

Reflect on Xi Jinping's Grand Diplomatic Chessboard in the New Era

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President Xi Jinping once stated, “a great era calls for a great vision, which in turn requires great wisdom”, which represents the top-level design of China’s diplomatic strategy, not only according with the current situation of China and the world, but also conforming to the common interests of China and various countries over the globe.

I. Banner for China’s diplomacy: Peace, development, cooperation and the pursuits of win-win

Human being has gone through three eras since the 20th century:

The first era themed by war and revolution is from the beginning of the first century to 1945 when the Second World War ended up with a victory. The two wars in this era has shaken the foundation of colonialism and resulted in the emergence of a group of socialist and national independent countries, radically changing the international political situation and laying a basis for the peaceful development in the post-war period. In this era, China firmly grasped the once-in-a-century opportunity and became one of the four world-recognized anti-fascist states, walking from the edge of the political arena to its center and starting the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

The second era themed by peace and development is from 1945 to the beginning of 21st century. As a whole, the situation of the world period has maintained a relative lasting peace and reached unprecedented prosperity with closer relationship and dependencies among various countries, more economic globalization, rapid scientific development. And during this era, China has developed from a poor, closed country into one that takes economic development as the central task and reform and opening-up. In terms of foreign strategy, China has established its independent diplomatic policy in an all-round way and managed to create a sound international environment. Domestically, a vigorous campaign for modernization construction has risen with a high-speed development in a short period which amazed the world.

The third era is from 2010 up to now, and the theme of this era is peace, development, cooperation and the pursuits of a win-win situation. In March 24th, 2013, Xi Jinping pointed out in a speech at University of International Relations of Moscow that “peace, development, cooperation

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The implement of the Belt and Road initiative and the proposal of “Creating a mankind community with a common future” has fully demonstrated President Xi Jinping’s diplomatic concepts related to this great era, grand strategy and large format. According with the situation and interests of China and the world, both of them are parts of the top-level design of China’s diplomatic strategy and germs of the great wisdom.

and a win-win situation is the trend of this era”. This argument accurately disclosed the connotation of the theme of the current times and could be simplified as “cooperation and development”. During this era, the mission of China is to achieve a long-term stable development and reach the two-hundred-year target of realizing national rejuvenation through all-round cooperation, making the results of China’s development benefit other countries and becoming the engine that drives and leads world economic development, and thus changing China’s position from a regional power to a global one and enabling China to play an important role in the new world order. Thus it can be seen that President Xi Jinping’s accurate orientation about the theme of this era is not only a conclusion of the experience of world and China’s development but also a correct prediction of the development trend of China and the globe. Therefore, the theme of this era—— “peace, development, cooperation and the pursuits of a win-win situation” should be included in banner of China’s diplomacy.

II. Create “a community of common destiny for the mankind”

President Xi Jinping pointed out that promoting the reform of the global governance system has become a irresistible trend as there are more challenges around the world. “The initiative ‘ One Belt And One Road’ and our ideas and measures to establish new international relations with cooperation and the pursuits of win-win as the core, adhere to the right idea of moral and profit and construct a community of common destiny for the mankind conform to the trend of the era and comply with the benefits of various countries in the world, thus increasing the joints of interest between China and other countries.” Therefore, creating “a community of common destiny for the mankind” is a new conception, a new idea, and a new value about global governance put forward by China in the new era of cooperation and development. This initiative is in accordance with the requirements of this era and the direction of development of the world history. It is significant in three ways:

Firstly, “a community of common destiny for the mankind” or in other words “a community of common interests for various countries around the world” is the idea and value concept that leads mutual development of all countries in the globe. Capitalist countries abandoned the old mode of gaining development through aggression after the World War II, began to adopt the mode of peaceful development and quickly grew into developed countries. While developing countries which were newly independent after the World War II are mostly in poverty and face lots of difficulties in their courses of development and increasingly large gaps when compared with developed countries. This kind of situation is abnormal since the long-term development of the world would never be achieved on the

basis of such large gap of wealth. History has proven that the growth of developed countries were also limited when developing countries were left behind. Thus in this case all kinds of countries need to achieve mutual development through cooperation and the pursuit of win-win.

Secondly, the creation of “a community of common destiny for the mankind” is based on a right concept of moral and profit. According to the Marxist viewpoints on world history, human society has been following the course of developing from sealed, isolated and separated parts into an open and connected entirety that pursues mutual development. With further economic globalization, various countries around the world has become more connected to and dependent on each other, and the interests and fates of these countries has been tightly linked as a whole. The creation of the community of a common destiny for the mankind requires various countries regarding the right concept of moral and profit as the rule of establishing international relations. In this way, interests of all countries would maximize in the community and thus enabling the community of a common destiny for the mankind to be established and consolidated.

Thirdly, we should push forward the establishment of new-type international order and relation centered on the goal of cooperation and the win-win result. The international order and relation are the result of the world history development with different intonations based on different historical stages. The conflicts and injustice worldwide are not built on abandonment of international orders and relations based on the victory of anti-fascist wars and on the principles of the UN Charter, but on the ineffective implementation of these principles. Therefore, the tenet and principles of the UN Charter must be maintained and what we have achieved after World War II. Peace, development, cooperation and win-win results have currently become the theme of this age, and the majority of developing countries in the world have become important forces of international politics. Across the international community, we should uphold the principle of equality, democracy, and inclusiveness, respecting the rights of each country to independently choose its own social system and development routes, and the cultural diversity, as all the countries, regardless of their territorial size and national strength, are equal to each other in international community. The domestic affairs should be handled by the people of the nation and international affairs by all related countries together. All this calls for the enrichment and improvement of the intonation of international order and relations, and the establishment of such order and relation which can properly reflect the interest of each country in the world and which are based on equality, cooperation and win-win results.

Fourthly, the Belt and Road initiative is the best way to build a community of common destiny for all mankind. In September and October, 2013, President Xi proposed the establishment of the “New Silk Road economic belt” and “21st-Century Maritime Silk Road”, which caused a stir in the international community.

More than 2000 years ago, China blazed two silk roads both on the land and the sea to open the business relations with other countries and bring the Chinese civilization and friendship, winning the praise of related countries. The contemporary “One belt and one road”, a project of economic cooperation featuring openness and inclusiveness and an economic corridor with the longest span in the world, starting in China and running through Central, Southeast, South and West Asia and even some areas of Europe, bordering on the Asian-Pacific economic circle to the east and European economic circle to the west, has become the most promising economic belt in the world. The belt follows the trend of “peace, development, cooperation and win-win result”, and pursues the spirit of cooperation and inclusiveness, aiming to drive the development of all related countries. It has opened a specific road to “the community of common destiny of all mankind” and “the community of common interests”.

Thus, the concept and values of “a community of common destiny for all mankind” should be spread further as an important part of national soft power.

In short, the new theme of the era and the concept of “a community of common destiny for all mankind” have fully represented the profound and far-sighted thought in diplomacy, in accordance with the current national and global conditions and interests. It will definitely promote the evolution of the world history under the new global context of the time and China will also make great contributions to the mankind development.

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