

Collection of Abstracts of the International Scientific
Conference "Rivalry between the US and China for World
Hegemony"

Saint Andrew the First – Called University of the Patriarchate
of Georgia, 2020, Tbilisi

საერთაშორისო სამეცნიერო კონფერენციის „აშშ-სა და
ჩინეთს შორის მეტოქეობა მსოფლიო ჰეგემონობისათვის“
თეზისების კრებული

საქართველოს საპატრიარქოს წმიდა ანდრია
პირველწოდებულის სახელობის ქართული
უნივერსიტეტი, 2020 წელი. თბილისი.

Sino-US competition for hegemony and the New Cold War. Can USA and China Escape the Thucydides trap?

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Abstract

The struggle for global hegemony is taking a new direction. The two strongest states of the world – China and USA have hegemonic ambitions and are obviously opposed to each other in a fierce struggle for Global dominance. We have witnessed the emergence of confrontation between these two states over the last years.

Rivalry between China and USA has increased considerably after Donald Trump's arrival to power. Conflict between these two strongest states intensified and we have witnessed escalation of the quarrel for global leadership. Although China repeatedly claims that it does not have any hegemonic ambitions and does not intend to replace US hegemony in the world, its ambitious economic projects illustrate that its ultimate objective is to become a global hegemon. From the history we now that the rising power first tries to dominate the region where it is located and then it expands its power globally.

There is no doubt that The rise of China has transformed global politics. China's power is steadily increasing. It is becoming more assertive in Asia. China has become a peer competitor of USA. As China is rising its geopolitical ambitions are also growing. China has demonstrated that it is not a status-quo power, in reality it is a revisionist power and wants to dominate strategic areas in the South China Sea and the Western Pacific Region. Of course USA will not tolerate the domination of Western Pacific region and Asia by China. USA will do its best to prevent China to dominate Asia. Some experts do not exclude the possibility of conflict between China and USA in the future. There are many potential hot spots in East Asia where conflict could erupt any time in the future between USA and China. Many experts doubt whether US and China can escape Thucydides trap in the future. If conflict will take place in the future between these two strongest states, even if it will be limited in nature, it will inflict enormous damage on international trade and global economics.

The Rivalry Between USA and China in the Light of the Rivalry Between the Two Superpowers of the Ancient World; the Hittites and the Egypt

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Abstract

The Hittites, who came to Anatolian Geography by immigration, were a nation that created a high civilization, and the history of the Hittites, which we have traced since 1800 BC in Anatolia, can be examined in three sections in general, these are; Old Hittite State, New Hittite State, Late Hittite City States. The ancient Egyptian civilization, where an united kingdom had been seen since the end of the 4th millennium BC; although had a culture where the Nile River was central, it had also been able to rule over distant geographies.

When the rivalry between the United States of America and the People's Republic of China today is compared with the rivalry between the Hittite State and the Egyptian State in the 2nd millennium BC, some similarities can be seen. Just as the Egyptian State was previously a superpower than the Hittite State, the United States was previously a superpower than the People's Republic of China; and the Hittite State, which later became a superpower, wanted to dominate the trade routes where was dominated by the Egyptian State. In parallel with the events seen in the 2nd millennium BC; today, for example with the “Belt and Road Initiative”, which is planned to pass through the states where the United States was previously dominated, an active trade route is desired to be established between China and Europe, so that China can further strengthen its power on the world. The United States wants to prevent this attempt of China. The Egyptian State in the 2nd millennium BC also wanted to prevent the Hittite State from dominating the trade states on the east coast of the Mediterranean; and this rivalry and tension eventually turned into a hot conflict.

Keywords: Belt and Road Initiative, The 2nd Millennium BC, Trade Routes

US-China Trade War: Prerequisites and Global Economic Consequences

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Abstract

The trade war between China and the United States poses a major threat to the global economy. According to the World Trade Organization, trade between the two world's largest countries is contributing to rising global economic uncertainty. The sharp growth of the Chinese economy leads to the transformation of the world economy.

Economically, both countries will suffer from this trade war. Punishment taxes will increase the prices of imported products and hit exports. This will lead to job cuts and slow economic growth. Trade-tariff wars between the US and China are not just a battle to gain an advantage in trade. This is one of the fronts in the controversy for global leadership. As a result of the confrontation between the United States and China, the rest of the world, including Europe, will suffer.

The paper, based on the analysis, discusses the Chinese economy and compares it with the US economy. Appropriate conclusions have been made.

Keywords: USA, China, trade, economy.

China's cyber attacks on the United States

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Abstract

The most serious accusation that the US is making against China is the theft of intellectual property and the realization of cyber-attacks against American companies.

China threatens US economy and national security, it spares no effort to steal sensitive technologies such as computer software, computer hardware, means of telecommunication, etc. Chinese threat is seen as multifaceted and diverse, taking place in all areas, such as the economy, the private sector, business, healthcare, and education.

China's strategic goal is to become a world hegemon by 2049, which is perceived as a major threat by the Trump administration and is seen as a major national security challenge for the United States.

China carries out cyber attacks on the USA every year. The U.S. loses between \$ 300 and \$ 450 billion Dollars annually as a result of this theft and cyber attacks.

Keywords: Cyber attacks, China, USA, intellectual property.

Information war between USA and China on the example of accusations related to the COVID 19 spreading

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Abstract

As it is known, during the last period, there has been constant speculation about the source of coronavirus origin. Different countries blame each other for the virus spreading. In addition, there is a scandalous version that the virus was artificially created in the form of biological weapons in the laboratory of Wuhan in China.

Also noteworthy is the fact that back in 2019, the US State Department expressed doubts about the ongoing secret programs and experiments in this country related to the creation of biological weapons.

While the countries were involved in recriminations of each other, in early March of this year, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs accused the U.S. Army in the spreading of epidemic on the territory of China. In particular, Zhao Lijian, deputy Director general of the Information Department of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, wrote in his Twitter that the United States should present the concrete explanations and transfer its datas to be more transparent.

How credible is conspiracy theory about COVID 19 taking into consideration the foreign policy and foreign economic priorities of the leading countries of the World?

Against the backdrop of accusations leveled against each other by the world's leading states about Coronavirus, it is possible to analyze how much it is possible for this or other country in the world, including leading geopolitical players, to be interested in spreading the virus.

In the epidemic spread would not have been interested China, from where the virus has been widespread, taking into consideration that the within the last years the rapid development of China's economy was provided. Its GDP is 14 trillion USD and China is coming to the world stage with the strengthening its geopolitical position first of all by the taking the appropriate economic measures. For example, this country is the first exporter in the world and in 2019 China exported to the international market the products for \$ 2 trillion 494 million (12% of world exports), which is about 1.5 times higher than export potential of its main competitor in the world economy - United States of America. However, due to Koronavirus - in the first quarter of 2020, the volume of the Chinese main economic lever - export, has decreased by 13.3% (Trading Economics, 2020). It will lead to the economic stagnation in this country (as well as around the world). Therefore, it is impossible not to consider official Beijing would not take into account the consequences of the spread of the virus from this country to different regions of the world.

In addition, the spread of coronavirus has significantly shaken the international reputation of China as a country - that spreads coronavirus. It is known that several states are also demanding the imposition of economic sanctions against China. It is also important to note that many transnational companies are already trying to withdraw their capital from China, which will significantly reduce the volume of investment in the Chinese economy (previously annually about \$ 40 billion were invested in the different sectors of Chinese economy). All the above will lead to economic stagnation in this country (as well as around the world). Naturally, therefore, it is impossible not to consider that official Beijing could not to predict the consequences of the spread of the virus from this country to different regions of the world.

As for the possible spread of Coronavirus by the United States and, first of all, its import into China, this position also excludes the real picture. In particular, despite the geopolitical and ideological rivalry and the problems in the trade-economic relations between the United States and China within the last two years, new agreements were signed in October-December 2019, according to which important steps were taken to remove the trade barriers. Trade turnover between the US and China in 2018 was estimated at \$ 737 billion, while the volume of US

direct investment in the Chinese economy ranged to about \$100 billion (Office of the United States Trade Representative, 2019).

Of course, the relevant US state agencies would also be able to calculate the consequences of COVID 19 spreading taking into consideration the volume of the trade between the United States and China. Therefore, the US was aware of the fact that due to the spread of the virus in China, it would primarily affected the US, where as of June 10, 2020, 2,045,741 thousand people were infected with coronavirus and the total number of deaths was 114,151 thousand people. As for jobs, the number of unemployed in the United States has risen by about 300,000 as a result of the virus (Wordometers, 2020). In addition, experts estimate that by 2020, the U.S. economy will shrink by about 3%.

Key words: **USA, China, Information, Propaganda**

Confrontation between China and the US for world hegemony

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Abstract

Understanding the essence of the main actors in the transformation of the world political agenda remains relevant, and understanding how the relations between them will be conducted. Against the background of the breakdown of the unipolar world order, the contours of the multipolar order emerge, where there will be not one hegemonic state, but different equal weighted actors. Also more striking is the passage of the tripolar geopolitical model, in contrast to the classical bipolar world order, where the main actors were the two superpowers - the Soviet Union and the United States. Under these conditions, at the level of global politics, the aspirations of the three "great powers" for geopolitical hegemony - the Russian Federation, the People's Republic of China and the United States - are evident.

In the model of the tripolar order, the geopolitical confrontation and competition between China and the United States of the "Great Powers" is especially important. According to the criteria of the stability of the political system, economic strength, status of energy super-country, military power and global strength of the geopolitical code, these two actors will be the main guarantors of this order. The Russian Federation, moreover, is only a kind of supplement to this controversy, which has established itself in the top three with military potential and geopolitical ambitions.

The purpose of our report is to study the geopolitics of China and the United States in terms of their foreign policy tasks, including the existing relations, and to determine their impact and advantage on hegemony over strategic stability processes. To study the topic, I will use qualitative research methods, in particular, literature review, through which I will develop a theoretical framework for research.

The controversy on the world political agenda continues today, with some researchers saying that the world has moved towards a multipolar order, however, some scientists argue that despite everything, the US still maintains hegemony.

Key words: **China, USA, hegemony, geopolitics**

Public Diplomacy for Global Leadership: A Comparative Analysis of the U.S. and China

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is to analyze a role public diplomacy has in terms of maintaining and advancing the U.S.' and China's global leadership. Research focuses on the evaluation of the U.S.' and China's public diplomacy tactics. Research aims to study the objectives of the U.S.' and China's public diplomacy activities regarding strengthening democracy around the globe, and the impact these public diplomacy activities have on the U.S.' and China's global aspirations and priorities. Paper is based on the primary sources, such as foreign policy documents and surveys. These documents are essential to analyze the issue. The present research is interdisciplinary, as it combines various academic fields from the humanities, social and political sciences. Its methodological framework combines quantitative and qualitative research methods. Research chronological framework highlights the period of 2015-2020.

The paper examines the specific factors – internal, as well as international - that affect public diplomacy strategy of the United States and China related to global leadership. Research shows that public diplomacy has an important role for the U.S. and China to maintain and advance global leadership. Research results indicate that differences between the U.S.' and China's public diplomacy activities related to strengthening democracy can affect the overall status of their global leadership.

Keywords: Public Diplomacy, Global Leadership, United States, China.

The U.S.-China Competition for Global Hegemony

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Abstract

Following the end of the Second World War, the world was divided into two opposing sides. On one side, there was a socialist camp led by the USSR, and on the other side, a capitalist camp, under the leadership of the United States was formed, in the ranks of which there were the Western and Democratic countries of the world. In the same years, the United States initiated the so-called “Marshall plan”, intending to financially supporting the countries affected by the war. Furthermore, the U.S. hugely promoted the liberalization process of a civilized world in order to avoid the threat of communism in those states. In 1991 the disintegration of the USSR and the end of the “Cold War” marked the victory of the West and its main ideology-liberal democracy. “The unipolar moment” has resulted in a liberal hegemony, as it has been described by the dominant political scientists in the 1990s. Since then, the U.S. National Security Strategy has been unchanged even under the terms of different Presidents, including both Republicans and Democrats. That is, to worldwide promote democracy, market economy and other universal American values. However, by the end of the 1990s and at the beginning of the 2000s, as a result of growing polarization at home, along with the rising social and racial tensions, the U.S. global hegemony has significantly been weakened. At the beginning of the new millennium the U.S. engaged in wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and Lybia, which has further diminished the global status of the country as a great power. On the other side of the globe, in a considerably limited period of time, China has emerged in the world of the global economy, shown an astonishing economic growth and posed a serious threat to the dominance of the U.S. as the strongest power, which has already been illustrated in the economic war between Washington and Beijing. China is already a leader in many areas of the economy: the largest producer of household goods, the largest importer of oil, the largest market for cars and smartphones, the largest producer of steel and more. As a

consequence, the unipolar system turned into a more diverse and unpredictable order, which also affects the allies of the U.S. and China, since those countries are hugely linked to both Washington and Beijing in political and economic terms.

Key words: The U.S., China, unipolarity, bipolarity, economy

US-China Relations During Pandemic

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Abstract

The topic of our conversation will be the relations between China and the United States, which came to the surface during the pandemic and exposed the struggle and action for leadership and influence in the world.

The pandemic has become a global phenomenon of our century. Although our era is progressive in the medical and biotechnological fields the world has not been prepared for the Coronavirus pandemic. This is the main reason why states are focused on saving people's lives and helping scientists create a vaccine.

The crisis will gradually pass and the modern world will continue to live with different reality. The contemporary world has the following question: What will the future look like, and how will a strong state like the United States be able to overcome the consequences of the pandemic and what will be its positions on the political map? How will China-US relations develop politically and economically?

Political figures from the US presidency have been systematically talking about hiding the facts of Coronavirus from China and destroying the data needed to create a vaccine against the virus.

If Americans are working to create a vaccine, the Chinese claim that creating a vaccine will be evidence that the virus was developed by the United States.

According to Bloomberg, one of the reports from the US Intelligence Service states that the first person to die of a pandemic in China fell ill in November 2019, and the information was provided to the World Health Organization on December 8. At the same time, China used a different methodology for counting infected people, so the statistics from them are unrealistic. China, on the other hand, blames the United States and tries to blame the spread of the infection historically.

The fact is that even after the outbreak of the epidemic, its traces in the relations between the states of the world will remain for a long time, "Traces on Earth of countries and relations between them, on our own, on ordinary mortals and world leaders, on their interdependence will not disappear for long time."

Political tensions are rising between China and the United States. The Chinese administration is trying to make the United States the source of the spread of the infection and make the whole burden of the process a burden on US policy. It's political allies in this process are Russia and Iran, and all three are working together to spread a multifaceted and complex campaign, disseminating false information, and together with the United States, the West as a whole is politically irresponsible and less interested in their health and lives.

In this process, it's political allies are realizing that the health crisis can be used to achieve Geopolitical goals.

The United States is already engaged in a multifaceted investigation and is careful to create a complete picture.

The pandemic has become a reality to create a new political map of the world and to establish the influence of states. On one side is the United States and the West in general, on the other side is China, and with-it Russia and Iran with independent interests.

Despite China's growing economy, it is still difficult to cope with US policy and military might. Moreover, democracy and freedom of speech are the main values of today's world.

Confrontation between China and the US for world hegemony

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Abstract

In today's global world, the struggle for world hegemony has become a major task. Despite the fact that The United States has been a hegemon for many years, for the past three decades China has been seen as a challenge for US, due to its developed economy after overcoming the non-expansionary policy.

The situation was especially aggravated after the presidency of Donald Trump, whose foreign policy involves confrontation with superpowers. The already strained confrontation between the US and China, which is reflected in the economic conflict, reached its peak during the Covid19 pandemic. Considering the current tense situation between the US and China, it is highly likely to predict further increase of mutual confrontation between the powers.

However, on the one hand, from the perspective of China it focuses only on its own defense and foreign policy on peacekeeping, is not going to establish hegemony and military expansion, on the other hand, strengthening Chinese economic recourse and infrastructure sector says opposite.

Nowadays, the world is still one-pole and the United States represents this pole. China has failed to compete with its growing economy in the political and military spheres, which has been highlighted in the context of the pandemic. Despite growing potential and equalization with the United States in the economic context, China is not currently ready to play a leading role. China has a number of issues that hinder its hegemonic ambitions. In particular, China has less standard of living, production of gross domestic product, technological and military potential than the United States.

Keywords: USA, China, hegemony