
Chinese VP Says World Cannot Shut China Out

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Chinese Vice President Wang Qishan took an indirect jab at the United States during his opening address to the World Peace Forum at Beijing's Tsinghua University.

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The Chinese Vice President pointed out the faults of the U.S. administration's pressure on China, while highlighting the fact that Beijing plays a critical role in the world's economic development. "China's development can't shut out the rest of the world. The world's development can't shut out China," Wang stated.

Wang also warned against "protectionism in the name of national security", without mentioning the United States, and called major powers to make more contributions to global peace and stability.

The Trump administration has accused China of engaging in unfair trade practices that discriminate against U.S. firms, forced technology transfers and intellectual property rights theft, all charges Beijing has denied.

Both sides have leveled increasingly severe tariffs on each other's imports.

China has also been angered by U.S. sanctions against Chinese tech giant Huawei Technologies Co Ltd [HWT.UL] over national security concerns.

Wang, who is extremely close to Chinese President Xi Jinping and who only rarely speaks in public, reiterated China's commitment to opening up.

The world needs China just as much as China needs the world, said Wang, who became vice president last year having previously lead Xi's fight against deep-rooted corruption.

"Large countries must assume their responsibilities and set an example, make more contributions to global peace and stability, and broaden the path of joint development," he said.

"Development is the key to resolving all issues," Wang told an audience that included senior Beijing-based Western diplomats and former European Council President Herman Van Rompuy.

Top representatives of the United States and China are organizing a resumption of talks for this week to try to resolve the year-long trade war between the world's two largest economies.

The two sides have been in communication by telephone since last month's G20 summit, when U.S. President Donald Trump and Xi agreed to relaunch talks that had stalled in May.

Talks between the two sides broke down in May after U.S. officials accused China of pulling back from commitments it had made previously in the text of an agreement that negotiators said was nearly finished.

The two countries have been at loggerheads over a series of other issues, from human rights to the disputed South China Sea and U.S. support of self-ruled Taiwan, claimed by China as its own.
