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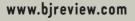
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One take on their modern impact





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EDITOR'S DESK

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Diplomatic Wisdom

Though unfamiliar to most Westerners, the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence are highly acclaimed diplomatic tenets in China and many other developing countries. The principles—mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual nonaggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit. and peaceful coexistence—were reaffirmed at a recent conference commemorating their 60th anniversary. At the event in Beijing, leaders from the three founding nations of China, India and Myanmar vowed to uphold and promote these principles in light of new circumstances.

The principles were first proposed by China at the height of the post-WWII decolonization movement. They quickly gained the recognition of newly independent countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America that yearned for equality in international relations. Today, while globalization has transformed the world into a community of nations with interwoven interests, the core values embodied in the five principles remain pertinent.

One of these values is sovereign equality, which means that a country should be allowed to handle its domestic affairs free from foreign intervention, and international issues should be addressed through consultations by all countries concerned. Common security is another essential notion. It calls on a country to take into account other countries' security concerns while seeking to safeguard its own defenses. Moreover, this win-win cooperation is a key approach to finding

solutions to complex international problems and delivering benefits to the more than 7 billion residents on the planet.

China's sincerity in honoring the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence is genuine. Notably, the principles are consistent with Chinese cultural traditions. People in China. which remained predominately an agrarian society for thousands of years, are traditionally risk-averse, unaggressive and long for care-free, peaceful lives. They also prefer harmony and moderation, as advocated by the Confucian Doctrine of the Mean, over playing up differences and engaging in confrontation. These inherent traits have been embedded in the cultural genetic makeup of

A look at deep-seated national characteristics should help counter accusations that China has jeopardized regional security. China has been on the defensive in all recent clashes in the East China and the South China seas. Beijing has long pledged to settle territorial disputes with neighbors through negotiations and not to allow them to interrupt their cooperation before solutions are reached. Had China's vision of jointly developing marine resources while shelving territorial disputes been implemented, East Asian security might not have become a point of contention.

The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence provide a viable method of defusing regional and global tensions. It is time that we championed these fundamental principles to a global audience, highlighted their relevance and applied them to international relations.

WRITETOUS



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A FANFARE GREETING

Chinese President Xi Jinping attends a welcome ceremony held by his South Korean counterpart Park Geun Hye at the presidential office Cheong Wa Dae, or the Blue House, before their talks in Seoul on July 3.

During Xi's visit, the two East Asian neighbors reached a series of agreements such as finishing free trade negotiations by the end of this year and launching a renminbi clearance service in South Korea to facilitate bilateral trade and investment. They also reiterated the goal of denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula.

Xi made a two-day state visit to South Korea from July 3-4, marking his first trip to the country since taking office last year.

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Larger Lakes

Nam Co Lake is the largest inland lake in Tibet.

New research has found that the combined area of inland lakes in the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, which has an average altitude of 4,500 meters, has expanded to 32,300 square km from 25,600 square km 20 years ago, a 20-percent increase.

Scientists said that the rapid thawing of glaciers and increased precipitation contributed to the expansion of lakes, and the tendency to expand will continue in the short term.

Historical Records

Confessions made by 45 Japanese war criminals tried and convicted by military tribunals in China after World War II (WWII) were published online on July 3.

Handwritten confessions, along with Chinese translations and summaries in both Chinese and English, have been published on the website of the State Archives Administration, the administration's Deputy Director Li Minghua announced at a press conference.

The archives constitute irrefutable evidence of the heinous crimes committed by Japanese imperialists against the Chinese people, according to Li.

"Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe disregards history and human conscience, and has been openly trying to claim black is white, misleading the public, and beautifying Japanese aggression and its colonial history since he took office," Li told reporters. "This challenges the post-WVII international order."

Li added that his administration made the war criminals' confessions

available online before the 77th anniversary of the July 7 incident to commemorate history, cherish peace and prevent the reliving of such historical tragedies, Li added.

The July 7 incident, commonly known as the Marco Polo Bridge Incident in English, occurred in 1937 and marked the beginning of China's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, which lasted eight years.

Earlier on June 30, the Museum of the War of the Chinese People's Resistance Against Japanese Aggression in Beijing also launched a digital library of relics from the war via Baidu Baike, the online encyclopedia of China's top search engine Baidu.

The program features photographs of artifacts preserved in the museum, including diaries, letters and guns, among other items.

Credit Assessment

On June 27, China released an outline for building a government-led system

PANDA TWINS

Twin panda cubs, one male and one female, at a breeding center in northwest China's Shaanxi Province on June 30



to assess credit worthiness in four categories, including administrative affairs, commercial activities, social behavior and the judicial system.

The State Council, China's cabinet, pledged in the document to establish a set of laws and regulations regarding social credit, a credit reference system that covers the whole of society, and a related reward and punishment mechanism by 2020.

According to the outline, individuals and organizations will be coded based on identity card or organizational numbers to allow different sectors to share credit information.

Credit records will include information on financial, industrial and commercial registration, taxes and social security payments, as well as traffic violations.

Fast-Track Trials

China's top legislature approved a pilot program on June 27 that will speed up trials for minor criminal offenses.

The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) adopted a resolution authorizing the Supreme People's Court and Supreme People's Procuratorate to start the program.

Cases can be fast-tracked when evidence is sufficient, the law is not contested, the defendant pleads guilty and sentencing will be no more than one year or a fine, according to the resolution.

The fast-track trials can apply to minor criminal cases such as traffic offences, minor theft or fraud, assault and robberu.

The pilot will run for two years, in 18 cities including Beijing, Chongqing, Shanghai and Tianjin, where such cases are often backlogged.

Suspects Prosecuted

Four people have been prosecuted for their involvement in a March 1 terrorist attack at a railway station in Kunming, southwest China's Yunnan Province, top procuratorate announced on June

The Kunming Municipal People's Procuratorate found that the suspects were involved in organizing, leading or taking part in the terrorist attack as

well as intentional homicide, in a statement issued by the Supreme People's Procuratorate.

A group of assailants armed with knives attacked civilians at the railway station in Kunming, causing 29 deaths and injuring another 143.

Police shot to death four of the attackers on the scene and arrested four others.

Cheaper Admission

It was announced on June 30 that the Palace Museum in Beijing, also known as the Forbidden City, will offer three discount packages: Free open days, an annual pass, and a floating price, in a bid to reduce the number of visitors hitting the museum during peak tourism seasons.

The annual pass, which costs 300 yuan (\$48) per adult and 150 yuan (\$24) for seniors and students, gives the holder 10 admissions per year. The 2015 annual passes go on sale this October.

Meanwhile, the museum will begin free-admission days during the off-season on the first Wednesday of each month between November 2014 and April 2015, targeting one specific demographic each time. Free admissions will be open to teachers, medical staff, volunteers, soldiers, public security officers and college students.

Additionally, the museum will adopt a single-day floating price on a trial basis between September 12 and 14 of this year. Those visiting the museum after 2 p.m. will be charged 30 yuan (\$4.8) to enter, half of the full price of admission.

"The creation of a unified general and patient database will help us to identify the biomarkers of brain diseases, which we can then use as the basis for early diagnosis and treatment."

Poo Mu-ming, Director of the Institute of Neuroscience under the Chinese Academy of Sciences





Color Sport

A resident in Hefei, Anhui Province, takes part in a color run while wearing a wig on June 28

The Palace Museum, which was home to 24 emperors throughout the Ming and Qing dynasties between 1368 and 1911, welcomed 15.34 million visitors in 2012 and more than 14.56 million in 2013, making it the most-visited museum in the world.

Neurological Database

Chinese scientists are planning to compile a catalog of neurological symptoms and disorders in a bid to identify clues that could help tackle cerebral diseases and related disorders, according to newspaper Shanghai Daily.

Scientists announced the project in Shanghai on June 28.

"It will also be a useful resource for scientists around the world who are involved in brain research," said Poo Mu-ming, Director of the Institute of Neuroscience under the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Though few details of the project have been made public, Poo said that one of its primary goals will be to find treatments for conditions such as autism and Alzheimer's disease.

According to official figures, about 1 million Chinese children are affected by autism, a neurodevelopmental disorder.

By 2050, there could be as many as 9 million seniors in China with the condition.

The Votes Are In

Election workers count ballots at a polling station in Macao on June 29.

All the 400 members of the Election Committee for the Fourth-Term Chief Executive of China's Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) were selected that day.

According to the Basic Law of the Macao SAR, the chief executive shall be elected by a broadly representative election committee in accordance with the law and appointed by China's Central Government.

The tenure of Macao's current third-term chief executive ends on December 19.



THIS WEEK ECONOMY

Fiscal Reform

China will endeavor to build a comprehensive, transparent and efficient fiscal and tax system by strengthening reforms in the coming years, the central leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) said on June 30.

Priorities include improving management and supervision of government budgets, facilitating the building of a comprehensive, well-regulated and transparent modern budget system and optimizing the tax system, said a statement released after a meeting of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, presided over by its General Secretary Xi Jinping.

High priority will also be given to adjusting powers and spending responsibilities held by central and local governments, and adjusting the distribution of revenue between them while keeping the current division of financial resources between the two parties stable, it added.

A framework plan for reinforcing China's fiscal and tax system reforms was reviewed and agreed upon at the meeting.

The goal of the reforms is to set up a unified, comprehensive, well-regulated, open, transparent and efficient modern fiscal system that is conducive to better resources allocation, social equality and national stability, according to the statement.

It noted that China aims to fulfill key tasks in the new round of fiscal and tax reforms by 2016, and establish a basic modern fiscal system by 2020.

FTA Takes Effect

Free trade agreements between China and Switzerland and China and Iceland



PILOT PROGRAM

A visitor experiences a flight simulation during the First China-Russia Expo in Harbin, capital of Heilongjiang Province. The expo, lasting from June 30 to July 4, attracted a total of 1,597 domestic and foreign companies took effect on July 1, marking a new dawn for business between the countries.

The agreements, which apply a zero-tariff policy to a wide range of merchandise, cover areas including government procurement, employment cooperation and intellectual property.

Under the agreement, 99.7 percent of imports from China to Switzerland will be exempted from customs duties, while 84.2 percent of Switzerland's exports will enjoy the same policy. Duties on China's exports including textiles, clothes, auto parts and metalware will be reduced substantially.

Trade between China and Switzerland increased 126 percent year on year to \$59.5 billion in 2013. China is Switzerland's largest trade partner in Asia, while Switzerland is China's fifth largest trade partner in Europe.

Trade between China and Iceland stood at \$220 million last year.

PMI Rebound

Growth in China's manufacturing sector accelerated to a six-month high in June, registering a strong end to the second quarter and an encouraging sign that the economy is further stabilizing.

The purchasing managers' index (PMI) rose to 51 in June, up from 50.8 in May and the highest since December, according to data released by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and the China Federation of Logistics and Purchasing.

A reading above 50 indicates expansion, while a reading below 50 reflects contraction.

This is also the fourth monthly rise of the PMI, a widely watched indicator for the health of the world's second largest economy, which registered a weak start at the beginning of the year and stirred much market concern.

"The continuous rises in PMI indicate that a trend of stable economic growth has generally been established," said Zhang Liqun, a researcher at the Development Research Center of the State Council. "The policy measures aiming to stabilize growth have had the desired effect," he added.

China's non-manufacturing PMI dropped to 55 points in June from a sixmonth high of 55.5 in May.



Dashing River

Tourists watch water gushing out of the Xiaolangdi Reservoir on the Yellow River during a sand-washing operation in Luoyang, Henan Province, on June 30.

The operation works by discharging water from the reservoir to clear up the sediment in the Yellow River, the country's second longest waterway.

The Yellow River has been plagued by an increasing amount of mud and sand. Each year, the river bed rises as silt deposits build up, slowing currents in its lower reaches.



Traditional Garb

A customer browses Uygur-style clothes in Yining, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

In order to create more job opportunities, Yining has set up an industrial base for ethnic apparel to support local small and micro businesses.

More Flexible Yuan

China's State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE) announced on July 2 that it will allow banks to set their own exchange rates for the yuan against the U.S. dollar with clients, a further step in the liberalization of yuan exchange rates.

Banks can set their yuan/dollar exchange rate in their over-the-counter deals with clients on the basis of market demand, the SAFE said in a statement.

The regulation entered into effect on July 2. Before the new move, the spreads in banks' yuan/dollar buying and selling prices were subject to regulatory controls. The People's Bank of China, the central bank, widened the spreads to 3 percent from the previous 2 percent in March.

GOLD RUSH

A farmer harvests rush in the rain in Yinzhou District of Ningbo, east China's Zhejiang Province. Woven rush mats have become a major source of income for local farmers



New GDP Calculation

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) plans to include research and development spending as it revises its methodology for calculating GDP.

NBS has completed a draft plan and will submit it to the State Council for approval before the end of the year.

The change will lead to a rise in the aggregate economy and economic growth rate.

Some regions, such as Beijing, have heavier research input. The revision will increase the gap of total GDP between eastern and western regions.

China spent 1.19 trillion yuan (\$191 billion) on research and development in 2013, an increase of 15.6 percent over the previous year. Experts say about three quarters of the research

input can be transferred to GDP, and it will contribute about 1 trillion yuan (\$160 billion) if counted, or a lift of 1.56 percent.

Prior to the change, NBS had adjusted its GDP accounting methodologies three times. The United States implemented a similar plan last year when it added research input to the calculation of its economic growth.

New Pilot Zone

China has officially approved a new zone in the northeastern coastal city of Dalian to steer local development and boost cooperation with Northeast Asian countries, the local government said on July 2.

The Dalian Jinpu New Area aims to help develop a coastal economic belt in Liaoning Province and enhance economic growth in the country's northeast.

The New Area, approved by the State Council, will be a pilot zone for innovation, and is expected to help Dalian become an international shipping center and a global logistics hub.

It covers about 2,299 square km and boasts numerous geographical and economic advantages.

Rejecting GM Corn

China's quarantine watchdog has returned 1.25 million tons of corn shipments from the United States in recent months over genetic modification concerns, an official said on June 30.

Since October, Chinese authorities have been finding U.S. corn shipments tainted with genetically modified (GM) strain MIR162, said Lu Chunming, an official with the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Ouarantine.

MIR162, a kind of insect-resistant transgenic corn, is not approved by China's agriculture ministry.

The first batch of MIR162-tainted corn was found in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, and more have been detected at other ports.

The country rejected 601,000 tons of unapproved GM corn imports in 2013, according to the administration.

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THIS WEEK WORLD





BELGIUM

European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso (right) plants a porcelain flower on the Peace Bench in Ypres on June 26 in commemoration of the centennial of World War I while other European leaders stand by



JAPAN

Protesters rally in Tokyo on July 1 against a resolution that will allow Japan to exercise the "collective self-defense right," paving the way for Japanese forces to fight abroad and signaling a radical turnabout from Japan's postwar security posture







SPAIN

Revelers spray wine at each other with toy guns during a wine fight in Haro, north Spain, on June 29





PAKISTAN

A paramilitary soldier torches seized drugs during a ceremony marking International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on the outskirts of Peshawar on June 26









INDIA

U.S. pilot Matt Guthmiller tops up the engine oil in his aircraft before departing from Nagpur on June 27. The 19-year-old is attempting to become the youngest person ever to fly solo around the world



KENYA

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon pets a lion cub, which he adopted and named Tumaini (Hope), during his visit to the Nairobi Animal Orphanage on June 28

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THIS WEEK PEOPLE & POINTS

♦ WILITARY LEADER EXPELLED



Xu Caihou, former Vice Chairman of China's Central Military Commission, was expelled from the Communist Party of China (CPC) following a three-and-a-half month investigation, the Party's Central Committee announced on June 30, one day before the 93rd anniversary of its founding.

Xu is one of the highest ranking officials within the Central Party Committee and the highest in the Central Government to be expelled so far.

The announcement said Xu's case will be delivered to the Supreme People's Procuratorate, which will authorize its military counterpart to handle the case.

An investigation has found that Xu took advantage of his post to assist the promotion of other people and accepted bribes both

personally and through his family members. He is also accused of seeking profits for others in exchange for money and properties through his family members.

Xu was born in northeast China's Liaoning Province in June 1943. He joined the army in August 1963, graduated from the Electronics Engineering Department of Harbin Institute of Military Engineering in 1968, and joined the CPC in April 1971. He was Vice Chairman of China's CPC Central Military Commission from 2005-13 and a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Party Committee from 2007-2012.

Cutting off Early Exposure to Drugs *Qianjiang Evening News*June 27

In recent years, the average age of drug addicts in China has decreased, meaning that teenagers are now the most at-risk group. As teens are still not fully mature in terms of physical and psychological growth, an addiction to illegal substances can result in many unfortunate outcomes. Therefore, cutting off early exposure to drugs has become an urgent need in the country's anti-narcotic push.

Drug dealers attract teenagers by taking advantage of their curiosity. Some even prey on teens to help smuggle and sell drugs. It's far from easy to uncover and prevent these and other drug crimes. Society and schools must educate children and teenagers on the harmful side effects of drugs, and teach them to lead active and healthy lifestyles. As entertainment venues are increasingly used by drug sellers, the government should strengthen supervision of activities there.

Security Services Going Global Oriental Outlook June 26

Many imagined security threats faced by Chinese companies abroad are becoming reality, from Chinese merchant ships being hijacked to factories being attacked and employees kidnapped. When "going global," difficulties can be expected to be encountered in any country where Chinese companies relocate.

So how are Chinese companies tackling these security risks abroad? Most of them alert the police, ask Chinese embassies for help, or call on the local government to intervene when a safety incident occurs.

Some companies, though, are more far-sighted. They try to build up a good rapport with locals by donating to schools and hospitals, or by helping religious leaders and chiefs of tribes build infrastructure and, thus, mutual trust.

Though confronted with multiple security threats, most Chinese companies abroad,

"Higher job expectations often bring about greater employment pressure, but reasonable and tempered expectations will lower it."

Xiong Hanzhong. Director of the Beijing Youth Stress Management Service Center, drawing on a report from the center that found employment pressure on Chinese graduates has fallen significantly since 2013 "It can reduce corruption related to the preferential policy and reverse the trend of more and more Chinese students studying to get the extra points. But what if students give up developing their talent after they realize that these skills can no longer bring them extra points and put them in better standing on the gaokao?"

Xiong Bingqi, Deputy Director of the 21st Century Education Research Institute, in response on June 30 to the Ministry of Education's tightening of a preferential policy that awards bonus points in the national college entrance exams to students with exceptional abilities in the sciences and sports



especially small and medium-sized ones, don't want to employ local security guards, who provide effective protection but charge high prices.

More than 20 years after Chinese companies began setting up overseas factories, providing all-around services for them has recently become an urgent need, most notably in the area of safety.

Abe Undermines Regional Security

Xinhua News Agency July 1

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is leading his country down a dangerous path as his cabinet approved a so-called constitutional "reinterpretation," essentially gutting Japan's pacifist charter, on July 1. The resolution overturned the ban on exercising the right to collective self-defense and paved the way for Japanese forces to fight abroad in defense of "countries with close ties."

The Japanese general public is clear-eyed and alarmed. Poll after poll has shown that most Japanese are opposed to Abe's attempt to water down the Constitution. Demonstrations against tampering with the bedrock constitutional principles have taken place across the country, and in Tokyo a man even set himself on fire in protest.

Yet the public opinion failed to shame Abe out of his scheme. He has chosen to turn a deaf ear to the voices of the people and gone ahead through questionable means: Instead of amending the Constitution above board, a broad-based process that his bid is unlikely to survive, he has opted to reinterpret it with a single decision of his cabinet.

No matter how Abe paints over it, he is dallying with the specter of war through a cheap trick but at the potential cost of the souls of the entire Japanese nation. For with the limits on the use of force for collective self-defense vaguely defined, Japan might be thrown into undeserved wars by some hot-headed or near-sighted politicians at the top.

His action also poses a menace to regional security, particularly given his refusal to face up to Japan's historical aggressions. On the broader background, Asia is already plagued with simmering tensions in the wake of the United States' "pivot to Asia" and the increasing bellicosity of the opportunistic likes of Japan and the Philippines, among other challenges and uncertainties.

With the constitutional runaround, the Abe administration is adding more variables to the already daunting task of safeguarding regional peace and stability. It is high time the Japanese people and the international community brought Abe back to his senses and stopped him from further undermining regional security.

"Online lotteries usually account for more than 30 percent of overall lottery sales in developed countries. So it is a market with great potential."

Li Zichuan, an analyst with the Beijing-based Internet consultant group Analysis International, commenting on July 2 on Chinese fans' online gambling during the 2014 World Cup "Have faith in domestic movies! How can we repeat the 'mistake' of 2012's Lost in Thailand—when we thought it would only bring in 200 million yuan (\$320,000)—and ultimately found it was a 1.2 billion yuan (\$190 million) movie?"

Zhang Hongsen, Director of the Film Bureau under the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television, at the 17th Shanghai International Film Festival on June 25

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COVER STORY

LASTING PEACE

A decades-old international relations tenet remains crucial to global security By Yu Lintao







Ithough China is demonstrating its peaceful approach to international affairs, it has always been an easy target for critics in the Western media. Any unharmonious interaction between China and its neighbors is likely to be exaggerated by the outside world as China's wrongdoing.

Observers call it undergoing the "growing pains" of a giant. Regardless, China is trying to gain understanding with sincerity. In celebrating a six-decade-old international relations norm initiated by China, India and Myanmar—known as the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence—China is committing to the world that it will continue to follow its road of peaceful development. Observers add that China will contribute to the settlement of current international conflicts by making efforts in promoting and enriching the Five Principles.

An enduring norm

On June 28, China, India and Myanmar marked the 60th anniversary of the Five Principles in a high-profile fashion in Beijing with the participation of Chinese President Xi Jinping, Myanmar's President U Thein Sein and Indian Vice President Mohammad Hamid Ansari.

Initiated in 1954, the Five Principles is an important international relations tenet created by the three Asian countries, which includes mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence.

In the early 1950s, late Chinese leader Mao Zedong announced that China should fight for lasting world peace, that Beijing would never be aggressive toward any countries, and that it would not permit imperialism and aggression against China. He also said the Chinese people have the right to decide their country's affairs and China would not allow any other country to interfere in its internal matters. Mao added that China will also never interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. These ideas formed the

rudiment of the Five Principles.

The Five Principles were first put forward by then Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai at a meeting with the Indian delegation for negotiations on bilateral relations in China's Tibet region in December 1953. The principles were later incorporated into the Agreement on Trade and Intercourse Between the Tibet Region of China and India released on April 29, 1954. In June that year, Premier Zhou visited India and Myanmar, then known as Burma. The joint statements issued between Zhou and his Indian and Burmese counterparts affirmed the Five Principles as guiding principles for China-India and China-Burma relations.

Gao Fei, a professor with the Beijing-based China Foreign Affairs University (CFAU), claimed the Five Principles have been serving as the fundamental basis of China's diplomacy. He said the Five Principles were raised in China's diplomatic practice when settling historical problems with its neighbors. Based on these principles, China has properly resolved border problems with Myanmar and Laos.

"The Five Principles have not only been the basic norm of China's foreign policy, but also reflected the demand of the developing countries and become a fundamental norm of modern international relations," said Gao.

Following the example of China, India and Myanmar, an increasing number of countries adopted the Five Principles. In April 1955, delegations of 29 countries from Asia and Africa attended the Bandung Conference in Indonesia, and 10 principles were passed—all inspired by the Five Principles.

Wang Fan, Vice President of the CFAU, noted that the Five Principles were created mainly to resolve border disputes, but its guiding significance on international relations has been expanding.

"In other words, for the current global situation, if all global members observe the Five Principles, conflicts between nations can be resolved and crises be kept under control," Wang said.

Qu Xing, President of the China Institute

http://www.bjreview.com



of International Studies (CIIS), echoed Wang, noting that the current Ukrainian crisis and Iraqi crisis were both caused by foreign interference, which goes against the Five Principles.

Since the United States launched the Iraq War in 2003 and overthrew the former Iraqi regime after falsely claiming the country possessed large amounts of weapons of mass destruction, the Middle East country became a haven for terrorists. The U.S. interference in Iraq's domestic affairs resulted in not only the further rise of regional anti-U.S. sentiment but also a more turbulent situation in the region. Meanwhile, the competing zones of influence between Western countries and Russia over Ukraine have led to the current civil unrest and national split of the East European country.

Observers said the settlement of ongoing territorial disputes also requires the strict observance of all parties to the Five Principles.

Wang said the Five Principles particularly emphasize mutuality, the parity of responsibilities and obligations, and opposition to unilateralism. That is to say, countries should respect each other regardless of size and settle their bilateral disputes through dialogue.

According to Wang, the deadlock of the current territorial disputes in the East China Sea and the South China Sea is due to relevant countries insisting on unilateral moves and even seeking help from outside forces, rather than relying on talks or shelving the disputes to collect the resources together.

Qu of the CIIS also claimed that some regional countries' unilateral moves, which are discrepant with the Five Principles, are the major reason for the unrest in East Asia.

"Regardless of China's sovereignty claim, Japan's provocative move of 'purchasing' the Diaoyu Is lands is the ultimate source of the current regional tension," Qu said. Qu noted that Japan's unilateral actions are the result of a rightward shift in Japanese politics in recent years.

As Japanese politics gradually turn right, Japan took a series of moves that aroused regional tension, including whitewashing its war crimes, prodding territorial quarrels with its neighbors, and, most recently, lifting a ban on exercising the right to collective self-defense by reinterpreting its pacifist Constitution.

Observers noted that the past 60 years have witnessed a rapid pace of globalization and an increasingly interdependent world. But challenges such as biased international relations and regional conflicts and wars are reminding the world that there is a long way to go to safeguard world peace and promote common development.

Under such circumstances, as President Xi indicated in his keynote speech at the com-

memoration marking the 60th anniversary of the Five Principles, their spirit, far from being outdated, remains as relevant as ever; their significance, rather than diminishing, remains as important as ever; and their role, rather than being weakened, has continued to grow.

New dimensions

In addition to adhering to the Five Principles, China has been enriching the concept in recent years.

Sun Shihai, a senior researcher on international studies with Peking University, said that although the world situation has undergone a sea of changes, the core concept of the Five Principles has not been changed. Throughout these changes, its content has been refined.

In recent years, China has made great efforts in safeguarding global security and peace. Years ago, China proposed a new type of future-oriented partnership between the major powers to handle relations with major countries of the world. The concept, featuring equality, cooperation, inclusiveness, and mutual benefit, aims to create reasonable and stable relations among world powers for the sake of avoiding the tragedy of Thucydides' trap.

More recently, at the Fourth Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, noting that one cannot live in the 21st century with the outdated thinking of Cold War and zero-sum games, China raised a new Asian security concept that stresses common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security to tackle rising challenges facing the region.

And during commemoration of the Five Principles, President Xi underlined the importance of six new key elements—sovereign equality, common security, common development, win-win cooperation, inclusiveness and mutual learning, as well as fairness and justice.

Qu of the CIIS said that in the modern era of globalization, the Five Principles bear much more significance for international relations as other approaches such as science and the economy influence a country's diplomacy as much as the military. Thus, the world needs the Five Principles far more to handle international relations.

And Xi's new proposal has not only enriched the content of the Five Principles, but also demonstrated the consistency of China's peaceful foreign policy, Qu added.

However, as the Five Principles are only a tenet of international relations, they lack legal weight.

Sun, the senior researcher, said that although they have played a positive role in guiding the world order, the Five Principles are still an idealistic concept. To make full use of this philosophy, the international community needs a series of mechanisms to act as guarantees. "Even an international law should be a possible choice." he added.

Moreover, observers noted the necessity of promoting greater democracy in international relations.

In Xi's speech marking the anniversary, he announced the Chinese Government would establish the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence Friendship Award and the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence Scholarship of Excellence.

Qu said the move will effectively promote this international philosophy. The award and scholarship will advance the spread of the Five Principles and deepen understanding of the concept among people from all over the world. Professor Gao of the CFAU suggested that win-win cooperation should be one of the practical approaches to achieving the Five Principles in the new era. China's recent cooperation initiatives such as the Silk Road Economic Belt, the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Economic Corridor as well as the China-ASEAN Community of Common Destiny are all concrete steps to promote the Five Principles through win-win cooperation.

"With the advancement of multi-polarization, economic globalization and cultural diversity in the world, the mutual interdependence of international community members has gradually deepened and global problems have become more prominent. Thus, only cooperation can help countries to respond to risks and challenges together and ensure peace and development for the whole world," Gao said.





DEMONSTRATING PEACE: Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai expounds on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence during the Bandung Conference in April 1955 in Indonesia

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