

## [China adopts intelligence law](#)

China's top legislature on Tuesday adopted a law on intelligence to safeguard national security and interests.

The National Intelligence Law was approved at the end of a bi-monthly session of the National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee which concluded on Tuesday afternoon.

The 32 articles cover the general provisions, organization and duty of the intelligence authorities, and punishments for misconduct.

The law requires intelligence agencies and their staff to safeguard human rights and to protect the legal rights and interests of individuals and organizations.

Those who leak state secrets, commercial secrets or personal information will be held accountable.

The law provides legal support to the intelligence community, according to Zhang Dejiang, chairman of the NPC Standing Committee.

Zhang urged agencies to implement the law and carry out their duties in accordance with the law.

The law will enter into effect on Wednesday.

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## [China, Kyrgyzstan hold anti-terror drill in Xinjiang](#)

China and Kyrgyzstan frontier forces on Tuesday held a joint anti-terrorist exercise in Kizilsu Kirgiz Prefecture, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, in northwest China.

The drill, carried out under the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), was witnessed by representatives from Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, all the SCO member countries.

A total of 700 police officers from the two countries, aided by armored vehicles, were involved in the drill.

Chen Dingwu, head of the border management administration under the Ministry of Public Security and also commander-in-chief of the drill, said the drill featured simulated weapon smuggling by armed terrorists from Kyrgyzstan to China. It tested the joint action ability in checking terrorism in the border

region.

There are 15 land ports along a 5,700-km border line in Xinjiang.

Wang Jian, assistant minister of public security, said the drill reflects SCO member countries' highly consistent stand and resolution in fighting against terrorism, secessionism and extremism.

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## [Xi to visit Russia, Germany, attend G20 summit](#)

Chinese President Xi Jinping will pay state visits to Russia and Germany from July 3 to 6, the Foreign Ministry announced on Tuesday.

Xi is invited by Russian President Vladimir Putin, German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier and Chancellor Angela Merkel, said Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lu Kang.

Xi will also attend the 12th Group of 20 (G20) summit from July 7 to 8 in Hamburg, Germany, Lu said.

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## [China bans evidence by force from court](#)

China on Tuesday released a regulation on exclusion of illegally-obtained evidence in criminal cases, banning confessions by torture and forced self-incrimination.

The document was jointly issued by the Supreme People's Court (SPC), the Supreme People's Procuratorate, the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of State Security, and the Ministry of Justice, in a bid to curb wrongful convictions and safeguard human rights.

According to the regulation, it is illegal for police or prosecutors to extort confessions through torture, threats or cheating. Forced self-incrimination is also prohibited.

Confessions, witness testimonies and depositions of victims obtained by force will no longer be accepted as evidence.

Audio and visual recordings must be made of interrogations of those implicated in serious criminal cases, in which death penalty or life imprisonment could be meted out, the regulation said, adding that all original recordings should be kept intact.

Criminal suspects and their defenders are allowed to apply for illegal evidence to be ruled out during the investigation, it said.

Prosecutors are required to inquire suspects in major cases and examine whether they have been forced to confess or confronted illegal evidence collection before the conclusion of investigation, the document said.

Judges should ensure all evidence held up in court is legitimate and valid, according to the regulation.

The regulation will help judicial organs collect, examine and use evidences in accordance with law, said the SPC.

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## [UNEP: China's desert greening inspires world](#)

China's success in reforesting a major desert, which was once the source of frequent sandstorms in north China, has provided ideas for other countries battling desertification, a senior UN official said.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) executive director Erik Solheim said Sunday the main inspiration was that instead of looking at desertification as a problem, it should be viewed as an opportunity for economic development and for jobs.

He was referring to Kubuqi Desert, the seventh largest desert in China that lies in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. Over the past three decades, a quarter of the desert has been reforested.

A UNEP policy report says the core of the success at Kubuqi is its sustainable business model, and the establishment of a system that incorporates policy instruments, investment from the private sector and active participation of locals.

"We need the government to have visions, to regulate the market, but we need the private sector to bring innovative ideas and create jobs," said Solheim in an interview with Xinhua during his three-day visit to the desert from Saturday to Monday.

He said he was impressed by the large number of jobs created in new energy and eco-tourism as well as processes introduced by the private sector.

“We can use drones to spread seeds,” Solheim said. “For countries in Africa and Central Asia, they can learn from Kubuqi and use that to create their own models.”

UNEP on Saturday signed a cooperation memorandum with a foundation under Elion Resources Group, the company active in Kubuqi greening, to share information and boost innovation in fighting desertification.

Solheim said UNEP is also working with China to set up an International Coalition for Green Development on the Belt and Road to promote renewable energy, encourage greener infrastructure, industries and tourism.

The UNEP chief will again visit Kubuqi this September to attend a meeting of United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, which is expected to draw a roadmap to end desert expansion by 2030.

“I’ll come again, ...and tell the world about the Kubuqi model,” Solheim said.