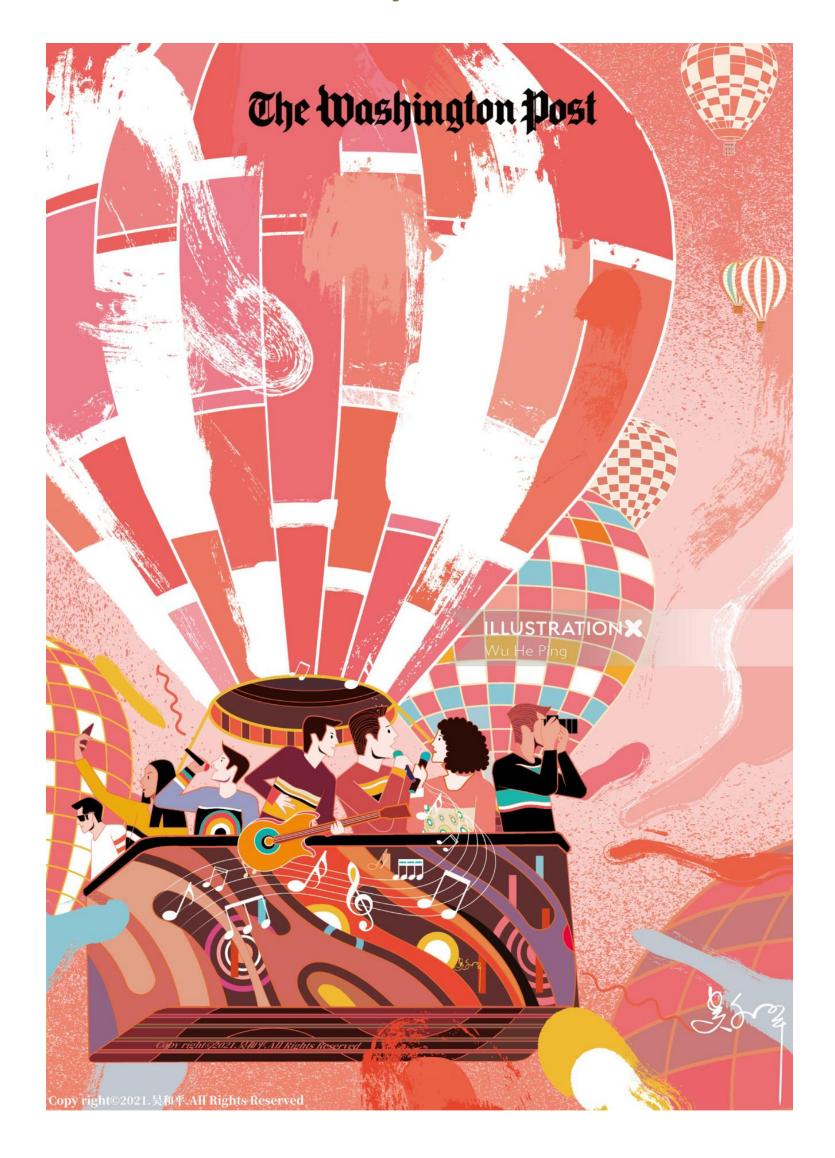
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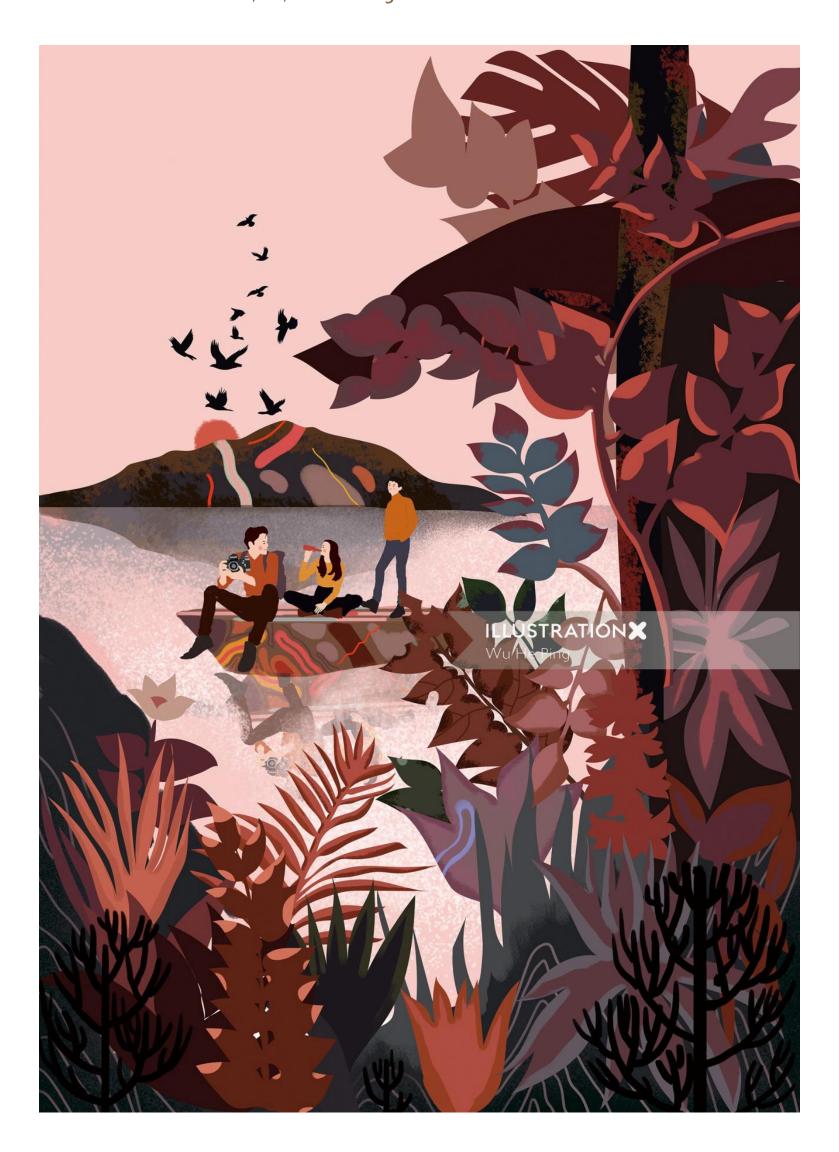
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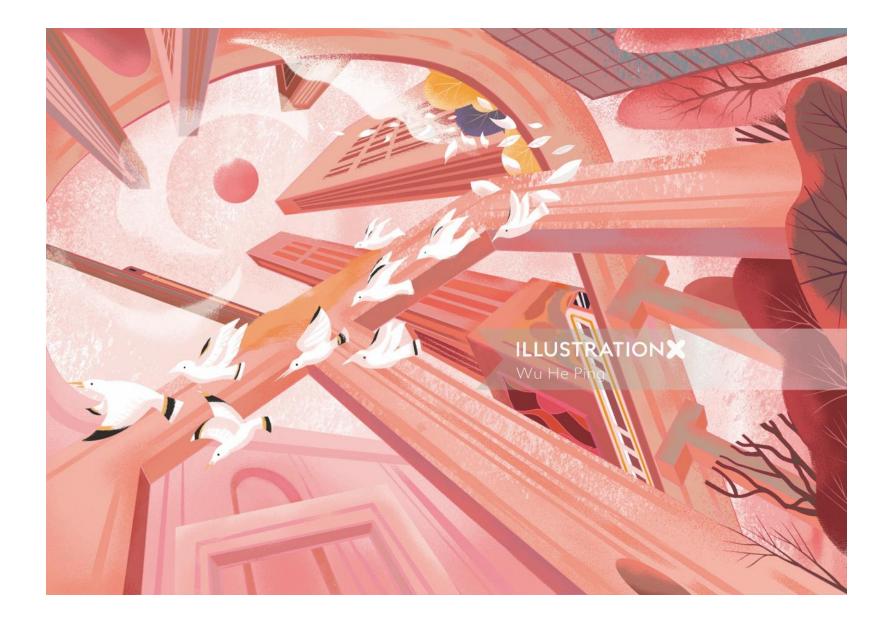














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Winter Olympics win global plaudits as it draws to a successful conclusion PAGES 7-8, 16-17, 26-32



WORLD WATCH By Andrew Sheng

US should remember past realism over China

On Feb 21, 1972, Richard Nixon paid the first ever visit by a US president to the People's Republic of China, during what Nixon himself called "the week that changed the world". Nixon recalled that in shaking hands with Chinese premier Zhou Enlai, he said: "When our hands met, one era ended and

another began."
Within hours of his arrival, he met Chairman Mao Zedong, in the presence of Zhou, together with US sec-etary of state and national security ndviser Henry Kissinger. These four men ended nearly a quarter century of US-China enmity, signaled the end of the Cold War and enabled half a century of peace and stabil-ity with no wars between the great

They showed how individuals who recognize the changing tides of history can shape national and global destinies. With the United States embroiled in the Vietnam War that ended the presidency of Lyndon Johnson, Nixon the presidential candidate had already signaled his bold views in his 1967 article, titled "Asia after Vietnam", in the magazine Foreign Affairs.

In the article, he recognized that Asia was changing faster than any other part of the world and that the rapidity of change meant that a "nation or society that fails to keep pace with change is in danger of flying apart".

Asia's future must therefore focus on four giants — India, Japan, China

Nixon was realist enough to rec-ognize that "any American policy toward Asia must come urgently to grips with the reality of China". Pre-sciently, he stated earlier: "But other nations must recognize that the role of the US as world policeman is likely to be limited in the future."

See Lessons, page 20

helping the public

appreciate classical

tunes gain traction amid the pandemic

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By CHEN NAN

ommuters waiting for a train at one of the largest subway stations in Guangzhou, Guang-dong province, a week before the widely celebrated Spring Festival, listened as a brass quintet played live.

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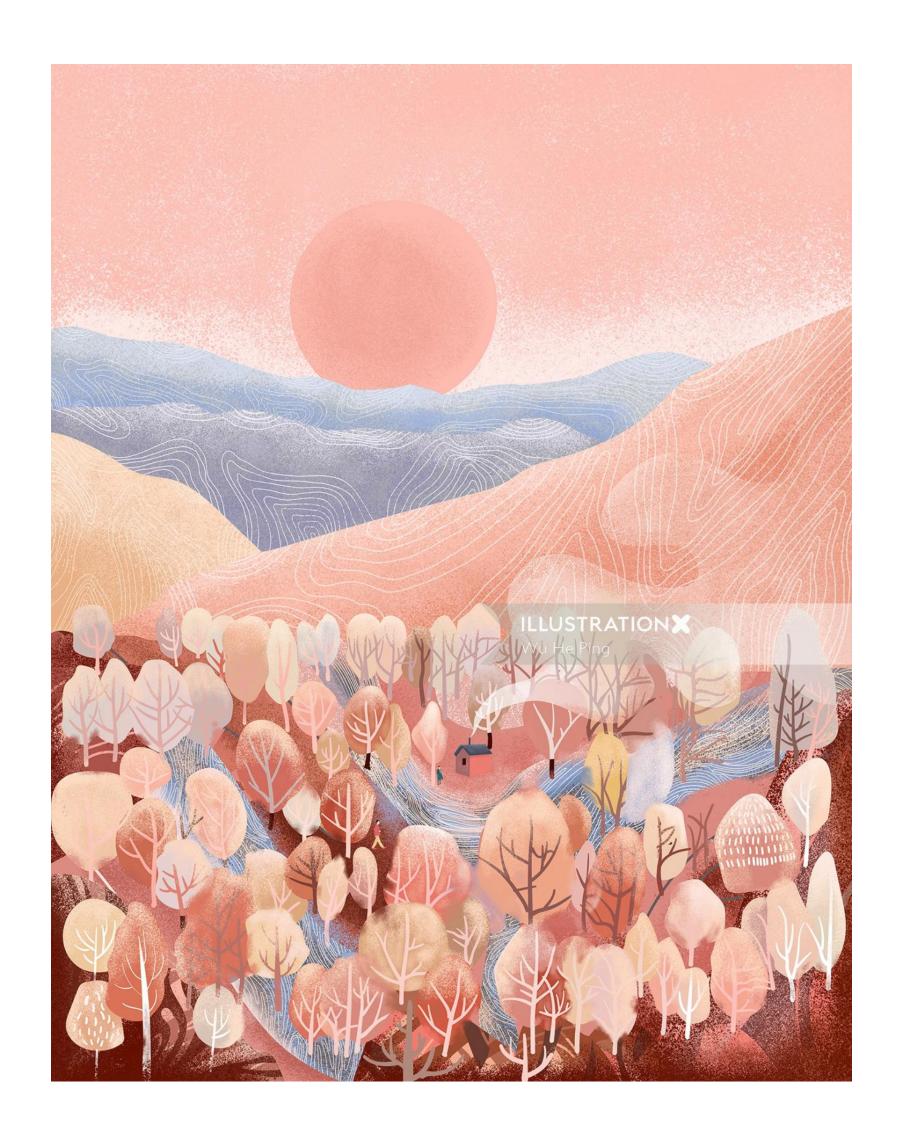








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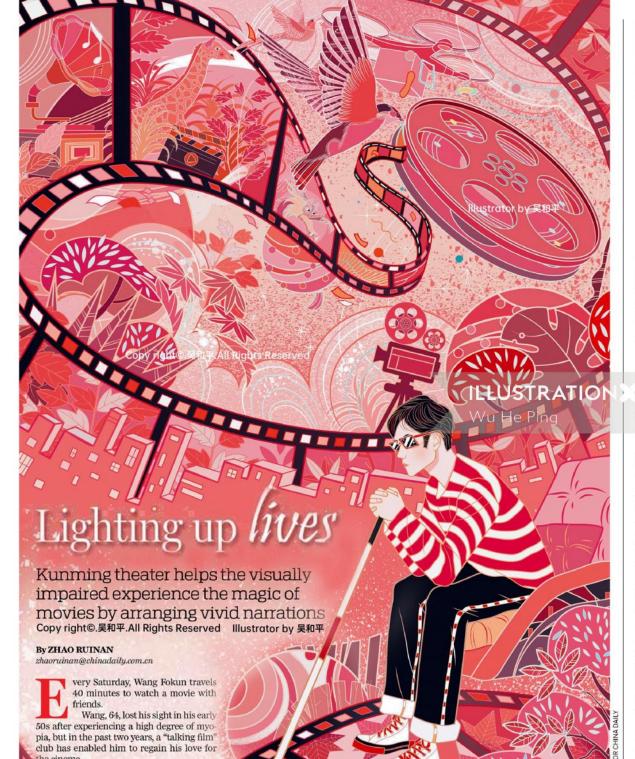


Inside

President outlines true yardstick of democracy **CHINA NEWS, PAGE 5**

Gibbons get a new lease of life LIFE, PAGE 29





WORLD WATCH By Marsela Musabelliu

The merits of China's consultative democracy

Many in the world have been led to believe that China and democracy are mutually contradictory. This comes as no surprise, because with help of the media and, occasionally, academia, this narrative has been pushed beyond facts and verifiable truth - and because democracy appears to be vested exclusively with Western criteria and traits.

As a set of values shared by humankind to help improve people's well-being, democracy has been, and still is, the aspiration and political objective of almost all nations. It is on that basis that democracy should be defined: a set of values in a given society, not a political system per se.

In China, people have the right to participate in politics but in an institutional arrangement different from those in many countries.

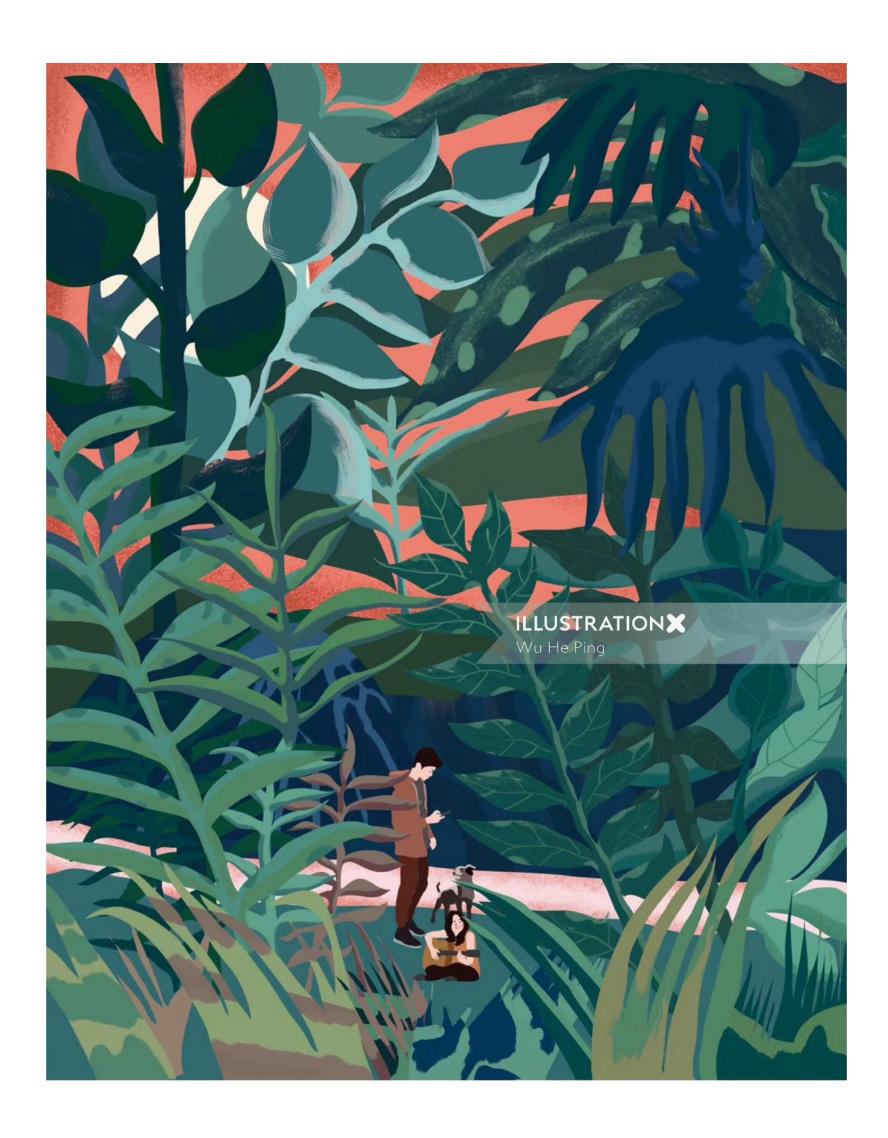
In his speech at the General Debate of the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly, President Xi Jinping explained what democracy means to China: "Democracy is not a special right reserved to an individual country, but a right for the people of all countries to enjoy. We need to advocate peace, development, equity, justice, democracy and freedom, which are the common values of

These common human values are the centripetal force that drives the Chinese policymakers. Democracy should be judged by how much people's wishes are being fulfilled by the government. Democracy should serve the end goal, rather than just be a fixed format to which assumptions and practices can be applied.

A white paper issued by China's State Council Information Office titled "China's Political Party System: Cooperation and Consultation" noted that the most appropriate system for a country is determined by its his-

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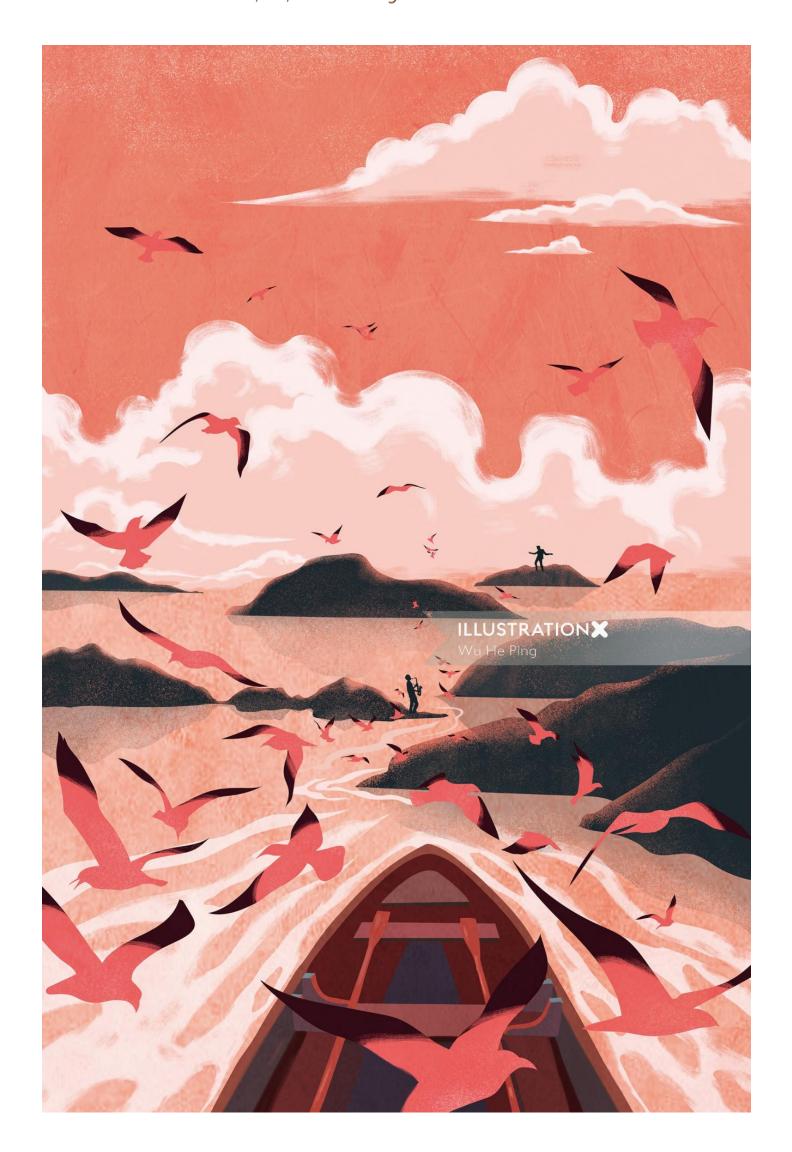














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WORLD WATCH

Anti-China game erodes Biden's own credibility

Even though the World Health Organization's team of international experts found it was highly unlikely that the COVID-19 virus came from a Chinese lab, the administration of US President Joe Biden seems to be holding on to the ploys of its predecessor by ordering intelligence agencies to find answers to the origin of the virus, instead of respecting scientists on such a scientific matter.

found the cause to be emanation from a lab, and it is considered more likely to have been transmitted to humans from a bat or other creature.

Like a broken record, former president Donald Trump and successor Biden have repeatedly run their narrative that the virus escaped from a lab in Wuhan, Hubei province, without one shred of evidence. It is all part of their China-bashing campaign.

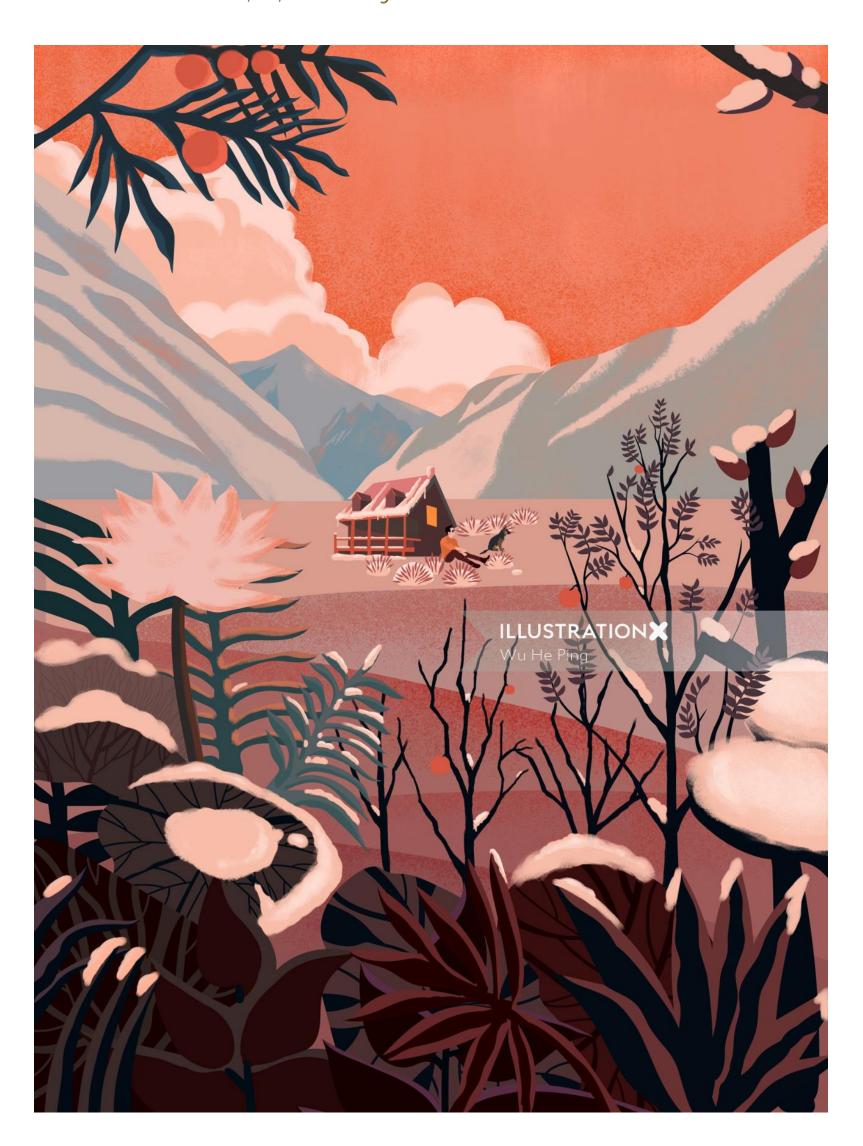
But politicians being politicians, some of their lives are based on deceit to keep themselves in power. In 2011, when Biden was vice-president to then president Barack Obama, Biden was full of praise for China, saying that he remained convinced that a successful China could make the United States more prosperous.

During his six-day visit to China in August 2011, Biden met with Chinese leaders on bilateral, regional and global issues. He noted that the two countries also compete as they cooperate, adding that "the immense talent of the Chinese people, the incredible hard work and perseverance of the Chinese people and their leaders have literally lifted tens of millions of people out of poverty and built an economy that now helps fuel the world's prosperity".

Fast-forward to the G7 summit in the United Kingdom in June, when U-turn and called on world leaders to resist China's globalization.

See Doublespeak, page 20

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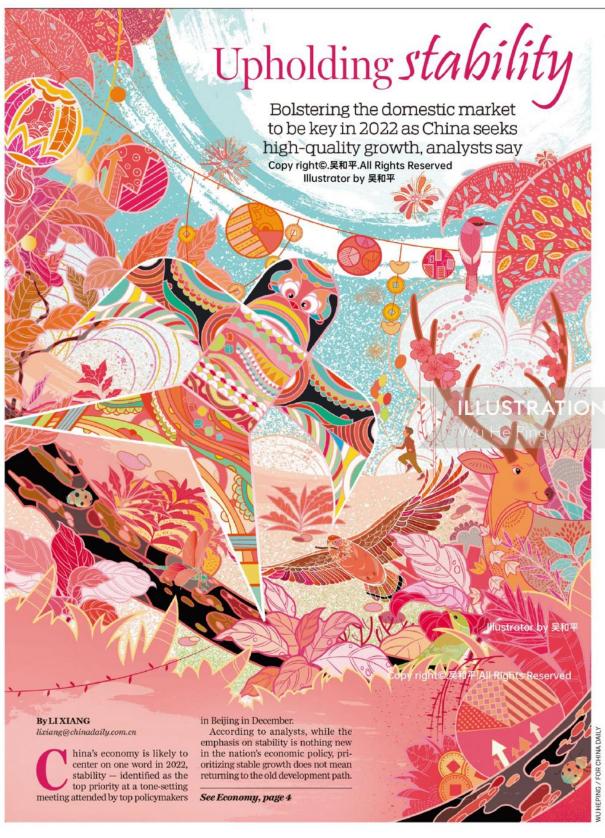
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Xi: Beijing 'ready for great Games **CHINA NEWS, PAGE 6**

Ancient books tell of wisdom from the past LIFE, PAGE 28





WORLD WATCH By Karori Singh

China growth model shows a new path for humanity

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, when citing China's poverty relief achievement, said "the extraor-dinary result is a reason for hope and inspiration to the entire community of nations". It is clear that China has realized the first and foremost UN Sustainable Development Goal 10 years ahead of time by eradicating absolute poverty once and for all.

China has exhibited proper understanding, continuity in policy, concerted thinking, and made constant efforts with targeted solutions to varled root causes of poverty, with the aim of common prosperity.

Unfortunately, many other countries have inappropriate policies and lack a

sound strategy for poverty eradication. The political elite in most of the developing countries are preoccupied with crisis management and maintaining order instead of sustained poverty eradication as a component of human dignity and justice.

Some use rhetoric about poverty alleviation without any sustained commitment and political will to eradicate it. The COVID-19 pandemic has only made things worse. Developing countries, particu-

larly in South Asia, Africa and Latin America, which harbor the largest numbers of the poor in the world, can therefore draw meaningful lessons from the Chinese experience to overcome their own extreme poverty.

These countries should focus on "policy coherence" in the long process of alleviating poverty and creating common prosperity. Policy coherence stems from sound planning with regular consultation with grassroots level people, tapping of local resources and appropriate implementation of the plan, keeping in view revitalization of villages for and ensuring nondiscrimination on the basis of socioeconomic categories.

See Strategy, page 23

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Xi seeks stronger ties with UK, ROK CHINA NEWS, PAGE 5

Graphic designer recreates stunning visual art on tea LIFE, PAGE 27





WORLD WATCH
By Lau Siu-kai

Rule-breaking by US leads to decline of global order

Whenever the United States takes actions against another nation, be it an invasion, an attempt to engineer regime change, wage a trade war or impose sanctions, the rationale it offers for the public is that it seeks to safeguard the rules-based international order (IO) it created after World War II. Ironically, the US itself is the major culprit in undermining the IO, particularly after the end of the Cold War.

By frequently and flagrantly breaking the rules of the IO ostensibly ander its charge, the US has damaged its reputation, credibility and value to other nations, debilitating the postwar order it established. Today, the IO is no longer able to foster world peace, economic globalization and international cooperation. The ensuing world disorder will in turn redound to the detriment of the US itself.

Some of the draconian sanctions, such as seizing the assets of the wealthiest individuals close to Russian President Vladimir Putin, which the US and its loyal allies have slapped on Russia in retaliation for its "special military operation" in Ukraine, are blatant and brutal infringements of the private property rights of individuals. Such harsh punitive measures imposed on civilians signal that the West is no longer a haven for a person's property and assets. In the years ahead, capital outflows from the West will become an irrevocable long-term trend.

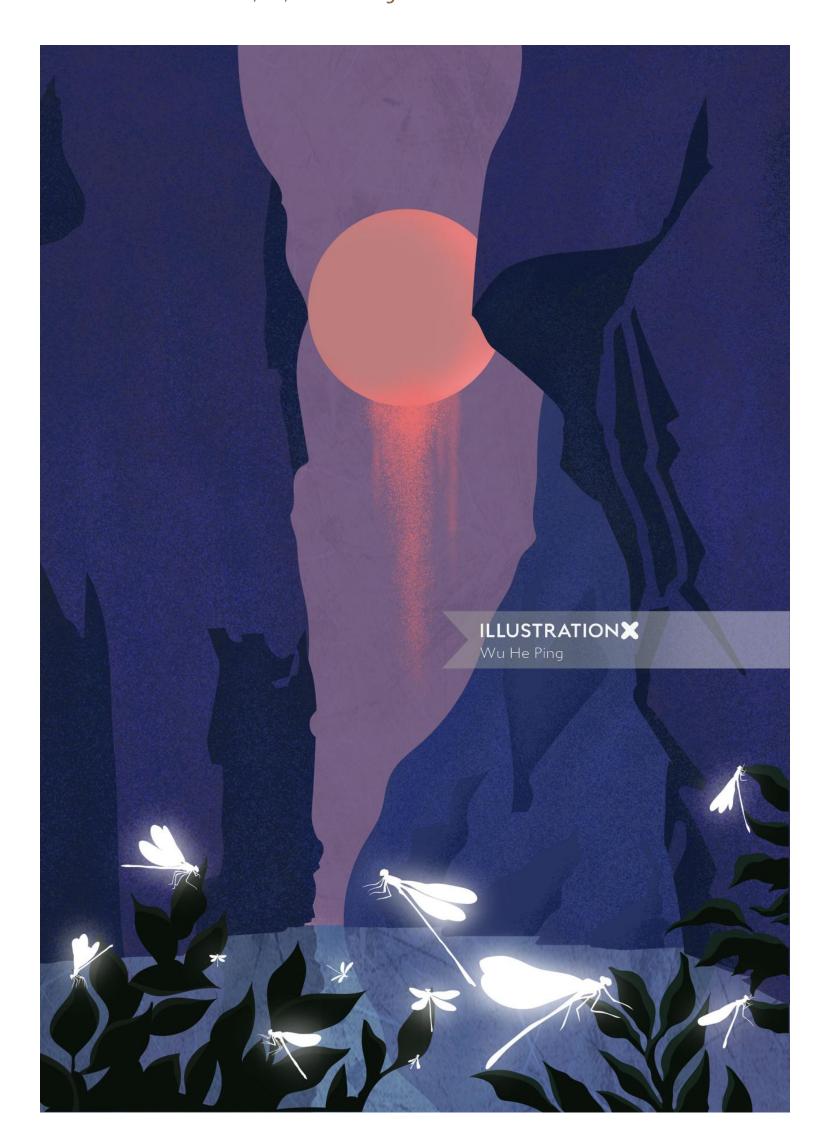
Even more harmful to the IO is the freezing of the reserve assets of Russia's central bank, expelling Russia from the SWIFT financial payments system, and ejecting it from the crucial institutions of international finance. Iran, which had courted the wrath of the US, had already been punished similarly in

See Erosion, page 20

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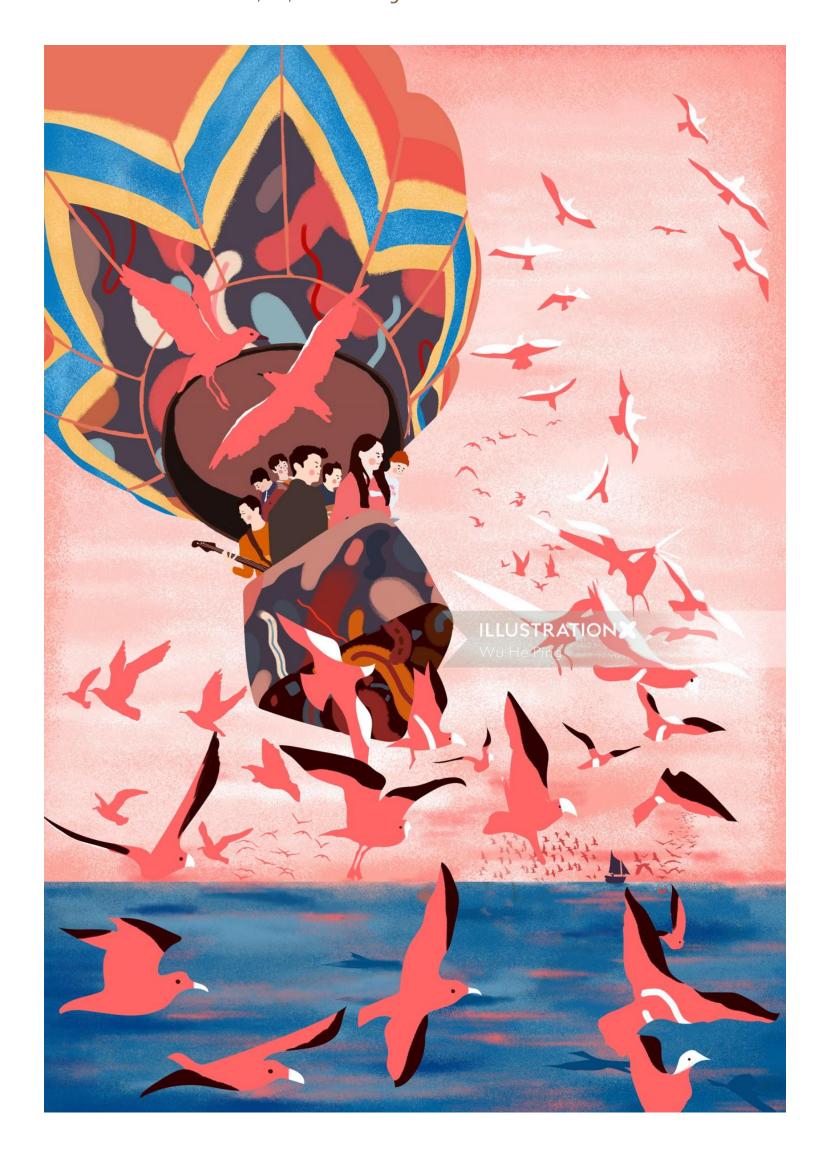




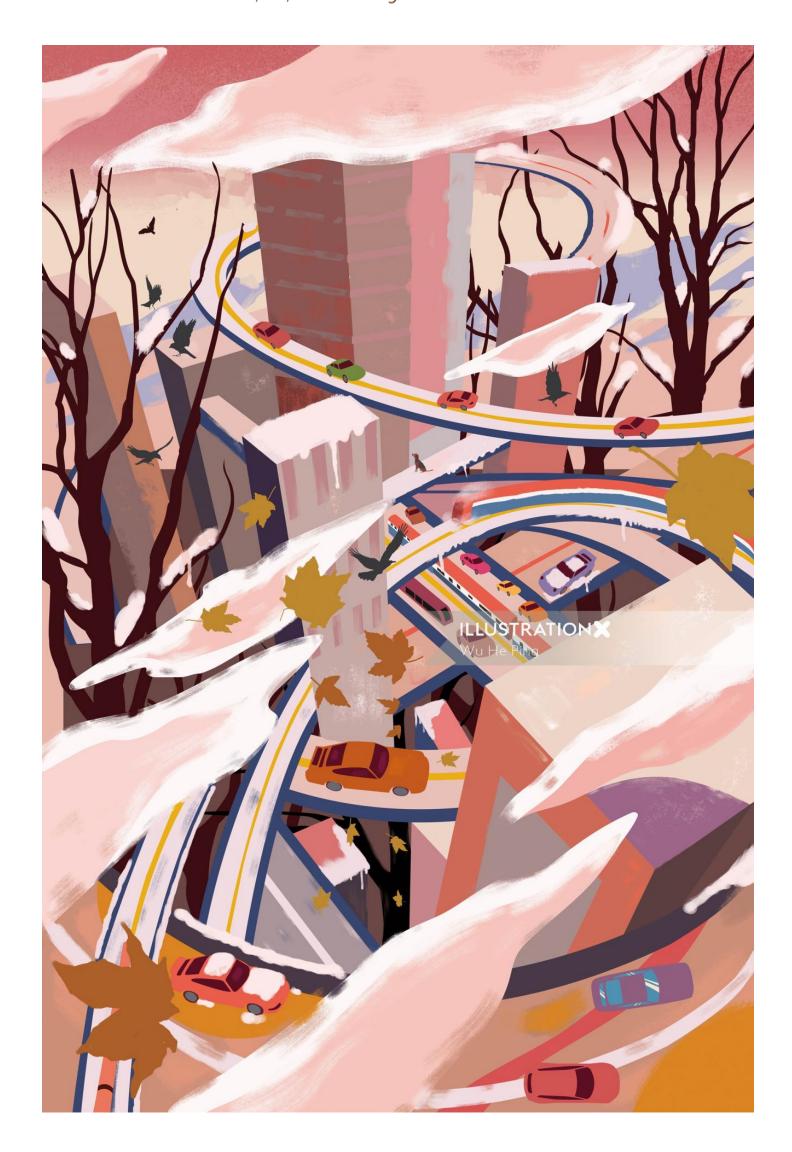




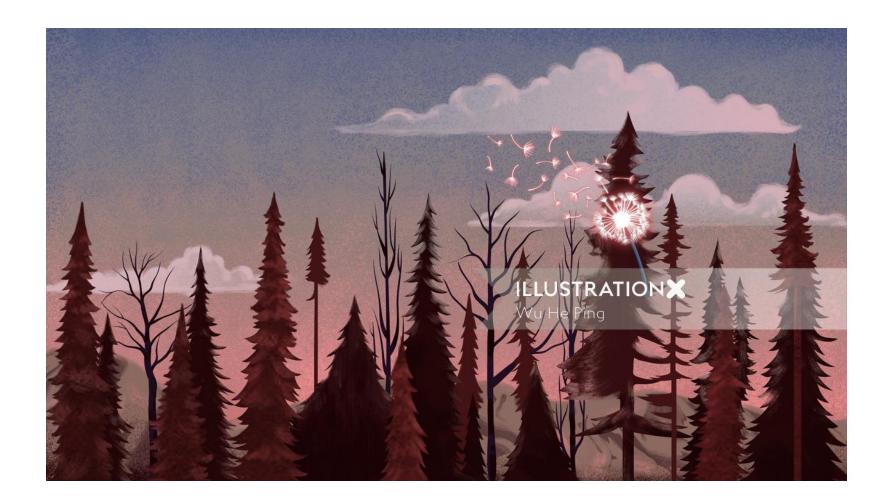




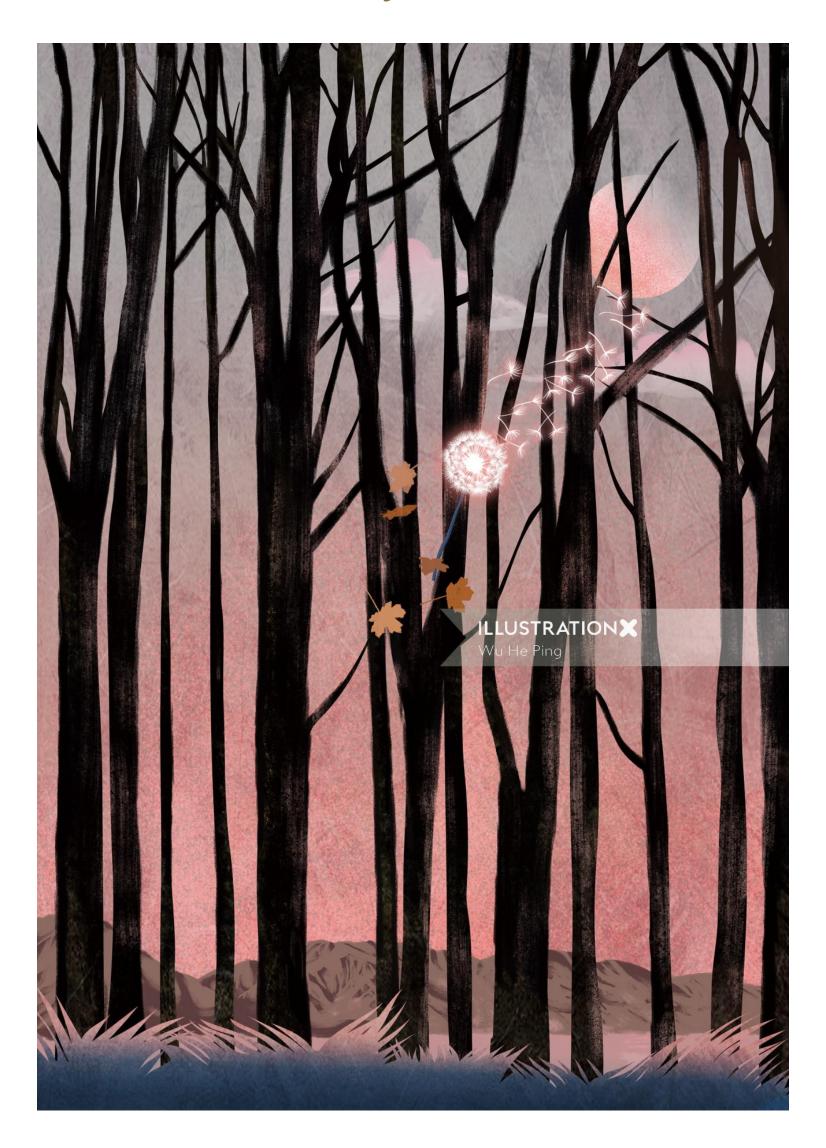














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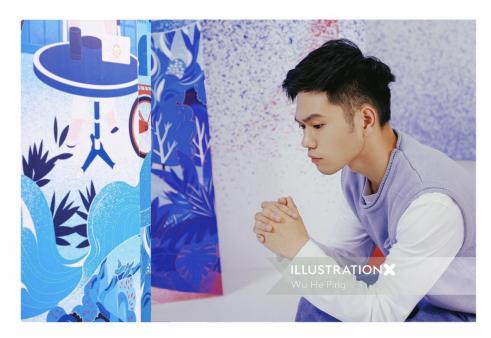
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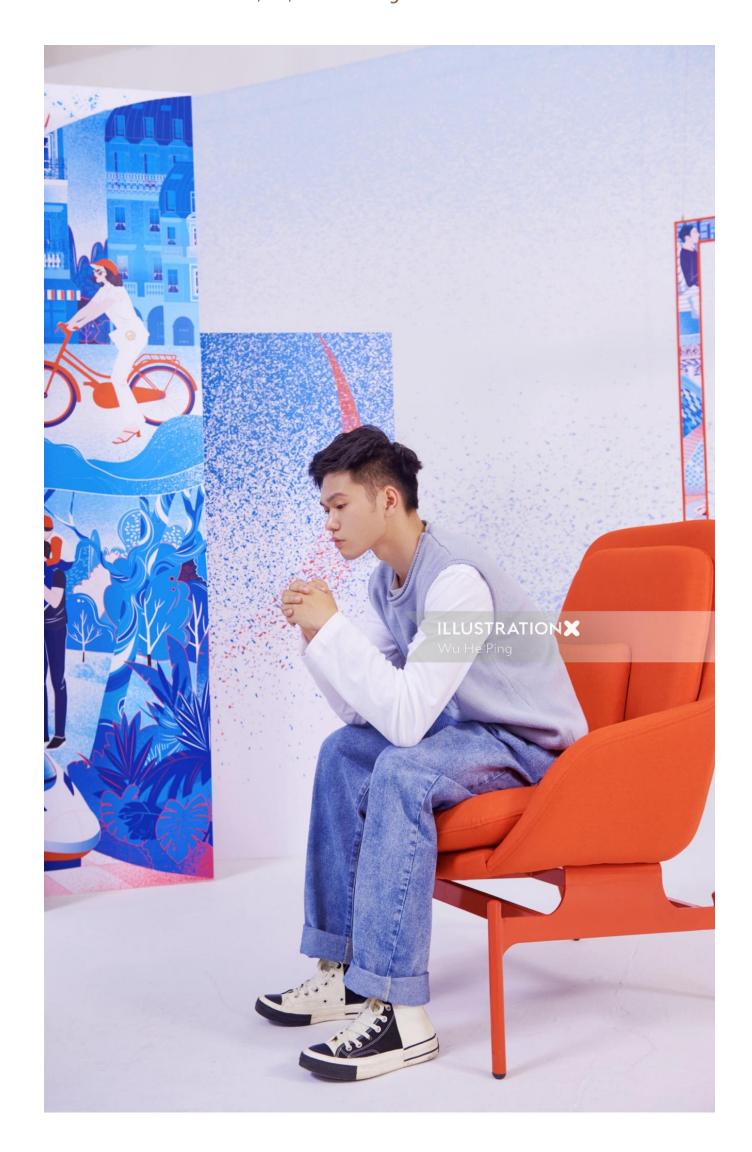
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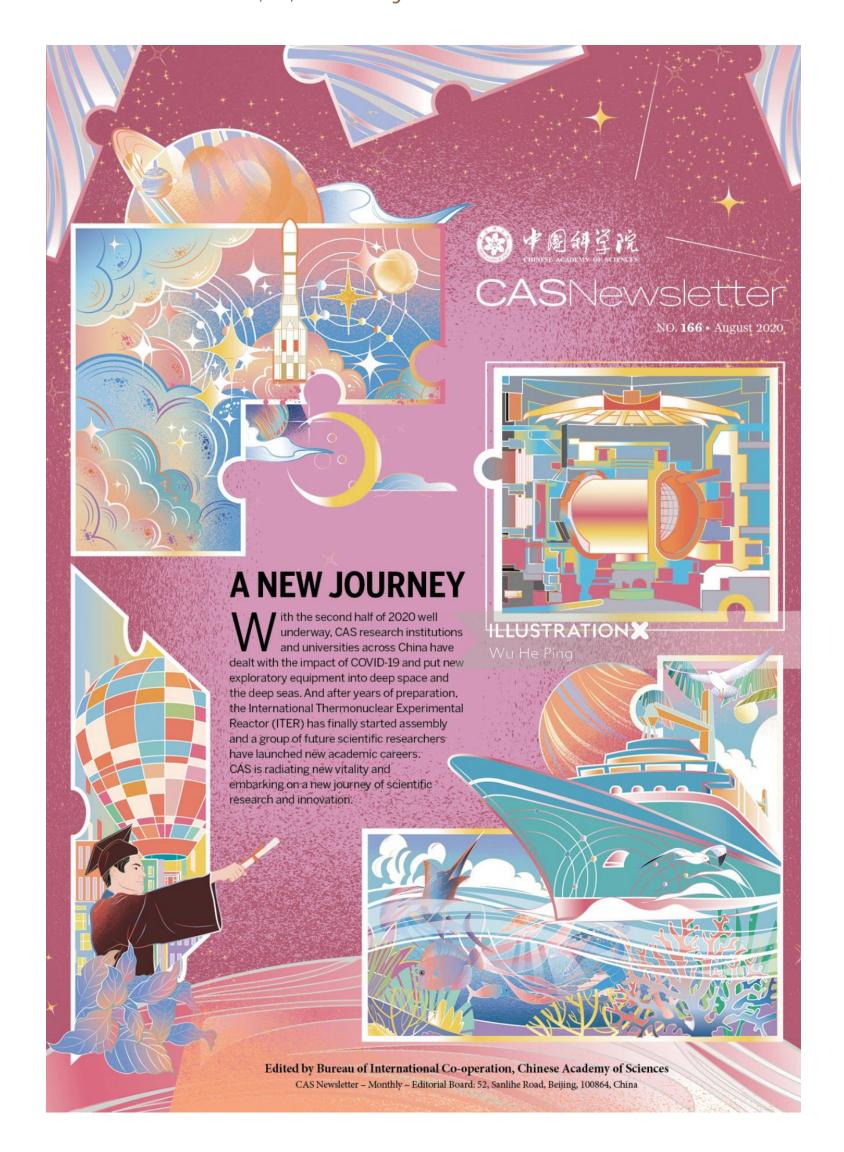


















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Esports rising to next level in Shanghai

By YUAN SHENGGAO

The esports industry has exploded in popularity in Shanghai as investors look to cash in on opportunities, thanks to the city's continuous efforts in encouraging its development.

In 2020, total revenue from esports in Shanghai is estimated to be 19 billion yuan (\$2.9 billion), up from 7.02 billion yuan in 2016. Combined turnover from esports competitions, clubs and livestream broadcasts is estimated at 3.63 billion yuan for the year, according to market consultancy CNG.

The Shanghai government has put great effort into supporting the growth of

The Shanghai government has put great effort into supporting the growth of the esports industry. In 2017, local authorities released 50 guidelines to provide a boost to cultural and creative industries, among which was the target of building the city into a major international center for esports.

Earlier this year, the Shanghai government released 20 policies to help culture-related companies through the difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. At least three policies targeted esports companies, including accelerating administrative approvals for esports-related publications and attracting the world's largest esports tournaments to settle in Shanghai.

Supported by preferential policies, Shanghai's esports industry has an expanding talent pool, an influx of leading industrial players and improved infrastructure and facilities, which also creates a solid foundation for its future growth.

More than 80 percent of China's esports enterprises, including teams and live-broadcasting platforms, have chosen Shanghai as their base, while over 40 percent of the nation's esports events are staged in the city every year.

Leading Chinese esports club EDG settled in Shanghai in 2013. According to the club's general manager Pan Yibin, favorable policies introduced by the Shanghai government have been indispensable.

"The policies have signaled the government's recognition of the industry players' efforts. Thresholds have been set for the favorable policies and the related subsidies. These have also helped to build a more reasonable competition mechanism among esports companies," he said.

nism among esports companies," he said. Shanghai, with its ever-improving business environment and industrial structure, remains a popular investment destination among esports investors in 2020. In July, more than 30 esports projects were signed in Pudong New Area.

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Xi reaffirms call for Ukraine talks CHINA NEWS, PAGE 5

Spring is in the air as flower bloom captivates tourists LIFE, PAGE 30





WORLD WATCH By Rod P. Kapunan

US cannot fool world forever by peddling lies

When Russia announced the discovery of 26 bio-laboratories in Ukraine and said these were aided and operated by the US Department of Defense, many astute observers globally would naturally have realized that the United States was back at its old game.

old game. Instead of answering questions about those laboratories, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki was quick to dismiss the allegation by the Rus-

sian defense ministry's spokesperson, Jajor General Igor Konashenkov, and 'aimed that Russia was preparing a false flag operation to intensify its propaganda war against the US.

It has to be emphasized that the US military's bioresearch in Ukraine, or any other country, violates the 1925 Geneva Protocol and the 1972 Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention or RTWC

It is notable that the Chinese foreign ministry's spokesperson, Zhao Lijian, commented that the US is using its usual "playbook" – similar to its invasions of Iraq, Afghanistan, and Syria – when Washington was caught flat-footed while peddling lies

to justify its hegemonistic ambitions. Historically, the US has consistently violated the agreements under the Geneva Convention against the use of chemical and biological weapons.

During the 1950s war in the Korean Peninsula, the US extensively used these weapons. Robert Leckie, the author of the book, History of the Korean War, 1950-1953, has revealed how the US airdropped cannisters of biological pathogens to infect thousands of Korean and Chinese soldiers and civilians.

During the Vietnam War — which ended with the fall of Saigon (now called Ho Chi Minh City) on April 30, 1975 — the US used a mixture of herbicides to defoliate large parts of the Southeast Asian pation

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