# \*\*WDCA Chinese Politics DA\*\*

[\*\*WDCA Chinese Politics DA\*\* 1](#_Toc461033510)

[File Notes 2](#_Toc461033511)

[Glossary 3](#_Toc461033512)

[1NC Shell 4](#_Toc461033513)

[1NC Chinese Politics DA (1/3) 5](#_Toc461033514)

[1NC Chinese Politics DA (2/3) 6](#_Toc461033515)

[1NC Chinese Politics DA (3/3) 7](#_Toc461033516)

[Uniqueness 8](#_Toc461033517)

[Xi Credibility Up 9](#_Toc461033518)

[Reforms Will Succeed 10](#_Toc461033519)

[Anti-Western Now 11](#_Toc461033520)

[Political Stability Brink 12](#_Toc461033521)

[Links 13](#_Toc461033522)

[General Links 14](#_Toc461033523)

[Space Links 16](#_Toc461033525)

[TPP Links – General 17](#_Toc461033526)

[TPP Links – Specific Measures 19](#_Toc461033528)

[Link Helpers 21](#_Toc461033530)

[A2: Link Turns 22](#_Toc461033531)

[A2: Economic Exclusion Turn 23](#_Toc461033532)

[A2: Economic Reforms Turn 24](#_Toc461033533)

[Internal Links 25](#_Toc461033534)

[Popularity Key to Xi Capital 26](#_Toc461033535)

[AT: PC Theory Not True – China 28](#_Toc461033537)

[Capital Key to Reforms 29](#_Toc461033538)

[Reforms Key to Economy 30](#_Toc461033539)

[Plan Threatens Regime Legitimacy 32](#_Toc461033540)

[Impacts 33](#_Toc461033541)

[Impact – Internal Instability 34](#_Toc461033542)

[Impact – Nationalism 35](#_Toc461033543)

[Impact – South China Sea 36](#_Toc461033544)

[DA Turns Case – China War 38](#_Toc461033546)

[DA Turns Case – Relations 39](#_Toc461033547)

[DA Turns Case – Trade 40](#_Toc461033548)

### File Notes

This file contains the Chinese Politics Disadvantage, which argues that the affirmative creates a backlash within the Chinese government, with cascading negative effects. The disadvantage claims that President Xi will be successful in implementing much-needed economic reforms within the Chinese government now, but that he has to tread carefully to avoid angering the more ideological, nationalist wing of the Chinese Communist Party as well as the public. The disadvantage argues that the plan will be seen by these party insiders as undue Western influence on China, or even President Xi giving concessions to the United States (especially in the case of the TPP affirmative). This angers them greatly, which prevents Xi from continuing to implement economic reforms. Failure to reform the Chinese economy will result in economic turmoil, which has all sorts of negative consequences, from internal Chinese instability to the government lashing out at other nations in an effort to distract the populace from economic turmoil.

### Glossary

Chinese Communist Party (CCP): The founding and ruling political party of the People's Republic of China (PRC).

Confucianism: A system of philosophical and ethical teachings founded by Confucius, a Chinese philosopher.

Demand side economics: An economic theory that claims that economic activity is best boosted by increasing the buying power of the lower and middle classes, thus increasing the demand for goods and services.

Developed country: A sovereign state that has a highly developed economy and advanced technological infrastructure relative to other less industrialized nations.

Developing country: A nation with a less developed industrial base, and a low Human Development Index (HDI) relative to other countries.

Faction: A small, organized, dissenting group within a larger one, especially in politics. (Google Dictionary)

Hardliner: A member of a group, typically a political group, who adheres uncompromisingly to a set of ideas or policies. (Google Dictionary)

Ideology: A collection of beliefs held by an individual, group or society.

Invisible Hand: The unobservable market force that helps the demand and supply of goods in a free market to reach equilibrium automatically. (Economic Times)

Xi Jinping: The President of the People's Republic of China

Li Keqiang: The current Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China. An economist by training, Li is China's head of government as well as one of the leading figures behind Chinese economic policy.

Mao Zedong: A Chinese communist revolutionary and founding father of the People's Republic of China, which he ruled as an autocrat.

Marxism: The political, economic, and social theories of Karl Marx including the belief that the struggle between social classes is a major force in history and that there should eventually be a society in which there are no classes (Merriam-Webster)

Nationalism: A feeling that people have of being loyal to and proud of their country often with the belief that it is better and more important than other countries. (Merriam-Webster)

Orthodox: Adherence to correct or accepted ideology.

People’s Daily: The biggest newspaper group in China. The paper is an official newspaper of the Chinese Communist Party.

Plenum: An assembly of all the members of a group or committee.

Political Capital: The trust, goodwill, and influence a politician has with the public and other political figures. This goodwill is a type of invisible currency that politicians can use to mobilize the voting public or spend on policy reform.

Populism: A belief in the power of regular people, and in their right to have control over their government rather than a small group of political insiders or a wealthy elite. (Vocabulary.com)

Recession: A period of temporary economic decline. (Google Dictionary)

Sovereignty: The authority of a state to govern itself or another state. (Google Dictionary)

Supply side economics: An economic theory that argues economic growth can be most effectively created by investing in capital and by lowering barriers on the production of goods and services.

Xenophobia: Intense or irrational dislike or fear of people from other countries. (Google Dictionary)

## 1NC Shell

### 1NC Chinese Politics DA (1/3)

#### A. Xi has power to force reform now – perception of outside influence undermines

Whitehead 5/9 (Adam, twenty five years’ experience in capital markets and investment management, in a career that has involved proprietary trading desks, commodity trading advisors, sovereign wealth funds and private offices. During this time he has had trading book P&L responsibility, in addition to setting up and managing offices of regulated global financial entities in the UAE, “The Great Chinese Political Rift”, 2016, http://seekingalpha.com/article/3973072-great-chinese-political-rift?page=2#)

President Xi's position of control over the Finance Ministry has been bolstered by the latest reshuffling at the top. Vice Finance Minister Zhu Guangyao has been promoted to a senior position in the Communist Party's elite financial and economic panel led by President Xi Jinping himself. In his new Party role, he will serve as a deputy director of the general office of the Central Leading Group for Financial and Economic Affairs. Since his ministerial role involves him interfacing and coordinating with G20, his new role allows the President to directly control this interface function through the Party. Premier Li's attempts to finance training and entrepreneurship after the mass layoffs in his reforms will therefore be circumscribed by President Xi's effective control of the Finance Ministry and the Policy Banks. Once again it appears to be a conflict between Li's economic reforms and Xi's redistribution of wealth. President Xi controls the finances and occupies the populist moral high ground. Premier Li is the bad guy following a foreign agenda.

#### B. Inclusion in TPP is perceived as American encirclement

Backer 14 (Larry Cata, W. Richard and Mary Eshelman Faculty Scholar & Professor of Law, Professor of International Affairs, 2012-13 Chair, University Faculty Senate, The Pennsylvania State, “THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP: JAPAN, CHINA, THE U.S., AND THE EMERGING SHAPE OF A NEW WORLD TRADE REGULATORY ORDER”, 13 Wash. U. Global Stud. L. Rev. 49, p. lexis)

Indeed, Wen Jin Yuan notes the sense among Chinese academic and policy circles that "the main reason behind the Obama Administration's support for the TPP agenda is the US's desire to use the TPP as a tool to economically contain China's rise." Wen notes, for example, reports published in the People's Daily, the official organ of the Chinese Communist Party, that refer to TPP as "superficially an economic agreement but containing an obvious political purpose to constrain China's rise." More importantly, a successfully negotiated TPP would result, according to other Chinese scholars, in trade diversion to the detriment of Chinese economic interests. Yet, according to Wen's research, United States officials insist that the ultimate goal of the United States was not containment, but incorporation. The "U.S.'s ultimate goal is to integrate China into this regional trade system, rather than keeping China out, and the TPP initiative is actually similar to the strategy led by several U.S. agencies to incorporate China into the WTO system." Yet incorporation can be understood from the Chinese side as another form of containment. Rather than have China lead a new effort at refining the rules and culture of trade in the Pacific, it would be forced to participate as a junior partner in a regulatory exercise directed by the United States and its principal ally, Japan. For the Chinese, the substantial effect might well be understood as containment, though that view/perception is lost on the United States.

### 1NC Chinese Politics DA (2/3)

#### C. Xi’s political capital is key to reforms – perception of international strength is critical to holding off nationalist challenges to his domestic economic agenda

Lieberthal 13 (Kenneth Lieberthal, 3/14, Director of the John L. Thornton China Center and senior fellow in Foreign Policy and Global Economy and Development on PBS News Hour, interview with Judy Woodruff, <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/asia/jan-june13/china_03-14.html>)

KENNETH LIEBERTHAL: Well, he's already tried to change the style by being much more of a kind of lively politician than his predecessor was. But I think Gordon is right. We have to look to see whether he can forge the kind of consensus to make deep structural reforms in China that the country deeply needs if it's going to move forward. JUDY WOODRUFF: For example? KENNETH LIEBERTHAL: For example, they need to shift from an export-oriented and investment-focused economy to one that's much more focused on domestic consumption as a driver of economic development, which requires expanding the services sector, increasing incomes and so forth. That runs against huge vested interests in China. So the question is whether he's going to be able to really rework incentives through this system so that he can build the services sector, build incomes, reduce huge capital-intensive infrastructure projects and reduce dependence on exports. JUDY WOODRUFF: So, looking at him, Gordon Chang, from the United States, what will we see that looks different, do you think? GORDON CHANG: I think the one thing we have been concerned about is all that, although he's been in power for only a few months, since last November, when he became general-secretary of the party, China has engaged on some very provocative maneuvers against the Japanese, because the Chinese claim sovereignty over the Senkaku islands in the East China Sea. People say that Xi Jinping is actually leading China's foreign policy on this issue, and if so, we're in trouble, because this is a very troubled area. JUDY WOODRUFF: And do you believe, Ken Lieberthal, that that's a primary priority of his? KENNETH LIEBERTHAL: I think his real priority is domestic. What he needs is stability abroad in order to undertake reform domestically. But his big problem is that he -- that the Communist Party has really nurtured very ardent nationalism domestically, and he can't allow himself to get on the wrong side of that or he won't have the political capital to carry out reforms. So he's trying to walk a tightrope. He has to be seen as strong in international affairs. But I don't think he's looking for trouble internationally. He'd rather avoid if it if he can.

### 1NC Chinese Politics DA (3/3)

#### D. Xi’s reforms crucial are to Chinese economic stability

Sisci, January 5, 2016. (Francesco is a Senior Research Associate of China Renmin University. The author of Asia Times’ Sinograph column, he was also Asia Editor for the Italian daily La Stampa and Beijing correspondent for Il Sole di 24 Ore, and has written for numerous Italian and international publications. He was the first foreigner admitted to the graduate program of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, he is the author of eight books on China and a frequent commentator on CCTV. "Latest China stock crash spotlights urgent need for financial reform." Asia Times. Accessed 7/15/16. <http://atimes.com/2016/01/latest-china-stock-crash-spotlights-urgent-need-for-financial-reform-sisci/> --DDI CT) The crash of the Chinese stock market on the first day of trading in 2016 is a stark reminder of the urgent need for reform in China’s financial system in particular and its economy in general. Initial reaction from commentators pointed to some incidental circumstances — China’s disappointing manufacturing data, reported earlier Monday, and the coming removal of a ban on major shareholders from selling stakes that was instituted during last summer’s stock rout. However, the size of the crash — over 7% in a few hours of trading that prompted closing the market the same day and an ensuing wave of panic it sent through world markets — hints at a different and more complex scenario. I offered an analysis last year of the factors behind the 2015 summer stock crash. These same factors were in play during the latest plunge. The reasons are threefold: State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) have not been reformed; private entrepreneurs are losing confidence, and the stock exchange is still bedeviled by endemic insider trading. There’s a deeper reason: China’s old business model based on corruption and political patronage has collapsed, thanks to Xi Jinping’s anti-corruption campaign. But the new business model supposed to replace it is yet to take shape because conservative forces inside China’s communist party oppose the changes. The necessary reforms can be described as follows: 1) SOEs must be privatized. This cannot be done overnight but it must follow a process. These huge government enterprises are too inefficient to survive and they are in danger of dragging down the Chinese economy. 2) Private entrepreneurs must be encouraged to regain confidence in the system. Part of this involves issuing an amnesty for past economic crimes. This will help link the private sector to the government under a new political contract. While some entrepreneurs will be forgiven, they will have to obey new business rules. 3)The state must take a more active role as a final and real referee that controls the markets. Regulators must ensure that the new rules will be obeyed. This differs from the current situation where regulators and those they regulate share the same rooms, the same meals and can manipulate the markets behind the backs of naïve common investors. If these problems are not addressed in a radical way, any passing market wind will crash the Chinese stock market and take others with it due to the sheer size of China’s economy. Therefore, these reforms are not only necessary, they are an urgent matter for China and the rest of the world.

#### E. Chinese economic decline risks regional instability and nuclear conflict

Yee & Storey 2 (Herbert Yee, Professor of Politics and International Relations at the Hong Kong Baptist University, and Ian Storey, Lecturer in Defence Studies at Deakin University, 2002 (The China Threat: Perceptions, Myths and Reality, Routledge Curzon, pg 5)

The fourth factor contributing to the perception of a China threat is the fear of political and economic collapse in the PRC, resulting in territorial fragmentation, civil war and waves of refugees pouring into neighbouring countries. Naturally, any or all of these scenarios would have a profoundly negative impact on regional stability. Today the Chinese leadership faces a raft of internal problems, including the increasing political demands of its citizens, a growing population, a shortage of natural resources and a deterioration in the natural environment caused by rapid industrialisation and pollution. These problems are putting a strain on the central government's ability to govern effectively. Political disintegration or a Chinese civil war might result in millions of Chinese refugees seeking asylum in neighbouring countries. Such an unprecedented exodus of refugees from a collapsed PRC would no doubt put a severe strain on the limited resources of China's neighbours. A fragmented China could also result in another nightmare scenario - nuclear weapons falling into the hands of irresponsible local provincial leaders or warlords.' From this perspective, a disintegrating China would also pose a threat to its neighbours and the world.

## Uniqueness

### Xi Credibility Up

#### Xi has the credibility to implement economic reforms now

Wang 5/16 (Xiangwei, staff @ South China Morning Post, “Xi Jinping’s supply-side plan now the genuine article of economic reform for China”, http://www.scmp.com/news/china/policies-politics/article/1945530/xi-jinpings-supply-side-plan-now-genuine-article)

Who is in charge of the Chinese economy? If there were still any lingering doubts over this key question among overseas investors, they should have been removed after the publication of two significant long pieces in People’s Daily last week. On Monday, the mouthpiece controlled by the Communist Party’s Central Committee carried a long question and answer “interview” with an unnamed “authoritative” source, repudiating the country’s debt-fueled growth policies. On Tuesday, it published the text of a long speech by President Xi Jinping expounding his hallmark economic policy which focused on supply-side structural reforms – 20,000 words in all that occupied two pages in the newspaper. Xi gave the speech to top Chinese officials back in January, but the timing of the publication sent an unmistakable message. Taken together, the articles signal that Xi has decided to take the driver’s seat to steer China’s economy at a time when there are intense internal debates among officials over its overall direction – namely whether to continue to resort to the old ways of deploying massive stimulus resulting in overproduction and high debt levels, or to undertake painful restructuring to reduce overcapacity and close down “zombie” enterprises.

#### Xi is consolidating Politburo control, but needs grassroots support for further reform

Callick 5/14 (Rowan, staff @ The Australian, “Xi Xinping quietly seeds culture of Mao’s revolution”, http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/world/xi-xinping-quietly-seeds-culture-of-maos-revolution/news-story/9114e0d1834150db2652248c863f2cde)

Xi has been frustrated in implementing some of his plans for China, which retains theoretically a collective leadership via the seven-member Politburo Standing Committee. He has thus formed 11 commissions which he chairs and has the decisive voice on issues such as security and the economy. He is also, said Qiao, seeking support from the grassroots, ­appealing over the top of officials not fully on message, including through his anti-­corruption campaign. Mao too “used the people to rebel on his behalf”. “Xi’s style is quite different, he talks less and does more.”

#### Xi has capital now to implement reforms

Pei 5/6 (Minxin, professor of government at Claremont McKenna College, “Two ways to break Beijing's political stalemate”, http://asia.nikkei.com/Politics-Economy/Policy-Politics/Minxin-Pei-Two-ways-to-break-Beijing-s-political-stalemate)

Unfortunately, these embittered officials may have either underestimated Xi's resolve or failed to appreciate his political dilemma. Unlike his predecessors, Xi harbors a visceral revulsion toward corruption inside the CCP and believes that only a self-disciplined one-party regime can survive in a modern society. At the same time, fighting corruption has earned Xi a huge amount of political capital and given him a potent weapon against his rivals. Giving it up equals unilateral disarmament. Finally, having staked so much of his credibility on purging the rot from the party, Xi risks losing it altogether if he allows the anti-corruption campaign to fizzle out. As he said in his January 2016 speech to the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, the party's powerful anti-corruption arm, "If corruption is revived and returns, it will not only worsen our political environment, but also damage the morale of our party and the people. As someone has said, if corruption bounces back, our people will lose hope."

### Reforms Will Succeed

#### Reforms will succeed – short term costs mean Xi must spend capital to retain control

Wang 5/16 (Xiangwei, staff @ South China Morning Post, “Xi Jinping’s supply-side plan now the genuine article of economic reform for China”, http://www.scmp.com/news/china/policies-politics/article/1945530/xi-jinpings-supply-side-plan-now-genuine-article)

The Monday interview seems to suggest Xi is not worried, as the “authoritative source” said the economy would not plunge even without stimulus as it still enjoyed huge potential, was highly resilient and had ample leeway. But it also means that he is prepared to accept lower growth in exchange for notable progress in restructuring, even if the risk of social instability rises significantly. Despite the staggering odds, Xi’s strong leadership style displayed in his unprecedented anti-corruption campaign and rapid consolidation of power means he stands a good chance of succeeding.

#### Most recent news confirms reform is on track

Beng 5/12 (Kor Kian, staff @ Straits Times, “Economic reforms: Xi Jinping makes sure everyone's on same page”, http://www.straitstimes.com/asia/east-asia/economic-reforms-xi-jinping-makes-sure-everyones-on-same-page)

Two authoritative pieces on China's economic policy in the People's Daily this week could be a new push by President Xi Jinping for his reform efforts despite slowing growth and resistance among officials, say analysts. On Tuesday, the Communist Party mouthpiece ran over nearly two pages a 20,000-word speech by Mr Xi, in which he expounded on his view of China's economy and also his policy of supply-side structural reforms. Speaking to provincial and ministerial-level officials in January, Mr Xi said he felt the need to explain his signature policy, which he had outlined last December, again as officials did not understand its goal. He said his concept of supply-side structural reform - which involves cutting red tape, lowering tax and improving innovation -was not the same as supply-side economics in the West. "Our supply-side reform, to say it in a complete way, is supply-side structural reform, and that's my original wording used at the central economic work conference. The word 'structural' is very important," he said. What has piqued the curiosity of analysts is that the speech was published a day after an interview with an "authoritative person" on China's economy and the most suitable growth strategies. The People's Daily ran the interview, done in a question- and-answer format, on its front page and the entire second page. The interviewee warned against being over-optimistic about China's economic trend - that "it would be L-shaped, rather than U-shaped, not to mention V-shaped" - and relying on credit expansion to boost growth. The remarks are seen to be an indirect criticism of policies by the State Council this year that led to a record jump in credit, which helped stabilise the economy but also prompted concerns that China could be returning to the old ways of stimulating growth through investment and leverage. While senior officials have expressed optimism about the economy, whose 6.7 per cent first-quarter growth met government targets and market forecasts, the interviewee struck a contrasting tone. Analysts reckon that the interviewee has to be someone very senior, possibly Mr Xi or his top economic adviser Liu He. Hong Kong-based economists Wang Tao and Zhang Ning of UBS, in a note on Monday, said the interview shows "different views in the government about current policies and the senior leadership has signalled the desire to correct the impression that the government has scaled down reform in exchange for more leverage to support growth". University of International Business and Economics analyst Ding Zhijie told The Straits Times he does not think there is a divergence of views over China's economic direction. "But there are officials who remain unclear over the priorities of the top leaders... The articles aim to increase their understanding." OCBC's economist Tommy Xie said the divergent views could be a source of worry over their impact on the implementation of reforms. "But the two articles have helped send calming signals to the market that China's leaders remain committed to long-term reforms despite short-term pain in slowing growth," he told The Straits Times.

### Anti-Western Now

#### Xi is solidifying power through anti-Westernism now

Browne 5/3 (Andrew, staff @ Wall St. Jnl, “China Rolls Up Welcome Mat”, http://www.wsj.com/articles/china-rolls-up-welcome-mat-1462251879)

China’s anti-foreign turn is driven by several related trends. First, President Xi Jinping has a much lower tolerance than Deng for the unwelcome intrusion of foreign ideas about democracy, press freedom and individual rights that come along with trade and investment—what Deng called “flies and mosquitoes.” The other day, Mr. Xi was railing against “Western capitalist values” invading the Communist Party’s own training schools. Second, Mr. Xi is pushing ideology harder than any leader in decades. Increasingly, China sees itself in ideological confrontation with the West. In addition to stressing Marxism, Mr. Xi’s administration is seeking to revive traditional Chinese culture to counter Western ideas—thus, the hostility to crosses. And Mr. Xi is promoting a strident form of nationalism. One aspect of this is much greater Chinese assertiveness in territorial disputes with neighbors, including Japan, Vietnam and the Philippines. Another is an explicit set of government policies aimed at helping Chinese firms replace their foreign rivals in the domestic market.

#### Specifically, non-Western reforms are critical to structural stability

Zhou 15 (Xin, 12/14, staff @ South China Morning Post, “Reviving China: can ‘Xiconomics’ help mainland’s economy the way ‘Reaganomics’ boosted US?”, http://www.scmp.com/news/china/economy/article/1891061/reviving-china-can-xiconomics-help-mainlands-economy-way)

“China’s previous growth model has become unsustainable, with rising debt-to-GDP (gross domestic product) ratios, falling capital productivity and persistent producer-price deflation,” Michael Taylor, a managing director at rating agency Moody’s Investors Service, told a recent conference in Beijing. As it struggled between short-term growth stability and long-term rebalancing, China also risked “disorderly de-leveraging” in the future, he said. It’s like two sides of a coin – in the past, China has put too much emphasis on the demand side of things, but now the focus is moving towards the supply side. Xi has listed the four big battles of the coming year as addressing overcapacity, cutting financing costs, reducing property inventory and preventing financial risks, China Business News reported. This is in addition to moving the country towards becoming a “comprehensive, well-off society” by 2021, when the Communist Party marks its 100th anniversary. “A breakthrough in economic theories is needed since the approaches found in old textbooks can no longer solve today’s problems,” said Jia Kang, a government researcher and a member of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference. After retiring from his research position at the Ministry of Finance, Jia founded the China Academy of New Supply-side Economics in 2013, pulling together a group of economists from both public and private sectors to study the approach. “The leadership’s emphasis on supply-side reform is a new approach for connecting theory with reality.” But China’s supply-side economics would be different from its Western version to reflect China’s reality. In essence, Jia said, it was a systematic summary of what the country needed to do to restart its economic engine. Jia has made a series of policy proposals under the banner of supply-side economics, including encouraging innovation, upgrading industry and reducing government controls. Many of the ideas he has touted have already been adopted, such as boosting investment in other developing countries and ending the one-child policy.

### Political Stability Brink

#### Political stability is on the brink now – it’s an inopportune time to unsettle China

Whitehead 5/9 (Adam, twenty five years’ experience in capital markets and investment management, in a career that has involved proprietary trading desks, commodity trading advisors, sovereign wealth funds and private offices. During this time he has had trading book P&L responsibility, in addition to setting up and managing offices of regulated global financial entities in the UAE, “The Great Chinese Political Rift”, 2016, http://seekingalpha.com/article/3973072-great-chinese-political-rift?page=2#)

As the previous analysis shows, China is both developed ("market economy status") and developing (planned economy) in nature based on the classification of the current conflict between the urbanized and rural demographic. When negotiating, China therefore emphasizes either of these two faces, in order to extract pecuniary advantage from its trade partners. The developed face should be associated with Premier Li and the developing face with President Xi. Given that these two faces are currently in conflict with each other, it would be advisable for China's trade partners to see who wins, and therefore which smiling face to deal with in the future. Given that the election cycle is just beginning in the developed world, where populism and xenophobia are in fashion, it may also pay to put further negotiations with China about its real economic status on hold too. Thus far, China has been able to scare western policy makers and central bankers into thinking that it will drag the global economy into recession if it is not given the concessions that it needs. Western policy makers may therefore need to think out of the box about China, just as they must think out of the box about their own domestic issues. President Obama waited until his lame duck phase to lambaste "free riders" in the Middle East. This would now be an opportune time for him to similarly reflect on his "pivot."

#### Now is the key time – leadership transition is shaping up; that’s key to legitimacy

Callick 5/16 (Rowan, staff @ The Australian, “Treating Cultural Revolution as a secret threatens China’s future”, http://www.theaustralian.com.au/opinion/columnists/rowan-callick/treating-cultural-revolution-as-a-secret-threatens-chinas-future/news-story/6939098f748088e9d440069a399ae350)

The stakes are getting higher. The next five-yearly Communist Party congress is approaching in about 16 months. This is where — barring some freakish turn towards political reform, or towards entrenchment of one-person rule — the generation of leadership beyond Xi must emerge. Will it be another forceful, ideologically driven single leader from an unimpeachably “red” family heritage, such as Xi, or a return to the more familiar post-Mao technocratic group leadership pattern? And who is wheeling and dealing to get into position, or to broker others’ rise? Soon enough the speculation must begin, but there has been precious so far. The legitimacy of China’s ruling party has two legs: its victory by force of arms over the Nationalists in 1949 and the ensuing prevention, to this day, of the capacity to organise any rival, plus the rise in living standards, linked with that in the country’s international standing. But does this provide security enough? The continuing repercussions of the Cultural Revolution point to lines of fracture where the party remains vulnerable. The revolution undercut, on many levels, the trust on which societies rely. Trust in traditional Chinese values, including those systematised by Confucius, was deliberately attacked by Mao, while the horrors of the Cultural Revolution itself eroded most people’s trust in communist values.

## Links

### General Links

#### Xi’s taking a nationalist stance—he’s gaining power to promises of curbing western influence—the plan ruins that progress

Wong 7/1—Chun Han Wong, covers politics, labor, and urbanization issues in China for the Wall Street Journal, 7-1-2016, "China’s Xi Warns Communist Party Not to Waver on Ideology ," WSJ, http://www.wsj.com/articles/chinas-xi-exhorts-communist-party-to-hold-fast-to-marxism-1467380336//NF

BEIJING—Chinese President Xi Jinping singled out ideological orthodoxy as vital for ensuring the legitimacy of Communist Party rule, marking the party’s 95th anniversary with a forceful call for political discipline. “The wavering of idealistic faith is the most dangerous form of wavering,” Mr. Xi told an assembly of party officials and members at Beijing’s Great Hall of the People on Friday. “A political party’s decline often starts with the loss or lack of idealistic faith.” In his nationally televised speech, Mr. Xi firmly defended the party’s Marxist roots and its achievements in steering China’s economic rise, but said any slippage in the party’s ideological fervor would threaten its nearly seven-decade grip on power. “Turning our backs or abandoning Marxism means that our party would lose its soul and direction,” he said. Since taking power in late 2012, Mr. Xi has pushed to reinvigorate the Communist Party with iron-fisted discipline and a sense of nationalistic purpose aimed at curbing corruption and bureaucratic atrophy that party leaders fear could erode their moral claims to power. These efforts have gained urgency in the past year as China’s economic slowdown sapped confidence in Mr. Xi’s economic stewardship and as he has stepped up an assertive foreign policy to rising resistance from China’s neighbors. “Xi’s speech was a celebration and a warning,” said Jude Blanchette, a Beijing-based researcher who is writing a book on Mao Zedong’s legacy. It is “a reminder that Xi’s vision for China cannot be divorced from a strong, organized and highly disciplined Communist Party.” Chinese leaders have often used speeches on major party anniversaries—commemorated once every five years—to outline their political priorities. Analysts said Mr. Xi’s first such speech signaled that ideological discipline remains a priority ahead of a key party congress next year. Ideological education has intensified in the months ahead of this year’s party anniversary, as officials mount campaigns to encourage members to hand-copy the party’s 15,000-character constitution, pay membership dues in full and on time, and test their knowledge of party affairs in quizzes. Just this week, the party introduced new disciplinary rules that require officials to be held accountable for negligence or poor performance. “The emphasis on ideology is purely about getting everyone reading from the same hymn book,” Mr. Blanchette said. “It’s good for organizational cohesion.” Analysts say Mr. Xi’s efforts represent an ambitious bid to reinvent the foundations of Communist Party legitimacy, aiming to forge an agile bureaucracy capable of tackling China’s economic challenges and the growing demands of a more prosperous population. In the process, Mr. Xi has promoted traditional Confucian morality while trying to curb Western influences, and has used a sweeping antigraft campaign to punish errant officials and deter bureaucratic sloth. The president has also urged officials, academics and journalists to show allegiance to the central leadership, centralized decision-making powers within his inner circle and stifled dissent within and outside the party. Amid the disciplinary efforts, growth in party membership has slipped to the slowest pace in nearly three decades, growing by just 1.1% last year to nearly 89 million, according to party data. Some party members and ordinary Chinese worry that Mr. Xi’s hard-line methods and invocations of Maoist discourse are signs of a return to more-dictatorial rule, at the expense of the party’s prevailing brand of consensus-driven, collective leadership. In his Friday speech, however, Mr. Xi signaled no letup in his disciplinarian methods, saying that the party’s survival was at stake. “If we can’t manage the party well and govern the party strictly,” he said, “then our party will eventually lose its right to govern, and inevitably be consigned to history.” In remarks seen as directed at geopolitical rivals including the U.S., Mr. Xi, who styles himself as a firm defender of national sovereignty, said China “neither stirs trouble nor fears trouble” and would never “trade away its core interests.”

### General Links

#### Xi’s consolidating power now by appealing to ideological unity—accepting the terms of the West reverses that

Shih 7/1 – Gerry, writer for Bluefield Daily Telegraph, “Xi urges Chinese Communist Party to embrace Marxist roots,” 7/1/16, http://www.bdtonline.com/region/xi-urges-chinese-communist-party-to-embrace-marxist-roots/article\_3a36e452-fe88-5827-b32a-4f1a119f0c91.html//NF

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese President Xi Jinping urged the 88-million-strong Communist Party to embrace its Marxist roots on Friday as he delivered an emphatic call for ideological discipline and a vigorous defense of party rule. The televised speech on the party's 95th anniversary represented one of Xi's most pointed and lengthy addresses laying out his orthodox ideology, and again repudiated the belief held among some observers four years ago that Xi's ascent might usher in liberal political reform. Xi said that history has proven correct the party's leadership of 1.3 billion people and that its stewardship remains essential for China to realize its "great rejuvenation." "History tells us the Chinese people's choice of the Communist Party to lead them toward the civilization's great rejuvenation been correct, and that the party's path of socialism with Chinese characteristics is also correct," Xi told his audience of cadres gathered in Beijing's Great Hall of the People. "Marxism must be the basic fundamental, guiding principle," he said, "or the party would lose its soul and direction." Challenged by a slowing economy, Xi has made increasingly frequent appeals for ideological unity, a throwback stance that contrasts with recent Chinese leaders who emphasized delivering economic growth as continued justification for Communist rule. Since taking power in 2012, Xi has repeatedly called on the party rank-and-file, from officials to academics to journalists, to study Marxism while urging universities to stave off the infiltration of harmful foreign ideas, such as Western liberal democracy. Although he has been more guarded about his opinions on free-market economics or the role of the state in the market, Xi has forcefully stamped his political mark on Chinese society, attacking liberal thinking within the party, cracking down on public dissent and demanding far greater control over the media and academic institutions. Despite quoting Deng Xiaoping, China's market-oriented reformer, in a brief passage about the importance of economic development, the Chinese leader did not delve into the economy. Instead, his lengthy address was larded with nationalism and soaring references to the blood and tears that the party had sacrificed for China through the socialist revolution. Victor Shih, a political science professor at the University of California, San Diego, said the speech underscored the dyed-in-the-wool politics of the Xi administration compared to his technocrat predecessors who more often dressed up economic reforms in Marxist language. "The longer President Xi has ruled, the more he has revealed his orthodox Marxist-Leninist perspective," Shih said. "There's nothing like the previous administrations, like Jiang Zemin, with an emphasis on modernizing or reinterpreting Marxism — that was very flexible." Drawing on the historical language of socialist-led utopia, the Chinese leader also said China would seek to help the international community but not seek spheres of influence. He won the biggest applause, however, when he warned foreign countries that China would never sacrifice its core interests, sovereignty, security or development plans.

### Space Links

**US-China space cooperation causes political infighting in China – there’s no support for the plan**

Dean **Cheng 14** Senior Research Fellow for Chinese political and security affairs at The Heritage Foundation, “Prospects for U.S.-China Space Cooperation”, The Heritage Foundation, 4/9/14, accessed: 7/15/16, <http://www.heritage.org/research/testimony/2014/04/prospects-for-us-china--space-cooperation>

Within this context, then, **the prospects for meaningful cooperation with the PRC in the area of space would seem to be extremely limited**. **China’s past experience** of major high-technology cooperative ventures (Sino–Soviet cooperation in the 1950s, U.S.–China cooperation in the 1980s until Tiananmen, and Sino–European space cooperation on the Galileo satellite program**) is an unhappy one, at best**. The failure of the joint Russian–Chinese Phobos–Grunt mission is likely seen in Beijing as further evidence that a “go-it-alone” approach is preferable. **Nor is it clear that, bureaucratically, there is significant interest from key players such as the PLA or the military industrial complex in expanding cooperation.[**10] Moreover, as long as China’s economy continues to expand, and the top political leadership values space efforts, there is little prospect of a reduction in space expenditures—making international cooperation far less urgent for the PRC than most other spacefaring states. If there is likely to be limited enthusiasm for cooperation in Chinese circles, there should also be skepticism in American ones. China’s space program is arguably one of the most opaque in the world. Even such basic data as China’s annual space expenditures is lacking—with little prospect of Beijing being forthcoming. As important, **China’s decision-making processes are little understood, especially in the context of space**. Seven years after the Chinese anti-satellite (ASAT) test, exactly which organizations were party to that decision, and why it was undertaken, remains unclear. **Consequently, any effort at cooperation would raise questions about the identity of the partners and ultimate beneficiaries—with a real likelihood that the PLA would be one of them. It is possible that the Chinese could be induced to be more transparent when it comes to spac**e, although **the unwillingness of Beijing to engage in substantive discussions on space during the last several Strategic and Economic Dialogues** (S&ED) **would cast doubt on** **this**. But this would argue for a “go-slow” approach, at best. **There is room for greater interaction**, especially in the sharing of already collected data, such as geodesy information. As both sides set their sights on the moon, exchanges of data about lunar conditions and the lunar surface and composition all might help create a pattern of interaction that might lower some of the barriers to information exchange. Even there, however, concerns on both sides about information security and electronic espionage, etc., is likely to raise serious doubts about how freely one should incorporate data provided by the other side.

### TPP Links – General

#### Inviting China to join is seen as containment through incorporation

Backer 14 (Larry Cata, W. Richard and Mary Eshelman Faculty Scholar & Professor of Law, Professor of International Affairs, 2012-13 Chair, University Faculty Senate, The Pennsylvania State, “THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP: JAPAN, CHINA, THE U.S., AND THE EMERGING SHAPE OF A NEW WORLD TRADE REGULATORY ORDER”, 13 Wash. U. Global Stud. L. Rev. 49, p. lexis)

Third, the short run ends when China is itself invited to join TPP. As such, Chinese policy circles misunderstand one threat of TPP. Chinese analysts correctly perceive the threat of TPP in terms of its ability to change the balance of influence from China to Japan through its American alliance. But it is a mistake to think that this change of balance will be effectuated through Japanese inclusion and Chinese exclusion from TPP. Instead, the United States will seek to contain China through inclusion in the disciplinary procedures and structures of the TPP rather than by excluding it. Perhaps President Obama put it best when he remarked in his 2011 meeting with the Trans-Pacific Partnership: In a larger sense, the TPP has the potential to be a model not only for the Asia Pacific but for future trade agreements. It addresses a whole range of issues not covered by past agreements, including market regulations and how we can make them more compatible, creating opportunities for small and medium-sized businesses in the growing global marketplace. It will include high standards to protect workers' rights and the environment. The stakes for control might be significant, especially for China. Some commentators in the United States see the TPP as a means of managing the ability of states, principally China, to blend state and private power through state-owned enterprises.

#### Incorporation is an even greater risk of encirclement

Backer 14 (Larry Cata, W. Richard and Mary Eshelman Faculty Scholar & Professor of Law, Professor of International Affairs, 2012-13 Chair, University Faculty Senate, The Pennsylvania State, “THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP: JAPAN, CHINA, THE U.S., AND THE EMERGING SHAPE OF A NEW WORLD TRADE REGULATORY ORDER”, 13 Wash. U. Global Stud. L. Rev. 49, p. lexis)

Japan remains steadily fixed between the United States and China. With the election of Prime Minister Abe, Japan has chosen a middle course, but one that pushes it further into the complex entanglements between the United States and China. Japan's decision to participate in TPP negotiations drives Japan more closely to the center of current efforts to define and control the regulatory structures of trade in the Pacific basin. By extension, TPP may also control the shape of legitimate government and government policy among TPP states and those who trade with them. This represents a closer alignment of Japan with the United States. But it represents a threat to the People's Republic of China as well. That threat is direct - representing to the Chinese what may appear as another piece of the U.S. strategy to encircle China militarily and economically and to isolate it from the center of current efforts to develop transnational regulatory structures. To that extent, Japan's commitment to the TPP represents a direct threat to emerging Chinese interests, a threat that China will respond to against the United States and Japan. [\*81] Ironically the greater threat is indirect - to the extent that Japan and the United States join together under the TPP umbrella and invite China to participate as well, China will find itself constrained by the development of group norms with respect to which it will be able to participate, but not dominate. For Japan, this may represent containment that protects its sizeable investment in China, at least temporarily. TPP may also permit Japan to leverage its power to influence global trade rules. But it also reaffirms that Japan stands uncomfortably close to the fissure that separates the United States from Chinese interests, and must continue to rely on the internationalization of rulemaking to protect its own interests. An independent path for Japan is unlikely to be an option worth considering. To a large extent, Zaki Laidi's recent suggestion resonates well here: "Since the end of the cold war, Europeans have believed deeply in the existence of a global commons - and the declining importance of national sovereignty. The conduct of both the US and emerging countries suggests the opposite. Power politics is back. Multilateralism is dying."

### TPP Links – General

#### The perception of containment makes domestic acceptance massively politically contentious

Backer 14 (Larry Cata, W. Richard and Mary Eshelman Faculty Scholar & Professor of Law, Professor of International Affairs, 2012-13 Chair, University Faculty Senate, The Pennsylvania State, “THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP: JAPAN, CHINA, THE U.S., AND THE EMERGING SHAPE OF A NEW WORLD TRADE REGULATORY ORDER”, 13 Wash. U. Global Stud. L. Rev. 49, p. lexis)

In either case, China is particularly sensitive to any action or policy that can be understood as fostering Chinese containment. To that end, China is seeking to resist policies that might produce containment to the advantage of its trade competitors. More importantly, China is also seeking to avoid containment through its own trade strategies. These include expanding FTA-type relations within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations ("ASEAN") group, strengthening trade with Canada, and aggressively pursuing FTA agreements with Japan and Korea. Chinese military arrangements are also growing through the Shanghai Cooperation Group and similar strategies. This may be a harder policy to operationalize now as China begins its transition to status as a developed state, and with it a substantially higher cost of labor and a switch in the mix of industrial production. The shift - illustrated in weakened foreign investment in China - has pluses and minuses for an economy key to global growth. Beijing wants to shift to higher-value production and to see incomes rise. But a de-emphasis on manufacturing puts pressure on leaders to make sure jobs are created in other sectors to keep the world's No. 2 economy humming. But that may matter less as investment increasingly becomes internally generated in China. Concern over China's growing military power may also drive its neighbors to establish alliances with the United States, as demonstrated by Vietnam. But the issues run much deeper than economic policy for China. The fear of encirclement runs deep in Chinese strategic thinking, whether that encirclement is military, economic, or related to governance. Official Chinese media sources speak to these fears: On a strategic level, Washington wants Southeast Asia to form the center of an "Asian strategic alliance" that includes Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia and India. On a political level, the US continues to export "democracy" and Western values to Southeast Asian countries. On the economic level, the US has close ties with Southeast Asia in terms of trade, finance and investment and considers the latter an important overseas market, resource supplier and investment destination. At a military and security level, the US wants to set up more military bases and positively interfere in security affairs in the Asia-Pacific region. The need to avoid American encirclement is particularly acute for the Chinese when it comes to the building of a governance web through rules of global engagement. The latter point was brought home in Hu Jintao's Report to the Eighteenth Chinese Communist Party Congress in November 2012. He highlighted a Chinese policy objective of projecting power beyond economics to the fields of international regulatory development and made it clear that China intends to have a greater say in what global rules are going to be: We will actively participate in multilateral affairs, support the United Nations, G20, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, BRICS and other multilateral organizations in playing an active role in international affairs, and work to make the international order and system more just and equitable. We will take solid steps to promote public diplomacy as well as people-to-people and cultural exchanges, and protect China's legitimate rights and interests overseas.

#### The plan will be seen in China as kowtowing to US demands; that’s a domestic political problem

Jie & Dogra 13 (Woo Jun & Suvi, Research and Liaison Officer, Geo-economics and Strategy Programme, Int’l Inst of Strategic Studies, 6/1-, “Suvi Dogra: Pacific trade pact: worth it for China?”, http://www.iiss.org/en/iiss%20voices/blogsections/iiss-voices-2013-1e35/june-2013-e750/tpp-harm-china-84e1)

Nonetheless, China also has good reason not to join the trade partnership. Being a member would mean having to accept America's leading role. American leadership and dominance is likely to be cemented should the partnership emerge as the dominant trade order for the Asia-Pacific. This would not only pose threats to China's regional role, but would also not go down well at home.

### TPP Links – Specific Measures

#### No flexibility on existing terms of the TPP ensures that the plan causes domestic backlash in China

Elms 13 (Deborah Kay, fellow @ Asian Dev’t Bank, “The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement: Looking Ahead to the Next Steps”, http://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/156307/adbi-wp447.pdf)

However, a lack of flexibility collides with one important political reality going forward. The TPP would be substantially strengthened if the PRC—currently with the world’s second largest economy—enters. One of the most important factors driving this megaregional trade agreement is the opportunity to knit together global value chains in a seamless trade agreement that contains not just tariff reductions but also substantial behind-the-border provisions. Since many of the presumptive second tranche members like the PRC; the Republic of Korea; Hong Kong, China; and Taipei, China are deeply enmeshed in value chains in the Asia-Pacific region, getting them into the TPP would provide significant economic benefits (Wignaraja 2013; Baldwin and Kawai 2013; Petri, Plummer, and Zhai 2012). For the PRC in particular, joining the existing TPP without the opportunity to discuss any of the existing provisions may present political difficulties at the domestic level. This suggests that current TPP members would be wise to think carefully about a mechanism that would apply specifically to new entrants in the next tranche of negotiations. To write into the agreement that accession terms are to be negotiated later with each new entrant will be unacceptable to many. Some sort of clarity is therefore needed as to what sort of accession provisions will be required of new aspirants.

#### ISDS would be massively controversial in China

Ramasamy 4/13 (Bala, Professor of Economics, China Europe International Business School, “Why China could never sign on to the Trans-Pacific Partnership”, http://theconversation.com/why-china-could-never-sign-on-to-the-trans-pacific-partnership-56361)

While it has its critics, the ISDS – a system under which an investing company can seek compensation from a host country if its property rights are violated – has been included in several FTAs recently. This is because it offers an assurance to multinational corporations that expropriation by host governments is only a remote possibility. Over the last 15 years China has been signing agreements containing the ISDS clause as it has been effective in protecting the country’s investments abroad. However the World Justice Project, which ranks countries on the rule of law – and regulatory enforcement in particular – shows that China fares miserably when compared with other TPP countries. Only Mexico is marginally below it. It’s very likely the ISDS would have been a heated issue for China, and it is possible that like Australia, Mexico, Peru and Vietnam, China would have fought for many exemptions.

#### Labor & environmental standards are politically impossible in China

Terada 13 (Takashi, Faculty of Law, Doshisha University, Karasuma-Higashi-iru, Imadegawadori, Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto, “The US Struggles in APEC's Trade Politics: Coalition-Building and Regional Integration in the Asia-Pacific”, International Negotiation, 18, 49-66, DOI: 10.1163/15718069-12341245, p. 63, ebsco)

It was the American push for the TPP that encouraged Japan to announce its potential participation, and Mexico and Canada were influenced by Japan's lead and decided to join, proving the success of the American coalition-building.'' In fact, Japan's entry would greatly enhance the prospects that TPP will lead more quickly to the establishment of a region-wide FTA, consequently urging China to accelerate the pace toward an alternative regional FTA in which China can set its own standards for economic integration with its preferred pace and members. This means the progress in TPP negotiations with more participants is a worry to China. Some in China view the American commitment to the TPP as motivated by checking China's growing influence on regional economic integration. The TPP is generally considered a high-standard trade arrangement suitable to the American template for FTAs, which, for instance, aims to have no exceptions to tariff elimination (Solis 2011). This is an approach that China cannot accept, given high tariffs imposed on some key products such as automobiles (25%). What also makes it politically impossible for China to join the TPP are provisions relating to labor standards and the environment, which potentially require members to abide by standards set by the International Labor Organization, including freedom of association and collective bargaining {Nikkei, 1 January 2012). Even the prohibition on forced and child labor would not be acceptable to China, since these "gold-standard" items have not been included in any of China's FTAs.

### TPP Links – Specific Measures

#### IP is a hot button domestic issue for China; the perception of external meddling would be unpopular

Armstrong 11 (Shiro, research fellow at the Crawford School of Economics and Government at the Australian National University, 12/11, “China’s participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership”, http://www.eastasiaforum.org/2011/12/11/china-participation-in-the-trans-pacific-partnership/)

The US has been pushing for more regulatory discipline for state-owned enterprises (SOEs) in the negotiations around the TPP and, in particular, competitive neutrality between SOEs and private enterprises in member economies. Vietnam and Malaysia are the two economies currently involved in the TPP negotiations in which SOEs are prominent or dominant. Reform of SOEs and the privatisation process is a deeply domestic issue that will not be resolved quickly in China. The WTO accession experience shows that locking China into reforms can only occur, especially now given its size, when it is committed to using external institutions as tools in its own interest to open up and reform its domestic economy. A TPP agenda and negotiations in which the US effectively declares itself the gatekeeper is likely to make it extremely difficult for China to commit to the TPP and join.

### Link Helpers

#### Chinese hardliners interpret the plan the worst way possible; perception is key

Mead 12 (Walter Russell Mead, “High Noon in Beijing”, American Interest Blog, April 30, <http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/wrm/2012/04/30/high-noon-in-beijing/>)

What we all seem to be learning in Asia is that events have a logic and a pace of their own. America can set a policy in motion, but we can’t control or fine tune the consequences of our policies as they ripple out across the world. Many conversations with US officials in this and in prior administrations have left me convinced that the US is not trying to contain China the way we once contained the Soviet Union. While virtually all Americans at senior levels believe that over time economic progress will lead to political change in China, this is because most Americans are hardwired to think in those terms and this whiggish faith in the historical process is not a statement of policy or intent. Leading Americans in both parties generally hope for a peaceful and gradual reform process rather than violent conflict in China; they do not want to dismember or impoverish China and they would not welcome its disintegration. Nor do Americans see the evolution of a future Asian security order in zero-sum terms. The United States wants to prevent Chinese domination of Asia but we do not want to dominate the region ourselves. Many Chinese, I have found on my visits there, have a much darker view of our intentions, and see the US and China entangled in a zero sum battle for dominance which only one side can win. For now, it appears that the US, surprisingly to some Chinese analysts, is winning that contest. We should not expect Chinese hard liners to accept that situation with calm and resignation, even if their present options are limited.

#### China is torn between openness & stability – stability is winning out now; the plan incites nationalism that erodes party & social stability

Lautz 5/14 (Terry, Moynihan Research Fellow at Syracuse University and former vice president of the Luce Foundation, “Of Two Minds On China”, http://www.eurasiareview.com/14052016-of-two-minds-on-china-analysis/)

Today’s China is something like this impossible animal with two heads facing in opposite directions. One looks toward openness and reform – freedom of expression, unfettered access to the internet and an independent legal system. It thinks that China’s continued development depends on wider acceptance of liberal values and norms. The other head believes, to the contrary, that China’s paramount need is unity and stability, guided by the Communist Party. The leadership must do whatever it takes to avoid the fate of the former Soviet Union or, for that matter, the chaos of the Cultural Revolution. To maintain its internal sovereignty and external security, Beijing must be assertive in guarding its interests. China is pushed and pulled in both directions, but now appears to be moving on a perplexing path of more control than reform. If the continued success of its economy depends on greater creativity and innovation, isn’t it counterproductive to restrict its citizens’ access to ideas and information? If China needs to maintain smooth relations with the rest of the world for the sake of its growth and development, why run the risk of antagonizing other nations with aggressive behavior? There are multiple theories for China’s more authoritarian domestic policy and assertive foreign policy: Some observers blame Xi Jinping’s rise to power. Since assuming command as president and general secretary of the Communist Party in 2012, he has purged rivals through an unprecedented anti-corruption campaign and has accumulated more influence than any leader since Deng Xiaoping. He is ruthlessly eliminating opposition in the party, state, and military. The official media have cultivated a personality cult depicting him as strong, decisive and affable. While he is widely admired in China, critics view him as a dictator who rejects consensus and substitutes repression for moderation. Fear that the Chinese Communist Party might collapse is offered as another explanation. According to this line of thinking, the perpetuation of party rule is the only viable alternative to a descent into chaos. If the leadership were to accept constitutional democracy and allow a robust civil society, it would undercut the party’s authority. Discipline must be imposed, which accounts for censorship of the media; arrests of dissidents; and restrictions on minorities, religious groups, and non-governmental organizations. Opponents say that the party’s suppression of dissent and attacks on liberal values are evidence of its inherent weakness. Nationalism is also cited as a reason for China’s hardline direction. It is argued that nationalism is the one idea that holds China together, despite efforts to revive allegiance to socialism or cultivate Confucian traditional values like loyalty and harmony. Building and fortifying remote islands in the South China Sea reinforce China’s territorial claims, even if it is produces a backlash. Such actions provide a justification for military expenditures and deflect attention from serious internal problems. Since China now has the strength to do as it pleases, it can afford to abandon Deng Xiaoping’s dictum of keeping a low international profile.

## A2: Link Turns

### A2: Economic Exclusion Turn

#### TPP exclusion won’t ruin China’s economy

Ni 15 (Yueju, 12/11, researcher at Institute of World Economics and Politics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, “TPP poses challenges for China”, http://epaper.chinadailyasia.com/asia-weekly/article-7202.html)

Of course, neither can we overestimate the impact of the TPP on China’s economy, since zero tariffs will be implemented on only around 90 percent of the products. Some sensitive products carry a transition period of more than 16 years. Also, free trade of more than 80 percent of the products has been implemented bilaterally by multiple free trade agreements. Moreover, many TPP member countries have already signed free trade agreements with China bilaterally or at the regional level.

#### TPP exclusion won’t sink the Chinese economy

Du 15 (Ming, Reader in Law, Lancaster University Law School, “TPP Agreement-China′s Tripartite Strategy”, J Int Economic Law (2015) 18 (2): 407, p. lexis)

Third, assuming that China will not join the TPP, the simulation results show that the resulting trade diversion under the TPP will indeed hurt China, especially after Japan decided to join the TPP negotiations. But the negative trade effects are relatively modest, and so will not have a drastic impact on China. It seems that China is so deeply embedded in global supply chain trade that it is difficult to marginalize China or throw China out of the international production networks. At the same time, numerous researches have shown that it is economically unwise to exclude China from the TPP. If China joins the TPP, all TPP member countries will reap substantial economic benefits and the TPP as a regional economic institution will become more important and influential.

### A2: Economic Reforms Turn

#### Gradual Chinese reforms solve now without joining TPP

Du 15 (Ming, Reader in Law, Lancaster University Law School, “TPP Agreement-China′s Tripartite Strategy”, J Int Economic Law (2015) 18 (2): 407, p. lexis)

To readers not familiar with China′s approach to international norms, China′s corresponding strategy toward the TPP may present an internal dilemma: on the one hand, China recognizes that structural reforms are necessary to achieve China′s long-term economic prosperity; on the other hand, extensive structural reforms that the TPP entails is put forth in the debate as a major reason why China should not join the TPP. Behind this apparent contradiction lies China′s deeply-rooted ′adaptive selection′ approach to international norms. Selective adaptation is a coping strategy for balancing local regulatory imperatives with requirements of compliance with foreign norms largely derived from the regimes of liberal democratic capitalism. The TPP is not just a matter of economics and commerce. At root it is a fundamental challenge of politics and governance. Without a full grasp of the political and economic implications of joining the TPP, China would not apply for admission to its membership. At the same time, China has taken bold steps to initiate new reforms, some reform measures even emulating the emerging TPP rules. This gradual, experimental, and ′learning by doing′ approach protects the national regulatory autonomy while embracing the emerging rules for global trade and investment in the 21st century.

#### Pushing quick reforms undermines China’s economy – They’re pursuing gradual reform now

Burkhart 13 (Ryan, 11/1, staff @ The Diplomatic Courier, “The U.S., China, and the Trans Pacific Partnership”, http://www.diplomaticourier.com/the-u-s-china-and-the-trans-pacific-partnership/)

After the disastrous effects of “shock therapy” economic policies in the former Soviet Union (FSU) states, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) decided that slow and gradual reform economic reform was the best path for China. Once again, the TPP will be a high standard FTA. TPP negotiated issues such as regulatory coherence, state-owned enterprises, labor issues, and intellectual property would have a huge effect on the economy. Further, lowering trade barriers will expose nascent Chinese industries to global competition. However, these standards should be an economic goal for Chinese leadership.

## Internal Links

### Popularity Key to Xi Capital

#### Policy disagreements cause popular discontent

DeLisle 11 (Jacques deLisle is Director of FPRI’s Asia Program and the Stephen A. Cozen Professor of Law and Professor of Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania, “Politics and Governance in the People’s Republic of China”, Foreign Policy Research Institute, Vol.16, No.7, August, <https://www.fpri.org/articles/2011/08/politics-and-governance-peoples-republic-china-revolution-not-dinner-party-get-rich>)

This rising inequality, and discontent about some of the policies and practices that have produced it, have been among the key sources of China’s mounting problems of social unrest. The number of “mass incidents”—a term with no clear or official meaning but that is generally thought to refer to protests of a relatively substantial scale or disruptive effect (and perhaps triggering a response from public security units)—has climbed sharply in recent years. It is now estimated at well over 100,000 annually. Less dramatically, millions of aggrieved citizens file petitions with the government and courts and the like (sometimes through special “letters and visits” offices at government and judicial organs) to register their complaints and to seek redress. Their grievances focus primarily on abuses at the hands of authorities or the authorities’ inadequate fulfillment of their roles, including protection of citizens’ rights and safety. Pervasive problems and, especially, dramatic incidents fuel media storms (often crossing the platforms of an increasingly free traditional media, harder-to-control nontraditional web-based media, and a burgeoning universe of web-postings) that reflect, and sometimes stoke, popular discontent with how China is governed (or not governed). Concern about these developments and what they portend—and the need to respond—underpinned the defining slogan of the Hu Jintao years: the quest for a “harmonious society.”

#### Specifically, anti-U.S. nationalism is central to popular support for Xi

Project Syndicate 5/16 (Nepal Republic Media, “Mao’s heir”, http://myrepublica.com/opinion/story/42445/mao-s-heir.html

The savagery required to assert absolute power over the population is one lesson of the Cultural Revolution to which Xi seems indifferent. He is concerned only about the "absolute power" part. And in his effort to obtain it, the survivors of the Cultural Revolution—people who know what it means to be intimidated into choosing politics over the personal—have become Xi's most reliable political capital. Xi knows that he can succeed only by reinforcing the Party's authority, and his position as its leader. So he has presented the narrative that there is a grave threat to China from within—a threat posed by treacherous and corrupt leaders—and has declared Party loyalty to be of paramount importance. There are only two types of people: Those who support the Party and those who do not. Like Mao in 1966, Xi believes that his power hinges on making all Chinese—government officials and ordinary citizens alike—loyal and obedient through any means possible. Power is founded on the repression of opponents, such as Nobel Peace Prize winner Liu Xiaobo and the tens of thousands of other jailed authors and scholars. But Xi is not counting on fear alone to cement his rule. He is also attempting to win popular support with a new unifying ideology, based on the so-called China Dream, a set of socialist values and goals that are supposed to bring about the "great renewal of the Chinese nation." This has been accompanied by a galvanizing form of nationalism that portrays the world, particularly the United States, as seeking to keep China back from assuming its rightful place atop the international order. And he has nurtured a personality cult of a kind not seen since Mao.

### Popularity Key to Xi Capital

#### This erodes the perception of Xi as a leader & hurts political capital, independently undermining stability

Jia 13 (Mark Jia, Open Democracy, “Xi Jinping: a new kind of politician?”, January 15, <http://www.opendemocracy.net/mark-jia/xi-jinping-new-kind-of-politician>)

But Xi’s innovation is not his charisma per se – refreshing though it is after years of Hu’s stoicism. Rather, Xi Jinping is distinctive in that he is the first Chinese Party head to truly understand that authoritarian politicians have something to learn from their democratic counterparts. Western politicians may get flak for perceptions of pandering or placing electoral viability ahead of common interest, but one thing at which democratic politicians unquestionably do better is connecting and empathizing with ordinary people.¶ Xi gets it. Whether it’s Corey Booker’s masterful use of Twitter or Bill Clinton’s moving performance during the ‘92 debates, it is clear that the best politicians are the ones who can speak at the level of their audience, and in doing so humanize themselves as individuals who understand the struggles of ordinary citizens. In one sense, Xi has already proven himself to be a better student of this than Mitt Romney, whose comment antagonizing 47% of the country would have gone down just as badly in China as it did in the United States.¶ This is all the more important because of the age Xi lives in. The country he inherits is a place where vigilant netizens can shelter criminal defendants, oust adulterous officials, and even help abolish unconstitutional regulations. This level of scrutiny is unprecedented, particularly for a new leader whose vision and humanity are still unknown quantities. In a country where the previous cohort of sovereigns have appeared ever more distant while public outrage towards graft and inequality have only grown fiercer, Xi’s projection of himself as an authentic and upright leader could set him apart as an entirely new breed of politician.¶ Crafting an empathetic public image can enhance sound leadership. This is true for any polity, but particularly for non-democratic societies where leaders lack the legitimacy-conferring authority of popular election. President Obama had more than a year to sell himself on the campaign trail before setting foot into an office he had won. Xi, in comparison, had his stilted official biography rolled out via state news organs, but lacked the autonomy to personally introduce himself to the Chinese people until he actually assumed the reins of power. His 'presidential campaign' is only just beginning.¶ If he succeeds, it will be a boon to him in two ways. First, China’s challenges are severe, and as they worsen, frustrated citizens will need to know they have an empathetic leader on high. In China, there remains a longstanding belief that the emperor, under the mandate of heaven, is fundamentally just. As long as instances of local abuse are brought to his attention, all will be remedied. This is what still brings countless aggrieved petitioners into Beijing every year with letters addressed to China’s highest authorities. But if trust in top leadership is eroded, and Xi is perceived to have lost his 'mandate' – whether heavenly or not – a loss of faith in existing arrangements can contribute to serious social instability.

#### Popularity is critical to regime legitimacy, hardliner support, & capital for Xi’s reforms

Jia 13 (Mark Jia, Open Democracy, “Xi Jinping: a new kind of politician?”, January 15, <http://www.opendemocracy.net/mark-jia/xi-jinping-new-kind-of-politician>)

Second, public support – even under autocracy – can translate into real political capital. In the consensus-based decision-making model of the Politburo Standing Committee – where Xi is but first among seven peers, it is crucial that his (mostly conservative) colleagues see him as wielding a popular mandate. Naturally, Xi fans won’t be writing constituent letters to their elected representatives to support his agenda, but modern Chinese authoritarianism bases much of its legitimacy, and indeed its own conception of “democracy,” upon its ability to be responsive to public opinion. Rival peers will be slower to challenge Xi’s authority if he is seen to command the will of the Chinese people. ¶ Of course it remains to be seen whether Xi will be able to capitalize on his favourable persona. It will require more than popular support to defeat the many entrenched interests that stand in the way of genuine reform. But Xi the politician is off to a promising start, and if he succeeds, he may be only the first of a new generation of Chinese leaders who can speak directly – and compassionately – to the people they govern.

### AT: PC Theory Not True – China

#### Our theory of political capital is true in the context of Chinese politics

Yongnian & Gang 9 (Zheng Yongnian is Professor and Director of the East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore, and Chen Gang, Research Fellow, “Xi Jinping's Rise and Political Implications”, China: An International Journal, Volume 7, Number 1, March 2009, https://webspace.utexas.edu/hl4958/contemporary-chinese-history/Zheng%20and%20Chen%20-%20Xi%20Jinping.pdf)

The political capital of the central leadership ﬁgure in Chinese politics since the founding of the PRC in 1949 has been diminishing with each generation.20 Mao ruled like a God, and Deng Xiaoping, while nowhere near as autocratic as Mao, drew on a long history as a revolutionary and had massive credibility in the Party and with the public.21 Conversely, Jiang Zemin took years to be taken seriously, while Hu Jintao is the weakest compared with Mao, Deng or Jiang.22 The farewell to the strong-man politics has pushed forward China’s leadership structure in an increasingly power-sharing direction that facilitates intra-party consultations, bargaining or even polls in secret behind closed doors. The weaker the top leader is, the more he will rely on “collective decision-making” (jiti juece) when appointing successors and enacting national strategies. Certain informal rules and institutions based on balance of power among different factions and restriction of top leaders’ power have come into being in China’s elite politics, ensuring that candidateship of future successors is not solely the reﬂection of the incumbent top leader’s own will, but an outcome of compromises among different groups and one step further, the result of polls in a limited range. This way of producing future leadership guarantees policy continuation and stability while forestalls individual dictatorship. As the Party chooses rather than the public, future leaders, no matter who they are, will be committed to preserving the CPC power and represent the extensive interest of different groups inside the Party instead of one faction.

### Capital Key to Reforms

#### Political capital is key to implementing economic reforms

Pesek 13 (William Pesek is a Bloomberg View columnist, “China’s Worst Nightmare Is Turning Japanese”, Bloomberg View, http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-08-08/china-s-worst-nightmare-is-turning-japanese.html)

The problem is one of politics over economics. Around China, dozens of local leaders are vying to put their cities on the global map and become the toast of the Communist Party. That means more than delivering rapid GDP. It also means building huge skyscrapers, international airports, six-lane highways, five-star hotel chains, sports stadiums, universities, giant cultural centers and swanky shopping arcades punctuated with Prada and Hermes shops -- all financed with fresh debt. If several of these metropolises go bust, Detroit’s $18 billion bankruptcy will look like small change by comparison.¶ A continued infrastructure boom promises ever-greater riches for vested interests both locally and in Beijing. (CNGDPYOY) There are ways Xi and Li could defuse the debt time bomb: greater oversight, expanding the municipal bond market, letting localities refinance with direct bond sales, increased transparency. China could borrow a page from the 1980s U.S. savings-and-loan crisis and set up Resolution Trust Corp.-like entities to dispose of bad debts.¶ But to do any of this, Chinese leaders must be willing to spend political capital at levels that are at least commensurate with the epic flow of ill-gotten gains heading back to the nation’s capital. It will take some serious mettle to avoid a Japan-like funk, and it’s unclear if Xi and Li have it.

#### Political capital is key to reforms – overcoming opposition from local cadres and vested interests

Lieberthal 12 (Kenneth is senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. “Xi Jinping’s Challenge”, China-US Focus, November 9, http://www.chinausfocus.com/political-social-development/xi-jinpings-challenge/)

Beijing's economic strategy must be drastically overhauled. The Hu/Wen leadership, recognizing the danger, in March 2011 formally adopted a new development strategy that stresses increasing household consumption, reducing reliance on exports, expanding services, and moving to more innovative, less resource-intensive manufacturing. A study released this February by the World Bank in conjunction with the State Council Development Research Center, one of China's top government think tanks, confirmed the importance of this new strategy. But little serious reform has happened to date.¶ A key obstacle is that the old way of doing business is now built into the DNA of the leaders of the roughly 40,000 political jurisdictions outside of Beijing, from the province to the city to the county to the township level. These officials, rewarded primarily on the basis of producing rapid GDP growth while keeping a lid on social unrest, have used their political power to nurture infrastructure building and other capital-intensive projects. This in turn has generated short-term GDP growth and employment, along with massive flows of bank loans and other funds from which they can skim.¶ The results have been clear: breakneck growth, huge infrastructure and manufacturing development, enormous corruption, massive environmental devastation, growing inequality of wealth, and rising social tensions. If they wish to change the behavior of these local leaders, Xi and his colleagues must expend enormous political capital to do so.¶ And local officials are hardly the only impediments to reform. Beijing has fostered "national champions" -- state-owned corporate behemoths, many of which are seen as key to the party’s grip on power and are closely tied to elite political families. This marriage of wealth and political power presents major obstacles to effective changes in economic strategy.

### Reforms Key to Economy

#### China can’t afford to delay reforms – they’re key to Chinese economic growth

Wuttke 7/12 – Joerg, President EU Chamber of Commerce in China, “China can’t afford to delay reforms,” Wall Street Journal, 7/12/16, http://www.wsj.com/articles/china-cant-afford-to-delay-reforms-1468341265//NF

The Communist Party’s Third Plenum meeting released a decision in November of 2013 that appeared highly promising. It proposed a wide range of reforms aimed at curtailing the role of the government in the economy. While previous plenums had described the market as having a “basic role” in the economy and allocation of resources, the decision spoke of it playing a “decisive role.” Market forces were hailed as the “invisible hand” that would catapult the Chinese economy past the dreaded middle-income trap. But the decision has yet to live up to more than a fraction of its potential to drive the sort of long-term and sustainable economic growth that China needs. Some reforms to the tax system have moved forward, but far more still needs to be done. Achieving this will require taking on institutional reforms that are both difficult and necessary. China needs market rules that are fair, open and transparent, something Chinese investors enjoy in the EU while European companies remain straight-jacketed in numerous sectors of the Chinese economy. It needs to allow the market to determine prices more broadly, and reduce the dominant role of state-owned enterprises (SOEs). In short, more market forces. The 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-20) recognized that the outdated investment- and export-driven economic model will not enable China to become a modern, industrialized economy. However, and in direct contradiction to the priorities established by the Third Plenum, the plan envisions the government playing an expanded role in the economy, especially when it comes to driving innovation. This includes picking winners by deciding which high-technology industries are priorities for government support and investment. As Japan’s experience shows, this approach is less effective than establishing an effective regulatory environment and leaving it to entrepreneurs and private investors to determine where the next big opportunity lies. In its recent report “China’s $5 Trillion Productivity Opportunity,” McKinsey outlined the vast opportunities that beckon if the country successfully transitions away from an investment-led economy to one driven by productivity instead. This would be in everyone’s interests. The fact that China has built up such high levels of total debt over the past decade is also in part attributable to the failure of reforms. Inefficient SOEs insulated from market forces continue to borrow on noncommercial terms. And with a rapidly aging society, the country will not be able depend on comparatively low labor costs to drive growth for much longer. Global economic growth remains fragile. If China does not live up to its full potential, the consequences would support doom and gloom scenarios. In short, China needs to win. The European Chamber continues to advocate for market-oriented reforms to be pushed through without delay.

### Reforms Key to Economy

#### Reforms are crucial – failure collapses China’s GDP

Zack Beauchamp 15, writer for Vox News, "The politics of China's market decline are much more worrying than the economics," Vox, 8/25/2015 http://www.vox.com/2015/8/25/9201737/china-stock-market-politics

China's economic transition is not a minor problem. If it fails, we could be talking about a serious collapse in China's GDP growth, with potentially dire economic consequences. "If by 2022 they're dragging their feet, and none of the major reforms seem to be really taking hold, they will be in pretty serious economic trouble," Ma told me in a July conversation. Specifically he thinks it'll "look a lot like Japan's 'lost decade'," the period starting in the 1990s in which Japan's productivity and growth fell substantially. "Look at a lot of the structural trends — an aging population, labor market volatility, a lot of economic headwinds they can't control — and they're really being forced to change, whether they want to or not," he continued. This will be more painful for some groups within China than others. Take China's migrant workers: Between 200 million and 300 million people who travel around the country for work. "They want what the urbanites have, but they can't really get it because of inequality in terms of residence permits, as well as access to social services and opportunity," Ma said. Without sustainable economic growth, this enormous population — potentially a source of consumption and growth — will be left in the lurch. That translates to enormous numbers of people living poorer lives than they could have otherwise, as well as a serious political liability for China's leadership. And that's to say nothing of the rest of the world, which has come to rely on continued Chinese growth as a key engine of the global economy. It's not clear precisely what the consequences of a Chinese slowdown would be, but it certainly wouldn't be good. So it's in everyone's interests that China succeeds at transitioning its economy. Except, that is, for the Chinese elites who will likely try to take advantage of the stock market collapse to protect their own interests — consequences for others be damned.

### Plan Threatens Regime Legitimacy

#### Challenging anti-Americanism threatens regime legitimacy

Wen 5/15 (Philip, China correspondent Fairfax Media, “China's Great Leap Backwards: Xi Jinping and the cult of Mao”, www.smh.com.au/world/chinas-great-leap-backwards-xi-jinping-and-the-cult-of-mao-20160512-gotfiz.html#ixzz48lxo5q00)

Paranoid about the infiltration of Western influence and the ability for the internet and social media to disseminate unfiltered information at warp speed, Xi has doubled-down on the government's control of its people, coming down harder on dissent than any of his recent predecessors. "The problem is connected with the threat to the political regime," says Mao Yushi, an internationally renowned veteran economist, who at 87, remains a prominent liberal intellectual. "China's rapid economic growth since reforming and opening up has protected the Communist Party's political legitimacy, now that there is no high growth, what can Xi depend on?" Lawyers, intellectuals, activists, journalists and, most recently, foreign NGOs have come under pressure in a pervasive crackdown. Foreign criticism, whether of China's island-building program in the South China Sea, the government's chequered human rights record, or controversial ethnic minority policies in Xinjiang and Tibet, are all cast as a plot by a cabal of Western "hostile foreign forces" designed to undermine China and perpetuate US hegemony.

#### Factional infighting leading will collapse the country

Li 9 (Cheng, Director of Research, John L. Thornton China Center. “China’s Team of Rivals.” Foreign Policy. February 16, 2009. <http://www.brookings.edu/articles/2009/03_china_li.aspx>)

But China’s new game of elite politics may fail. What will happen, for instance, if economic conditions continue to worsen? Factionalism at the top might grow out of control, perhaps even leading to deadlock or outright feuding. Different outlooks over many issues—including how to redistribute resources, establish a public healthcare system, reform the financial sector, achieve energy security, maintain political order, and handle domestic ethnic tensions—are already so contentious that the leadership might find it increasingly difficult to build the kind of consensus necessary to govern effectively.

## Impacts

### Impact – Internal Instability

#### Failure of reforms creates internal instability and leads to expansionism.

Krawitz 10 (Howard M., “China’s trade opening and implications for regional stability” Strategic Forum, page 3)

Ongoing debate holds that as economic power gives China the means to build military might, it will encourage military adventurism and feed the new nationalism already on the rise in China. Recent boosts in Chinese military spending hint this may already be happening. This danger cannot be ignored. China’s leaders are walking a tightrope. WTO-mandated changes and reform policy failures could engender widespread domestic discontent, nationwide strikes, riots, and other serious social disorder. Leaders, believing themselves in danger of losing control or of being marginalized by economic forces and social changes, might try to redirect domestic anger by rekindling Chinese xenophobic sentiments and turning to foreign adventurism as a means of recapturing power and reestablishing primacy. The new breed of Chinese capitalist could become the new breed of Chinese ultranationalist, equating wealth and power with the right to erase past national shame by establishing and enforcing a “Beijing Doctrine” in Asia. Or China might just interpret its own rise in terms of its neighbors’ declines and simply push to see what it could get away with.

#### Economic collapse causes the destruction of China and war with Taiwan

Lewis 10 (Dan, Research Director of Economic Research Council, “The nightmare of a Chinese economic collapse” World Finance, http://www.worldfinance.com/news/home/finalbell/article117.html)

It has been calculated that to keep China’s society stable – i.e. to manage the transition from a rural to an urban society without devastating unemployment - the minimum growth rate is 7.2 percent. Anything less than that and unemployment will rise and the massive shift in population from the country to the cities becomes unsustainable. This is when real discontent with communist party rule becomes vocal and hard to ignore. It doesn’t end there. That will at best bring a global recession. The crucial point is that communist authoritarian states have at least had some success in keeping a lid on ethnic tensions – so far. But when multi-ethnic communist countries fall apart from economic stress and the implosion of central power, history suggests that they don’t become successful democracies overnight. Far from it. There’s a very real chance that China might go the way of Yugoloslavia or the Soviet Union – chaos, civil unrest and internecine war. In the very worst case scenario, a Chinese government might seek to maintain national cohesion by going to war with Taiwan – whom America is pledged to defend.

### Impact – Nationalism

#### Perceived US attempts to interfere in China’s interests will fuel Chinese nationalism and cause war

Bandow 7 (Doug, fellow @ American Enterprise Inst., “China: Fragile Superpower, Readings in the Age of Empire”, Foreign Follies, September 7, <http://www.antiwar.com/bandow/?articleid=11565>)

Which naturally leads to relations with the U.S., the subject of the penultimate chapter of Shirk's book. Beijing has an incentive to maintain good relations with the U.S. – the PRC would suffer greatly from American economic sanctions let alone military hostility, and "the best way for China to rise peacefully is to behave like a responsible power and accommodate to the current superpower, the United States." If only life was so simple. Warns Shirk: "on the other hand, inside China, other leaders, the public, and the military expect Chinese leaders to stand up to the United States. Nationalist ardor runs high, fanned by government propaganda and the commercial media and Internet. The United States, as the dominant power in the world, is the natural target of suspicion and resentment in China, just as it is in many other countries, particularly after the American invasion of Iraq. A Chinese political leader who takes a principled stand against the United States always wins more points than one who gives in to it." Where does the U.S. go from here? As is so often the case in international relations, responsible statesmanship is necessary on both sides of the Pacific. Moreover, she adds, "only by understanding the dangers of China's domestic fragility and incorporating this understanding into their policies can Chinese and American decision makers avoid a catastrophic war." She advocates a series of sensible steps – focusing on Chinese international behavior, downplaying American military power, demonstrating respect for China, working in Chinese-Taiwanese relations, and not overreacting to China's economic rise. But that's not enough. Shirk wants to maintain "a strong military presence" in the region and opposes building up Japan as a military power. As she notes, "Preventing war with a rising China is one of the most difficult foreign policy challenges our country faces." That being the case, Washington should emphasize conflict avoidance, stepping back militarily while shifting defense responsibilities onto allied and friendly states. Perhaps the most important duty for U.S. policymakers today is to distinguish between vital interests, such as defending America, and peripheral interests, such as attempting to dictate events in East Asia in the face of a rising China. The world in which America can micro-manage international events is disappearing. Washington, too, must learn to accommodate. And America's interest will best be served by stepping back from confrontation where its vital interests are not involved.

### Impact – South China Sea

#### Chinese economic collapse causes conflict escalation and internal rebellion– South China Sea, Taiwan, and East China Sea are all scenarios for escalation

Ted Galen Carpenter 15, a senior fellow at the Cato Institute and a contributing editor at The National Interest, is the author of ten books and more than 600 articles on international affairs. His latest book, Perilous Partners: The Benefits and Pitfalls of America’s Alliances with Authoritarian Regimes, 9-6-2015, "Could China's Economic Troubles Spark a War?," National Interest, <http://nationalinterest.org/feature/could-chinas-economic-troubles-spark-war-13784?page=2>

Global attention has focused on the plunge in the Shanghai stock market and mounting evidence that China’s economic growth is slowing dramatically. Moreover, the contagion appears to be spreading, characterized by extreme volatility and alarming declines in America’s own equity markets. Those worries are compounded because there always have been doubts about the accuracy of Beijing’s official economic statistics. Even before the current downturn, some outside experts believed that Chinese officials padded the results, making the country’s performance appear stronger than it actually was. If China is now teetering on the brink of recession, the political incentives for officials to conceal the extent of the damage would be quite powerful. The focus on the possible wider economic consequences of a severe Chinese economic slowdown is understandable, since the ramifications could be extremely unpleasant for the U.S. and global economies. But we should also be vigilant about how such economic stress might affect Beijing’s diplomatic and military behavior. It is not unprecedented for a government that feels besieged to attempt to distract a discontented public by fomenting a foreign policy crisis. In Henry IV, Shakespeare pithily described that process as the temptation to “busy giddy minds with foreign quarrels.” China’s leaders likely feel increasingly uncomfortable. The implicit bargain that has been in place since the onset of market-oriented reforms in the late 1970s has been that if the public does not challenge the Communist Party’s dominant political position, the Party will deliver an ever-rising standard of living for the people. The bloody Tiananmen Square crackdown in 1989 was a graphic reminder of what happens if the Party’s position is challenged. However, until now, the economic portion of the bargain seemed secure, characterized by breathtaking, often double digit, rates of growth. It is uncertain what happens if the Party can no longer maintain its part of the implicit bargain, but it is likely that a dangerous degree of public discontent will surface. Beijing might refrain from deliberately provoking a major foreign policy crisis, since the Chinese economy depends heavily on export markets, and access to those markets would be jeopardized by war. However, the need to preserve and strengthen national unity and distract the public from mounting economic troubles is likely to impel Chinese leaders to adopt very hardline policies in at least three areas. And all of those situations entail the danger of miscalculations that could lead to war. One issue is the South China Sea. Beijing has made extraordinarily broad territorial claims that encompass some 90 percent of that body of water. China is pressing its claims with air and naval patrols and the building of artificial islands. Those policies have brought Beijing into acrimonious disputes with neighbors such as Vietnam and the Philippines, which have rival territorial claims, and with the world’s leading maritime power, the United States, which resists any manifestation of Chinese control over the South China Sea and the crucial commercial lanes that pass through it. The conditions are in place for a nasty confrontation. Chinese leaders have already stressed the country’s alleged historical claims to the area, and made it clear that it will not tolerate being subjected to humiliation by outside powers. Such arguments are designed to gain domestic support by reminding the Chinese people of the country’s long period of weakness and humiliation in the 1800s and early 1900s. A second issue is Taiwan. Beijing has long <<card cont argued

### Impact – South China Sea

<<card continues>>

that Taiwan is rightfully part of China and was stolen from the country in the Sino-Japanese war in 1895. Although Chinese leaders have exhibited patience regarding the issue of reunification, relying in large measure on growing cross-strait economic ties to entice Taiwan to eventually accept that outcome, Beijing has also reacted very sharply whenever Taiwanese officials have pushed an agenda of independence, as during the administration of Chen Shui-bian from 2000 to 2008. The danger or renewed confrontation is rising, since public opinion polls indicate that the nominee of Chen’s old party, the pro-independence Democratic Progressive Party, will be Taiwan’s next leader. A new crisis in the Taiwan Strait would be extremely serious, since the United States has obligated itself to consider any Chinese efforts at coercion as a “grave breach of the peace” of East Asia. Yet there is little doubt that there would be widespread domestic support on the mainland for a stern response by the Beijing government to a Taiwanese attempt to enhance its de-facto independence. Indeed, there might be more political danger to the regime if it did not take a strong stance on that issue. The third possible arena for crisis is the East China Sea. China is increasingly adamant about its claims to the DiaoyuSenkaku islands, which are under Japanese control. From China’s perspective, those islands were stolen by Imperial Japan at the same time that Tokyo took possession of Taiwan following the 1895 war. And ginning up public anger against Japan is never difficult. China just finished celebrating the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, which is touted in China as “the Chinese People’s War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War.” Recalling Japan’s invasion of China, and the resulting atrocities, was a prominent theme of the various commemorative events. But the animosity is not based solely on historical grievances. Anger at Japan over the ongoing East China Sea dispute and other matters has already produced anti-Japanese riots in Chinese cities, characterized by attacks on Japanese businesses and automobiles. There is a powerful incentive for Chinese leaders to take an uncompromising stance on the Diaoyu/Senkaku feud, confident that the Chinese people will back such a stance. All of this suggests that the United States and its allies need to proceed cautiously about dealing with China, especially on these three issues. Now is not the time to press a Chinese leadership that likely feels beleaguered by the country’s economic woes. The last thing we should do is give those leaders further temptation to distract the Chinese people with a foreign policy confrontation. Such a strategy entails the grave risk of miscalculation and escalation, and that would be a tragedy for all concerned.

### DA Turns Case – China War

#### No risk of a war with China unless there’s political instability – the disad controls the case impact

Sutter 7 (Robert Sutter, School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, “Does China Seek to Dominate Asia and Reduce US influence as a Regional Power?”, Carnegie Debates, April 20, <http://carnegieendowment.org/files/Sutter_paper.pdf>)

To answer the question, I follow a pattern used in my long professional career of providing information and analysis about China and Asia to congressional and executive branch policy makers. The pattern has involved providing relevant historical context and using balance in assessing contemporary developments. A major goal is to provide perspective that will moderate US excitement about China—either positive or negative. In my opinion, history seems clear about the lessons of US excitement about China—it leads to exaggeration about the opportunities or dangers posed by China, which in turn provides a poor basis for US policy and often leads to policy that is not well aligned with US interests. In sum, section 1 of this paper looks at relevant patterns and behavior of the United States and China in Asia since the start of the cold war. They show that the United States tends to exaggerate recent threats to its leadership in Asia, and that China remains determined to resist and reduce great power involvement along China’s periphery. Section 2 provides an assessment of Chinese leaders’ current intentions toward the United States in Asia, and argues that US policy makers would be prudent if they remained attentive for possible changes in the current comparatively moderate Chinese approach to the United States in Asia in favor of a more assertive Chinese stance. Section 3 foresees continued effective checks on a possibly more assertive or coercive Chinese approach to Asia. Those checks are based on the twin forces of effective US security and economic power in Asia and by pervasive hedging of independent-minded Asian governments.

### DA Turns Case – Relations

#### Nationalism turns U.S. relations

Sutter 7 (Robert Sutter, School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, “Does China Seek to Dominate Asia and Reduce US influence as a Regional Power?”, Carnegie Debates, April 20, <http://carnegieendowment.org/files/Sutter_paper.pdf>)

While still seeking a multipolar world, China’s leaders in recent years have seen their policy goals and interests best served by muting opposition to the United States and US leadership in Asian and world affairs. In general, China’s goals in Asia have been: · To promote stability and a “peaceful environment” conducive to domestic Chinese economic development and political stability. · To seek advantageous economic contacts and relationships. · To reassure China’s neighbors about the implications of China’s rise. · To isolate Taiwan. · To gain regional influence relative to other powers (e.g. Japan, India, and the United States). Over the past decade, China’s leaders have adjusted their policies and approach to Asia in ways that appear to accord with changing circumstances and the costs and benefits for Chinese interests: · Jiang Zemin in the mid-1990s enhanced his leadership stature in the lead up to China’s 15th Communist Party Congress in 1997 by modifying Deng Xiaoping’s injunction for China to maintain a low-profile in world politics. Jiang reached out to Asian and world powers seeking “strategic partnerships” that enhanced both China’s and Jiang’s international profile at this important time in Chinese domestic politics. · China at this time also endeavored to reassure Asian neighbors alarmed by Chinese military actions in the 1995-1996 Taiwan Strait crisis by proposing a “New Security Concept” that promoted “good neighbor” relations with most in Asia—Taiwan and the United States were the main exceptions. · By mid-2001, before the terrorist attack on America, China decided to reduce sharply its rhetorical and political opposition to US “hegemony” in Asian and world affairs. The continued strong public opposition to the United States in Asia had not been popular with Asian governments unwilling to choose between China and the United States. It also ran the risk of significant push back from the newly elected George W. Bush administration that had a decidedly more wary view of China’s rise than its predecessor. · By late 2003, Chinese officials began formulating a new public approach focused on China’s “peaceful rise” in Asia that was designed to reassure most concerned powers—Taiwan remained the main exception—that China’s rise would not be adverse to their interests. Reassuring the United States seemed particularly important, and China remained remarkably discreet in dealing with most differences with the United States.

#### Economic reform is critical to US/China cooperation

Manning & Garrett 13 (Robert A. Senior Fellow in the Brent Scowcroft Center on International Stability, and Banning, Strategic Foresight Senior Fellow for Global Trends Strategic Foresight Initiative, Atlantic Council, “Does Beijing Have a Strategy? China’s Alternative Futures)

Harmonious World: In the best-case scenario, China’s new leadership begins over the next five to six years to strengthen the rule of law, move its financial system to a more market-based allocation of resources, and allow the RMB to become convertible and ascend as a global currency. Consumer-driven growth sustains a 6-7 percent annual growth rate as China decreases its reliance on exports and increases social stability through political and judicial reform to open up the political system and enhance rule of law, transparency, and accountability. Internationally, as China and other G-20 nations push for a larger voice in rule-making, they cooperate with Western countries to strengthen the international rules-based order even as they revise the rules. China also finds a new, more stable and cooperative modus vivendi in East Asia not only with the United States but also its Asian neighbors, enhancing prospects for regional security and for cooperation on global issues. In addition, China plays a key role in devising new rules and codes of conduct on cyber and space policies. In this “harmonious” world, the US-China relationship is both a critical element in achieving this positive outcome for China and also a beneficiary of China’s success in restructuring its domestic economy and pursuing a conciliatory and cooperative foreign policy.

### DA Turns Case – Trade

#### Anti-Americanism flips trade – the turn outweighs

Chang 14 (Gordon, worked in Shanghai and Hong Kong for almost two decades and now write primarily on China, Asia, and nuclear proliferation, two terms @ Cornell U as trustee, “Worse Than A Trade War: China's Anti-Americanism Flares”, http://www.forbes.com/sites/gordonchang/2014/06/08/worse-than-a-trade-war-chinas-anti-americanism-flares/#240004d65dd4)

And if all this were not bad enough, the Chinese political system is finding it hard to pull back from its instinctive anti-foreign sentiment. State enterprises have for decades been the primary beneficiaries of protectionism, and it looks like they are now using their growing political clout to fan the anti-Americanism for their own benefit. Almost none of the entrenched interests have a reason to help U.S. business. So some leaders in Beijing are arrogant, others are insecure, and state enterprises are taking advantage of the situation. The result is that American business will be the target of the Chinese political system, probably for a long time to come. U.S. companies, unfortunately, are now facing something worse than a trade war.