

# 東升西降勢不可當 香港發展乘風破浪

## Irresistible as is the trend of the East rising and the West declining, Hong Kong could ride the wind and waves forward in pursuit of development

博鰲亞洲論壇2023年年會昨日拉開帷幕，這是疫情爆發後論壇首次於線下舉行，吸引了世界目光。近一段時間以來，中國發展高層論壇成功舉行、中國與沙特深化經濟合作、中國與巴西宣布以人民幣作為結算貨幣……一系列盛事的舉辦及合作協議的簽署，充分展現了中國發展的強大動能，也反映了百年未有之大變局下的新發展態勢。香港社會要深入思考如何順應時勢變化，抓住發展機遇，實現自身更大發展，為國家發展、民族復興多作貢獻。

國務院總理李強昨日在論壇上發表主旨講話，指出在不確定的世界中，中國的確定性是維護世界和平和發展的中流砥柱，過去如此，未來和當下更是如此。無論世界發生什麼樣的變化，中國都將始終堅持改革開放、創新驅動，為整個世界經濟發展不斷注入新的動力和活力，讓世界各國分享中國發展的機遇和紅利。這再次向世界發出了中國堅定不移推動改革開放的明確信號，也再次說明中國的發展必將惠及世界，世界發展離不開中國。

事實上，參與今年博鰲亞洲論壇的國際政要明顯增多，包括新加坡總理李顯龍、西班牙首相桑切斯、馬來西亞總理安瓦爾、科特迪瓦總理阿奇等等。博鰲亞洲論壇受到越來越多的重視，反映在全球地緣政治惡化、經濟風險上升的不確定之中，中國作為全球經濟穩定器和發動機的角色更加凸顯。李顯龍在論壇上呼籲各國要與中國發展更緊密的關係，桑切斯啟程前直言世界應該多傾聽中國的聲音。如此多的國際政要來華，說明了對中國發展的高度重視，希望搶奪發展機遇。

而在博鰲亞洲論壇舉行之前，還有多項重要事件引起國際社會關注。中國發展高層論壇年會在北京成功舉行，包括美國蘋果在內的跨國企業管理層紛紛出席，他們用行動表明與中國「脫鉤」行不通；沙特阿美不久前宣布在中國的兩項投資計劃，投資金額高達1000億美元，震動世界；近日，中國和巴西宣布，建立人民幣清算所，直接以人民幣結算交易及發放貸款。中巴兩國不再以美元作為中間貨幣，這是推動人民幣國際化的重要一步，也意味着美元作為國際貨幣地位的削弱。

下個月，中國將迎來一系列重要外交活動，包括意大利、法國以及歐盟的領導人，都將訪華。多國領袖及重要的國際組織領導人紛紛訪問中國，深化與中國的經濟合作，既反映國際經濟實力此消彼長，亦反映得道多助、失道寡助的國際關係準則並不過時。事實證明，美國大搞單邊制裁、長臂管轄及鼓吹「脫鉤」不得人心，中國的主張得到越來越多的國家認同，中國的發展勢不可當。另一方面，中國早前公布《關於政治解決烏克蘭危機的中國立場》，以及推動沙特和伊朗恢復外交關係等等，亦令國際社會對中國在推動世界和平發揮更重要作用產生更大的期望。

祖國好，香港更好。內地堅持擴大開放，經濟發展持續向好，國際影響力與日俱增，對香港而言是重大利好。香港社會可從近來發生的一系列大事中，深刻感受到時代不斷向前邁進的鏗鏘步伐，進一步堅定對未來的信心。在這樣的形勢下，香港更要發揮好「背靠祖國、聯通世界」的優勢，做好「以己之所長，貢獻國家所需」這篇文章，實現更好的發展。

The Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) kicked off its Annual Conference 2023 yesterday. The BFA Conference, the first one held offline since the outbreak of the Covid-19 Pandemic three years ago, draws worldwide attention. In a recent period of time, the China Development Forum 2023 has been successfully held, China and Saudi Arabia have deepened their economic cooperation, and China and Brazil have agreed on using renminbi (yuan) as settlement currency... Such a series of events held and agreements signed fully demonstrates the strong driving forces of China's development, and also shows the new development trend amid profound changes in the world unseen in a century. Hong Kong society must **get down to** seriously pondering how to adapt itself to changes in situation and seize opportunities for development, so as to achieve greater development of its own and make more contributions to our country's development and out nation's rejuvenation.

Premier of the State Council Li Qiang delivered a keynote speech at the opening plenary of the BFA Conference, pointing out that "the certainty that China offers is an anchor for global peace and development. This has been the case in the past and will remain so in the future... no matter how the world situation may evolve, we will stay committed to reform, opening-up and innovation-driven development. We will continue to inject new vigor and vitality into the global economic development, and welcome countries around the world to share in the opportunities and benefits that come with China's development." This once again sends a clear message to the world that China will unswervingly push forward its reform and opening up, and once again **spell out** that China's development is bound to benefit the world and the world's development cannot do without China.

As a matter of fact, the number of foreign leaders and dignitaries attending this year's BFA Conference remarkably increases. Among them there include Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez Pérez-Castejón, Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar bin Ibrahim, and Ivorian Prime Minister Patrick Achi, etc. The fact that the BFA Conference attracts more and more attention shows China's role as a stabiliser and engine for the global economy is even more highlighted amid uncertainties of worldwide geopolitical deterioration and increasing economic risks. At the BFA Conference, Lee Hsien Loong urged countries in the region to continue to promote economic cooperation and good relations with China. **Ahead of** his departure for China, Pedro Sánchez spoke straightforwardly that "The world should listen to China's voice". So many foreign leaders and dignitaries coming to China suggests they attach greater importance to China's development and hope to grab opportunities for development.

And before the BFA Conference started, several important events had also aroused attention from the international community. The China Development Forum 2023 was successfully held in Beijing which was attended by senior management officers of multi-national enterprises including Apple Inc. of the United States. By acting in this way, they make it clear that **"decoupling from China"** is infeasible and impractical. Saudi Aramco not long ago announced two investment projects in China with the amount totaling as high as US \$100 billion, shocking the world. Not long ago China and Brazil announced to establish a yuan clearing arrangement to settle trade and financial transactions directly in mutual currencies instead of using the US dollar as intermediary currency. This is an important step to push forward internationalisation of the Chinese currency, which is also meant the weakening of the US dollar's status as international currency.

And next month, there will be a series of important diplomatic activities in China. Leaders of foreign countries

including those of Italy, France and European Union (EU) will visit China. The fact that leaders of foreign countries and international organisations come to visit China one after the other to deepen economic cooperation with China indicates the rising and declining respectively of international economic powers and also proves the basic norm of international relations is by no means **out of date** that "a just cause enjoys abundant support while an unjust one finds little support". As proved by facts, the United States becomes unpopular by wantonly imposing unilateral sanctions, exercising long-arm jurisdiction and advocating "decoupling from China", while China's positions are appreciated by more and more countries and the tendency of China's development becomes irresistible. Moreover, China earlier issued China's Position on the Political Settlement of the Ukraine Crisis and facilitated Saudi Arabia and Iran to restore their diplomatic ties, which have also boosted the international community's expectation for China to play a more important role in promoting world peace.

Hong Kong benefits even more from our country's betterment. The Mainland persists in expanding its reform and opening up, its economic development continues to steadily improve and its international influence grows with each passing day. All this is a major feel-good, favourable factor for Hong Kong. From a series of major events in a recent period of time, Hong Kong society could fully perceive the determined steps of our times to march forward, and hence further enhance its confidence in the future. Under such a situation, Hong Kong ought to bring into full play its advantages of "enjoying strong support of the Motherland and being closely connected to the world" and make a better effort to "capitalise on our strengths to serve the country's needs", so as to attain better development.

### WORDS AND USAGE

● **Get down to sth** (phrasal verb) –

To start doing something seriously or with a lot of effort. (開始認真／努力地去做某事)

**Examples:**

1. I guess I'd better get down to reading it before I'm too tired.
2. After lunch we got down to discussing the issue of pay.

● **Spell sth out** (phrasal verb) –

To say or explain something very clearly and simply. (講清楚，說明白)

**Examples:**

1. The government has so far refused to spell out its policy regarding environmental protection.
2. Sorry, but could you spell out your exact plan for us? It doesn't really seem to make sense.

● **Ahead of** (phrase) –

If something happens ahead of an event or time, it happens before that event or time. (在...之前)

**Examples:**

1. Price of the company's shares surges ahead of its annual report.
2. The Chief Executive will make a brief comment on the issue ahead of the Executive Council meeting.

● **Decouple** (verb) –

To end the connection or relationship between two things. (脫鉤，切斷聯繫)

**Examples:**

1. Gasoline prices have been decoupled from crude oil prices.
2. The issue threatened to decouple Europe from the United States.

● **Out of date** (idiom) –

No longer valid, relevant or useful. (過時的，失效的)

**Examples:**

1. No wonder your phone isn't working – the software is out of date.
2. The information provided in this travel guidebook is at least 10 years out-of-date.

## 揀好歌 學英文

韻、聽眾容易記得歌詞或是歌詞能使聆聽者產生共鳴，感同身受、也有一些是對社會的批判等等。

另外，某程度上如果依靠聽英文歌去學發音也不是最理想的選擇，因為為求達到韻律效果很多時候英文歌的歌詞，在發音上也會跟平常對話有一點不同。

所以選擇歌曲學英文的時候，要特別小心。《續fun英語》集中介紹一些比較有趣及有意思的英語流行曲，希望讀者認為有趣之餘，也可以自己創作一些小歌曲。

德國樂隊Fools Garden於1995年推出英文歌曲《Lemon Tree》，歌詞簡單可愛，適合學習現在式及現在進行式之餘，也可以把歌曲改寫，或是變成詩歌，一樣「容易上口」。

美國樂隊Starship在1987年推出《Nothing can stop us now》，歌詞主要與關愛與支持有關。無論事情

變得有多困難，只要團結一致，堅強對抗，必能克服所有障礙。

英國樂隊Beatles於1968推出的《Hey Jude》，歌詞主要安撫兒子離婚的樂隊成員John Lennon，支持積極生活也同時鼓勵追求機會。

美國樂隊American Authors在2013年推出非常勵志歌曲《Best Day of my Life》，內容講述生命裏無論發生什麼事情也可以自己選擇一個地方去逃避，就是會有方法把每一天成為生命中最好的一天。



在課堂上我喜歡把歌詞打印出來給學生做填充練習、短篇寫作，也可以小組討論有關歌詞裏的訊息或是對生命的意義等等。



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Miss Carol在小時候已經開始聽歌學英文。有學生分享聽歌也不是學習英語有效的方法，認為歌詞的文法非常惡劣，有一些歌曲意識不良，也不太正面，甚至「教壞學生」。

事實上很多填詞人的目的是希望歌曲可以吸引大眾，而不是為英語學習。對他們來說，最主要是容易唱、押

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