

《解放军报评论员：以强烈的使命担当攻坚克难》

**“PLA Daily Commentator: Advancing with a Strong Sense of  
Mission and Responsibility”**

**坚决查处张又侠、刘振立等腐败分子，清除的是影响事业发展的拦路虎、  
绊脚石**

**Firmly Investigating and Punishing Corrupt Officials such as  
Zhang Youxia and Liu Zhenli Removes Obstacles and Stumbling  
Blocks that Hinder the Development of our Cause**

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lánlùhǔ, bànjiǎoshí)

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The ICS is an interdisciplinary research institution, which has a leadership role in the promotion of Chinese and East Asian Studies in India. ICS Translations aims to introduce views of the P R China scholars, analysts, and commentators coming from across disciplines.

### From the Editor's Desk:

This is the second editorial/commentary published by the PLA Daily on the topic. The first PLA Daily editorial on the downfall of Zhang Youxia and Liu Zhenli was published on Sunday, 1 February 2026, which was widely reported and analysed in the international press. This PLA Daily commentary, published on Monday, February 2 has been drawing attention in both Mandarin and English language press in Hong Kong, Singapore etc. More interestingly, within a few hours of its publication in the PLA Daily, it has attracted comments from the party members from all over China and which can be described as bold, angry, and unsparing in demanding severe punishment to be meted out to corrupt military personnel at all levels. Some of the comments are translated and reproduced below. At another level, the PLA Daily commentary has generated another debate with focus on "red generation" cadre. A question was asked on the web page of sina.cn, "Does general Zhang Youxia belong to "second-generation red" background? The reply to the question from the sina.cn editorial team was: "Zhang Youxia is the highest-ranking general in the People's Liberation Army with a "second-generation red" background, and the last remaining senior general from a "second-generation red"

family in the current leadership of the Central Military Commission. The investigation of Zhang Youxia also symbolises the complete elimination of senior generals with "second-generation red" backgrounds from the leadership of the Central Military Commission".



Source: chinaarticles.substack.com

### Reader's Comments to the PLA Daily Commentary:

1. As a high-ranking general, Zhang Youxia violated the bottom line and broke the law despite holding high a position, seriously damaging the image of the Party and army. He should be beheaded to atone for his sins and serve as a warning to others. (Liuzhou, Guangxi)
2. Corrupt officials like this should be severely punished. (Shanghai)
3. All public officials and state cadres who are involved in corruption should have their entire families

implicated, including four generations of their descendants. Only then corruption can be curbed. (Bengbu, Anhui)

4. We firmly support the decision of the Party Central Committee. (Jiaxing, Zhejiang)
5. The military should conduct self-examination. (Nanyang, Henan)

### **Translation:**

With a strong sense of mission and responsibility, we will overcome difficulties and forge ahead.

The pace of self-revolution will never stop, and the process of striving for strength is unstoppable. Resolutely investigating and punishing corrupt officials like Zhang Youxia and Liu Zhenli removes obstacles and stumbling blocks hindering the development of our cause, eliminates superficiality in combat capability building, and inspires a spirit of struggle and perseverance, injecting powerful momentum into the development of a strong military. All officers and soldiers must unify their thoughts and actions with the major decisions and deployments of the Party Central Committee, the Central Military Commission, and Chairman Xi, deeply understand the general trend that the more thorough the anti-corruption

efforts, the more solid the foundation for overcoming difficulties, and the stronger the military, and recognise the new atmosphere and positive energy brought about by the in-depth promotion of political rectification, discipline enforcement, and anti-corruption. They must devote all their thoughts and energy to building a strong military and winning battles, and practice loyalty to the Party and striving for a first-class military through concrete actions.



Source: nbcnews.com

Our army is a people's army under the absolute leadership of the Party, and an impregnable Great Wall of the Party and the country. On the new journey of the new era, President Xi Jinping's leadership in building a strong military, and the scientific guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Strengthening the Military, have always been the source of strength, direction, and future for the cause of building a strong military, and the most fundamental political guarantee. The People's Army is

steadfast in safeguarding national sovereignty, security, and development interests; its original aspiration to seek happiness for the people and rejuvenation for the nation remains unchanged; its belief in listening to the Party and following the Party's lead is unwavering; and its determination to build a strong military and strive for excellence remains steadfast. It has even greater confidence and strength to shoulder the new era's mission and tasks entrusted to it by the Party and the people.

The Fourth Plenary Session of the 20th CPC Central Committee made strategic plans for achieving the centenary goal of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) on schedule and for advancing the modernisation of national defense and the armed forces with high quality. Goals guide the direction, and goals unite our strength. Now, as we draw ever closer to achieving the centenary goal, we face numerous arduous and challenging risks and opportunities. It is imperative that we strengthen our sense of mission and responsibility, enhance our political discipline, improve our combat capabilities, consolidate our purity and glory, and go all out to ensure success and deliver a satisfactory result.



Zhang Youxia and Liu Zhenli  
**Source:** medium.com

This year marks the beginning of the 15th Five-Year Plan and is a crucial year for achieving the centenary goal of the People's Liberation Army (PLA). All officers and soldiers must forge strong political loyalty, strengthen their convictions and confidence, and be courageous in taking responsibility, fulfilling every task and mission well in their respective posts. We must deepen the political building of the military, persistently arming our minds, guiding our practice, and promoting our work with Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, fully implementing the strategy of building a politically strong military in the new era, continuously deepening political rectification, resolutely rectifying conduct, enforcing discipline, and combating corruption, and vigorously promoting the glorious traditions and fine style of our Party and our army, providing a strong political guarantee for the cause of

building a strong military in the new era. We must solidly grasp the start of the planning process, highlighting the theme of promoting high-quality development, scientifically formulating and implementing the 15th Five-Year Plan for the PLA, implementing the requirements of political building throughout the entire process of planning and implementation, accelerating the transformation and construction of the armed forces, and promoting the modernisation of national defence and the armed forces with high quality.

We must comprehensively strengthen military training and preparedness, adhering to combat effectiveness as the sole fundamental standard, closely monitoring changes in warfare, technology, and adversaries, solidly promoting realistic military training, accelerating the construction of advanced combat capabilities, and being ready to fight and win at any time. Military Party members and cadres, especially senior cadres, should take the corrupt officials who have been investigated and punished as negative examples, keep their original aspirations and missions in mind, establish and practice a correct view of performance, strictly guard against ideological defenses, the bottom line of the

use of power, the red line of laws and regulations, and the boundaries of family style, and carry out their work, careers and lead the team with practical actions of firm belief, pragmatism, responsibility and self-discipline, and inspire and motivate the troops with their excellent work style and image.

A strong military ensures victory in battle; we are committed to the cause. We forge ahead, fulfilling our mission. The People's Army has marched from victory to victory through hard work and dedication, and it will surely achieve a century of glory through the same. On this new journey, we must remember our mission, ignite our spirit, and unite our efforts to overcome every obstacle, uniting and forging ahead to make new contributions to the Party and the people.

### **Reactions to the PLA Daily Commentary in Hong Kong and Singapore Press:**

Zhang, William, "Zhang Youxia investigation to end 'watered-down' capability of China's military: PLA," in South China Morning Post, <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/politics/article/3342072/zhang-youxia-investigation-end-watered-down->

[capability-chinas-military?](#)  
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Chronology of PLA Daily editorial/commentary publications related to the downfall of Zhang Youxia and Liu Zhenli

### **24 Jan 2026**

China's Ministry of National Defense announced that Zhang Youxia and Liu Zhenli were suspected of serious violations of discipline and law, and that the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China had decided to initiate investigations against them;

### **30 Jan 2026**

The PLA Daily article emphasising that the PLA is an armed group that carries out the political tasks of the CCP, and corruption, especially, cannot exist in the military;

### **31 Jan 2026**

PLA Daily commentary stated that the investigation and punishment of Zhang Youxia and Liu Zhenli was a major victory in the fight against corruption,

and of great significance for eradicating the root causes of corruption within the military and achieving a complete transformation;

### **1 Feb 2026**

PLA Daily commentator article stated that the serious investigation and punishment of Zhang Youxia and Liu Zhenli demonstrated the CPC's clear attitude of firmly defending the political integrity of the military, reflected the determination and will to resolutely win the overall battle against corruption in the military, and promoted the formation of an atmosphere where the comprehensive and strict governance of the Party becomes increasingly strict and discipline becomes increasingly stringent.

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*The views expressed here are those of the original author and not necessarily of the translator or of the Institute of Chinese Studies.*

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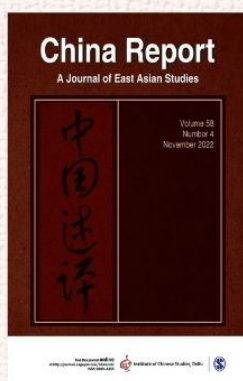


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