

Why the U.S. Should Accept a G-2 Relationship with China?

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Politics is not a science thus has few theorems. International politics are too complex to predict future consequences. For example, on the Cold War confrontation, although credit has often been given to President Reagan for standing firm against communist Soviet, the collapse of it was not predicted even in a year before its collapse. Even President Nixon, a foreign affairs expert, was not able to predict the Soviet's collapse when he wrote the book in 1988, "1999: Victory Without War".

No matter how one strategizes, there is no sure prediction in world politics, yet there is always a natural causality for explaining facts hindsight. After the Soviet collapse, we could conclude that it collapsed because of its failure of economy not the failure of its mighty military power. Further examining the Soviet's economic failure, China played a pivoting role because the U.S. had selected China as her target to export her capitalism, industrialization and business trades to bring China over to the US led economy. It was almost sure that the U.S. had no intention to make China the no. 2 world economy surpassing Japan. It was more simply a strategy of isolating the Soviet Union economically. It worked though uncertain when. The Soviet collapsed sooner than anyone could have predicted. In comparison to the U.S. economy and the standard of living of Americans, the Soviet communist system was a failure. It was a natural consequence that the Soviet would collapse in 1989 as it did.

After a decade or more of experiments, China realized her mistakes and hastened her departure from the Soviet style communism and sought her own ways of nation development. Hindsight, her reforms and selective piece-meal adaptation of capitalism and industrialization from region to region in China worked wonderfully. China is now the largest exporter of the world exporting over \$443 billion of products to the U.S. and imports about \$106 billion from her in 2015. China is the biggest source of imports to EU enjoying a large trade surplus as well. In 2014, China was exporting over \$2.1 Trillion, 13% of the world share.

Occasionally, based on previous facts, one may be able to see signs of a natural course of development in world politics. When this is happening and observable, it is usually too late to stop it. That is why world politics may appear as a natural course even though it may contain many man-made plots. The end of Cold War may be an objective of the U.S. Strategy but the way and the timing of the collapse occurred more naturally than strategically predictable. After all, the Cold War did not end as yet judging on the confrontation continuing between the U.S. and Russia and the new pivot to Asia Pacific strategy the U.S. is contemplating. On the surface, it looked like that the U.S. was switching the target from the Soviet to China and expected China to collapse eventually unable to compete against the United States. Even though China is not as big a military power as the Soviet, the U.S. is again allying with Japan to contain and confront China as she did to the Soviet. This time the U.S. seems to engage more Asian countries especially India to join her partnership with Japan with a strategy to aid India with

capitals and rapid industrialization to balance or choke China's economy growth. Whether or not this approach was the result of learning from the lesson of partnering with China causing the collapse of the Soviet, it is neither apparent nor claimable. More likely, this strategy is the old Cold War legacy at work. Would it work, if the objective was to collapse China? Very doubtful!

The complexity of World politics most likely will appear as a natural course with natural causes overtaking the man-made designs. The constantly changing world challenges mankind constantly, presently forcing us to be more concerned with the Earth planet as a whole not just as rivals in global competition. The U.S., as the superpower, must realize that she needs partners to deal with world political crises and natural challenges such as the climate change. The fact that the U.S. has begun to work with China to remedy the devastating effects of climate change caused by pollutions and the fact that the U.S. must invite China to deal with the man-made threat in nuclear and terrorism all suggest that it is advantageous and timely for both the U.S. and China to enter a cooperative G-2 relation rather than being adversaries.

Assuming that the U.S., for whatever reason (maintaining the sole superpower status often is touted as the U.S. motive in her foreign policies), is trying to partner with India and Japan to accelerate India's industrialization to curtail China's economic rise, the consequence is dire, simply because accelerating the economic development of another billion people is a daunting perhaps a dangerous task with severe environmental impact. China is the living example currently suffering under the consequences of her fast development and rapid economic rise. Would the U.S. risk the welfare of the world and her own to create a disaster in Asia? The alternative of working with China to battle her air and water pollutions and to ease her over development is mutually beneficial and sensible. Logically, the people in India especially her intellects may not even want to be used as a pawn in an artificial US-China confrontation. India and China do share a long border with border disputes, but they dealt them sensibly encouraging border trades and culture exchanges with very little real harm. As a natural course there is no compelling reason that India and China could not co-exist like Canada and the U.S.

On the other hand, China, as a nation with 5000 years of history and a culture far more accommodating than any other in the world, has the wisdom to recognize the complexity of world politics, the religious divide and the geopolitical situation she is in. The fact she is promoting a grand vision of "One Road and One Belt" (OROB) with co-prosperity as the objective is an indication that China appreciates 'one must accommodate the natural forces and historical developments and to accept the natural consequences the world is presenting to mankind' as a political philosophy. For instance, China does have a Muslim population hence she is far more accommodating than the Western world to the Islamic religion pretty much the same way she accommodates Christianity and Buddhism, encouraging a personal religious freedom more than promoting religion as a collective and organizational entity. Perhaps in support of the "OROB" vision, President Xi recently visited Egypt, Iran and Saudi Arabia pledging a very generous aid or loan for helping the development in infrastructure and economy in

the Middle East to pull the region away from wars and poverty. Perhaps, China, being more accommodating, can work with the Muslim world for co-prosperity and world peace, better than the U.S. and Russia can. From the world's perspective, the China-Middle East development appears to be a better plan than that of the U.S.-India-Japan alliance with an uncertain objective.

Nuclear threat is another common world issue, China is facing North Korea at her front door. It is only natural that China is very concerned and it is also natural for the U.S. to work with China to deal with North Korea as well as Iran on the problem of nuclear threat. China had maintained a cordial and practical relationship with both countries and their people for decades if not centuries, whatever negotiations or settlements on this issue do depend on history and people relationship. Examining the world crises, be it climate change, nuclear threat or terrorism, the discussions above answer the question, 'Why The U.S. Should Accept A G-2 Relationship with China?' The world as well as the U.S. and China would be better off for a productive G-2 relationship!
