



# China's "High-quality Development and Modernization" Amid U.S. – China Relations

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# Recent Celebration of Two Momentous Events

## Dual Anniversaries for the People's Republic of China

1. The Founding of the **People's Republic of China** under the Chinese Communist Party on October 1, 1949 –National Day (close to 74 years)

- After the Chinese Civil War (1945 – 49), the Nationalist Party, also known as the Kuomintang (pronounced Guomindang)--or KMT), of the **Republic of China** under Chiang Kai-shek fled to Taiwan in 1949
- “Mao stood up” was a common phrase in reference to National Day

# Recent Celebration of Two Momentous Events (cont'd)

Dual Anniversaries for the People's Republic of China

2. The Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China, January 1, 1979 (44 years)

- The Honorable Leonard Woodcock, U.S. Ambassador to the People's Republic of China (1979 – 1981)
- Taiwan Relations Act, 1979
- Establishment of the American Institute in Taiwan--January 16, 1979

# Reception Honoring Ambassador Leonard Woodcock at the University of Michigan

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# Oceans Apart...Close as Neighbors



# Practicing Mandarin

- <https://chinese.yabla.com/chinese-english-pinyin-dictionary.php?define=hai+nei+cun+zhi+ji+%2C+tian+ya+ruo+bi+lin>
- 海内存知己，天涯若比邻 Trad. 海内存知己，天涯若比邻
- **hǎi nèi cún zhī jǐ , tiān yá ruò bǐ lín**
- close friend in a distant land, far-flung realms as next door (idiom); close in spirit although far away

# Open Door Policy Revisited

- Post- Cultural Revolution (1966 – 1976)
- Mao Zedong's Check on Chinese Communist Party Opposition (Lushan Plenum, 1959), Youth and Revolutionary Fervor, and Revolutionary Immortality
- Post-Cultural Revolution Economic Devastation affecting China's Defense Budget and more
- Breach of Social Norms and the Five Major Relationships of Confucianism: (1) Leader-Follower, (2) Father-Son, (3) Husband-Wife, (4) Elder Brother-Younger Brother, and (5) Friend-Friend
- Educating a "lost generation"

# Modernization

- Previously, the “Four Modernizations” 1979-82
- Premier Zhou Enlai acknowledged but could not implement, December 1964
- Interruption of the Cultural Revolution, 1966- 1976
- Deng Xiaoping –Pragmatist, “Mousecatcher”-- agriculture, industry, defense, and science and technology in the documentation of the 11<sup>th</sup> Party Congress of 1977 and the 5<sup>th</sup> National People’s Congress in 1978
- Foundation for China’s economic growth in the 1980s and 1990s



# Taiwan and the One/Two-China Policy

- U.S. President Richard Nixon's visit to China in 1972; led to the Shanghai Communiqué, February 27, 1972-
  - attempt normalization of relations
  - increase “people-to-people contacts” and trade opportunities
  - resolve Taiwan without force
  - concern about communism in Vietnam
- Joint Agreement for Diplomatic Relations between PRC and US—January 1, 1979
- Establishment of the American Institute in Taiwan, January 16, 1979

# One Country, Two Systems, 1979

- Hong Kong's return from the United Kingdom to China, July 1, 1997--
  - Hong Kong to maintain its system for 50 years
  - National Security Law, June 30, 2020, an hour before the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of HK's handover
  - Threat to Hong Kong's sovereignty
- Macau's return from Portugal to China, December 20, 1999
  - Threat of spillover effect
  - Profitable market

# Emergence of New Leadership—Xi Jinping

- Studied chemical engineering at Tsinghua University
- Princeling (father with Party rank)
- Father out of favor during the Cultural Revolution; sent to the countryside for six years of manual labor in 1969
- Joined the CCP in 1974—moved up the ranks starting as a Party branch secretary
- Took office as General Secretary of the Party on November 15, 2012, and was re-elected twice on October 25, 2017, and 23 October 23, 2022, respectively

# Emergence of New Leadership—Xi Jinping (Cont'd)

- Xi Jinping's "Chinese Dream"—economic prosperity, technological advancement, global presence, no family left behind
- Xi Jinping's focus on his legacy leading up to and after the 19<sup>th</sup> Chinese Communist Party Congress in October 2017—must build leadership-follower alliances amid factions and power strongholds
- Xi Jinping's international global outreach speech, World Economic Forum Annual Forum, Davos, Switzerland, January 17, 2017
- Belt and Road Initiative—Central Asia, East Africa, Southeast Asia, September 7, 2013- 2049

# Belt and Road Initiative



# Challenges to High-quality Development and Modernization

- Population Policy of 2015 (Guangdong Code, 1979; One-child Policy, 1980)
- Current population **1,455,085,359** as of Thursday, April 27, 2023, based on Worldometer elaboration of the latest United Nations data.
- Decline in fertility rate to 1.18—A Total Fertility Rate (TFR) of **2.1 represents the Replacement-Level Fertility**: the average number of children per woman needed for each generation to exactly replace itself without needing international immigration. A value below 2.1 will cause the native population to decline.
- Zero- COVID-19 and the Zero-Policy--nearly 16,000 COVID-19 deaths among its population of 1.4 billion Source: Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center

# Challenges to High-quality Development and Modernization (cont'd)

- Human rights violations-UN High Commissioner of Human Rights Michelle Bachelet visited China in May 2022—Report indicated violations of rights
- Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region-- Treatment of Uyghurs (one of 55 ethnic groups)
- Educating future development for technology
- Aging population without adequate support

# National Party Congress and the Two Sessions

- 20<sup>th</sup> National Party Congress, October 16 – 22, 2022

--It is in the Chinese Communist Party line of authority

- 13<sup>th</sup> National People's Congress, March 5, 2022

--It is the State (or government) line of authority

According to the Constitution of the PRC, it is the “supreme state authority of the PRC.”

- Frequent news references to the “Two Sessions” —
- National People's Congress
- Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (advisory body)
- Focus on modernization and high-quality development



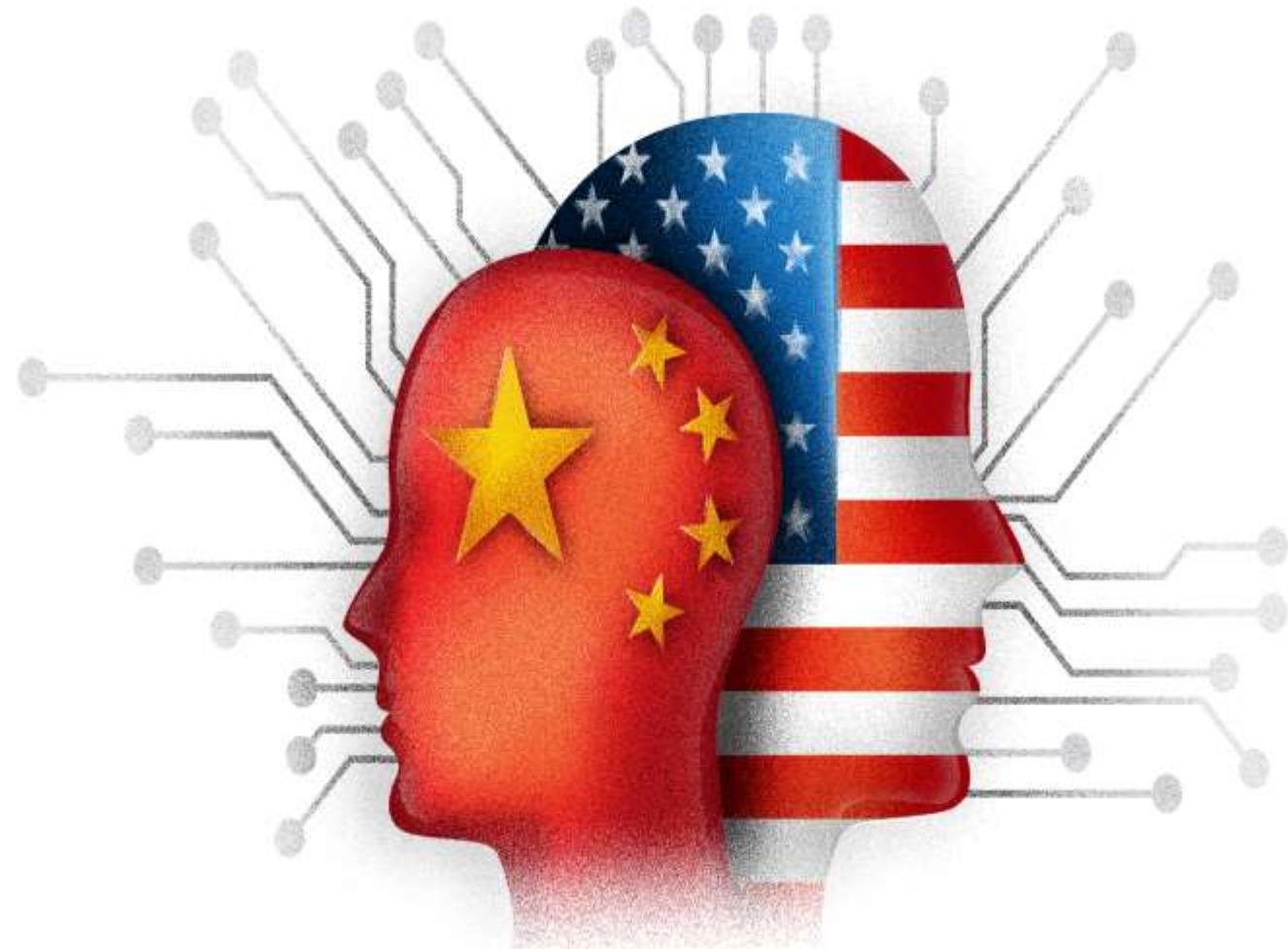
# Independent Modernization with China at the forefront of Asia

- Expansion of Science and technology, especially chip development, RFID, Biometrics, Artificial Intelligence, High-speed Rail, Driverless Cars
- Outreach to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Asia
- A One-China Policy –whither Taiwan? Kuomintang (KMT) and Democratic Progressive Party (DDP—the ruling party under President Tsai Ing-wen).
- President Tsai visited with House of Representative Leader Kevin McCarthy. Former Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou (KMT Party) visited China

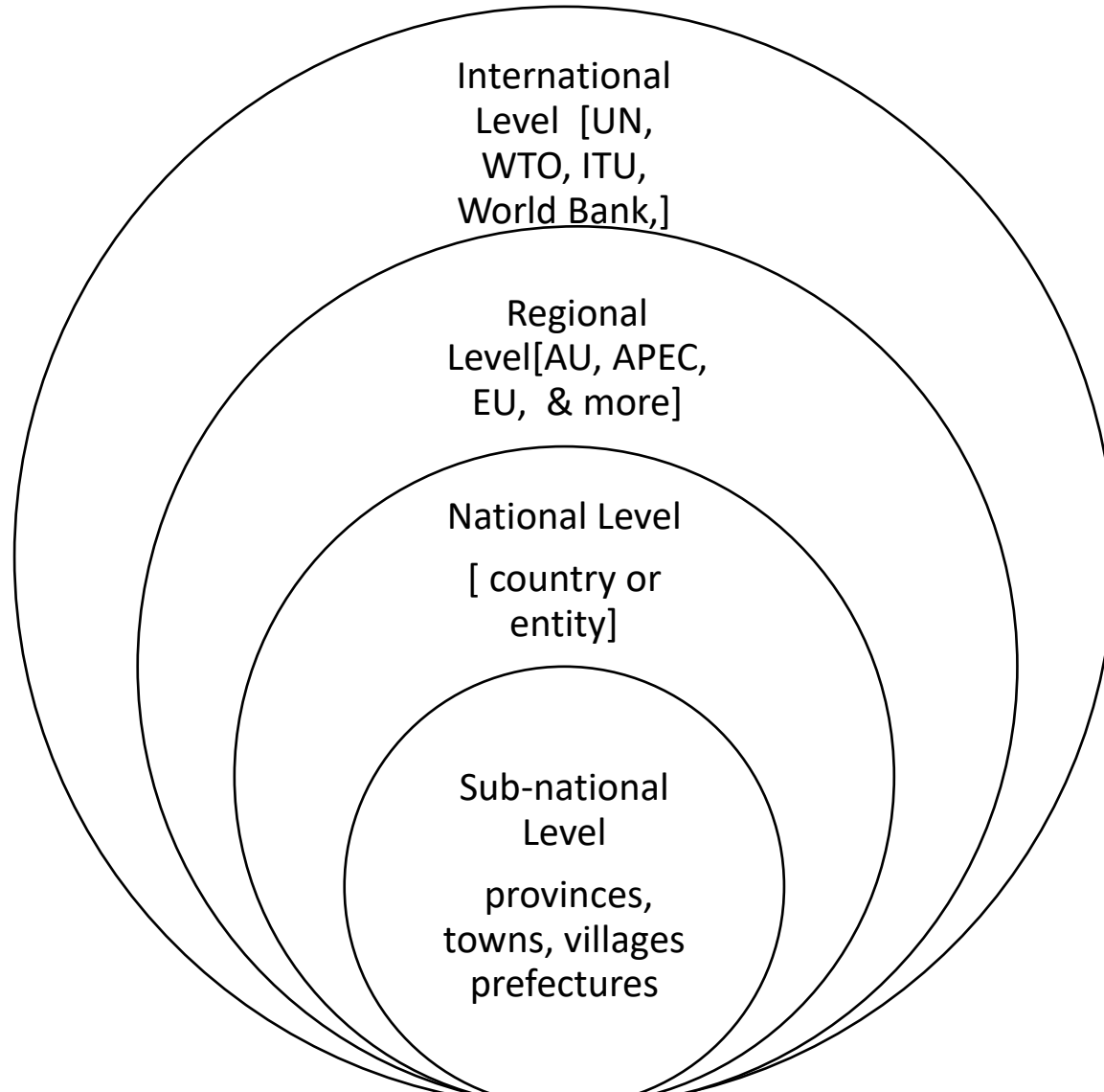
# China Leadership and Indo-Pacific Developments

- World image of equality and responsible leader—natural disasters, Ukraine 12 Point Statement, visit to Putin (Response of Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida in visiting Ukraine and India), phone call to Ukraine's Zelensky
- China's call for unity among nations in implementing Responsible Artificial Intelligence in military and defense at the first international summit co-hosted by the Netherlands and South Korea at The Hague, Netherlands, February 16, 2023
- China's President Xi Jinping and Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, visiting Russia and Ukraine, respectively
- Closer ties for Japan and India with visit in March 2023
- Technological developments in Southeast Asia with ASEAN countries, especially Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, and with Brunei, Cambodia, Vietnam, the Philippines, Laos, and Myanmar
- Establishment of AUKUS—trilateral arrangement of Australia, the UK, and the US—September 15, 2021
- Surveys of Taiwan showing preference for independence

Global Competition, Technological Arms Race, or Unspoken Collaboration...What's in a Name? Or, "A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words."



# Multi-level Analysis



Questions?