

# China Cancels Trade Talks with UK in Protest over Defence Secretary Williamson's Speech

By [The Straits Times](#)

Global Research, February 15, 2019

[The Straits Times](#) 14 February 2019

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*Chinese Vice-Premier Hu Chunhua has cancelled trade talks with Britain's Finance Minister, Mr Philip Hammond, after Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson threatened to deploy an aircraft carrier in Beijing's backyard, The Sun newspaper reported on Thursday (Feb 14).*

Mr Hu was due to hold trade talks with Mr Hammond this weekend.

Instead, the newspaper said, Mr Hu cancelled the talks in protest at [Mr Williamson's speech on Monday](#).

Mr Williamson had said in a fiery speech that Britain must be prepared to boost its "lethality" and threatened to send the warship to the Pacific in response to Beijing's military ambitions.

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