

## Foreign Minister Qin Gang Meets the Press

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## 外交部长秦刚就中国外交政策和对外关系 回答中外记者提问

On March 7, 2023, a press conference was held on the margins of the First Session of the 14th National People's Congress at the Media Center, during which Foreign Minister Qin Gang answered questions from Chinese and foreign media about China's foreign policy and external relations.

**Qin Gang:** Friends from the media, good morning. I'm very pleased to meet you. As the world is undergoing major changes unseen in a century, China will continue to pursue the independent foreign policy of peace, and will continue to implement the mutually beneficial strategy of opening-up. China will always be a builder of world peace, a contributor to global development, and a defender of the international order. Now I'm ready to take your questions.

**China Central Television: People at home and abroad have great expectations for China's diplomacy in 2023. What will be the priorities and highlights in China's diplomacy, particularly in head-of-state diplomacy? As the new foreign minister, how do you envision China's diplomacy in the years to come?**

**Qin Gang:** We're in the first year of fully implementing the guiding principles set forth by the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China. The Congress has outlined top-level plans for China's diplomacy, identified our missions and tasks, and made strategic arrangements to that end. With the COVID situation turning for the better in China, we're steadily resuming exchanges with the world. We've pressed the "acceleration button", and sounded the clarion call for our diplomacy.

We will follow the guidance of head-of-state diplomacy. In particular, we will ensure the success of the two major diplomatic events that we will host—the first China-Central Asia Summit and the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, which will be the showcase of the distinctive character of China's diplomacy.

We will take it as our mission to defend China's core interests. We firmly oppose any form of hegemonism and power

2023年3月7日，十四届全国人大一次会议在梅地亚中心举行记者会，外交部长秦刚就中国外交政策和对外关系回答中外记者提问。

**秦刚：**各位记者朋友，早上好，很高兴同大家见面。当今世界正在经历百年未有之大变局。中国将坚定奉行独立自主的和平外交政策，坚定奉行互利共赢的开放战略，始终做世界和平的建设者、全球发展的贡献者、国际秩序的维护者。下面，我愿回答大家的提问。

**中央广播电视总台央视记者：**国内外对今年的中国外交充满期待。您能否介绍今年中国外交特别是元首外交会有哪些重点和亮点？作为新任外长，您对今后一个时期的中国外交有何展望？

**秦刚：**今年是全面贯彻落实党的二十大精神开局之年。党的二十大对中国外交规划了顶层设计，明确了使命任务，作出了战略部署。当前，国内新冠疫情形势好转，中外交往有序恢复，中国外交已经按下“加速键”，吹响“集结号”。

我们将以元首外交为引领，特别是全力办好首次“中国+中亚五国”元首峰会和第三届“一带一路”国际合作高峰论坛两大主场外交，不断展现中国外交的独特风范。

我们将以维护核心利益为使命，坚决反对一切形式的霸权主义和强权政治，坚决反对冷战思维、阵营对抗

politics. We firmly oppose the Cold War mentality, camp-based confrontation, and acts to contain and hold back other countries' development. We will resolutely safeguard China's sovereignty, security and development interests.

We will build on our extensive partnerships. We will pursue coordination and sound interactions among major countries, seek friendship and cooperation with other countries, and promote a new type of international relations. China has had a growing network of friends, made more and more new friends, and strengthened ties with old ones.

We will take openness and development as our objective. We will facilitate high-quality development and high-standard opening-up. We will reject "decoupling", and oppose severing industrial and supply chains and imposing unilateral sanctions. We will uphold an open and inclusive world economy, and will generate new opportunities for the world with our new development.

We will take multilateralism as the way forward. We will promote the building of a community with a shared future for mankind, promote greater democracy in international relations, and make global governance more just and equitable. We will offer more, better Chinese insight and solutions to help meet humanity's common challenges.

We will take "diplomacy for the people" as our guiding principle. We will always bear in mind the well-being and security of our overseas compatriots, and honor our commitment to serving the people. We will enhance the service for and protection of Chinese citizens and institutions abroad to make their overseas travels and exchanges safer and more convenient.

The world is far from tranquil, being entangled in intertwined turmoils and transformation, the clash between unity and division, and the coexistence of opportunities and challenges. The new journey of China's diplomacy will be an expedition with glories and dreams, and it will also be a long voyage through stormy seas. The harder the mission, the more glorious its accomplishment. Under the strong leadership of the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core, we will put Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy into full practice, follow through on the decisions of the 20th CPC Congress, and uphold our foreign policy goals of safeguarding world peace and promoting common development. We will meet challenges head-on, boldly take on responsibilities, foster an enabling external environment for building a modern socialist country in all respects, and write a new chapter in China's distinctive major-country diplomacy in the new era.

**Rose al-Yūsuf: Many see the Chinese path to modernization as a new path to modernity that will inspire other countries, especially the developing countries. How do you see the significance of the Chinese path to modernization for the world?**

**Qin Gang:** Indeed as you said, "Chinese modernization" has become a popular phrase in the world. Achieving modernization for a country of more than 1.4 billion people will be an unprecedented feat in human history, one of profound global significance in itself.

和遏制打压，坚决捍卫国家主权、安全、发展利益。

我们将以伙伴关系为依托，促进大国协调和良性互动，同各国发展友好合作，推动构建新型国际关系，中国的朋友圈越来越广，新朋友越来越多，老朋友越来越铁。

我们将以开放发展为目标，服务国内高质量发展和高水平对外开放，反对“脱钩断链”，反对单边制裁，维护开放包容的世界经济，以中国新发展为世界提供新机遇。

我们将以多边主义为路径，推动构建人类命运共同体，推进国际关系民主化，推动全球治理朝着更加公正合理的方向发展，为解决人类面临的共同挑战贡献更多、更好的中国智慧、中国方案。

我们将以外交为民为理念，始终将海外中国同胞的冷暖安危放在心头，将外交为民的责任担在肩上，加强对海外中国公民和机构的服务和保护，使中外交往更安全、便捷。

当今世界并不太平，动荡与变革交织，团结与分裂碰撞，机遇与挑战并存。新征程上的中国外交，是充满光荣梦想的远征，是穿越惊涛骇浪的远航。惟其艰巨，更显荣光。我们将在以习近平同志为核心的党中央坚强领导下，践行习近平外交思想，贯彻党的二十大精神，始终坚持维护世界和平、促进共同发展的外交政策宗旨，迎难而上，勇于担当，为全面建设社会主义现代化国家营造良好外部环境，书写新时代中国特色大国外交新篇章。

**埃及《鲁兹尤素福》杂志记者：**很多人都认为中国式现代化给世界各国的现代化提供了新的道路，给各国特别是发展中国家以启迪。您认为中国式现代化对世界具有什么意义？

**秦刚：**的确如你所说，中国式现代化已成为国际社会的一个热词。一个拥有十四亿多人口的国家整体迈入现代化，这将是人类历史上前所未有的壮举，具有巨大的世界意义。

中国式现代化破解了人类社会发展的诸多难题，打破了“现代化=西方化”的迷思，创造了人类文明新形

Chinese modernization offers solutions to many challenges facing human development. It busts the myth that modernization is westernization; it creates a new form of human advancement; and it provides an important source of inspiration for the world, especially developing countries. As I see it, Chinese modernization has at least five features:

First, independence. The reason why the Chinese path to modernization works is exactly because it is developed in China and rooted in Chinese culture, and fits in well with China's national conditions. China's success in development also proves that every country has the right and ability to choose its own path, and to hold its future firmly in its own hands.

Second, putting people first. Chinese modernization is the modernization of common prosperity for all. It is about achieving both material abundance and cultural-ethical enrichment for the people. Modernization should not serve the interests of only a few countries or individuals. It should not make the rich richer and the poor poorer. Nor should it lead to cultural impoverishment, moral degradation or disorder. People around the world should all enjoy the rights to seek development as equals and pursue happiness.

Third, peaceful development. Chinese modernization is not pursued through war, colonization, or plundering. It is dedicated to peace, development, cooperation and mutual benefit, and is committed to harmony between humanity and nature. It is a new path different from Western modernization.

Fourth, openness and inclusiveness. Humanity's modernization should not be a one-flower show but a hundred flowers in bloom. It is important to respect the right of every country to pursue a modernization path tailored to its national reality, and encourage exchange and mutual learning, so that all will flourish and prosper together.

Fifth, working hard in unity. China's success proves that acting in disunity like a heap of loose sand will get us nowhere, and that only by striving in unity can we pool strength. We will persevere in carrying out the set blueprint until it becomes reality. Partisan rift, empty talk and frequent policy flip-flop as seen in certain country will only make even the best blueprint an illusion and a castle in the air.

The process of Chinese modernization is a boost to the force for peace, justice and progress in the world. We hope and believe that as more and more countries begin their own journey of modernization, the vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind will become true.

**TASS: How do you view the future of Russia-China relations? Will it provide a new model for state-to-state relations? Will the Chinese President visit Russia after the NPC and CPPCC Sessions? Is it possible for our two countries to drop the use of the US dollar and the Euro in bilateral trade settlement?**

**Qin Gang:** You mentioned the model for major-country relations. That is a good perspective for observing China-Russia relations. Major countries should figure out what they want with each other—building exclusive blocs, or fostering friendship that is open and sincere. China and Russia have

also, also give the world, especially the vast developing countries, an important inspiration. I think it is reflected in five aspects:

一是独立自主。中国式现代化之所以行得通，就是因为它立足中国大地，植根中国文化，契合中国实际。中国的成功发展充分证明，各国完全有权利也有能力选择自己的道路，将命运牢牢掌握在自己手里。

二是人民至上。中国式现代化是全体人民共同富裕的现代化，让人民不仅物质上富足，而且精神上富有。服务少数国家、少数人不是现代化，富者越富、穷者越穷不是现代化，精神空虚、失德失序也不是现代化，各国人民都应有平等发展、追求幸福的权利。

三是和平发展。中国式现代化一不靠战争，二不靠殖民，三不靠掠夺，我们坚持和平、发展、合作、共赢，坚持人与自然和谐共生，这是一条有别于西式现代化的崭新道路。

四是开放包容。人类的现代化不应孤芳自赏，而应百花齐放，尊重各国走符合自身国情的发展道路，彼此交流互鉴，精彩绽放，美美与共。

五是团结奋斗。中国发展的成功经验充分证明，一盘散沙没有希望，团结奋斗才有力量，要咬定青山不放松，一张蓝图绘到底。如果像有的国家那样政党纷争，只说不做，朝令夕改，再好的蓝图也只是画饼充饥、空中楼阁。

中国式现代化进程，是世界和平、正义、进步力量的壮大。我们希望也相信，世界上越来越多的国家走上现代化道路，将使人类命运共同体的梦想成为现实。

**俄罗斯塔斯社记者：您如何看待俄中关系发展走向？俄中关系能否为国与国关系提供新范式？中国国家主席是否将于两会后访俄？未来俄中贸易是否可能放弃使用美元或欧元？**

**秦刚：**你提到大国关系范式，这是观察中俄关系一个很好的视角。大国交往，是搞封闭排他的集团政治，还是坦坦荡荡的君子之交？中俄成功走出了一条大国战略互信、邻里友好的相处之道，树立了新型国际关系的典范。

有的国家习惯用冷战结盟的滤镜看中俄关系，看到