# **Experience and Enlightenment of New International Relations between China and Russia in the 21st Century**

#### Xibei Jia

School of Belarusian State University, Minsk 220030, Belarus jxb19980114@gmail.com

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**Abstract:** China and Russia are not only closely linked geographically, but also Asian and world powers. In the 21st century, the international relations between China and Russia have a direct impact on the world development pattern, and the way China and Russia get along and the development process can become a typical case to refute the historical conclusions such as "security dilemma" and "inevitable hegemony of powerful countries". In the 21st century, China and Russia, with a specific and scientific practical model, have become an example of the coexistence model of world powers, that is, mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation. This paper discusses the new international relations between China and Russia, discusses the content and essence of China-Russia relations, summarizes the practical significance of China-Russia relations, and discusses the experience and Enlightenment of China-Russia international relations to the construction of new international relations and a community with a shared future for mankind.

#### 1. Introduction

At present, the world structure is at a major historical turning point. The world multi-polarization, economic globalization and early 2020 COVID-19 have gradually changed the strength of traditional international forces. With the rapid development of Asian countries, people all over the world have gradually turned their attention to the Asia Pacific region, the focus of world development has gradually shifted to the Asia Pacific region, and the rapid development of emerging economies in the Asia Pacific region has been recognized by the world. Under such a world development pattern, how many emerging powers represented by China and conservative powers represented by the United States should establish scientific and reasonable new international relations will directly affect the future world order and development trend. The western hegemonic countries led by the United States regard China's rapid rise as a threat. They believe that China's rapid development is not conducive to the peaceful development of the world. They even emphasize that China's rapid development is contrary to the current theme of the times. This is because the United States and other western hegemonic countries worry that China's rapid rise will threaten their hegemonic status. Then, under such a development background, will the coexistence mode between emerging powers and conservative powers fall into a "security dilemma" and lead to a "great power political tragedy"? General secretary Xi Jinping, on the basis of the current world development pattern, puts forward the way of cooperation and development of all countries, that is, "mutual respect, no conflict, no confrontation, win-win cooperation", and emphasizes the establishment of a new international relationship "a community with a shared future for mankind".

## 2. Overview of the New Type of International Relations between China and the United States in the 21st Century

With the advent of the 21st century, Russia has entered the Putin Era. Putin's administration in 2000 is an indispensable sign that Sino-Russian relations have entered a new era of development. Putin's taking office not only inherited Yeltsin's policy on goods, but also integrated a more pragmatic

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style of diplomatic teachers [1]. In the Putin Era, Sino-Russian relations illustrated new characteristics: Sino-Russian relations gradually changed from building a framework to enriching content, which also demonstrates that Sino-Russian cooperative relations have not only been further developed in depth and breadth, but also more diversified ways of cooperation. At the same time, since Putin took office in 2000, the strategic cooperative partnership between China and Russia has become more and more mature, the depth and breadth of exchanges between China and Russia in the political field are further developed, and the border problems affecting bilateral relations have been fundamentally solved. Fig. 1 succinctly demonstrates the concept of Sino-Russian relations.



Fig.1 Sino-Russian Relations

From the beginning of the 21st century, Sino-Russian relations have experienced the stage of good neighborly friendship and cooperation (2000-2004), the stage of rapid development of Sino-Russian Relations (2008-2012) and the current stage of development of new Sino-Russian international relations. Fig. 2 demonstrates in detail the key points in the development of Sino-Russian relations from 1950 to 2021.



Fig. 2 Development process of Sino-Russian Relations

Under the top-level design and strategic guidance of the heads of state of China and Russia, both sides regard each other as strategic partners of their own diplomacy, and implement the communication thought of "living in harmony and treating each other as equals". In June 2012, Putin took office as president of Russia again, taking China as the first visiting country outside the CIS, which undoubtedly reflects that China plays a vital role in Russia's political and diplomatic [2].

From a historical perspective, the current China-Russia comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership is better than the previous China-Russia relations. The bilateral relations are becoming more and more mature and stable. It is one of the best examples of a new type of international relations with win-win cooperation as the core.

From the development history and practical experience of China-Russia relations, compared with any previous period, China and Russia are more eager to establish a stable and reliable strategic partnership. Moreover, China and Russia have constantly made great efforts to continuously promote and deepen bilateral relations, This also demonstrates that the determination of the two countries to build a new type of state-to-state relationship is more firm and urgent than in any historical period.

The development of Sino-Russian relations is not only the best choice based on their own strategic layout, but also the urgent need of the theme of the times. Under the leadership of general secretary Xi Jinping's new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics, China and Russia have built and consolidated the comprehensive strategic partnership of cooperation, which means that the two Sino-Russian relations will be more solid and firm in the future [3].

### 3. Experience and Enlightenment of the New International Relations between China and Russia in the New Era

#### 3.1 Mutual Respect, Openness and Inclusiveness between China and the United States

Mutual respect for national sovereignty is undoubtedly the basis of the new type of international relations. In recent years, China's international status has been continuously improved, and China's influence on countries around the world has gradually increased. In discussing international hot topics, China has extended and enriched the traditional concept of "sovereignty", emphasizing that in the new era, a country's sovereignty does not only include traditional contents such as internal affairs and diplomacy, It should also include a country's social system and development path. Respect for sovereignty is not only the prerequisite for countries in the process of exchanges, but also the basis for countries to communicate smoothly. The so-called respect for sovereignty should not only respect the domestic and foreign policies of other countries, but also respect the social system and development path chosen by other countries. China and Russia have always opposed the practice of interfering in the internal affairs of other countries through various excuses and reasons, and stressed that all countries should be equal and use peaceful dialogue to solve contradictions.

As one of the basic elements of sovereignty, territorial integrity and national unity are not only the premise of exchanges and interaction among countries, but also the concentrated expression of the collective dignity and patriotic feelings of the people of all countries. For the Chinese people, territorial integrity and national unity have always been the most indispensable demands of all the people in China's thousands of years of political and cultural development. Since modern times, territorial integrity and national unity are not only the indispensable content of China's rise and the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, but also the basic expression of the fundamental interests of the Chinese nation [4].

Respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity is not only the most basic requirement of every country, but also the cornerstone of developing a new type of state-to-state relations. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations, China and Russia have always adhered to the five principles of peaceful coexistence, which has also laid a solid foundation for the steady development of China-Russia relations.

Specifically, Russia has always adhered to the "One China" principle, and China also supports Russia in combating illegal armed and terrorist activities in Chechnya. Both sides respect mutual national sovereignty and territorial integrity and support mutual core interests, which has laid a solid political foundation for the healthy development of China and Russia, At the same time, China and Russia have also provided a good model for the exchanges and interaction of other countries.

#### 3.2 Equality, Mutual Benefit and Win-Win Cooperation between China and Russia

Building a new type of major country relationship with win-win cooperation as the core is China's specific answer to the current hot topic "international relations in the 21st century". At the same time, China also emphasizes the adoption of cooperation instead of confrontation, and seeks further development from the perspective of peaceful development and the concept of mutual benefit, This has also laid a solid foundation for other countries to establish a new type of international relations and a development path in the 21st century. Earlier, when general secretary Xi Jinping visited the former US President Obama, he put forward the concept of "win-win cooperation". He stressed the need to abandon zero sum thinking, look at problems in a developmental perspective, and seek greater development with the common development of thinking.

After the end of the cold war in the last century, with the disappearance of bipolar confrontation,

the world pattern has gradually stabilized, which also makes the leaders of all countries in the world gradually begin to consider economic development and the improvement of comprehensive national strength. Especially under the theme of today's era, the hot topic that countries all over the world are concerned about is how to improve their economic strength, influence and national status in the world.

For each country, its own interests are the greatest. In each country's foreign policy, it will put striving for its own interests to the greatest extent first. In western realistic theory, national interests are higher than all basic interests. In other words, anything can be done as long as it is out of national interests, such as armed aggression, economic blockade, economic sanctions, even launching war surveillance against countries that may pose a threat, and leaders of other countries steal confidential information from other countries by phone.

There is no doubt that the concept of western hegemonic countries is completely wrong, which is not conducive to the construction and development of a new type of international relations in the 21st century. As a developing power. China's international status is constantly improving. General secretary Xi Jinping stressed that when China develops its interests and protects its interests, it also takes into account the interests and feelings of other countries [5]. At the same time, while striving for its own interests, China takes the core interests of other countries into consideration and points out that China will not sacrifice others' interests at the expense of other countries' interests. But always take win-win cooperation as the basis for exchanges and interaction with other countries. Fig. 3 demonstrates the evaluation of China by the three heavyweights valued by Putin, which demonstrates the close and stable relations between China and Russia.

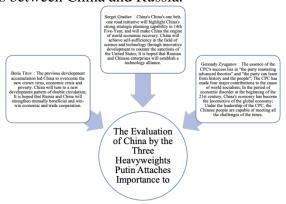


Fig. 3 The evaluation of China attached importance to by the three heavyweights Putin

#### 3.3 Strategic Trust and Common Security between China and Russia

For a country, national security is the cornerstone of people's survival, since the end of the Second World War in the last century. So far, the world pattern has undergone earth shaking changes. The highest demand for the interests of all countries in the world has always been national security. In the traditional international relations in the past, some countries built their own security on the insecurity of other countries, and even planned to pursue hegemonic thought through military war.

In the face of the current new world pattern, China and Russia actively advocate a new security concept (as illustrated in Fig. 4). At the same time, China and Russia also put forward common security, cooperative security and comprehensive security, and stressed that security is not just that some countries are in a state of security while others are in a state of insecurity, nor at the expense of the security of other countries, To seek their own absolute security. In short, the so-called new security concept is to respect and protect the security of each country, which is also the basic premise for all countries to get along in the new international relations. At the same time, China and Russia advocated the establishment of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, which is also a successful practice of the two countries' understanding of the new security concept.

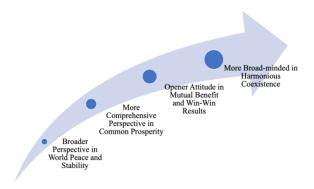


Fig. 4 New security concept

#### 4. Conclusion

To sum up, the 21st century is an era full of opportunities and challenges. Both developed and developing countries have great development opportunities. Under this background, the exchanges and interactions among countries are becoming more and more frequent. At the same time, facing the new world pattern, it is particularly indispensable to build a new type of international relations. At present, China and Russia have established a new type of major country relationship, which provides a good example for other countries.

Specifically, China and Russia respect mutual sovereignty and territorial integrity, put the national interests of the two countries first, and adhere to the development concept of win-win cooperation. Moreover, China and Russia also adhere to the new security concept and always implement the principle of sustainable security into the close exchanges between the two countries. At the same time, China and Russia uphold the development principles of equality, trust and mutually beneficial cooperation, which has also laid a solid foundation for the sustainable development of the two countries.

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