CHINA 1978 – 2018: 40 YEARS, FROM DENG XIAOPING TO XI JINPING.

PEOPLE'S DAILY MATERIALS – JANUARY 2019:

GDP $9.000 PC

GROWTH: 9,9% ANNUAL

UNEMPLOYMENT: 4,8%

Volen la pau entre iguals (pàg 23)

INDEX

DIMENSIONS ECONÒMIQUES I SOCIALS BÀSIQUES 1978 – 2017

	1400	MILIONS DE PERSONES, EL 2017		
1978	227	$ PER CAPITA GDP		
2017	9000	$ PER CAPITA GDP	40	vegades més

9,90% anual durant 40 anys
9000

RENDA PER CÀPITA 1978 - 2017	
URBAN	106
RURAL	100

TREURE DE LA POBRESA 750 MILIONS HAB
SENSE POBRESA EL 2020

9 ANYS D'ENSENYAMENT OBLIGATORI
2913 UNIVERSITATS
37,8 MILIONS D'ESTUDIANTS

11 MILIONS DE LLOCS DE TREBALL ES CREEN CADA ANY
% ATUR 4,8 %

5000 ANYS D'HISTÒRIA

ASSEGURANÇA BÀSICA 925 MILIONS PERSONES
ASSEGURANÇA D'OCUPACIÓ-ATUR 191 MILIONS PERSONES
ASSEGURANÇA D'ACCIDENTS LABORALS 230 MILIONS PERSONES

USUARIS D'INTERNET 802 MILIONS DE PERSONES
MÒBILS 1300 MILIONS DE PERSONES
USUARIS DE XARXES D'INTERNET 788 MILIONS DE PERSONES

TAXA D'USUARIS D'INTERNET 57,70%
USUARIS DE XARXES 30000 MILIONS DE PERSONES/DIA

LLIBERTAT DE VIATGE SEGUR ARREU DE XINA

LLIBERTAT DE RELIGIÓ
PRACTICANTS D'ALGUNA RELIGIÓ 200 MILIONS DE PERSONES
PERSONAL RELIGIÓS 380.000 PERSONES
ESGLESIES REGISTRADES 144.000
MESQUITES A XINJIANG 24.400

MÉS QUE LES D'USA, FRANÇA, UK I ALEMANYA

AJUDA A ÀFRICA 10000 KM DE CARRETERES
6000 KM DE FERROCARRILS
CENTENARS AEROPORTS, PORTS I CENTRALS ELÈCTRIQUES
SENSE OCUPAR CAP M2 DE TERRITORI ESTRANGER

FONT: http://en.people.cn/n3/2019/0117/c90000-9538911.html

China is setting up a new model for world human rights

By Lin Songtian (People's Daily Online) 16:54, January 17, 2019
http://en.people.cn/n3/2019/0117/c90000-9538911.html

Lin Songtian

For peoples of the world, human rights, including the rights of the person, and the political, economic, social, and cultural rights, represent the common aspiration and pursuit for all. Accordingly, governments around the world are duty-bound to guarantee people’s rights to subsistence and development, and to secure people’s fundamental rights to food, to shelter, to work, to school and to hospital, and to ensure people’s happiness as the most achievement of human rights.

Since the founding of the People’s Republic of China in 1949, the Communist Party of China (CPC) has always strived to pursue happiness for the people and development for the mankind, transforming China from a country of basic survival to a world development miracle. Today, the 1.3 billion Chinese people are enjoying their life of peace, freedom and happiness, free of fear of war or conflict. China, with its fastest human rights progress and best practices of human rights protection, is setting up a new model for the world cause of human rights.

The CPC and the Chinese government have always been committed to uplifting living standard of the Chinese people. After four decades of reform and opening up, China’s per capita GDP has soared from US$227 in 1978 to nearly US$9,000 in 2017. Per capita disposable income of urban and rural residents have respectively increased by 106.1 and 100.2 fold. 750 million people have been lifted out of poverty. More importantly, by the end of 2020, poverty will be completely eliminated across the entire 1.4 billion Chinese population. This is the solemn commitment and a great undertaking by the CPC and the Chinese government to the human rights cause of mankind.

The Chinese people enjoy ample education and employment opportunities. China follows a system of nine-year compulsory education, and high school education is also accessible to all across the entire country. There are 2,913 institutions of higher education in China, enrolling 37.79 million students. With more than 11 million new jobs created each year, China has managed to contain its unemployment rate at or under 5%.

The Chinese people enjoy comprehensive social security benefits. By June 2018, the number of participants in the basic endowment insurance, employment insurance, and work-related injury insurance respectively registered 925 million, 191 million, and 230 million. Over 1.3 billion people are covered by the basic medical insurance. Average life expectancy has reached 76.7 years, and the maternal mortality ratio has dropped from 94.7 in 1989 to 19.6 in 2017 per 100,000 population.

The Chinese people enjoy a high degree of personal freedom and the freedom of speech. There are 802 million internet users, over 1.3 billion mobile phone users, and 788 million mobile internet subscribers in China. The internet penetration rate is 57.7%. Active internet bloggers register over 400 million, and on average over 30 billion posts are published every day. Within the scope of the law, anyone could express his or her views anywhere anytime. In China, anyone could travel freely and safely at any time to anywhere. Online shopping has also reached all corners of Chinese cities and rural areas.

The Chinese people enjoy full religious freedom and a most inclusive social environment. All world's major religions, including Buddhism, Taoism, Islam, Catholicism, and Christianism are practiced in China with nearly 200 million religious believers, over 380,000 religious personnel, and 144,000 lawfully registered religious sites for worship. In Xinjiang alone, there are 24,400 Islamic mosques, more than doubling the combined numbers of the United States, Britain, Germany, and France.

Some people in the West accuse the Chinese government's vocational training programs in Xinjiang as “racial segregation”, “religious persecution”, or “re-education camp”. Such attempt is clearly driven by ill intention or mere bias and prejudice.

The vocational training schools established in Xinjiang offer free training opportunities for the local young people and assist them in finding jobs or starting a business. This is a major innovation by the Chinese government to tackle extremism and terrorism. Thanks to this practice and other measures, Xinjiang has remained for two consecutive years free from violent terrorist attacks, and the number of criminal and security offenses has drastically declined. Today, people in the region feel much safer than before. In 2017, Xinjiang's GDP grew by 7.6%. The region received over 100 million tourists from both home and abroad, an increase of 32.4%. What has happened proves that by abandoning the Western practice of "fighting violence with violence", China has opened up a new path that focuses on prevention and addresses both the symptoms and root causes of extremism and terrorism, realizing the human rights of the widest population to the greatest extent. Unfortunately, some countries in the West would still stubbornly cling to the "zero-sum game" and the Cold War mentality, and would engage in ideology-driven double-standards, viewing others through colored lens, using human rights as a political tool to punish developing countries, and willfully pointing fingers at others while completely disregard their own gross violations against human rights.

Our news networks are filled with stories and images of atrocities happened in Iraq, Libya, and Syria. These countries with thousands years of history and once with great infrastructures have been reduced to rubbles. Countless homes were destroyed and many more people were displaced, being deprived of the most basic human rights of safety and basic living. These are exactly the consequences of the Western countries' interference in others' domestic affairs under the disguise of human rights. Who indeed should be responsible for the human rights tragedy in the Middle East? Anyone with conscience should know the answer. When the refugees from these countries were forced to leave their home to seek living in the Western countries, many of them were turned down or became "second class citizens". Who is really caring about their human rights? And who is advocating for the basic human rights for the peoples of the Middle East? And who is condemning the human rights violators there? As always, the Western governments and media only care about the human rights of the few who have committed crimes, but would selectively ignore the basic human rights of the vast majority of the people.

The Chinese people are very proud of the fact that we have never launched a war of aggression against others and have never occupied an inch of land of another country. Even in the resolution of colonial historical problems of Hong Kong and Macau, China did not resort to violence, but had innovatively proposed the concept of "One Country, Two Systems" to realize the peaceful sovereignty handover. Such ability of China to draw wisdom from its 5,000 years of history to innovate solutions may be too hard to fathom by the West.

We believe that development is the fundamental solution to improving human rights. Over the past decades, China has helped Africa build over

10,000 km of roads, over 6,000 km of railways, and hundreds of airports, ports, and power plants. China has trained for Africa hundreds of thousands of experts and technicians across multiple fields, so as to support African industrialization and agricultural modernization to achieve its self-sustainable development. Propagating the slogans of "freedom, democracy, human rights, and rule of law" by western countries will not address the need of the African people. It begs to question, where are the infrastructures developed by the West in Africa? We sincerely hope that the West will take concrete actions to truly help Africa address the three development bottlenecks of inadequate infrastructure, lack of professional and skilled personnel, and short of financial resources.

We would also sincerely hope that the Western countries would look at themselves in the mirror before pointing fingers at others. Don't forget the strong voices of "We Are the 99%" from the Occupy Wall Street. And why is the "Yellow Vests" movement spreading across Europe? And if all of us would follow certain country in building high walls along our borders and stopping the free movement of the people, will there still be any more freedom that all of us cherish so much?

There is no best human rights practice in this world, but we can always strive to do better. We are willing to strengthen human rights dialogue and exchange with countries around the world, to complement and draw strengths from each other for common progress. Nevertheless, we would always reject with the firmest resolve the practice of selective and double standards in human rights.

China's reform and opening-up stimulates global economic growth – Chilean Embassador 2010-2014 and 2019

By Luis Schmidt Montes (People's Daily) 14:28, January 23, 2019

http://en.people.cn/n3/2019/0123/c90000-9540758.html

I have served as Chilean Ambassador to China from 2010 to 2014, and I was reappointed last year. I still visited China for multiple times in the last four years though I was not the ambassador during that time. Actually, every visit to China makes me feel like home.

Arriving in China for the first time in 1992, I was mesmerized by the ancient and mysterious Chinese culture. I barely saw cars in the city when my wife and I cycled on the streets and alleys of Beijing. It made me wonder how hard it would be to fill these empty streets in the future with a few cars.

Two decades on, Beijing is now witnessing never-ceasing lines of different vehicles on its streets, and its 7th Ring Road has opened to traffic.

The changes of this city are the miniature of China's booming economy. This country would never have made such remarkable achievements without the past 40 years of reform and opening up.

Free trade is the best way to improve people's livelihood, and China's reform and opening up in the past four decades sets the best example. China has not only taken on a new look, but also stimulated the world's economic growth thanks to its reform and opening up.

Given the resurgence of protectionism in the current world, it is commendable for China to make the promise to open wider. It is a correct path to promote the common prosperity of China and the world.

It is a rare case, even in the global context, that China has maintained a steady and rapid GDP growth for years. Now, as China focuses more on the quality of economic growth and improvement of people's livelihood, the skies are getting bluer, water clearer, and air fresher. Aiming for a more balanced development, China attaches more importance to pollution control and environmental protection.

From 2013 to 2017, China has reduced the incidence of poverty to 3.1 percent and lifted over 68 million people out of poverty, setting an example for other developing countries.

The Chinese government has also rolled out a series of comprehensive measures targeting at poverty reduction, sharply raising the human development index.

In the past four decades, the livelihood of both urban and rural residents in China has been greatly improved, and their income kept increasing. The per capita disposable income of Chinese residents in 2017 was 22.8 times of that in 1978, with an average annual growth rate of 8.5 percent, making China the largest source of middle income earners.

China's economic development also drives global trade growth, and the Chinese food market is showing huge potential. Chilean agricultural products, red wines and sea food have already entered Chinese market and made their presence on Chinese people's dining tables.

Chile is the first Latin American country to support China to join the World Trade Organization, to recognize China's market economy status, and to sign the free trade agreement with China. Though far apart, Chile and China both enjoy dividends brought by prospering economic and trade relations.

Globalization and free trade are the foundation of Chile's economic development, and what China has promised on liberalization and facilitation of trade and investment is good news for the country.

The Belt and Road Initiative will surely promote the growth of international trade. The first China International Import Expo also indicates China's unswerving support for trade liberalization and economic globalization,

serving as an important window to open the Chinese market. Chile hopes to take an active participation to promote its products in the Chinese market. Chile and China enjoy all-round friendship at multiple levels. Freezing ice can't hinder Chile's passion to offer assistance for Chinese scientific expeditions in Antarctica, and the common aspiration to explore the universe of both Chile and the Chinese Academy of Sciences South America Center for Astronomy remains unchanged.
China is my second hometown. Though Chile and China are separated by thousands of miles, the two peoples will always enjoy close bond and friendship.
(Luis Schmidt Montes is Chilean Ambassador to China)

Seven keywords that define Chinas economy in 2018: GDP, Investment, Real Estate Market, Unemployment, Taxation, Consumption and Birth rate

http://en.people.cn/n3/2019/0123/c90000-9540664.html

(People's Daily Online) 09:52, January 23, 2019 Follow on Apple News

(Photo/Xinhua)

China's GDP hit the 90-trillion-yuan mark for the first time in 2018, growing by nearly 8 trillion yuan in a year.

Here are seven keywords that can define both the achievements and changes of China's economic performance over the last year.

New momentum

China's GDP growth hit a new low of 6.6 percent in 2018, its lowest since 1990. However, both the quality and efficiency of the country's economy were improved.

The service sector accounted for 52.2 percent of the country's total GDP, and the growth of the sector was 1.8 percent higher than that of the secondary industry. Additionally, value added by the high-tech manufacturing industry increased by 11.7 percent last year, accounting for 13.9 percent of industrial enterprises above the designated size. The figure was even higher in some coastal areas.

To be more specific, China's high-tech manufacturing industry, emerging strategic industries, and equipment manufacturing industry saw growth of 11.7, 8.9 and 8.1 percent, respectively.

The absolute GDP growth is not the only thing that matters, and the internal structure of the economy is also crucial in the current economic environment, said chief macroeconomic researcher Zhang Wei from Kunlun Health Insurance Company's asset management department.

Real estate market

According to the National Bureau of Statistics, China's real estate sector saw a total investment of over 12 trillion yuan in 2018, up 9.5 percent from the previous year. Nearly 1.7 billion square meters of housing was sold, 1.3 percent more than in 2017.

Ni Pengfei, director of the Center for City and Competitiveness at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said that China's real estate market reached the regulation target, and was stabilizing.

Ni predicted that the regulatory policies would remain almost the same in 2019, though minor adjustments might be made based on market variations. Stability would still be the general trend in 2019, he added.

Investment

China's fixed-asset investment (FAI) grew 5.9 percent year-on-year to nearly 63.6 trillion yuan in 2018. 39.4 trillion yuan of the total FAI came from private investment, up 8.7 percent, 2.7 percentage points higher than 2017.

Director of the Institute of Research at the Ministry of Finance Jia Kang recognized this 8.7-percent growth in private investment. However, he pointed out that given the downward trend of investment growth, investment from the government and state-owned sectors must have also experienced a downturn. This growth was expected to be lower than 5.9 percent, he added.

Non-private investment can unleash potential, and China has already done an excellent job in the positioning and necessary adjustment of its macro policies, such as proactive fiscal policies, as well as its adequately managed monetary policies.

It is necessary for China to further expand its domestic market through investment, Jia added.

Consumption

China's total retail sales of consumer goods stood at nearly 38.1 trillion yuan last year, up 9 percent from 2017.

Final consumption contributed 76.2 percent to China's GDP growth, 18.6 percentage points more than in 2017.

The slight decrease of resident income and the transition from consumption of goods to services were the primary reasons for the slowing growth of total retail sales of consumer goods, explained Wang Qing, the chief macro analyzer of a Chinese credit rating agency.

In 2018, consumer spending in urban areas rose 6.8 percent. This opposing trend suggests a rapid increase in residents' service consumption.

Taxation

After a large-scale tax reduction, China's tax revenue expanded by 9.5 percent in 2018. Growth would have been more substantial were it not for the tax cut, said Liu Jianwen, a professor at Peking University Law School.

The growth decreased throughout 2018, from 16.8 percent in the first four months of 2018 to 5.2 percent during the rest of the year. Moreover, over 1.5 trillion yuan of tax was refunded by China last year, 9.7 percent more than in 2017. These have all reflected the effects of China's tax reduction.

Liu noted that China would adopt a more substantial tax cut in 2019 to promote economic development.

Unemployment rate

According to the National Bureau of Statistics, 13.61 million urban jobs were created last year, 100,000 more than in 2017. That figure has now remained above 13 million for six straight years.

By December 2018, the urban unemployment rate in 31 big cities stood at 4.7 percent, down 0.2 percentage points compared with 2017. 4.4 percent of the main working group, those between the age of 25 and 29, were unemployed.

Bai Ming, deputy director of the Ministry of Commerce's International Market Research Institute, explained that China had maintained a relatively low unemployment rate of around 5 percent. The figure is generally 6.6 percent in developed countries and 5.5 percent in developing countries, he noted.

He attributed the performance to China's mass entrepreneurship and innovation, its advantages as the world's factory, as well as the rising of emerging industries, including the service sector and information industry.

Birth rate

China’s total population stood at 1.395 billion at the end of 2018, increasing 5.3 million from a year ago. 15.23 million people were born last year, with a birth rate of 10.94 per thousand, down from 12.43 per thousand in 2017. With 9.93 million deaths, the natural population growth rate stood at 3.81 per thousand, a dip from 5.32 per thousand the year before.

China's demographic dividend still exists, and there is no need to over-interpret a dip in the population growth rate or birth rate, said Ning Jizhe, head of the National Bureau of Statistics.

Ning said China has a workforce pool of about 900 million people, with over 700 million of them currently in employment.

Housing takes huge share of urban families' assets

http://en.people.cn/n3/2019/0123/c90000-9540746.html

(China Daily) 13:40, January 23, 2019

The asset allocation of urban households in China is unbalanced, with nearly 80 percent of family wealth spent on housing in 2017, although these families' average total assets grew fairly quickly, a report said.
The average total assets of urban households reached 1.5 million yuan ($221,000) per family in 2017, up by a compound annual growth rate of 7.6 percent from 970,000 yuan in 2011. The figure is expected to have increased to 1.62 million yuan in 2018, according to a report jointly issued by China Guangfa Bank Co Ltd and Southwestern University of Finance and Economics.
The report was based on a survey on nearly 10,000 urban households with an average annual family income exceeding 67,817 yuan in 23 cities across China.
Housing assets took a large part, or 77.7 percent, of the total wealth of China's urban households in 2017, whereas financial assets only accounted for 11.8 percent, the report said.
The proportion of financial assets to total assets for urban households in China was much lower than that of families in many developed economies, such as Japan (61.1 percent), Singapore (56 percent), and the United Kingdom (52.2 percent), the report said.
There was also imbalance in the allocation of the households' financial assets, of which 42.9 percent were bank deposits, compared with wealth management products (13.4 percent), equities (8.1 percent), funds (3.2 percent) and bonds (0.7 percent).
Lack of diversity is another problem for Chinese households' asset allocation. The report found that 67.7 percent of Chinese families invested in a single type of product, while only 10.6 percent of the families had at least three types of investment products.
In spite of seeking high returns, Chinese investors have a low tolerance for risk. More than half of the families surveyed were not willing to bear any loss on their principal while making investment in wealth management products offered by banks, and 12.9 percent of them were willing to accept a 5 percent or even lower loss on principal.
Inadequate financial knowledge is the crux of these household asset management problems, said Zong Lexin, vice-president of China Guangfa Bank. Financial institutions should popularize financial literacy, apart from offering products and services that meet household demand, he added.
Xu Shu, deputy director of the Survey and Research Center for China Household Finance at Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, advised those families that lack investment experience to improve their risk response capabilities with the help of professional wealth management institutions.
"We encourage investors to diversify across multiple asset classes including equities, bonds, cash assets and alternative assets, as the capital market

volatility will increase this year," said Ethan Wang, head of investment strategy at Standard Chartered Bank China Wealth Management.
Standard Chartered takes a bullish view on US dollar-denominated cash assets, dollar-denominated emerging market bonds, as well as domestically listed and overseas-listed Chinese stocks.
"If the US dollar declines, starting from the second quarter of this year, we may see that capital will flow back to Asia, pushing up Asian stock market prices," said Wang.
Jason Yu, head of multi-asset products for North Asia at Schroders, said investors may see an upward trend in US equities this year and find Asia and emerging market stocks attractive after valuation adjustments.

China's GDP per capita to exceed $10,000

http://en.people.cn/n3/2019/0123/c90000-9540867.html

(People's Daily Online) 16:12, January 23, 2019 Follow on Apple News

China is stepping closer to becoming a high-income country according to official data which indicates that the country's GDP per capita almost reached $10,000 last year, China News Agency reported on Jan. 21.
In 2018, China's GDP hit 90 trillion yuan (about $13.32 trillion). GDP per capita stood at $9,777, almost ten times that of 2001 ($1,000), said Niu Li, deputy director of the Department of Economic Forecasting of the State Information Center.

Niu said that the substantial rise reflects the rapid development of China's economy over recent years and a higher living standard throughout the country.

Despite the improvement, China remains a middle-income country according to the World Bank standards, with a gross national income per capita between $1,006 and $12,235.

China is expected to rank as a high-income country within the next two to three years, as long as it keeps an annual GDP growth rate of 6 percent or more, said Cai Zhizhou, deputy director of the China Center for Economic Research at Peking University.

China is positioned around 70th in the global GDP per capita ranking, Cai noted. He added that China will continue to be a developing country even when it meets the threshold of a high-income country, as gaps still exist between China and developed countries with a GDP per capita of $40,000 or $50,000.

2019 is a crucial year for China to avoid the "middle-income trap," a term coined by the World Bank in 2007. Countries which find themselves trapped in the middle-income band are more likely to face unstable politics, domestic market of low vitality, lack of technological innovations and changes caused by the external environment, said Cai.

When asked how to avoid this, Cai noted that if China sticks to reform and opening up policies, the country will maintain stable economic growth.

Additionally, GDP per capita is not equal to per capita disposable income. Measures such as cutting taxes are needed to increase the overall disposable income of Chinese citizens and promote the growth of domestic demand to drive economic development.

China's public budget expenditure hits record high

(Xinhua) 08:06, January 24, 2019
http://en.people.cn/n3/2019/0124/c90000-9540906.html

China's public budget expenditure reached a record high while revenue grew steadily, official data showed Wednesday.

Public budget expenditure totaled 22.0906 trillion yuan (3.267 trillion U.S. dollars) last year, up 8.7 percent year on year, while revenue rose 6.2 percent year on year to reach 18.3352 trillion yuan, according to the Ministry of Finance (MOF).

Education, social security and employment took the lion's share of public budget spending, while spending on debt interest payment and science and technology grew the fastest.

Tax revenue stood at 15.64 trillion yuan, up 8.3 percent year on year.

China's long-term steady economic growth will ensure stable fiscal revenue, although growth might slow down due to expected larger scale of tax and fee cutting, said Li Dawei, a senior MOF official.

Op-Ed: China remains the bright light in the global economy

http://en.people.cn/n3/2019/0118/c90000-9539247.html

By Curtis Stone (People's Daily Online) 14:00, January 18, 2019

An aerial view of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge. At 55 kilometers, the bridge is the world's longest sea-spanning structure. [Photo/HZMB AUTHORITY]

Earlier this month, Ma Yun (aka Jack Ma), the founder and chairman of Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba Group, delivered a speech at the 2018 Shanghai Forum themed “Zhejiang Entrepreneurs in the World.”

In his speech, Ma predicted that this year will be a year full of challenges. Given the gloomy outlook for the global economy in 2019, he advised Chinese enterprises to rely more on their internal strengths and work hard, less they become part of the storm clouds gathering in the external environment.

On a more positive note, Ma also predicted that this year will be a year full of opportunities, especially for China, which has three major advantages that give the nation an edge in this new era.

First, he pointed out that China has nearly 1.4 billion people and 300 million middle-income people.

China accounts for one-fifth of the world’s population and has four times as many people as the United States—currently the world’s largest economy.

Though the size of China's middle-income group can vary, depending on the definition, and it is still a relatively small share of the total population, the group is huge and growing, creating enormous opportunities for multinational companies.

Second, China is one of the few countries in the world that makes long-term plans, Ma pointed out.

In fact, China has set several major goals to realize the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. Broadly speaking, the country will finish the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects by 2020; see that socialist modernization is basically realized by 2035; and develop itself into a great modern socialist country by 2050. These long-term goals allow the nation to focus intently on development and to move forward with confidence on its chosen path.

Many countries do not dare to create long-term plans, because their governments are too unstable to think and act in a long-term way for the benefit of the whole nation. After Donald Trump took office in 2016, the US president and his administration set out to rebuild the country's aging infrastructure as part of his "Make America Great Again" agenda. However, the ambitious investment plan has failed to materialize. Fast forward to today and we instead see serious internal disagreements on how to fund the US government in the short term, which has brought the government to a screeching halt.

Whereas China can sit down and make ambitious and long-term plans, and even more importantly, carry them through, many other countries, such as the United States, are stuck in endless internal battles that hamper long-term development.

Third, China's investment in infrastructure over the past 20 years has exceeded the total of two decades in Europe and the United States, according to Ma. Almost everywhere you look, you can find incredible infrastructure in the country; infrastructure that you can only see in China. China has the largest, longest, highest, or fastest of just about anything you can imagine. From the world's largest high-speed railway network, to the world's longest cross-sea bridge, to the world's highest power supply pylons, to, until recently, the world's fastest supercomputer, the nation has made extraordinary progress over the past four decades thanks to a well-tuned system that is suitable for China's development.

Last year, in response to a report about Chinese workers building a railway station in just nine hours, Tesla CEO Elon Musk tweeted: "China's progress in advanced infrastructure is more than 100 times faster than the US." "China Speed"—as this is called—is why China can do things like erect a 57-story skyscraper in just 19 days or replace a huge bridge in only 43 hours. As Musk pointed out, China is way ahead of the West in terms of things like infrastructure.

Traditionally, the thinking has been that the grass is always greener in Western countries. However, it is obvious that countries in Europe and the United States lack specific strengths that are necessary for this new era, namely, a massive growing middle-income group, a political system that is able to make long-term development plans (and the ability to see these plans through), and great infrastructure.

Just recently, US electric-vehicle maker Tesla broke ground on a $5 billion factory in China. According to Musk, initial construction of the company's Shanghai Gigafactory should finish this summer and will start producing the Model 3 before the end of this year and reach high volume production next year, producing up to 500,000 vehicles a year. The fastest-growing US car maker sees China—the world's largest auto market—as the new land of opportunity and the key to future growth.

When meeting Premier Li Keqiang and displaying his electric car at Zhongnanhai, the Chinese government leadership compound in Beijing, the CEO of Tesla said that China's development speed and efficiency are impressive, and it is hard to imagine that the process of opening a car factory could be done in such a short period of time.

His comments are interesting, because some people like to describe the United States as a "shining city on the hill," a place where many dreams can come true. But sadly, it seems this is no longer the case. In fact, Trump himself, after descending the escalator at Trump Tower in 2015 to announce his presidential bid, proclaimed that "the American dream is dead." Not only have many Americans lost confidence in their future, but many people around the world have lost confidence in their future as well, because of the turmoil in the Western world.

The crisis of confidence that is plaguing the West is not only rattling governments and markets across the Western world, but is threatening global stability. On the other hand, China's system has clear advantages and the Chinese people as well as many others around the world, especially in light of the turmoil in the West, have gained greater confidence in China's development path.

In a world full of uncertainty, China brings a much-needed dose of certainty and hope to the world. The Middle Kingdom remains the bright light in the global economy. Chinese business leaders, such as Jack Ma, know it, and Elon Musk knows it, too.

Chinese VP calls for shaping global architecture for better future of mankind. In Davos 2019

http://en.people.cn/n3/2019/0124/c90000-9540899.html

(Xinhua) 07:25, January 24, 2019

Chinese Vice President Wang Qishan addresses the 2019 annual meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, on Jan. 23, 2019. (Xinhua/Huang Jingwen)

DAVOS, Switzerland, Jan. 23 (Xinhua) -- Chinese Vice President Wang Qishan here on Wednesday called on countries to work together to shape the global architecture in the age of the fourth industrial revolution with the vision to create a better future for all mankind.

While addressing the 2019 annual meeting of the World Economic Forum, Wang said it is imperative to respect national sovereignty and refrain from seeking technological hegemony and interfering in other countries' domestic affairs.

He called for efforts to uphold multilateralism and jointly build a system of rules for technology and new international cooperation framework featuring peace, security, democracy, transparency, inclusiveness and mutual benefit, so that all people can gain from technological innovation.

Pointing out that new technologies bring opportunities and also create risks and challenges, Wang said that countries need to uphold the security of all mankind and need to improve policy environment and promote social prosperity and stability.

"We need to explore the adoption of relevant rules and standards in a phased way, while leaving broad space for the dissemination and application of scientific discovery and technological innovation," he said.

Wang also called for accommodating in a balanced manner the interests of all countries, especially those of emerging market and developing countries.

"One should not ask the whole world to address only the security concern and comply only with the standards of developed countries or individual countries," he said.

This year's Davos forum gathers global elites to discuss "Globalization 4.0," a buzzword that means a new wave of globalization in a digital world. More than 60 heads of state or government, 40 international organization heads and 1,700 business leaders attended the event.

China Consumer Trend Index achieves steady growth thanks to post-90s spending and job prospects

http://en.people.cn/n3/2019/0123/c90000-9540897.html

(People's Daily Online) 17:58, January 23, 2019 Follow on Apple News

The expansion of China's national economy remained within a reasonable range last year, with a total GDP growth of 6.6 percent, laying a solid foundation for the enhancement of the China Consumer Trend Index, said a report released by Nielsen, a global measurement and data analytics company, on Jan. 23.

The report showed that the China Consumer Trend Index, which measures perceptions of local job prospects, personal finance and willingness to spend, saw steady growth in the fourth quarter of last year, up one point from the previous year to 113 points. Consumer Trend levels above 100 indicate optimism and below 100 indicate pessimism.

Andy Zhao, president of Nielsen China, said, “As the country’s favorable policies on trade, private companies, micro-and-small enterprises gradually take effect, the Chinese economy has shifted away from high-speed growth to high-quality growth in 2018.”

The Nielsen report showed all three components of the Consumer Trend Index witnessed steady growth. However, job prospects saw the most notable leap, jumping from 70 to 75 points in one year, while willingness to spend increased by three points to 60, and personal finance remained at 69 points.

"China has been making concerted efforts to adopt employment policies, encourage entrepreneurship, stabilize the economic prospects, enhance companies’ confidence and competitiveness, and create favorable conditions for the job market. All these factors helped underpin the consumers’ job prospects," Zhao noted.

Most notably, the north and west of China saw the biggest growth in job prospects, with the north jumping four indicator points to 69, while the west jumped seven points to 68.

Zhao suggested that the three-point increase in the country’s willingness to spend is down to the post-90s generation, who make up about 28 percent of internet users in China, the highest proportion among all demographic groups.

This group has fast become the leading consumption force online, with a higher willingness to spend than their older counterparts. The data shows that willingness to spend among the 90s generation stood at 63 points, higher than the post-80s (60 points), 1970s (54 points) and 1960s (54 points).

Zhao explained, “Now, the post-90s are gradually becoming the main consumption force. They are influenced by the internet and more digital-savvy. The digital economy has become the core driver of economic growth, and thus transformed the consumption pattern and boosted consumption upgrade.”

There may be another reason that this generation is more willing to spend. The Nielsen data showed that those belonging to the post-90s generation have a more positive attitude towards future income, with sixty-seven percent of those surveyed revealing they had “good” personal finance expectations.

For post-95s, income is a top concern, with 65 percent of this group stating that they are worried about income. In turn, this age group is more cautious about spending, with only 54 percent of respondents having "excellent" or "good" willingness to spend, compared with 72 percent of the post-90s.

As China continues to implement policies that will create more job prospects and raise disposable income, the country can expect to maintain steady growth throughout 2019.

Cities to become major arena for sustainable development: experts

http://en.people.cn/n3/2019/0124/c98649-9541078.html

(People's Daily Online) 09:43, January 24, 2019

The Forum on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was held in Shenzhen on Jan. 16. Experts attending the event agreed that innovation, transformation and rebuilding are essential for sustainable development, Science and Technology Daily reported on Jan. 22.

In March 2018, China approved Shenzhen, Taiyuan and Guilin as demonstration zones under the sustainable development agenda. If Shenzhen can create a new path to sustainability, it will set an example for the country and world in this field, said Wu Hongbo, Co-Director of the Institute for Sustainable Development Goals at Tsinghua University.

Wu explained that the country needs international cooperation to implement sustainable development through technology, adding that in this regard, China has made unremitting efforts, such as its proposal to build a global energy network, and donating the world's first 30-meter resolution global land cover data set to the United Nations (UN).

In the past four decades of reform and opening-up, China’s speed of development has surpassed that of developed countries, with rapid consumption of resources. To date, 74 Chinese cities are listed as resource-exhausted.

China released its national plan for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on Sept. 19, 2016.

To build socialism with Chinese characteristics, it is imperative for China to implement sustainable development strategies, said Qian Yi, an environmental professor at Tsinghua University.

By 2050, about 2.5 billion people will have moved into cities, meaning urban dwellers will make up 70 percent of the world's total population, Wu said, noting that the fast speed of urbanization will make cities the significant areas to practice sustainable development.

Reform and Opening-up brings great progress to China By Andrey Denisov-RusssianEmbassador

http://en.people.cn/n3/2019/0128/c90000-9541620.html
(People's Daily) 09:24, January 28, 2019

China held a grand gathering to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the country's reform and opening-up on Dec. 18, 2018. President Xi Jinping attended the event and delivered an important speech. Over these days, Chinese people have been celebrating the anniversary of this national policy. In the past four decades, China has made remarkable achievements, changed a lot, improved people's living standards, and blazed an unprecedented path of economic and social development.

I have worked in China for over a third of the past 40 years, witnessing the country's amazing development achievements in reform and opening-up. Back to 40 years ago, if I were asked how China would become 20 years, 30 years or 40 years later, I certainly wouldn't expect such dramatic changes. Maybe only a few people would expect that.

China has now become an engine of global growth and a leader in international trade. I am convinced that the country will continue to maintain a high economic growth rate. Even one percent of growth is remarkable, given the country's large size of economy.

I also believe that China's economy will influence the process of global economic development to a great extent, and reform and opening-up is of special significance to the country and the world.

We are very glad to see the positive development momentum of Russia-China relations. 2018 and 2019 mark the years of sub-national cooperation and exchanges between our two countries. International events including the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, the Eastern Economic Forum, the Boao Forum for Asia and the China International Import Expo have provided stable cooperation platforms for our two countries.

Russia-China trade volume in 2018 is expected to exceed the goal of $ 100 billion. The two countries both received 1.5 million tourists from each other. Exchanges in education also witnessed rapid development. By 2020, Russia and China are expected to realize the target set in 2013 of exchanging 100,000 students.

The two countries have maintained close communication and coordination on multilateral platforms including the United Nations, the G20, BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. Bilateral relations act as a stabilizer in the world. I firmly believe that Russia-China relations will continue to advance in an all-round way, and benefit the two countries and people of the world.

Andrey Denisov is the Russian ambassador to China. Interviewed and edited by People's Daily journalists Zhang Guangzheng and Peng Min

Here we go again with another scary story about China: volen la pau entre iguals

By Curtis Stone (People's Daily Online) 16:49, January 31, 2019

http://en.people.cn/n3/2019/0131/c90000-9543106.html

The US Capitol Hill

Top US intelligence officials gathered on Capitol Hill on Tuesday to give their annual assessment of the global threats facing the United States. Daniel Coats, the director of US National Intelligence, singled out the so-called "Big Four," saying China, Russia, DPRK, and Iran pose unique threats to the United States. He also told the US Senate Select Committee on Intelligence hearing that China's actions reflect a long-term strategy to achieve global superiority.

This was not the first that the United States has claimed that China poses the greatest threat to its security, and this was noted by the Chinese side.

At a regular press conference on Wednesday, Geng Shuang, a spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, responded to a reporter's question by pointing out that he had answered a similar question around the same time last year, when the United States also sounded the alarm about China, casting China's rise in the most negative way possible.

Like last year, Geng pointed out that the United States enjoys a position of unparalleled military strength and has great influence around the globe. He said that if the world's most powerful country fears for its security and sees danger lurking at every corner, then other countries must feel even more danger on the

doorstep. He then wondered how they could possibly carry on with their lives with such a mentality.
The spokesperson said that he is baffled by the extreme insecurity of the United States, stressing that there is no such thing as absolute security and that security cannot be achieved at the expense of other countries' insecurity.
China's goal is to help shape a more inclusive world. This is why China has consistently advocated for the establishment of a new security concept of common, comprehensive, cooperative, and sustainable security. As Geng suggested, security should be inclusive, meaning that the best way to achieve security is not by having overwhelming power, but by ensuring that all countries feel more secure in the global community.
China hopes that the United States will discard its zero-sum way of thinking, which by definition suggests that a more powerful China is a threat to the United States, stop viewing major-country relations from a confrontational perspective, and heed the call of the times for peace and development.
He also called on the United States to work with China, Russia, and other members of the international community to build a world of peace and security for all countries.
"This is what I said last year and what I want to say today," Geng said, adding that if next year the US Senate Select Committee on Intelligence holds another hearing on "worldwide threats" and releases similar remarks, his response will be the same.
The spokesperson made a great point by pointing out that the United States feels threatened on all sides because its security is largely based on the insecurity of other countries. Despite the scaremongering, China's rise does not pose a threat; and the China threat theory is just a convenient way to try to keep China's rise in check.
It is naïve to view China's rise solely through a lens of ruthless competition for global superiority. Intentions are hard to assess and what the future holds cannot be predicted, but as Geng suggested, the best way to achieve security is to achieve common development with other nations. If all we do is hype the China threat and generate fear about China's rise, then such assessments about "worldwide threats" could become a self-fulfilling prophecy.