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### Література:

1. Kim Jong-un has hailed North Korea's "invincible" ties with China, during a state visit by President Xi Jinping. Retrieved from: [https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-48714872?ocid=socialflow\\_twitter](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-48714872?ocid=socialflow_twitter)
2. Does THAAD really pose a threat to China? Retrieved from: [http://www.geopolitika.hu/en/2017/10/09/does-thaad-really-pose-a-threat-to-china/#\\_ftnref35](http://www.geopolitika.hu/en/2017/10/09/does-thaad-really-pose-a-threat-to-china/#_ftnref35)
3. South Korean Perception of the United States and China: Retrieved from: [http://www.eai.or.kr/main/english/program\\_view.asp?intSeq=19850&code=86&gubun=program](http://www.eai.or.kr/main/english/program_view.asp?intSeq=19850&code=86&gubun=program)

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## CHINA, WORLD-SYSTEM AND WAR SITUATION

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With the W. Churchill speech in Fulton (March 1945), the "Cold" World War had begun. After 45 years, it ends with the collapse of the USSR and the destruction of the World Socialist System European part. There remains a group of socialist-oriented Far Eastern countries without a core uniting them (China, Vietnam, North Korea). Socialist Cuba has become an

abandoned island in the Atlantic Ocean. At the same time, China of the Deng Xiaoping era was developing for some time in a “built-in” (into the American trade and economic system) mode, secretly using this situation for large-scale socio-economic modernization and transition to a leading role.

Since the beginning of the XX century 90s, after the collapse of the USSR, the 500-year-old capitalist world-system receives a surge of fresh strength, rises to a new level and, thanks to its global leader (USA), modernizes its structure. Four levels of the Global hegemon "escort" are being formed – the "inner circle" (Great Britain, Western European countries, Australia, New Zealand and Japan), the "middle circle" (countries recently admitted to the EU and NATO), the "far circle" (dependent countries seeking the favor of the United States) and, finally, “outcasts” (those who, for one reason or another, have lost the “high trust of the Master”). In addition, there is one more circle in the zone of American-centric world system constant monitoring – the zone of "existential threats". They are alternative world systems which capable to overturn the current one. Today it is primarily China, which seeks to gather around itself a multi-vector set of non-Western countries.

It should be noted that since the end of the twentieth century, the activity of the states included in this group of non-Western countries has been increasing. Even S. Huntington emphasized: “The balance of influence between civilizations is shifting. The relative influence of the West is declining. The economic, political and military power of Asian civilizations is growing. The demographic explosion of Islamic countries has destabilizing consequences both for the Muslim states themselves and for their neighbors. Non-Western civilizations confirm the value of their cultures” [1, p. 15].

It is in this set of states belonging to non-Western civilizations, the “center of gravity” is gradually crystallizing. We are talking about the Chinese geo-economic and geopolitical point, seeking to acquire the status of a new world-system core. All this inevitably leads to growing mutual tension between the two world-system cores – the existing US-centric and the emerging China-centric.

Once the Soviet-Chinese alliance did not take place due to USSR (in the 60s) desire to dominate and impose its political and economic system on China. This ultimately ended in a bloody clash on Damansky Island in March 1969. At present, the modernized China is in the status of a leading part. It behaves itself strategically very competently, to strengthen its "field of attraction".

Unlike post-Soviet Russia, which lost a significant part of its territories, resources and abandoned its former ideological principles, China managed to maintain its territorial integrity and, most importantly, its strategic

ideology. While post-Yeltsin Russia hesitated in search of new ideological meanings for its continued existence, communist China (with all its tactical maneuvers and assumptions) confidently continued to follow the strategic course chosen once and for all. Here, perhaps, had an effect the centuries-old Chinese "culture of Tao" – the culture and philosophy of the Way as the sense of human existence.

In modern China, an opinion is being formed that the established Anglo-Saxon world-system is becoming a "suffocating factor" and a clear existential threat. In China, they study the forecasts of well-known analysts, like the American futurist D. Friedman, that Russia, and then China, can be destroyed in the 21st century [See 2]. Therefore, China has some reason to believe that reforming of the existing world order is possible not only with the help of "soft power", but also in a "hard" way. At the same time, references are made to the history of the Western world-system with a lot of evidences that the history of the West is full of big and small wars, two of which were global.

That is, in the general historical context, China, from the Chinese elite point of view, fits perfectly into the logic of world development. Today, China faces three paths for further development: a) to become the new core of a new world-system that will completely replace the old, American-centric one, b) to establish a new bipolar system, where China and the USA will become the main poles c) to agree with the monopolar model that the USA is striving to keep for itself at any cost.

The apparent failure of the Russian aggression against Ukraine and the active consolidation of the West around the comprehensive assistance program to the Ukrainian people have made Russia a very problematic and "toxic" partner of China. Moreover, in Chinese-Russian relations, the ambiguity over who is the "master in the Eurasian home" has ended. On the background of a discredited, discouraged and bewildered Russia, China has emerged as a confident and authoritative world leader. Moreover, in the current geopolitical situation, Russia is turning into a profitable resource base for China, which it can dispose of as a monopolist.

Soberly assessing this situation, China is leaning towards the second strategic path – the formation of a bipolar (Chinese-American) world order. This idea was proclaimed at the 20th Congress of the CPC and was again voiced at the G-20 summit in Bali. That is, apparently, a situation, which will develop regarding the peaceful (but sharply competitive) coexistence of the two world-systems. This may remotely resemble the era of USSR-USA competitive relations with the only difference: that the Chinese economic, scientific and technical base meets much more advanced standards of the 21st century, than USSR in 20s.

It is clear that the Russian-Ukrainian war is still fraught with many surprises. But the main options for global change are already being looked at:

First, it is the restoration of the dominance of the US-oriented world system in full.

Secondly, the global establishment of a world-system oriented towards China.

Thirdly, the establishment of a global parity between the two megacenters China and the United States, surrounded by the corresponding groups of satellites and sympathizers.

However, there is one more possibility on the agenda: a mental revolution leading to the establishment of equal global responsibility of world leaders for the fate of all peoples inhabiting our planet [See: 3]

And here the key role is played by Ukraine, its political will and faith in the future.

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