

# APRIL-JUNE 2018

Dr. Susan Bliss



<https://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/what-to-watch-for-at-u-s-north-korea-summit-in-singapore/>

<https://www.zerohedge.com/news/2018-03-21/china-trade-war-begins-1230et-tomorrow>

Image <https://apkpure.biz/info.newsapps.asia/Asia-News-Asia-News-Channel>

<http://www.90min.in/posts/6113047-fifa-send-world-cup-final-invite-to-kids-football-team-who-are-being-rescued-from-thailand-s-cave>

<https://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/article/2106220/can-south-koreas-moon-jae-find-path-reconciliation-north>

<https://www.marshallfreeman.com.au/blog/china-australia-free-trade-agreement-the-pros-and-cons/>



## BOYS RESCUED IN THAI CAVE

*'The twelve boys and their football coach trapped in a Thai cave are alive. They were missing for nine days. The search for the group has been 24-hour news. No one knew if they were still alive. The boys, aged between 11 and 16, and their 25-year-old coach went missing on 23 June. They went into the cave when it was dry. There was heavy rain, which blocked the exit to the cave. The rain flooded it and trapped the boys and their coach.'*

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180705-thai-cave-rescue-1.html>



### Inside sacred Tham Luang Nang Non Cave

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-07-11/thai-rescue-inside-the-sacred-danger-of-thailand-caves/9979052>

*The name of the cave means literally "the cave of the reclining lady", named after a princess who, as the legend goes, committed suicide after she was forbidden to be with her commoner love. Her body became the mountains, and her genitals, the cave. She is now the ruler — the "jao mae" — of both.*

<https://theconversation.com/inside-the-sacred-danger-of-thailands-caves-99638>



### The Boys' story that gripped the world

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-44803386>

### Thai cave rescue from Tham Luang, Thailand

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia>

Full story of Thailand's extraordinary cave rescue-notes, videos, maps, cross sections, cartoons

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-44791998>

Civics and citizenship: Thai cave rescue: Stateless survivors to get help to become Thai citizens <https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/se-asia/thai-cave-rescue-stateless-survivors-to-get-thai-citizenship>

**Subjects:** Geography, Science

**General Capabilities:** Literacy, ICT, Personal and Social Capability, Critical and Creative Thinking, Civics and Citizenship.

### Landforms and Landscapes-Karst

The Tham Luang cave is one of the largest cave systems in Thailand. It lies under the mountains around the small town of Mae Sai, in northern Chiang Rai province, on the border with Myanmar. The area is undeveloped with only limited tourism facilities.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-44803386>

### ACTIVITIES:

- How are karst landforms formed?
- What are the main features of karst topography?
- Describe the spectacular karst landscapes in Thailand
- Imagine you were one of the boys in the cave. Retell your story of survival, rescue and return home.
- Explain why when the Thai football team was found it was referred to as a 'miracle moment.'

Literacy lesson: Thai Cave Rescue

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180705-thai-cave-rescue-0.html>

Listen, Read, Match, Spell, Words and More

## CHINESE AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA A LONG CONNECTION

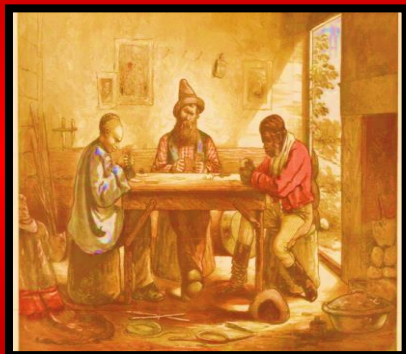
*This year marks 200 years since the first Chinese migrant arrived in Australia back in 1818, yet the historical connections between Chinese and Indigenous people have largely gone unrecorded.*

Chinese and Indigenous Australians share a long, 'untold history' that's been captured through art

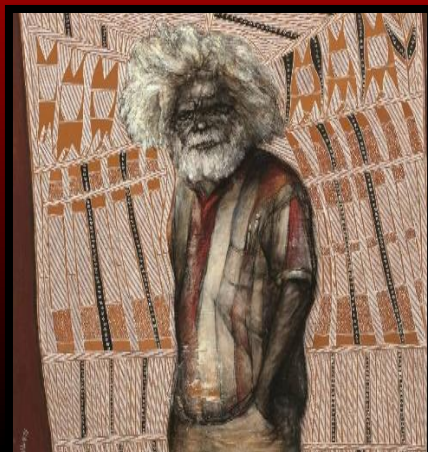
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-06-23/indigenous-and-chinese-relationship-in-australian-history/9893920>



Jason Wing's artwork combines his Chinese and Aboriginal heritage. <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-06-22/abc-aboriginal-born-chinese-by-jason-wing/9894292>



A Game of Euchre, Johnson; Indigenous and Chinese communities share a strong cultural bond. <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-06-23/indigenous-and-chinese-relationship-in-australian-history/9893920>



Zhou Xiaoping's experience with Aboriginal cultures has influenced his traditional Chinese art style. <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-06-22/johnny-bulunbulun-by-zhou-xiaoping/9894344>

**Subjects:** Creative Arts, Geography, History  
**General Capabilities:** ICT, Cultural Diversity, Personal and Social Capability, Critical and Creative Thinking, Work and Enterprise, Civics and Citizenship

**Cross Curriculum Priority:** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures

### ACTIVITIES:

Welcome to Country and cross-cultural awareness programs can create a more inclusive future

Watch video <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-06-23/indigenous-and-chinese-relationship-in-australian-history/9893920>



Refer to the ABC website and explain these quotes:

- *Both cultures have a shared history of marginalisation by European settlers.*
- *Cross cultural awareness programs could create a more inclusive future.*
- *Where Chinese and Indigenous Australians share a long and untold history, their future may hold a more central place on the country's stage.*
- *We need to go back to basics and be at the immigration gate in all our states to give a genuine welcome to country and cross-cultural awareness programs.*

In groups, research related stories. Present research as an oral report

- 200 years of Chinese-Australians: First settler's descendants reconnect with their roots <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-06-10/first-chinese-settlers-descendants-reconnect-with-their-roots/9845804>
- Retracing Chinese Australian family history and colonial settlement of regional New South Wales <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-11-20/retracing-chinese-australian-family-history-and-settlement/9158720>
- Racism, bandit attacks, bravery: Art celebrates Australia's Chinese history <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-06-22/victorian-goldfields-chinese-heritage-honoured-in-new-exhibition/8635786>

Using ICT, design a collage of paintings indicating the connections between Chinese in Australia and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Annotate the paintings.



## ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN ASIA

**Subjects:** Geography, Science

**General Capabilities:** ICT, Numeracy, Literacy, Civics and Citizenship, Critical and Creative Thinking, Work and Enterprise

**Cross Curriculum Priority:** Sustainability

### 1. Bridge (31 km long) to China threatens Hong Kong's rare native pink dolphin

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/bridge-to-china-brings-threat-for-hong-kong-s-native-pink-dolphin-10536790>

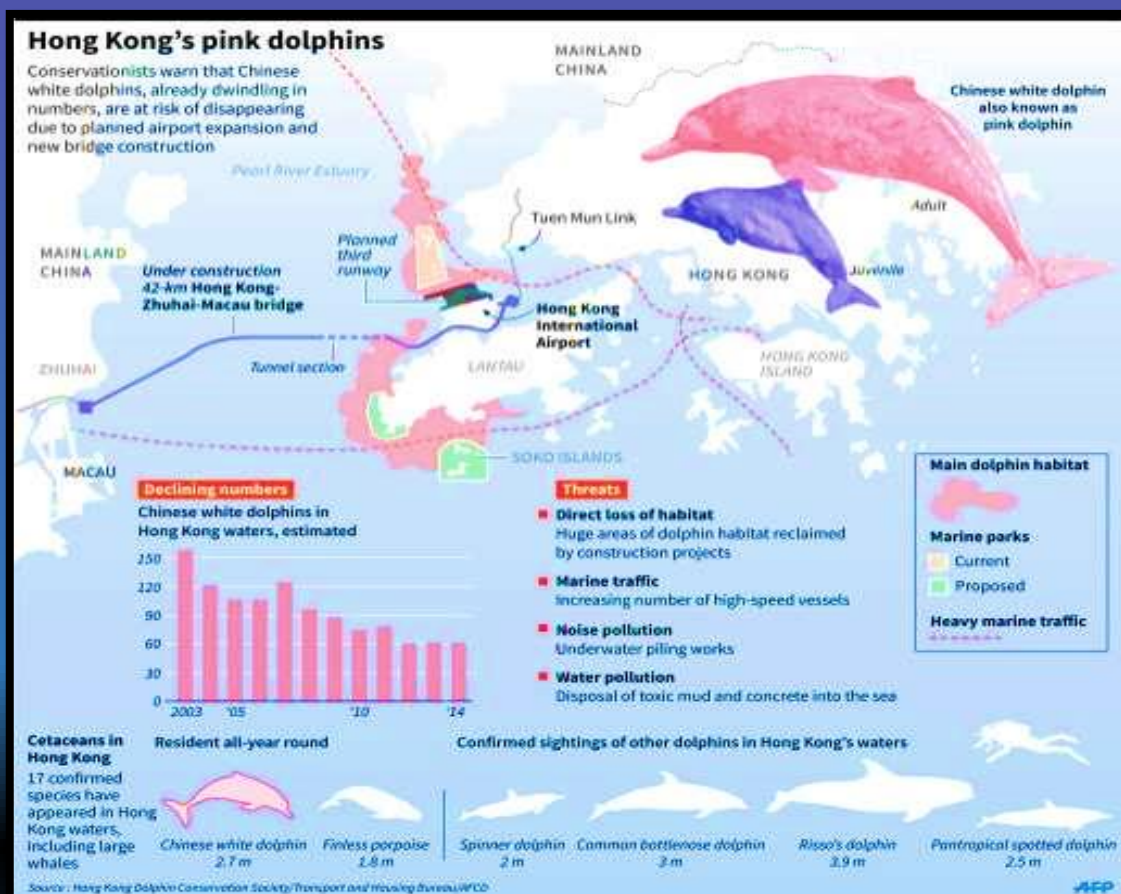
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-hongkong-dolphins/bridge-to-china-brings-threat-for-hong-kongs-native-pink-dolphin-idUSKBN1K700N>

### ACTIVITIES

#### 1. Refer to articles, video and map

<https://www.aol.com/article/news/2018/07/17/bridge-to-china-brings-threat-for-hong-kongs-native-pink-dolphin/23484104/>

- Why are the dolphins pink?
- Where is the location of the main dolphin habitat?
- List the threats to pink dolphins.
- Estimate the loss of Chinese white dolphins in Hong Kong waters since 2003.



Map and graph: <https://phys.org/news/2015-11-hong-kong-dolphins.html>

## ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES (continued)

### 2. Too much of too little water can be a headache. Just ask China

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/china-dam-projects-flood-risks-expensive-diversions-water-10483456>

### 3. Japan's growing plutonium stockpile fuels fears. Japan has amassed enough plutonium to make 6,000 atomic bombs as part of a programme to fuel its nuclear plants, but concern is growing that the stockpile is vulnerable to terrorists and natural disasters.

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/japan-s-growing-plutonium-stockpile-fuels-fears-10537596>  
<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/japan-s-growing-plutonium-stockpile-fuels-fears-10537596>  
<http://www.jpn.co.jp/pageone/jpn-2018-07-18.html>  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/07/18/us-japan-nuclear-pact-extended-despite-concern-tokyos-plutoniumstockpile/>

There are also concerns that the reserve could be used as an excuse by North Korea to circumvent its promises to denuclearise. Additionally, the stockpile has attracted concern in the wake of the Fukushima nuclear disaster, which forced the shutdown of all of the country's nuclear plants.

The reserves are subject to monitoring by the International Atomic Energy Agency, which has not raised public concerns about the stocks. But some activists fear Japan views the stockpile as a way of keeping its options open on nuclear weapons.

"Japan appears to be caught up in the idea that in an emergency it can produce nuclear weapons with its reprocessing technology," said Hideyuki Ban, co-director of the Citizens' Nuclear Information Centre, an anti-nuclear NGO.

**Subjects:** Geography, Science

**General Capabilities:** ICT, Literacy, Civics and Citizenship, Critical and Creative, Thinking, Work and Enterprise

**Cross Curriculum Priority:** Sustainability

### ACTIVITIES:

#### 2. Refer to article

- Describe the impacts of economic development on water scarcity and water quality in China?
- List the domestic water conflicts in China. How do they pose significant problems for China's political system?
- What is meant by 'mistrust over shared rivers between China and its neighbours'?

#### 3. Read the article

The nuclear pact between Japan and the United States has automatically been extended, despite growing international concern over Tokyo's stockpile of plutonium.

- Discuss the global concerns?

**Image:** Pink dolphins playing in the waters off Lantau in Hong Kong, <https://phys.org/news/2013-05-hong-kong-pink-dolphin.html>



## ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES (continued)

### 4. Bamboo can power sustainable

**development** <https://www.scidev.net/asia-pacific/climate-change/opinion/bamboo-can-power-sustainable-development.html>

- Some 30 million hectares of bamboo globally, but most of it goes unused
- Bamboo can limit climate change and help achieve Sustainable Development Goals
- Investment and supportive policies needed to maximise benefits from bamboo

### 5. Effluents, sewage turning Pakistani rivers

**toxic – study** <https://www.scidev.net/asia-pacific/pollution/news/effluents-sewage-turning-pakistani-rivers-toxic-study.html>

- Industrial and domestic waste contaminating Pakistan's major rivers
- Metal and other toxins enter food chain through contaminated fish
- Pre-treatment of industrial effluents and raw sewage recommended

### 6. "Fake GM corn" eating into Filipino

**farmers' profits** <https://www.scidev.net/asia-pacific/gm/news/fake-gm-corn-eating-into-filipino-farmers-profits.html>

- Counterfeit GM corn seeds cheap but environmentally risky
- Counterfeits account for about 10 per cent of the market share
- Crop productivity and profitability reduced with fake GM corn seeds

### 7. Software helps cut Indian cows' methane

**emissions** <https://www.scidev.net/asia-pacific/livestock/news/software-helps-cut-indian-cows-methane-emissions.html>

- Software tool now determines diets of 2.4 million cows and buffaloes in India
- Balanced diets raise milk output and reduce methane emissions by 15 per cent
- Programme used by trained persons with netbooks or tablets in 30,000 villages

4. *"From poor man's timber to green gold, the science is there to support bamboo's importance for sustainable development. What is needed is urgent action to get the right policies and investment for this wonder plant"* Hans

Friederich, International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation

- What is the value of bamboo?
- How do some bamboo species possess the potential to alleviate poverty?

5. *"Toxic fish captured from the contaminated waters of the three rivers enters the country's food chain as it is consumed by the people, particularly fisher*

*communities"* Wang Xiaoping, Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research

- What contaminants were found?
- How do contaminants effect ecosystems and biodiversity in the Arabian Sea?

6. *"Unauthorised seeds do not undergo protocols such as insect resistance management or IRM"*

Department of Agriculture

- What was the impact of counterfeit GM corn seeds on GM corn in the Philippines?
- How does counterfeit corn pose a risk to the environment?

7. *"For normal, healthy cattle reared under optimal conditions, feed management is the best way to check emissions"* N. Raghuram, Guru

Gobind Singh Indraprastha University

- What is the name of the software tool?
- How effective was the software in reducing methane emissions and increasing incomes of farmers?

## ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES (continued)

Cross Curriculum Priority: Sustainability



Plastics: <https://www.dw.com/en/earth-day-time-for-a-plastic-free-planet/a-43468890>

8. **World Environment Day highlights plastic pollution across Southeast Asia**  
<https://www.efe.com/efe/english/world/world-environment-day-highlights-plastic-pollution-across-southeast-asia/50000262-3638799>
9. **India's groundwater shows uranium contamination** <https://www.scidev.net/asia-pacific/water/news/india-s-groundwater-shows-uranium-contamination.html>
10. **Bangladesh lost a third of its groundwater in a decade** <https://www.scidev.net/asia-pacific/water/news/bangladesh-lost-a-third-of-its-groundwater-in-a-decade.html>
11. **Pakistan faces increasing heat waves** <https://www.scidev.net/asia-pacific/climate-change/news/pakistan-faces-increasing-heat-waves.html>
12. **Asia's Environment is at a Tipping Point.** We need to act now to save biodiversity and ecosystems <https://thediplomat.com/2018/05/asias-environment-is-at-a-tipping-point/>
13. **2018 3rd Asia Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development (ACESD 2018)** <http://www.acesd.org/>
14. **In peril: Southeast Asia's environment and its defenders (Part 1 of 2)**  
<http://bulatlat.com/main/2018/07/10/peril-southeast-asias-environment-defenders-part-1-2/>

## ICT

- **Singaporeans left reeling after cyber attack strikes 1.5 million people | OpenGovAsia** <https://www.opengovasia.com/articles/singaporeans-left-reeling-after-cyber-attack-strikes-1-5-million-people>
- **Singapore's SingHealth database had major data breach struck on 20 July 2018.** Hackers obtained the personal information of approximately 1.5 million Singaporeans with the attack being targeted at Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong. Safeguard measures have been enforced and a police investigation is ongoing.
- **Indian Ministry of Defence plans to strengthen the country's cybersecurity** <https://www.opengovasia.com/articles/indian-ministry-of-defence-plans-to-strengthen-the-countrys-cybersecurity>
- **How China censors the net: by making sure there's too much information** <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/jun/16/how-china-censors-internet-information>



## TRADE WAR: CHINA AND USA GLOBAL IMPACTS

*The United States administration fired the opening salvo in what could lead to a full-blown trade war. While trade frictions have long been an issue in China-US relations, few expected such an escalation, not least because economists widely view trade wars as damaging to all parties. So how did we get to this point, and can we turn back before it's too late? China's external trade account is basically balanced. It runs a large deficits against Japan and Southeast Asian economies, and a large surplus against the US. US President Donald Trump thinks the US' \$500 billion trade deficit with China (\$337.2 billion in 2017 according to China's calculation) amounts to a loss, the result of "incompetent" US administrations allowing their Chinese counterparts to take advantage of them. In fact, according to Trump, the US already lost a "trade war" with China years ago.*

<http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201805/03/WS5aea4c82a3105cdcf651ba72.html>

### Heading for US/China Trade War

<http://www.thesleuthjournal.com/heading-us-china-trade-war/>

### EU, Japan to sign massive trade deal as US puts up barriers

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/eu--japan-to-sign-massive-trade-deal-as-us-puts-up-barriers-10537036>

**Trade war** <https://www.investopedia.com/terms/t/trade-war.asp>

### Who benefits from trade wars?

<https://archive.intereconomics.eu/year/2018/1/who-benefits-from-trade-wars/>

### China-US trade war: business leaders, officials scramble to ease rising tensions

<http://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy-defence/article/2152090/china-us-trade-war-business-leaders-officials-scrabble>

### How a US-China trade war could hurt us all-information and video

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-44706880>

### Beijing complains to WTO over Trump tariffs

<https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/east-asia/beijing-complains-to-wto-over-trump-tariffs-while-us-hits-back-at-allies-china-on>

### US hits button on China trade war – tech at risk

<https://internetofbusiness.com/us-hits-button-on-china-trade-war-tech-sector-at-risk/>

### IMF warns on trade wars; China's economic growth slows

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/live/2018/jul/16/chinese-economy-slows-trade-war-imf-world-economy-business-live>

### Trade wars cause world wars, history shows. Will this time be different?

<https://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/united-states/article/2155565/trade-wars-cause-world-wars-history-shows-will>

**Subjects:** Economics, Business Studies, History

**General Capabilities:** ICT, Numeracy, Literacy, Civics and Citizenship, Critical and Creative, Thinking, Work and Enterprise

**Cross Curriculum Priority:** Sustainability

## ACTIVITIES

Read the following article and explain these quotes:

<http://www.thesleuthjournal.com/heading-us-china-trade-war/>

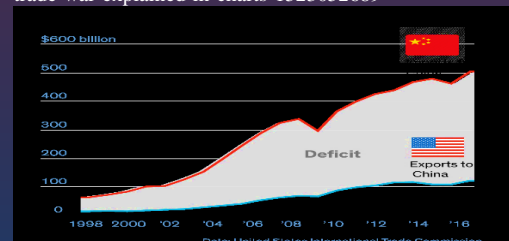
- “Today’s trade war will be fought between two relatively equal powers. The absolute advantage is Washington’s bluff.”
- “Beijing is capable of hurting Washington in every trade battle, making the US suffer the same losses as China suffers.”
- “Let the two systems engage in this trade war competition. When the fight begins, we will see which one is more capable of persisting.”

## Will World War III be an Economic War?

<http://www.thesleuthjournal.com/world-war-iii-economic-war/>

## Explain the widening trade gap and why Trump wants to place tariffs on Chinese trade

<https://www.barrons.com/articles/the-brewing-u-s-china-trade-war-explained-in-charts-1523052689>

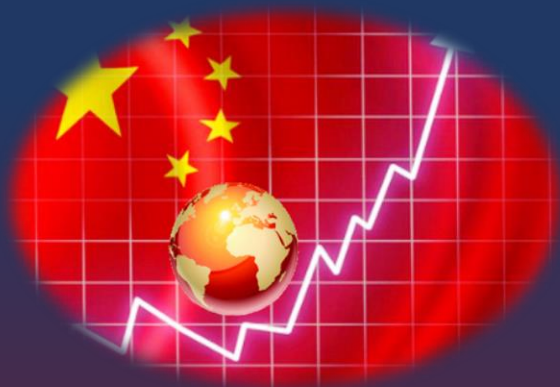


Since the world’s two biggest economic powers crossed swords over bilateral trade, the row has escalated and Hong Kong sees a chunk of its economy hanging in the balance. Hong Kong is part of China. So is it ensnared in the trade war? Explain these statements.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/hong-kong-economy/article/2155301/how-will-hong-kong-be-affected-us-china-trade-war>



## CHINA VERSUS USA WEALTH AND POWER



<http://en.people.cn/90778/8374269.html>



<https://www.chinausfocus.com/finance-economy/chinese-economy-in-2016-no-prospect-of-a-major-slump>

*No one can say we didn't see it coming. Since the end of the Cold War, and even before, it has been obvious that a **rapidly rising China** could eventually menace America's position and influence in East Asia—and, perhaps, globally as well. From China's maritime expansionism and illegal island building in the South China Sea to its efforts to coerce and intimidate neighbours from India to Japan, from ambitious geo-economics projects meant to draw surrounding countries more deeply into its grasp to a multi decade military build-up shrouded in opacity and deception, there is abundant evidence that Beijing seeks to dominate its periphery.*

<https://nationalinterest.org/feature/the-chinese-century-24557>

**Subjects:** Economics, History

**General Capabilities:** ICT, Numeracy, Literacy, Critical and Creative Thinking, Work and Enterprise

### ACTIVITIES

Refer to the information and videos and answer the questions:



- Is China and America heading for war? China on top documentary clip  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kuyj1DtDYQ>
- China has just overtaken the US as the world's largest economy. Why is referred to as the Chinese Century?  
<https://www.vanityfair.com/news/2015/01/china-worlds-largest-economy>
- After a bad couple of centuries, China is itching to regain its place in the world. How should US respond?  
<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2014/08/21/what-china-wants>
- 'China's economic tentacles have spread across the region, giving Beijing increased leverage in countries as far afield as Australia'. Explain this statement  
<https://nationalinterest.org/feature/the-chinese-century-24557>

### You Tube/Video:

- Is this the Chinese Century?  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UMgpeWMX1mo>
- Is China's slower growth really bad for the world economy?  
<http://en.people.cn/90778/8374269.html>

US intelligence report: Will China have the world's most powerful naval gun ready for war by 2025?

<https://www.cnn.com/2018/06/21/china-will-have-worlds-most-powerful-naval-gun-by-2025-us-intelligence-report.html>

## NORTH AND SOUTH KOREAN LEADERS MEET



Kim Jong-un (L) and Moon Jae-in (R) met at Panmunjom, in South Korean territory, in the **demilitarized zone (DMZ)** that separates the two countries.

They took part in a symbolic tree-planting ceremony in the DMZ, and both signed the **Panmunjom Declaration for Peace, Prosperity and Unification of the Korean Peninsula**. The document commits the two countries to a nuclear-free peninsula and talks to bring a formal end to the Korean War.

It also established a foundation for further inter-Korean engagement and set the scene for the upcoming summit between the US and North Korea.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/05/north-south-korean-leaders-meet-border-180526111636210.html>

<https://theconversation.com/north-and-south-korea-met-but-what-does-it-really-mean-95755>

The United Nations Secretary General applauded the historic meeting and counts on the parties to swiftly implement all agreed actions towards sustainable peace and verifiable denuclearisation on the Korean Peninsula. <https://edition.cnn.com/asia/live-news/north-korea-south-korea-summit-intl/index.html>

### **Kim: "New chapter in our history"**

Speaking at the banquet following today's summit, Kim said "we need to maintain peace" and "open a new era of co-prosperity" to overcome the challenges facing the Korean Peninsula. He said he was ready to "display commitment" to building peace "to the world."

<https://edition.cnn.com/asia/live-news/north-korea-south-korea-summit-intl/index.html>

**Subject:** History

**General Capabilities:** ICT, Literacy, Critical and Creative Thinking, Difference and Diversity



<https://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/article/2106220/can-south-koreas-moon-jae-find-path-reconciliation-north>

## ACTIVITIES:

- Refer to North and South Korean leaders hold historic summit:

**Highlights** <https://edition.cnn.com/asia/live-news/north-korea-south-korea-summit-intl/index.html>

- Watch the video, "North and South Korea make concessions toward ending hostilities."

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/daily-videos/trump-says-time-place-set-for-planned-u-s-north-korea-summit/>

- Explain the Panmunjom Agreement <https://theconversation.com/north-and-south-korea-met-but-what-does-it-really-mean-95755>

- What are the signs of progress days after the historic summit in late April?

- Most media attention has focused on Article 3.4, which calls for "complete denuclearisation" and "a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula". However, this clause does not mean North Korea has committed to denuclearisation as that concept is understood by the Trump administration (CVID, or "complete, verifiable, irreversible denuclearisation"). How do the two countries differ in their interpretation of Article 3.4?

<https://theconversation.com/north-and-south-korea-met-but-what-does-it-really-mean-95755>

### **Videos:**

<https://www.scmp.com/video/world/2143634/north-and-south-korean-leaders-meet-historic-peace-summit>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VY3QPMV9ehw>

<https://www.cnn.com/video/2018/04/27/north-and-south-korean-leaders-meet-in-historic-summit.html>



## USA-NORTH KOREA TRUMP-KIM SUMMIT



<http://www.the-daily-record.com/opinion/20170809/granlund-cartoon-rattling-nerves>

*U.S. Central Intelligence (CIA) director **Mike Pompeo** met with **Kim** in Pyongyang, North Korea, during a secret visit-later made public. It was the highest level meeting between the U.S. and North Korea since 2000. The purpose was to discuss a **peace treaty** to officially end the 1950-1953 Korean War.*

*A meeting seemed unlikely given the insults Kim and Trump had traded with one another. However, Trump unexpectedly accepted the offer from Kim after he agreed to discuss **denuclearisation** and suspend tests of nuclear and ballistic missiles.*

**North Korea and USA heads meet in Singapore**  
Kim Jong Un vows to 'leave the past behind' after historic Singapore summit with Donald Trump: **Information and videos.** <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/donald-trump-kim-jong-un-singapore-summit-10422204>

**North Korea promises talk on 'peace and denuclearisation'**

<http://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy-defence/article/2149664/china-removes-missile-systems-disputed-south-china-sea>

**Singapore launches 'World Peace' medallion to mark US-North Korea summit**

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/coins-us-north-korea-summit-medallions-singapore-mint-10380918>

**Trump: Korea denuclearisation talks ongoing, no timeframe set**

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/07/trump-korea-denuclearisation-talks-ongoing-timeframe-set-180718094500600.html>

**YouTube**

- **U.S.-North Korea Summit in Singapore | NBC News** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I6lJc2ymzos>
- **World reacts to historic North Korea, US summit** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PwuPatmHbk4>

**Subject:** History

**General Capabilities:** Literacy, Ethical Understanding, Difference and Diversity, Critical and Creative Thinking

**Cross Curriculum Priority:** Sustainability

A historic summit between US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un took place in Singapore.



<http://townpress.co.za/live/2018/06/us-north-korea-officials-in-final-summit-preparations/>

## ACTIVITIES

Refer to U.S-North Korea Summit Study Guide | PBS News Hour

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/daily-videos/trump-says-time-place-set-for-planned-u-s-north-korea-summit/>

Discussion questions:

- Why was the Korean War fought and why did it officially never end?
- How might diplomacy play a key role in solving the conflict on the Korean Peninsula?
- Why do you think President Trump agreed to meet with Kim?
- Why are tens of thousands of American service members stationed on bases at and near the **DMZ**? Trump said that he will meet with South Korea to assure them that the U.S. will not leave the DMZ. Why has South Korea expressed concern if U.S. troops pull out?
- Mike Pompeo will be in charge of solving international conflicts through diplomacy as opposed to military means. What challenges might Pompeo face in his new role?

## HUMAN WELLBEING

**Subjects:** International Studies, Geography, Economics, History, ICT

- **Free bus rides driving safer births for Nepali women**  
<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/free-bus-rides-driving-safer-births-for-nepali-women-10537388>
- **Malaysian king calls for unity amid racial tensions**  
<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/malaysian-king-calls-for-unity-amid-racial-tensions-10537894>
- **Mother Teresa homes in 'baby trade' probe. India's government has ordered an investigation amid allegations that the charity is selling babies.**  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-44856907>
- **Women's quest for equality will remain out of reach until we begin to respect the value of domestic work.** Farzana Aslam says by undervaluing the running of a household, society is setting the stage for gender inequities and exploitation  
<http://www.scmp.com/comment/insight-opinion/article/1921845/womens-quest-equality-will-remain-out-reach-until-we-begin>
- **Exposed: Hong Kong's domestic helpers trapped by loan sharks and employment agencies in debt bondage hell.** Almost from the minute they arrive to take up employment, many overseas maids find themselves hounded by lenders as they struggle to repay fee loans at exorbitant interest rates  
<http://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/article/1905242/exposed-hong-kongs-domestic-helpers-trapped-loan-sharks-and>

## VIDEOS

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia>

- **Art:** The challenges in preserving Indonesia's batik making tradition
- **ICT:** First geospatial industry centre in Southeast Asia launches in Singapore
- **Geography**
  - Cities in the region ramp up initiative to face urban challenges
  - Thailand plans to turn Tham Luang cave into a tourist attraction
  - Japan struggles to cope with aftermath of floods and landslides
  - Call centre industry booming in the Philippines
- **History:**
  - Political killings in the Philippines
  - Koreas to build new economic map after denuclearisation

Background: Indonesian Batik <http://www.eco-business.com/news/indonesias-batik-makers-turn-sustainable-practice-into-an-art-form/>



## CHINA-AUSTRALIA AND SOUTH PACIFIC ISLANDS



**Subjects:** Economics, History, Geography, International Studies, Engineering

**Cross Curriculum Priorities:** ICT, Intercultural Understanding, Ethical Understanding,

The geopolitical landscape of the **South Pacific Ocean and its Islands**, is becoming increasingly complex as new powers including China, Russia, Indonesia, Japan and India are more active in the South Pacific Region.

**Chinese trade and aid** is altering the Pacific Region's politics.

As **China** continues to grow economically and militarily, the **Australia's 2016 Defence White Paper** promotes strategic dialogue that aims to 'increase transparency, reduce misunderstanding and de-escalate tension' as well as promote a regional arms control agreement and joint ventures to assist the development of islands states of the South-west Pacific.

*Graeme Smith (2011) observed that China, in all its forms, is here to stay. Let's engage with the reality. He recommended that Australia revisit the idea of trilateral cooperation in aid projects' (Smith2012b) as well as combined military exercises.*

*The 'peaceful rise' theory no longer accurately describes Chinas situation and global impact, as it has passed the threshold of economic power, military capability and regional influence which previously allowed it to keep a low profile in international affairs. The call for engagement and transparency to avoid suspicion and conflict continues to grow, leading to proposals for increased cooperation*

[http://bellschool.anu.edu.au/sites/default/files/publications/attachments/2017-02/engaging\\_china\\_s\\_new\\_foreign\\_policy\\_in\\_the\\_south\\_pacific.pdf](http://bellschool.anu.edu.au/sites/default/files/publications/attachments/2017-02/engaging_china_s_new_foreign_policy_in_the_south_pacific.pdf)

## CHINA'S EMBASSY IN CANBERRA ISSUED A FIERCE THREAT OVER A STORY THEY DIDN'T WANT AUSSIES TO KNOW. THIS IS THE STORY AND VIDEO

<https://www.news.com.au/finance/economy/world-economy/the-story-china-went-to-furious-lengths-to-stop-from-airing/news-story/3bfaac36ec964211874c3bf8626cf0c5>



### ACTIVITIES

- Summarise the story
- Explain why you think the Chinese Embassy did not want this story to be told.

<https://www.news.com.au/finance/economy/world-economy/the-story-china-went-to-furious-lengths-to-stop-from-airing/news-story/3bfaac36ec964211874c3bf8626cf0c5>



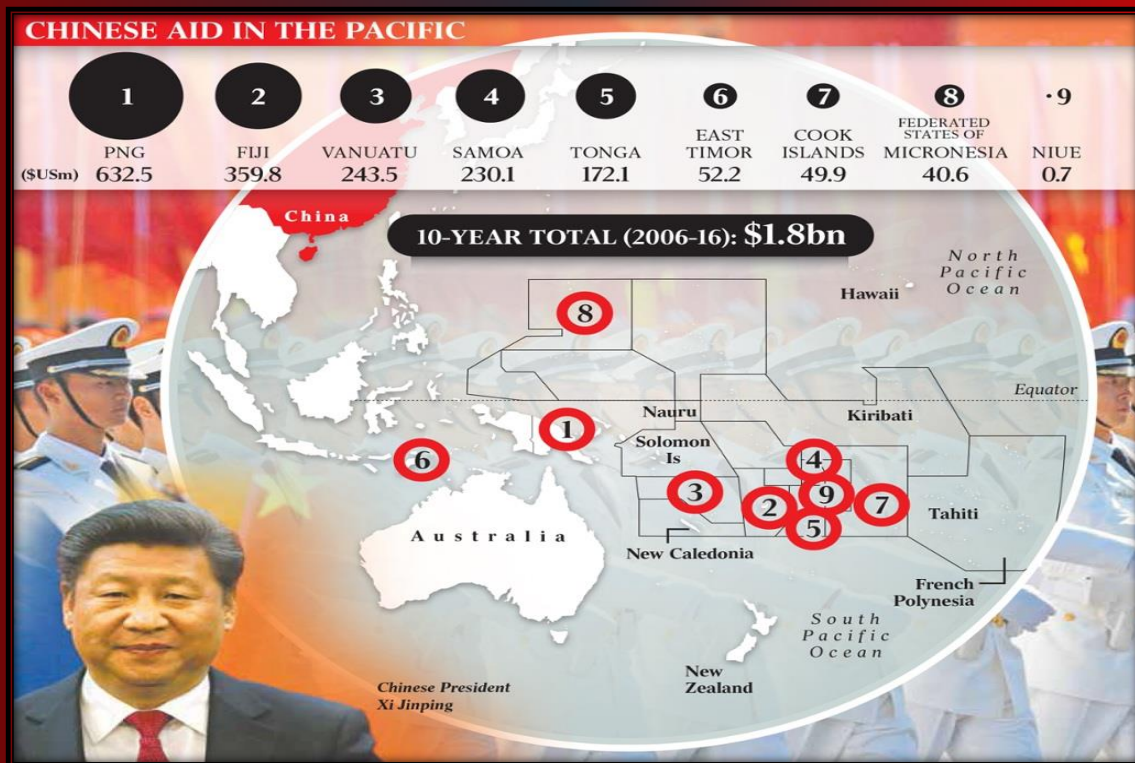
## CHINA HAS EXPLOITED NATURAL RESOURCES, BUILT INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROVIDED LOANS TO SOUTH PACIFIC ISLANDS

### ICT:

- <https://www.news.com.au/finance/economy/world-economy/the-story-china-went-to-furious-lengths-to-stop-from-airing/news-story/3bfaac36ec964211874c3bf8626cf0c5>
- [http://www.deepseaminingoutofourdepth.org/wp-content/uploads/China-Report\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.deepseaminingoutofourdepth.org/wp-content/uploads/China-Report_FINAL.pdf)

### Main points

- China is an increasingly important player in the Pacific due to **trade and aid**.
- Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Fiji are the most crucial countries to China, as they possess most **minerals and natural resources**. Chinese interests in PNG are largely commercial, with investments in mining, construction and retail sectors. However, over the last two years, PNG has experienced strong economic growth but has struggled to pass the benefits of this growth to its population, mainly due to corruption and poor governance
- The amount of **aid** China provides to South Pacific Islands is not huge. According to the Lowy Institute, China transferred at least \$US1.781 billion in aid to South Pacific countries from 2006 to 2016, compared to \$10 million from Australia.
- China's **construction of roads, ports, airports and other infrastructure** in the region has triggered concern that small Pacific countries may be burdened with **unsustainable debts**. The trap can then be a **debt-for-equity swap** when they lose their sovereignty.
- With reference to the 21st Century **Maritime Silk Road**, China called upon the Pacific Island countries to take a ride on the **Chinese "express train" of development**. The strategic management of the sea is also seen as the expansion of China's maritime power.
- Since 2011 China has been ramping up its **deep-sea research** in the Pacific Ocean.



<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/foreign-affairs/australia-concerned-about-transparency-in-chinas-belt-road/news-story/7549b1826c5e142b86de571c1122296d>

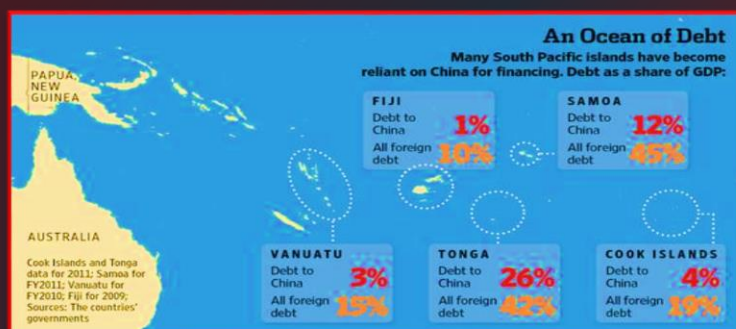
## ACTIVITIES:

*The Pacific is a frontline in one of the most important conflicts of the twenty-first century. The Pacific lies midway between the United States and China, the world's increasingly antagonistic superpowers.* <http://readingthemap.blogspot.com/2013/06/the-new-battle-for-pacific.html>

- Why is the Pacific Ocean and its Islands important to China?
- Pacific Island Countries (PICS) face many difficult problems in their quest for economic growth. Discuss how China can stimulate their economic growth.
- Several countries have accused China of seeking to buy influence in the South Pacific through aid, stoking fears that Australia's long-time influence in the region is being eroded. Explain why it is wise for Australia to be aware of what's going on in its South Pacific Ocean neighbourhood.
- What is meant by debt-for-equity swap?
- Discuss China's interests in relation to deep sea mining in the Pacific Region.

[http://www.deepseaminingoutofourdepth.org/wp-content/uploads/China-Report\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.deepseaminingoutofourdepth.org/wp-content/uploads/China-Report_FINAL.pdf)

- What is the Chinese *Go out Policy* or the *Going Global Strategy* in relation to the Maritime Silk Road impacting on the Pacific Ocean and its Islands?  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Go\\_Out\\_policy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Go_Out_policy); <https://www.cigionline.org/publications/deeper-look-chinas-going-out-policy>
- Discuss whether China's growing presence in Oceania a **threat** or **filling a vacuum** (e.g. recruit new allies, test its growing strength, establish footholds of inclusion and command allegiance dominated by western powers)



<http://readingthemap.blogspot.com/2013/06/the-new-battle-for-pacific.html>

## ICT

- Dragon in Paradise: China's rising star in Oceania  
[https://www.jstor.org/stable/42897487?seq=1#page\\_scan\\_tab\\_contents](https://www.jstor.org/stable/42897487?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents)
- Engaging China's new foreign policy in the South Pacific  
[http://bellschool.anu.edu.au/sites/default/files/publications/attachments/2017-02/engaging\\_china\\_s\\_new\\_foreign\\_policy\\_in\\_the\\_south\\_pacific.pdf](http://bellschool.anu.edu.au/sites/default/files/publications/attachments/2017-02/engaging_china_s_new_foreign_policy_in_the_south_pacific.pdf)
- South Pacific Island States and Regional Security <https://www.iiss.org/publications/strategic-dossiers/asiapacific-regional-security-assessment-2015/rsa15-05-chapter-3>
- China in the South Pacific: hegemon on the horizon?  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/09512740902815292?src=recsys&journalCode=rpre20>
- Our Sea of Islands  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/09512740902815292?src=recsys&journalCode=rpre20>
- Taking a lend: concerns over China's aid to Pacific Islands <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/foreign-affairs/australia-concerned-about-transparency-in-chinas-belt-road/news-story/7549b1826c5e142b86de571c1122296d>
- China is reportedly proposing a permanent military base in the South Pacific.  
<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/04/09/china-is-reportedly-proposing-a-military-base-in-the-south-pacific.html>
- China and the Pacific-Lowy Institute <https://www.lowyinstitute.org/issues/china-pacific>
- Global Education: Voyage to the Pacific <http://www.globaleducation.edu.au/teaching-activity/voyage-to-the-pacific-7-8.html>



# CHINA-AUSTRALIA

## RACISM AND FOREIGN INTERFERENCE LAW

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-australia-44516301>



**Subjects:** Legal Studies, Geography, History

**General Capabilities:** Literacy, ICT, Intercultural Understanding, Critical and Creative Thinking, Difference and Diversity.

Australia has a long **racist history**, towards Chinese in Australia since European settlement, starting with race riots amid the gold rush of the 1850s and '60s. With hundreds of Chinese prospectors injured and evicted from mining sites, the unrest prompted immigration laws that led to the infamous "**White Australia**" policy, which existed in various forms from 1901 until 1973.

Recently, the question has arisen of whether China is exerting too much influence over Australia as well as:

- **Civilian links** to the **Chinese Communist Party (CCP)**
- Some of the 150,000 **Chinese students** in Australia may be stifling debate in **universities** on sensitive topics, such as Taiwan.
- The growth in anti-Chinese sentiment, **Sinophobia** (sentiment against China, its people, overseas Chinese, or Chinese culture).

Concerns reached a peak when *on 28 June 2018, the Australian Parliament passed a comprehensive package of legislative reforms, including legislation to:*

- *enhance existing espionage, secrecy, treason, sabotage and related offences*
- *introduce new offences targeting foreign interference and economic espionage*
- *establish a Foreign Influence Transparency Scheme.*

<https://www.ag.gov.au/NationalSecurity/EspionageForeignInterferenceandForeignInfluence/Pages/default.aspx>

The **controversial new laws** would particularly target "covert and coercive" activities. The new national security legislation has brought a predictable backlash from China, by accusing any person who criticises the Chinese government of being "anti-Chinese and possibly racist".

**ICT:**

- Australia's Government must guard against foreign interference, but not by curbing our rights  
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-06-14/australia-government-foreign-interference-espionage-human-rights/9857660>
- Australia's national security greatly enhanced with new laws  
<https://www.attorneygeneral.gov.au/Media/Pages/Australias-national-security-greatly-enhanced-with-new-laws.aspx>

## ACTIVITIES

- The Australian government has proposed a wide-ranging crackdown on foreign interference in political activity. Why was the law introduced? What was the main focus of the law? How did China react?
- Discuss how Australians can stand up for its values and at the same time deal with China's increasing influence- without inflaming China, its biggest economic support, and Chinese Australians.
- Explain how the "China influence" debate is at risk of becoming racist.
- Explain these different comments in the article:  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-australia-44516301>



- *"There's nothing wrong with discussing **foreign influence in Australia**. The **new laws** are not meant to focus solely on China, as it is not the only country with influence in Australia".*
- *"As long as the debate focuses on China, fears concerning **racism** and this type of hate and toxicity, will continue".*
- *"Antagonism towards the **Chinese communist party state** is threatening to spill over into a general suspicion of Chinese-Australians".*
- *"Fears of **economic retribution** are acute in Australia, especially the four largest sectors (mining, education, tourism and agriculture) that depend heavily on China".*
- *"Given there are 1.2 million Australians who have **Chinese ancestry**, the scale of such potential damage would be significant." Part of the problem is that Chinese-Australians, who represent 5.6% of the population, are "almost completely absent" from positions of power".*
- *"In some eyes, China intended to reduce Australia to the status of a '**tribute state**' or **puppet state**." A **tributary state** is a term for a pre-modern **state** in a particular type of subordinate relationship to a more powerful **state** which involved the sending of a regular token of submission, or **tribute**, to the superior power*  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tributary\\_state](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tributary_state))

## ICT

- When it comes to China's influence on Australia, beware of sweeping statements and conflated ideas <https://theconversation.com/when-it-comes-to-chinas-influence-on-australia-beware-of-sweeping-statements-and-conflated-ideas-94496>
- China's influence in Australia: Maintaining that the Chinese Communist Party's influence is not motivated by racism, but is valuable and necessary.  
<https://www.policyforum.net/chinas-influence-australia-maintaining-debate/>
- China's 'brazen' and 'aggressive' political interference outlined in top-secret report  
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-05-29/chinas-been-interfering-in-australian-politics-for-past-decade/9810236>
- Why China no longer trusts Australia  
<https://www.news.com.au/finance/work/leaders/why-china-no-longer-trusts-australia/news-story/2110141c468bb6ea866052283c6de119>