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CHINA URGES GULF NATIONS TO SEAL FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

- 16.12.2025

The Straits Times (15 December 2025)

Chinas Foreign Minister Wang Yi has pressed the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to conclude long-running talks on a free trade agreement with China, attributing the urgency to rising protectionism and unilateralism as free trade comes under attack, according to a Dec 15 statement from his ministry.

Mr Wang is on a three-nation Middle East tour that began in the United Arab Emirates and is expected to end in Jordan.

He met GCC secretary-general Jasem Mohamed Albudaiwi in Riyadh on Dec 14 and separately saw top Saudi officials.

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