



RESEARCH PAPER

A Study on Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy as the Theoretical Basis of China's Multipolar World Vision

Ulas Birkan CAKILCI

PhD Scholar, School of Politics and International Relations, East China Normal University, Shanghai, China

Corresponding Author: ulasbirkan@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This article examines the implications of Xi Jinping Thought for diplomacy as the theoretical foundation of China's vision of a multipolar world. Xi Jinping Thought adapts Marxism to the Chinese context, combining China's modernization process in line with socialism and its global vision. Diplomacy serves China's national goals and contributes to the development of a multilateral international order. This thought aims to promote multipolarity in the face of hegemony. The article analyzes the dimensions of Xi Jinping Thought through a qualitative analysis and assesses how it has shaped China's foreign policy. Xi Jinping Thought underpins China's major-country diplomacy and consolidates China's role in global governance by combining socialism and global vision. Moreover, by taking a more active role on the world stage, China aims to build a shared future for mankind, combating hegemonic structures, and pursuing a global order based on justice and equality. Promoting China's vision of a multipolar world requires developing foreign policy strategies focused on greater global cooperation and equality. Furthermore, the integration of Xi Jinping Thought into a broader international framework can further strengthen China's global role.

KEYWORDS Xi Jinping Thought, Major-country Diplomacy, Global Governance, Multipolarity

Introduction

The Central Committee of the CCP, with Xi Jinping at its center, after the 18th National Congress of the CPC, with the motivation to make a greater contribution to humanity in the face of a series of important changes in the new era, launched an important theoretical and practical innovation in diplomatic work based on the trends of China and the world, and entered a new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics. With the 19th National Congress, this transformation became more systematized and Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era was formed. The direction and goals of diplomacy in the new era have been defined. Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy is positioned as an important part of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era.

This new thinking is the Marxism of contemporary China and the 21st century, defined by Xi's guiding role. It incorporates Marxist perspectives and stances, building on past core policies and traditions and becoming the essence of the Sinification of Marxism. At the same time, in the new era, it combined the basic principles of Marxism with the practice of major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics. Hence the emphasis on the scientific aspect.

Entering a new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics also means a new phase in China's diplomatic relations with all major countries. Therefore, it also means a new era for the whole world. China has already charted a different path in terms of development, and its unique experience in demonstrating that the best way to do so is its own, has caused many countries to reconsider the conventional wisdom and to be surprised. With this guidance, China has made its diplomacy more pioneering, innovative, responsible, and entrepreneurial in line with the major-country status it has achieved, and has started to move towards a major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics, providing a strong

guarantee for achieving the two centenary goals and the Chinese dream. In this way, China has put forward a new model that accepts the Westphalian international system, but with the principles of non-confrontation, non-conflict, mutual respect, and win-win cooperation, China has undertaken an important mission against hegemony and unipolarity, promoting a community with a shared future for mankind, multipolarity, and Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy is the foundation of this transition.

Literature Review

Many academic studies emphasize that Xi Jinping's Thought is an adaptation of Marxism specific to the Chinese context. Xi's foreign policy is based on an understanding that combines China's national goals with its global vision, advocating socialist modernization and a multilateral international order. Some argue that this thinking modernizes China's traditional foreign policy principles, aligning national interests with global interests (Wang, 2020; Wei, 2020).

Xi Jinping Thought has sparked important debates, especially on multipolarity and global governance. The literature also emphasizes that Xi's foreign policy aims to build a world order based on justice and equality, rather than conflict with traditional Western hegemonic structures. In this context, China's support for multipolarity focuses on the goal of a fairer order as opposed to the balance of power in the current world order (Yang, 2018; Zhang, 2024).

Major-country diplomacy is one of the cornerstones of Xi Jinping's foreign policy approach. It is an approach that reinforces China's active role in international relations and proposes solutions to global problems. The literature reveals that China's diplomatic approach has not only an economic but also a global dimension. On the one hand, China utilizes its economic size, and on the other hand, it increases its influence in international relations with the idea of a shared future for mankind (Weixing, 2019; Yan, 2014).

Xi Jinping Thought focuses on reforms in global governance. The literature discusses how China has evolved into a global leadership role in this context and how Xi Jinping has challenged Western dominance in international relations and proposed a more egalitarian world order. Xi's foreign policy advocates not only China's interests but also peace, development, and the common good worldwide. At the same time, some studies suggest that with China's rise to global leadership, more competition with the West has also emerged (Xi, 2017a; Muzaffar & Choudhary, 2017; Wang, 2020).

The Xi Jinping Thought and China's foreign policy approach analyzed in this article are in line with the existing debates in the literature. In particular, issues such as multipolarity, change in global governance, and major-country diplomacy emphasize Xi Jinping's influence on the global order. This literature review reveals that Xi Jinping's foreign policy thinking has reshaped China's role on the global stage and taken important steps towards a fairer, more equitable world order.

Foundation of Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy from the Center to the Global

Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy, the Party's leadership is the spirit of Chinese diplomacy; the Party's nature and purpose is to adhere to socialism with Chinese characteristics; the Party's original mission, the responsibility of Chinese diplomacy is to safeguard world peace, promote common development, and promote building a community with a shared future for mankind; the Party's commitment to values, the fundamental principle of Chinese diplomacy is to promote justice and fairness and stand by the progress of human civilization; The Party's centralized and unified leadership has determined that the greatest advantage of Chinese diplomacy is the strategic leadership of head-of-state diplomacy and the overall planning and coordination of foreign affairs; The Party's

organizational line has determined that the team building of Chinese diplomacy is to build a foreign affairs team that is loyal to the Party, the country and the people, politically committed, professionally skilled, has a strong style and is disciplined (Theoretical Study Center Group of the Party Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2023).

Professor Wang summarized the direction of Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy as planning, creating momentum and building spirit. Planning means coordinating internal and external situations, seeking a period of strategic opportunity for the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, and seeking a good international environment. Momentum building is to lead the general trend of international cooperation through BRI, building a new kind of international relations and creating an interconnected global network of partners. Building spirit is to provide the spirit for globalization and global governance, answering the fundamental questions of “who” and “for whom” and guiding values to promote human progress (Wang, 2022: 4).

President Xi has made it clear that China is closer than ever to the center of the global arena, closer than ever to realizing the Chinese dream, and more confident and capable than ever of achieving its goals. More importantly, whereas China was previously largely seen as being on the periphery or semi-periphery of the system, Xi has seen that this is no longer the case and has instead moved China toward the center. Major-Country Diplomacy has been an important turning point in this progression. It has become the spearhead and backer of calls for peace and development in international affairs, and has not shirked responsibility. President Xi Jinping has said: “The world is too big, and challenges are too many, to go without the voice from China being heard, without solution ideas from China being shared, without the involvement of China being needed. To those suffering from hardships and wars, we will not only express our sympathy and solidarity, but also take duty bound actions to provide help. China will, as always, open its arms to embrace the world, and offer its helping hands to those in need. Our circle of friends will grow bigger.” (Xi, 2016). For China, creating a favorable international environment for national rejuvenation is more challenging, yet more productive, than ensuring a peaceful environment for economic construction. Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy, an important part of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, represents an important theoretical outcome of the application of the basic principles of Marxism to the major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics; it defines the basic principles, the fundamental core tasks, and provides guiding guidance for foreign policy in the new era. It answers the questions of what kind of world China hopes to see, what kind of international relations it expects to build, and what foreign policy will serve China in the new era and how it will be conducted. It is the basic guiding ideology of major-country diplomacy. In this context, it not only determines China’s foreign policy orientation but also offers a more inclusive, fair and equal actor ground based on multipolarity with its global vision.

Building Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy in the Move to New Era

Here is a summary of the situation at the time of Xi Jinping’s inauguration: Great achievements, remarkable progress, and solid foundations have been laid in the direction of reform, opening up, and socialist modernization. At the same time, however, there are a number of important problems. These were summarized by President Xi as bureaucraticism, meaningless formalities, hedonism, some cases of corruption, structural problems in the economy, unbalanced development, lack of coordination, some shortcomings in the capacity to ensure national security, and lack of effective action on the part of Party leadership. In response to all this, the idea of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for the New Era was introduced (Xi, 2022: 4-5).

The main elements of this theory are summarized in the 10 affirmations, the 14 commitments, and the 13 areas of achievement that were articulated at the 19th National Congress and the Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th Party Central Committee. At the 19th

National Congress of the CPC, Xi stated that Socialism with Chinese Characteristics has entered a new era with socialist modernization and national rejuvenation as its most important goals, and laid out development plans and guidance in line with this slogan. At this point, he first introduced the general points of the Thought of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era as 8 affirmations, which were later expanded to 10 with modifications during the Sixth Plenum of the 19th Central Committee in 2021. This thought made the following clear:

The first is that it is necessary to adopt a two-stage approach, on the basis of which the overall goal of sustaining and improving Chinese socialism is to realize socialist modernization and national rejuvenation and complete the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects, so as to transform China into a prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious and beautiful, great modern socialist country by the middle of the century. Second, the main contradiction facing Chinese society in the new era is between unbalanced and inadequate development and the growing needs of the people. Therefore, it is essential to adhere to people-oriented development, enhance people's democracy, and make clearer progress toward common prosperity for all.

On the eve of achieving the first centenary goals in 2020, the major challenges affecting development were listed as follows: Innovation capacity does not meet the need for high development, agriculture is not strong enough, the urban-rural divide, regional disparity, and income inequality are significant, much work remains to be done in ecological environmental protection, and there are shortcomings in social governance and social security. These problems, which are seen as the main challenges arising from imbalanced and insufficient development, are seen as affecting overall development and making all-round socialist modernization more time-consuming and effort-consuming. In order to solve these problems, adherence to dialectical and historical materialism was seen as a solution. Only through an active and sustained effort and a holistic approach is it aimed to achieve results. This is an important example of the practical realization of dialectical and historical materialism (Xi, 2022: 137).

Third, the overall plan for building Chinese socialism is the Five-Sphere Integrated Plan, and the overall strategy is the Four-Pronged Comprehensive Strategy. This must be coordinated in order for Chinese socialism to move forward (Xi, 2017b: 62). The areas of the integrated plan are economic, political, cultural, social, and ecological progress, while the legs of the comprehensive strategy are building a modern socialist country, deepening reform, advancing law-based governance, and strengthening Party self-governance. Fourth, the overall goal of comprehensively deepening reform in all areas is to improve a system of socialism with Chinese characteristics and modernize China's governance system and capacity. Fifth, the overall goal of comprehensively developing law-based governance is to establish a socialist rule of law system with Chinese characteristics. Sixth, the goal of building a strong military is to transform the military into a first-class, world-class modern force that sustains proper behavior. Seventh, major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics aims to foster a new type of international relations and build a community with a shared future for mankind. The last is that the hallmark of socialism with Chinese characteristics and its greatest strength is the leadership of the CPC (Xi, 2017a: 16-17). In this way, Chinese socialist thought for the new era has taken the intellectual heritage of the past and enriched it, and represents the latest achievement in the adaptation of Marxism to the Chinese context. It has become the main guide to action on the road to national rejuvenation.

The Sixth Plenum of the 19th Central Committee highlighted the Party's leading efforts and accumulated historical experience over the first century in 10 affirmations. These are upholding the Party's leadership, putting the people first, advancing theoretical innovation, staying independent, following the Chinese path, maintaining a global vision, breaking new ground, standing up for ourselves, promoting the united front, and remaining

committed to self-reform. These 10 points are considered to represent a shared value created by the joint efforts of the Party and the people, which should be enriched and deepened (The State Council Information Office of the People's Republic of China, 2021: 12). The two different headings were as follows: China must uphold and develop its basic socialist economic system; implement a new philosophy of innovative, coordinated, green, open, and common development; promote high-quality development; and balance development and security imperatives. Full and rigorous self-governance is of strategic importance to the Party, and the Party can lead a major social transformation by undertaking a major self-transformation in all aspects (Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee, 2021: 22). In this way, Xi Jinping has put forward a series of important new ideas for the Party and for the country in the new era. This is the best representation of contemporary China and the best adaptation of Marxism to the Chinese culture, morality, and system, and as such, is the 21st century's version of Marxism.

Another important reference point in this regard is the 14 commitments made by Xi Jinping at the 19th National Congress of the CPC, which form the basis of his efforts to maintain and improve Chinese socialism in the new era. The first is ensuring Party leadership over all work. This is because the Party is the overall leadership of the whole country and it is necessary to remain in harmony. It is, therefore, necessary to strengthen the Party's ability to chart new courses, to design policies, and to support everyone to coordinate their efforts. The second is committing to a people-centered approach. The people are seen as the primary status, and this status must be guaranteed. Putting people at the center is a fundamental characteristics of Marxism. The Party's main purpose is to serve the people. The third is continuing to comprehensively deepen reform. Only through reform and opening up can China, socialism, and Marxism be developed. Fourth, adopting a new vision for development. Development continued to be seen as the solution to all problems. It adopted a vision of innovative, coordinated, green, and open development for all. Fifth, seeing that the people run the country. Commitment to the rule of the country by the people and to the rule of law is seen as a natural element of socialist political progress. Sixth, ensuring every dimension of governance is law-based. This is because law-based governance is seen as an important guarantee of Chinese socialism. Seventh, upholding core socialist values. Cultural trust represents a deep strength that sustains the country's development. Eighth, ensuring and improving living standards through development. Development aims to improve people's lives and alleviate their worries. The ninth is ensuring harmony between human and nature. This is because building an ecological civilization is essential to maintain China's development. Thus, it is also responsible for ensuring global ecological security. The tenth is pursuing a holistic approach to national security. Security is pursued not with an aggressive attitude but with an understanding of being prepared for possible dangers. Eleventh, upholding absolute Party leadership over the people's forces. Because a strong, modern, efficient army was to be built in the new era. Twelfth, upholding the principle of "One Country, Two Systems" and promoting national reunification. Maintaining lasting prosperity and stability in these regions was seen as crucial for national revitalization. Thirteenth, promoting the building of a community with a shared future for mankind. The dream of the Chinese people is closely linked to the dream of the people of other countries, and the Chinese dream can only be realized in a peaceful, stable international environment. The last one is exercising full and rigorous governance over the Party. So that the Party can reform itself (Xi, 2017a: 17-22). These 14 commitments thus set out the basic theory, path and policy.

13 areas of achievement were highlighted at the Sixth Plenum of the 19th Central Committee. These include a series of fundamental principles and policies, major initiatives, and achievements that the Central Committee has implemented since the 18th National Congress of the CPC, based on the principle of maintaining progress while ensuring stability. First, the authority of the Central Committee in supporting the overall leadership of the Party and the centralized, unified leadership has remained intact, refining the way the Party exercises its leadership and increasing its capacity in all areas. Second, strengthening the

Party's ability to develop itself and maintain its integrity in complete and strict self-rule. Third, economic development becomes more sustainable, coordinated, and balanced. Fourth, the Party must continuously implement reforms in all areas with a broader and deeper perspective. The Chinese system of socialism has become more mature, and its modernization and governance capacity have reached a higher level. Fifth, the development of people's democracy, institutions and procedures. Sixth, the development of law-based governance and a socialist rule-of-law system with Chinese characteristics. Seventh, in the cultural sphere, to increase confidence in Chinese culture, social unity and cohesion, and thus provide solid ideological guarantees. Eighth, to improve all aspects of people's lives and create a healthy social environment in which they can live in happiness and peace, with stability and order. Ninth, to make significant progress in building an ecologically beautiful China. Tenth, to modernize national defense capabilities and capacity. Eleventh, enhancing national security against political, economic, ideological, and natural challenges. Twelfth, the adoption of a series of measures and practices to sustain the One Country, Two Systems policy and promote national reunification. Last, and related to diplomacy, is the development of major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics on all fronts (The State Council Information Office of the People's Republic of China, 2021: 9-11). Thanks to this diplomatic approach, the notion of a community of mankind with a common future has come to shape the trends of the age and human progress. It has been able to deal with complex global problems and find solutions. Its international influence, impact, and attractiveness have increased. China's historical modernization journey, challenge, transformation and achievement could be shown to the world.

To expand on foreign policy, Xi Jinping has been clear about the goals and nature of China's foreign policy in the new era: "In pursuing diplomacy, China will stay committed to peace, development and win-win cooperation, take into account both domestic and international situation and ensure both development and security. We will stay committed to peaceful development, resolutely uphold sovereignty, security, and development interests, and preserve and extend the major period of strategic opportunity for China's development so as to pave the way for achieving the two centenary goals and fulfilling the Chinese dream of national renewal" (Yang, 2017). These statements, which can be summarized as building a new type of international relations based on mutual respect, justice, equality, and win-win cooperation, have served as an important guide and become principles of international vision.

Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy is very important in that it is the end point of the historical development of China's diplomatic theories, enriches past diplomatic theories, and is based on China's reality and the characteristics of the times. It is an important scientific, contemporary, action-oriented system of thought. It advocates building global partnership networks, building a community with a shared future for mankind, building a new type of international relations system, promoting a fairer international system, leading the change in the global governance system, advocating multilateralism. It envisions an inclusive, open, clean and beautiful world of lasting peace, universal security, and common prosperity. It represents a deeper understanding of the conduct of major-country diplomacy and sets out in-depth its basic requirements, internal laws, and direction in the new era. It promotes deepening coordination and cooperation with major countries and the overall stability and balanced development of the international organization. In particular, it is based on a clear understanding and comprehensive analysis of global developments.

It also embodies and carries forward Chinese culture and tradition. For example, the proposal to build a community with a shared future for mankind draws strength from China's historical values of universal peace and common good, or the values of benevolence and good neighborliness in neighborhood diplomacy. Views such as the harmony of man and nature, the world is for everyone, harmony among all nations, people are brothers and sisters, and everyone is a friend, and harmony but diversity are rooted in Chinese culture and values. On the other hand, in placing China's development in a global context and

aligning the interests of the Chinese people with the interests of people around the world, it transcends traditional international relations theories that are inadequate to explain the present. In this sense, it is a well-designed system of deep theories (Wang, 2020). China's traditional culture and values are well-researched and translated into the advantages of its power of international discourse, and this influence is reflected in its foreign relations.

In this context, it can be seen that in the new era, in addition to advancing domestic reform and socialist modernization, China is also taking a more active role in the global system with Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy. Therefore, China's integrated evaluation of domestic and foreign policies shows that Xi Jinping Thought is both the ideological compass of the Chinese dream of national rejuvenation and the driving force of multipolarity.

What kind of Design?

Foreign Minister Wang Yi has stated that there are three main characteristics of President Xi's diplomatic thinking. These are: advancement, pioneering, and stability. Advancement means that his diplomatic thinking overcomes Western theories of international relations based on zero-sum games and power politics, and is in line with the current trends of peace and development. Pioneering means that it combines the historical with the new and proposes and promotes many new ideas and initiatives in diplomatic theory. Stability means that in the face of increasing international uncertainties and challenges, it is always committed to peace, development, multilateralism, openness, and inclusiveness (Wang, 2017).

One of the reasons for China's increased conceptual productivity was the idea that China's international responsibility was growing in proportion to its development and capacity. Not only has China achieved the status of the second-largest economy, but it has also shown the world an alternative development model by becoming a member of the G20, an important platform for global economic and financial governance (Wei, 2020: 2). Hence, their global thinking was expanding and they were beginning to behave in a proactive manner. This approach was not only transformative, conceptual, and constructive in nature, but also represented a turning point in the evolution of world diplomacy. In a system that had long been saturated with Western theories and concepts of international relations, China's narrative power had begun to grow. Basically, it is seen that concepts such as community with a shared future for mankind, Chinese dream, win-win cooperation, major-country diplomacy, and finally GDI, GSI, and GCI have come to the fore, and world affairs are explained in this way. The universal concept of building a community with a shared future for mankind has been reiterated in the international arena, and this concept has also been accepted in the UN Security Council resolutions (Guancha, 2017). This is important as it demonstrates both the productivity of Chinese diplomacy and the universality of its concepts, as well as its contribution to global governance as part of the international human rights discourse. In this sense, Xi Jinping has provided domestic and foreign scholars with many ideas for reflection, developed a set of rhetorics that have helped China redefine its global role, and contributed to the creation of a Chinese IR theory. The system to which it contributes should also be mentioned here. By the international system, China means the international system with the UN at its center. By international order, it means the international order underpinned by international law. Rules are the basic norms governing international relations, underpinned by the purposes and principles of the UN Charter. This can be generally referred to as global governance (Xi, 2021: 5).

Yang Jiechi notes that the framework of the ideas put forward by Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy can be specifically defined by the persistent efforts in ten aspects summarized in the 2018 Central Foreign Affairs Work Conference, and can be expressed in the form of overall goals and mission principles. This thinking also provides in-depth content and guidance on the principles and development of major-country diplomacy in the new era. First, efforts should be made to strengthen the CCP leadership. This is because, in the

complex international environment, the unified and coordinated implementation of the leadership's decisions will ensure diplomatic success and, in turn, national success. And it will be the leadership that will do this, as its history has shown. The second is the promotion of major-country diplomacy. This will help realize the dream of the revival of the Chinese nation and the two centenary goals, deepen reform and opening up, and create a favorable external environment. Third, strive to build a community with a shared future for mankind. In this way, the mission of preserving world peace and common development can be promoted. Building a community with a shared future for mankind is defined as a goal and a direction; building a new model of international relations is defined as a prerequisite and a way forward. The fourth is to promote Chinese socialism. This is a reliance on China's own history, culture, experiences, moral consciousness and theories. With this China-specific path and the development of major-country diplomacy, China's international image is being shaped. In addition, a good national image based on a solid reputation makes it easier for China to achieve its goal of national revitalization (Yan, 2014: 161). Fifth, support the Belt and Road Initiative to achieve shared growth. The BRI is the most comprehensive and concrete example of China's achievements in opening up, building a community with a shared future for mankind, and international cooperation. This has increased the opportunities for joint development. Sixth, to continue to pursue the path of peaceful development, which requires cooperation based on mutual benefit and mutual respect, in line with its role as a world peace builder. Seventh, building global partnerships. Promoting coordination and cooperation with other major countries will help build a comprehensive, multidimensional network of global partnerships and a worldwide circle of friends. Eighth, strive to reform the global governance system according to the principles of justice and equity. Supporting an active role for the UN, advocating for democracy and the rule of law in international relations, and increasing the representation of other developing countries are important for a more balanced global governance system. The ninth is to safeguard core national interests such as national sovereignty, security, and development interests. The last is to combine China's diplomatic traditions with its contemporary characteristics to create and enrich a uniquely Chinese brand of diplomacy (Yang, 2018). These thoughts on foreign policy are an important theoretical crystallization. It can be seen as the fundamental basis and a guide for China's diplomatic efforts in the new era.

Xi Jinping and the CPC Central Committee have played a central role in this system of thinking. In 2013, Xi became Head of State, but his diplomatic career began much earlier. He has served in many different offices, including a high-level post as Vice President from 2008 to 2012, visiting dozens of countries and regions around the world. This period marked an important turning point where a vigorous, confident, hard-working, highly organized, inspiring, and hopeful leadership with transformative ideas and a China with increased national and international power and a clear international status found common ground. Diplomatic relations have been more intense and active than ever before (Weixing, 2019: 9).

Keeping pace with the great changes taking place in the world has required the implementation of many innovations in foreign policy and innovative leadership. According to Professor Gui, centralized and unified leadership is the most distinctive feature of Chinese diplomacy. For China, diplomacy is not only a concentrated expression of the will of the state, but also an important part of the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and foreign affairs work must serve the will of the Party and the State, be carried out under centralized and unified leadership, and contribute to the goal of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation (Gao, 2022: 31).

With the inauguration of Xi Jinping, Chinese diplomacy began to embrace the heritage of previous times, while pointing to numerous discoveries and innovations. Continuing the past was important both to draw on ancient Chinese wisdom and to develop the theme of a time of transition to peace and development. It was also a way to consolidate the intellectual foundation alongside the innovations that consolidated the material

foundation. On the other hand, the new model of international relations has demonstrated innovative behavior by exhibiting new ideas, concepts, clear priorities, flexible, comprehensive, sustained, and deep approaches and different styles. It has strengthened the public opinion base of relations between countries and built networks of connections, thereby strengthening soft power and promoting international peace and security (Gao, 2022: 37). By emphasizing China's own theories, ways, principles and values, and by presenting Chinese solutions, it has both increased the self-confidence of the people and encouraged a spirit of self-reliance, creating a common intellectual basis for diplomatic activities. It offers innovations in theory and practice by integrating the basic principles and methodology of Marxism with the realities of contemporary China. In terms of diplomatic endeavors, strong high-level design and medium- and long-term strategic planning have been the main practices to keep abreast of new trends, quickly make appropriate policy adjustments in light of changing international developments and conditions, and properly address new diplomatic issues. Through the leadership's vision, formulation and implementation of plans, and achievement of positive results, China has recently created a middle-income population of over 400 million, in totally lifted a population of over 800 million out of poverty, eliminated absolute poverty, and achieved Xiaokang society. Now, in a new era, China has emerged as a major country and has begun to play a dominant role. In addition to pursuing its own development, it is also helping other countries, especially developing countries, to develop. Professor Zhang explained this by saying that since the early 1980s, China has accomplished an almost one industrial revolution every ten years and is now at the forefront of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. He emphasized that while the West's modernization was achieved through war and imperialism, China's success was achieved peacefully and under socialism under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party (Zhang, 2024). The BRI is the most decisive example of this. It enhances multilateralism, gives developing countries a greater voice, and breaks the hegemonic role of the West. The leadership's multilateralism not only increases countries' interest in further developing their relations with China, paves the way for diplomatic efforts, and actively develops major-country diplomacy, but also increases the determination to work for the continuation of Chinese modernization and the realization of the two centenary goals and Chinese dream.

As Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy has improved its theoretical quality over time, the understanding of China's relations with the world has reached a higher level. Instead of zero-sum outcomes, President Xi has chosen to increase activism, address a wider range of issues with many initiatives and proposals, and make more friends. In this way, he has not acted individually, but has enhanced global governance, improved relations with other countries, contributed to safeguarding the common interest and acted with an international vision. In order to ensure integration between China and the rest of the world, he has placed great emphasis on managing foreign relations in a holistic manner. It encourages central and local governments, non-governmental organizations, and all foreign-related organizations to fulfill their respective functions and work together to create synergy. To this end, it has been able to achieve stronger and better coordinated foreign relations integration by strengthening institutional structures, clearly organizing and formulating relevant systems and mechanisms, and introducing new initiatives.

Conclusion

In conclusion, it has become a reality that China has achieved significant success in its development path following its own unique way and has achieved the status of a major country, and with the inauguration of President Xi Jinping, China has started to pursue a more active diplomatic approach in line with this reality. This path includes policies that are not only self-serving, but also an integration that demonstrates China's understanding of itself as a responsible major country and, accordingly, for the benefit of the whole world. On the one hand, it seeks to realize the Chinese dream of national rejuvenation, and on the other hand, it seeks to build a community with a shared future for mankind. At this point, Xi Jinping

Thought on Diplomacy should be considered not only as a framework guiding China's foreign policy, but also as a roadmap and a system of thought on a global scale. This shows that China's national rejuvenation journey and its understanding that supports multipolarity in the face of hegemony and unipolarity should be considered as complementary to the same historical line. Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy represents the dominant diplomatic production of a vision based on justice, equality, cooperation, win-win, and thus the theoretical foundations of the multipolar vision.

References

- Gao, Z. (2022). On Strengthening the Centralized and Unified Leadership of the Party Central Committee in Foreign Affairs. *Journal of the CCPS (CAG)*, 26 (3), 30–39.
- He, S. (2017). The Concept of 'Building a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind' Was Included in the UN General Assembly's Security Resolution for the First Time. *Guancha*. https://www.guancha.cn/Third-World/2017_11_02_433313.shtml.
- Muzaffar, M. & Choudhary, S. (2017). Human Development and Democratic Governance: An Analysis, *Orient Research Journal of Social Sciences*, 2(1), 71-94
- Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee. (2021). *Resolution of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on the Major Achievements and Historical Experience of the Party over the Past Century*. https://english.www.gov.cn/policies/latestreleases/202111/16/content_WS6193a935c6d0df57f98e50b0.html.
- The State Council Information Office of the People's Republic of China. (2021). *Communiqué of the Sixth Plenary Session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China*. http://english.scio.gov.cn/m/topnews/2021-11/12/content_77867764.htm.
- Theoretical Study Center Group of the Party Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. (2023). Ideological Weapons and Scientific Guidelines for Advancing on the New Journey of China's Major Power Diplomacy with Chinese Characteristics. *People's Daily Online*. http://paper.people.com.cn/rmrb/html/2023-06/02/nw.D110000renmrb_20230602_1-06.htm.
- Wang, Y. (2020). How Xi Jinping's Diplomatic Thoughts Guide Major-Country Diplomacy with Chinese Characteristics?, *Modern International Relations*, (11), 1–8.
- Wang, Y. (2017). Striving to Open Up a New Situation in China's Major-Country Diplomacy with Chinese Characteristics - Interview with Foreign Minister Wang Yi. *People's Daily Online*. <http://cpc.people.com.cn/n1/2017/0830/c64102-29503108.html>.
- Wang, Y. (2020), *Study and Implement Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy Conscientiously and Break New Ground in Major-Country Diplomacy with Chinese Characteristics*. https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/wjdt_665385/zyjh_665391/202007/t20200721_678873.html.
- Wei, L. (2020). Striving for Achievement in a New Era: China Debates Its Global Role. *The Pacific Review*, 33 (3–4), 413–37.
- Weixing, H. (2019). Xi Jinping's 'Major Country Diplomacy': The Role of Leadership in Foreign Policy Transformation. *Journal of Contemporary China*, 28 (115), 1–14.
- Xi, J. (2021). Bolstering Confidence and Jointly Overcoming Difficulties To Build a Better World. *Xinhua*. http://www.news.cn/english/2021-09/22/c_1310201230.htm.
- Xi, J. (2016). *President Xi Jinping's New Year Speech 2016*. http://www.china.org.cn/china/2016-01/01/content_37435999.htm.
- Xi, J. (2022). *Hold High the Great Banner of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics and Strive in Unity to Build a Modern Socialist Country in All Respects*. https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/zxxx_662805/202210/t20221025_10791908.html.

- Xi, J. (2017a). Secure a Decisive Victory in Building a Moderately Prosperous Society in All Respects and Strive for the Great Success of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era. *Xinhua*. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/special/2017-11/03/c_136725942.htm.
- Xi, J. (2017b). *The Governance of China II*. Beijing: Foreign Languages Press.
- Xi, J. (2022). *The Governance of China IV*. Beijing: Foreign Languages Press.
- Yan, X. (2014). From Keeping a Low Profile to Striving for Achievement. *The Chinese Journal of International Politics*, 7 (2), 153–84.
- Yang, J. (2018). *Following the Guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy to Advance Diplomatic Work in the New Era*. http://dm.china-embassy.gov.cn/eng/zt/xi1/201904/t20190424_4087454.htm.
- Yang, J. (2017). *Study and Implement General Secretary Xi Jinping's Thought on Diplomacy in a Deep-Going Way and Keep Writing New Chapters of Major-Country Diplomacy with Distinctive Chinese Features*. https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/wjdt_665385/zyjh_665391/201707/t20170718_678630.html.
- Zhang, W. (2024). *China's Astounding Success Has Been Achieved in Peace and under Socialism*. <https://socialistchina.org/2024/10/13/zhang-weiwei-chinas-astounding-success-has-been-achieved-in-peace-and-under-socialism/>.