

The Information Office, International  
Department of the CPC Central Committee

OCTOBER 2019



# China insight

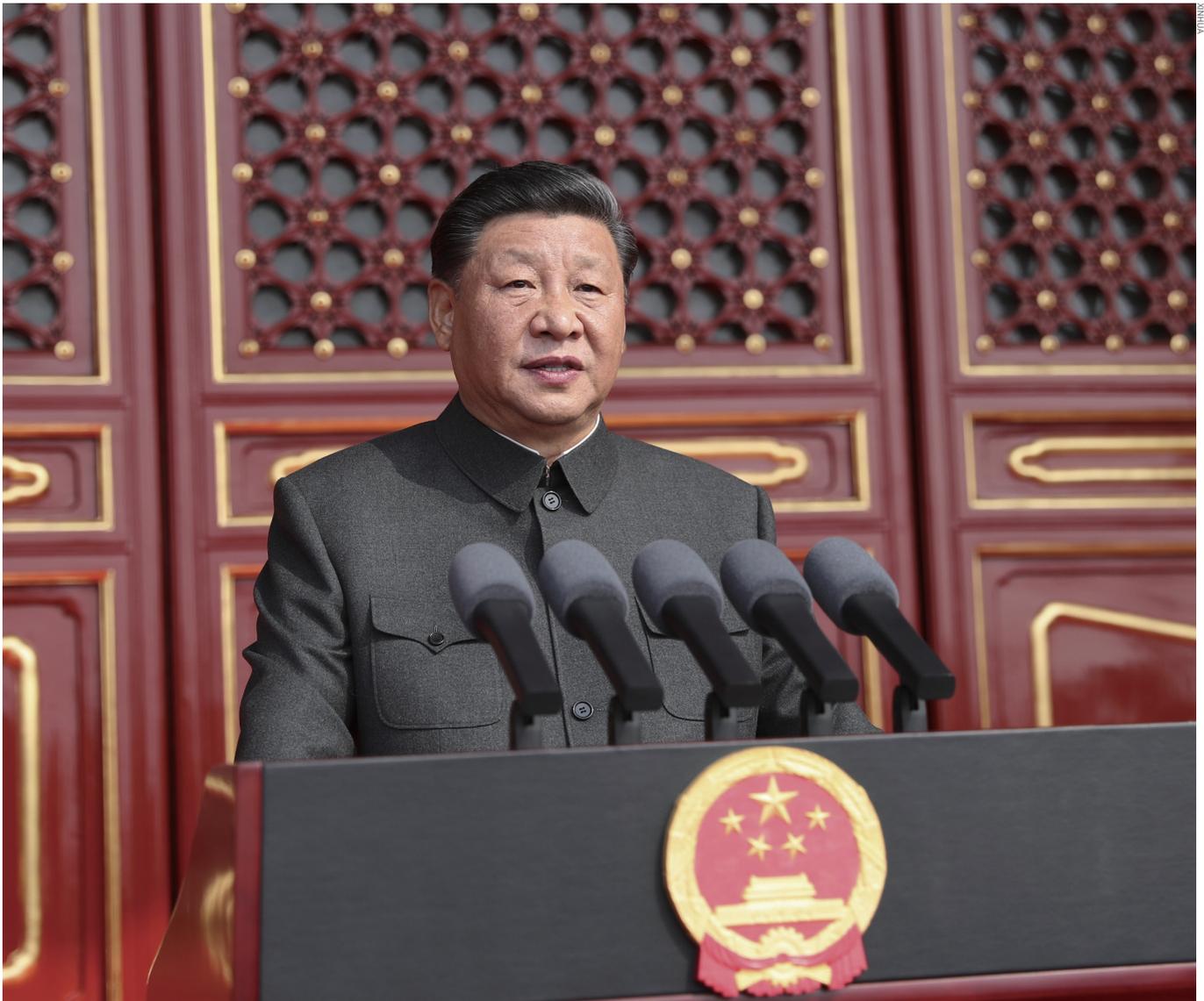


# Pride and Pledge

The nation celebrates the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China By Wen Qing



People participate in a mass pageant to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China in Tiananmen Square in Beijing on October 1



President Xi Jinping delivers a speech at a grand rally in Tiananmen Square in Beijing on October 1

“My country and I are so intertwined that we can’t be separated for a moment.” This was a line from the song *My Motherland and Me* heard often during the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China (PRC), expressing the prevailing national mood of pride and joy.

When Mao Zedong declared the birth of the PRC to the world from Tiananmen Square on October 1, 1949, it was a signal that the Chinese people had stood up from the poverty, weakness and humiliation they had suffered for more than 100 years and

the journey to national rejuvenation had begun.

Seventy years later, when President Xi Jinping stood in the same place on the same day and emphasized that no force can undermine China’s status or stop the Chinese people and nation from marching forward, there was thunderous applause, both from the tens of thousands of people at the ceremony and the hundreds of millions more watching the live broadcast from different places.

“I couldn’t help but cry when I heard these sentences,” a popular blogger known

as Naodong wrote on Chinese social media platform Weibo.

The post triggered a flood of responses. “I am so proud and cannot hold back my tears,” wrote a netizen. “What a coincidence! I cried, too!” said another. “It is so touching! Happy 70th anniversary, my country,” responded yet another.

## Source of confidence

According to Zhong Jun, a professor with the Chinese History Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, the Chinese people feel proud because ►►

today's China is strong enough to defend itself against external threats and keep moving forward despite foreign pressures. "This pride is based on the achievements we have made over the past seven decades," Zhong said.

While 70 years are but a fleeting moment in human history, they ushered in epoch-making changes in China and for the Chinese people. According to the National Bureau of Statistics, China's GDP surged from \$30 billion to \$13.61 trillion from 1952 to 2018. Today China is the sec-

ond largest economy and the largest trader in goods. The average life expectancy has risen from 35 to 77 years.

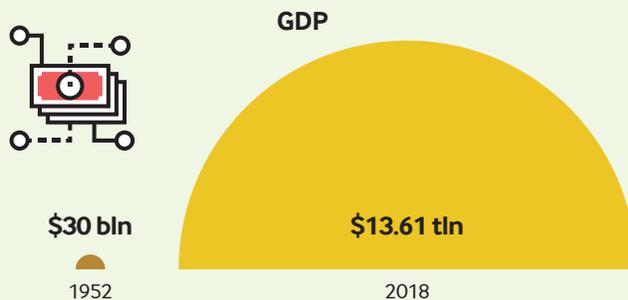
High technology is an important barometer of a country's comprehensive strength. "When the PRC was founded, China's science and technology development was at least 100 years behind Western developed countries," said Wu Mingyu, a former technology policymaker. But today, China is a leader in technology. The floats during this year's mass pageant in Tiananmen Square in Beijing on October

1 displayed some of its hi-tech innovations, such as models of Fuxing, the world's fastest bullet train, FAST, the largest radio telescope, and *Tiangong-1*, the first domestic space lab launched in 2011.

## Honoring heroes

Cheng Shuyu was a participant in the mass pageant on October 1. She came to represent her father, Cheng Kaijia, holding the senior Cheng's portrait aloft while sitting on a parade bus which slowly drove

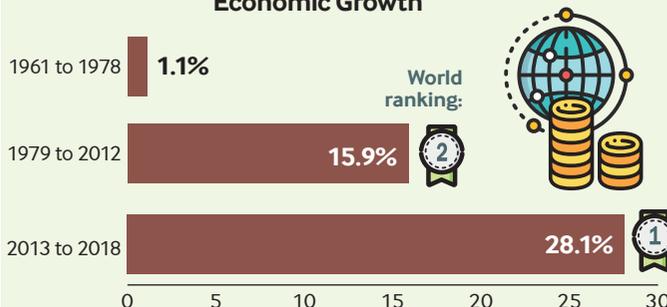
### Economic Takeoff



### Foreign Exchange Reserves



### China's Annual Average Contribution to Global Economic Growth

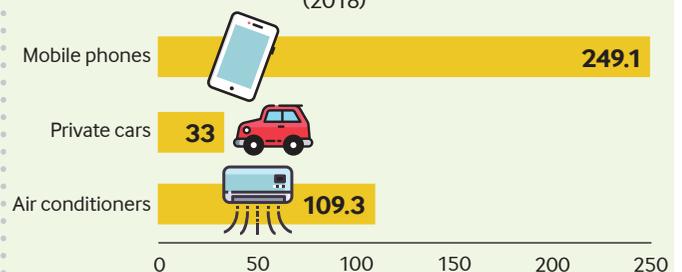


### Improved Lives

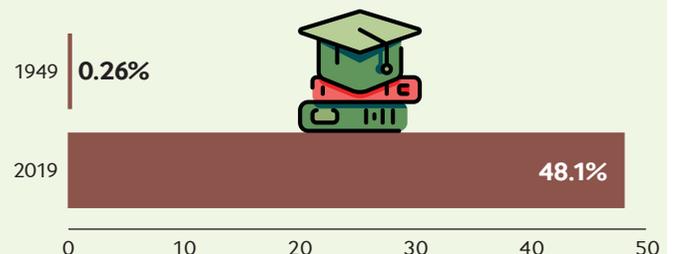
#### Proportion of Residents' Income Spent on Food



#### Number of Consumer Goods Per 100 Households (2018)



#### Higher Education Gross Enrollment Rate





Veterans participate in a mass pageant celebrating the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China in Beijing on October 1

through the square, receiving tributes from the crowd.

Nuclear physicist and engineer Cheng Kaijia was one of the founding fathers of China's nuclear arms development for deterrence. He left his work in the UK, returned to China and dedicated his life to the Two Bombs, One Satellite project in the early period of the PRC. Two bombs refer to the atom bomb and the intercontinental ballistic missile, while one satellite refers to developing artificial satellites. Cheng Kaijia made substantial contributions to safeguarding the PRC's security.

Along with Cheng Kaijia, the founding fathers of the PRC, war veterans and other scientists who made remarkable contributions were also honored during the celebration. They included the first

premier of the PRC, Zhou Enlai, and the first minister of health, Li Dequan, who was the wife of Feng Yuxiang, a military hero in the fight against the Japanese invasion.

Remembering and saluting national heroes was an important part of the mass pageant. Xi started his address remembering the country's revolutionary forefathers and martyrs for their feats in pursuing national independence and liberation, a stronger and more prosperous country and the people's well-being.

In the 1840s, China descended into chaos due to foreign invasions and internal conflicts. But after struggles by generations, the subjugation by Western powers was ended, Japanese aggression defeated, and the PRC was established in 1949.

From the dire poverty back then to becoming the second largest economy today with sufficient military strength to defend its territory, China has completed an arduous journey spurred by the dedication and contribution of many, whose sacrifice and contribution has never been forgotten.

On September 29, Xi presented national medals and honorary titles, the highest state honors, to 36 Chinese and six foreign individuals to acknowledge their contributions to the country's growth.

"Heroes and role models once again demonstrate with their actions that greatness comes out of the ordinary," Xi said, adding that every ordinary person can have an extraordinary life and every ordinary job can produce extraordinary ►►



A mass pageant celebrates the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China in Beijing on October 1

achievements.

It is important to acknowledge heroes; when people respect and acknowledge them, more heroes will emerge, Zhong said. "People are the real heroes as it is they who make history. They are the heroes of the past seven decades. With

China now embarked on high-quality development, it is particularly necessary to have role models, especially in ordinary jobs."

The mass pageant also had representatives from workers, farmers, students, delivery personnel and the elderly women

who take part in square dancing, community dancing in public places.

## Path of peace

"China's yesterday has been inscribed in human history while today's China is being created by the hands of hundreds of millions of Chinese people," Xi said. "China will surely have an even brighter future." He called on people from all walks of life to unite, stay true to the founding mission, build on existing achievements and continue to develop the people's republic.

Against the backdrop of a complicated international situation and a challenging internal economic landscape, Xi pledged that China will stay on the path of peaceful development and pursue a mutually beneficial strategy of opening up.

A special infantry formation appeared during the military parade on October 1, wearing blue berets and camouflage uniforms, Chinese UN peacekeepers marched in the parade for the first time. As the second largest financial contributor to UN peacekeeping operations with the largest number of peacekeeping military personnel, China has made substantial contributions to global peace.

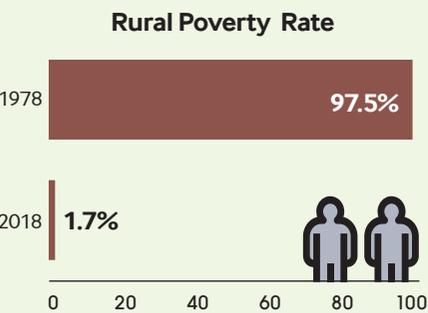
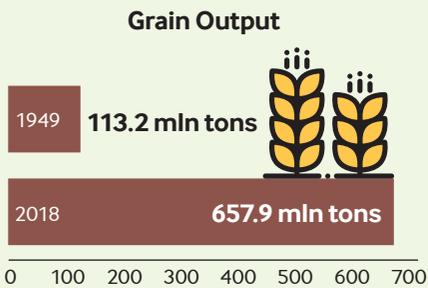
"China has always advocated peace and harmony. It has never invaded or bullied other countries in the past and has pledged not to do so in the future," Zhong said. "China is committed to peaceful development by jointly pursuing a community with a shared future for humanity."

"The military parade on October 1 showed that China has become more transparent and open about its military development," said Ruan Zongze, a researcher on international relations with the China Institute of International Studies. "China pursues a defensive policy and has committed not to use nuclear weapons first," he added.

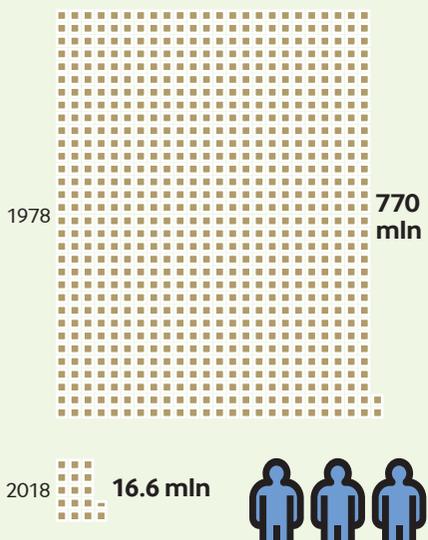
Zhang Junshe, a senior captain with the Naval Research Academy of the People's Liberation Army Navy, said that China's military follows its own pace and concentrates on its duty.

The work of the Chinese military has demonstrated its peaceful focus. "In recent years, it has participated in escorting ships in the Aden Gulf and in the evacuation of overseas Chinese in Yemen. It contributes positive energy to the promotion of world peace and stability," he said. **CI**

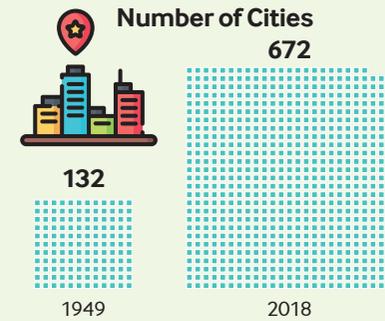
### Rural Transformation



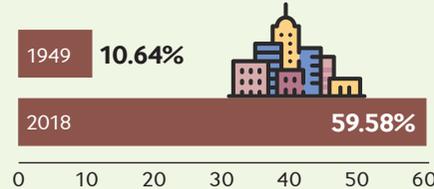
#### Number of Rural People Living Below the Poverty Line



### Urbanization

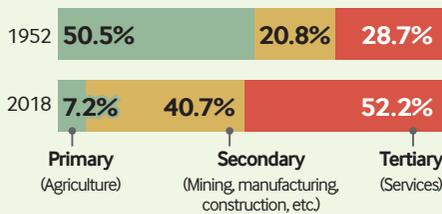


#### Urbanization Rate for the Permanent Resident Population



### Industrial Upgrading

#### Ratio of Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Industries



Note: Percentages may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

### International Cooperation

As of May 2019, China had signed **17** free trade agreements



with **25** economies.



In 2018, China's trade with other Belt and Road Initiative participating countries reached



#### Trade in Goods



#### Paid-in Foreign Direct Investment



# Diplomatic Efforts Over 70 Years

The PRC's history of dialogue, cooperation and multilateralism By Jon Taylor

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC), a period in which the world has changed rapidly. China has played a significant role in that change through international relations and global governance. It has moved from standing up to opening up to growing rich and strong.

China's relations with the rest of the world have seen historic changes over the past 70 years on its road to becoming the world's second largest economy. Its prosperity, enhanced national strength and restoration to pre-eminence on the world stage have given the nation the ability to defend both its sovereignty and fundamental interests. Nowhere is this more apparent than in its diplomatic efforts. Since 1949, the goals of the PRC's foreign policy have been consistent: safeguarding the country's development environment while supporting both global peace and development efforts.

## Basis of foreign policy

In reviewing China's diplomacy, it is important to understand the role that it has played in the modern international relations system. Much like any other great power, it is crucial to comprehend that China's history, national interests, international responsibilities and current role in global affairs all color the nation's foreign policy and have a significant impact on an ever-evolving international system of governance.

During the past 70 years, China has moved from international isolation to become one of the world's major powers.

After the founding of the PRC, domestic weakness and external vulnerability came to an end. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the nation sought to regain the respect and dignity of being a great nation that was lost after a century of humiliation, one that saw external powers engage in hegemony in both China and East Asia. That experience of victimization at the hands of Western and Japanese powers was a critically influential and the formative basis for China's foreign policy, which remains a cornerstone of contemporary China's approach to foreign relations.

If the West is at all interested in understanding what drives China's foreign relations and diplomatic efforts, it is essential to comprehend the impact that a century of hegemonic victimization from 1840-1949 had on the nation. It provides insight into what has driven much of China's foreign policy for the past 70 years. Simply stated, to grasp why China is concerned with issues such as sovereignty, national reunification and territorial integrity, look no further than the humiliations of the 19th and 20th centuries. The restoration of China as powerful and a globally preeminent nation has allowed it, much like other great powers, to assert its national interests.

Its interests have become of increasing concern for those in the West who are more than happy to ratchet up differences of opinion into full-blown trade wars and calls for combating the so-called "China threat." Nowhere is this more evident than with issues that the West believes are international in scope, but are central to China's view of sovereignty. Western support for the independence of Taiwan or Tibet—particularly from the countries that were formerly invaders and colonizers of China—is perceived to be both rank hypocrisy and an encroachment on China's inviolable core interests.

To have a general understanding of 70 years of Chinese foreign policy, one only needs to review its objectives,

guiding principles and strategies. China defines these as follows: domestic political stability, sovereign security, territorial integrity and national reunification, and sustainable economic and social development. These objectives have been consistent over the past seven decades.

The history of the PRC's foreign relations and diplomacy can best be understood through two periods: before and after reform and opening up that began in 1978. For the first 30 years (1949-78), the focus of China's foreign policy and diplomatic efforts was to oppose the threats posed by the two superpowers, the consolidation and enhancement of the nation's independence, and the safeguarding of the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Since 1978, China has gradually reoriented its foreign policy and diplomatic efforts by creating an external environment that has been conducive to both its domestic economic development and its return to prominence in international relations.

Since reform and opening up began, China's role in foreign affairs has moved from one of relative isolation within East Asia to one of the world's two largest economic powers with a global reach. Backed by both expanding economic and political power, this global reach has allowed China to extend its influence virtually everywhere and not only to demonstrate its diplomatic intentions as a peaceful and responsible power, but also to both advance and foster myriad development opportunities for a number of countries.

## A new era

Under President Xi Jinping, China's diplomacy has expanded on a global scale as the nation has restored its place as a major country. China has invested heavily in global infrastructure and governance, worked hard to further economic integration and invested in trade and infrastructure in emerging economies, which is aimed at assuring both stability and regional security.



The author is chair of the Department of Political Science and Geography and professor of political science at the University of Texas at San Antonio



# 中国共产党与世界政党高层对话会

## CPC IN DIALOGUE WITH WORLD POLITICAL PARTIES HIGH-LEVEL MEETING

2017年11月30日—12月3日 中国·北京  
30 November – 3 December 2017 Beijing, China



President Xi Jinping, who is also General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, and guests pose for a group photo before the opening ceremony of the CPC in Dialogue with World Political Parties High-Level Meeting in Beijing on December 1, 2017 (XINHUA)

As China enters the new era, its diplomacy will likely undergo some changes in order to serve the new mission envisioned by Xi. China will act more decisively since its strength and economic size provide it with the ability to handle conditions using a variety of

approaches to deal with evolving international issues and events. China's 70-year commitment to peaceful development certainly warrants praise. Its strong investment in pursuing diplomatic and international development efforts as a logical win-win solution will be ever more

important as the world grapples with issues ranging from international peace, security, development and economic growth to climate change.

During the past 70 years, the world order has changed greatly and China is now a significant player on the international stage. Under the leadership of the CPC, China's framework governing its diplomatic strategy has been historically consistent. As China returns to global prominence, both the scale and context of China's diplomatic activities have significantly increased, owing in large part to Xi's emphasis on the nation's contribution to addressing global political, economic and social concerns. Reviewing the 70-year history of PRC's diplomacy and understanding where China was, where it is today and where it may likely go in the future are of great significance as the nation takes on the burden of even greater international responsibilities in an often uncertain and an ever-changing international system. **CI**

**Reviewing the 70-year history of PRC's diplomacy and understanding where China was, where it is today and where it may likely go in the future are of great significance as the nation takes on the burden of even greater international responsibilities in an often uncertain and an ever-changing international system.**

# Friendship Without Borders

Foreigners were awarded the Friendship Medal in recognition of their contributions to China's development By Wang Hairong



President Xi Jinping and former French Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin, who received the Friendship Medal, a tribute to China's long-term international friends who have been involved in the country's transformation, pose for a photo at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on September 29

In a weather-beaten dormitory at Beijing Foreign Studies University resides a 104-year-old Canadian named Isabel Crook. Born in 1915 in Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan Province, to a Canadian missionary family, she has spent most of her life in China. This year, as the People's Republic of China (PRC) celebrated its 70th anniversary, Crook received the highest honor of her life—the PRC's Friendship Medal.

Crook's longest hiatus outside of China was six years at the University of Toronto, where she earned a master of art degree with a minor in anthropology, returning to China in 1939 and conducting anthropological research in Sichuan. She co-authored a book titled *Prosperity's Predicament: Identity, Reform, and Resistance in Rural Wartime China*, describing rural life in the early 1940s in a small village in Sichuan called Xinglongchang.

She married David Crook, a member of the Communist Party of Great Britain in 1942 and joined his party the same year. In 1947, the couple did research in a village called Shilidian in north China's Hebei

Province. The name of the village is literally translated as Ten Mile Inn. "We ate millet and sweet potatoes, wore suits of homespun cloth, lived in peasant homes and slept on kang, heatable brick beds commonly used at the time in north China. We were witness to the land reform which soon spread across China in a movement which changed history," she recalled in an autobiographical piece. Based on their study, the couple wrote a book titled *Revolution in a Chinese Village: Ten Mile Inn*, which was first published in London in 1959.

In 1948, the couple began teaching English in China. They taught the language at the Beijing Foreign Studies University, known as the "cradle of diplomats" from its inception to their retirement in the 1980s.

After receiving the Friendship Medal, she told the media that she was deeply honored, "I witnessed with my own eyes the rapid development and changes in the 70 years since the founding of the PRC. Not only have I experienced the great times, but also have been fortunate enough to devote myself to it and do some work," she added.

## A state honor

"We are sincerely grateful to the recipients of the Friendship Medal for their contribution to China's development," said President Xi Jinping on September 29, as he presented the medals to a total of six foreign individuals, namely Cuba's Raúl Castro Ruz, Thai Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, Tanzania's Salim Ahmed Salim, Russia's Galina Kulikova, France's Jean-Pierre Raffarin and Crook.

Xi said that Chinese people are willing to work with people of all countries to build a community with a shared future for humanity and to make the planet a better place.

During the ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, Xi also conferred the Medal of the Republic to eight outstanding Chinese nationals and national honorary titles to another 28 Chinese individuals, including such titles as "the people's scientist," "the people's artist," "the people's hero" and "the people's role model."

The Friendship Medal was created in 2016 according to the Law on National Medals and National Honorary Titles, which was adopted by the National People's Congress (NPC) in December 2015 and went into effect in 2016, as the highest honor for foreigners who have made outstanding contributions to China's socialist modernization drive, promoting Sino-foreign exchanges and cooperation, and safeguarding world peace. The first Friendship Medal was awarded to Russian President Vladimir Putin in June 2018.

The honor system features five medals and a Merit Book, with the five medals being the Medal of the Republic, the July 1 Medal, the August 1 Medal, the Friendship Medal and national honorary titles, to recognize individuals that have made exceptional contributions.

## Envoys of friendship

After receiving the Friendship Medal, recipients shared their thoughts with the media. Miguel Ángel Ramírez Ramos, Cuba's ambassador to China, received the Friendship Medal on behalf of Castro, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the



Thai Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn speaks at the award ceremony of the Friendship Medal in Beijing on September 29



Recipients of the Friendship Medal or their representatives visit an exhibition held in Beijing to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China on September 30

Communist Party of Cuba. Ramírez said that the medal is not only an honor for the first secretary, but also represents the goodwill of the Chinese people toward the Cuban people. It's a real joy, he said, adding that Cuba is ready to work with China to contribute to the deepening of the friendship between the two countries and to the continuous advancement of the socialist cause.

Castro has actively promoted Latin American relations with China, firmly supported China on major issues, resolutely agreed with the initiative of building a community with a shared future for humanity and supported China in playing a greater role in international affairs, according to awardee profiles posted on the NPC website.

Princess Sirindhorn is a household name in China as someone who has been very friendly to the country with profound knowledge of Chinese literature, history and culture. She has visited China 48 times and has made great contributions to the development of Sino-Thai relations.

She said she was very excited to receive the award from Xi. "From 1981 up to now, China has changed a great deal; I think it is due to good leadership and the qualities of Chinese people: diligence, hard work and intelligence," she told *People's Daily* after receiving the medal.

Salim of Tanzania is an old friend of China. He is currently president of the

Tanzania-China Friendship Promotion Association, and, in the past, served as prime minister and foreign minister of Tanzania and secretary general of the Organization of African Unity (predecessor to the African Union). He has been recognized for making outstanding contributions to promoting friendly cooperation between China and Tanzania, as well as between China and Africa, and restoring China's legitimate seat in the United Nations decades ago. He has also supported China in playing an active and important role in maintaining peace and promoting development in Africa. He has visited China many times and has attended the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation.

Salim's daughter, who received the medal on his behalf, said her father was very happy upon learning that he would be awarded the honor. She said the medal was not only a tribute to her father, but also the crystallization of Tanzania-China friendship and Africa-China friendship.

The First Vice President of the Russian-Chinese Friendship Association, 84-year-old Kulikova said the day she received the medal was the happiest day of her life, adding that the privilege belongs not only to her, but also to her colleagues who are committed to promoting friendship with China.

Kulikova learned Chinese at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations and participated in the establish-

ment of the Soviet Union-China Friendship Association in 1957. In 1989, she was elected the first vice-chairperson of the association and began to work at the Embassy of the Soviet Union in China. She wrote a book on public diplomacy between Russia and China, documenting friendly exchanges between the two peoples.

Former French Prime Minister Raffarin was also very excited about receiving the medal. He said the fact that the Chinese people regard him as a messenger of friendship is recognition of his work, stating that he would like to help the world understand China better.

Raffarin has long been committed to promoting China-France friendship and all-around cooperation. As prime minister, he insisted on visiting China as planned during the outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome in the country in 2003, giving great political and emotional support to the Chinese people. He has vigorously promoted cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative, and as a representative of the French president, he attended the First Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation held in Beijing in 2017. In addition, he and his wife co-authored a book on China.

All medal recipients expressed a common wish for a more prosperous China and a deeper friendship with the Chinese people. **CI**

# New Vision for Old Ties

Sino-U.S. experts call for a more creative way to resolve trade dispute

By Sherry Qin



Cui Tiankai, Chinese Ambassador to the United States, delivers a keynote speech at the China-U.S. Relations: 40 Years & Beyond forum in New York on September 17

On the 40th anniversary of the normalization of China-U.S. diplomatic relations, a diverse group of diplomats, athletes, entrepreneurs and economists has advocated a more creative approach to resolving trade tension between the two largest economies in the world, with the bottom line that the bilateral relationship had endured in the past and would continue to do so in today's era of greater engagement.

"We have learned from the past four decades that cooperation is the only right option for us. It is something we should always uphold," Cui Tiankai, Chinese Ambassador to the United States, said in his keynote speech at the China-U.S. Relations: 40 Years & Beyond forum in New York on

September 17, speaking against a backdrop of a 14-month trade dispute between the two countries and the specter of a global recession.

## Recalling bilateral warmth

In 1970, Connie Sweeris was the reigning U.S. table tennis champion. The next year, she became a "ping-pong diplomat" when she joined a nine-member team of U.S. table tennis players who were invited by the Chinese Government to play exhibition matches in China. The matches would become a historic icebreaker for then U.S. President Richard Nixon's visit to China in 1972 and the subsequent normalization of bilateral ties in 1979.

At the forum, Sweeris recalled her 1971 trip to China: "[Then Chinese] Premier Zhou [Enlai] greeted us with an old Chinese saying, 'What a joy to have friends from afar!'"

Even after four decades, Sweeris remembers the friendship match at Beijing's Capital Indoor Stadium and of course climbing the Great Wall.

Kenneth Quinn, a former U.S. ambassador and current President of the World Food Prize Foundation, had another travel story to share. The native of the midwestern U.S. state of Iowa described how Xi Jinping, then vice president of China, visited Iowa in 2012 and quoted Mark Twain on seeing the sun over the Mississippi River.

"To have [a deputy head of state of another country] speak about my country that way was so impactful, so dramatic. It left a very, very deep impression on me," Quinn said. "The next day, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and Chinese Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs Han Changfu signed the U.S.-China strategic cooperation agreement on agriculture."

Echoing Quinn's recollection of the cooperation between the two countries in the past, Craig Allen, President of the U.S.-China Business Council, said "We have a glorious history. We have a mutual responsibility to ensure that the success of the past continues into the future."

The council is a non-profit organization of approximately 200 U.S. companies that do business with China, including Amazon, Airbnb and Apple. Allen said more than 90 percent of its member companies reported profitability in the Chinese market in 2018.

"If we could break the ice 40 years ago when there were virtually no exchanges and interaction, then in today's world of interdependence, with the two countries being each other's biggest trading partner and main investor... there is absolutely no reason for the future to be going against the tracks of history," Zhou Shuchun, Chief Editor of *China Daily*, the co-host of the event with the Bank of China, said.

## The blame game

Stephen Roach, a senior fellow at Yale University's Jackson Institute of Global Affairs, called the China-U.S. trade dispute "a bilateral blame game."

On May 8, the U.S. accused China of backtracking on the negotiations to address their trade tension. Then at a press conference in June, Wang Shouwen, Vice Minister of Commerce of China, said, "Nothing is agreed until everything is agreed," calling the U.S. actions in the past month the main reason for the negotiations floundering.

In August, U.S. President Trump imposed another round of 15 percent tariffs on \$112 billion of Chinese imports, including a wide range of consumer goods. China then retaliated with new tariffs on \$75 billion worth of U.S. goods.

"To resolve problems in relationships, both partners need to work together to agree on mutual responsibility for the roles they play causing problems. And I would say that's true of the U.S., it's also true of China," Roach said.

He rejected the U.S. mindset of blaming China for the deficit in bilateral trade, saying the U.S. "had trade deficit last year with 102

countries."

"When nations are short of savings and want to invest and grow, they must borrow surplus savings from abroad and run current account deficits in order to attract foreign capital," Roach said.

In response to the drastic call for "decoupling China and the U.S." by Trump's trade advisors, Cui said it "goes against globalization and the tide of history."

"Considering China's advantages in cost, market and supply chain and its growing edge in innovation, to decouple from China is to decouple from opportunities," the ambassador said.

## A more creative approach

Chinese Vice Premier Liu He led a delegation to Washington, D.C. in early October for the 13th principal-level trade negotiations.

But Roach thinks the two countries need "a more creative framework" to resolve their differences. "You cannot fix a multilateral problem with 102 deficits by solving it on a bilateral basis," he said.

Quinn said that China and the U.S. should seek common ground and joint

missions such as agricultural missions and lifting Africa from poverty. "The single greatest challenge human beings have ever faced is, can we, given climate change and all the other issues, sustainably and nutritiously feed the 9 billion people on earth by 2049?" he asked.

Roach proposed a fresh approach to negotiate issues that can build the relationship on the basis of mutual trust.

"I'm looking for macroeconomic adjustments in both countries where we save more and China saves less," he said.

"I'm looking for joint leadership in the cyber area. This is a global problem, not a bilateral problem. And finally, I think we need a richer and deeper and a more continuous dialogue between us, rather than having these periodic phone calls, dinner parties."

Allen stressed that both governments are signatories to the World Trade Organization, sharing a common framework and a common language. "Let's resolve the problems in accordance with our commitments," he said. "We believe we are not far away from that, but we just need to focus on the core problems and resolve them in a respectful, positive and constructive manner." **C**



Chinese and U.S. table tennis players play a match to mark the 48th anniversary of the China-U.S. "ping-pong diplomacy" in Yorba Linda City, California, the United States, on April 10

# Making People First The Guiding Principle

Xi Jinping's book facilitates examinations into the future direction of China's unprecedented rise By Swaran Singh

As part of China's search for answers to its emerging new challenges of governance, Volume II of *Xi Jinping: The Governance of China* was published on the eve of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) in October 2017. The primacy of people and centrality of the Party continue to be the running theme of the book, which consists of 99 speeches and works of Xi.

Xi's speeches and writings show that he is deeply grounded in China's intellectual heritage and traditions, and have an equally strong grip on world classics in philosophy and politics. But it is his indebtedness to his predecessors and consciousness of emerging global challenges that define Xi's continuing pursuit of the People First governance principle.

Speaking at the 110th birth anniversary of the country's late leader Deng Xiaoping (1904-97), Xi recalled Deng saying that the ultimate goal of all policies must be people's satisfaction; and that all brilliant ideas emerge not out of one single mind but from the practices of people. Xi credits former President Jiang Zemin with first visualizing in 2002 the goal of achieving a moderately prosperous society by 2020—a full 10 years before the UN Sustainable Development Goals for 2030. These legacies are writ large in Xi's articulations of the two centenary goals (to complete building a moderately prosperous society in all respects by the time the CPC

**Xi's speeches and writings show that he is deeply grounded in China's intellectual heritage and traditions, and have an equally strong grip on world classics in philosophy and politics**



The author is a professor at the Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi and senior fellow at the Beijing-based Charhar Institute

marks its centenary and to build China into a great modern socialist country that is prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious and beautiful by the time the People's Republic of China celebrates its centenary) and the Chinese dream of national rejuvenation. Xi proposes to achieve these by strengthening further reforms, the rule of law and Party discipline.

Corruption, for Xi, remains China's biggest challenge. This has seen him work relentlessly in not just creating deterrents but also promoting loyalty, integrity and professionalism. In the long run, Xi seeks to ensure effective, high-caliber, clean governance.

Economic development remains Xi's potent locomotive for ensuring innovative, high-quality and efficient structures of governance. He underlines the need to improve income distribution systems and expand the middle-income group by providing health, education and employment for people to realize their full potential. His strategies for economic, political, cultural, social and ecological rejuvenation begin by identifying areas of weakness to be addressed first. Xi lays special emphasis on supervision, publicity, implementation and evaluation and seeking inputs from the beneficiaries of various initiatives.

As regards China's role beyond its borders, being both a contributor to and beneficiary of globalization, China continues to adapt to emerging trends. This ever-increasing involvement with global affairs has seen China deeply engage with the strengthening and transformation of the global governance processes and mechanisms. It requires forging wider networks of connectivity and new global partnerships to enhance China's contribution to improving the shared future of humanity. It has seen China implement green, circular, and low-carbon development using innovation and frontier technologies to ensure harmony between man and nature.

This is also seen in Xi's reforms of environmental management that seek to empower grassroots-level agencies and experts to ensure clear waters and green mountains. Ecological and environmental protection has become another top priority for China's leaders. While admitting that rapid development over the last four decades did accumulate problems of ecological degradation and pollution, China today has the resources and capabilities to address these triggers of public disaffection.

Also, as the global economy begins to emerge from its decade-long deceleration, China's Belt and Road Initiative has emerged as a potent engine for boosting connectivity and growth for all.

Finally, Xi underlines consultative democracy as a unique strength of socialism with Chinese characteristics embodying the CPC's mass line that guides China's People First governance. In the spirit of the united front, it allows accommodation of non-Communist personalities and other ethnic and religious diversities of this large ancient nation. Even socialist art and literature that cater to this increasing worldwide curiosity about China's rise are guided by people's cultural needs. **CI**