

# Global Development Deficit and China's Governance Practices

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**A**s economic globalization deepens and domestic problems become more globalized, it is increasingly urgent for the international community to tackle the worldwide development deficit. We should analyze in depth the problems and challenges facing global development, and explain the manifestations and causes of development deficit, as well as China's governance practices. That will not only help us better understand the influence of developing countries in global development governance, but also provide useful lessons for promoting sustainable development and the reform of the global governance system.

## Main Manifestations of the Global Development Deficit

In recent years, the world economy has lost momentum; the gap between rich and poor and between North and South has substantially widened; protectionism and unilateralism have intensified; and unstable and uncertain factors are on a marked rise in the world's economic and social development. In a word, the global development deficit has increased unabated. This deficit is incurred when the negative effects of globalization have not been effectively mitigated, and benefits are less than anticipated or are surpassed by the costs, thereby restricting the world's sustainable development. Essentially, it is because the benefits of global development cannot meet the

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actual needs of the international community. The global development deficit manifests itself mainly in the following five aspects:

### **Overall inadequacy of global development**

First, the size of the world economy is not abundant and the challenge of under-development is prominent. As the powerhouse of the world economy, developed countries serve as a supporting pillar for global development through their economic prosperity. However, in recent years, especially since the global financial crisis, populism and trade protectionism have been rampant in some major industrialized countries. Due to slow or even stagnant economic growth in most developed countries, the aggregate global development has therefore not seen sufficient expansion. On the other hand, developing countries are the “lowlands” of global development and their sustainable upward trend is key to any global growth on the whole. However, with the exception of a few countries such as China, economic progress in many developing countries continues to be sluggish, and some are experiencing stagnation or even decline.

Second, the quality of development is low. The quantity and quality of development are two sides of the same coin. The overall inadequacy of global development has its source also in the low quality of global development. On one hand, the way of development needs to be optimized. The traditional concept has been to emphasize the central role of economic growth and highlight the importance of productive factors such as energy and labor, leading to inefficient economic growth and contributing nothing to global ecological improvement. Moreover, the fruits of development have not been fairly shared. Problems of global development require cooperation among all countries, and hence the fruits of development should be enjoyed by the majority of the people. At this stage, the fruits of global development are not fairly shared. For example, in most developing countries, the proportion of people with smartphones compared to the total population is much lower than the global average of 59 percent, while in Tanzania the

number is only 13 percent.<sup>1</sup>

### **Imbalance of global development**

The stark differences between countries in terms of their stage of development is the biggest imbalance in today's world.<sup>2</sup> As globalization deepens, the development gap between countries has widened, making the imbalance of development more pronounced. First, there is a disparity between the development of individuals and a growing gap between the world's rich and poor. According to the World Bank's report "The Changing Wealth of Nations 2018: Building a Sustainable Future," the wealth ratio per capita between high- and low-income countries has expanded from 47:1 in 1995 to 51:1 in 2014.<sup>3</sup> In 2017, the world's richest one percent of the population possessed 82 percent of global wealth.<sup>4</sup> From 1980 to 2016, the world's richest one percent of the population captured 27 percent of the total global wealth growth.<sup>5</sup> At the same time, there are still about 200 million young people in the world whose living standards are below US\$2 a day, and 800 million people living in extreme poverty.<sup>6</sup> From 1987 to 2017, income inequality in most countries became even more severe.<sup>7</sup> Seven out of ten people live in countries where income inequality increases.<sup>8</sup>

The second problem is a greater disparity of development between and within countries. Due to the rapidly deteriorating ecological environment

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1 Jacob Poushter and Caldwell Bishop, eds., "Smartphone Ownership on the Rise in Emerging Economies," Pew Research Center, June 2018, <https://www.pewresearch.org/global/2018/06/19/2-smartphone-ownership-on-the-rise-in-emerging-economies>.

2 Xi Jinping, "Working Together to Deliver a Brighter Future for Belt and Road Cooperation," *People's Daily*, April 27, 2019, p.3.

3 Glenn-Marie Lange and Quentin Wodon, eds., "The Changing Wealth of Nations 2018: Building a Sustainable Future," World Bank, 2018, p.45.

4 Diego Alejo Vázquez Pimentel, Iñigo Macías Aymar, and Max Lawson., "Reward Work, Not Wealth," January 2018, <https://www.oxfam.org/en/research/reward-work-not-wealth>.

5 Facundo Alvaredo, Lucas Chancel, eds., "World Inequality Report 2018," World Inequality Lab, Summer 2018, <https://wir2018.wid.world>.

6 "Global Employment Trends for Youth 2015: Scaling up Investments in Decent Jobs for Youth," International Labor Organization, 2015, pp.6-8.

7 "Tackling Inequality," IMF Fiscal Monitor, October 2017, <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/%20FM/Issues/2017/10/05/fiscal-monitor-october-2017>.

8 Ricardo Fuentes-Nieva and Nicholas Galasso, "Working for the Few: Political Capture and Economic Inequality," Oxfam Policy Paper, January 2014, <https://www.oxfam.org/en/research/working-few>.

caused by the excessive consumption of natural resources, the number of deaths caused by PM2.5 (fine particulate matter) is increasing year by year. In 2015, severe air pollution caused nearly 6.5 million illnesses or deaths, accounting for one-tenth of the global deaths that year.<sup>9</sup> In 2016, 112 out of 152 countries were not serious about handling development imbalances.<sup>10</sup> Even within Germany, the largest economy in Europe, there were still significant disparities in terms of economic development, public education, infrastructure, etc. In eastern Germany, only six municipalities had disposable personal income at over 20,000 euros, while in western Germany 284 municipalities reached this mark.<sup>11</sup>

The final problem is a disparity in global development and the growing North-South gap. Smaller countries in the South have experienced zero or even negative economic growth. From 1995 to 2014, the world's total wealth rose from \$690 trillion to \$1143 trillion, an increase of nearly 66 percent, while sub-Saharan Africa's wealth grew by only 1 percent. In terms of total wealth, high-income countries accounted for 72 percent of the world's wealth in 2014, compared with 7 percent for low-income countries, which are home to the vast majority of the world's population.<sup>12</sup>

### **Lack of momentum in global development**

Economic development is a strong engine for global development, but the fundamental problem facing the world economy is a lack of momentum,<sup>13</sup> which is highlighted in the current global development deficit. The first obstacle is the sluggish recovery of global economy. The 2008 financial crisis cast a dark shadow on global development. After more than

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9 Glenn-Marie Lange and Quentin Wodon, eds., "The Changing Wealth of Nations 2018: Building A Sustainable Future," p.171.

10 Diego Alejo Vázquez Pimentel and Iñigo Macías Aymar, eds., "Reward Work, Not Wealth."

11 Tian Yuan, "The Development of East and West Germany Still Uneven," *Guangming Daily*, November 18, 2019, p.12.

12 Glenn-Marie Lange and Quentin Wodon, eds., "The Changing Wealth of Nations 2018: Building a Sustainable Future," p.45.

13 Xi Jinping, "Jointly Shoulder Responsibility of Our Times, Promote Global Growth," *People's Daily*, January 18, 2017, p.3.

ten years of adjustment, the Western economies have slowly recovered, but there are still many uncertainties on the horizon. From 2020 to 2021, global economic growth will remain at around three percent, entering its slowest period since the financial crisis.<sup>14</sup>

The second obstacle is the lack of innovation. Innovation leads global development, and better innovation capacity fuels global economy. At present, the world economy is under heavy downward pressure, and innovative growth is facing huge constraints in the following aspects. First, there has been a notable drop in the proportion of innovation and R&D investments. Data show a positive correlation between the proportion of investment into R&D and a country's innovation capability. However, the 2019 Global Innovation Index implies that from 2016 to 2019, the global trend of high investment in innovation and R&D has significantly weakened.<sup>15</sup> Second, intellectual hegemony is on the rise. The exchange of innovative knowledge is an important stimulus for global development. Unfortunately, as global economy slows, intellectual protectionism is rising, hampering promotion of innovative ideas via a global innovation network. Third, there is a global innovation divide. Most developing countries still lack innovation capacities, and the innovation gap may continue to deepen.

The third obstacle is the declining willingness to cooperate for global development. Trade is an important engine for economic growth. In times of a global economic downturn, countries are less willing to cooperate in development, particularly in the economic and ecological spheres. Instead, Western countries are experiencing a trend towards self-centeredness. The United States has arbitrarily provoked trade wars and seriously damaged the consensus on global economic cooperation. Some Western countries are ignoring environmental problems, and constantly undermining the global cooperation agenda reached through difficult negotiations. The Trump

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14 OECD, "OECD Economic Outlook," Issue 2, 2019, [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/oecd-economic-outlook-volume-2019-issue-2\\_9b89401b-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/oecd-economic-outlook-volume-2019-issue-2_9b89401b-en).

15 Cornell University, INSEAD, and WIPO, "The Global Innovation Index 2019: Creating Healthy Lives—The Future of Medical Innovation," p. xv.

administration insists on “America First,” and has arbitrarily withdrawn from various international treaties and agreements, seriously harming the institutional foundation of global development.

### **Global development assistance needs to be improved**

Since the 1950s, poverty in developing countries has become the central concern of global development, but the effectiveness and sustainability of global development assistance has been called into question, as the widespread result has mostly been “development without growth.” The first problem is that such assistance has an inherent low efficiency. Western developed countries and international organizations which they dominate are the main providers of global development assistance, once accounting for 90 percent of all global development assistance.<sup>16</sup> However, despite the implementation of major assistance projects, the recipient countries have failed to achieve any considerable level of development. Instead, those countries are even poorer with more assistance. Global development assistance is clearly ineffective and such solely economic assistance has even led to less export of African products.<sup>17</sup> From 1970 to 1998, the period when Africa received the most official development assistance (ODA), its poverty rate shot up from 11 percent to 66 percent. International development assistance did not yield the intended results.<sup>18</sup>

The second problem is unsustainability of the assistance. During the 1980s, international aid agencies began to put special emphasis on the sustainability of aid. The unsustainability of assistance is considered to be a significant answer to why the vast resources from developed countries have not shown a lasting effect in the recipient countries.<sup>19</sup> According to a review

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16 Li Xiaoyun, Xu Xiuli, et al., *International Development Assistance*, World Affairs Press, 2013, p.2 of the preface.

17 Dambisa Moyo, *Dead Aid: Why Aid Is Not Working and How There Is Another Way for Africa*, New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2009, p.10.

18 Li Zhiwei, “Foreign Aid by Developed Countries Suffers from Embarrassing Fund Shortage,” *People’s Daily*, April 27, 2016, p.21.

19 Nhi Quyen Le, *An Analysis of the Sustainability of the Project “Industrial and Urban Development in Viet Tri City”*, Denmark: Roskilde University Center, 2006.

by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), only 22 out of 212 educational aid projects met some of the indicators of sustainability. A study by the World Bank has also shown that up to 50 percent of the 550 educational aid projects implemented in developing countries turned out to be unsustainable.<sup>20</sup> Similar projects joined by emerging countries have also fallen into the “aid paradox,” that is, when the donor country has abundant personnel and material resources, some of the assistance projects perform well, but once the support is withdrawn, the projects are gradually shut down and fall into oblivion.<sup>21</sup>

### **World situation not conducive for global development**

The rise of anti-globalization and populist sentiments have thrown the system of global trade relationships into a crisis, triggering tariff wars among countries and between countries and regional blocs. Trade protectionism will possibly persist for long.<sup>22</sup> Since the 2008 financial crisis, the Group of 20 (G20) economies have implemented approximately 1,500 new trade restrictions.<sup>23</sup> Soon after taking office, Trump launched the so-called Section 301 investigation against China, putting US domestic laws above international trade rules, and severely undermining international trade regulations. The International Monetary Fund predicts that prolonged China-US economic and trade frictions will result in losses of up to \$455 billion. The trade war between the United States and the European Union has caused a 0.1 percent drop in Germany’s GDP for the second quarter of 2019 compared to the first quarter.<sup>24</sup> The United States announced the end of India’s Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) treatment, and India subsequently announced retaliatory

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20 Li Xiaoyun, Wang Yanlei, et al., *International Development Assistance*, World Affairs Press, 2015, p.68.

21 Xu Jifeng and Qin Lu, “Suggestions about the Sustainable Development of Chinese-supported Agricultural Technology Demonstration Centers in Africa,” *World Agriculture*, No.12, 2011, pp.87-88.

22 Xu Xiujun, “States and Markets in the Era of Economic Globalization and the Policy Origins of Governance Deficit,” *World Economics and Politics*, No.10, 2019, p.101.

23 OECD, “OECD Economic Outlook (2019),” Issue 2, No.106, 2019, [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/oecd-economic-outlook-volume-2019-issue-2\\_9b89401b-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/oecd-economic-outlook-volume-2019-issue-2_9b89401b-en).

24 Rong Min, “Trade Protectionism a Wake-up Call for the Global Economy,” *China Trade News*, August 22, 2019, p.1.

tariffs of up to 120 percent on 28 products originating from the US.<sup>25</sup> Japan and South Korea have escalated trade disputes over electronic products, and even removed each other from the trade whitelist. The US has also had trade disputes with Canada, Mexico and other countries.

## **Main Causes of the Global Development Deficit**

The emergence and evolution of the global development deficit is the result of a combination of many factors. We can start from five aspects: the disadvantages of globalization, the failure of state governance, the defects of development mechanisms, the unsuitability of development models, and the expansion of Western individualism.

### **Disadvantages of globalization**

Globalization is a double-edged sword. While it promotes global progress and benefits human society, it also leads to drawbacks such as development gaps, unfair distribution of wealth, and ecological destruction. Globalization can aggravate the global development deficit especially in times of sluggish economy. On the one hand, relative benefits of globalization have brought an excessive disparity in the initial distribution of global development gains; on the other, the intertwining of domestic games and transnational competition in globalization makes policies of rebalancing global development ineffective.

*First, the development gap has exacerbated and anti-globalization sentiment has become increasingly prevalent.* Globalization is conducive to promoting the optimal allocation of global resources. However, even under ideal circumstances where all countries would benefit from globalization, there are still differences in relative gains among individuals. Individuals with development resources such as technology, capital and talents can easily catch leading positions and obtain most of the development benefits. The disadvantaged who lack these resources

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25 “Are the US and India also Fighting a Trade War? Is the Indo-Pacific Strategy Shelved?” *Beijing News*, June 17, 2019, p.A04.

attribute their losses to the system of globalization itself. This criticism has fermented an international anti-globalization sentiment, which has complicated the situation for global development.

The first problem is the growing imbalance in economic development and the widening gap between rich and poor. Driven by capital, globalization has focused mainly on raising the total volume of development assets, but has neglected their fair allocation. As the downward pressure on the world economy increases, the negative impact of globalization is reinforced and magnified with a serious imbalance between and within countries, resulting in the unsustainability of global development.

The second problem is the growing imbalance in ecological improvement. Environmental governance is in urgent need, but globalization focuses on maximizing economic benefits without taking into account today's fragile ecological environment, which has accelerated the deterioration of the global ecological system.

The third problem is the imbalance of cultural development and the intensifying clash of civilizations. Alongside the progress in cultural diversity, most countries have realized that they should respect the plurality of world civilizations, and replace estrangement with exchange, clashes with mutual learning, and superiority with coexistence.<sup>26</sup> However, some Western countries, based on their economic superiority, are spreading the rhetoric of "civilizational superiority" and "clash of civilizations," thus exacerbating contradictions among different civilizations.

*Second, globalization has made worse the uneven distribution of global interests, while nationalism has made a strong comeback.* As the main body to guarantee social equality, the state can control the imbalance of development within a reasonable range through redistribution policies. However, with the negative effects of globalization, transnational forces frequently intervene and exert influence in the formulation and implementation of domestic policies, so

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26 Xi Jinping, *Secure a Decisive Victory in Building a Moderately Prosperous Society in All Respects and Strive for the Great Success of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era*, People's Publishing House, 2017, p.59.

that domestic redistribution policies can rarely achieve their intended effects. This weakens the state's possibilities of reconciling various interest groups, aggravates social imbalances, and favors the further rise of populist forces. Other key players in maintaining global peace and development are international organizations that actively uphold global sustainable development and reconcile contradictions of interests among countries through international cooperation. However, the negative effects of globalization can amplify the contradictions and often intensify conflicts between countries, incapacitating the effectiveness of the global mechanism for the reconciliation of interests. In the light of declining international cooperation, narrow-minded nationalism has filled the growing void, which has an extremely negative impact on global development. The negative effects of globalization include aggressive trade protection, obstruction of international ecological cooperation, and increased withdrawal from international organizations or revocation of international treaties.

### **The spread of state governance failures**

The biggest challenge for globalization emerges from erroneous national policies.<sup>27</sup> Effective state governance plays a vital role to enable success of global development, and any positive outlook for global development is only possible if each country can achieve better results for its own development goals. At the same time, the failures and problems that arise from global development also spill over into various countries and become the domestic root for the worsening global development deficit.

*First, governance failures in some developing countries add to the complexity of the global development deficit.* Developing countries are the hotspots of global development problems. Governance failures in those countries contribute a lot to the global development deficit. With the world becoming a community with a shared future, crises and challenges brought about by domestic governance failures can spill over to all parts of the world and affect global development. The spread of terrorism and the difficulties in eradicating extreme poverty

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27 Joseph S. Nye, "Globalization's Democratic Deficit: How to Make International Institutions More Accountable," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol.80, No.4, 2001, pp.2-6.

are largely caused by governance failures in some developing countries. These structural failures threaten to nullify the international community's efforts of promoting global development. Faced with mounting global risks and menaces, actors of global governance has implemented development policies in specific countries with development problems and addressed the development deficit by creating development agendas, formulating development plans and providing development assistance. However, applying country-specific development policies requires not only international development assistance, but also corresponding governance actions in those countries. Ample evidence shows that the lack of governance capability in some developing countries has led to the failure of implementing global development policies.

*Second, the lack of good governance in some developed countries has weakened the momentum of healthy global development.* Developed countries are usually the main forces to promote global development, but their governance does not change with the times and can hardly meet the needs of social progress. Instead, their governance may intensify social conflicts and contradictions and even become a burden for global development.

On the one hand, the failure of economic governance has caused a long-lasting sluggish performance of major Western economies. The financial crisis in 2008 has dealt a severe blow to most developed economies. After more than a decade of recovery and development, economic growth in these countries is still at a low level or even negative. The prolonged economic downturn has led to a massive reduction in the funding of international development assistance, further straining development assistance that already falls short of United Nations standards.

On the other hand, the failure of social governance has intensified domestic conflicts and further spread populism. Highly developed market economies have seen their mechanisms of income distribution less effective, their institutional innovation slow and the gap between rich and poor widened, thereby gradually slipping into a governance crisis.<sup>28</sup> Economic

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28 Wu Yu and Wu Zhicheng, "The Deepening of Globalization and the Resurgence of Populism," *International Studies*, No.1, 2017, pp.56-57.

polarization in turn intensifies social contradictions, deepens political differences and fuels populism. Trump's successful election campaign echoes a rising populism. Since taking office, Trump has stubbornly insisted on "America First," successively withdrawn from many international organizations, and launched trade wars around the world, all of which have brought great adverse effects to global development.

### **Inherent defects of existing development mechanisms**

The international community has increasingly become a community with a shared future. No global risk or global problem can be solved by a country alone. International solidarity and cooperation are the most powerful weapons. However, existing global development mechanisms have inherent flaws, and lack the capabilities of effectively coordinating global cooperation to fill the gaps of international development.

*First, lack of representation leads to a lack of legitimacy.* Existing global development mechanisms are mostly dominated by developed countries. Therefore, Western countries have absolute dominance over discourse, rules-making and agenda-setting, while developing countries are grossly under-represented. Existing mechanisms are unable to provide channels of expression for developing countries, in which global development problems are mainly concentrated. In recent years, emerging markets and developing countries have already contributed 80 percent of global economic growth,<sup>29</sup> with China's average annual contribution to global economic growth even exceeding 30 percent.<sup>30</sup> In spite of the rise of emerging market economies and developing countries as epitomized by China, the discourse power and leadership of existing global development mechanisms are still in the hands of developed countries, without any true reflection of the actual needs of developing countries. Hence, the international community has justifiably questioned

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29 Xi Jinping, "Keeping Abreast of the Trend of the Times to Achieve Common Development," *People's Daily*, July 26, 2018, p.2.

30 Guo Tongxin, "China's Contribution to Global Economic Growth Is Constantly Improving," *People's Daily*, January 13, 2017, p.9.

the legitimacy of existing development mechanisms. Take the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as an example. Sub-Saharan African countries account for nearly a quarter of the total number of IMF members, but only have 5.6 percent of the voting rights.<sup>31</sup> After many attempts to reform the system, the voting rights share of emerging market economies and developing countries has marginally increased, whereas the United States still holds the unchallenged number one position with the overwhelming power of one-vote veto, which undermines the legitimacy of global governance mechanisms. The Trump administration's successive withdrawal from many international organizations further weakens their already questionable legitimacy.

*Second, a lack of restraints curbs effectiveness.* The process of globalization has also compounded global risks and anomalies, making inter-state governance cooperation more necessary. International mechanisms are based on the premise that sovereign states cede part of their national authority. The effectiveness of such mechanisms depends on inter-state cooperation. However, when having to choose between national interests and global public welfare, countries often prioritize their own interests while ignoring international mechanisms, and even use confrontation or sometimes withdrawal from mechanisms as bargaining chips. What is even worse, most international mechanisms have very limited means for dealing with the members who refuse to abide by relevant agreements. This has hampered efficient international cooperation for quite a long time. When it comes to global development assistance, ODA from Western developed countries has for long fallen short of the United Nations target, and poor countries are strapped for development resources. Furthermore, the United States' unilateral withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, which was reached through multi-party efforts and joint consultations, sets a bad example for global climate governance.

*Third, there is insufficient equity to create development synergies.* As the heart of the decision-making process, the voting system is key to improving the

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31 Wu Zhicheng and He Rui, "Why Is Effective Global Governance So Difficult?" *Contemporary World*, No.7, 2013, p.9.

efficiency of international mechanisms.<sup>32</sup> Most of existing global development mechanisms were formed after World War II, initially for some European countries and later extended to a wide range of developing countries. After the financial crisis in 2008, emerging market economies and developing countries have risen rapidly and made increasing contributions to global development. In this process, many new problems have emerged and need to be resolved urgently. It has become the consensus of the international community to listen to the voices of developing countries. However, in existing global development mechanisms, most of the key positions and functional departments are monopolized by developed countries. In the actual operation of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, weighted votes are of decisive significance, so that developed countries with weighted votes possess one-vote veto power, whereas the voting shares of small countries are greatly underrepresented, to the detriment of multilateral cooperation in addressing development issues. In the actual decision-making process, developed countries often look at development issues from a geo-competitive perspective and arbitrarily “politicize” the policy agenda of emerging markets, thus seriously damaging the consensus of global development and cooperation.

### **Perverse effects of the Westernization of development models**

After the end of the Cold War, Western countries strongly believed in the superiority of their development models, and even equated modernization with Westernization, imposing the Western model worldwide. Some developing countries blindly copied the Western ideas of development, driven by both their eagerness to develop and the global dominance of developed countries. In fact, there is no fixed and one-size-fits-all development recipe.<sup>33</sup> Although Western standards of development were adopted worldwide, those models have not only failed to promote the modernization of relevant countries, but instead created many new problems.

*First, they cause economic stagnation.* As an example of Western

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32 Rao Geping, *The Law of International Organizations*, Peking University Press, 1996, p.203.

33 “Xi Jinping Gives Joint Interview to BRICS Media,” *Guangming Daily*, March 20, 2013, p.1.

development models, the cores of “Washington Consensus” are liberalization, privatization, and marketization. However, if this model is dogmatically adopted by developing countries with different backgrounds and conditions, it will inevitably lead to serious contradictions. In the early 1990s, Latin American countries, which were deeply mired in economic difficulties, took the lead in accepting the “Washington Consensus” and successively carried out economic liberalization and market-oriented reforms. Although Mexico, Brazil, Argentina and other countries experienced modest economic growth in the early stages, they plummeted into economic recession at the turn of the century. The overall Westernization of their economies led to the dilemma of excessive income inequality, increased unemployment and proliferation of corruption. According to statistics, the average annual GDP growth rate in Latin America in the 1990s was less than three percent, which was lower than the average annual growth rate of about five percent before the implementation of the “Washington Consensus.”<sup>34</sup> Countries such as Russia and Ukraine all implemented the so-called “shock therapy” during their economic transformation, hoping to achieve economic prosperity through privatization and liberalization, but the results were serious inflation and economic recession.

*Second, they give rise to serious political turmoil.* Since the end of the Cold War, the West has simply defined political development as the separation of power, the electoral system and party politics.<sup>35</sup> They forced their so-called “democratic model” upon the world, intervening directly or indirectly in other countries’ internal political affairs and often causing serious political upheaval. Social movements such as “Color Revolutions” and the “Arab Spring” prompted some Middle East countries to implement superficial democratization, which has inflicted heavy losses in the region. According to statistics, the “democratic movements” promoted by Western countries have caused countries including Tunisia, Syria, Libya and Yemen to experience tremendous turmoil, resulting in

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34 Yu Donghua, “Washington Consensus, Beijing Consensus and Economic Transformation,” *Shandong Social Sciences*, No.11, 2007, p.94.

35 Zhang Xiaobo and Liu Shiqiang, “Evolution and Reflection of Theoretical Paradigm of Development Research and Transcendence of Western Development Models,” *Marxism & Reality*, No.2, 2018, pp.171-172.

1.4 million deaths and 15 million refugees. Tunisia, for example, has installed a so-called democratically elected government, but the country's economic development has been at a chronic standstill, with GDP per capita falling by \$400 since 2010.<sup>36</sup> Perverse effects of such passive Westernization have caused continued instability in Middle East countries, and triggered global refugee problems, humanitarian crises and the spread of terrorism, all of which have aggravated uncertainties for global development.

### **Expansion of individualism in the West**

The almost limitless expansion of individualism is a prominent problem facing the Western world. Individualism is at the center of the Western value system and has played a key role in the success of capitalism. Some have even called it “the first language of Americans.”<sup>37</sup> When the Cold War ended, the West, led by the United States, promoted and spread Western individualist values worldwide. In the field of international relations, the law of the jungle, as advocated by Thomas Hobbes, exemplifies an extreme case of individualism, while John Locke's view of individualism is regarded as the ideological source of liberalism in international relations.

As interdependence among nations deepens and common global challenges increase, global development requires a sense of community that goes beyond individualism. Tensions arising from individualistic interests in the West often divide the global consciousness and become an obstacle to international cooperation. Individual conflicts of interests are on the rise especially against the backdrop of a global economic recession. Driven by capital, extreme forms of individualism, which are obsessed with individual interests, have aggressively expanded and taken hold globally in its “variants” such as individual egoism, class egoism and national egoism. These have served as the ideological factor to induce the global development deficit.<sup>38</sup>

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36 “Egyptian President: More than 1.4 Million People Died in the Arab Spring,” *Global Times*, January 19, 2018, p.2.

37 Robert N. Bellah, Richard Madsen, et al., *Habits of the Heart*, translated by Zhou Suiming, Weng Hansong, et al., China Social Sciences Press, 2011, p.190.

38 Shao Shiqing, “Why Western Democracy Is So Overbearing,” *People's Tribune*, No.27, 2018, pp.22-23.

*First, individual egoism increases social resistance to global development.* The profit-seeking nature of capital only serves the pursuit of individual egoism and the maximization of self-centered interests, while ignoring social fairness and public interests, and further widening the gap between rich and poor. Catalyzed by globalization, social discontent about this widening gap has spread across the globe, boosting the anti-globalization movement and breaking up the social consensus and national cohesion for global development.

*Second, class egoism jeopardizes domestic development.* The aggressive expansion of individualism manifests itself as class egoism in many countries. As a country develops, different groups are socially differentiated into corresponding strata, which coexist in the national unity. As egoism expands and contradictions in the interests of different groups increase, there have been extreme social conflicts, such as frequent shootings in the United States, the Brexit disputes in the United Kingdom, the “Yellow Vests Movement” in France, and ethnic conflicts in Africa. The social divide has triggered a global wave of populism and increased uncertainty about global development.

*Third, national egoism undermines global development.* Global development has its roots in national development, and thus the solution for global problems also depends on cooperation among countries. The expansion of brutish individualism can manifest itself as narrow-minded national egoism. The rising trade protectionism is an example. A free and fair international trade system is a pillar for a sound development of the global economy. Unfortunately, some Western powers ignore the common benefits of trade liberalization, and instead unilaterally pursue their own short-term economic interests by wantonly launching trade wars, which seriously endangers the stability of the world economy. By doing so, they are also shooting themselves in the foot. The second example involves the obstacles for international ecological cooperation. All countries share a common destiny, in which no single country is immune to ecological and environmental challenges.<sup>39</sup> However, the Trump administration has ignored

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39 Xi Jinping, “Working Together for a Green and Better Future for All,” *People’s Daily*, April 29, 2019, p.2.

the global risks of climate change by withdrawing from the Paris Agreement and refusing to fulfill its international obligations on ecological protection. Trump missed international conferences on climate issues, and refused to speak at the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit, setting a bad example for global ecological cooperation.

## **China's Efforts to Tackle the Global Development Deficit**

With the world's growing instability and uncertainty, the global development deficit is becoming more acute. "The world is so big, and the problems are so many. The international community expects to hear China's voice and see China's plans. China cannot be absent."<sup>40</sup> Being the world's largest developing country, China was able to achieve remarkable progress since its reform and opening-up. Its development model has been hailed as the most successful non-Western path to modernization. Almost all problems that are plaguing the world today, such as weak economic performance, lack of robust growth drivers, ecological imbalance and widespread poverty, have been addressed and somehow overcome by China in the course of its development. It is exactly through solving each of these challenges one after another that China has forged ahead. China has the wisdom, capability and experience to address the global development deficit and make a greater contribution to solving the development challenges facing the international community.

### **Building a community with a shared future for mankind and forging a global consensus on development**

Although the world is gripped by fundamental contradictions and challenges, rampant egoism, populism and the return of nationalism, China will work with all countries to establish a global consensus and conduct development cooperation to build a community with a shared future for mankind.

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40 "President Xi Jinping's New Year Message for 2016," *People's Daily*, January 1, 2016, p.1.

*First, China will introduce a new paradigm of global development and consolidate a common denominator for cooperation and development.* Against the backdrop of a complex international environment, China, guided by the vision of a community with a shared future for mankind, has put forward a series of innovative ideas of global development.

The first one is a vision of global governance based on extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits. Extensive consultation emphasizes that all parties should have the same status, and all participants should discuss issues on an equal footing to enhance the feasibility and transparency of governance. Joint contribution highlights that global governance should be open and inclusive to break the closed circles or blocs and to create a governance synergy for global development. Shared benefits or mutual benefits are results of win-win cooperation in creating a fair and inclusive global pattern.

The second one is a vision of development featuring innovation, openness, interconnectivity and inclusiveness. China will offer its solution to the current global economic deadlock by boosting cooperation on innovative development. China will help to expand the cooperation through open development, and will firmly advocate a free and multilateral trading system, so as to strengthen confidence in global development. China will deepen the consensus on cooperation based on coordinated development, form a global network for economic development, to achieve common prosperity. China will strive for sustainability through inclusive development, and work to narrow the development gap between countries through global cooperation.

The third one is a vision of upholding justice while pursuing shared interests. China follows the principle of giving more and taking less, giving before taking and giving without asking for return to build a consensus.<sup>41</sup> Putting friendship first in pursuing cooperation, China stresses that all countries are equal, irrespective of their size, strength or wealth, and opposes abuse of the weak by the strong to uphold international justice. This vision

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41 Xi Jinping, "Work Together for Common Development and a Shared Future," *People's Daily*, September 4, 2018, p.2.

can help achieve win-win results for all, and consolidate the international community featuring common prosperity.

*Second, China advocates a new type of international relations and an international consensus on peaceful development.* In light of a deep-rooted Cold War mentality in the West, China proposes to build a new type of international relations on the basis of mutual respect, fairness, justice, and win-win cooperation. It calls for resolving conflicts through dialogue and consultation, and achieving win-win results through cooperation, thus enabling all parties to build a community with a shared future for mankind. To begin with, China will firmly support the replacement of “power politics” mentality with the notion of “mutual respect.” Equality and inclusiveness will be the guidelines and foundational ideas for the basic practice of international relations, whereas any kind of striving for hegemony will be strongly opposed. Second, China will remain committed to the principle of fairness and justice in international exchanges, highlight equality and promote the rule of law. Finally, China will deliver joint development through win-win cooperation and make sure that its benefits will be equally shared by all countries involved. China will refrain from playing a zero-sum game, which would jeopardize joint contributions and shared benefits. The 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) highlighted the building of a new type of international relations, with China contributing its wisdom to the sound development of the world.

*Third, China will build a global partnership network to lay the solid foundation for common development.* China has established partnerships of various forms with 110 countries and regional organizations, including 60 comprehensive strategic partnerships, which together form a comprehensive, multifaceted network and a “circle of friends” across the world.<sup>42</sup> Depending on the closeness of cooperation, these partnerships can be classified into “friendly,” “cooperative” and “strategic” ones,<sup>43</sup> among which the China-

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42 Yang Jiechi, “Vigorously Promote Major-Country Diplomacy with Chinese Characteristics under the Guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy,” *Seeking Truth*, No. 17, 2019, pp.24-34.

43 Xiao Xi and Ma Cheng., “China’s Partnership: Connotation, Network and Strategic Management,” *International Review*, No.2, 2019, p.81.

Russia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership of Coordination serves as a prime example of a successful bilateral relationship. The entire global network is subdivided into regional and international level groups of various geographical scope. The former mainly includes the China-EU Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, the China-Latin America Comprehensive Cooperative Partnership and the China-Africa Strategic Partnership. Through building these partnerships, China wants to advance the overall development of its relations with different countries, expand the convergence of joint interests, and strengthen unity and cooperation as well as the positive forces for common development.

*Fourth, China will use all bilateral and multilateral means to build a community with a shared future, and raise global awareness for inclusive development.* China has been actively implementing its vision of a community with a shared future for mankind, so that such a community is gradually taking shape. China's relationship towards its neighboring countries is becoming more stable, in accordance with the principles of amity, sincerity, mutual benefit, and inclusiveness. China will ensure that its diplomacy is not limited to only neighboring countries but also extends to other countries who share the same strategic outlook.<sup>44</sup> The China-DPRK, China-Myanmar and China-Cambodia ties are becoming increasingly stronger, and relationships with developing countries are also gaining vitality. China remains committed to promoting South-South cooperation, with communities of shared future taking root between China and Pakistan, Africa, Latin America and Arab states. Finally, a community of constructive major-country relations is taking shape. Major developed countries play a vital role in the sphere of international cooperation for world peace and development. China has actively developed friendly and cooperative relations with Russia, Germany, the United Kingdom, France and other major countries, which has become an important pillar for building a community with a shared future for mankind.

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44 Wu Zhicheng, "More Attention Should Be Paid to Strengthening Strategic Planning in China's Neighborhood Diplomacy," *Contemporary International Relations*, No.1, 2015, pp.25-26.

## **Promoting Belt and Road construction to stimulate global growth**

As the world has been confronted with severe downward pressures and a serious shortage of any sustainable development momentum, China has put forward the Belt and Road Initiative to enhance connectivity and practical cooperation, so that the various challenges and risks confronting mankind can be met jointly. This promises new driving forces and renewed energy to realize common global development. Years of practice have proven that cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative has opened up new space for global economic growth, has produced new platforms for international trade and investment, and has offered new ways for improving global economic governance. The BRI has helped improve people's livelihoods in the participating countries, and has created additional opportunities for common prosperity.<sup>45</sup>

*First, China will build a win-win cooperation model based on the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits.* The prerequisite for solving any of the global development issues is international cooperation in a stable global development framework. As a response to the political fragmentation of global cooperation mechanisms, the Belt and Road Initiative has taken a development-oriented approach under the central theme of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits. The BRI remains committed to a model of open and win-win-oriented development cooperation, which has already yielded rich fruits. By the end of March 2019, the Chinese government had signed 173 cooperation agreements with 125 countries and 29 international organizations, suggesting the BRI has become a globally acknowledged public good.<sup>46</sup> From 2013 to 2018, the value of trade between China and other Belt and Road countries had reached \$6.469 trillion, creating 244,000 jobs for local communities and greatly boosting local development.<sup>47</sup> A World Bank report estimates that the

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45 Xi Jinping, "Working Together to Deliver a Brighter Future for Belt and Road Cooperation."

46 Office of the Leading Group for Promoting the Belt and Road Initiative, *The Belt and Road Initiative: Progress, Contributions and Prospects*, Foreign Languages Press, 2019, p.6.

47 "Keep Broadening the Road of Opening-Up and Win-Win Cooperation," *Guangming Daily*, August 27, 2018, p.11.

full implementation of the Belt and Road Initiative could help lift more than 30 million people out of their current levels of poverty.<sup>48</sup>

*Second, China will forge a dynamic growth model driven by innovation.* The Belt and Road Initiative takes an innovation-driven approach to lay the foundation for higher quality development. The first step has been the further improvement of an innovative cooperation network. A wide-ranging cooperation network involving multiple agencies for innovation has been formed, with the ministries and commissions of the central government replenishing the top-level planning, local governments working to ensure targeted assistance, and social groups carrying out non-governmental forms of cooperation. The establishment of the Alliance of International Science Organizations in the Belt and Road Region and the launch of the Digital Belt and Road Program have shown that joint research has become an effective means to enhance coordination in innovation-related cooperation. Similar innovative cooperation projects are expected take root in the future. As a central feature of the Belt and Road Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation Action Plan, collaboration among science parks has enabled the exchange and transfer of scientific and technological innovation among countries along the BRI routes. At present, there are more than 700 national-level BRI science and technology cooperation bases, 8 national-level science parks are advancing steadily, and high-tech R&D centers and incubation platforms are blossoming everywhere.<sup>49</sup> China will also train innovative talents from countries along the Belt and Road through people-to-people and cultural exchange programs. This includes exchanges of overseas students and scientific researchers, technology training courses for developing countries and programs for talented young scientists.

*Third, China will establish a model of open and inclusive development through a well-coordinated and interconnected approach.* As a staunch supporter of economic globalization, China resolutely defends the spirit

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48 World Bank Group, “Belt and Road Economics: Opportunities and Risks of Transport Corridors,” 2019, p.9.

49 Huang Junying, “A Brilliant Future for International Scientific and Technological Innovation under the Belt and Road Initiative,” *Guangming Daily*, May 2, 2019, p.6.

of multilateralism and opposes any form of trade protectionism. China welcomes with open arms the peoples of other countries aboard the express train of China's development.<sup>50</sup> From its inception, the Belt and Road Initiative has implemented and carried out the philosophy of openness and inclusiveness throughout the whole process. There are no barriers for participation measured by ideology or political system, and there are no strings attached. Taking strategic synergy as a key driver, China pursues an inclusive and reasonable development agenda through open consultation, regardless of any country's size or social system. Aspiring to fulfill the five major goals of policy coordination, facilities connectivity, unimpeded trade, financial integration and people-to-people bonds, China firmly supports the free trade system and promotes regional economic development through connectivity among countries engaged. Collaboration in the BRI has increased trade flows among participating countries by 4.1 percent,<sup>51</sup> and it is estimated that trade will grow by 9.7 percent for economies along the BRI development corridors, and 6.2 percent for the world.<sup>52</sup>

### **Promoting reform of development mechanisms to improve global development performance**

Emerging markets and developing countries are making increasing contributions to global development. However, the rules-making and agenda-setting powers of the international development mechanism are still controlled by a handful of influential Western countries, whereas developing countries are grossly underrepresented. As a representative and co-creator of the global governance system, China has actively advanced the process of democracy and equality for the global development mechanism and has made great efforts to steer it out of its present difficulties.

*First, China will continue its efforts to reform the existing development*

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50 Xi Jinping, "Jointly Shoulder Responsibility of Our Times, Promote Global Growth," *People's Daily*, January 18, 2017, p.3.

51 Office of the Leading Group for Promoting the Belt and Road Initiative, *The Belt and Road Initiative: Progress, Contributions and Prospects*, p.6.

52 World Bank Group, "Belt and Road Economics: Opportunities and Risks of Transport Corridors," p.9.

*mechanisms.* As one of the world's largest countries, China has always shown responsibility and commitment for increasing the representation and voice of emerging markets and developing countries in the global development mechanism. China advocates that the existing development mechanisms should be adapted and that the legitimacy and effectiveness of global development institutions such as the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization should be enhanced, in order to represent developing countries on an equal footing. Shortly after its accession to the WTO, China called for a reform of the governance structure of the International Monetary Fund. In 2010, with concerted efforts by emerging market countries under China's leadership, the IMF adopted a reform plan to promote the transfer of voting rights from developed countries to developing countries, so that the fast-growing developing nations would have a greater say in how the institution is run and how it interacts with its membership.

*Second, China will create a new mechanism for global development.* In the light of growing imbalances among the world's nations, China has actively supported newly established mechanisms for regional and global development. First of all, the continued work of the BRICS mechanism must be ensured. As an important platform for dialogue and consultation among emerging economies, the BRICS group has become a leading force for global development. As one of its founding members, China has always supported the institutionalization of BRICS and has actively contributed its own proposals and solutions. BRICS Plus, the brand new cooperation model proposed at the BRICS Xiamen summit, has expanded China's circle of friends across the world, ushering in a second "Golden Decade" of BRICS cooperation. China will also promote the establishment of multilateral financial institutions, because for developing countries financial connectivity is the basis and prerequisite for any development. The international financial institutions which were established after World War II are dominated and unfairly instrumentalized by developed countries, largely ignoring the actual needs of developing countries. On the contrary, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, the BRICS New

Development Bank, the Silk Road Fund and similar financial institutions or mechanisms, which are initiated by China in response to the inadequate financing practices of developed countries, have played a key role in promoting the development of emerging markets and developing countries.

*Third, China will deepen cooperation between different mechanisms.* As various new global development platforms are emerging, there appears to be a tendency towards fragmentation. Overlapping functions and intensifying competition among different mechanisms have severely impaired their effectiveness.<sup>53</sup> China has actively played a role as an intermediary and promoter of cooperation between these different mechanisms through joint institutional consultations. In recent years, China has hosted the BRICS summit as well as the G20 summit,<sup>54</sup> encouraged cooperation between BRICS and mechanisms linked to the European Union, and pushed the coordinated development of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the Belt and Road Initiative. By strengthening joint consultations between these different mechanisms, their effectiveness has been significantly optimized. Furthermore, China stimulates cooperation by stressing that new and old development mechanisms can achieve synergy through complementarity of their functions. For example, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank focuses on Asian infrastructure construction, which effectively complements the weak points of the Asian Development Bank in the field of infrastructure investments. Beyond that, China will help boost cooperative development by advancing the synergy of different development mechanisms, which, despite their structural diversity, are in essence all about promoting regional development and stability. China advocates stepping up the synergy of development strategies with relevant countries and regions. In that respect, the effective synergy of China's development strategies with those of different countries and regions under the Belt and Road Initiative is of great significance for the strengthening of inter-state cooperation.

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53 Wu Zhicheng and Dong Zuozhuang, "Transformation of International System and China's Response," *Contemporary World*, No.5, 2016, pp.11-12.

54 Yang Jiemian, "Transformation Options and Development Prospects for G20," *International Studies*, No.6, 2011, p.58.

## **Modernizing state governance to strengthen global governance**

The global development deficit is the externalization and manifestation of state governance failures, because these either transfer national development problems into global ones, or they prevent global powers from coming together to address international development problems. Under such adverse circumstances, global development governance becomes impossible to achieve. In simple terms, the root cause of the global development deficit lies in the failure of state governance, and effective global governance depends largely on functioning state governance. Since its founding, the People's Republic of China (PRC) has continuously been modernizing its state governance system and governance capacity, and has made prudent and strong contributions to global development while effectively resolving contradictions in its own domestic development.

*First, China has modernized government management to improve administrative efficiency.* Only effective state governance can guarantee social stability and national progress. On the one hand, China has actively driven forward the transformation of its government functions and upgraded its governance model from a management-oriented one to a service-oriented one. Since the 18th CPC National Congress, China's governments at all levels have pushed forward reforms for "streamlining administration, delegating powers and improving regulation and services," launching more than 1,500 reform initiatives and making breakthroughs in important areas and key links.<sup>55</sup> On the other hand, China has also fully and properly performed its government functions. National development is a complex systemic undertaking. Neglecting any single area may have a negative impact on the entirety of national development. With a system of scientific and rational responsibilities at its core, the Chinese government adheres to the principle of dynamic coordination of government functions, thus safeguarding the sound development of the whole nation. In the new era, the Chinese government has set up environmental

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55 Xi Jinping, *Secure a Decisive Victory in Building a Moderately Prosperous Society in All Respects and Strive for the Great Success of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era*, pp.3-4.

protection as a key objective to act against the deterioration of the world's ecological environment. In addition, it has continuously improved relevant laws and regulations on environmental protection, creating a framework which is favorable for the advancement of China and the world.

*Second, conflicts of interests are resolved by modernizing social governance.* Since the founding of the PRC, China's model of social governance has always been people-centered. However, in response to specific national conditions, constant adaptations and improvements have been made in terms of the system of Party leadership, government responsibility, democratic consultation, social coordination, public participation, rule of law, and scientific and technological support.<sup>56</sup> The modernization process of social governance expresses itself mainly in its plurality of subjects and models. The overarching structure of governance requires government leadership as a precondition, while it actively mobilizes the enthusiasm of social subjects, and guides individuals, enterprises and social groups to participate, thus forming a pluralistic model of social governance. Rule of law, rule of virtue and autonomy will be comprehensively applied to make governance more rational, democratic and efficient. China will fully implement a strategy that enhances the rule of law, vigorously promotes core socialist values and brings into full play the role of virtue in governance. Furthermore, self-governance at the community level will be deepened to complete the "final step" in social governance.

*Third, modernizing global governance capabilities will bring together global powers.* Enlarging the capacity for conducting global governance is crucial to competently addressing the global development deficit. Global governance capability mainly refers to the quality level and skill of providing public goods to effectively solve global problems, which are embodied in three aspects: hard ability, soft ability and smart ability.<sup>57</sup> Since the beginning of its reform and opening-up, China has made economic development its main objective, and

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56 "The Decision on Some Major Issues Concerning How to Uphold and Improve the System of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics and Advance the Modernization of China's System and Capacity for Governance," *People's Daily*, November 6, 2019, p.5.

57 Wu Zhicheng and Wang Huiting, "China's Practice of Capability Building on Global Governance," *World Economics and Politics*, No.7, 2019, p.4.

overall progress the top priority in governing and rejuvenating the country. In this way, China has become the second largest economy in the world, and has greatly enhanced its capacity for global governance. Moreover, by contributing to the “civilizational visions” of a community with a shared future and the Belt and Road Initiative, China has significantly expanded its influence in the field of global governance. At the same time, guided by its enduring experience and insight, China has actively contributed its wisdom to global economic governance, poverty reduction and anti-corruption cooperation.

### **Strengthening international dialogue and exchange to share China’s development experience**

At present, China holds the position of being the world’s second largest economy, the largest trading nation, the largest foreign exchange reserve holder and the biggest industrial nation, having created one of the most outstanding economic miracles in human history. China’s development has provided the world with a model of modernization different from that of the West. Moreover, the Eastern experience contained in the “China model” and the “China road” can provide crucial lessons for other developing countries. Unlike Western nations that try to impress their own development models on others, China does not export its model, nor does it ask others to copy Chinese practices, while it is willing to engage in dialogue, exchanges and cooperation with all peoples and political parties in the world.<sup>58</sup> China is willing to share its development experience and jointly address the global development deficit.

*First, China shares development concepts in cooperation and joint construction.* Since the 18th CPC National Congress, China has put forward a series of new concepts, ideas and strategies for development. In addition, China has shared concrete projects of cooperation and joint construction with the international community. The first concept is that of people-centered development. It focuses on the notion that development is for the

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58 Xi Jinping, “Building a Better world with Foreign Parties,” *People’s Daily*, December 2, 2017, p.2.

people, relies on the people, and that its fruits are shared by the people. The second is the idea of gradual exploration. This practice of “crossing the river by feeling the stones” has provided many important inspirations for China’s reform and opening-up. The construction of experimental economic zones under the BRI is a concrete example of this concept. The third is the concept of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits. Only joint development is true development, and only sustainable development is good development.<sup>59</sup> The construction of the BRI and the community of shared future have always adhered to the principles of equality of its members, universal participation in the process and fairness of results.

*Second, China exchanges its development experience with others in interaction.* In recent years, China has been actively sharing its experience with countries eager to develop, by holding forums and expositions. First, it has shared its experience in improving governance and administration, by participating in activities such as the BRICS Seminar on Governance, by establishing a mission to convey the spirit of the 19th CPC National Congress to foreign audience, and by publishing foreign language editions of the book *Xi Jinping: The Governance of China*. China has used its participation in the BRICS Seminar on Governance, as a companion activity to the BRICS summit, to create a new platform for the countries involved to share their experience in governance and administration. The second area of exchange concerns the experience of building political parties, which includes the CPC in Dialogue with World Political Parties High-Level Meeting, the China-Central and Eastern European Countries (CEEC) Political Parties Dialogue, the China-Myanmar Political Parties Dialogue, and the China-US Political Party Leaders Dialogue, with a view to building an international network for political party exchanges and cooperation in various forms and at various levels, which would lead to the summoning of powerful forces for building a community with a shared future.<sup>60</sup> Take the CPC in Dialogue with World Political Parties High-Level Meeting for example:

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59 *Xi Jinping: The Governance of China*, Vol.2, Foreign Languages Press, 2017, p.524.

60 Xi Jinping, “Building a Better World with Foreign Parties.”

nearly 300 leaders of political parties and international organizations attended the conference to discuss experience in political party development and nation-building. Third, a number of broad-ranging exchanges for cooperation and development experience have taken place, including the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, the China-CELAC Forum between China and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, and the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum, among others. During the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, China has advocated the establishment of a regular mechanism for sharing experience among participating countries to enhance the sustainability of development for countries along the BRI routes.

*Third, China shares development experience in specific areas.* Instead of exporting its development model, China is openly sharing its experience in solving development problems with other countries. First, it has shared its experience in the field of poverty alleviation by establishing the International Poverty Alleviation Center in China (IPRCC) and the China International Development Knowledge Center, and launching the China International Forum on Poverty Alleviation. The IPRCC alone has trained over 4,000 government officials and poverty reduction workers from more than 100 countries according to their different needs, thus becoming a platform for an international community specializing in poverty reduction training and contributing its knowledge to poverty alleviation in Africa and Latin America. The second is the exchange of experience in the field of environmental protection, which includes the establishment of the China-Africa Environmental Cooperation Center, the Institute of South-South Cooperation and Development, and the IE Expo China. For instance, the 20th IE Expo China, attended by 2,047 exhibitors from 25 countries and regions,<sup>61</sup> provided a platform for promoting China's experience in environmental protection to the world. Third, China has shared its experience in its fight against corruption by setting up the G20 Research

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61 "Asia's Largest Environmental Exhibition Opens in Shanghai," *Xinmin Evening News*, April 15, 2019, p.A06.

Centre on Anti-Corruption, Fugitive Repatriation and Asset Recovery, thus strengthening the network for anti-corruption law enforcement cooperation. In addition, China has issued the Beijing Declaration on Fighting Corruption to share China's anti-corruption experience with the rest of the world.

## Conclusion

Development holds the key to solving most problems facing the world today.<sup>62</sup> Since the 18th CPC National Congress, China has not only advocated a community with a shared future, but has also initiated the construction of the Belt and Road Initiative, thus making important contributions to global development. However, the world's development is not promising and development opportunities are often confronted with challenges and constraints. On the one hand, the constraints hindering global development persist. Non-traditional security threats have come to forth, the possibility of local conflicts has increased, trade frictions have become more frequent, and protectionism continues to ferment. There is an increasing risk of deterioration in the environment for global development. On the other hand, more countries are involved in promoting global development. Emerging markets and developing countries have become the driving force behind global development, with China being a leading contributor. These countries are obviously gaining strength as the Western world becomes more divided. There is a growing international consensus for boosting development and building a community with a shared future for mankind. The international community still has a long way to go to tackle all the development deficit. Through concrete actions, China will continue to uphold the community with a shared future for mankind, and demonstrate its historic responsibility as a responsible major country. 🌐

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62 Xi Jinping, "Look Beyond the Horizon and Steer the World Economy in the Right Direction," *People's Daily*, December 1, 2018, p.2.