

INTERPRETATION ON NEW PHILOSOPHY OF CHINESE DIPLOMACY

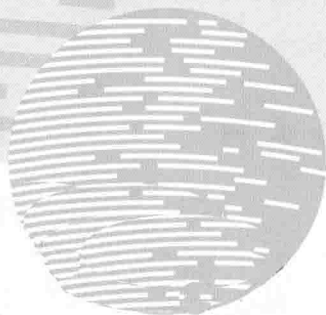
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英文审读: 张文英 李 丽

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Foreword

After the successful conclusion of the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China in 2012 as well as the National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference in 2013, Chinese diplomacy has stepped into a new phase under the guidance of the new core leadership of China. In the face of the complex and volatile international situation, China focuses on long-term national interest and strategic situation of the world, and is in active pursuit of innovation on diplomatic theory and practice. Diplomatic activities of China have been fruitful, covering high-level visits, economic cooperation, cultural exchanges, public diplomacy and non-governmental activities. A comprehensive framework coordinating bilateral, multilateral, regional and global affairs has also been established. The overall strategic guideline for Chinese diplomacy could be summarized as "neighboring countries as the primary, major countries as the key, developing countries as the base and multilateralism plays active role".

In this developing and ever-changing world, China explores a more active diplomatic policy to the world. A new model of major-country relations between China and the United States is in search. China's diplomacy to neighboring countries is concluded as "amity, sincerity, mutual benefit and inclusiveness". New regional cooperation concepts are promoted, such as the Silk Road Economic Belt, the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, "an upgraded version" of the China-ASEAN Free Trade Area (CAFTA), the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Economic Corridor, the

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. These efforts lead a trend of cooperation in the region and increase the friendliness of China to the world.

Chinese diplomacy has always been and will continue to be people-oriented and serving its people. China will continue to unswervingly stay on the path of peaceful development, and unwaveringly follow a win-win strategy of reform and opening up. China will contribute its own effort to a diversified world and promote international exchanges. China will follow the world trend of peace, development, cooperation and mutual benefit, and share the opportunity and fruit of development with the international society. Recognized norms of international relations will be safeguarded and a common development goal of mutual benefits and win-win cooperation will be targeted. The world is facing various difficulties and challenges which require negotiations and peaceful talks among all stakeholders. China would like to contribute to a harmonious world of lasting peace and common prosperity.

Nowadays, Chinese diplomacy has been attached high importance by the international society for its comprehensiveness and international and strategic vision. To better present new philosophy of Chinese diplomacy to the world, we prepare this book in which Chinese diplomatic policy is introduced and elaborated from different perspectives. In the first part, senior officials will explain China's position and attitudes toward the international politics in details. In the second part, researchers will illustrate the interactive model of Chinese diplomacy with the rest of the world. By publishing this book, we hope an overall philosophy and strategy of Chinese diplomacy could be elaborated, presenting an open, confident and responsible image of China to the world. We also hope that the Chinese dream will deliver a positive message to the international society.

Editors
July 2014

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Top Interpretations

Innovations in China's Diplomatic Theory and Practice under New Situations

By Yang Jiechi*

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) concluded successfully in 2012 and the annual sessions of the National People's Congress (NPC) and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) came to an end in 2013, in the face of new situations and new tasks, the CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping as General Secretary has grasped evolving global environment and trends of development in China, focusing on long-term and strategic overall situation. On the basis of maintaining continuity and stability of its major diplomatic policies and coordinating an overall plan to domestic and international interests, it has promoted innovations in diplomatic theory and practice by keeping up with the trend of the times and pushing ahead with a pioneering spirit. To actualize a good beginning and scheme an overall layout plan, the CPC Central Committee has put forward many important external strategic ideas, as well as diplomatic policies, principles and a series of major external actions, which not only have comprehensively promoted the creation of favorable external conditions to the Party and the State, but also

* Yang Jiechi, State Counsellor of the People's Republic of China.

enriched and developed the theoretical system of diplomacy with Chinese characteristics.

I. The diplomatic opening and layout are highly strategic, global and innovative

With close international attention on major policy direction of CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping as General Secretary after the 18th CPC National Congress, Xi Jinping made his first diplomatic activity by meeting the representatives of foreign experts working in China. Later, the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee held a collective study session on committing ourselves to the road of peaceful development. In these internal and external activities, President Xi Jinping delivered important speeches about China's opening-up strategy and foreign policy, sending out a clear message that China's new collective central leadership is committed to the reform and opening up, the path of peaceful development and win-win strategy of opening up while maintaining the core interests of China.

Since the end of the annual sessions of NPC and CPPCC in 2013, Xi Jinping and other Party and State leaders have paid visits to major countries, neighboring countries, emerging market countries and developing countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America, Europe and North America, and hosted dozens of foreign leaders' visits. Through combining with activities of bilateral and multilateral diplomacy both at home and abroad, Chinese leaders have met over one hundred foreign heads of state and leaders, which has effectively enhanced China's friendly exchanges and pragmatic cooperation with other countries.

—Actively promoting relations with the major countries. Xi Jinping, as China's president, made Russia as the premier stop for his first visit, which strengthened bilateral cooperation in the economy, trade, energy and strategic security and consolidated the basis of the China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination. President Xi Jinping met with US President Barack Obama at the Annenberg Estate in Los

Angeles, during which the two sides agreed to work together to build a new model of major-country relationship with mutual respect and win-win cooperation, indicating directions and drawing the blueprint for the development of China-US relations in the future. China and the United States also successfully held their 5th round of Strategic and Economic Dialogues, making positive progress in implementing the agreement of the two heads of state and promoting the construction of a new model of major-country relationship. With other Party and state leaders of China have paid visits to several European countries, we also have hosted European leaders' visit to China such as French President Hollande and worked constantly to open up new areas of mutually beneficial and pragmatic cooperation between China and Europe.

—Making efforts to stabilize and develop good-neighborly and friendly relations with neighboring countries. China's relations with its neighbors are overall moving towards a more favorable direction. While attending the Boao Forum for Asia 2013 Annual Conference and holding a series of state activities, President Xi Jinping expounded on the new ideas in domestic and foreign policies, which enhanced strategic mutual trust with relevant countries and improved relations with neighboring countries. We have hosted visits by state leaders from neighboring countries, such as President Truong Tan Sang of Vietnam, President Park Geun-hye of Korea and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif of Pakistan, strengthened bilateral relations with neighboring countries and regions including Southeast Asia and Central Asia, and consolidated our good-neighborly friendship and cooperation with them. On the issues such as Diaoyu Islands, South China Sea, we must firmly uphold our country's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests while working hard to handle and resolve disputes with neighboring countries through dialogue and negotiations. On the North Korean nuclear issue, we should also firmly commit to the goal of denuclearization on the Peninsula, and be actively engaged in coordinating with relevant countries and pushing the situation on the Peninsula towards relaxation.

—Making great efforts to strengthen friendship and cooperation with developing countries. President Xi Jinping's successful visits to Africa and Latin America have fully reflected the great importance we attach to developing countries. By visiting Tanzania, South Africa and the Republic of the Congo, Xi Jinping set a precedent for a Chinese head of state to visit Africa. What's more, he also met with a dozen of African leaders at breakfast meeting, gaining fruitful results in inheriting friendship, enhancing mutual trust, promoting cooperation and seeking common development. By visiting Trinidad and Tobago, Costa Rica and Mexico, President Xi Jinping held bilateral talks with leaders of eight countries in Caribbean, which has strengthened political trust and result-oriented cooperation and promoted Chinese overall cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean.

—Deeply engaging in and shaping processes of multilateral diplomacy. When meeting leaders of international organizations, President Xi Jinping emphasized that China advocates and practices multilateralism, and gives first priority to the important role of the UN and other international organizations. China will fulfill the international obligations and make depth cooperation with relevant international organizations in maintaining world peace and security, promoting human development and progress as well as addressing global issues and challenges in other fields. New progresses have been made in China's relations with major international organizations. By attending the 5th BRICS Leaders Meeting held in Durban, South Africa, President Xi Jinping worked for communication and coordination with other major developing countries on global economic and political issues and brought about progress in building BRICS mechanisms. After the meeting, the *eThekweni Declaration* and *Action Plan* were issued, deciding to establish a development bank and a contingency reserve arrangement among the BRICS countries, thus providing a strong driving force to the establishment of a new international political and economic order that is fairer and more reasonable.

The CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping as General Secretary has made innovations in inheritance, and a spectacular beginning and a

comprehensive and balanced layout in diplomatic work have been achieved. Under new situations, Chinese diplomacy displays such features as rich ideas, prominent focuses, firm positions, flexible strategies and distinctive styles. This has not only aroused greater interest of all parties to further grow relations with China and laid a good foundation for diplomatic work in the next five to ten years, but also boosted the morale of the Party, the army and the people, thus greatly arousing the enthusiasm of Party and national people for the realization of the “two centenary goals”¹ which were set by the 18th CPC National Congress.

II. Innovations in diplomatic theory and practice have gained a series of great achievements

Confronted with complex international situations, the CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping as General Secretary has developed the Party’s good tradition of linking theory with practice, made explorations with courage by combining domestic affairs with foreign affairs and integrating Chinese features with the trend of the times, and achieved a series of major breakthroughs in diplomatic theory and practice in a short period of time, which reflects the determination of development and innovation, broad vision of the world, forward-looking strategy and the capacity to control the overall situation of the CPC Central Committee, providing a powerful guarantee about theory and practice for a new situation of diplomatic work and the important period of strategic opportunities.

1. Putting forward the important thought of the Chinese dream and giving its profound meaning with a view to promoting exchanges and cooperation between China and the rest of the world

During the process of visiting abroad and hosting foreign guests since

¹ “Two centenary goals” refers to: complete the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects when the Communist Party of China celebrates its centenary and turn China into a modern socialist country that is prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced and harmonious when the People’s Republic of China marks its centennial.

the 18th CPC Congress, President Xi Jinping has deeply introduced the important thought of the Chinese dream to leaders and people of foreign countries, expounding the great connotations of the Chinese dream.

President Xi Jinping has emphasized that the Chinese dream is the dream of both Chinese people of all ethnic groups and every individual in the country. Realizing our Chinese dream requires a peaceful and stable international and neighboring environment, and China will continuously make it through peaceful development. The Chinese dream having a close relationship with dreams of other peoples around the world, China is committed to helping other countries, developing countries and neighboring countries in particular, with their development while achieving development of its own. China will share more development opportunities with other countries so as to realize other countries' dreams properly. China hopes to have win-win cooperation and common development with the rest of the world. By realizing our Chinese dream, Chinese people hope to make efforts to realize the world dream with people around the world.

The comprehensive and detailed description of the Chinese dream proposed by President Xi Jinping is a continuation and development of the important thought of China's peaceful development in the new era. It has enhanced international understanding and recognition to China's peaceful development strategy, and received extensive appreciation and welcome in the world. Many leaders of states and people from various sectors indicate that the Chinese dream is consistent with the dreams of their own countries and own peoples, and they are willing to realize the common and beautiful dream with China. This fact has handled powerfully attempts by certain international forces at distorting and smearing the Chinese dream.

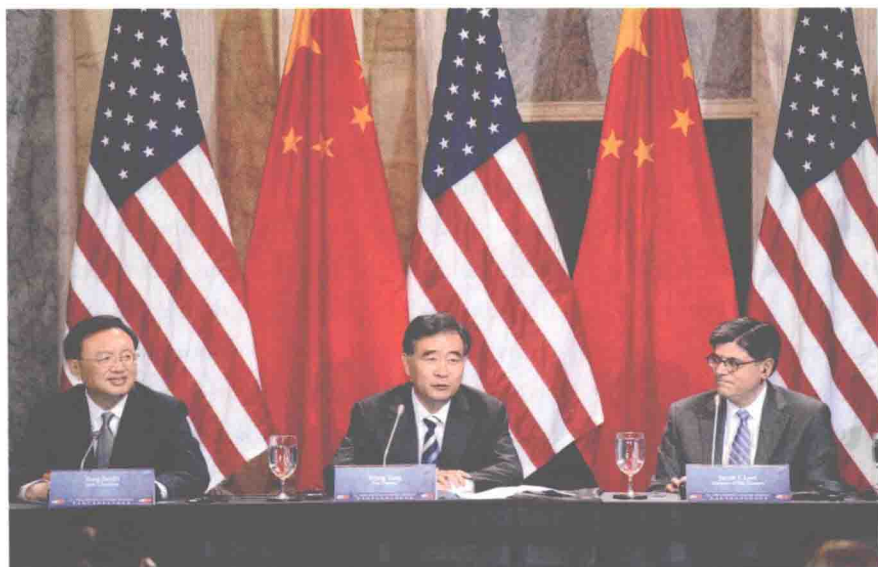
The important thought of the Chinese dream has not only inspired people's determination and confidence in accomplishing the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, but also promoted China's influence and affinity in the world, enhanced the status and the right to speak in international affairs and reflected the organic integration and a high degree

of unity in domestic and foreign affairs.

2. Putting forward the view of building a new model of major-country relationship between China and the United States, while striving to develop relations with other major countries

To promote the building of a new model of major-country relationship between China and the United States and actualize sound interaction and win-win cooperation with major countries is an important notion of the CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping as General Secretary. The notion is a strategic choice to absorb experience and lessons from history, follow the trend of the times and integrate China's interests with other countries in the world. It is also the inner requirement of the "two centenary goals" and the inevitable demand for our overall external strategy of peaceful development.

China and the US have reached an important consensus on building



The Chinese State Councilor Yang Jiechi, the Chinese Vice Premier Wang Yang and the US Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew, on the second day of the China-US Strategic and Economic Dialogue, held in Washington D.C., capital of the United States, July 11, 2013 local time.

a new model of major-country relationship. During the meetings at the Annenberg Estate, President Xi Jinping and President Obama agreed that the two countries would work together to build a new model of major-country relationship and bring benefits to both countries and people in the world. Xi Jinping made an insightful summary about the connotations of the relationship with three sentences. First, no conflict and no confrontation. It requires that two countries treat each other's strategic intention in an objective and sensible way and to be partners instead of adversaries. We properly deal with differences and contradictions through dialogue and cooperation rather than confrontation and conflict. Second, mutual respect. It requires that two countries respect each other's social system and path chosen by ourselves, as well as core interests and concerns. We can seek common ground while shelving differences, uphold inclusiveness and mutual learning, and make progress together. Finally, win-win cooperation. It requires that two countries abandon the zero-sum mentality, consider the other's interests while pursuing one's own, promote common development while developing oneself, and continue to deepen the pattern of mix-up interests. Xi Jinping also pointed out that to implement the agreement on the building of a new model of major-country relationship, the two countries need to enhance a new level of dialogue and mutual trust, take new steps in practical cooperation, build a new pattern of major-country interaction, and explore new ways to manage and control differences. The building of a new model of major-country relationship between China and the United States is unprecedented, inspiring for the next generation and for generations to come. It is a historic innovation that has no ready experience to follow. Everything is not going smoothly. However, as long as we grasp the situation, focus on the goal, firm confidence and keep moving, we would be able to promote healthy and stable development of China-US relations.

Meanwhile, China's relations with other major countries have also made fresh progress and breakthroughs with positive planning management and endeavor. China and Russia continued to deepen strategic mutual