

《中国将在南中国海举行军事演习》

导读:在国际法院对其领海主张给出威胁的裁决前，中国将要在有争议的南中国海举行军事演习。



China will hold military drills in the disputed South China Sea, ahead of a ruling by an international court on a challenge to its maritime claims.

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They will be held in waters around the Paracel Islands, said a statement by the maritime safety administration.

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China regularly holds such exercises even though Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan have overlapping claims in the seas.

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But tensions are running high ahead of the ruling expected next week.

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The Permanent Court of Arbitration, based in The Hague, Netherlands, has said it will issue a decision on 12 July on a challenge made by the Philippines to China's claims in the strategic and resource-rich region.

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However, China has consistently boycotted the proceedings, insisting that the panel has no authority to rule in the case.

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The drills will be held from 5-11 July, with ships prohibited from entering the waters in that time, the Chinese statement said.

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What is the South China Sea dispute?

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Rival countries have wrangled over territory in the South China Sea for centuries, but tension has steadily

increased in recent years.

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Its islets and waters are claimed in part or in whole by Taiwan, China, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei.

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China has backed its expansive claims with island-building and naval patrols, while the US says it opposes restrictions on freedom of navigation and unlawful sovereignty claims by all sides.

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The frictions have sparked concern that the area is becoming a flashpoint with possible global consequences.

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