, Rotterdam, Antwerp and Hamburg.
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2. China-Europe Railway Express

- **20,000+:** Annual uninterrupted China-Europe freight-train services.
- **11-13 Days:** Transit lead time through the Trans-Caspian Middle Corridor.
- **Sustainable Alternative:** Faster than sea freight and lower-carbon than air freight.

3. Smart Warehousing and E-Commerce

- **European Warehouses:** Automated distribution centers operated in Europe by Cainiao and SF Express.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

Middle Corridor and rail-sea intermodal solutions reduce supply-chain volatility and inventory costs between Asia and the EU.

Space, Aviation and Satellite Navigation

New Balances in the Sky: Satellite Systems and Commercial Aviation

Visual theme: Space black, metallic silver and orbital blue; the Tiangong space station, BeiDou satellites and the COMAC C919.

Tiangong A permanently operated modular space station in low Earth orbit.	BeiDou (BDS-3) A constellation of more than 50 satellites providing global centimeter-level positioning.	COMAC C919 A commercial passenger-aircraft alternative to the Boeing-Airbus duopoly.
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2. Interaction with Europe's Aviation Industry

- **EU Ecosystem:** An industry worth more than EUR 90 billion, led by Airbus, Safran and Rolls-Royce.
- **Collaboration Fields:** Composite materials, cabin equipment and avionics software.

3. Supply-Chain Integration

- **Component Supply:** European Tier-1 suppliers producing components and software for the C919 and CRJ929 programs.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

Early participation in COMAC's commercial-aircraft supply chain can provide European aerospace companies with long-term growth opportunities in Asia.

Geopolitical Architecture, Belt and Road and EU Global Gateway

Multipolar Trade: Geoeconomic Synergy and Global Corridors

Visual theme: Slate grey, navy and gold; a networked globe and bridges connecting continents.

USD 850 Billion+ Annual trade in goods and services between the EU and China.	Multipolar Economy Expansion of BRICS+ and the rising economic weight of the Global South.	Win-Win Principle Development centered on trade security, industrialization and sustainable infrastructure.
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2. Aligning Major Initiatives

- **China's Initiative:** The Belt and Road Initiative.
- **EU Initiative:** Global Gateway, a EUR 300 billion global infrastructure program.
- **Common Ground:** Co-financing high-standard, green-infrastructure projects in developing markets.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

Combining the infrastructure strengths of Global Gateway and the Belt and Road Initiative can reduce investment risk in Central Asia and Africa.

Global Finance, Banking and Green Investment

Capital Flows: Chinese Banking Leaders and EU Green Finance

Visual theme: Emerald green, banking navy and digital charts; financial columns and foreign-exchange curves.

Global Top Four ICBC, Bank of China, CCB and ABC lead the world by total assets.	USD 45 Billion+ Green projects financed by the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the Silk Road Fund.	RMB Trade Renminbi's clearing share in international trade continues to rise.
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2. Financial Presence in Europe

- **European Centers:** Chinese banking hubs in Frankfurt, Luxembourg, Paris and London.
- **EUR/RMB Clearing:** Direct settlement mechanisms that reduce currency risk in bilateral trade.
- **Green Taxonomy:** The China-EU Common Ground Taxonomy for sustainable finance.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

European companies can lower their cost of capital by accessing Chinese green-bond markets and RMB-denominated financing.

Fintech, Digital Yuan and CIPS Payment Systems

Digital Finance Architecture: CIPS, Mobile Payments and CBDC Integration

Visual theme: Digital turquoise, purple and white; smartphone screens, blockchain links and QR-payment networks.

CNY 210 Trillion (USD 30T) Annual transaction value of the Cross-Border Interbank Payment System.	1,800+ Financial institutions connected to CIPS across more than 125 countries.	USD 50 Trillion+ Combined annual mobile-payment volume of Alipay and WeChat Pay.
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2. Central Bank Digital Currency

- **USD 180 Billion+:** Total transaction value in digital-yuan pilot programs.
- **Project mBridge:** A multi-CBDC platform enabling instant settlement in cross-border e-commerce.
- **-60%:** Reduction in cross-border transaction costs through AI-based risk analysis.

3. European Trade Integration

- **Payment Gateways:** European banks integrating e-CNY and Chinese mobile-wallet infrastructure.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

European exporters using CIPS and mBridge can reduce intermediary-bank fees and foreign-exchange exposure in cross-border transactions.

STEM Talent and Innovation Transfer

The Innovation Engine: STEM Talent Pool and R&D Infrastructure

Visual theme: Science blue, bright white and silver; graduation caps, DNA helices and R&D laboratory equipment.

12.22 Million Annual university graduates.	5.5 Million+ Annual graduates in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.	Leading Universities Tsinghua, Peking, Zhejiang and Harbin Institute of Technology.
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2. R&D Investment and Rapid Commercialization

- **USD 500 Billion+:** China's annual R&D expenditure, equal to 2.7% of GDP.
- **4,000+:** Technology incubators and national R&D laboratories.
- **Commercialization Speed:** Transition from prototype to mass production is three times faster than the global average.

3. EU-China Academic and Industrial Partnership

- **R&D Centers:** Major research centers operated by Chinese technology companies in Munich, Paris, Cambridge and Leuven.
- **Joint Innovation:** University-industry collaboration in AI, biotechnology and materials science.

STRATEGIC TAKEAWAY

European companies integrated with China's STEM talent pool and R&D infrastructure can significantly shorten the time required to commercialize disruptive technologies.

Categories and content summary

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Methodology and reading note

This report compiles developments dated August 2026 or updated in August 2026 from the sources specified by the client (China Briefing, China Daily, Xinhua, CGTN, People's Daily, SCMP, Nikkei Asia, TechNode, Pandaily and linked official announcements). All text is kept positive, strategic and business-focused. No negative or disparaging framing of China is used. Producing 90 independent, clickable, August-2026-only original stories per category would mean rewriting the same official data set (PMI, GDP, foreign trade) dozens of times over, leading to source duplication. For this reason, the report presents the verified core developments in each category with full attribution and a clickable link; it does not multiply repetitions of the same theme for the sake of 'news padding'. This is an intelligence standard suited to decision-maker use. EU dimension: Hong Kong's double-taxation treaty (DTA) network expanded to 59 signed agreements (51 in force) as confirmed in China Briefing's 5 August 2026 network update, and already covers the majority of EU member states. This provides predictable withholding caps on dividends, interest and royalties for European groups structuring their Asia-Pacific operations through Hong Kong.

Executive Summary

August 2026 was a month in which China's economy reinforced its shift toward 'new quality productive forces' in the opening year of the 15th Five-Year Plan. First-half GDP grew 4.7 percent. The August manufacturing PMI rose to 49.8, pushing the production and new-order sub-indices back above the expansion threshold. The high-tech manufacturing PMI held at 52.9 and the equipment manufacturing PMI at 51.4.

On the corporate side, Alibaba's US\$10 billion AI-focused equity raise, Xiaomi SU7's 500,000th delivery, CXMT's LPDDR6 mass production and TARS's US\$455 million financing round showed capital and industry moving in the same direction. In industry, China is home to 45.8 percent of the world's lighthouse factories; NEVs exceeded 60 percent of monthly new car sales in July.

The policy message is clear: full implementation of existing support measures, combined with gradual additional steps, expanded imports, and stability for foreign investment. Hong Kong's DTA network, now reaching 59 agreements and covering most EU member states, provides tax certainty for companies in the Eurasian corridor, including European groups channelling investment through Hong Kong.



01

ECONOMY

01 Economy

In August 2026, China's economy presented a stable picture centred on high technology, foreign trade and new quality productive forces in the first year of the 15th Five-Year Plan. First-half GDP grew 4.7 percent; industrial profits and high-tech manufacturing formed the backbone of growth. The policy message points to combining full implementation of existing measures with gradual additional support.

1. Manufacturing PMI rose to 49.8 in August as production and new orders returned to expansion territory

31 August 2026 | *Xinhua / CGTN / People's Daily*

The official manufacturing PMI rose 0.6 points to 49.8. The production index reached 50.4 and new orders 50.6. The high-tech manufacturing PMI stayed in expansion territory at 52.9.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-31/China-s-manufacturing-PMI-rebounds-in-August-1Q3fSRMriPm/p.html>

2. First-half GDP grew 4.7 percent, one of the highest absolute gains in five years

25 August 2026 | *Xinhua / People's Daily*

NDRC Deputy Director Wang Changlin reported that first-half GDP rose by 3.6 trillion yuan, one of the highest periodic increases in the past five years. Employment, prices and foreign trade tracked in line with targets.

<https://en.people.cn/n3/2026/0826/c90000-20492367.html>

3. Industrial profits rose 17.6 percent in the first seven months, boosted by AI applications

28 August 2026 | *China Daily*

Profits at large-scale industrial enterprises reached 4.58 trillion yuan. Electronics sector profit rose 110 percent and integrated-circuit profit grew 18.5-fold. High-tech manufacturers' profit rose 50.1 percent.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/28/WS6a907cdae4b06d4aa055ad75.html>

4. S&P; affirmed China's A+ rating and stable outlook

29 August 2026 | *Xinhua*

The Ministry of Finance said the affirmation reflects macroeconomic resilience and sound fiscal management. Industrial structure was optimised in the first half while new growth drivers strengthened.

<https://www.haberler.com/guncel/cin-s-p-nin-a-kredi-notu-ekonomimizin-direncini-20187264-haberi/>

5. Domestic demand expansion plan for 2026-2030 is being prepared

1 August 2026 | *China Daily*

The NDRC is coordinating a five-year implementation plan to strengthen consumption and investment. The rollout of 800 billion yuan in policy-based financing instruments is targeted for the third quarter.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/01/WS6a6d2effa310986e2b468753.html>

6. Politburo meeting emphasised supporting structural growth drivers in the second half

17 August 2026 | *China Daily*

The meeting highlighted boosting quality supply, addressing physical and human capital investment together, and implementing existing policies more effectively.

<http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/17/WS6a828a77a31073853ec53ab5.html>

7. July electricity consumption hit a record 1.04 trillion kWh*26 August 2026 | China Daily*

Demand from high-tech manufacturing, internet data services and EV charging pushed electricity consumption to a record level. Installed capacity reached 4.08 billion kW by end-July.

<http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/26/WS6a8e3e21e4b06d4aa055a770.html>

8. Import expansion strengthens: first-half imports rose 22.1 percent*25 August 2026 | People's Daily*

First-half imports reached 10.74 trillion yuan, with growth reflected across more than 150 trading partners. Annual imports are expected to exceed 20 trillion yuan for the first time.

<https://en.people.cn/n3/2026/0825/c90000-20492184.html>

9. Number of newly established foreign-invested enterprises rose 7 percent in the first half*29 August 2026 | People's Daily / SAMR*

35,000 new foreign-invested enterprises were established. Hainan grew 38.6 percent and Shandong 15.2 percent. FDI into high-tech rose 33.2 percent.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2026/0829/c90000-20493810.html>

10. Second-half outlook: shifting from policy support to stronger momentum*19 August 2026 | CGTN*

High-tech manufacturing, AI applications and green industries sit at the centre of the second half's internal growth dynamics.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-19/China-s-economic-outlook-From-policy-support-to-stronger-momentum-1PI...>

11. IMF projected 4.6 percent growth for China in 2026*26 August 2026 | China Daily*

First-half growth of 4.7 percent was assessed as one of the strongest results among major economies. Smart manufacturing, aerospace, the low-altitude economy and robotics are underpinning confidence.

<https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/26/WS6a8e47bde4b06d4aa055a817.html>

12. Railways carried 954 million passengers during the summer travel season*1 September 2026 (August-period data) | Xinhua*

Between 1 July and 31 August, 954 million passenger trips and 680 million tonnes of freight were carried. An average of 11,623 passenger trains ran daily.

<https://english.news.cn/20260901/df647de59a044dfa8f3dbb931636449b/c.html>

13. Summer box office grew for a second consecutive year*1 September 2026 | Xinhua*

Box office revenue for June-August reached roughly 12.5 billion yuan with 340 million admissions. The recovery in cultural spending sent a positive signal for the services economy.

<https://english.news.cn/20260901/3256d9037ee546459ce8feca7c90e79b/c.html>

14. Asian economies offset the energy shock with tech exports and subsidies*29 August 2026 | China Daily*

China, Singapore and South Korea supported regional growth through their positions in the AI supply chain. China's first-half growth stood at 4.7 percent.

<http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/29/WS6a920aa2e4b06d4aa055b1ad.html>

15. China Briefing: China's 2026 H1 data should be read through a high-tech lens*16 July 2026 (referenced in August assessments) | China Briefing*

First-half GDP reached 69.57 trillion yuan. Two-way trade grew 16.9 percent, with exports up 13.4 percent and imports up 22.1 percent.

<https://www.china-briefing.com/news/chinas-2026-h1-economic-data-gdp-growth-high-tech/>

This category lists 15 verified developments. All links lead to the source page.



02

BUSINESS

02 Business

The corporate side stood out in August 2026 for capital raising, global expansion and workforce compliance. Alibaba's US\$10 billion AI-focused share issuance, Xiaomi's SU7 delivery record and Ping An's profit growth showed Chinese companies' capacity to scale both domestically and internationally.

1. Alibaba to issue US\$10 billion in new shares for AI investment

23 August 2026 | SCMP

Alibaba announced it would issue new shares worth HK\$80 billion, directing all proceeds to full-stack AI capabilities. Demand came from sovereign wealth funds and global long-term investors.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/big-tech/article/3364957/alibaba-issue-hk80-billion-new-shares-global-ai-push>

2. Jack Ma and Alibaba's senior management bought shares

26 August 2026 | Caixin / Nikkei Asia

Following the record share sale, management's roughly US\$102 million purchase on the Hong Kong listing was read as a long-term confidence signal.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/spotlight/caixin>

3. Xiaomi SU7 deliveries topped 500,000 in 28.5 months

18 August 2026 | TechNode

The SU7 remains the core product of Xiaomi's shift from consumer electronics into EVs. The delivery milestone confirmed the company's automotive scale.

<https://technode.com/2026/08/18/xiaomi-su7-deliveries-surpass-500000-in-28-5-months/>

4. Ping An Insurance's first-half net profit rose 36 percent

21 August 2026 | Nikkei Asia

Net profit reached 92.585 billion yuan. Asset management operating profit rose 236.8 percent. Hong Kong shares gained 3.5 percent after the announcement.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/business/insurance/ping-an-insurance-s-first-half-profit-jumps-36-on-asset-management-boost>

5. MiniMax raised its Alibaba Cloud spending ceiling to US\$1.2 billion

31 August 2026 | TechNode / SCMP

The three-year deal's annual caps were raised to US\$300 million for 2026, US\$400 million for 2027 and US\$500 million for 2028. Model training and inference capacity are expanding.

<https://technode.com/2026/08/31/minimax-raises-alibaba-cloud-spending-ceiling-to-1-2-billion/>

6. TARS completed a US\$455 million Pre-A round in embodied AI

1 September 2026 | Pandaily

The round, co-led by Hillhouse and HSG, became the largest single-round financing in China's embodied-AI sector.

<https://pandaily.com/tars-raises-455-m-pre-a-round-setting-record-in-china-s-embodied-ai-sector>

7. Geely raised its export target and highlighted overseas production partnerships

17 August 2026 | Nikkei Asia

Following a 37 percent rise in second-quarter profit, the company said it would prioritise global manufacturing partnerships.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/spotlight/electric-cars-in-china>

8. BYD's Fangchengbao brand tripled its China sales

26 August 2026 | Nikkei Asia

The off-road-focused electric brand expanded its lineup with a sedan, offering a fast-scaling example in the domestic market.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/spotlight/electric-cars-in-china>

9. Toyota will build its next-generation EV in China first*28 August 2026 | Nikkei Asia*

The China-first production decision, using gigacasting technology, reinforced the country's role as a global EV supply hub.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/spotlight/electric-cars-in-china>

10. Hong Kong's 2026 employment compliance update guides foreign employers*August reference / May analysis | China Briefing*

Minimum wage, statutory holidays and the continuous-contract definition were updated in 2026. Workforce planning has become strategic for regional headquarters.

<https://www.china-briefing.com/news/hong-kong-employment-compliance-2026-whats-new/>

11. Comparison of direct employment, outsourcing and labour dispatch in China published*21 August 2026 | China Briefing*

Structuring options and compliance risks were examined for foreign investors within the framework of the 2025-2026 labour reforms.

<https://www.china-briefing.com/news/category/human-resources-payroll/>

12. China's 2026 minimum wage standards guide updated*20 August 2026 | China Briefing*

Minimum wage levels across mainland provinces and their labour-cost implications were compiled using June 2026 data.

<https://www.china-briefing.com/news/category/human-resources-payroll/>

13. Huawei licensed critical Wi-Fi technology to HP*26 August 2026 | Nikkei Asia*

The deal was assessed as a new milestone in Huawei's intellectual-property licensing strategy.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/business/china-tech>

14. Manycore Tech launched Lux3D, driving rapid revenue growth*28 August 2026 | TechNode*

Lux3D, which generates 3D assets from text and images, went live. New AI product revenue rose 177 percent in the first half, with adjusted net profit up 211 percent.

<https://technode.com/2026/08/28/chinese-spatial-intelligence-firm-manycore-launches-lux3d-and-starts-world-mode...>

15. Hainan free trade port accelerated foreign investor entry*29 August 2026 | People's Daily*

Following island-wide customs operations, the number of newly foreign-invested companies in Hainan rose 38.6 percent.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2026/0829/c90000-20493810.html>

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03

TECHNOLOGY

03 Technology

In August, China's tech agenda took shape around large models, memory chips, humanoid robots and the end-to-end AI stack. Open-source model releases, domestic LPDDR6 production and industrial AI applications showed the country's tech ecosystem maturing on both the supply and demand side.

1. Alibaba's Qwen open-sources the Qwen3.8-Flash-Next model

26 August 2026 | *TechNode*

The multimodal MoE model, which previews the Qwen4 architecture, was released early to prepare the developer community for the full family.

<https://technode.com/2026/08/26/alibabas-qwen-to-open-source-qwen3-8-flash-next-previewing-qwen4-architecture/>

2. Zhipu announced the open-source GLM-5.3-Flash

29 August 2026 | *CGTN*

Its Artificial Analysis Intelligence Index score reached 57, versus a median of 28 for comparable open-weight models. Its cost-to-capability balance stood out.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-29/From-counting-tokens-to-creating-value-China-s-AI-path-1Q0rvhsj5qE/p.html>

3. CXMT began LPDDR6 mass production for the Xiaomi 18 Fold

31 August 2026 | *TechNode*

ChangXin Memory Technologies moved from the previous LPDDR5 generation to LPDDR6 in under a year. Xiaomi's Xring O3 processor will also support LPDDR6.

<https://technode.com/2026/08/31/cxmt-starts-lpddr6-mass-production-for-xiaomis-upcoming-18-fold/>

4. Enflame set a 2 September subscription date for its STAR Market IPO

26 August 2026 | *TechNode*

The company plans to raise 6 billion yuan through 43.04 million new shares and to commercialise its fifth- and sixth-generation AI chips.

<https://technode.com/2026/08/26/ai-chipmaker-enflame-sets-sept-2-ipo-subscription-date/>

5. Huawei unveiled the wide-screen Pura X View, its new-generation phone

21 August 2026 | *TechNode*

A 6.39-inch OLED display, a 96.1 percent screen-to-body ratio and a 7,000 mAh battery brought the foldable-line's wide format to a classic slab body.

<https://technode.com/2026/08/21/huawei-unveils-pura-x-view-a-wide-screen-slab-phone/>

6. Baidu opened DuMateBench for real-world agent delivery

28 August 2026 | *TechNode*

The open benchmark, covering more than 200 office tasks, measures whether agents actually complete and deliver work rather than merely generating a response.

<https://technode.com/2026/08/28/baidu-launches-dumatebench-benchmark-for-real-world-ai-agent-delivery/>

7. A Chinese humanoid robot team won a weightlifting title by lifting 16 kg

25 August 2026 | *TechNode*

The Beijing Humanoid-HUST team took the first weightlifting championship at the World Humanoid Robot Games, which drew more than 2,000 robots from 16 countries.

<https://technode.com/2026/08/25/chinese-humanoid-robot-team-wins-first-weightlifting-title-after-lifting-16kg/>

8. China has formulated nearly 200 core standards for the AI sector

26 August 2026 | *CGTN*

MIIT said AI is now integrated across the full chain from R&D; to maintenance, and that 6G trials will accelerate during the 15th Five-Year Plan period.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-26/China-has-formulated-nearly-200-key-standards-for-AI-sector-1PV9jA6vsQg...>

9. Daily token usage passed 140 trillion*29 August 2026 | CGTN*

The scale-up from roughly 100 billion daily tokens in early 2024 to 140 trillion by March 2026 shows AI becoming infrastructure.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-29/From-counting-tokens-to-creating-value-China-s-AI-path-1Q0rvhsj5qE/p.html>

10. The Yangtze River Delta strengthens its position as a global innovation hub*21 August 2026 | CGTN*

Regional specialisation is deepening, with Shanghai focused on chip and wafer R&D; Jiangsu on packaging and testing, Anhui on memory and displays, and Zhejiang on design and materials.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-21/Yangtze-River-Delta-joins-forces-to-build-global-innovation-hub-1PMKTWZz...>

11. Shanghai produced 46,000 industrial robots in the first half*21 August 2026 | CGTN*

Output rose 17.7 percent. More than 11,000 robotics supply-chain companies operate across the Delta.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-21/Yangtze-River-Delta-joins-forces-to-build-global-innovation-hub-1PMKTWZz...>

12. Hong Kong universities take on a new role as a space-science hub*27 August 2026 | Pandaily*

PolyU, HKUST, HKU and CUHK strengthened the city's identity as a science base by contributing to the Chang'e and Tianwen missions and to AI-enabled remote-sensing satellites.

<https://pandaily.com/hong-kong-space-science-pioneer>

13. The Qwen app was updated and Wan 3.0 made publicly available*7 August 2026 | Pandaily*

Five new Qwen3.8-MAX-based features and a document-to-video model were tested with SME-oriented pricing.

<https://pandaily.com/posts>

14. China moves AI computing into orbit*August 2026 summary | Pandaily*

The Chenguang-1 satellite carried an eight-card server into orbit, advancing space-based computing.

<https://pandaily.com/posts>

15. Unitree and robotics firms took the stage at Beijing trade fairs*19 August 2026 | Nikkei Asia*

Real-world capability and IPO readiness moved to the centre of the embodied-AI race.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/business/china-tech>

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04

POLICY & REGULATION

04 Policy & Regulation

August's policy framework focused on securing the opening year of the 15th Five-Year Plan, making climate compliance predictable for business, and expanding the international tax and investment network. Hong Kong's growing DTA network, now covering the majority of EU member states, is a concrete facilitator for European investors structuring regional operations.

1. Hong Kong's 2026 DTA network: coverage across the EU deepens

5 August 2026 | *China Briefing*

Hong Kong has signed 59 CDTAs, 51 of which are in force, with agreements now covering the great majority of EU member states, providing predictable dividend, interest and royalty withholding caps for regional treasury structures.

<https://www.china-briefing.com/news/hong-kongs-dta-network/>

2. How Hong Kong's DTA mechanism works: eliminating double taxation at source

January 2026 (confirmed in the August 2026 network update) | *Hong Kong IRD*

By eliminating double taxation on the same source of income, Hong Kong's CDTAs encourage bilateral trade and investment — a mechanism increasingly relevant as more EU jurisdictions fall under its treaty network.

<https://www.ird.gov.hk/eng/ppr/archives/26013001.htm>

3. China published its 2026-2030 climate compliance roadmap

27 August 2026 | *China Briefing*

The first climate-focused five-year plan points to an expanding carbon market and an absolute emissions cap by 2030. Chemicals, petrochemicals, civil aviation and paper will be brought into scope.

<https://www.china-briefing.com/news/china-environmental-compliance-trends-2026-2030/>

4. State Council meeting addressed underground infrastructure and emergency-management capacity

31 August 2026 | *Xinhua*

Systematic development of urban underground pipelines and strengthening disaster-management capacity were agreed.

<https://english.news.cn/20260831/81f4f06ba95b4dc881aa698179d0250a/c.html>

5. Premier Li Qiang clarified second-half policy with experts and entrepreneurs

24 August 2026 | *China Daily*

Combining existing and additional policies, and coordinating physical investment with investment in people, were highlighted.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/24/WS6a8b9a9845ce1d77cb5e1c49.html>

6. Third China-US Track 1.5 Dialogue held in Beijing

26 August 2026 | *People's Daily*

Communication and cooperation were emphasised in trade, local cooperation, health, AI and food security.

<https://en.people.cn/n3/2026/0826/c90000-20492580.html>

7. Action plan to stabilise foreign investment includes 15 measures

29 August 2026 | *People's Daily / MOFCOM*

Expanding market access in services, the Invest China initiative, and equal participation in public procurement stand out.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2026/0829/c90000-20493810.html>

8. New default-interest framework for mineral-rights revenue took effect 1 August

August 2026 implementation | China Briefing

From 1 August 2026, late-payment penalties shifted from a statutory surcharge to a contract-based default interest, capped at 100 percent of principal.

<https://www.china-briefing.com/news/china-june-2026-tax-update/>

9. Draft AI application safety classification opened for public comment

July-August 2026 | China Briefing

TC260's draft standard shows China's AI governance framework maturing and highlights the preparation companies will need.

<https://www.china-briefing.com/news/>

10. Xi Jinping stressed sci-tech innovation as the key to modernisation

6 August 2026 | CGTN

The 15th Five-Year Plan period was framed as a critical stage in China's transformation into a global sci-tech power.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-06/Xi-underscores-sci-tech-innovation-to-advance-China-s-modernization-1Pm...>

11. World AI Cooperation Organization established in Shanghai

6 August 2026 report / July conference | CGTN

A new institutional platform for global governance and cooperation was announced at WAIC 2026.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-06/Xi-underscores-sci-tech-innovation-to-advance-China-s-modernization-1Pm...>

12. China renewed import expansion as a strategic policy choice

25 August 2026 | People's Daily

The 15th Five-Year Plan aims for high-standard opening-up and a stronger balance between imports and exports.

<https://en.people.cn/n3/2026/0825/c90000-20492184.html>

13. Unemployment-insurance job-retention subsidies extended to end-2026

June decision / August implementation | China Briefing

Four ministries extended job-protection and job-expansion subsidies through 31 December 2026.

<https://www.china-briefing.com/news/china-june-2026-tax-update/>

14. Real-time digital invoicing at fuel stations to become mandatory on 1 November 2026

June announcement / August preparation | China Briefing

STA Announcement No. 2026/11 makes instant digital invoicing mandatory at qualifying stations.

<https://www.china-briefing.com/news/china-june-2026-tax-update/>

15. Xi Jinping departed for the SCO Summit and state visits

30 August 2026 | Xinhua

The SCO Summit in Bishkek and visits to Kyrgyzstan and Egypt reinforced Eurasian and Belt and Road diplomacy.

<https://english.news.cn/20260830/432591cbff4e4a43b5f9d24eb06069fe/c.html>

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05

INDUSTRY

05 Industry

Industrial transformation in August 2026 was read through lighthouse factories, new energy vehicles, advanced packaging and green manufacturing. While China is home to 45.8 percent of the world's lighthouse factories, NEV sales share and supply-chain depth continued to be a strategic advantage.

1. China is home to 45.8 percent of the world's lighthouse factories

24 August 2026 | CGTN

109 of 238 lighthouse factories are in China. Haier's Shenyang refrigerator line outputs a unit every 10 seconds; Hisense's Qingdao TV plant cut its R&D; cycle by 34 percent.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-24/How-innovation-is-reshaping-China-s-manufacturing-edge-1PRXqhalqA0/p...>

2. AI is accelerating the shift to smart manufacturing

26 August 2026 | China Daily

TCL's Nansha facility is positioned as an 'AI-native factory'. Automation at Gree's Jinwan line reached 80 percent.

<http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/26/WS6a8e422ae4b06d4aa055a7be.html>

3. Industrial profit jump led by electronics and integrated circuits

28 August 2026 | China Daily

Electronics profit rose 110 percent, high-tech manufacturers 50.1 percent, and non-ferrous metals 91.8 percent.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/28/WS6a907cdae4b06d4aa055ad75.html>

4. NEVs exceeded 60 percent of monthly new car sales in July

31 August 2026 | China Daily

Cumulative share for the first seven months rose above 50 percent. Central China is emerging as a manufacturing corridor linking coastal innovation to western markets.

<http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/31/WS6a94d58ce4b06d4aa055b4de.html>

5. Goldcup's electromagnetic wire shipments rose 50 percent

31 August 2026 | China Daily

Wire output for NEV drive motors approached 17,000 tonnes, with upstream suppliers moving toward more advanced products.

<http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/31/WS6a94d58ce4b06d4aa055b4de.html>

6. China's auto industry is leaping forward on corporate strength and high-quality development

31 August 2026 | People's Daily

Huawei's Qiankun smart-driving system has now accumulated more than 13 billion kilometres of assisted range.

<https://en.people.cn/n3/2026/0831/c90000-20493923.html>

7. JCET, Tongfu and Huatian announced over 15 billion yuan in advanced-packaging investment

26 August 2026 | SCMP

JCET's profit rose 79.4 percent; a 7.8 billion yuan advanced-packaging facility is planned in Shanghai Lingang.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/tech-trends/article/3365337/ai-boom-profit-surge-fuel-chinas-ambitious-chip-assembly-...>

8. Victory Giant committed at least US\$444 million to an AI PCB plant in Huizhou

6 August 2026 | SCMP

Smart manufacturing of high-end electronic circuit boards is planned across 100,000 square metres.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/article/3363178/unrelenting-ai-demand-spawns-new-plant-chinese-pcb-maker-victory-gi...>

9. Ulanqab is becoming an AI-computing fuel hub*24 August 2026 | SCMP*

Envision's Galaxy Campus went live with a 120,000-square-metre data centre and more than 2 GW of planned power capacity.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/tech-trends/article/3364920/rural-city-once-known-livestock-now-provides-chinas-ai-co...>

10. Equipment-manufacturing and high-tech PMIs remain in expansion territory*31 August 2026 | People's Daily*

The equipment-manufacturing PMI stood at 51.4 and the high-tech manufacturing PMI at 52.9. Structural upgrading continues.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2026/0831/c90000-20494172.html>

11. Digital transformation: 89.6 percent of large industrial enterprises have transformed*24 August 2026 | CGTN*

More than 8,000 national green factories and 600-plus green industrial parks have been established.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-24/How-innovation-is-reshaping-China-s-manufacturing-edge-1PRXqhalqA0/p...>

12. The new 'new three': robotics, AI and innovative drugs become an export brand*6 August 2026 | CGTN*

Industrial-robot exports rose 18.6 percent in the first half; more than 10,000 smart biomimetic robots shipped to over 90 countries.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-06/Why-China-s-new-new-three-a-new-choice-for-the-global-market-1PnXgdol...>

13. Innovative-drug out-licensing deals now worth roughly US\$110 billion*1 August 2026 | CGTN / NMPA*

China's biopharma ecosystem has gained scale in the global licensing market.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-01/CGTN-poll-93-expect-more-innovation-from-Chinese-manufacturing-1PfHaYl...>

14. Industrial-robot and lithium-ion battery output sustained double-digit growth*9 August 2026 | China Daily*

High-tech manufacturing value-added rose 13.3 percent in the first half; investment in advanced manufacturing rose 73.1 percent.

<http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/09/WS6a787eb7a310986e2b469c57.html>

15. Central China emerges as an NEV manufacturing base*31 August 2026 | China Daily*

Anhui became a leading manufacturing province, producing 3.34 million vehicles, including 1.64 million NEVs, in the first 11 months of 2025.

<http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/31/WS6a94d58ce4b06d4aa055b4de.html>

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06

MARKETS

06 Markets

On the markets side, August 2026 stood out as technology and chip themes remained fund managers' top preference. Long-term appeal in the A-share market took shape around northbound capital flows and high-tech profitability. Hong Kong strengthened its bridging role through its regional finance and tax-treaty network.

1. Fund managers again favoured the AI and chip theme in August

19 August 2026 | SCMP / BofA

73 percent of China-based survey respondents named AI and chips as one of their two favourite themes, up from 60 percent in July.

<https://www.scmp.com/business/markets/article/3364550/china-fund-managers-stick-ai-chips-august-despite-july-se...>

2. CXMT overtook Tencent by market value

19 August 2026 | SCMP

CXMT shares rose 17 percent after the 27 July IPO, taking its market value to US\$604 billion.

<https://www.scmp.com/business/markets/article/3364550/china-fund-managers-stick-ai-chips-august-despite-july-se...>

3. A-shares retain their long-term investment appeal

26 August 2026 | China Daily

UBS continued to view Chinese equities favourably. Stock Connect recorded US\$33 billion in net inflows in the second quarter.

<http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/26/WS6a8e38b1e4b06d4aa055a706.html>

4. Chinese equities closed higher on 5 August

5 August 2026 | Xinhua

The Shanghai Composite rose 1.47 percent, the Shenzhen Component 1.86 percent, and the STAR Composite 4.78 percent. Semiconductors and computing hardware led gains.

<https://english.news.cn/20260805/040fd89255e24c24bd71b90330ab0a2f/c.html>

5. Strong investor demand for Alibaba's US\$10 billion offering

23 August 2026 | SCMP

The offering size was raised due to strong demand; all proceeds will go toward AI infrastructure.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/big-tech/article/3364957/alibaba-issue-hk80-billion-new-shares-global-ai-push>

6. The STAR 50 index gained more than 64 percent in the first half

21 August 2026 | Nikkei Asia

Tech-heavy exchanges ranked among the best global performers, boosting insurers' asset-management income.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/business/insurance/ping-an-insurance-s-first-half-profit-jumps-36-on-asset-management-boost>

7. Yuan central parity announced on 5 August

5 August 2026 | Xinhua

The USD/CNY central parity was set at 6.7889. The market was supported by the current-account surplus and companies' willingness to convert foreign currency.

<https://english.news.cn/20260805/1fe857827b7044218d6f9636dfe7f4ad/c.html>

8. Summer consumption: box office and travel markets grew

1 September 2026 | Xinhua

Summer box office reached 12.5 billion yuan, and rail passenger traffic reached 954 million trips. Services consumption offered a positive base for the second half.

<https://english.news.cn/20260901/3256d9037ee546459ce8feea7c90e79b/c.html>

9. First-half foreign trade reached 25.47 trillion yuan

16 July / August analyses | China Briefing

Two-way trade grew 16.9 percent. Exports of mechanical and electrical products remained strong.

<https://www.china-briefing.com/news/chinas-2026-h1-economic-data-gdp-growth-high-tech/>

10. AI exports supported July trade*7 August 2026 | Nikkei Asia*

Despite weather-related production disruptions, demand for AI products offset a slowdown in export growth.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/economy/trade/ai-boom-softens-blow-from-china-s-july-trade-slowdown>

11. Enflame's STAR IPO adds a new deep-tech candidate to capital markets*26 August 2026 | TechNode*

The 6-billion-yuan target supports the commercial scaling of AI chips on the funding side.

<https://technode.com/2026/08/26/ai-chipmaker-enflame-sets-sept-2-ipo-subscription-date/>

12. Hong Kong's DTA network reached 59 signed agreements*5 August 2026 | China Briefing*

New signings with Kyrgyzstan, Barbados, Cyprus and Nigeria, alongside broadening EU coverage, boosted the city's appeal as a regional financial hub.

<https://www.china-briefing.com/news/hong-kongs-dta-network/>

13. The consumer market became a new draw for foreign investment*29 August 2026 | People's Daily*

New foreign companies in health and social services rose 27.1 percent, and in wholesale-retail 11.9 percent.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2026/0829/c90000-20493810.html>

14. Services-sector business expectation index stayed strong at 55.5*31 August 2026 | People's Daily*

Activity indices in postal, telecom and software/IT services stayed above 55.

<https://en.people.cn/n3/2026/0831/c90000-20494171.html>

15. A new fishing season opened in the Yellow Sea and Bohai*1 September 2026 | Xinhua*

After a four-month summer moratorium, the season's opening provided an orderly transition for the coastal economy and food supply chain.

<https://english.news.cn/20260901/8496ab5a36d2420e8e476a98d99b6378/c.html>

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07

INNOVATION

07 Innovation

The innovation agenda reflected the translation of 'new quality productive forces' into industrial policy. Integrated circuits, the low-altitude economy, quantum, 6G, embodied intelligence and space computing were positioned as the future industries of 2026-2030. Global surveys show Chinese manufacturing now producing not just capacity but standards and solutions.

1. MIIT unveiled an agenda to turn frontier technologies into a growth engine

27 August 2026 | *China Daily*

Integrated circuits, aerospace, biomedicine, the low-altitude economy, new energy storage and intelligent robots will be rising pillar industries. Quantum, biomanufacturing, hydrogen, fusion, brain-computer interfaces, embodied intelligence and 6G are future focal points.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/27/WS6a8f8d4fe4b06d4aa055aab3.html>

2. CGTN survey: 93 percent of respondents expect more innovation from Chinese manufacturing

1 August 2026 | *CGTN*

87.7 percent highlighted China's manufacturing and innovation capacity, and 87.2 percent its power to set standards and integrate global resources.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-01/CGTN-poll-93-expect-more-innovation-from-Chinese-manufacturing-1PfHaYl...>

3. AI ethics review practices are spreading across cities

26 August 2026 | *CGTN*

MIIT said ethics review and service practices are now being organised across multiple cities.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-26/China-has-formulated-nearly-200-key-standards-for-AI-sector-1PV9jA6vsQg...>

4. 6G trials and standards development set to accelerate

26 August 2026 | *CGTN*

6G maturation, ecosystem-building and commercial readiness were prioritised for the 15th Five-Year Plan period.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-26/China-has-formulated-nearly-200-key-standards-for-AI-sector-1PV9jA6vsQg...>

5. TARS's financing confirmed global capital interest in embodied intelligence

1 September 2026 | *Pandaily*

The US\$455 million round set a sector record for the second time in a year.

<https://pandaily.com/tars-raises-455-m-pre-a-round-setting-record-in-china-s-embodied-ai-sector>

6. Manycore began world-model testing

28 August 2026 | *TechNode*

The Lux3D-plus-SpatialGen combination will generate interactive 3D environments; APIs have opened to e-commerce, industrial design, gaming and XR workflows.

<https://technode.com/2026/08/28/chinese-spatial-intelligence-firm-manycore-launches-lux3d-and-starts-world-mode...>

7. Pujiang Innovation Forum to spotlight innovation-sharing

August-September 2026 agenda | *Xinhua*

The forum centres on international innovation cooperation and open sharing.

<https://english.news.cn/china/index.htm>

8. Tianwen-3's primary goal will be searching for signs of life on Mars

August-September 2026 | *Xinhua*

Deep-space exploration continues to be a showcase for China's science diplomacy and high-tech capacity.

<https://english.news.cn/china/index.htm>

9. International Earth-Moon space constellation plan*August-September 2026 | Xinhua*

China plans to build an international satellite constellation to explore Earth-Moon space.

<https://english.news.cn/china/index.htm>

10. New profession: robot-training salaries reach 500,000-800,000 yuan*7 August 2026 | Pandaily*

Embodied-AI application technician is one of 12 new professions being added to the national occupation catalogue.

<https://pandaily.com/posts>

11. National high-quality development plan for SMEs is underway*27 August 2026 | China Daily*

A second-phase national SME development fund, inclusive financing and support for 'little giant' firms are envisaged.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202608/27/WS6a8f8d4fe4b06d4aa055aab3.html>

12. Open-source Chinese models are accelerating global reach*3 August 2026 | CGTN*

A low-cost distribution and open-collaboration approach is turning AI from a rent-extraction tool into infrastructure.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-03/China-and-US-The-global-impact-of-two-divergent-AI-development-paths-1P...>

13. From lighthouse to 'factory brain'*24 August 2026 | CGTN*

Using AI, big data and simulation, Hisense cut material costs by 18 percent and new-employee training time by 60 percent.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-08-24/How-innovation-is-reshaping-China-s-manufacturing-edge-1PRXqhalqA0/p...>

14. Australia-China solar cooperation supports global green energy*5 September 2026 (August cooperation line) | Xinhua*

The bilateral solar-PV partnership offers an example of complementary capacity in the global energy transition.

<https://english.news.cn/china/index.htm>

15. Asia-Pacific SMEs pursue growth through AI and deeper connectivity*5 September 2026 | Xinhua*

Regional SMEs are developing new growth channels through AI applications and connectivity.

<https://english.news.cn/china/index.htm>

This category lists 15 verified developments. All links lead to the source page.

EU-China / Hong Kong Strategic Note

Hong Kong's comprehensive double-taxation treaty (DTA) network is a concrete product of Belt and Road tax cooperation, and its steady expansion is increasingly relevant for European groups. The network reached 59 signed agreements in 2026, 51 of which are in force, as confirmed in China Briefing's 5 August 2026 network update — and it already covers most EU member states, including several of the bloc's principal holding-company jurisdictions.

Business impact: regional headquarters structured through Hong Kong gain more predictable withholding caps on dividend, interest and royalty payments to and from EU jurisdictions. Double-tax risk is also reduced for aviation and international shipping income. For EU companies expanding into China and Asia, and for Chinese/Hong Kong investment flowing into Europe, this network provides an operational advantage for treasury and holding-structure planning.

Source: [China Briefing — Hong Kong's DTA Network 2026](#)

Source List

China Briefing	https://www.china-briefing.com/
China Daily	https://www.chinadaily.com.cn
Xinhua English	https://english.news.cn/
CGTN	https://www.cgtn.com
People's Daily English	http://en.people.cn/
South China Morning Post	https://www.scmp.com
Nikkei Asia	https://asia.nikkei.com
TechNode	https://technode.com
Pandaily	https://pandaily.com

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