

OPINION: U.S. SUPPLY CHAIN CRISIS P.26 | FEATURES: NATURE MEETS SOCIOECONOMY P.36

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A half-century on, China's UN story continues

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Cover Design: Cui Xiaodong

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Defenders of the Realm

On October 25, Chinese President Xi Jinping attended and addressed a conference in Beijing to mark the 50th anniversary of the restoration of the People's Republic of China's lawful seat in the UN. Summarizing China's philosophy as a major country that pursues peaceful development for the benefit of people worldwide, he called on the international community to dynamically advocate the common values of humanity featuring peace, development, equity, justice, democracy and freedom, jointly promote the building of a community with a shared future for humanity, determinedly defend the authority of the UN Charter and cooperatively observe true multilateralism.

For the past 50 years, the Chinese people have promoted economic and social development, with overall national strength continuously on the rise; knowing all too well the value of stability, they have followed an independent foreign policy of peace, stood firm for justice and resolutely opposed the practices of power politics. China has stayed true to the purpose and principles of the UN Charter and upheld its central role in international affairs.

The restoration of New China's

lawful seat in the UN marked the return of the Chinese people, one fourth of the world's population, to the UN stage. Taking this as a starting point, many developing countries have united more closely and become an important force that cannot be ignored in the UN framework.

In today's world, positive changes in the international landscape are accelerating. Unfortunately, a return to a hegemonic and Cold War mentality in certain quarters is looming.

International rules can only be made by the 193 UN member states together instead of being decided by individual countries or blocs. These rules should, without exception, be observed by all UN members. Countries should respect the UN, look after its family, never exploit its structure and always ensure that the UN plays an even more positive part in advancing the noble pursuit of peace and development for all.

China has always endorsed concrete measures to serve as an active participant and staunch defender of the UN cause. This has been true for the past 50 years, and it will be true in the years and decades to come. **BR**



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FROM FIELD TO FAR

Workers stack up the newly arrived cotton at a company in Shawan, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on October 20. The region's cotton harvest season started in October.

Xinjiang is the largest cotton-growing area in China. Regional cotton output hit 5.16 million tons in 2020, accounting for 87.3 percent of the country's total, according to the National Bureau of Statistics.



Olympic Uniforms

Models present the Beijing 2022 uniforms for staff (right), technical officials (left) and volunteers on the occasion of the 100-day countdown to the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022, on October 27. The official attire was unveiled on that day.

Climate Change Policy

The State Council Information Office on October 27 released a white paper entitled “Responding to Climate Change: China’s Policies and Actions,” documenting the country’s policies, actions and progress in mitigating climate change.

To meet its targets in response to the challenge, China has implemented a variety of strategies and policies, including the incorporation of the response to climate change into its national economic and social development plans.

The country has increased its carbon sequestration capacity, and continuously enhanced its efforts in developing green and

low-carbon industries by curbing the haphazard development of energy-intensive and high-emission projects, and improving the energy mix.

Addressing climate change is a cause shared by all of humanity, the white paper concluded. “Faced with unprecedented challenges in global climate governance, the international community needs to respond with unprecedented ambition and action.”

Skyscraper Limit

The Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development together with the Ministry of Emergency Management announced strict restrictions will be placed upon the construction of new skyscrapers.

The country prohibits the approval of buildings taller than 250 meters, and severely restricts those taller than 150 meters in any city with an urban population under 3 million, according to a recent circular jointly issued by the two state organs.

In cities with an urban population over 3 million, the construction of buildings above 500 meters is banned, and buildings taller than 250 meters can only be built in accordance with strict regulations.

Any residential building taller than 80 meters or public building taller than 100 meters must meet local firefighting standards to be approved for construction, the circular read.

It also banned skyscraper construction in historic

neighborhoods, heritage sites and areas with heavy traffic.

Buddhist Doctorate

After more than 20 years of sutras study, the 11th Panchen Lama has attained the highest degree in exoteric teachings of the Gelug school of Tibetan Buddhism, equivalent to a Ph.D. in modern education.

The 11th Panchen Lama, Bainqen Erdini Qoigyijabu, earned the Kachen degree after completing a two-hour debate on October 26 at the Tashilhunpo Monastery in the city of Xigaze, Tibet Autonomous Region.

The important occasion was witnessed by some 800 persons, including revered Buddhists from major monasteries and temples in Tibet, as well as monks and pilgrims.

The 11th Panchen Lama, whose secular name is Gyaincain Norbu, was born in February 1990 in Lhari County in northern Tibet.

He was approved by the Central Government as the reincarnation of the 10th Panchen Lama and was enthroned in 1995.

Law and Border

The National People’s Congress, China’s top legislature, voted to adopt a new law on the protection and exploitation of the country’s land border areas on October 23, which will take effect on January 1, 2022.

The law stipulates that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of China are sacred and cannot be challenged.

The state shall take further measures to safeguard territorial integrity and land boundaries and guard the nation against any act that undermines territorial sovereignty and land boundaries, it says.

The law also stipulates that the state shall take measures to strengthen border defense, support economic and social development as well as opening up in the border areas, improve their public services and infrastructure, encourage and support people's life and work there, and promote the coordination between border defense and socioeconomic development.

The state shall, in line with the principles of equality, mutual trust and friendly consultation, manage all land border affairs with neighboring countries through negotiations to properly resolve any disputes and long-standing issues.

CIIE Exhibits

A large pumpkin created by avant-garde Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama made its way to the exhibition hall of the Fourth China International Import Expo (CIIE) from a bonded warehouse in the Shanghai Free Trade Zone on October 25.

Shanghai Customs said that over 100 artworks from overseas are expected to go on display at this year's CIIE via the city's free trade zone, thanks to tax exemption policies tailor-made for the event.

Wang Jiaming, an executive

of an international cultural investment company registered at the Shanghai Free Trade Zone, said that overseas art institutions have been very enthusiastic about participating in the Fourth CIIE.

To further promote the artwork trading volume and the return of cultural relics, this year's CIIE has established a cultural section in the service trade exhibition area.

The CIIE is the world's first dedicated import exhibition and its three previous editions all witnessed productive outcomes. The Fourth CIIE takes place offline in Shanghai on November 5-10 this year.

Real-ID Registration

The Cyberspace Administration of China started soliciting public opinion on a draft regulation regarding the management of online user account names, requiring real-identity registration, on October 26.

While users can freely choose their screen names, they must provide authentic identity information when registering their accounts with online platforms, according to the draft regulation.

User account names imitating the names of Communist Party of China authorities,



Theater Festival

A musical takes to the stage during the closing ceremony of the 17th China Theater Festival, a Chinese national performing arts event, in Wuhan, Hubei Province, on October 27. The festival kicked off on October 9. Founded in 1988, it is hosted by a different Chinese city every other year.

governmental and military organs, enterprises, public institutions and social organizations will be strictly prohibited.

Owners of user accounts will also be banned from creating aliases posing as news media organizations or news service providers.

For minors who wish to register, the consent of guardians

must be obtained for real-name registration, according to the regulation. It further stated that the authenticity of both the users' and the guardians' identities must be verified.

The draft regulations also describe the responsibilities of online platforms, including ensuring the safety of collected and stored personal information.



Free Meals

A staff member arranges free food packages for residents in an area under temporary lockdown due to a resurgence of COVID-19 in Chengguan District of Lanzhou, Gansu Province, on October 25. Local authorities, in cooperation with food production and catering enterprises, provide free daily meals for locals under lockdown in Lanzhou.

Carbon Goals

A guiding document on China's work to achieve carbon peaking and carbon neutrality goals were unveiled on October 23, laying out key specific targets and measures for upcoming decades.

According to the document, before 2030, China's carbon dioxide emissions will peak, stabilize and then decline, and before 2060, China will be carbon neutral and will have established a green, low-carbon and circular economy.

The document, which was jointly released by the Communist Party of China Central Committee and the State Council, stated that the nation will meet these goals by gradually increasing the share of non-fossil energy consumption to around 20 percent by 2025, around 25 percent by 2030, and over 80 percent by 2060.

By 2025, China aims to reduce its carbon dioxide emissions per 10,000 yuan (\$1,563)

of GDP by 18 percent from the 2020 level and, by 2030, achieve a decrease of 65 percent over the 2005 level.

Tax Incentives

The State Council's executive meeting on October 27 decided that the policy to exempt overseas institutional investors from corporate income and value-added taxes on their bond interest gains arising from investment in the mainland bond market will be extended until the end of 2025.

It said China will continue to expand opening up, leverage the strengths of its large domestic market and foster a more enabling business environment. More will be done to attract foreign investment and encourage more foreign investors to participate in China's domestic development through the bond market.

Relevant departments will strengthen market regulation

and curb irregularities such as excessive speculation and market manipulation, according to the decision.

Industrial Profits

Profits of China's major industrial firms maintained sound growth momentum in the first three quarters of the year as industrial production continued to recover and business operations continued to improve, official data showed on October 27.

Industrial firms with annual business revenues of at least 20 million yuan (\$3.1 million) saw their combined profits jump 44.7 percent year on year in the January-September period to top 6.34 trillion yuan (\$992 billion), data from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) showed.

The figure surged 41.2 percent compared with the 2019 level, putting the average January-September growth for 2020 and 2021 at 18.8 percent.

In September alone, major industrial companies raked in profits of 738.74 billion yuan (\$115.6 billion), up 16.3 percent year on year, NBS data showed.

Expanding Imports

China has been the world's second largest importer for 11 consecutive years, the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) said on October 21.

In the January-September period, China imported goods worth nearly \$2 trillion, up 32.6 percent year on year.

In the first half of the year, China's imports of goods accounted for around 12 percent of the world's total, and also contributed to 15 percent of the increase in imports worldwide during the period, according to World Trade Organization data.

"China will consistently push forward high-level opening up, expand imports and turn its market into a global one; a market shared by all and accessible to

NUMBERS

(\$1=6.5 yuan)

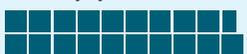
Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in January-September

Paid-in FDI into the Chinese mainland

Total



Up
19.6% y.o.y.



Service industry



Up
22.5% y.o.y.

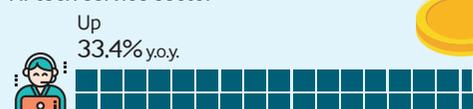


FDI into:

Hi-tech industry



Hi-tech service sector



Hi-tech manufacturing sector



all,” MOFCOM spokesperson Shu Jueting said at a press conference.

The country will continuously improve trade liberalization and facilitation and optimize its business environment to promote global recovery and growth, Shu concluded.

Tibet's Trade

The foreign trade of Tibet Autonomous Region surged 124.1 percent year on year in the first three quarters of 2021, led by a boom in trade by private companies, according to local customs authorities.

The region's imports and exports totaled 2.61 billion yuan (\$408 million). Exports rose 90.5 percent to 1.39 billion yuan (\$217.5 million), while imports soared 180 percent to 1.22 billion yuan (\$190.9 million).

In the nine months, private enterprises took the lion's share with a total trade volume of 1.59 billion yuan (\$248.8 million), while

state-owned companies saw imports and exports totaling 990 million yuan (\$154.9 million).

The region conducted trade with 59 countries and regions worldwide during the period. Nepal became its largest trading partner, with trade value up 120 percent to 1.13 billion yuan (\$176.8 million), official data showed.

Tesla R&D Center

Tesla has opened a research and development (R&D) innovation center, the first of its kind among the electric car company's overseas facilities, and a Gigafactory data center in Shanghai, Tesla China said on October 25.

President Tom Zhu said Tesla has been practicing its commitment to deeply cultivating the Chinese market, adding that the R&D innovation center will further promote the company's localization process in China.

According to the plan, the R&D innovation center will carry out original development work

for vehicles, charging equipment and energy products.

The data center will be used to store Chinese operational data such as factory production information.

Property Tax

On October 23, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), China's top legislature, adopted a decision to authorize the State Council to pilot property tax reforms in certain regions.

The move aims to advance property tax legislation and reform in an active and prudent way, guide the rational consumption of housing and the economical and intensive use of land resources, and facilitate the steady and sound development of the country's property market.

Property tax will be levied on all types of residential and non-residential property in pilot areas, while lawfully owned rural properties and houses built on

them will be excluded, the decision said, adding that taxpayers are the holders of land use rights and house owners.

The State Council, its related departments, and local governments need to create scientific and feasible approaches and procedures for tax collection and management, according to the decision.

The State Council will designate the pilot areas after considering issues such as future expansion of the pilot program, promoting unified legislation and advancing the steady and sound development of the property market. It will also decide on the starting date of the five-year pilot program.

The Ministry of Finance and the State Taxation Administration will draft the measures for piloting the property tax and make preparations for the work in accordance with the authorization of the NPC Standing Committee.

Growth of FDI by source

From the Belt and Road participating countries
Up
31.9% y.o.y.



From the Association of Southeast Asian Nations
Up
31.4% y.o.y.



Growth of FDI by region

East China
Up
19.6% y.o.y.



Central China
Up
29% y.o.y.



West China
Up
4.1% y.o.y.



(Source: Ministry of Commerce)

THIS WEEK WORLD



IRAN

UN Secretary General António Guterres (on the screen) speaks during the Second Meeting of Foreign Ministers of Afghanistan's Neighboring Countries in Tehran on October 27. The meeting reiterated the call on the international community to remain positively engaged with Afghanistan



TUNISIA

People attend the 15th edition of the International Exhibition of Agriculture, Agricultural Machinery and Fisheries SIAMAP 2021 in Tunis on October 27



CANADA

Runners in fancy dress take part in the 2021 SuperPower 5K in Toronto on October 24. The event kicked off to raise funds for the Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital



NIGERIA

President Muhammadu Buhari (left) attends the launch of eNaira, Nigeria's central bank digital currency, in Abuja on October 25



FRANCE

A model presents a chocolate costume during the launch party of the Paris Chocolate Show 2021 in Paris on October 27



UZBEKISTAN

President Shavkat Mirziyoyev's supporters celebrate in Tashkent on October 25 after he won the reelection with 80.1 percent of the vote



SENIOR DIPLOMAT ASSUMES NEW ROLE

Head of the Chinese Foreign Ministry's information department **Hua Chunying** has been promoted to assistant foreign minister, according to the ministry's website.

The 51-year-old diplomat stepped into her new role after Qin Gang, former vice foreign minister, was appointed ambassador to the U.S. in July and left for Washington, D.C. Hua's updated profile reads her areas of responsibility are "information, protocol and translation affairs."



In 1992, Hua graduated from Nanjing University and embarked on her diplomatic career. As the 27th spokesperson responding to questions about China's foreign policy from home and abroad, she made her first public appearance in that role in November 2012.

Before serving as ministry spokeswoman, Hua worked with its Department of European Affairs and once served at the embassy in Singapore and in the mission to the European Union.

Community Life Circle

Economic Daily

October 25

Thirty cities and districts have been listed as the first batch of "15-Minute Community Life Circle" in China. The program is expected to facilitate the daily life of residents. Connecting residents, small and micro businesses as well as self-employed individuals, it is closely related to the development of business within a community.

With the acceleration of urban expansion, the growth of businesses within a community came to lag behind. The upgrading of business facilities in old residential areas is falling behind consumption advancement. It also

faces problems like shoddy products, high prices and not up to par services.

This year, China has implemented a number of policies to promote the construction of community life circles featuring reasonable layouts, complete functions, high-quality services and a harmonious relationship between business and residents.

One-stop shops should be encouraged to set up business in communities. Meanwhile, combined with local conditions, more measures will target the improvement of people's convenience and market standardization, guide third-party technology service providers and improve the facilitation and quality of service. Moreover, the government needs to strengthen support in rent regulation, financing and business environment.



Vocational Education

Lifeweek

October 20

For the purpose of cultivating more high-caliber technical professionals, vocational education is on a level playing field with general education. The former has undergone various systematic changes, but the essentials and basic regulations have all been clarified.

At the mention of vocational education, the first thing that comes to people's minds is that after graduating from vocational school, students will be put to work inside a factory located somewhere on the outskirts of any given city. They work on

"The 10 ASEAN members together with the three East Asian countries form the main channel for East Asia cooperation... As a good model for multilateralism and international cooperation, the trilateral cooperation among China, Japan and the Republic of Korea could be even more dynamic if coordinated with ASEAN."

Ou Boqian, Secretary General of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat, in an interview with Xinhua News Agency on October 27

"Recently, not only China but many European countries, too, were hit by power shortages. The recent problems tell us it is indeed challenging to walk toward the green development goals and remind us to further step up investment in new and renewable energy."

Jin Liqun, President of AIB, a Beijing-based multilateral development bank, during the bank's annual meeting on October 28

the assembly line with no high income, no bright prospects, and no personal or career development in sight.

In reality, however, this is not the case. Zheng Lei, who works at Black & Decker (Suzhou) Precision Manufacturing Co. Ltd., graduated from the Suzhou Industrial Park Institute of Vocational Technology. Due to his combined education of solid knowledge and operational experience, he quickly secured a job with the company.

Zheng has been quite successful in his career. He developed over 10 automatic control systems, saving the company more than 7 million yuan (\$1.1 million). He has been awarded the title of Model Worker of Jiangsu Province as well as received the May 1 Labor Medal of Suzhou.

Another example is that of students majoring in imaging technology at Beijing Fengtai Vocational High School. They, in fact, often get to work with some renowned directors and actors over the course of their studies. Students here have the opportunity to, from the onset, participate in the practical side of the film industry.

Instead of falling behind the competition, vocational students may acquire the necessary skills for making a good living from their training. It's high time for people to objectively understand vocational education.

Social Phobia

Beijing Youth Daily

October 25

What scares you? Maybe you shy away from talking to an unfamiliar classmate in a group setting; maybe you're afraid to express discontent. Or when you have to speak in public, no matter how well prepared you walk in, your mind tends to go blank when the lights go on. Or maybe when you hear your phone ring, you are too afraid to answer the call. Social phobia today seems to be very common among young people.

With the incessant upgrading of

social media platforms, young people are becoming less and less sociable. Over 40 percent of young people admitted to suffering from various degrees of social phobia. Aside from the fast pace of big city life and added work pressures, the main underlying reason here is that more and more people have become overly dependent on virtual platforms and therefore have become distanced from real life.

Only once an online product takes root in real life, can it bear lasting vitality. Therefore, the key to solving social phobia is to properly manage the digital world and ensure the balance between virtual and actual reality.

TIKTOK FOUNDER RANKS SECOND RICHEST IN CHINA

ByteDance founder **Zhang Yiming** ranks second on Hurun's China Rich List of 2021, which was announced on October 27. He tripled his wealth last year to \$52.8 billion, overtaking Pony Ma of Tencent and Jack Ma of Alibaba.

Zhang, 38, founded ByteDance, today a privately held digital giant offering global creation and interaction platforms, in 2012, marking his fifth startup business. He has successfully launched several apps like TikTok, a micro-video sharing platform, and news aggregator Toutiao.

In May, he announced he would be stepping down as CEO of the company and move into a key strategy role as it geared up for unprecedented changes at home and abroad.

Last year's No.3 on the list, Zhong Shanshan, founder of Nongfu Spring Co., a bottled water company, has become China's richest man for the first time with \$60.6 billion.

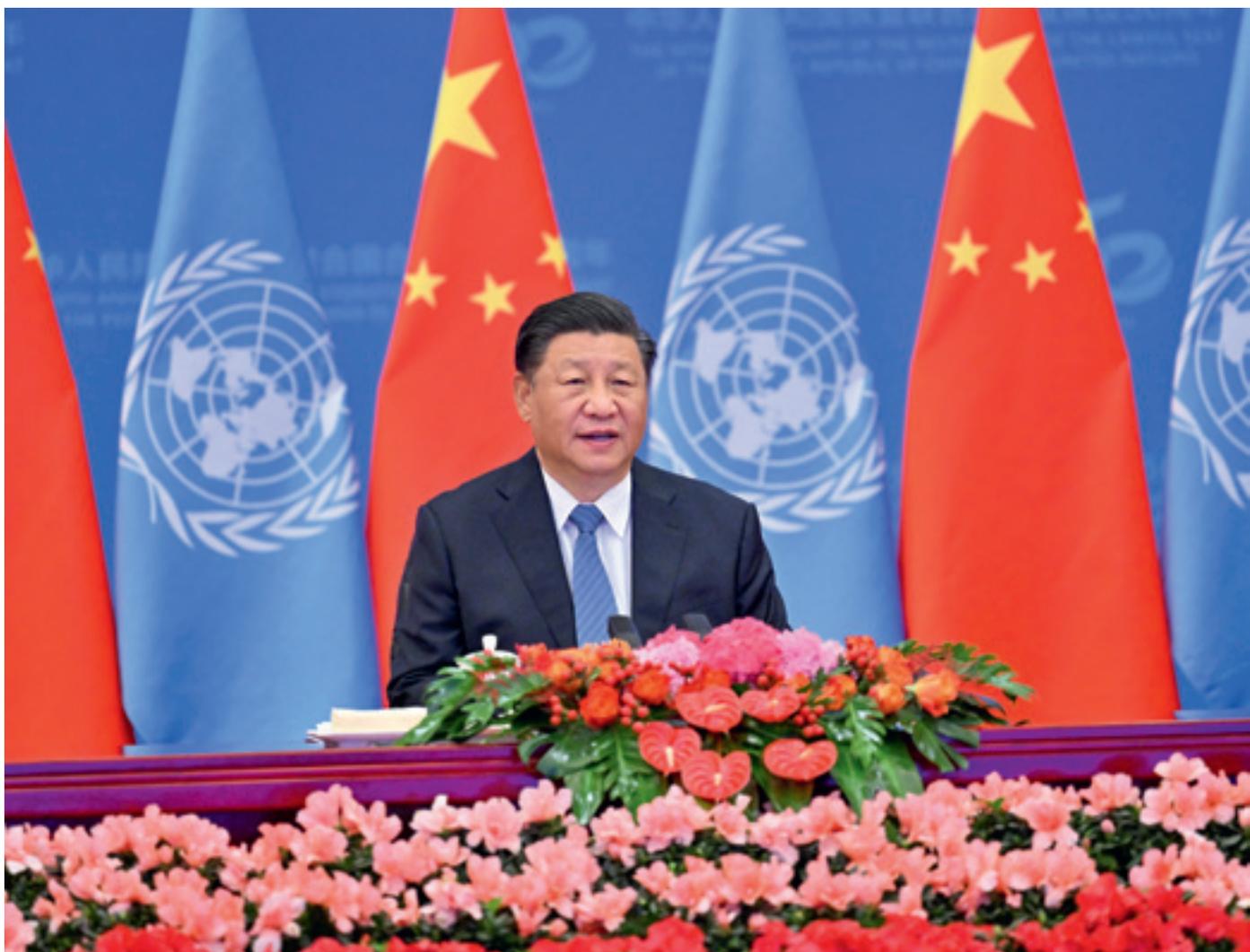


“China’s increasingly prominent contribution to global health is obvious to all: China has grown from a beneficiary of global health cooperation to an active builder and contributor.”

Margaret Chan Fung Fu-chun, Director General of the World Health Organization, in an interview with *Global Times* on October 25

“Developing countries like China cannot implement all [low-carbon] policies overnight, no matter how systemic and holistic their approach... For that reason, observers should not impose unrealistic timelines and standards on China and its developmental peers.”

Andrew Korybko, a Moscow-based American political analyst, in an article published by CGTN on October 27



President Xi Jinping addresses a commemorative meeting marking the 50th anniversary of the restoration of the People's Republic of China's lawful seat in the UN in Beijing on October 25

COVER STORY

FIVE DECADES AND COUNTING

In line with its historic UN contributions, China is set to do more
By Wen Qing