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PARTE I - NOTAS BREVES

A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (1) [FONTE: France 24, 11/12/2020]

EU reaches landmark budget deal with Hungary and Poland

11/12/2020 - 00:13



France's President Emmanuel Macron speaks with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen while Poland's Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki speaks with Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban at a face-to-face EU summit in Brussels, Belgium December 10, 2020. © Reuters / Pool

<u>Europe</u>'s 1.8-trillion-euro (\$2.1-trillion) budget and coronavirus recovery package had been blocked by <u>Hungary</u> and <u>Poland</u> over an attempt to link the disbursement of funds to respect for the rule of law.

The stand-off risked delaying the recovery fund well into next year, just as a second wave of the coronavirus pandemic was punishing the European economy, but on Thursday the leaders came to a compromise that allowed the package to go through.

A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (2) [FONTE: Comissão Europeia, 11/11/2020]

Next Generation EU	Temporary reinforcement
2021-2023	€ 750 billion
Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027	€ 1 074.3 billion

^{*} Size of 2021-2027 long-term budget and Next Generation EU as per the July 2020 European Council compromise.

A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (3) [FONTE: Comissão Europeia, 11/11/2020]

Key figures in the agreement:

- Long-term budget for 2021-2027 of €1.074 trillion combined with the temporary recovery instrument,
 NextGenerationEU, of €750 billion;
- More than 50% of the amount will support modernisation through policies that include research and innovation, via Horizon Europe; fair climate and digital transitions, via the Just Transition Fund and the Digital Europe programme; preparedness, recovery and resilience, via the Recovery and Resilience Facility, rescEU and a new health programme, EU4Health;
- Traditional policies such as **cohesion and common agricultural policy** will be modernised and will continue to receive significant EU budget funds, with the objective to support the green and digital transitions;
- 30% of the EU funds, under both NextGenerationEU and MFF, will be spent to fight climate change. The package also pays a specific attention to biodiversity protection and gender mainstreaming;
- Key programmes, including **Erasmus+**, **EU4Health** and **Horizon Europe**, will be reinforced compared to the agreement at the July 2020 special European Council, by a total of €15 billion.

A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (4) [FONTE: EU Observer, 11/12/2020]

EU leaders unblock budget in deal with Hungary and Poland

Eszter Zalan Brussels, 11. Dec, 07:07



French president Emmanuel Macron (r), German chancellor Angela Merkel, European Council president Charles Michel, Hungarian PM Viktor Orban, Poland's premier Mateusz Morawiecki finalise the rule of law compromise on Thursday (Photo: Council of the European Union)

A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (5) [FONTE: EU Observer, 11/12/2020]

EU leaders meeting in Brussels agreed in the conclusions of the summit that the rule-of-law conditionality will only be used for the seven-year budget starting next year and the recovery fund, not for payments made from the current budget.

The use of the new tool will likely be delayed as leaders also agreed that any sanctions process could only be triggered by the EU Commission once the European Court of Justice (ECJ) rules on the new mechanism.

And the ECJ ruling is likely to come into play, when the new model is challenged in court by Hungary and Poland.

The compromise needed the approval of countries that strongly supported the rule of law conditionality, such as the Netherlands.

Dutch prime minister Mark Rutte, earlier on Thursday, asked for clarifications on whether the compromise would change the scope of issues that can come under scrutiny and if rule-of-law breaches could be punished retroactively as of January.

During the first hours of the summit, consultations went on with the council's legal services, and an EU source said eventually "Rutte got all clarifications".

A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (6) [FONTE: EURACTIV, 11/12/2020]

EU clinches hard-fought deal on 2030 climate target



European leaders haggled through the night to clinch a deal on the bloc's updated climate target for 2030 on Friday morning (11 December), agreeing an EU-wide goal of cutting net greenhouse gas emissions by 55% by 2030.

The EU's new 2030 climate objective is meant to bring the EU in line with the objectives of the Paris Agreement and the bloc's longer-term goal of reaching climate neutrality by mid-century.

"To that end, the European Council endorses a binding EU target of a net domestic reduction of at least 55% in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990," says the final summit communiqué published on Friday.

A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (7) [FONTE: EURACTIV, 11/12/2020]

The EU's updated climate goal "puts us on a clear path towards climate neutrality in 2050," added Ursula von der Leyen, the president of the European Commission, the EU executive.

The EU's updated climate goal will now be written down into a draft European Climate Law and transmitted to the United Nations as the bloc's formal commitment under the Paris Agreement.

The climate talks lasted for eight hours, dragging a summit that started the day before until Friday morning.

Poland, backed by some other coal-dependent central European countries fought through the night to obtain assurances that their economies will not suffer disproportionate costs from the transition to a net-zero economy.

The <u>final summit conclusions</u> tried giving them reassurances on that point, saying the upcoming reform of the EU carbon market will "address distributional concerns and energy poverty" while addressing "the problem of imbalances for beneficiaries of the Modernisation Fund," which Poland argues puts poorer EU member states at a disadvantage against wealthier nations.

Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic asked for more EU money to finance the green transition and requested greater detail about the "enabling framework" that the European Commission will propose next year to reach the new 2030 goals.

A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (8) [FONTE: FT,10/12/2020]

Turkey is Europe's other major headache

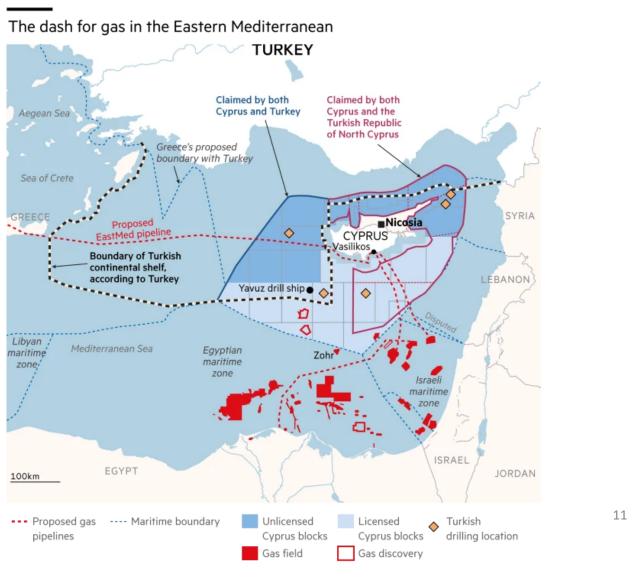
The EU relationship with President Erdogan has all but collapsed but there are ways to save it



President Recep Tayyip Erdogan seems to have concluded that deploying hard power abroad serves him better than aligning with the enfeebled soft power of, by his lights, duplicitous Europeans © REUTERS

The European Council has <u>big_problems</u> to deal with this week, such as Brexit and the EU budget. Yet among the Brussels summit's other challenges is to review the bloc's relationship with Turkey, which is close to rupture with no sign of anything to replace it.

A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (9) [FONTE: FT, 9/07/2020]



A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (10) [FONTE: DW, 25/10/2020]

Turkey extends controversial Mediterranean gas exploration

The move to extend gas exploration in the disputed eastern area is expected to heighten tensions with Greece. The row over the gas-rich region has stoked fears that the NATO members could engage in a military conflict.



Turkey has announced it is extending a gas exploration mission in a disputed area of the Mediterranean Sea until November 4, in a move that is set to heighten tensions with Greece.

A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (11) [FONTE: DW, 25/10/2020]

Fears of military confrontation

The move sparked a dispute that threatened military confrontation between the NATO allies and drew widespread condemnation from the European Union. Ankara withdrew the Oruc Reis last month to allow for diplomacy before a European Union summit, where Cyprus proposed sanctions against Turkey.

After the summit, the EU said it would punish Turkey if it continued its operations in the region. Ankara said the bloc's decision have put further strain on Turkish-EU ties.

Greece and the European Union consider Turkey's drilling in the eastern Mediterranean to be illegal. Ankara contests it is working in its own exclusive economic zone.

The ship was sent back into the disputed waters this month, spurring condemnation from France, Germany and Greece.

Concerns remain high that <u>Greece and Turkey could engage in military</u> conflict, as both have carried out maneuvers in the region with frigates and fighter jets involved.

A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (12) [FONTE: Politico, 8/12/2020]

EU leaders to line up new sanctions on Turkey at summit

Brussels wants to deter Ankara from drilling for natural gas in the Eastern Mediterranean.



Tensions between the EU and Ankara have been rising over Turkey's prospecting operation for natural gas in disputed waters also claimed by Greece and Cyprus. | Ozan Kose/AFP via Getty Images

EU leaders will ask for the preparation of additional sanctions against Turkey over the country's drilling activities in the Eastern Mediterranean, according to a draft of European Council summit conclusions seen by POLITICO.

A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (13) [FONTE: Politico, 8/12/2020]

"Turkish unilateral and provocative activities in the Eastern Mediterranean are still taking place, including in Cyprus's exclusive economic zone [which extends 200 nautical miles from the coast]," the draft text that leaders are expected to agree at a meeting in Brussels on Thursday reads.

In a move intended to increase pressure on Ankara to stop the drilling, the document "invites the Council to prepare additional listings" on the existing mechanism to sanction Turkish officials over the activity. Last month the Council extended for one year the sanctions that currently target two individuals.

The document also paves the way for broader deterrence measures. It calls on the Council "if need be, [to] work on the extension of the Decision's scope." According to a senior EU diplomat, a possible option is to make EU ports and services inaccessible to Turkish vessels involved in the explorations in the contested waters. The text also notes the withdrawal of the Turkish vessel Oruç Reis from its seismic exploration activities in the disputed zone, adding that the European Council "trusts that this will be sustained so as to allow for the early resumption of direct exploratory talks between Greece and Turkey."

The draft, which was discussed by EU ambassadors on Wednesday could still be changed, according to an EU diplomat. But by launching the process for new sanctions, the intention is to give other options a chance to work, said a third EU diplomat: "It's also a way to gain some time, to give diplomacy some more space."

A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (14) [FONTE: Euractiv, 11/12/2020]

Merkel and Borissov blocked EU sanctions against Turkey at summit: sources



Germany and Bulgaria were the most vocal among the EU countries who blocked sanctions against Turkey at the EU summit on Thursday (10 December), diplomatic sources have told EURACTIV.

"German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Bulgarian Prime Minister Boyko Borissov were the EU leaders who openly opposed sanctions against Ankara," the sources said.

Other countries such as Spain, Italy, Malta and Hungary were also against, but did not express it openly, the sources added.

Austria was supportive of sanctions while France, which was asking for a tough EU response, reportedly toned down its rhetoric at the summit.

A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (15) [FONTE: Euractiv, 8/12/2020]

According to the summit conclusions on Turkey, the EU leaders condemned its aggressiveness and unilateral actions in the Eastern Mediterranean. However, in practice, they took a soft stance, granting Ankara another three-month grace period.

Concretely, they decided to add new names of individuals and companies to the blacklist that currently exists for Turkey's "unauthorised" gas drillings off-Cyprus.

But the sanctions that have been imposed so far have had little added value, considering that Turkey has not stopped the drillings off-Cyprus.

In addition, they called on the European Commission to come up with a report "at the latest in March 2021" regarding EU-Turkey relations overall, ranging from politics to trade, and explore "options and instruments on how to proceed".

The leaders also made it clear that the "positive agenda remains on the table" promising Turkey to continue providing financial assistance to manage migration flows in the country.

Last but not least, EU leaders said they would seek coordination on the matter of Turkey with the new US administration.

Germany, which currently holds the EU presidency, has always opposed sanctions and wanted to keep communication channels open with Ankara.

A União Europeia face ao orçamento, ao Acordo de Paris e à questão da Turquia (16) [FONTE: Euractiv, 8/12/2020]

A fiasco for Athens

The decisions are far from what Athens has been asking for months. At a foreign affairs meeting in Berlin in August, Greece asked for "sectorial sanctions" targeting key aspects of the Turkish economy such as the banking and energy sector.

Following the publication of the conclusions, Greek government sources put on a brave face and presented it as a positive outcome.

"Europe takes one step at a time. That is what they did in this Council. Another step that is a strong warning to Turkey to change its behaviour," government sources said.

However, the reality in Athens is different.

Most Greek media reported on Friday that the EU leaders' decisions on

Turkey will have zero added value and predicted that Erdoğan will be even more aggressive in light of Europe's mild steps.

"No sanctions against Turkey, Erdoğan's victory in the EU", "Mild sanctions against Turkey...and see you in March", are some of the headlines in Greek newspapers.

Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said before the summit that the EU credibility was at stake and called on his EU partners to implement decisions made during their last meeting in October.

The summit's conclusions are expected to cause Mitsotakis headaches at home. The opposition parties have not reacted yet, but EURACTIV has learnt that the main opposition, the Syriza party, is expected to accuse the government of coming back from Brussels with empty hands.



PARTE I – TEMA PRINCIPAL

O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (1) [FONTE: Global Times, 13/12/2020]

West is choking on its own poisoned COVID-19 well water



Illustration: Liu Rui/GT

The year 2020 has seen long-standing beliefs about the West and the US crumble. They once cursed China and pinned unfair labels on it. But now, metaphorically put, they are choking on the water from their own poisoned well.

When China reported its COVID-19 cases at the beginning of the year, the West was full of ridicule, sarcasm and criticism, calling China's situation a "Chernobyl moment." This public opinion virus seemed to spread faster than coronavirus with clinical manifestations of schadenfreude, xenophobia and political attacks.

O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (2) [FONTE: Global Times, 13/12/2020]

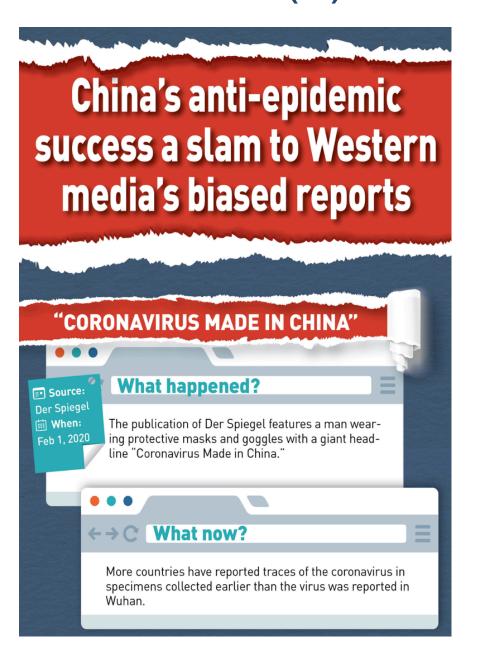
On February 1, German magazine Der Spiegel featured a man wearing protective masks and goggles with a giant headline "Coronavirus Made in China." Two days later, The Wall Street Journal published a racial-discriminative opinion piece titled "China is the real sick man of Asia."

Those comments not only gloated that China had to slow or stop its development pace, but also unveiled a ridiculous Western belief of racial superiority - that the novel coronavirus only spread among yellow races. These articles also carried the subtext that this public health crisis would never happen in developed Western countries, because they would handle it better.

On February 17, Bloomberg Businessweek featured "Fragile China" as their front-page story with icons symbolizing coronavirus, debt burden, the trade war and protests - signaling each of these issues could smash the country.

Bloomberg must have felt awkward months later when it forecasted that "China will have overtaken the US to become the world's biggest economy" in November. They saw that China had already been on the track of economic recovery, while the US was still being scorched by COVID-19.

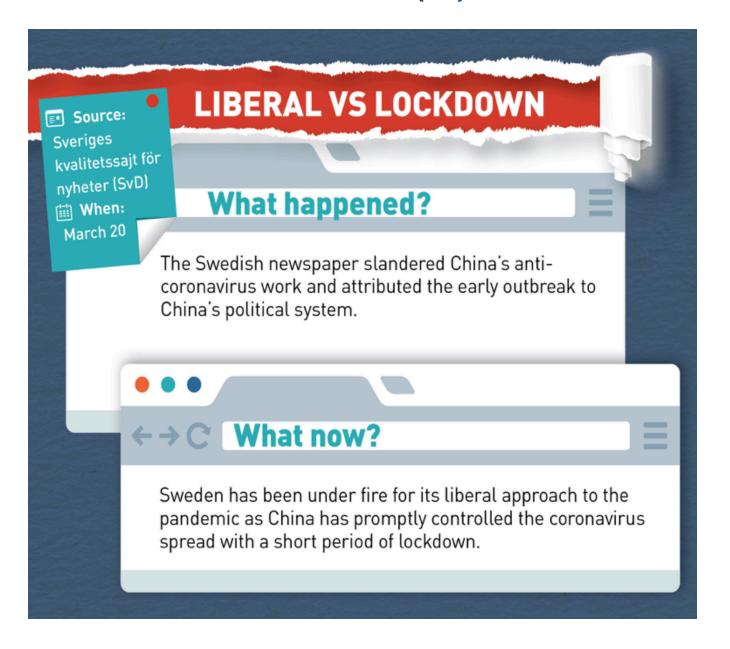
O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (3) [FONTE: Global Times, 13/12/2020]



O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (4) [FONTE: Global Times, 13/12/2020]



O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (5) [FONTE: Global Times, 13/12/2020]



O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (6) [FONTE: Global Times, 13/12/2020]



O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (7) [FONTE: Global Times, 13/12/2020]

China ought to set a growth rate of at least 7.5% in 2021



Illustration: Chen Xia/GT

Economic planning has always played a pivotal role in presetting and helping realize China's annual goals in GDP growth, infrastructure and public service investment, inflation control and the central bank's credit supply level. For 2021, the policymakers, while ascertaining the country to be able to attain a growth rate of at least 7.5 percent, need to pay higher attention to addressing challenges such as the technology bottleneck, social inequality and carbon emissions.

O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (8) [FONTE: Global Times, 13/12/2020]

By all metrics of calculation, China's economy in the first quarter of 2021 will likely get off to a strong start, jumping from the lows seen in this year's early months when Beijing ordered a shutdown of all non-essential economic activities to stave off the spread of a sudden COVID-19 onslaught. The success of the government's efforts to clamp down on the contagious virus has laid the foundations for China to make a stellar economic recovery starting from late April.

High-quality development will guide China's economic planning for the coming five years. If the country is able to achieve an annual average GDP growth of 5 percent and, at the same time, weather probable geopolitical struggles with the US-led "Five-Eye" alliance, this country will become a fairly prosperous economy by 2025, with per-capita GDP reaching \$15,000 or more, creating a colossal market size unparalleled in human history.

Some key initiatives, including pursuing productivity-centered, domestic-demand driven economic growth, pivoting to technology localization and home circulation, moving up the global value chain, financial market opening-up, digitalization, urbanization and green economy, all rely on top-level design and policy coordination between Beijing and provincial capitals, which is also a hallmark of China's distinct political and economic system.

O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (9) [FONTE: China Daily, 11/12/2020]

China can be a green leader: Former UN Environment chief



Erik Solheim, the former head of the UN Environment Programme, said that by showing the world a green recovery from the pandemic is possible, China can provide global leadership in sustainable development in the post-COVID-19 world.

"If we provide renewable energy rather than coal; if we make electric vehicles and metro systems in the cities, rather than overwhelming them with cars, we provide more jobs and a better life for people, while at the same time take better care of the environment," he said.

He also said China could bring more "green and positive development" to the rest of the world by promoting a green Belt and Road Initiative.

O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (10) [FONTE: China Daily, 12/12/2020]

Biden envoy expects climate partnership

By ZHAO HUANXIN in Washington | China Daily | Updated: 2020-12-12



Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry speaks after being introduced by President-elect Joe Biden as he introduces key foreign policy and national security nominees and appointments at the Queen Theatre in Wilmington, Delaware, US, on Nov 24, 2020. [Photo/Agencies]

Incoming United States climate envoy John Kerry said he expected to work with China on climate change, as he seeks to bring Washington back to the United Nations Paris climate agreement and enhance global action to address the crisis.

O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (11) [FONTE: China Daily, 12/12/2020]

Kerry was tapped to act as "climate czar" for president-elect Joe Biden, who vowed to immediately reenter the 2015 Paris agreement, a deal that Kerry helped negotiate.

The 76-year-old former senator seemed ready to be pragmatic when addressing what he called climate challenges in China such as the existing coal-fired power production.

"So we have to talk to China about that. But we have to do it in a way that doesn't force people into a corner, to hunker down and head toward conflict," Kerry said.

In addition to conducting ultra-low emissions upgrading of its coal-fired power plants, China has pledged to eliminate outdated plants and to approve new coal-fired power projects in a way that's "orderly and moderately based on needs", according to a statement from the National Development and Reform Commission early this year.

The United States formally withdrew from the Paris agreement on climate change on Nov 4, a day after Election Day, following a three-year process.

Kerry said rejoining the Paris accord is just the first step.

"It's simple for the United States to rejoin, but it's not so simple for the United States to regain its credibility," Kerry said in the NPR interview.

O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (12) [FONTE: China Daily, 12/12/2020]

US called world's 'most disruptive factor'

By ZHANG YUNBI | China Daily | Updated: 2020-12-12 07:06



State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi delivers a keynote speech at an annual seminar in Beijing on the international situation and Chinese diplomacy in Beijing on Dec 11, 2020. [Photo/Xinhua]

The United States has become "the most disruptive factor" in the international system, and it is high time the retrogression created by US anti-China forces comes to an end, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said.

O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (13) [FONTE: China Daily, 12/12/2020]

The China-US relationship is in its "most challenging situation" in the past four decades, and the US has gone farther along the path of unilateralism while the world needs unity and cooperation more than ever, Wang said.

He criticized the US anti-China forces for slandering and demonizing China in every possible way and for stoking ideological confrontation in an attempt to stoke a new Cold War.

If such people persist in this retrogressive way, they will damage or even ruin US credibility, jeopardize world peace and stability and eventually be rejected by the world and by history, Wang said.

The China-US relationship has a complexity that goes far beyond the bilateral scope, he said. The situation involves choices such as multilateralism or unilateralism, progression or retrogression, justice or hegemony, Wang said.

When envisioning China's plan next year for building of a new type of international relations, Wang said it is necessary for China and the US to rebuild a strategic framework for the sound and stable growth of bilateral ties.

The two nations should meet halfway and make concerted efforts in this regard, and they need to restart dialogues, reopen cooperation and rebuild mutual trust, Wang said.

"China stands ready to open up dialogues on an equal footing with the US at all levels and in all areas to promote sincere, in-depth and constructive exchanges," Wang said.

O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (14) [FONTE: Global Times, 13/12/2020]

China-US conflicts not about values but interests: Global Times editorial



Illustration: Liu Rui/GT

From the perspective of history, are the differences between diverse societies, countries and civilizations shrinking or expanding? We believe they are shrinking, as economic and cultural exchanges inevitably increase. Globalization has not only occurred in areas such as the economy and information, it has had comprehensive influences. Human societies are in a brand-new era where people are using the same technologies and living a similar life, while focusing on common topics.

O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (15) [FONTE: Global Times, 13/12/2020]

Some Western leaders prefer the term "values" and define the frictions between Western countries and China as "value conflicts." They emphasize that the anti-China front they are striving to build up is a valuebased alliance. Chinese people should not fall into the trap of such a

narrative. China's values are not incompatible with Western society. Beijing has repeatedly underlined "common values of humanity," which are not so different from the West's universal values. The difference is that the phrase "universal values" is often used along with Western expansionist moves - it is not just a concept but reminds people of certain policies.

Meanwhile, the phrase "common values" is more neutral and objective. The difference between Chinese and Western value systems has been exaggerated. Values that the West cherishes - democracy, freedom, rule of law and equality - also take roots in core values of Chinese socialism, and they are what Chinese society pursues. The rule of law is especially promoted by the Chinese government and equality is one of the political ideals that most resonates among ordinary Chinese. The pursuit of justice and equity has been a vital reason for China's dynamic public opinion sphere in the past years.

O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (16) [FONTE: Global Times, 13/12/2020]

Due to different political systems and development processes, the values of China and the West have acted differently in guiding their respective societies. But there it is largely inconsistent with the facts to describe the frictions between China and the West, especially between China and the US, as antagonism of two different value systems. This is a top-level misjudgment of the West-centric mentality. If spreads across the world, such a misjudgment will cause a series of overreactions - such as suspecting non-governmental exchanges as a gateway to infiltration.

Most of the differences between China and the West are demonstrated at an ideological level. The known use of "ideology" was later than "value." The definition of "ideology" also varies. Generally speaking, ideology is a kind of superstructure to guarantee a country's interests. In addition to being influenced by "values," it is branded with the mark of political systems.

As long as there are exchanges between different societies, groups and people, contact between value systems will take place. The impact of ideology is usually subject to the scope of national power. Without the support of power, the impact of ideology will be greatly reduced. Therefore, ideological expansion often relies on the use of military, economic and cultural tools. Over the past few decades, the West has undoubtedly been the main force to promote ideological expansion. In contrast, expansion of non-Western ideologies is hard to realize.

O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (17) [FONTE: Global Times, 13/12/2020]

From our point of view, the competition between China and the US is mainly about interests. The real intention of the US launching an ideological offensive against China is to safeguard its hegemonic status. It is an absurd argument that the essences of the two political systems are two different ways of social governance that cannot coexist on Earth. A look at China-Europe relations can clearly illustrate this. Although there are frictions between China and Europe, cooperation constitutes the fundamentals of bilateral ties.

Washington has continued to intensify China-US ideological conflicts and distorted them as a confrontation between Chinese and Western values.

The Chinese side should not fall into its trap. We must continue to promote common values of humanity and deal with China-US and China-West ideological frictions in a calm manner. We should not actively escalate them, but seek to define their impacts based on facts, making it clear that ideological frictions are more about conflicts of interests rather than the so-called conflicts of values. Finally, we should manage to control them in face of the international community.

O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (18) [FONTE: Foreign Policy, 25/11/2020]

How Will Biden's Team Handle China?

Deprioritizing Beijing on the foreign-policy agenda would be a dangerous mistake for the incoming U.S. administration.

James Palmer November 25, 2020, 4:49 PM



U.S. President-elect Joe Biden introduces key foreign policy and national security nominees and appointments at the Queen Theatre on Nov. 24 in Wilmington, Delaware. Mark Makela/Getty Images

Welcome to *Foreign Policy*'s China Brief. The highlights this week: Why the **incoming Biden administration** should prioritize China, Beijing threatens to put together a **Taiwanese watchlist**, and **Alibaba** performs a public apology for the Chinese government.

O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (19) [FONTE: Foreign Policy, 25/11/2020]

U.S. President-elect Joe Biden's new <u>diplomatic and national security</u> team is a far more professional and experienced group than President Donald Trump ever put together. But there is one concerning thing about them: Their experience—and to some degree, their interests—reflects the regional policy priorities of the past.

The group has considerable Washington knowhow and a lot of Middle Eastern expertise, but it has limited experience with China. That presents a problem at a time when China is the biggest and trickiest challenge the United States has faced since the Soviet Union.

Meanwhile, Beijing has hinted at a possible reset through a *New York Times* op-ed by former Vice Foreign Minister Fu Ying. The piece takes familiar approach: Any problems in the relationship are the result of others simply not understanding what China wants, and the United States needs to be "respectful" by not "meddling" in Taiwan or in the South China Sea. Fu also frames people-to-people exchanges as an area that needs rebuilding and holds out the carrot of climate change cooperation.

But China's idea of these people-to-people exchanges is starkly different from America's. While the United States envisions them as led by individuals, China sees them as a <u>vehicle</u> for a state-organized complement to official diplomacy—with a well-established bureaucratic structure behind it. These ties are extremely politicized, and they're pushed with an agenda from above.

O mundo visto pela China, ou como a China é superior aos seus rivais (20) [FONTE: Foreign Policy, 25/11/2020]

Deprioritizing China—or, worse, trying to strike some kind of grand bargain —would be a dangerous mistake. The course of Chinese ambitions isn't set by Fu's banal op-ed but rather by the approach taken toward Australia for daring to take on China over foreign influence, the coronavirus pandemic, and threats at sea. China has <u>demanded</u> that Australia cease funding so-called anti-China research, stop protecting Australians (including Chinese-born citizens) from Beijing's coercion, and put pressure on its own open society not to talk about Chinese human rights abuses.

Those would be the actual terms of any long-term deal between China and the United States, too—not just an end to U.S. power in East Asia, but that the United States actively abandon democracy promotion abroad. Other small- or medium-sized countries have <u>faced similar aggression</u>. As the Chinese ambassador to Sweden put it: "For our enemies, we have shotguns."

China's belief that the United States is the main obstacle to its creation of a new illiberal global order on its terms won't go away, and it should be the first item on any U.S. agenda.

Sugestões de leitura

