

China's State Council calls for Shenzhen integration with Hong Kong, Macau

China's State Council has called for greater development of the southern city of Shenzhen and the integration of its culture and economy with neighbouring Hong Kong and Macau.

The **directive** comes as anti-government protests in Hong Kong threaten the status of the Asian financial hub.

directive 指令

Hong Kong, one of the world's busiest ports, is **on the verge of** its first recession in a decade as violent anti-government protests scare off tourists and bite into retail sales and investment.

on the verge of 接近于

The State Council 19-point directive, published in state-media outlet People's Daily, calls for Shenzhen's "economic strength and development" to rank among the best in the world by 2025, and a "global **benchmark**" by the middle of the century.

benchmark 基准

The directive called for the "modernisation of social governance" in Shenzhen via the "comprehensive application of big data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence and other technologies."

It called for the integration of the culture and economy of Shenzhen with Hong Kong and Macao via funding for hospitals, joint **disaster relief** efforts and cultural exchanges, and to further develop the Hong Kong-Macao **Greater Bay Area** and "enrich the new practice of the '**one country, two systems**' policy."

disaster relief 赈灾

Greater Bay Area 大湾区

one country, two systems 一国两制