

# Global talent flocking to work in China

Forbes report says nation becoming major destination, international hub

By **SHI JING** in Shanghai  
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China is becoming attractive to global talent on an unprecedented level because of the nation's economic size and vibrancy, according to a report released on Saturday by US business magazine Forbes.

The 2018 Global Talent Mobility and Wealth Management Report predicts the country will be a major

exchange hub for global talent flow by 2022.

"By that time, China will be not only the largest export country of students studying abroad, but also a major destination for global talent to settle down," said Russell Flannery, Shanghai bureau chief of Forbes China.

No country in history has met both criteria, he said, adding that although India used to have the largest number of students overseas, it has not

**6,000 high-level workers**

from overseas had come to China to work under the Recruitment Program of Global Experts as of last year.

been attractive enough to global talent, such as people from the United States.

"China's role as a hub in global talent mobility will further consolidate, and it will

help the country to integrate its educational resources globally. Meanwhile, it will provide more competitive job opportunities for overseas talent," Flannery said.

It is the third year in a row the report has been jointly released by Forbes and Wailian Overseas Consulting Group, a Shanghai-based investment and immigration company.

Kenneth Jarrett, president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai, said he has witnessed a growing number of US workers coming to China over the past few years, as well as more Chinese

students returning to China to set up their own businesses.

To him, this is an indicator of China's increasing participation in the global economy.

The Chinese government has also attached greater importance to global talent, especially since the Recruitment Program of Global Experts, also known as the Thousand Talents Plan, was introduced by multiple government agencies in late 2008.

As of the end of last year, the country had attracted more than 6,000 high-level overseas workers through the program.

At the same time, the return

of talented Chinese who studied or worked overseas has been noticeably increasing. Experts in the science and technology sector have made up the majority of returning talent, prompted by the government's policies and rising domestic companies, according to the Forbes report.

"While other countries are tightening their immigration policies, China should seize the opportunity to come up with more open and friendly talent policies to attract world-class talent," said Wang Huiyao, founder of the think tank Center for China and Globalization.

## Briefly

### BEIJING SW China expects clouds, rain

The National Meteorological Center on Sunday forecast cloud cover and rain in southwestern areas for the next three days. While the rainfall will mainly be light to medium, parts of Yunnan and Sichuan provinces and the southeastern Tibet autonomous region will see much heavier precipitation, with possible heavy storms in the cards.

### Tourist attractions reduce ticket fees

More than 100 major tourist attractions across China will reduce admission fees as the slow tourist season approaches. A ticket to the Palace Museum in Beijing will cost 40 yuan (\$6) from Nov 1 to Mar 31, down from 60 yuan, according to the museum's website. Ticket prices for the Potala Palace in Lhasa, Tibet autonomous region, and the Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, Gansu province, will both be cut in half, down to 100 yuan from Nov 1 to April 30.

### Emissions to be cut in heating season

Beijing plans to cut over 1,800 metric tons of nitric oxide emissions during this year's winter heating season, Beijing Thermal Group said on Sunday. Boilers were upgraded using low nitrogen combustion technology to cut nitric oxide emissions to 15 milligrams per cubic meter. According to the Beijing Environmental Protection Bureau, Beijing has eliminated many coal-fired boilers in the past four years.

### LIAONING Mining suspended in nature reserves

Mining has been suspended in all nature reserves in Liaoning province, local authorities said. A total of 11 mines are located in nature reserves in the province. All mines will be closed by the end of this year. According to Li Yongtao, deputy director of the Kuandian Manchu autonomous county land resources bureau, the local government will start environmental restoration work as soon as production ceases.

### GANSU Buddhist grottoes' damage assessed

A systematic assessment of damage to caves at Maijishan Grottoes in Gansu province has been conducted for restoration work, according to local authorities. The assessment classifies the 221 caves in the grottoes into three risk levels, with 32 caves among the most severely at risk, including collapse and falling murals. The grottoes are a 1,600-year-old UNESCO World Heritage site comprising about 200 caves and more than 10,000 Buddhist sculptures.

XINHUA

## Foreign students in Guizhou cheer Xi's pledge for openness

By **YANG JUN** in Guiyang and **WANG KEJU** in Beijing

Many foreign students in China were encouraged by the report General Secretary Xi Jinping delivered at the start of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China.

More than 300 students from members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, as well as countries participating in the Belt and Road Initiative, watched the live broadcast of the opening at Guizhou Minzu University on Wednesday.

They were especially pleased when Xi said that China "will not close its door to the world, and we will only become more open".

Students from 18 countries dressed in their local garb were inspired when Xi stressed the importance of both "bringing in" and "going global", and called on the country "to pursue the Belt and Road Initiative as a priority".

"Openness brings progress, while self-seclusion leaves one behind," Xi said in the report to the congress.

Vietnamese student Nguyen Phung Thao, who is studying radio and television editing, was inspired by Xi's report, which she

“When I return home I'd like to reach out more ... to make contributions to Nepal's agricultural development. We have so much to learn from China.”

Karki Sajana, student

said gives a wider range of opportunities for her future career as a bilingual journalist.

"With the high-speed railway between China and Southeast Asian countries being constructed under the Belt and Road Initiative, it will be much more convenient to come and do reporting in China," she said.

Karki Sajana, a business administration major who comes from Nepal and has studied at the university in Guizhou province for more than a year, said she has paid special attention to

China's soaring development and advanced technologies in agriculture because her nation is a predominantly agricultural society.

"When I return home I'd like to reach out more to farming technology to make contributions to Nepal's agricultural development. We have so much to learn from China," she said.

Xia Jingang, dean of the university's international education college, said most of the students who watched Xi's live report come from ASEAN countries, which have a tight connection with China.

"Watching the opening session enables them to have a deeper understanding of China and its attitude toward the world," Xia said. "We hope their participation in one of the most important meetings in China can help reinforce their cultural identity and sense of belonging in China."

Xaychalern Kongken of Laos said he will return home to teach at a college after graduation.

"I hope my students will see an energetic and friendly China through my experiences and will come to China to study," he said.

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## France calling



A visitor asks about studying in France at the China Education Expo held at the China National Convention Center in Beijing on Saturday. More than 500 schools from nearly 40 countries and regions participated in the event. WANG JING / CHINA DAILY

## Researchers find fungus used in traditional medicine can fight cancer

By **ZHOU WENTING** in Shanghai  
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Chinese scientists have found evidence that a fungus used in traditional Chinese medicine widely sought by the public for its healing powers, also carries anti-cancer benefits.

The scientists found there was an interaction between two anti-cancer compounds in the fungus *Cordyceps militaris*.

The first, cordycepin, was noted in *Cordyceps militaris*



Strains of *Cordyceps militaris* grow on a silkworm pupa. The fungus has been found to contain chemicals that carry anti-cancer benefits.

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in 1950, but how it interacted remained unknown. The second, pentostatin, was first

identified from a bacterium and was developed as a commercial drug to treat leukemia and other cancers in the 1990s.

"For the first time, we decoded the biosynthesis mechanism of cordycepin in the fungus, and during the research we unexpectedly discovered pentostatin," said Wang Chengshu, head of the research team at the Institute of Plant Physiology and Ecology, a branch of the Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

"These two compounds

coexist in fungal cells in the form of a protector and pro-teege — that is to say, cordycepin is synthesized with the coupled production of pentostatin to protect the stability of the former," he said.

Their research also showed that the fungus initiates a detoxification process when the cordycepin in the body reaches an excessively high level, which can be toxic.

"It reminds us that excessive intake of the fungus may not be healthful," Wang said.

A paper about the team's findings after nearly eight years

of research was published on the website of the international journal Cell Chemical Biology on Thursday.

*Cordyceps militaris*, bright orange-yellow mushrooms sold as a fresh supplement for soups and stews, is a much more affordable alternative to caterpillar fungus.

"However, in the research, we've proved that neither of the compounds is produced in caterpillar fungus," Wang said.

Cordyceps fungi are popular in China for their widely believed immunity-enhancing and energy-strengthening

properties. Their uses in medical treatment date to the *Compendium of Materia Medica*, a book widely deemed the encyclopedia of traditional Chinese medicine written in the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644).

"There have been long-running arguments as to whether such fungi are antibacterial or anti-cancer, and people use them based on experience in most cases. It's a major advance that our team scientifically proved that *Cordyceps militaris* really carries such properties," said Guo Jinhua, Party chief of the institute.

## Pregnant poses



Nearly 1,000 pregnant women practice prenatal yoga under the guidance of an instructor at a convention center in Wuhan, Hubei province, on Saturday. It was the biggest group yoga event to be held in the province. LI ZIYUN / FOR CHINA DAILY

## Chinese competitors win big at WorldSkills

By **HOU LIQIANG**  
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The purpose of joining the WorldSkills Competition is not to win medals but to help build a team of skilled workers for the country's development, said a senior human resources official.

Tang Tao, vice-minister of human resources and social security, made the comment on Saturday during the welcoming ceremony in Beijing for the return of the Chinese delegation from the 44th WorldSkills Competition in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, which ended on Thursday.

China won 15 gold, seven silver and eight bronze medals during the event, the best performance by a Chinese delegation since the country joined

WorldSkills in 2010.

It's a historic breakthrough that shows the growing strength of the country and the improvement of skilled Chinese talent, Tang said at the ceremony.

China earned gold medals for the first time at the 43rd WorldSkills Competition in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in 2015, taking home five gold, six silver and three bronze medals.

However, he said a lot more work needs to be done as China carries out the Made in China 2025 strategy, which was launched in 2015 to upgrade the country's manufacturing, especially in areas such as intelligent manufacturing and robotics.

"To carry out the strategy and speed up the country's development, young Chinese skilled workers need to shoul-

der an even greater mission and the country needs more high-quality skilled talent," he said.

"With the 44th WorldSkills Competition as a new starting point, let's endeavor to make more contributions to the country's development and honor the country."

Song Biao from Changzhou Technician College in Jiangsu province, who joined the industrial mechanic millwright competition, was awarded the Albert Vidal Award for the highest score in the WorldSkills Competition.

"My parents and relatives repeated to me that you can have a promising future only if you make it into a university. After joining Changzhou Technician College, however, I found many of the senior students who graduated

became accomplished with skills they learned there," the 19-year-old said.

"I have learned that you can succeed if you can get brilliant skills," he said, adding that he will continue to improve his skills to contribute to the country's development.

Around 1,300 competitors participated in more than 50 events this year. China sent the largest-ever delegation — 52 members — ranging in age from 18 to 21. It was the first time that China participated in 18 of the events.

The WorldSkills Competition is held every two years and is the world's biggest vocational education and skills excellence event.

China was also selected in Abu Dhabi on Oct 13 to host the WorldSkills Competition in Shanghai in 2021.