

特區護照信譽和地位不容動搖

中英社評

國務委員兼外交部長王毅昨日出席2018年國際形勢與中國外交研討會開幕式並發表演講時表示，我們時刻關心每一位在海外中國同胞的安危冷暖，對於任何肆意侵害中國公民正當權益的霸凌行徑，中方絕不會坐視不管，將全力維護中國公民的合法權利，選世間一份公道和正義。

王毅外長這番話，每一位中國公民聽在耳裏，都會有強烈的共鳴和深刻的感受。中國公民在國外如「海外孤兒」般無依無靠、任人欺凌的日子已一去不復返，今天，作為一個中國人在國外遭逢不平或不幸，祖國都會及時給予關注和伸出援手，協助解決難題，回歸以來在「一國兩制」下的香港市民對此有切身的體會。

而就在各方關注孟晚舟在加國未獲公平和人道待遇之際，本港有人卻借孟女士持有三本香港特區護照的問題，乘機挑撥港人與內地關係及攻擊特區政府。昨天，反對派團體「新民主同盟」就帶同大本的特區護照模型到入境處抗議，要求解釋，《蘋果日報》更發表社論，指特區政府在簽發護照和出入境管制上的自主權已經「失守」，還扯上日前FCC副主席馬凱因支持「港獨」不獲發工作簽證和所謂西九高鐵站「割地兩檢」等事件來進行抹黑。

事實是，就有關孟晚舟持有一本以上特區護照問題，保安局局長李家超前天已經作出解釋，局長指出，任何人士



▲李家超表示，一人持有一本以上的特區護照並非違法行為，特首也就事件作出了澄清。若反對派藉事件再一次「政治炒作」，抹黑「一國兩制」，將損害特區護照的威信和地位

只可獲發一本有效特區護照，當市民更改個人資料、護照快要到期、頁數將近用完，又或護照有破損，入境處都可接受更換新護照。處方會要求申請人先交出舊護照註銷，再發出新護照，每次更換護照都會有新號碼。若舊護照仍有另一個國家的有效簽證，當舊護照註銷後，當事人出入境時有需要提供新舊護照，讓相關國家的出入境官員審查，證明持有有效特區護照及有效簽證。

對李家超局長的解釋，相信不少市民可能已有過類似經驗。因此，一人持

有一本以上的特區護照未必是違法行為，更不能因此扯到特區政府的出入境管制和護照簽發權上。

而就在昨天，特首林鄭月娥在回答傳媒詢問時也就事件作出了澄清。林太說的情況和李家超局長沒有兩樣，但由特首再次鄭重申明，卻非常及時和大有必要。

事實正如特首所言，按照慣例，特區政府是不會評論出入境個案的，包括日前的馬凱事件。但今次事態顯然不同，而且性質更為嚴重，如果特區政府不

對孟晚舟持有三本特區護照一事及時作出解釋，那肯定會成為反對派以至外國反華勢力的又一次「政治炒作」，抹黑「一國兩制」，損害特區護照的威信和地位。而只要特區護照的可靠程度稍為受損，目前港人外遊一百六十多個國家和地區免簽證的待遇就會受到動搖，後果可以是十分嚴重的。本港反對派如果繼續以孟晚舟護照事件作為攻擊特區政府的藉口，興風作浪、為虎作倀，是其心可誅的。

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WORDS AND USAGE

Attend to sth/sb (phrasal verb)

● To deal with something or help someone.

Examples:

1. We still have a number of other matters to attend to.
2. Please take a seat and I'll ask someone to attend to you.

Give/lend (sb) a (helping) hand (idiom)

● To help someone. (幫助，伸出援手)

Examples:

1. These tax cuts will give industry a helping hand.
2. Lend your mother a hand in the kitchen, will you?

Make an issue (out) of sth (idiom)

● To argue about something or treat it as important when it is not, especially when this annoys other people. (小題大做，無事找事)

Examples:

1. It seemed silly to make an issue of such a trivial matter.
2. There's nothing wrong with your hair, so stop making an issue out of it.

Drag in (phrasal verb)

● To start talking about something that is not connected with what you are discussing and that other people do not want to talk about. ((討論時) 離題拉扯)

Examples:

1. He seemed determined to drag in irrelevant details about my personal life.
2. We were able to stick to the main issue without incidental grievances being dragged in.

Sling/throw mud (at sb) (idiom)

● To publicly say false or bad things about someone in order to harm that person's reputation. (污蔑，抹黑)

Examples:

1. The paper became famous for throwing mud at movie stars.
2. The candidates started slinging mud (at each other) early in the campaign.

HKSAR passport's prestige and status must not be wavered

State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi yesterday attended a symposium on the international situation and China's diplomacy in 2018 and delivered a speech, in which he said: "We are constantly concerned with the safety and well-being of each of our compatriots abroad. The Chinese side is not going to sit and watch indifferently at reckless harassment against Chinese citizens and violation of their legal rights, but will do everything in our power to defend their legal rights and interests so as to get back the fairness and justice due to the world."

Such words by Foreign Minister Wang have struck a responsive chord and aroused deep feelings in the hearts of all Chinese nationals. Gone forever are the days when Chinese citizens abroad had no one to turn to but were helplessly bullied. Today, when a Chinese citizen is treated unfairly or met with misfortune, the Motherland will **attend to** it and **lend a helping hand** to deal with the problem. Hong Kong citizens living under "one country two systems", since Hong Kong's return to the Motherland, have well learned this from their personal experience.

However, when various sectors are concerned with Meng Wanzhou not being treated fairly and humanely in Canada, some people in Hong Kong are **making an issue** out of Ms. Meng holding three HKSAR passports and taking the opportunity to sow discord between Hong Kong and the Mainland and attack the SAR Government. Yesterday, the Neo Democrats, carrying big models of the HKSAR passport, went to protest at the Immigration Department and demand an explanation. The Apple Daily published an editorial to assert that the SAR Government had "lost" the autonomy in passport issuance and immigration affairs, and even **drag in** the denial of work visa to Victor Mallet, a vice president of FCC, and so-called "ceding territory to make co-location arrangement" at the West Kowloon terminus of the [Hong Kong section of the Guangzhou - Shenzhen - Hong Kong] Express Rail Link to **sling mud**.

As a matter of fact, regarding the issue of Meng Wanzhou holding more than one SAR passport, Secretary for Security John Lee Ka-chiu had already made an explanation the day before yesterday. The secretary pointed out that anyone can only be issued a valid SAR passport, and the

Immigration Department will issue a new passport to replace the old one when a citizen changed his/her personal information, or his/her passport is about to expire, running out of pages or damaged. In handling a passport replacement, immigration officers will ask an applicant to surrender his/her SAR passport and cancel it, before giving him/her a new passport with a new serial number. If the old passport contains a valid visa, despite its cancellation, an HKSAR passport holder will have to produce it and the new passport together to show he or she has a valid travel document as well as a valid visa for the immigration officials of a particular country to check.

Many citizens may believably have experienced what Secretary John Lee explained. Therefore, it is not necessarily illegal for a person to hold more than one HKSAR passport, and it is far-fetched to relate this to the SAR Government's rights to handle immigration affairs and issue passports.

Chief Executive Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor yesterday also clarified the issue in response to media inquiry. What she said is no different from what Secretary John Lee had said. Yet it is very timely and necessary for the CE to make a solemn statement.

As the CE said, following adopted practice, the SAR Government would not comment on individual immigration case, including the case of Victor Mallet. But the situation this time is obviously different and more serious in nature. If the SAR Government failed to clarify in time why Meng Wanzhou holds three HKSAR passports, the issue definitely would be "politically exploited" by the opposition and foreign anti-China elements to smear "one country two systems" and damage the HKSAR passport's prestige and status. If the HKSAR passport's reliability is damaged just slightly, visa-free treatment given to HKSAR passport holders by over 160 countries and regions will become shaky. The consequence could be very serious. If Hong Kong's opposition continues to use Meng Wanzhou's passport issue as an excuse to attack the SAR Government, stir up trouble and hold a candle to the devil, then its motive is execrable.

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德國總理默克爾說「髒話」?

起2013年她說互聯網是有待發掘的「未知領域」(unknown territory)而在社交網站上遭到嘲笑(was mocked on social media)一事時，笑言自己經歷了一場Shitstorm。她的發言當然是用德語，而Shitstorm是來自英語的外來詞。在英文裏，這個合成詞表面字義是庸俗的甚至是髒話；Shit是「糞便」也可用作罵人的髒話，Storm是「風暴」；中文直譯可為「屎尿風暴」。

默克爾貴為一國總理而用詞如此「粗俗」(vulgar)，立即引來英美各大報章的批評。

但原來該詞由英語傳入德語後，意思已改變，抹去了粗俗語意。德國人在使用此字時，會以大楷寫出，以示它是

外來語。現在難以確定Shitstorm這個英文詞何時「入侵」德國，但該詞在德國被評選為2011年度「英語外來詞」(Germany's Anglicism of the Year)。按《牛津英文詞典》的解釋，此處Anglicism指：A word or phrase borrowed from English into a foreign language (被外國語言借用的英文詞語)。

而默克爾本人便在2012年當着時任英國首相卡梅倫(David Cameron)的面使用這個在英語國家被認為粗鄙不堪的詞來形容歐元區危機(eurozone crisis)。默克爾此舉對該詞的「脫俗」顯然起了催化作用。2013年，權威的德語《杜登詞典》(Duden)正式收錄該詞並定義為：A storm of outrage in an

Internet communication medium that, in part, goes along with offensive utterances (互聯網傳播媒介上迸發的激憤反應潮，且常帶有冒犯性言語)。

權威的英文詞典也為該詞「洗底」。《牛津英文詞典》的定義是：A situation marked by violent controversy (以激烈爭辯為標誌的情境)，但註明是「粗俗俚語」(vulgar slang)；《劍橋英文詞典》的定義是：A situation in which a lot of people are disagreeing and arguing with each other (許多人發表不同意見和爭論的情境)。看來，只有決心捍衛英文「純潔性」的衛道士仍在執著該詞的字面本意。

亦然

走出校園

從漢語拼音字母洞悉火車類別

隨着內地高鐵網的擴大和港深廣高鐵的通車，不少港人都有乘坐內地火車的經驗，無論是從香港出發，還是在內地中轉。不過，港人大多不熟悉列車的類型，尤其是車票上的信息。要了解列車的種類及其速度，就要先看懂車次字母的意思。該字母並非英文字母，而是漢語拼音字母。

火車車次編號由字母和數字組成，G、D、C字頭的車次均由動車組列車(和諧號、復興號、動感號)行走，速度最快的是「高(Gao)速列車」，時速在300至350公里之間。西九龍站開出的全為高速列車，如G6582次(香港西九龍至廣州南)、G804次(香港西九龍至北京西)等。以D開首的是「普通動(Dong)車」，時速在250公里以下，如D906次(深圳北至上海)。C開首的是「城(Cheng)際列車」，屬頻密往返兩座城市之間的普通動車或高速列車，港人常坐的深圳至廣州東城際列車每5至15分鐘一班，時速180公里，相當於普通動車，車次編號從C7012到C7052。北京至天津的城際列車時速在300至350公里之間，相當於高速列車。

另一方面，以其他字母為車次編號的則為普通火車，車廂由內燃機車(香港稱柴油機車)或電力機車牽引，車體一般漆上綠色。最快的是以Z開首的「直(Zhi)達特快列車」，有的中途不停站，有的只停幾個大站，最高時速160公里。從紅磡開往粵京滬的全部是直達特快列車，如Z808次(九龍紅磡至廣州東，中途不停站)、Z804次(九龍紅磡至佛山，中途停2站)等。T開首的是「特(Te)快列車」，最高時速140公里，如T96次(深圳至漢口)。K開首的是「快(Kuai)速列車」，最高時速120公里，如K9064次(深圳西至綏仁)。最後是「普通旅客快車」和「普通旅客列車」，車次編號包含四個數字，不含漢語拼音字母，後者速度最慢，一般每站皆停，車廂大多沒有空調，票價低廉，如8823次(大同至寧武)。

從火車車次的漢語拼音字母，已可大致了解列車的級別、速度和票價。在普通話科的漢語拼音教學中，可舉此為例，提高內容的實用性。

大專講師 梁勇



▲內地火車編號字頭為G、D、C，速度最快的是「高(Gao)速列車」，以D開首的是「普通動(Dong)車」，C開首的是「城(Cheng)際列車」

時事英語

每種現代語言都有各種不同的「外來詞」(loanword)，即從別的语言「信手拈來」的詞語。

一般來說，外來詞保留其原意，但有一些外來詞的含義在使用的過程中會被「曲解」而有所變化。日前，有關德國總理默克爾(Angela Merkel)的一則「花邊新聞」(a tidbit of news)就是一個有趣的例子。

12月4日，默克爾在一個數碼科技會議(a digital forum)上發言時，回憶