Geopolitics Is a Dinosaur! The Future Is a Community of Common Destiny

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EDITORIAL

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Oct. 28—There is some very good news: The presidents of the three most important nuclear powers in the world are working intensively to improve relations among their countries and put them on a solid foundation of cooperation in their mutual interest. One might think that these developments would be enthusiastically commented upon in Europe, since they mean that the danger of a major war—one that could possibly ex-

terminate all mankind—may thereby be averted. But far from it! Instead, these days the three presidents have one thing in common: They are equally maligned

by the mainstream media—although with different predicates—as terrifying bogeymen, various called mentally unstable, a new Stalin, a dictator. This distorted view comes from wearing geopolitical glasses.

Less than two weeks before his trip to Asia—when he will visit Japan, South Korea, the Philippines, and Vietnam, and make a two-day state visit to China—President Trump stressed, in an interview with Lou Dobbs on the Fox News television channel, that it would be great if the United States had a good relationship with the nuclear power Russia, and that this would make a solution to the North Korean crisis much easier. Trump, who was supposed to have been intimidated by the intelligence community's concocted fable of "Russia-gate" on precisely this issue, stressed: "If we had a [good] relationship with Russia, that would be a good thing, not a bad thing."

Trump also reported that he had telephoned President Xi Jinping and congratulated him on his re-election as General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party: "He's a powerful man. I happen to think he's a very good person. Now with that being said, he repre-

sents China, I represent the USA, so, you know, there's going to always be conflict. But we have a very good relationship. People say we have the best relationship of any president-president, because he's called president also." Trump added that he hoped his upcoming trip to Asia would be historic and very positive.

The Chinese Party Congress

There is legitimate hope for such a result in light of the new era, which was been further consolidated by China at the just concluded 19th Congress of the Chi-

nese Communist Party. For, largely ignored or misunderstood by western commentators, President Xi Jinping, in the various aspects of his foreign policy in

particular, has laid the groundwork for a new model of international relations, , one of "the community of a shared future for mankind," and China is ready to take global responsibility for its success.

This concept has been ignored in the western media; instead, these media have chosen to focus on the fact that Xi designated no apparent successor, although that was of minor importance given his re-election for a five-year term.

One is reminded of the valet whom Hegel mentions in his *Phenomenology of Mind*, who only sees the underwear of the world-historical individual he serves, but never the ideas that inspire his master. Obviously the people in the media simply assign the concept of "the community of a common destiny" to the category of propaganda, as they would the usual language with which western parties stress their commitment to "democracy, a free market economy, and human rights"—it belongs to the party litany, but is really only empty phrases.

But this is not the case for Xi Jinping and the Chinese Communist Party, which has put itself fully and totally behind Xi Jinping's philosophy of this global community of common destiny. The real objective of the New Silk Road policy is precisely to create a higher level of reason wherein mutually beneficial economic cooperation, "win-win cooperation," overcomes geopolitics, and puts the interests of mankind as a whole before the interests of any single nation or alliance of nations.

Over recent years, Xi Jinping has often addressed the "old, obsolete model" of the West, which looks at the world geopolitically with a Cold War mentality and as a zero-sum game, and that theme has been debated by many Chinese scholars. To this, Xi has counterposed an entirely new concept, the idea of a community of common destiny for mankind.

Seen from this vantage point, there is indeed a perspective from which all the problems of this earth can be solved from a higher level. In this way we can overcome the backward, imperial outlook of Winston Churchill—that the Empire can have neither permanent friends or enemies, only permanent interests—and the limited conviction in this respect of Charles de Gaulle (despite all sympathy with him as an individual)—that nations have no friends, only interests.

In contrast, the idea of a community with a shared future for mankind corresponds to the thinking of Nicholas of Cusa, expressed in his Coincidence of Opposites (Coincidentia Oppositorum). His idea is that man can think on a higher level of reason, on which the contradictions found on the lower level of understanding can be overcome; in other words, the One possesses a higher power than the Many. From the standpoint of universal history, it is obvious that the attainment of the common aims of mankind will determine the era in which humankind will grow up, so to speak, and demonstrate its true character as a creative species.

Progress Is Underway

Thanks to the arrogance of western politicians and the media, it has generally gone unnoticed that Xi Jinping's conception of a community of shared future for mankind was adopted as an official resolution on March 23 of this year by the 34th Session of the UN Human Rights Commission, and thus in a sense incorporated into international law.

While most countries in Asia are engaged in the Silk Road dynamic, and are undergoing strategic realignments from this perspective—such as Japan's rapprochement with Russia and China—the western media have commented on this development through the distorted optics previously mentioned. For example, Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono said, in an interview

with the daily *Nikkei* newspaper, that, on the occasion of President Trump's forthcoming visit, he would like to initiate a dialogue among Japan, the United States, India, and Australia on the highest level, to improve cooperation on questions of free trade and security in the entire region from the South China Sea, to the Indian Ocean, to Africa. *Deutsche Welle*, Germany's public international broadcaster, interprets that as being an alternative to China's Belt and Road policy.

But what did Indian Foreign Secretary Subrahmanyam Jaishankar say about it to Sputnik? "I do not think projecting our cooperation as competition with China does justice to our side. ... It's important that India-Japan relations not be defined in negative terms. Every movie doesn't require a villain. Asia, particularly South Asia, is so under-connected, that any connectivity which comes in is good for this, provided it follows broad principles, is sustainable, and is respectful of local sensitivity." Sputnik reported that Japan wants to invest \$110 billion in Asian nations over the next five years, and that India is participating in connectivity projects in Myanmar and Bangladesh, and wants to develop the Andaman and Nicobar islands in cooperation with Japan. Jaishankar stressed that, due to the enormous infrastructure deficit, it makes sense to work together, instead of undercutting each other.

For geopolitically oriented commentators, the main thing is that the South Asians should not talk about the "Belt and Road Initiative" associated with China, but rather about building "connectivity." In practical terms, what is important for the people in the region is that they are finally getting loans for infrastructure investments—previously denied them by the IMF and World Bank—through new financial institutions such as the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, New Development Fund, New Silk Road Fund, SAARC Development Fund, and similar institutions—all heavily funded by China.

Beyond that, the program outlined in the *EIR* report titled, *The New Silk Road Becomes the World Land-Bridge*, envisions a Land-Bridge that connects all continents through infrastructure and provides the land-locked regions with the same advantages that previously redounded only to regions on oceans and rivers.

The good news is that the majority of mankind is moving into a new, more beautiful era; the bad news is that most European politicians and media remain stuck in the old, obsolete thinking and are falling further behind the curve of developments.

But, as the motto of our newspaper says, "The age of Schiller is coming!"