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AI, Economy, and Global Conflict Daily Briefing

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This edition omits: Global AI News Briefing. Available sections are published first.

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China AI, Robotics and Semiconductors In-Depth Briefing

China AI, Robotics and Semiconductors In-Depth Briefing 2026-09-14

Monday, September 14, 2026

Top 5 Highlights Today

1. President Trump stated that AI development cannot be slowed down, rejecting calls to temper the pace citing competition with China.
2. China's Exit and Entry Administration Regulation takes effect tomorrow, September 15, enabling authorities to bar departures of key AI personnel for violations of export controls and technology transfer rules.
3. The UK's Chatham House analyzed the potential bubble in China's humanoid robot industry, highlighting Unitree's market capitalization drop of nearly \$30 billion following its public listing.
4. The Shenzhen municipal government unveiled its Three-Year Intelligent Robot Action Plan (2026–2028), focusing on migrating robot software to domestic Chinese operating systems and constructing data hubs.
5. DeepSeek confirmed continued operation of V4 Pro beyond today's planned deprecation date, maintaining existing pricing following user requests.

China AI Models & Platforms

DeepSeek V4 Pro Confirmed to Continue Operation Beyond Deprecation Date

DeepSeek had previously announced on September 10, alongside the release of V4.1 Flash, that it would redirect V4 Pro requests to Flash. The scheduled transition time was today, September 14 at 04:00 UTC. However, the official

changelog notes that V4 Pro will be maintained at existing prices in response to user demand.

V4 Pro is priced at \$0.66 for cache-miss input and \$1.98 for output during off-peak hours. Flash is priced at \$0.15 for input and \$0.60 for output. All rates are per 1 million tokens.

V4.1 Flash is a mixture-of-experts (MoE) model with 552 billion parameters. Because it selectively activates only a subset of experts, it utilizes only 8 billion parameters for input and 16 billion parameters for output.

Transition to the Agent Era and Token Consumption Projections

The China Telecom Research Institute released a report via CCTV projecting that inference compute will account for 80% of the total computing market by 2029. Inference compute refers to the calculations AI performs when actually delivering outputs rather than during training. The institute projected that AI agents will drive a tenfold annual increase in computing demand.

Annual token consumption is projected to grow from 10 trillion in 2026 to 350 trillion in 2030. The center of gravity in AI competition is shifting from raw model performance to agent commercialization.

Robotics, Humanoids & Embodied AI

Chatham House Analyzes Potential Bubble in China's Humanoid Robot Industry

The UK Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House) published a September report titled "Is China's humanoid robot industry a bubble?"

Following its listing on the Shanghai STAR Market, Unitree's market capitalization dropped by nearly \$30 billion from \$66 billion. As of September 1, it stands 45% below its peak.

Chinese-made robots accounted for more than 90% of global shipments in the first half of 2026. However, actual market demand has not kept pace with supply. At the World Humanoid Robot Conference in Beijing in August,

Tiangong Ultra ran 100 meters in 8.64 seconds. While technical demonstrations lead the field, profitable business models have yet to materialize.

The report assesses that humanoid robots have not yet reached their 'ChatGPT moment.' The gap between technical demonstrations and commercial revenue lies at the core of the bubble debate.

Shenzhen Unveils Details of Three-Year Intelligent Robot Plan

The Shenzhen Bureau of Industry and Information Technology and the Science, Technology and Innovation Bureau announced the plan on August 28. The objective is to build the world's most influential intelligent robot industrial hub by 2028.

Four key initiatives were outlined. First, migrating core ROS (Robot Operating System) tool functions to domestic Chinese operating systems. ROS is a common open-source suite for building robot software; this initiative aims to reduce dependence on foreign platforms.

Second, constructing facilities to collect embodied AI data. Embodied AI refers to AI that learns while interacting physically through a robotic body. Data will be collected through simulations, video feeds, first-person viewpoints, general manipulation interfaces, and exoskeletons.

Third, deploying humanoid robots in more than 10 real-world sites within 2026, targeting at least three high-value application cases.

Fourth, positioning Shenzhen as the core hub of the robotics open-source ecosystem across the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

AI Semiconductors & Computing Infrastructure

HBM Shortages Squeeze China's AI Chip Ecosystem

Prices of Chinese AI chips have surged by 20% to 50%. The Huawei Ascend 950DT is priced at 250,000 yuan (approximately \$35,000), while Cambricon's

690 chip has also risen by 20% to 30%. The primary cause is difficulty in securing High Bandwidth Memory (HBM). HBM is high-performance memory stacked alongside AI chips to enable high-speed data transfer.

CXMT has initiated risk production of HBM3E, but yields remain at 25%. Risk production is a trial manufacturing phase conducted prior to high-volume commercial production. Yields are currently bottlenecked in the vertical alignment of Through-Silicon Vias (TSV). According to SemiAnalysis estimates multiplying front-end yields of 35% and back-end yields of 70%, the overall yield is 25%. The target for mass production is 2027.

SK hynix and Samsung Electronics account for more than 90% of the global HBM market. The technology gap held by Korean memory makers is projected to persist for three to five years until CXMT improves its yields.

Telecom, Networks & Edge AI

Shift to AI Agents Reshapes Telecom Infrastructure Demand

Training AI models takes place in massive centralized data centers. In contrast, inference must be distributed closer to end users. The advent of the agent era is widening this divergence.

The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology's (MIIT) 15th Five-Year Plan announced targets to expand intelligent computing power to 9,800 EFLOPS by 2030, with a specific objective of achieving sub-1-millisecond latency at the urban edge. Edge computing performs computation near the user rather than in distant data centers.

China Mobile's AI data center revenue surged 486% year-on-year. China Telecom and China Unicom are likewise accelerating transitions into "token factories."

Policy, Regulation & National Strategy

Exit and Entry Administration Regulation Takes Effect Tomorrow, Making AI Talent Travel Bans a Reality

State Council Decree No. 841, the Exit and Entry Administration Regulation, takes effect tomorrow, September 15. Among its 19 provisions, the core measure bars departure from the country for individuals who violate export control or technology transfer regulations.

Key personnel in AI, rare earths, and electric vehicle batteries are subject to the restrictions. Exit bans can last up to three years and are extendable. Analysts note that vague phrasing in the provisions grants authorities broad discretion.

Three co-founders of Manus AI have been under an exit ban since March, leading to the collapse of a potential \$2 billion acquisition by Meta.

DLA Piper and Fragomen have advised multinational corporations to review travel and relocation plans for their China-based employees.

Personnel at Chinese subsidiaries of Korean companies in the AI and semiconductor sectors could also fall under these provisions.

US-China Tech Hegemony

Trump Rejects Slowdown: "Whoever Wins in AI Wins"

On September 13, President Trump told reporters: "The United States is ahead of China in AI. We intend to keep it that way. Whoever wins in AI wins."

The previous day, Dario Amodei (Anthropic), Sam Altman (OpenAI), and Elon Musk (xAI) jointly suggested slowing the pace of frontier AI development. Trump rejected the proposal outright. House Speaker Mike Johnson also warned that rushing AI regulation would play into China's hands.

Amodei acknowledged on CNBC the same day: "What if China doesn't slow down with us? That is the hardest dilemma." He added that American companies should not slow down in isolation, indicating that coordination between Washington and Beijing is ultimately necessary.

Sarah Heck, Head of Policy at Anthropic, separately stated: "We must prevent the sale of advanced chips to adversary nations."

US-China AI Safety Dialogue Schedule Remains Uncertain

The US-China AI safety dialogue, which had been coordinated for mid-September, has not been scheduled. A White House official told Reuters, "There is no AI meeting planned for mid-September." A Treasury Department spokesperson stated only that "a meeting may take place in October."

Tensions surrounding allegations of model distillation appear to be stalling talks. Distillation is a method of cheaply training one's own model by copying the outputs of another AI model. Ahead of the September 24 summit, the likelihood is growing that only the leaders' meeting will take place without preliminary working-level talks.

Attorney Kyung-jin Kim's Commentary

The timing of the Exit and Entry Administration Regulation's enforcement warrants close attention. This regulation incorporates violations of the Export Control Law and Technology Transfer Regulations as grounds for exit bans. Because of the broad language, it has wide scope to apply across AI researchers and engineers.

While Trump insists on maintaining the pace of AI development, he criticizes model distillation by Chinese firms. This stance—maintaining speed while protecting proprietary technology—naturally leads toward tighter export controls. China warns of retaliation while claiming distillation is standard practice, and simultaneously restricts the departure of domestic talent. Both sides are sensitive to technology transfer, but employ contrasting methods.

Korea supplies both sides in HBM and foundries. As CXMT's HBM mass production faces delays, the bargaining power of Korean memory makers will be sustained for the time being.

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World Economy Top 10

World Economy Top 10 **2026-09-14**

Period: 2026-09-13 05:30 KST - 2026-09-14 05:30 KST

Today's Top 10 Key Developments

1. This is a weekend collection window. US and European equity markets were closed, and no new economic indicators were released. Major developments within this window include surging oil prices originating from the Middle East, the BRICS Summit, and preparations for interest rate decisions by major central banks next week.
2. International oil prices held above \$100 per barrel over the weekend as fresh attacks continued in the Strait of Hormuz. In the early morning of September 13, an Iranian merchant vessel was struck, leaving 1 dead and 4 injured; Brent crude stood at approximately \$104.61 and West Texas Intermediate at approximately \$100.05 based on closing prices on September 11.
3. The US Federal Reserve enters its interest rate decision week. According to CME FedWatch, the probability of a 0.25-point rate hike on September 16 solidified at approximately 86.5 percent following an 0.3 percent month-over-month rise in August core consumer prices, with the target range set at 3.50 to 3.75 percent (as of September 11).
4. Iran and Gulf states will discuss navigation through the Strait of Hormuz in Muscat, Oman, on September 14. Foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council and Iraq will attend while the United States is excluded, and an Oman-mediated proposal for temporary shipping lanes will be discussed (reported on September 13).

5. BRICS adopted the New Delhi Declaration at the New Delhi Summit held from September 12 to 13. The 11 member nations expressed opposition to the dollar-dominated order and US sanctions, while calling for reforms to the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the UN Security Council, as well as the protection of trade and energy flows.

6. Projections prevail that the Bank of Japan will raise interest rates to 1.25 percent at its September 18 meeting. This marks the highest level in about 31 years, and the yen against the dollar held near a seven-month high at approximately 153.4 yen on September 10. The UK faces its decision on September 17.

7. The US 10-year Treasury yield neared the 5 percent threshold, closing at approximately 4.98 percent on September 11. The 2-year yield stood at 4.63 percent, and the US Dollar Index against six major currencies was 99.095 as of September 12, marking the highest long-term interest rate level since November 2023.

8. Tariff tensions between the United States and Canada widened further. Following Canada's retaliatory tariffs of approximately 27.6 billion Canadian dollars taking effect on September 8, new US tariff measures were announced for September 15, and Canada's import bans on dairy and alcohol were announced for September 29 (summary report on September 13).

9. US President Trump said on September 13 that Iran wants a deal, and attributed global diesel shortages to the situation in Ukraine. Iran threatened to designate a new restricted zone outside Hormuz, prolonging navigational uncertainty (based on Trump's remarks).

10. Safe-haven assets gold and silver maintained elevated levels ahead of the Fed's decision. Based on closing prices on September 11, spot gold was approximately \$4,348 per ounce and silver was approximately \$64.39, with elevated Treasury yields and a strong dollar capping further gains.

11. The Bank of Korea stated in a September 13 report that the volume of Korean semiconductors and components reaching the United States via factories in Southeast Asia rather than China has increased. The analysis indicated that supply chain decoupling is proceeding through logistical realignment rather than formal policy announcements.

Market Indicators

Due to the weekend, US and European equity markets were closed, and there are no new closing indices. As of the last confirmed closing prices on September 11, the US 10-year yield was approximately 4.98 percent, and the 2-year yield was 4.63 percent. The US Dollar Index was 99.095 on September 12. Gold was approximately \$4,348 per ounce, and silver was approximately \$64.39. Brent crude stood at approximately \$104.61 and West Texas Intermediate at approximately \$100.05, maintaining strength over the week.

Central Banks and Policy

Interest rate decisions from major economies are concentrated in the coming week. The US Federal Reserve will decide on September 16, the UK on September 17, and the Bank of Japan on September 18. Markets place significant weight on a 0.25-point rate hike by the Fed and an increase to 1.25 percent by the Bank of Japan. Hawkish Jackson Hole remarks by Fed Chair Warsh and the August rebound in core inflation supported rate hike expectations.

Commodities and Energy

Supply disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz pushed oil prices above \$100 per barrel. Houthi attacks on Saudi Aramco facilities and the US naval blockade serve as the backdrop. The International Energy Agency stated in its September report that production of over 100,000 barrels per day in the Gulf region has halted, projecting global oil demand in 2026 to decline by 2.5

million barrels per day. OPEC lowered its 2026 demand growth forecast for a fifth consecutive month to 380,000 barrels per day in its September 10 monthly report.

Key Watchpoints for the Next 24 Hours

The outcome of the September 14 meeting in Muscat, Oman, between Iran and Gulf nations will determine the trajectory of oil prices. Additional attacks in the Strait of Hormuz and potential tanker seizures also remain key developments to watch. Ahead of the Fed's decision on September 16, movements in US Treasury yields and the dollar, alongside the yen's trajectory heading into the Bank of Japan's September 18 meeting, will be pivotal.

[Source Links]

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International Conflict Briefing

International Conflict Briefing 2026-09-14

Today's Key Situation

1. North Korea's Korean Central News Agency officially announced on September 14 that the short-range ballistic missile fired into the East Sea on September 12 was a firepower strike training exercise of long-range artillery units.
2. The Russian military struck a Warsaw-bound passenger train with a drone near the border between Ukraine and Poland, prompting the Polish government to convene an emergency security meeting.
3. The Russian military launched over 300 kamikaze drones across Ukraine throughout the day on September 13, destroying a tile factory in Zhytomyr and residential areas in Odesa, and injuring more than 24 people.
4. Oman announced the postponement of navigation safety talks in the Strait of Hormuz between Iran and Gulf Cooperation countries due to refusal of participation by countries including Bahrain.
5. Iraqi security forces seized a drone launch platform after a search, which was used in the attack on Saudi Arabian oil pipelines.

Developments by Front

- Korean Peninsula: North Korea stated that the missile launched on September 12 was a drill of long-range artillery units performing a key target strike mission.
- Ukrainian Front: The Russian military conducted kamikaze drone airstrikes with over 300 drones across western and southern Ukraine. A western train

route near the Polish border and a factory in Zhytomyr were hit.

- Middle East and Strait of Hormuz: Strait navigation talks between Iran and Gulf nations that Oman attempted to lead were suspended. The Iraqi military seized a drone launch platform near the border used to strike Saudi oil facilities.
- Yemen and Saudi Coast: Yemeni government forces and Houthi rebels continued fighting on the outskirts of Marib and Taiz. Yemeni government forces struck Houthi vehicles near Dhubab and Mokha.

Civilian Casualties and Humanitarian Situation

- In Ukraine's Odesa Oblast, 24 civilians, including 2 children, were injured in Russian military airstrikes. An attack on a residential area in Kramatorsk killed 2 civilians and injured 10 people.
- In the Jazan region of Saudi Arabia, a shell fired by Houthi rebels struck a civilian building and a mosque, injuring 2 people.
- In the Gaza Strip, Israeli military airstrikes killed 2 Palestinian civilians.

Diplomacy, Sanctions, and Military Support

- Immediately following the airstrike on the Warsaw-bound train, the Polish government held an emergency security meeting to discuss strengthening air defense networks near the border.
- Oman's Ministry of Foreign Affairs postponed the schedule for talks on Hormuz Strait navigation safety with Iran due to division among Gulf countries.

Points to Watch in the Next 24 Hours

- Whether South Korean and U.S. military authorities maintain additional surveillance on North Korea and a response posture immediately following North Korea's show of force.

- Whether NATO and the European Union announce measures to strengthen air defense support against Russia following the train strike near the Polish border.
- Operational risks for commercial vessels in the Persian Gulf and potential international oil price fluctuations following the postponement of the Strait of Hormuz talks.

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Global Incidents and Disasters Briefing

Global Incidents and Disasters Briefing 2026-09-14

Today's Summary

In the Java Sea off Indonesia, a passenger ferry carrying 243 people capsized and 130 people went missing. Large wildfires broke out in Spain and Croatia, forcing hundreds of residents to evacuate. A coal mine explosion in Pakistan and a building collapse in Brazil each caused casualties.

Heavy Rain, Floods, Typhoons

1. Flash Flooding Submerges Roads in Connecticut, United States

The event occurred at 05:00 KST on September 14, 2026, which was 16:00 local time on September 13. Heavy flash rain hit parts of Connecticut, United States. Floodwater submerged roads and stranded drivers in their vehicles. Casualties are still being tallied. Local rescue teams saved 13 stranded drivers. Authorities closed roads and carried out recovery work.

Wildfires

2. Wildfire Spreads in Benahavis, Spain, Residents Evacuate

The event occurred at 06:00 KST on September 14, 2026, which was 23:00 local time on September 13. A wildfire broke out in the mountainous area of Benahavis, in the province of Malaga, Spain. Flames spread toward residential areas and about 50 residents evacuated. Three people were injured in the fire. Spanish fire authorities deployed helicopters to fight the blaze.

3. Wildfire on Brac Island, Croatia, 700 People Evacuate

The event occurred at 21:00 KST on September 13, 2026, which was 14:00 local time on September 13. A wildfire broke out on Brac Island in the Dalmatian archipelago, Croatia. Strong winds pushed the flames into forest near residential areas. Casualties are still being tallied. About 700 residents and tourists evacuated urgently. Croatian fire authorities used firefighting aircraft to battle the blaze.

Accidents

4. Ferry Capsizes in Java Sea, Indonesia, 130 Missing

The event occurred at 00:00 KST on September 14, 2026, which was 22:00 local time on September 13. A passenger ferry carrying 243 people capsized in the Java Sea off Indonesia. Indonesian authorities reported that 6 people died and 130 went missing. Rescuers pulled 107 people from the scene. Indonesian rescue authorities sent patrol boats and helicopters to search for the missing.

5. Coal Mine Explosion in Balochistan, Pakistan, Kills 4 Miners

The event occurred at 00:00 KST on September 14, 2026, which was 20:00 local time on September 13. Methane gas exploded in an underground coal mine in Balochistan province, Pakistan. The blast caused part of the mine tunnel to collapse. Four miners working underground died in the accident. Pakistani authorities recovered the bodies and began a safety inspection of the mine.

6. Light Aircraft Crashes in Var, France, 2 Dead

The event occurred at 03:00 KST on September 14, 2026, which was 20:00 local time on September 13. A small biplane crashed while flying in Var, France. The pilot, a retired air force officer, and one passenger died in the crash. French police and aviation authorities secured the site. Authorities have begun investigating the cause of the crash.

7. US Congressman's Seaplane Crashes in Wisconsin

The event occurred at 06:00 KST on September 14, 2026, which was 16:00 local time on September 13. A small seaplane crashed into a lake near Wausau, Wisconsin, United States. US Representative Tom Tiffany was aboard the plane. Representative Tiffany suffered minor injuries. Local rescue teams pulled the occupants to safety and are investigating the circumstances of the crash.

8. Building Collapses in Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2 Dead

The event occurred at 01:00 KST on September 14, 2026, which was 13:00 local time on September 13. A residential building suddenly collapsed in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Two people, including one pregnant woman, died in the accident. Eight injured people were taken to hospital. Brazilian firefighters searched the rubble for anyone trapped.

Infectious Disease

9. Legionnaires' Disease Spreads in South Bronx, New York, United States

The event occurred at 06:00 KST on September 14, 2026, which was 17:00 local time on September 13. An outbreak of Legionnaires' disease occurred in the South Bronx area of New York City, United States. Legionella bacteria were found at 10 sites, including a cooling tower at Yankee Stadium. Casualties are still being tallied. New York City health authorities disinfected the cooling tower in question.

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