

# Lies and Empty Promises of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)

CCP uses propaganda and spreads falsehood to distort the outside world's perceptions of its history, policies, and goals. With more than one-third of Americans believing China is an ally, members must redouble efforts to explain the true China threat to their constituents.

## 1. Xi Jinping is the President of China.

- Xi is General Secretary of the CCP, and every level of the Chinese government answers to the CCP.
- China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) defends the CCP, not the people.
- The title of President is only used in English translation and implies democratic legitimacy. Xi does not actually hold the title "President" and was not elected by the people.

## 2. The CCP is lifting its citizens out of poverty and improving their lives.

- Openness to the U.S.-led international trading system grew China's economy, not CCP policies.
- Communism has caused around 100 million deaths in the 20th century, more than any other system.
- The CCP has killed more Chinese people than any external force, through man-made famines and mass killings. Approximately 65 million people died under Mao Zedong.
- Under the CCP, China deprives its citizens – one-fifth of mankind – of the most basic human rights.
- Economic freedom remains the only proven way to lift billions of people out of poverty. The Chinese people lifted themselves out of poverty when the CCP accepted limited economic freedom.

## 3. China is a benign power uninterested in territorial expansion.

- While most powers decolonized in the 20th century, the CCP continues to push its territory outwards to the boundaries of historical Chinese empires and beyond – using force to conquer historically autonomous places like Tibet and East Turkestan.
- Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, the CCP has invaded, conquered, or laid claim to over 2 million square miles of territory – roughly the size of the continental United States, minus Texas.
- China is involved in militarized territorial disputes along most of its periphery.

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## **4. The CCP is not interested in spreading its digital authoritarian system to other countries.**

- The CCP explicitly considers democracy a threat, the Party's infamous 2013 "Document Number 9" states: "The point of publicly proclaiming Western constitutional democracy... is to oppose the party's leadership..."
- Xi Jinping explicitly states that 'socialism with Chinese characteristics' "offers a new option for other countries and nations who want to speed up their development."
- The CCP is providing massive subsidies to its technology companies to dominate global markets.
- Huawei employees have been embedded in security agencies in African countries to support domestic, political spying and the arrest of opposition figures.

## **5. The CCP is not a threat to Americans' way of life and personal freedoms.**

- Democracy is the CCP's greatest threat. The CCP is eroding its foundation globally, by censoring free speech, destroying sovereignty, and distorting free markets.
- The People's Republic of China is the largest source of foreign donations to U.S. universities since 2013, and many U.S. universities' budgets are reliant on international enrollment from China.
- China's 1000 talent program threatens U.S. businesses and universities through theft of intellectual property and economic espionage.
- To placate the Party and profit in China, businesses export the CCP's, censorship – including into the United States. In 2019 several foreign countries banned an American film for promoting CCP propaganda.
- "Authoritarian regimes inevitably project overseas the values they live by within their borders."
- The CCP considers free speech – anywhere – a threat to China's national security. "Influencing the outside world... is not just a historical activity of the party, but a requirement for national security."

## **6. China's rise is inevitable.**

- General Secretary Xi's concentration of power, widespread purges of rivals, and installation of himself as leader for life has set the PRC up for a major leadership crisis.
- China has significant domestic challenges (e.g. aging population, pollution, wealth inequality, and dependencies on technology) that require access to the international system.
- Because China relies on the United States and other countries for technology, capital, and know-how, a coalition of like-minded countries can affect Chinese ambitions that threaten the global system.

# Lies Spread by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)

## 7. China is a champion of multilateralism and the “global south.”

- China’s drive for regional hegemony and global preeminence will restrict other countries’ sovereignty. As Yang Jiechi said in 2010: “China is a big country and other countries are small countries, and that’s just a fact.”
- “Pluralism is essential to [the U.S.] vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific, as President Trump said in Da Nang two years ago: Countries in the region should remain a diverse constellation of stars, each shining brightly, and none a satellite to any other.”

## 8. China is a market economy.

- China withdrew its WTO lawsuit on its non-market economy status because it was losing the case.
- Xi Jinping is expanding the role of the CCP in businesses and pioneering a dystopian “corporate social credit system” that could result in unprecedented coercion and control of businesses. The U.S. Chamber says it “threatens to render market-opening reforms significantly less relevant.”
- China is doubling down on industrial policies designed to destroy the competitiveness Western innovators. China’s state-led economy and mercantilism distort global markets, harm the economies of its trading partners, and threaten to destroy the global trading system, fueling the current global protectionist backlash.

## 9. China remains an unmissable opportunity for businesses.

- The majority of American businesses feel unwelcome in China.
- Among OECD countries, China has one of the most restrictive investment regimes. Even if a sector nominally open, the CCP uses regulations—procurement and licensing—to block market access.
- Chinese human rights violations, private sector links with the PLA, and corruption increase reputational and sanction risks for companies doing business in China.

## 10. China is a leader in the response to climate change.

- China is an aggressive proliferator of dirty coal technology throughout the developing world.
- China has more coal power plants in the works than the rest of the world combined.
- Policy banks are financing and SOEs are constructing more than 150 coal power plants in third countries.
- China’s energy sector relies on massive market-distorting subsidies that harm American innovators.