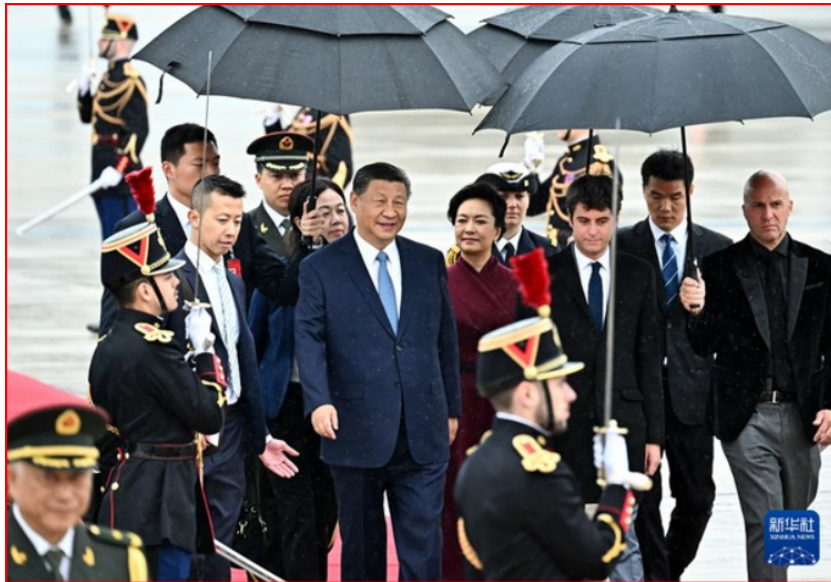


## Geo-Politics: May 9, 2024: Xi Jinping Visits Europe

May 9, 2024

EDITORIAL COMMENTS: On the chessboard of Geo-Politics, moves in Europe may affect the fate of Taiwan or the security of Philippines in South China Sea. Or these could affect China's support to Russia in the Ukraine war. Or the stand-off between the armies of China and India can suddenly change its nature. [www.DiGiNews360](http://www.DiGiNews360) continues to keep its Readers informed.

May 5-10, 2024: **Paris**, France: China's President Xi Jinping began his 5-day trip to Europe with a State visit to France at the invitation of President Emmanuel Macron of the Republic of France. This is his first trip to Europe in five years, and, it is Xi Jinping's 3<sup>rd</sup> State Visit to France. It was after the 3-day visit of the German Chancellor **Olaf Scholz** to China, (*from Sunday, April 14, 2024 to Tuesday, April 16, 2024*), for tiding over differences, that have arisen over China's help to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.



*May 5, 2024: Paris Orly Airport, Paris, France: President Xi Jinping*

Breaking with protocol, President **Emmanuel Macron** and his wife, **Brigitte**, who greeted **Xi Jinping** and his wife, **Peng Liyuan**, at the airport in windy weather, took them to lunch high up in the **Pyrenees mountains**, dear to **Macron** as the **birthplace of his maternal grandmother**.

Macron's gifts for Xi Jinping were: a **woollen blanket** made in the Pyrenees, a **Tour de France jersey** and **armagnac** from the nearby southwestern region - a brandy which is at risk of Chinese trade sanctions.

President Macron has indicated that he wants a European policy to help Ukraine, different from that of USA. He has also shown his readiness to send French troops to help Ukraine.



*May 6, 2024: Elysées Palace, Paris France: Presidents Macron and Xi Jinping*

President Xi Jinping asked France to jointly **prevent a new cold war** or bloc confrontation. He also said that France and China should jointly **oppose decoupling and cutting off supply chains**.

President Xi: China is ready to deepen cooperation with France in areas such as **climate response and biodiversity**. China supports France in **hosting a U.N. Ocean Conference**. China is also willing to increase dialogue and communication with France in areas including **AI governance** and the **reform of the international financial system**.

President Macron: France is ready to step up cooperation with China in aerospace and aviation, and nuclear energy for civilian use.

An important issue for Europe is to have a greater access to China's market to reduce the adverse balance in trade. **The European Union's 27 members ran a trade deficit of 396 Bn euros (\$426.25 Bn) with China in 2022, according to European Commission data, compared with a 250.3 Bn euros deficit a year earlier.**

French President **Emmanuel Macron** and EU Commission chief **Ursula von der Leyen** urged **Xi Jinping** to promote more balanced trade with Europe and to use his influence on Russia to address the conflict in Ukraine.

May 7, 2024: Belgrade, Serbia: Late in the evening, **President Aleksandar Vučić** and his wife, the Prime Minister, former President, Speaker of the Parliament, Foreign Minister and others welcomed President **Xi Jinping** and his wife at the airport. Special Serbian performances were arranged at the airport to make the reception memorable.



*May 8, 2024: China's President **Xi Jinping** and President **Aleksandar Vučić** of Serbia at a Press Conference after their talks at the **Palace of Serbia**, Belgrade*

Serbia has been trying to deepen its relations with China through participation in **China's Belt and Road initiative**, while attempting to join NATO. A large majority of Serbs do not want Serbia to join NATO.

May 9, 2024: Budapest, Hungary: In a written statement, President Xi Jinping said that he looked forward to meeting with President **Tamás Sulyok**, Prime Minister **Viktor Orbán** and other Hungarian leaders, and they would jointly outline a new blueprint for cooperation and development.

**Orbán** and his wife waited at Budapest Airport to welcome **Xi**. Hungarian Air Force sent fighter jets to escort Xi's plane after it entered the country's airspace for a state visit.

Hungary has been receptive to Chinese investment. Xi's visit focused on economic cooperation, including infrastructure development and trade. Hungary's Prime Minister **Viktor Orbán** wants to defend his "*policy of openness*" at a time when, he feels, Hungary's "most natural sales market [Western Europe] is sick."

Hungary has **avoided EU sanctions against Moscow** and has **not provided any military support to Kyiv**.

Hungarian Foreign Minister **Péter Szijjártó** announced plans to sign at least 16 bilateral agreements, highlighting the historic significance of **Xi's visit to Hungary**. **Szijjártó** noted China was Hungary's biggest foreign investor in 2023.

Just before the visit, Hungarian Economy Minister **Marton Nagy** said, "China can count on Hungary," because it rejects any effort that would exclude Chinese products from the European market in a form of "protectionism. **However, when Germany and France are both courting China for a greater access to China's markets**, the possibility of EU's implementing any trade retaliation is remote.

China has offered cooperation on public security and law enforcement to Hungary. **Tibor Hendrey**, a representative for the **Tibet Aid Society**, participated in a demonstration against Xi's visit to Hungary and said that Hungary needed a good relationship with the **great empire of China**. He added that China has **a completely different culture, a completely different approach to human rights**. Hendrey was afraid that China wanted to export that kind of thinking to Hungary, and that the Hungarian government was willing to accept that.

Hungary's staunchly pro-Beijing policy has made it the leading EU destination for **Chinese electric vehicle manufacturers**. The world's leading battery manufacturer, **China's Amperex Technology Limited (CATL)** has set up its second – and largest – European factory in the eastern part of Hungary.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS: The large economy and the huge manufacturing monopoly of China provides to China the power, due to which USA and the west find themselves at a disadvantage, while facing China's aggressive approach. The Global South's democracies will have to avoid the attraction of financial inducements by **Communist Party of China (CPC)**. [www.DiGiNews360](http://www.DiGiNews360) continues to keep its Readers informed.

\*\*\*\*\*



**Note 1.:** Please see “*A Festival of Democracy: India: General Election 2024: in Geo-Political Considerations & Interference*” dated May 5, 2024 at

<https://diginews360.com/india-geo-political-considerations-elections-2024/> for

Title #1: “Voices from Pakistan: The Most Vexing Test for India-Pakistan Relations”

Title #2: China’s Attempt to influence Elections through Leftist Media; “NewsClick: Arrests, Allegations, and Press Freedom”

**Note 2.:** Please see “*A Festival of Democracy: Geo-Political Considerations: India: General Election 2024: Interference by Canada*” dated May 5, 2024 at

<https://diginews360.com/india-general-election-2024-interference-by-canada/> for

Title #3: Canada: Foreign Interference in the Election to the Federal Parliament – **the initial Report** by the *Honourable Marie-Josée Hogue*, the Judge of the Quebec Court of Appeal: Judge **Marie-Josée Hogue** refused to mention India, when there is no evidence whatsoever against India, in spite of the efforts by the *Khalistani Leader in Canada*

Title #4: Canada: Killing of a terrorist, living in Canada and responsible for terrorism in India: On May 3, 2024, **the worst that Canadian Government**, in spite of the efforts by the *Khalistani Leader of Canada*, could say was as follows:

REGARDING INDIA: *Assistant Commissioner David Teboul*, the *RCMP Commander for the Pacific region*, said he wouldn't comment on the alleged links between these men and Indian officials.

When the Canadian Government’s Title #3 and Title #4 proved to be a damp squib, Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau** himself chose to **smile** at the **public shouting of the slogan of Khalistan Jindabad** in **Toronto** on the soil of Canada wants to emphasize that it is a miniscule minority from the Sikhs of Canada that supports Jagmeet Singh. He has captured the Leadership of the New Democratic Party by using a *well-organized, and, funded campaign*.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS: [www.DigiNews360.com](http://www.DigiNews360.com) notes that the slogans were shouted through a microphone, put near the stage, so that the eloquent silence of the Sikhs and Punjabis in the audience could be hidden. [www.DigiNews360.com](http://www.DigiNews360.com) calls on Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau** to clearly separate his stance from that of Jagmeet Singh and to come forward with initiatives, which establish him as the Statesman, who re-

established close relations with the fellow Commonwealth country of India, which is the most vibrant and the largest democracy of the world.



*May 5, 2024: Toronto, Canada: Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau** at Celebration of the festival of **Baisakhi***

Title #5: **Interference by Khalistanis:** PART 1.:Amritpal's entry to the Lok Sabha polls causes a big flutter in Punjab at <https://diginews360.com/india-general-election-2024-interference-by-khalistanis-amritpals-entry/>

with a Brief BACKGROUNDER on Shiromani Akal Dal (Amritsar) on pages 2-3

Title #5: **Interference by Khalistanis:** PART 2.: **Khalistanis'** Role through **Kejriwal** at page 2 of <https://diginews360.com/india-general-elections-2024-khalistanis-role-islamists-plot/>

with a Brief BACKGROUNDER on receipt of funds by **Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)** and its Chief **Arvind Kejriwal** from 'Sikhs for Justice' (SFJ)

**Notes:** 1. Please read about the great **success stories of India and Senegal**, two vibrant democracies at <https://diginews360.com/senegal-and-india-great-democracies-of-the-world/> dated April 2, 2024.

2. Please refer to “Canada: China Interferes in Elections; Relations with India” dated April 7, 2024 at <https://diginews360.com/canada-china-interferes-in-elections-relations-with-india/>.
3. Please read “Canada: China Interferes; Celebration of Indian Democracy” dated April 11, 2024 at <https://diginews360.com/canada-china-interferes-celebration-of-indian-democracy/>.

\*\*\*\*\*