

INSIGHTS

Dutch Intervention in Nexperia Sparks Questions over U.S. Influence

Clear Voice

By LIANG Yilian & HU Dingkun

The Economic Affairs Ministry of the Netherlands invoked the rarely used Goods Availability Act to intervene in Chinese-owned semiconductor maker Nexperia's affairs, barring the company from transferring assets, dismissing executives, or making major decisions for one year without the Dutch government's approval.

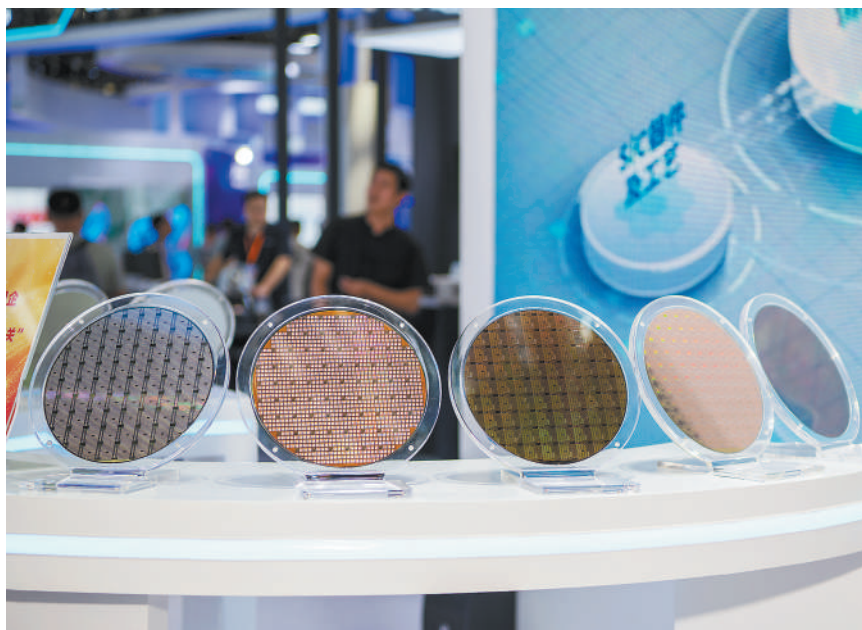
The Amsterdam Court of Appeal also ruled to remove Nexperia's Chinese CEO, appointing a non-Chinese executive on an interim basis.

Headquartered in Nijmegen, Nexperia produces chips mainly for Europe's automotive and consumer electronics industries and is among the world's largest suppliers of diodes and transistors.

The Dutch government cited "serious administrative shortcomings" for the intervention, saying its action is intended to prevent supply disruptions and safeguard Europe's economic security.

The move came shortly after the United States imposed additional export restrictions on subsidiaries with at least 50 percent ownership by a sanctioned Chinese firm. This includes Nexperia's parent company, which is on Washington's "Entity List."

Responding to speculation about U.S. influence, the Netherlands denied



The photo shows wafer products displayed by participating companies at the WeSemiBay Semiconductor Industry Ecosystem Expo 2025 at the Shenzhen Convention and Exhibition Center, October 15, 2025. (PHOTO: VCG)

U.S. involvement, calling the timing "purely coincidental."

However, Amsterdam Court of Appeal documents released on October 14 suggest close coordination between Dutch and U.S. officials. Records show that in June, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs met with the U.S. Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation.

According to the minutes, the U.S. side said that "the fact that the company's CEO is still the same Chinese owner is problematic," and that a leadership

change was necessary for Nexperia to qualify for an entity list exemption.

The documents also reveal that Nexperia's so-called "administrative shortcomings" referred mainly to its reluctance to adopt changes sought by the Dutch government to align with U.S. sanctions. References to Washington's "50 percent rule" appear repeatedly, including a note that the early implementation of the rule during a U.S. government shutdown forced the Netherlands to act hastily.

Under Washington's demand, Nex-

peria's CEO cannot be Chinese, and Chinese investment may ultimately have to exit the firm. For a Chinese-owned enterprise, such a "de-Sinicization" transformation is unreasonable, absurd, and unacceptable.

In reality, it is the excessive U.S. sanctions that have disrupted Nexperia's normal operations and jeopardized Europe's economic security. Instead of opposing this hegemonic pressure, the Dutch government has chosen to intervene directly in a Chinese business to accommodate U.S. demands — misidentifying the real culprit.

This move by the Dutch authorities not only violates the legitimate rights of Chinese investors but also damages the Netherlands' own international image and business environment.

A Reddit user named "Bixbeat" remarked, "As a Dutch citizen, can't say I'm thrilled about this move in the slightest... We've tanked our international reputation quite handily with this."

In today's interconnected world, openness, cooperation, and mutual benefit are the prevailing trends and shared aspirations. Politicizing, weaponizing, and securitizing technology and trade undermine global economic growth and innovation.

The Dutch government should follow the tide of cooperation, promptly correct its excessive intervention in Chinese enterprises, and have the courage to say "no" to unjust attempts to contain China.

Voice of the World

Chinese Smartphones Dear to Latin American Hearts

By QI Liming

In recent years, the demand for smartphones in the Latin American market has been strong. Chinese smartphones have gained popularity among local consumers with their excellent designs and high cost-effectiveness, resulting in a year-on-year increase in market share.

A recent report released by the international market analysis agency Canals shows that Latin America's smartphone market grew by two percent year on year in Q2 2025 to 34.3 million units. Among the top five smartphone brands by sales volume, apart from Samsung, the rest are Chinese brands: Xiaomi, Motorola (owned by Lenovo), Honor and Transsion. Xiaomi's smartphone sales increased by eight percent, reaching a record of 6.7 million units.

Chinese smartphones have witnessed rapid sales growth in markets such as Brazil, Mexico, Peru and Ecuador. In Q2 of this year, Motorola accounted for approximately 24 percent of the total sales volume of smartphones in Brazil. Xiaomi and Realme respectively accounted for 17 percent and six percent.

According to a survey released in September by Nexus, a Brazilian data statistics and investigation agency, over 60 percent of Brazilian respondents prefer Chinese mobile phones and other electronic devices. Of the respondents, 67 percent believe that China has a greater advantage in sci-tech innovation.

A Mexican consulting company said Chinese smartphones have entered the list of the most popular mobile phones in the local market. "Chinese mobile phone manufacturers have con-

ducted in-depth research to understand the needs of Mexican consumers, providing mid-to-high-end smartphone products with more affordable prices and superior performance, and have gradually been accepted in the highly competitive market."

Jorge Cardemé, the general manager of DuoCell, an Ecuadorian mobile phone wholesale and distribution company, said local consumers value cost-effectiveness and attach importance to a phone's operating speed, storage capacity, camera quality, and screen design. Chinese mobile phones have obvious competitive advantages in these aspects and are highly favored by consumers. Of the over three million smartphones imported by Ecuador in 2024, the majority were from China.

As Chinese brands become increasingly popular in multiple Latin American markets, in order to deepen their brand influence and create a favorable business environment, Chinese companies are exploring better production-sales integration with the local factories. More and more Chinese mobile phone manufacturers have established local production lines or strengthened industrial cooperation with local producers, enhancing local manufacturing capabilities.

Claudia Januzzi, president of the China Innovation Economic Research Institute in Brazil, said the strengthened cooperation between China and Latin American countries in the smartphone industry chain will enable enterprises to better understand the consumer needs in the region, produce suitable and marketable products, and help enhance the regional industrialization level, achieving win-win development.

China's Wind Power Thrives at Home and Abroad

Opinion

By Staff Reporters

Is the allegation true that China manufactures wind power equipment for the world but uses little of it domestically? *Science and Technology Daily* reporters spoke with leading industry players and the facts gathered reveal a different story: China not only uses its wind power equipment extensively and effectively, but is also driving the global green energy transition.

The first trading day of October saw China's A-share wind power sector surge, with the share prices of leading wind turbine manufacturers collectively leading the rise, demonstrating the strong development momentum of China's wind power industry.

According to data from the National Energy Administration, in the first half of this year, 51.39 gigawatts (GW) of newly grid-connected wind power capacity were added. By the end of June, the

nation's cumulative installed wind capacity had reached 573 GW, a year-on-year increase of 22.7 percent.

Furthermore, wind power generation hit 588 billion kilowatt-hours in the same period, up 15.6 percent year on year, with a national average utilization rate of 93.2 percent.

This growth exemplifies a journey from being a technology follower to becoming the industry leader.

From follower to leader

At the Zhuangyuan'ao Port in Wenzhou, Zhejiang province in east China, the construction of a deep-sea industrial cluster that will integrate the entire wind power industry chain is in full swing. It will be a key support for China's offshore wind power to move toward the ocean.

Windey Energy Technology Group Co., a key enterprise in this sector, has witnessed and led this development.

"Without independent innovation, there would be no wind power in China as it is today," said Luo Yongshui, assistant general manager of the company.

Windey Energy Technology has

launched landmark products like the world's largest onshore turbine and a massive deep-sea floating wind turbine platform, constantly pushing the technological frontier.

In 2024, China added 79.8 GW of new wind power capacity, accounting for 68.2 percent of the global total. This means that nearly two out of every three new turbines installed worldwide were in China.

From near-shore to high seas

The recent Super Typhoon Ragasa served as an acid test. All 1,345 offshore wind turbines of the Mingyang Smart Energy Group operating in the South China Sea maintained stable operation, demonstrating the resilience of Chinese technology.

While China's near-shore development potential is significant, the deep-sea potential is three to four times greater.

"China is a vast country with diverse terrains and landscapes. Especially when dealing with some extreme environments, we need to continuously enhance our hard power," said Ye Fan, vice

president of Mingyang Smart Energy.

From domestic strength to global benefit

Chinese wind companies are also making their mark abroad. The Envision Group recently partnered with Australian iron ore producer Fortescue to supply 132 MW of wind turbines and a full-chain solution for a major wind project in Western Australia's Pilbara region.

"In international projects, we hope that through technological innovation, residents around the world will have the opportunity to use green electricity... aiding the energy transition processes of relevant countries," said Lou Yimin, senior vice president of the Envision Group.

Since 2010, China's annual newly installed capacity of wind power has consistently ranked first in the world, developing into the world's most complete supply chain system. Chinese wind turbines have been exported to over 40 countries and regions around the world, providing significant support for the stable development of the global wind power industry.



A worker inspects motherboards at OPPO's mobile phone factory in Manaus, Brazil. (PHOTO: XINHUA)

Biomimetic Fabric Delivers Instant Warmth and Exceptional Durability

Hi-Tech

By Staff Reporters

A research team led by Professor Feng Wei of Tianjin University has developed a new molecular solar-thermal (MOST) fabric that combines efficient photothermal conversion with outstanding mechanical strength.

The innovation, inspired by the "salt absorption and secretion" mechanism of halophytic plants, marks a breakthrough in wearable heat management technologies. The findings were recently published in *Advanced Materials*.

Enhancing both the mechanical robustness and thermal regulation capability of MOST fabrics had long posed a challenge. Existing materials often achieve strong solar-to-heat conversion at the cost of flexibility and durability.

Drawing inspiration from salt-tolerant plants that thrive in saline-alkali soils, the team devised a biomimetic design that enables simultaneous improvement in light-to-heat efficiency and structural resilience — solving the long-

standing trade-off between performance and durability.

Laboratory tests demonstrated remarkable results. Under 420-nanometer blue light, the fabric's temperature rose by 25.5 °C within 70 seconds, and even under simulated sunlight at -20 °C, it heated up by 21.2 °C in just 50 seconds. The material also exhibited exceptional endurance — retaining over 90 percent of its photothermal efficiency after 50 friction cycles, 500 stretch-bend tests, and 72 hours of continuous washing — overcoming the poor stability and short lifespan typical of conventional MOST materials.

Moreover, the fabric allows precise thermal control by adjusting light intensity, making it suitable for both everyday warmth and localized heat therapy, such as arthritis patients.

"The core of this research lies in translating nature's adaptive biological mechanisms into material performance regulation strategies," Feng said.

According to him, this biomimetic approach not only offers a scalable route for producing MOST fabrics but also redefines the boundaries of wearable thermal management.

Advancing Global Women's Cause with Dedication

From page 1

Breaking barriers, building futures

Globally, women remain underrepresented in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Yet in China, institutional efforts are dismantling these barriers.

"There are no extra barriers as a female scientist here," said Goodale. "The policies and culture are genuinely supportive of young female researchers and faculty members."

Platto's journey is a case in point. Since arriving in China in 2007, she has pioneered research and education in animal welfare, a field that was then nascent in China. "I was the first female foreign scientist in China working on animal welfare," she said proudly. "With government support, I was able to launch projects and educational programs that are now making a real impact."

China's commitment is backed by concrete policy actions. In 2021, the Ministry of Science and Technology and other agencies issued a landmark document encouraging women to "hold up half the sky" in science and technology. It called for more female-led projects in national research programs and relaxed age limits for women applying for research funding.

In 2024, the National Natural Science Foundation of China extended the eligibility age for female researchers applying for the Excellent Young Scientist Fund from 45 to 48, a move widely praised as a recognition of women's often non-linear career paths due to caregiving responsibilities.

"That's a very thoughtful gesture," said Chevalier. "It shows that decision-makers understand the realities of women's lives. This kind of accommodation is not common everywhere — it's a sign

of real progress."

Roots in respect, growth in understanding

Olga Dubkova, a Russian scholar and professor at Xi'an International Studies University, first arrived in China in 1997. Although it was her first visit, she felt no culture shock, as she had already taught Chinese students Russian for five years and had admired Chinese values.

"What amazed me about China was its landscape, people and inclusive environment," she said. Now a leading expert in Chinese studies and translation, Dubkova received the Chinese Government Friendship Award in 2024 — a moment she describes as profoundly emotional. "This award isn't just mine," she said. "It belongs to my university, my colleagues and my students."

Inspired by decades of bridging cultures through academic exchanges, Dub-

kova shares a simple yet profound belief: "To understand another culture, you must first understand your own. And once you open your heart, the world opens its doors to you."

A model for the world

As the conference highlighted the need for empowering women in all spheres, these foreign scholars were compelling examples of China's support for women in academia.

These foreign female experts are contributors to China's scientific and social fabric and their stories reflect a nation that not only welcomes talent from around the world, but nurtures it with empathy, flexibility and respect.

"Pursuing a career in science is like running a marathon," said Goodale. "It takes endurance, support and belief. In China, I've found all three."

To young women everywhere, Chevalier offered this encouragement: "Study hard, chase your dreams, and don't be afraid." Platto added: "Teach girls early to embrace challenges and not fear failure."