**Great Upheaval & Serious World War Threat Today:**

**Fatal mistakes made by the USA & Russia in Ukrainia War- What Should China Do?**

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In the late autumn of 2022, international strategic studies scholar Qiu Shui held an in-depth discussion on the current world situation and its future direction.

The questions started from the Russia-Ukraine war and what China should do.

**Question: On the issue of Russia and Ukraine, I sympathize with Ukraine, but I am unwilling to support him because the United States is behind him.**

 I don't agree with Russia fighting Ukraine, but the United States wants to fight Russia. So I stand with Russia for the sake of my motherland. In the final analysis, we will never stand with the United States! The United States is too domineering and despicable in the world. The Soviet Union collapsed in the 1990s. The situation was very severe at that time. Our country turned the corner and came through. I think China was still in the process of reform and opening up at that time. China was not very strong. There were laid-off workers everywhere. The United States did not take China seriously. But things are different now. More than 20 years have passed and China is developing rapidly in all aspects.

 China is closely following the United States.

 **Do you think Amerika can rest assured?**

**Can China exceed Amerika peacefully?**

It is hard to say that Amerika will let us go this time and let China continue to develop rapidly. This is my idea. I think a war between China and the United States will happen sooner or later, but of course I don’t want it to happen. After all, people will die, especially on the Taiwan issue. If there is a fight, it will be the Chinese people who will die and the island of Taiwan will be destroyed.

QUESTİON: This issue is relatively complicated to explain, and it requires basic knowledge and strategic vision of history and international affairs. I will discuss it with you on and off in the future. For the first question, let’s talk about the most sensitive topic first—“American hegemony.”

1. **How to understand the United States: How did the United States become the world’s hegemon?**

The United States is a rising capitalist power. When it entered the stage of world history, the imperialist powers of the old world (old Europe) had already carved up the world by establishing colonies. From the perspective of the national interests of the United States, the only way to weaken the It is these imperialist powers that have the status of a latecomer like the United States; At the same time, the United States was once a British colony on the North American continent. It gained its independent status through a war with its mother country, Britain. It was based on these two points that the United States put forward the slogan and policy of decolonization after its founding, becoming a country without Colonial imperialist countries (we have given the US imperialism the label of neo-colonialism, that is, colonialism without colonies through economic aggression). But no matter how you say it, in that historical era, from the perspective of the history of ending colonialism, the United States represented the historical progress at that time.

1. **The significance of the United States’ implementation of the “open door” policy toward China**

As far as China is concerned, since the Opium War in 1840, China has faced a frenzy of being carved up by Western powers. Of course, the United States has also participated in this. But at the same time, US Secretary of State Hay-John proposed the famous "Open Door" policy of the United States toward China. This The policy has two core contents: one is to share interests, and the other is to preserve China.

That is to say: first, the United States also has a share of the benefits gained by the European powers by using force to open China's door; second, the United States is not allowed to turn China into a colony monopolized by a certain power, and must retain China's own government rule. It was an important international factor that prevented modern China from becoming a colonial country like India and embarking on a semi-feudal and semi-colonial path. The reason why the spark of the Chinese revolution never goes out, and why China's red regime is able to survive in the cracks of competition among several imperialist spheres of influence, is all related to the United States' China policy.

In the Xinchou Treaty signed after the Eight-Power Allied Forces attacked Beijing in 1900, the great powers forced the Qing government to pay a huge amount of Boxer Indemnity, which was used as primitive accumulation for their development of capitalism. For example, Japan's rapid industrialization relied on this Sino-Japanese War indemnity and Gengzi compensation.

 The United States returned the money allocated to him to the Chinese government in the form of funding for Chinese-run schools to develop people's livelihood undertakings, such as Yanjing Tsinghua University and Union Hospital in Beijing, Xiangya Hospital in Hunan, West China Hospital in Chengdu, etc.

They were all built with this money. Of course, you can also say that the American devils are so sinister that they use the Chinese compensation to buy things from the Chinese. This is a kind of cultural invasion. But after all, compared with other Western powers and the extremely corrupt Qing government, this approach of the Americans is still beneficial to the Chinese people.

1. The formation of America’s “lighthouse”

At the beginning of the founding of the United States, its founding fathers and sages stood at the forefront of historical civilization at that time. They carried the anti-feudal banner of freedom, equality, and fraternity raised by the French Revolution and the European progressive thinkers Rousseau, Voltaire, and Mendes. Dove's advanced ideas about the national system inherited, developed and institutionalized the successful practices of the British Chartist Movement and the Glorious Revolution's social reform in the United States, forming a unique separation of powers, national autonomy, four freedoms, rule by the people, and ownership of the peoples enjoyment and other systematic democratic constitutional concepts and systems.

As a result, American society once became a beacon of attraction to the world, resulting in a long-lasting flow of immigrants to the New World of the United States around the world. Even Sun Yat-sen's Three People's Principles and Mao Zedung's political aspirations in his youth were based on the United States as an example and pursuit.

1. **The historical evolution of the relationship between the United States and China**

However, the practice of China's modern history has given the Chinese people the opposite lesson. This is what Chairman Mao mentioned in "On the People's Democratic Dictatorship". Countless advanced Chinese people take the West as their teachers, but West always invaded his students. As a result, the top sesleri of the October Revolution awakened the world. Taking the Russians as their teachers and following the road of socialism was the choice the Chinese people made again.

What Chairman Mao said here, "Mr. always invades students", apart from the actions of Britain, France, Germany, Russia and Japan, is specifically about the United States. I think it covers three periods. One is the late Manchu Qing government when the United States followed the European powers and invaded China. During the period of confrontation between the Kuomintang and the Communist Party, the United States supported the Kuomintang in fighting the civil war. The third was the Cold War confrontation between China and the United States in the two decades before the founding of the People's Republic of China.

 The United States imposed blockade threats and force oppression on my country from three directions: the Korean Peninsula, Indochina, and the Taiwan Strait, and obstructed our efforts. Recover Taiwan and achieve complete reunification of the motherland. But for more than a hundred years, the United States has not been completely bad to me. During the Anti-Japanese War, as an ally in the anti-fascist war, the United States provided great support to China.

 After the 1960s, Sino-Soviet relations broke down, and the Soviet revisionists were determined to subdue us. The improvement of Amerika-China relations has to a large extent alleviated the security pressure on China, which was surrounded by enemies on all sides. When Sino-Soviet relations were at their most tense, the Brezhnev clique was eager to use nuclear weapons to carry out a surgical strike on my country's atomic bomb base, but was unable to carry out the operation due to obstruction by the United States.

 After the reform and opening up, although there were frictions and contradictions in Sino-US relations for thirty years, it became the best period in the history of both countries, from which both China and the United States gained huge benefits. If this is not acknowledged, it is unexplainable that so many Chinese parents send their children to study in the United States. It is impossible for China's economy and technology to catch up with the United States so quickly.

5.The history of two “hundred years of struggle” in the United States

Let’s look at the international behavior of the Amerika. The United States has only 246 years of history since it issued the Declaration of Independence in 1776, becoming independent from British colonial rule and establishing its country. It can be roughly summarized as two "hundred years of struggle": the first hundred years is a hundred years of growth, and the second hundred years is a hundred years of expansion.

The foreign policy of the United States in the first hundred years was called the "Monroe Doctrine. " The gist of this policy was to focus on the country, on the North American continent, and develop itself without paying attention to external matters, so it was also called "isolationism."

The tradition of isolationism is so deeply rooted in the United States that even today, Trump's plan to close the door, withdraw from the world's many multilateral systems, and engage in one-party unilateralism is still widely echoed in the United States and has a strong market. No wonder Presidents Wilson and Roosevelt had to push the United States to intervene in World War I and World War II, and convincing the American people to break through the obstruction of isolationism became the most difficult task.

 The famous "fireside chat" tells this story. However, the growth of American capital and the enhancement of national power have objectively pushed the United States' foreign policy from isolationism to internationalism.

 The United States has made a difference in world affairs and established a world hegemony led by the United States, which is in line with the expansion of capital as the United States becomes stronger beneficial.  Entering the 20th century, the United States intervened in two world wars and became a victorious country and a force for world stability, establishing a post-war US-led world order.

The United States did not initiate the First World War, but was passively involved. The World War lasted from 1914 to 1918, and the United States did not send troops to intervene until 1917. At that time, the United States did not have many troops of its own, but mobilized militiamen to form volunteer armies to go to Europe. This was reflected in many American films, such as "Autumn Days" legend".

World War I was a war between two imperialist blocs, the Entente and the Central Powers, but the main force that provoked the war was militaristic Germany. Although Germany's military strength was strong at that time, it faced unfavorable situations in fighting on the east and west fronts. Due to the outbreak of the October Revolution in Russia, the Bolsheviks led by Lenin withdrew from the war early, allowing Germany to deploy more than 100 divisions from the east to reinforce the west. If it were not for the American military With the arrival of the United States, the history of World War I will be completely rewritten, and the winner will not be Britain and France, but Germany and Austria. Therefore, the USA's participation in the war played a key role in the Allies' victory in World War I. For this reason, Germany, unconvinced and defeated by the war, quickly launched World War II.

 The nature of World War II was a world anti-fascist war. The main forces were Britain, France, China and the Soviet Union. However, the participation of the United States in the war and its strong material support (material support provided to the participating countries through the "Lend-Lease Act", especially to the Soviet Union), It played a decisive role in winning the world anti-fascist war.

**6.The formation and decline of the United States’ world hegemony**

After the World War, the international status of the United States has undergone great changes. Due to its contribution in World War II, its super national power, and its almost impulsive ideology of redeeming freedom and democracy, the United States has ascended to the center of world power status. Through the four important pillars of the United Nations, USA dollar, capital, nuclear weapons, and international multilateral security alliances, the United States has become a new world hegemon. It also provides public goods and services to the international community in the above four aspects.

 However, during the Cold War period that lasted for nearly half a century after the war, the United States never achieved its goal of world domination. Instead, it continued to compete with the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc, headed by the superpower Soviet Union, for world hegemony.

A series of large and small wars, crises and major events occurred during this historical period, such as the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Berlin Crisis, the Bo-Hungarian Incident, the Arab-Israeli Conflict, the Middle East War, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the military occupation of the Czech Republic, the Soviet Union The war in Afghanistan and others were all products of or had the background of competition between the United States and the Soviet Union, and were not exclusive to the United States.

Moreover, around the 1970s, there was a situation where the Soviet Union was attacking and the United States was defending. If the Soviet Union had not successfully divided the Soviet-Chinese alliance strategically, it would have been uncertain whether the United States would ultimately win the Cold War. Shevardnadze, the last foreign minister of the Soviet Union, lamented at that time: The remote cause of the collapse of the Soviet Union began with the split between China and the Soviet Union.

After the Cold War ended with the collapse of the Soviet Union, the world entered the post-Cold War era. The United States became the sole hegemon of the world for the first time, creating a short-lived unipolar world and the illusion of the "end of history." This is the period when AMERİKANhegemony ambitions and ideological expansion are most expanded. In Brzezinski’s words, USA hegemony at this time has two new qualitative historical characteristics:

First, for the first time, the heart of the world, the Eurasian continental island, is dominated by an outside country rather than a country within the region.

Second, the hegemony of the United States is not a hegemony of a single nature, but a hegemony of a comprehensive nature, that is, it is comprehensively ahead of its opponents in all fields of economy, politics, military, science and technology, culture and ideology.

 The United States has become the sergeant of a team of policemen.

It is this illusion of unipolar hegemony that won the Cold War that allowed the United States to expand wantonly in the three decades after the Cold War and conquer the world. It first targeted the threat of international terrorism, and then continued to carry out continuous attacks with Russia, the successor to the Soviet legacy, as its main opponent.

 Several wars have excessively consumed its national power in order to maintain unipolar hegemony, and objectively provided China with historical opportunities and dividends that can be exploited for its peaceful development. The United States has paid an exorbitant price and cost to maintain its unipolar hegemony. This price and cost is the decline of the United States and the unstoppable rise of China.

 This is the situation that the United States has faced in the last ten years of the new century and the overall background of AMERİKAN-China relations. What I have said above is all about one question: how to understand the United States comprehensively and deeply.

 **ABOUT RUSSİA, CHİNA AND NATO’S EASTWARD EXPANSİON**

The second question is how to view Russia, the Russia-Ukraine conflict and NATO's eastward expansion.

**1.How to view Russia and its historical relationship with China**

Russia is our close neighbor.The historical connection with China is no less than that of the United States, and it is also a combination of love and hatred. As a historical empire, in the words of Marx and Engels, it was the leader of the "Holy Alliance" fortress of European feudalism in the 18th century. Its proud and glorious history of defeating Napoleon has both an anti-aggression nature and a It has the nature of feudal restoration that killed the French Revolution.

 This is a country that has continuously encroached on other countries throughout history and is always expanding its territory. These are the evaluations of the proletarian revolutionary mentor.

Our first and second generation leaders Mao Zedung and Deng Xiaoping also said: The Soviet revisionists are determined to destroy US.  Among the countries that have hurt our country the most in history, one is Russia and the other is Japan. If Outer Mongolia is included, Russia forcibly cut off more than 3 million square kilometers of land from our country, which is equivalent to 1/3 of China's territory.

Therefore, we once called it social imperialism, that is, under the guise of socialism banner, they were doing imperialist deeds. But history is just one moment and another. Since the socialist revolution broke out in Russia, and since the Chinese Communists took Russia as their teacher, China and Russia have become closer to each other because of the socialist revolution, forming a common destiny and a political alliance.

The Soviet Union’s assistance and support to China manifested itself in four stages in history:

The first is the early days of the founding of the Party and the period of the Great Revolution; the second is the counterattack stage of the Anti-Japanese War; the third is the period of the decisive battle between the Kuomintang and the Communist Party in the War of Liberation; the fourth is the war to resist USA aggression and aid Korea and the first decade of the founding of the People's Republic of China. Such a close historical trajectory gives Russia a kind of kinship with our Party and New China that is not easy to let go.

 People of our generation, especially, have a deep connection with the October Revolution. The dramatic changes in the Soviet Union and the collapse of the Soviet Union that occurred in the 1990s were an unbearable psychological and emotional earthquake for us as socialist comrades and brothers. The Chinese generally believe that Gorbachov's betrayal and the subversive conspiracy of Western forces in the Soviet United were the fundamental reasons for the collapse of the socialist Soviet Union. Together with the subsequent Bosnia-Herzegovina War and the brutal bombing of the Chinese Embassy, ​​another generation of Chinese people had a deep hatred for the United States and the Western world resentment and hatred, as well as sympathy for a bullied and squeezed Russia.

The disintegration of the Soviet Union was the most significant historical event in the 20th century, and its causes were multifaceted and by no means single. At that time, I was at the forefront of observing this incident, and I personally felt the overwhelming wave of Soviet society - the Soviet Union was overthrown by the complex intertwining force of reform forces and anti-socialist forces. The reason why the Soviet social system failed in the struggle with capitalism was ultimately due to no other reason than labor productivity, which in turn was attributed to the Soviet Union's long-term rigid bureaucracy.

 The iron law of globalized productive forces expansion is the fundamental reason for the collapse of all Iron Curtains and the collapse of the Berlin Wall.

**2.Why did all the original member countries turn away from the Soviet Union after the disintegration of the Soviet Union?**

An intriguing phenomenon emerged during the drastic changes in the Soviet Union and the collapse of the Soviet Union. That is to say, not only did the eight socialist countries in the original Soviet-Eastern camp (Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Romania, Bulgaria, Albania, and Yugoslavia) all switch to the West, but most of the original 15 republics of the Soviet Union also joined the West.

Russia is alienated from Germany. All countries in the west, except Belarus, have joined the EU and applied to join NATO. Only a few poor Central Asian republics in the east once remained in the CIS and the Eurasian Union (now cracks are increasingly emerging). This phenomenon has hardly attracted the attention and thinking of many Chinese people.

 **Why are old compatriots and brothers in the past are unwilling to be tied to Russia?**

 I think this may be related to the historical memory of Russia’s expansion. Crimea was originally called Crimea and was a territory of Turkey; Petrograd originally belonged to Sweden; Kaliningrad originally belonged to Germany; Western Ukraine and even Eastern Ukraine belonged to Poland~The Kingdom of Lithuania has been around for nearly a hundred years, and its history It predates Tsarist Russia; the ownership of the three Baltic countries has changed hands several times in history, and they did not originally belong to Russia; even the authentic Ukrainian Kievan Rus was taken over by the Grand Duchy of Moscow at the hands of the Mongols, occupying the magpie's nest. Looking through the biographies of Peter the Great and Empress Catherine, the history of Russia's expansion in modern times is vividly visible on the page. Just check out the two-volume memoirs of Stalin's successor, postwar Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev. A large part of it talks about his long-term role as a regional governor in Ukraine and taking over Western Ukraine from the Poles on Stalin's orders long-term experience, and the long-term impact of post-war Polish-Soviet relations on this dispute, which became a historical fact that was difficult to resolve in the Soviet Union’s foreign relations.

Therefore, Putin’s claim during the Russo-Ukrainian war that he was going to get back what belonged to him is not completely consistent with history, and it is also untenable from a legal perspective. This is also the reason why Russia's neighboring countries, and even most of the countries in Europe, have always been afraid of this polar bear. They have sought to join NATO and actively invited another black boss to provide protection.

3**.The Yalta System and the Establishment of NATO**

Let’s briefly talk about NATO and NATO’s eastward expansion. This issue involves the initial considerations of the United States and the Soviet Union about the international pattern after World War II and subsequent changes, so we must first introduce the Yalta system.

When World War II was about to be won, the three giants of the United States, the Soviet Union, and Britain, in order to finally end the war and make arrangements for the post-war international order, held a summit meeting at the Yalta Palace on the Crimean Peninsula on the Black Sea of ​​the Soviet Union in February 1945.

 President Roosevelt at the time was based on the war. With the subjective vision about post-war Amerika-Soviet cooperation to dominate the world, and the urgent need to seek support from the Soviet Union in sending troops to fight Japan, Roosevelt ignored Churchill's opposition, President Roosevelt accommodated Stalin's demands in the arrangement of the post-war international order, and roughly divided the East and the West.

 The sphere of influence formed what later generations called the Yalta pattern. For example: the division of ownership between Eastern and Western Europe, the boundaries and distribution of interests in the Far East, etc. What is particularly worth mentioning here is that it stipulated that when Poland, which was carved up by Germany and the Soviet Union at the beginning of the war, was restored after the war, the new border between Poland and the Soviet Union would be redrawn using the Curzon Line, so that the Soviet Union could retain its control over the original Poland.

 The annexation and occupation of part of the territory of Germany served as a safe buffer space between the Soviet Union and European countries, while the western border of Poland was pushed westward to the Oder-Neisse line, using part of the territory of defeated Germany as a compensation for the loss of territory in eastern Poland.

The part of Polish land that became Russian territory according to this adjustment is in today's Ukraine. Understanding this historical background, it is not difficult to understand why Poland's attitude towards counterattack was surprisingly tough during the Russia-Ukraine conflict. However, the actual post-war historical trend did not develop according to Roosevelt's vision. After the Yalta meeting, Roosevelt died soon after, and the war against Germany and Japan also ended. The political trend of the Soviet Union and the Western world in Eastern Europe, the Far East (including China, North Korea and Vietnam) immediately fell into serious conflict over the future development.

The successive electoral disputes in Eastern Europe, the Berlin crisis, the civil war between the Kuomintang and the Communist Party of China, and later the Korean War, which broke through the 38th Parallel, and later the Vietnam War, which broke through the 17th Parallel, were all regarded by the United States and Western countries as being deliberately promoted by the Soviet Union.

 The expansion of communism broke through the boundaries set by the Yalta pattern and threatened the security interests of the free world. Therefore, on the basis of the successful implementation of the Marshall Aid Plan and the promotion of post-war economic recovery in Western Europe, the Truman administration of the United States extended this Amerika-European cooperation plan to the field of military security and promoted the establishment of a Western military and political alliance such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, officially giving up Following Roosevelt's policy orientation of postwar cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union, and accepting the advice of George Kennan, the father of the Cold War, he launched a comprehensive containment strategy against the Soviet Union. Of course, in addition to the security threat against Soviet power as the main motivation, the establishment of NATO also included the purpose of integrating internal relations in Western Europe, managing conflicts between France and Germany, and preventing the resurgence of German militarism. Because of the feud between France and Germany, two wars broke out in Europe.

 This function of NATO was weakened with the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) joining NATO and the establishment of the European Community. It was finally resolved with the reunification of the two Germanys 40 years later and Germany's complete integration into Europe in a peaceful manner. In short, the establishment of NATO marked the formation of the Cold War confrontation pattern between the United States and the Soviet Union.

**4.Two stages of NATO’s eastward expansion**

After NATO was established, it went through two stages of expansion.

The first stage occurred during the Cold War. NATO expanded from the original 12 countries to 16 countries through three expansions. In more than 40 years, it only expanded to 4 countries. The second stage took place in the post-Cold War period after the collapse of the Soviet Union and the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact.

From 1991 to the present, NATO has implemented six consecutive expansions and is now about to have 32 member states (counting Sweden and Finland, which recently formally applied to join) which has doubled in size from the Cold War in 30 years. Most of these new members come from newly emerged and independent countries in Europe after the collapse of the Soviet Union and the drastic changes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. It is obvious that NATO's new eastward expansion after the Cold War has an obvious intention to target Russia.

What policies and principles does NATO's expansion follow?

First, it is the principle of collective security, that is, the principle of military alliance. According to this principle, NATO is obviously a military security tool of the Western bloc that is mastered and controlled by the United States. We see that today's NATO has no longer limited its scope of activities to both sides of the North Atlantic, but has become an armed force that intervenes on a global scale. Its tentacles and organizational form have extended to the Asia-Pacific and our country's surroundings.

Second, it is the principle of weakening Russia. That is, after the collapse of the Soviet Union, through the expansion and extension of NATO, Russia's sphere of influence and security buffer zone were further invaded, so that the Russian behemoth continued to be weakened, and finally it was accepted harmlessly. During the Russia-Ukraine conflict, people brought up Kissinger several times, as if Kissinger was against NATO's eastward expansion. This is actually a misunderstanding or even a misunderstanding. On the contrary, Kissinger was the designer and advocate of NATO's eastward expansion policy.

Just after the end of the Cold War, the fledgling President Clinton did not know much about international politics and did not know how to deal with the drastic changes in Amerika-Russia relations. He once asked Kissinger for advice. Kissinger replied: Our struggle with the Russians actually consists of two levels. The first level is the struggle against a communist autocratic system, and the goal of this level has been won

 the second level is the struggle against a historical system.

The struggle of the great empire, this level of content has just begun.

**The historical process of NATO's eastward expansion after the end of the Cold War began when Clinton was in office.**

**5.The West’s power policy logic aims to constantly dismember Russia to make it “harmless”**

For a defeated empire, the victorious powers, based on the logic of power politics, have always wanted to further weaken it or even dismember it until it becomes a "harmless" ordinary country that no longer poses a threat or danger.

This is how the defeated Napoleonic Empire was dealt with in history, this is how it was dealt with the declining Ottoman Empire, this is how it was dealt with the Austro-Hungarian Empire that was in crisis, this is how it was dealt with the German Empire that was defeated twice, and this is how it was dealt with at the end of the road.

 The Japanese Empire dealt with it in this way, and the disintegrating Russian Empire will not be an exception and will still be dealt with in this way.

I believe that what wise Western politicians like Kissinger and Merkel are opposed to is not NATO’s eastward expansion itself, but a reminder to the West that when promoting NATO’s eastward expansion, it must act cautiously, pay attention to the sense of proportion and scale, and do not force Russia to do so. If you go too far, don't pursue the enemy, otherwise it will overly disrupt the balance of power, which will lead to counterproductive effects and create an unmanageable situation. Unfortunately, the actual trend of the Russia-Ukraine conflict is rapidly declining towards the terrible abyss that they fear.

**6.The** **fatal mistakes made by the United States and Russia in the Russo-Ukrainian War**

In my humble opinion, both the United States and Russia have made fatal mistakes on the Ukraine issue. The mistake of the United States is that it does not understand that Ukraine is actually the core of Russia's core interests. On the historical path of the formation of the Russian nation-state, Ukraine, represented by Kievan Rus, is the true mother of Russia. Although this land was not under Russian rule two hundred years ago and belonged to other areas of the East Slavic peoples, for most of the past two hundred years, at least Eastern Ukraine east of Kiev has been within the scope of Russian sovereignty. Russia is rich in products, industrially developed, and culturally advanced.

 It is a heavy industrial base that supports Russia's prosperity and modernization, not to mention the warm ocean estuary, the Black Sea Fleet and the port of Sevastopol that are irreplaceable for Russia's security. As Putin said, Russia without Ukraine will lose its complete meaning.

 The West's troubles in Ukraine have actually stabbed Russia in the heart. It is a bitter pill that Russia cannot swallow, and a strong backlash was inevitable. Ukraine should have become the red line for NATO's eastward expansion. NATO's eastward expansion should end with Ukraine. Ukraine's independence should be maintained, but Ukraine's neutrality should be confirmed at the same time. Ukraine should become a buffer zone and a bridge of communication between the West and Russia. This vision proposed by Kissinger is indeed a vision, a great deal, and a great wisdom in strategic management. Looking back at Russia, Russia's fatal mistake is that it failed to recognize that the disintegration of the Soviet Union and Ukraine's independence are irreversible realities, and it still fantasizes about continuing Great Russia's rule over Ukraine as it did during the Soviet period.

When the color revolution broke out in Ukraine and it shifted politically towards the West, after Putin decisively captured Crimea and seized the two Donbas states, he misjudged the situation and overestimated his capabilities in an attempt to expand They used war to get more things back from Ukraine, and even released arrogant remarks to the world about revisiting the old dream of Peter the Great, thereby endangering Ukraine's independence, blocking the possible path for peace and neutrality in Ukraine, and frightening the whole of Europe. Undoubtedly, he turned against the enemy, gave others a handle, and backhandedly enabled NATO to expand eastward.

**7.How do you view Putin’s merits and demerits?**

Putin is a person that many people are very optimistic about. He does have a heroic temperament. He turned the tide when Russia was at its lowest point, maintained Russia's dignity and status as a great power, and left a remarkable legacy of his own in history. But I always think that he can only be regarded as a tactical expert, not a strategic master. Coupled with his increasing arbitrariness and personal ambition, he is heading towards the negative side of history. Putin has shown that he is less cunning than sincere in two crucial aspects:

First, he does not know how to hide one's strength and bide one's time, and the reality of Russia is precisely not in a position to make public appearances and attack on all sides.

 The second is that he is not good at managing relations between major powers. He is already in a weak position and plays a secondary role in the China-Amerika-Russia triangle, but he insists on occupying the main position and does not know how to advance or retreat. Putin uses full firepower to block the bullets for others.

In the words of the Chinese, it is called "not being able to distinguish between big and small kings."

 This is Putin's personal tragedy, and ultimately Russia's tragedy. Gorbachev is in front and Putin is behind, one is on the left and the other on the right. They all take the lead and it is difficult to continue the game. This may be Russia's fate, and perhaps it is also the fate of mankind. At this point, we have finished talking about the second question.

**CHİNA’S INTERNATİONAL ENVİROMENT**

The third issue is the international environment we face and China’s way of dealing with it. Liushu, our conversation was originally triggered by a question you and Gu Xiao had, that is, under the **current situation, why doesn’t China extend a helping hand to Russia?**

 Russia has fallen, and the Amerika and the West will use their full strength to deal with us. Therefore, after discussing so much, we finally have to return to this issue. Your thoughts are sincere and reflect the simple patriotism of ordinary people like us. We dare not forget about our country despite our humble status. This may be the foundation for the Chinese nation to endure hardships for thousands of years and the Great Wall has not collapsed.

 According to my observation, since the Russia-Ukraine war, there are more than one or two people who hold this view, and a considerable number of people agree with this position.

The war to resist USA aggression and aid Korea at the beginning of the founding of the People's Republic of China has rekindled the historical memory of our nation's humiliation and pride due to the release of "Crossing the Yalu River". "The Cold War" is almost a condensed interpretation of the justice and rationality of that war.  Undoubtedly, the image that reappeared among the people was an extremely successful patriotic education, and at the same time, it was also an early mobilization for war.

You also remember my response to Gu Xiao’s question.

 I said that times have changed, and history has moved forward for more than 70 years. Applying the old methods of the past to today's reality will undoubtedly be a waste of time. In the more than 70 years since the war, the conditions of the times and the international environment have undergone extremely profound and complex changes, which requires that our security thinking cannot be simplistic. Here I am only providing evidence to prove that one person has missed ten thousand.

On the eve of the founding of the People's Republic of China, the first-generation leadership core of our party made a major decision for the security maintenance of New China: to choose between the Amerika and the Soviet Union to rely on the Soviet Union. Many democrats in the coalition government at that time and domestic intellectuals advocated improving relations with the United States, or at least maintaining a balance between China and the Soviet Union.

The Amerikan government also took a wait-and-see approach to China's political situation and instructed its ambassador to China, Leighton Stuart, to stay in China and wait. Stalin also doubted whether we were another Tito, standing on the fence between the capitalist camp and the socialist camp like Yugoslavia did. Mao Zedung decisively announced to the world: "We are leaning towards the Soviet Union."

Comrades Zhou Enlai and Chen Yun also said internally: "When the imperialists bully us, we invite a helper.“ The more solid and tight we are, the more secure our country’s security will be.

 Relying on the Soviet Union was the fundamental plan of China's security strategy when the People's Republic of China was born, and it was also the background of the strategic choice to resist AMERİKAN aggression and aid Korea. By the 1980s, China implemented all-round diplomacy in its deep reform and opening up. Our policies toward the Soviet Union and North Korea were adjusted and changed accordingly, and the balance between North and South Korea also clearly tilted. In every aspect, today's Russia is not the Soviet Union when China was founded, and China is no longer the China during the period of resisting USA aggression and aiding Korea. The world environment is far more complex than the confrontation between the two camps at the beginning of the Cold War. The nature of the Russo-Ukrainian war and its stakes with our country are not much comparable to the Korean War at that time. Comparing the two, we can only say that the spirit of "crossing the Yalu River" will last forever, but the idea of ​​"aiding Russia and fighting Ukraine" is not advisable.

**1.China’s global vision: peaceful rise and to achieve a community with a shared future for mankind**

**QUESTİON:** All the history you told me really improved my knowledge! Many people only had a partial understanding of it in the past, that is to say, they only saw the phenomenon one-sidedly and did not know what the root cause was.

 **For example, why Poland hates Russia so much ?**

Also, since the Soviet Union was a socialist country like ours, why is it so fragile that it cannot withstand hardships, collapses at the drop of a hat, and splits when the country splits?

Where have all the party organizations and party members gone?

 The Bolsheviks founded by Lenin collapsed. The Soviet Union is gone, where are his little brothers?

 Except for a few Asian countries that are still insisting, all others are leaning towards the West! So vulnerable! And since the Soviet Union was a socialist country, why did it invade other countries?

 **What's the difference between occupying other countries' neighboring lands and the Amerika?**

 When the Soviet Union disintegrated and underwent huge changes, I really couldn’t figure out what happened to the Communist Party. We have always insisted on following the Soviet big brother, right?

Of course, thirty years have passed and China has seized the opportunity. The result is good and China has become stronger! But the Amerika does not want China to be strong. It always wants to bully and torment our country. If we don’t stand with Russia and Russia falls, can our country be able to withstand the United States and its group of accomplices on its own?

Soru: Yesterday, at a press conference held by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China to promote the 20th Party Congress, the spokesperson once again emphasized that China firmly abides by the basic principles established in the Charter of the United Nations, firmly supports the United Nations as the center, and Uphold the collective authority of the United Nations (to the effect).

In the United Nations General Assembly contest on the Russo-Ukrainian war, the two votes were more than 140: 5 opposed (and 35 abstained).

Does this count as an expression of the will of the United Nations?

**Does it count as a manifestation of "the right people get more help, but the wrong people get less help"?**

 If this doesn't count, then what does? French President Macron knocked on the table angrily in his speech at the UN General Assembly, saying that in It is shameful for us in China to remain neutral in the face of Putin's blatant aggression. If we in China continue to "go into the fire" as some people suggest, how can we be so embarrassed?!

For the rejuvenation and rise of a great country, the growth and strength of its power are certainly the foundation, but the intangible nature of morality is also absolutely indispensable.

When Chinese scholar Mencius discussed the theory of kingship and hegemony, he said this: "Those who use strength to pretend to be benevolent will dominate, and they will have a big country; those who use virtue to be benevolent will be kings, and kings will not be great."

That is to say, for a country that practices hegemony, even if you are a big country, you can’t just rely on fists to be unreasonable, you also need both sticks and carrots.

Of course a country should act in a royal way, and we can’t ignore the power of morality. With benevolence and righteousness, a small country can be king and have charisma.

The United States once became the world's leading country not only because of its material productivity, but also because it seized the moral high ground of that era.

When the Amerikan ordusu helped win the First World War, President Wilson promptly proposed a fourteen-point blueprint for a new world order. The most eye-catching of these were the three programmatic principles of national self-determination, decolonization, and collective security. The spearhead pointed directly at the colonial, national oppression and war policies of the old European imperialists that launched the war. It won the hearts of the people of the world and catered to and conformed to the historical trend of that era. Today's international image of the United States has plummeted and it has fallen into a hegemonic dilemma. This is precisely the result of its increasingly negative moral and legal status. Today, when the Chinese nation is closer to the rise of the country and the rejuvenation of the nation than at any time in history, we cannot ignore "cohesion", "attraction", "charisma", "influence", "credibility" and "affinity" "The role of this type of soft power, when emphasizing the growth and use of power, must pay special attention to the legitimacy and recognition of power.

Since the reform and opening up, we have successively put forward the judgment of the times of "peaceful development", the path choice of "peaceful rise", the genius design of "one country, two systems, peaceful reunification", the sincere advocacy of "putting aside disputes and joint development", "increasing trust and reducing China's policy toward the United States of "no trouble and no confrontation" reaffirms China's firm commitment to never seek hegemony or take the lead. Until the slogans of "harmonious world" and "a community with a shared future for mankind" are proposed, these are attractive, inspiring and just principles. The flags of nature are all positive initiatives that add points to the motherland. But if our actual actions are not cautious and inconsistent with the ideals we declare to the world, we will lose trust in the world in terms of legitimacy and identity, and will cause damage to China's peaceful reputation and modest image, which will be detrimental to China's rejuvenation. The danger to security is no less than that of a war.

2**. Xi Jinping: “Be prepared to withstand major tests in high winds, rough seas, and even stormy seas.”**

Question: have you ever imagined that if Russia falls, the United States, the European Union, Japan, Canada, Australia, will step up their alliance to block and sanction China.

 Is it still possible for the motherland to reunify and Taiwan to return?

They are not gentlemen! The United States is also invading everywhere, but no one cares about it?

 Libya, Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, you can attack whoever you want, bomb Yugoslavia, arrest the president of Romania, so many things have happened in so many years. Only state officials are allowed to set fires, and people are not allowed to light lamps! If they had not added fuel to the flames of the Russia-Ukraine war and called it to a halt early, it might have been resolved peacefully! Of course, I am opposed to Russia fighting Ukraine. When the war first started, my first reaction was: How can the Soviets fight the Soviets? We are all compatriots, why should we kill each other?

You explained the history of Russia, Ukraine, and Poland, and I understood the motivation behind Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Just after reading China’s stance and voting at the United Nations, I have a feeling, whether it's right or not, that our country's attitude on this issue has quietly changed, that is, it has changed, from the attitude at the beginning. I just read all the above-mentioned views you wrote, and I agree with all the above-mentioned policies and strategies of our country in getting along with other countries! China has always lived in peace and harmony with the world. I hope to get along well with all the countries in the world, but the result will not be like this.

 The United States is a country that goes back on its word and always puts personal interests first.

 I don’t trust the United States, and I just hope that it will leave China’s affairs alone, but it can’t do this!

**Answer:** To be honest, the Russia-Ukraine war that occurred on February 24, 2022 was not an isolated and local incident.

 It was actually the prelude, beginning, and fuse of a large historical process in the world and even mankind. It is not something far away that we can ignore. If it is not done well, it may affect or even determine the future destiny of everyone on this earth.

**GREAT UPHEAVEL AND WAR THREAT TODAY**

**Ten years ago, at a year-end situation seminar held by the International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, I submitted a report, arguing that the world was heading towards a turbulent situation and that a global upheaval was quite expected.**

Five years ago, when I was working at the Tsinghua Institute of Strategic Studies think tank, I wrote and submitted another report, proposing that we should avoid misjudgement of the situation of war and peace and be wary of the recurrence of war crises.

 Since the COVID-19 epidemic continues to rage and the Russia-Ukraine war breaks out, academic circles, commentators and functional departments have become increasingly less optimistic about the prospects of mankind and the world.

Until recently, the political report issued by our party used the following expression to judge the situation: " We must be prepared for worst-case and extreme scenarios and be ready to withstand the major test of high winds, choppy waters, and even dangerous storms”. My estimate of the future situation is not just based on the analysis of the situation, but is based more on the inevitable extension of natural logic and historical logic.

From the big picture to the details, there are at least five reasons:

Interestingly, some good people added the number of years, months, and days between the iconic outbreak period of the two world wars and the start of the Russo-Ukrainian War.

Second, it is based on the understanding of the basic contradictions and profound crises of society in the era of globalization. The productive forces and technological means of globalization (informatization, intelligence) call for new production methods and social systems, but the old systems and behavioural methods of the industrialization era are still stubborn and popular, running counter to the historical trend of the globalization era. In some cases, On the one hand, it even regressed to feudalism. This has led to further imbalances in the natural and social ecology, further intensified population polarization, further out-of-control ethnic and national antagonisms, further alienation of scientific and technological development, and further escalation of wars and violent conflicts.

This is a general crisis of the current system of human society. We have seen that since the Cold War deadlock was broken, there was first a crisis in the socialist system, then civil strife in developing countries, and finally the failure of Western capitalist democratic politics. The whole world is in the process of being deconstructed part by part. The cloak of traditional production relations, superstructure, ideology and international rules is no longer suitable for the needs of the increasingly large body of globalized productivity. Sooner or later, this cloak will be burst. The prospect of such a comprehensive collapse is the entire old The subversion of the system will surely cause a violent and global shock to the entire world.

Third, the role of the long-term laws of international politics. We are now in the last 20 years of the fourth cycle of the long historical cycle (Westphalian System, Vienna System, Versailles System, Yalta System) since the beginning of international relations.

 The final stage of these four long cycles, All are stages of unprecedented sharpness of contradictions, unprecedented imbalance of power, and unprecedented disorder. The manifestations are the outbreak of universal international wars (Thirty Years' War, Napoleonic Wars, World War I, and World War II). There is no cycle exception.

Why do general international wars always occur in the later stages of every international system?

This is because after a long period of accumulation, the international balance of power changes from the original balance to imbalance or even serious imbalance in the later period of the cycle. Various contradictions have accumulated, deepened and intensified. The essence of current international politics is power politics, and power is distributed based on the balance of forces.

The struggle between hegemonic established countries and hegemonic emerging countries is an ancient drama that is constantly being performed. It is called the "Thucydides Trap" by Western political scholars and cannot be avoided.

When China advocated the line and banner of peaceful rise, it once imagined that it would overcome this "trap" and publicly questioned the existence of this "trap", calling it a "false proposition."

However, it was ultimately unable to break away from the historical constraints of power politics. Being entangled and dragged into this "trap".

Fourth, it is due to the rigid nature of the conflict between the core interests of major powers. I believe that none of the current leaders of the world's major powers wants to start a world war. Unfortunately, there are core conflicts of interests between major powers. For example, the United States' superior hegemony cannot be challenged by other countries, and Russia's Black Sea interests and China's interests in the Taiwan Strait must not be violated. This makes the conflicts between major powers when their own core interests are involved extremely rigid and extremely low in flexibility. To put it simply, there is no way to give in. Taviz…Once a conflict arises, it is difficult to stop. Nowadays, the major powers have nuclear bombs, and they fight tooth and nail for their respective core interests. They will not stop fighting until they are broken into pieces. This is not unheard of in World War II. Especially when the power of a major country is highly dependent on individuals or small groups, the risk of pushing the nuclear button lacks rationality and institutional constraints.

Fifth, the paranoia and fanaticism of the people and the strength and arbitrariness of politicians kidnapping and fueling each other, unconsciously pushing the entire society into an unstoppable path of no return.

Conclusion: The situation is much more serious now than when World War I and World War II broke out.

**The factors and conditions for a large-scale war have emerged and ripe**

First, a list of portentous scenes on the eve of the outbreak of World War II:

The secret agreement between Germany and the Soviet Union in 1939 to carve up Poland by force was the beginning of World War II.

The Russo-Ukrainian War was most likely the prelude to a new world war. The risk of today's major power war escalating and expanding into a nuclear war is unprecedentedly high. Unless something extremely dramatic happens, a reversal is possible. Someone asked me, you said that the factors and conditions for the outbreak of World War I and World War II have emerged and already ripe.

**What is the basis for the occurrence of war?**

 Then let us roughly list the scenes on the eve of the outbreak of the war to see what is missing?

**1.Serious economic and social crises, and unprecedented intensification of social conflicts;**

**2.A high degree of arms race and preparations for military expansion;**

**3.The international balance of power is seriously imbalanced, emerging powers are rising, and they are demanding changes in the old order and power structure;**

**4. Highly concentrated power dominates the political trends of some major countries;**

5.The emergence of bipolar alliances and group confrontations worldwide;

6. Populism, nationalism, patriotism, and militarism are on an unprecedented rise;

7.The humiliation of great powers, the resurgence of empire complex and revenge mentality;

8.Local accidental events drag major powers into war;

9.We are at the late stage of the long cycle of international political history;

10.There are conflicts of core interests among major powers.

11.There is a complex history of ethnic, religious, and border disputes and entanglements left over from the fall of a great empires.

Remember the "Eastern Question" arising from the collapse of the Ottoman Empire in World War I, and the cession of eastern and western territories and reparations for the defeat of the German Empire in World War II, among others are samples of this).

Comparing the above scenarios, it is not difficult to understand that if China joins hands with Russia politically and militarily due to the Russo-Ukrainian War and becomes an alliance partner, then a new situation of confrontation between major power groups will be formed.

**The First World War was between the British Allied Powers and the Germany led Central Powers, and the Second World War was between the United Anti-Fascist Powers and the German Fascism led Axis Powers.**

This completely establishes the conditions for the outbreak of a new world war, and the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation will be interrupted by the war. It is completely irresponsible to advocate war that China cannot rise without war and realize the dream of revival on the ruins of victory in the Third World War.

**4.Who is the leading force in the great changes unseen in a century, today?**

After 100 years of sacrifice and struggle by the Chinese Communists, more than 70 years of growth and development of the People's Republic of China, and more than 40 years of successful practice of reform, opening up, and modernization construction by the Chinese people, they have accumulated tremendous spiritual strength and invincible material strength.

 China's rejuvenation and security are in our hands and cannot be stopped by any force. The only prerequisite is that we ourselves cannot make subversive mistakes, self-destruct our own roads, or self-destruct the Great Wall. In the current world of major changes unseen in a century, who is the real driving force and decisive force?

 Is it the United States? No, it is China!

**QUESTİON: Why do you think so?**

 Because China is a new force, a rising force, a force which demands to change the status quo and establish a new pattern. Therefore, China is the independent variable in the changing world, while others, including the United States, are dependent variables that change due to your changes. Therefore, if this change develops in a good direction, this main promoter is indispensable, but if it develops in a bad direction, you cannot escape the blame. It's not entirely the other person's fault.

In fact, the plasticity of the international security environment in the era of globalization has been greatly enhanced. Because compared to the Cold War period, the interest relationships and interest patterns between countries have undergone qualitative changes. In the past, national interest relations were generally a zero-sum pattern, and national interest relations were confrontational in nature. In the era of globalization, we are among you, and you are among us, and our interests are highly intertwined.

China and the United States are so antagonistic now, but Sino-US trade volume actually increased by 28.7% in 2021, a record high. This was completely unimaginable in the era of Cold War confrontation. It shows that the economic relations between the two countries are deeply integrated, they need each other, and neither can do without the other. The pattern of national interests has reached such an extent that complete confrontation is not possible, and complete cooperation is difficult. The interweaving and coexistence of non-zero-sum dualities is the reality we face when dealing with state relations in the era of globalization. It narrows the space for determinism in state relations in the past and expands the possibilities of constructivism. In other words, depending on which direction you subjectively shape state relations, state relations may become the shape you want.

**Sino-US relations may not necessarily lead to all-out confrontation.**

This depends on how China and the United States act and their policies towards each other. If you treat the other party as your enemy, the other party will become your enemy; if you behave in a way that makes the other party fear and feel threatened, the other party will take corresponding distrust and countermeasures. But unfortunately, Sino-US relations have accumulated too much distrust over the years, and it is almost impossible to return to the past.

**Strategic research on international diplomacy and high-level international relations philosophy research is needed.**

Cui Tiankai, China’s former ambassador to the United States, suggested at a diplomatic work research conference in 2021 that in addition to further strengthening strategic policy research, China’s diplomacy should also consider the level of diplomatic philosophical thinking. Only by closely linking China's diplomacy with the development trend of human society and exploring the question of where mankind is going from the perspective of the development trends of productive forces and production relations can China's diplomacy always stand on the right side of history. Cui Tiankai said he was inspired by Mr. Kissinger.

Because Mr. Kissinger told Cui Tiankai that he was concentrating on studying the impact of AI technology on social development. Kissinger collaborated with an economist Schmidt and a natural science and technology expert Hutten Lohr to write and publish a book "On the Impact of AI Technology on Social Development", which is actually a review of global productive forces and discussion of how intelligent technology will change human behavior and social structure.

Coincidentally, not far from the time when this Western treatise came out, Lin Dong, a professor of strategy at the National Defense University in Beijing, China, and his research team also published a similar treatise, "The Era of the Intellectual IT Industry Revolution," in which they advanced the idea of Intelligent technology is not an intergenerational revolutionary technology for productive forces, but an era revolutionary technology that changes the nature of society.

 The subtitle of this book is "The Era of Disintegration of the Industrial Revolution", which predicts that mankind will enter a new society driven by intelligent productivity - the intellectual revolution society.

**6.New prospects for the future world: sharing replaces competition for profit, integration replaces confrontation**

The simultaneous publication of these two general futurology treatises by Eastern and Western scholars gives us hope.

Firstly, from the perspective of major changes unseen in the world for a century, it greatly enhances the dimensional thinking of changes. It does not look at the meaning of major changes in the sense of a shift of world power from one pole to another but goes beyond the old power. The meaning of the rotation of transfers and the stage after you sing has given a new meaning to the great changes in world history, which is suddenly enlightening and refreshing.

Secondly, it starts from the analysis of the characteristics of intelligent new productive forces and deduce that when the intellectual revolution society replaces the industrial revolution society, what happens at the same time is that the sharing society replaces the capitalist society, and the harmonious integration of Eastern and Western civilizations will replace the confrontation between the East and the West.

These books predict that as the flow of information and big data becomes the power source of intelligent productive forces, and as the ocean and space become the home field of production, the barriers of national sovereignty, a product of the industrialization era, will be broken through, and people are currently fighting for them will no longer be valued in the future. Human beings really need to work hard to strive for this bright, beautiful, harmonious and shared social future. But there are two roads leading to this bright future. One is to proactively and consciously follow the direction indicated by the laws of history, and the other is to repeat the old mistakes without hitting the wall and never look back. In the last page of his book "On China" published in 2011, Dr. Kissinger meaningfully quoted Kant's words in his article "On Perpetual Peace":

**The world will eventually achieve permanent peace in one of two ways: through human enlightenment; or through conflicts and catastrophes so great that humanity has no other choice. Now it seems that human beings' unconsciousness may be pushing themselves towards the second path predicted by Kant.**

**Editor's note:** In response to the current situation in which major changes in the world that have not been seen in a century are accelerating, the world has entered a new period of turbulence and change, China’s development has entered a coexistence of strategic opportunities and risks and challenges, the situation in the Taiwan Strait remains complex and severe, and uncertain and unpredictable factors are increasing.

The report of the ÇKP to the 20th Congress clearly stated:

**We must enhance our awareness of danger, adhere to bottom-line thinking, be prepared for danger in times of peace, prepare for rainy days, and be prepared to withstand major tests in strong winds, waves and even stormy seas. In short, throw away your illusions and prepare to fight.**