外交部的英文翻译有多牛?连"呵呵"都译出了精髓!

今年,"外交天团"金句频出,字字铿锵、句句在理,展现了不卑不亢的大国气度。

同时,外交部的翻译也常常令人叫绝,精准地向世界传递出中国声音。

本文为大家盘点了 2021 年外交部精彩翻译, 一起来学习!

1. 吃着中国的饭,还砸着中国的锅

They should know better than to bite the hand that feeds them.

3月29日,在谈到一些外国企业仅仅依据谎言就拒用新疆棉花的话题时,赵立坚评论道:做生意要讲究尊重,一面赚着中国消费者的钱,一面对中国抹黑攻击、损害中国利益。 "吃着中国的饭,还砸着中国的锅",天下哪有这样的美事?

They should know better than to bite the hand that feeds them. There is no way to get away with this.

Bite the hand that feeds one 是一句地道英语习语,指有人为你提供衣食、让你依靠,你却伤害或冒犯对方,可以简单理解为忘恩负义,恩将仇报。

2. 揣着明白装糊涂

play dumb and feign innocence

5月25日,在被问及福岛核污染水排放相关话题时,赵立坚说,"日方为一己之私做出的 危险决定,将遗害子孙后代和全球生态。"

这笔账如果日方不算明白,国际社会必会帮他算明白。如果日方揣着明白装糊涂,国际社会 肯定不会答应。

If the Japanese side can't understand this, the international community will help it to get this point. If it still plays dumb and feigns innocence, the international community will never allow it.

feign /feɪn/ 假装 装作

3. 以其人之道,还治其人之身

paying them back in their own coin

6月8日,赵立坚针对关于反外国制裁法立法目的提问做出回应:

为了坚决维护国家主权、尊严和核心利益,反对西方霸权主义和强权政治,今年以来,中国政府已多次宣布对有关国家的实体和个人实施相应反制措施。"以其人之道,还治其人之身"。

In order to resolutely safeguard national sovereignty, dignity and core interests and oppose Western hegemonism and power politics, the Chinese government has launched multiple corresponding countermeasures against entities and individuals of relevant countries since the beginning of 2021. It's paying them back in their own coin.

Paying someone back in their own coin,这句英语习语,指有人很糟糕地对待你,你也以同样方式回敬对方,与中文的"以其人之道,还治其人之身""以牙还牙"有异曲同工之妙。

4. 世界民众只能表示"呵呵"了

they will only be shrugged off by people around the world

7月12日,在被问及彭博社发布"全球抗疫排名",美国排名第一的话题时,赵立坚回应道:

所谓的排名结果,把黑的说成白的、白的说成黑的,也许今后还能把死的说成活的。我想世界民众只能表示"呵呵"了,姑且把它当作茶余饭后的谈资吧。

The so-called ranking makes black look white, and white look black, and perhaps it will call the dead alive. They will only be shrugged off by people around the world and offer something for small talk.

Shrug off 指 "对……不予理睬(If you shrug something off, you ignore it or treat it as if it is not really important or serious.)",有 "不屑一顾"的意思。

用在这里,该词准确地将拟声词"呵呵"中带有的"无语,漠然置之"的意思表达得淋漓尽致。

5. 无中生有、以己度人

be made up out of thin air; measuring others' corn by one's own bushel

7月29日,外交部发布的《美国就单方面要求中方关闭驻休斯敦总领馆散布的谎言与事实真相》中写道:

美方影射中国驻休斯敦总领馆外交官曾在美盟友如澳大利亚等国从事特工活动,是无中生有、以己度人的猜测。

The US allegation that Chinese diplomats at the Consulate-General in Houston have carried out espionage in Australia and other US allies is made up out of thin air. It is like measuring others' corn by one's own bushel.

Measuring others' corn by one's own bushel /ˈbʊʃl/ 字面意思是:用自己的斗去量别人的谷,也就是"以己度人"。

6. 真金不怕火炼

True gold doesn't fear the test of fire.

今年 6 月,俄罗斯总统普京接受美国全国广播公司采访时就涉疆、台湾等问题表达了对中 方的支持,对企图破坏中俄关系的尝试予以驳斥。对此,赵立坚称:

"真金不怕火炼"。我们也奉劝那些干方百计离间分化中俄关系的人,任何企图破坏中俄关系的图谋都注定不会得逞。

As a Chinese proverb says, "True gold doesn't fear the test of fire." We have to tell those who try every means to drive a wedge between China and Russia that any attempt to undermine China-Russia relations is doomed to fail.

这句习语也可以译作: True gold can stand the test of fire。

另外,"离间"翻译成英语也可以用一个非常形象的表达: drive a wedge between (someone or something) ,形容的是在两个事物中间打入一个楔子,也就是挑拨离间。

7. 不以为耻,反以为荣

taking pride in instead of feeling ashamed for something

有报道称,日本前首相安倍晋三对于其涉台不当言论受中方关注,表示"不胜荣幸",对此,赵立坚 12 月 6 日回应道:

日本个别政客对自身错误言行不以为耻,反以为荣,这再次暴露出他们的是非观出了问题。

Certain Japanese politicians' taking pride in instead of feeling ashamed for their erroneous deeds and words once again reveals their problematic sense of right and wrong.

8. 搬起石头砸自己的脚

The stone they are lifting will end up falling on their feet.

针对澳大利亚政府官员公开鼓吹中国威胁论,赵立坚9月10日称:

我们奉劝澳方政客不要渲染"中国威胁"、将中国树立为"假想敌",这只能搬起石头砸自己的脚。

We hope Australian politicians will stop sensationalizing the so-called China threat and seeing China as the "imagined enemy", or else the stone they are lifting will end up falling on their feet.

9. 这本身就是对民主的嘲讽,是最大的不民主

Nothing could be further from true democracy than this travesty of democracy.

针对美国发起所谓"民主峰会", 赵立坚 11月 30 日称:

美国执意用黑白胶卷刻画多彩世界,用一己标准垄断民主定义,无视不同国家文化、历史和 文明的巨大差异,自编自导充当所谓民主"判官",这本身就是对民主的嘲讽,是最大的不 民主。

The US insists on depicting the multicolor world in black and white film and monopolizing the definition of democracy with its own standard in disregard of the huge differences in culture, history and civilization of different countries. It acts as the judge of democracy in its self-choreographed play. Nothing could be further from true democracy than this travesty of democracy.

travesty / trævəsti/ 歪曲 拙劣的模仿作品

这里可以学习一句习语: nothing could be further from the truth,字面翻译是没有什么比这件事离真相更遥远了,也就是说,事实远非如此,错得离谱。

10. 为"台独"势力搭台,只会让自己下不来台

Those offering platform to "Taiwan independence" forces will find themselves in an awkward place.

针对美方邀请台湾当局参加所谓"领导人民主峰会",赵立坚 11 月 24 日称:为"台独"势力搭台,只会让自己下不来台。与"台独"一起玩火,终将引火烧身。

Those offering platform to "Taiwan independence" forces will find themselves in an awkward place. Those playing with fire with "Taiwan independence" forces will end up getting burned.

这里还可以学习一句"玩火者必自焚"的表达: Those playing with fire will get burnt。