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## **HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTION OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE**

### **Abstract**

*This paper will address the historical significance of the adoption of three important resolutions passed by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. These include the importance of the historical, political, and economic context, how the party overcame numerous internal and external challenges, and historical strength of the Communist Party of China. The paper evaluates the insights of three key theories in understanding socialism with Chinese characteristics and their content, systematizing it in an analytical framework. Complexity awareness of this task is paramount, but the paper should, if nothing else, offer to the reader a structure that facilitates both comprehension and understanding of the resolutions in a political-theoretical context of "Thoughts of Mao Zedong", "Deng Xiaoping Theory" and "Xi Jinping's thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new era", significance and what the latest CCP resolution offers on a global political context.*

**Keywords:** *Xi Jinping, Deng Xiaoping, Mao Zedong, socialism, reforms, New Democratic Revolution*

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## INTRODUCTION

The Communist Party of China (CCP) was founded in 1921, and this year celebrated its centenary. There have been many significant events in the last centennial that have resulted in dramatic change, enormous productive power, unprecedented social transformation, and a tremendous advance in a human civilization, least of all the profound and transformative changes in China itself. A country with an incredible history of more than 5,000 years, China has left an indelible contribution to human civilization. Since 1840, several major aggression wars were successively launched by the forces of Western countries against China<sup>1</sup>.

Of special significance are the Opium Wars and the first Sino-Japanese War 1894-1895. Incredible looting and destruction had overthrown what was once the world's largest economy, and negatively impacted people's lives. After the Opium Wars in 1840, China was a semi-colonial and semi-feudal society; those were years of intense humiliation. The people of China were pushed into darkness, and ancient Chinese civilization had lost its way.

Despite these setbacks, China and its people continued to fight relentlessly against repeating setbacks, and to save the nation from subjugation. China and its progress were rejuvenated in 1917, specifically as a result of The Russian October Revolution, which introduced Marxism and Leninism to China, and this directly resulted in the birth of the CCP. One can note that the founding of the CCP was an epochal event that profoundly changed the course of Chinese history, brought a new future for the Chinese people and nation, and had a significant impact on the rest of the world. The October revolution of 1917 continuously inspired the CCP to progress. As a Marxist party, the CCP, unlike previous political forces, has no particular interest in realization. From the very beginning of the CCP's founding, it had two key goals that have remained unchanged to this day; to bring

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<sup>1</sup> Yihua, J., et al. (Eds.). (2007). Kang Youwei "Bao Guo Hui Xu", The Complete Works of Kang Youwei, Vol. IV, China Renmin University Press, p. 67.

happiness to the Chinese people, and to rejuvenate the Chinese nation. In just one hundred years, the CCP has grown from a small party with just over 50 members, to the world's largest ruling party, with more than 95 million members, in a country of more than 1.4 billion people. It is a party of great international prestige<sup>2</sup>.

The party is led by revered Chinese Communists, with Mao Zedong, Deng Xiaoping, Jiang Zemin, Hu Jintao, and Xi Jinping at the helm. These leaders adopted basic Marxist principles to the Chinese reality and its traditional culture, and their approach took them from victory to victory, resulting in national rejuvenation. It was not an easy achievement. National rejuvenation saw the CCP leading the Chinese people from war to war, fighting with uncompromising determination and as armed revolutionaries through many battles. These include the Northern Expedition, the Agrarian Revolutionary War, and the War of Resistance against Japanese aggression and the Liberation War. These counterrevolutionaries won, defeating the three greatest threats to imperialism, feudalism, and bureaucratic capitalism, and founding the People's Republic of China in 1949. They secured the nation's independence, liberated the Chinese people, and took control of their future. Resulting in a really great transformation of a poor, backward and populous country in the east into a modern socialist China. The CCP created fundamental political conditions and laid down the institutional foundations necessary for the realization of the national rejuvenation. Succeeding in their persistent struggle, both the Party and the Chinese people have shown the world that they are equally capable of changing the old China and building a new one, more prosperous state.

The CCP achieved this goal of national rejuvenation by providing leadership to the Chinese people, liberating their minds, and achieving great success in reform, as well as socialist modernization. The Communist Party of China has recognized the need for economic reform to be accompanied by political reform.<sup>3</sup>

Fardi Zakaria was amongst the first people to recognize that the process

<sup>2</sup> Perović, P. (1978). *Pregled istorije medjunarodnog radničkog pokreta*, Narodna knjiga, pp. 272-277.

<sup>3</sup> Bergsten, F., et. al. (2011). *Uspon Kine*, Službeni glasnik, Beograd, p. 89-95.

of shifting power will create a world that is very different from the one that humanity has known for the last five centuries, with Asia as the dominant continent<sup>4</sup>. He hinted that the international system would be completely different from those that preceded it. The change in this system is evident; one hundred years ago, there was a multipolar order ruled by several European countries, with constantly changing allies, rivalries, and wars. More recently, the Dual Power emerged from Russia during the Cold War. This appeared to be a more stable order, but internally, the superpower overreacted to every move made by its rivals. Since then, we are slowly moving towards a post-American era, which will be defined by it and managed by many people from a large number of places<sup>5</sup>.

As the world progresses towards this new era, the People's Republic of China has occupied the attention of numerous experts around the world with its rapid development over the past two decades. In fact, a number of books have been written about the phenomenon of China and its social and economic uprising. In most of these writings, the Asian state is mentioned as the herald of a new multipolar world, which was born right after the end of the “unipolar moment”<sup>6</sup>. The rise of the new power is evidenced by the historical role of passing resolutions, which is best confirmed by the fact that all three have been adopted so far. In 1945, the “Resolution on certain question in the History of Our Party” was passed by the Sixth Central Committee of the CCP. This resolution dealt with the New Democratic Revolution, the struggle against imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism, and the work for national independence and national liberation. It confirmed the great role of Mao Zedong, and eventually paved the path for the Seventh National CCP Congress, which promoted the Chinese Revolution and eventually led to victory in 1949<sup>7</sup>. In 1981, during the sixth plenary session of the CPC

<sup>4</sup> Arežina, S. (2018). *Kina u Evropi*, Službeni glasnik, Beograd, pp. 9-11.

<sup>5</sup> Zakaria, F. (2011). *The Post-American World*, W. W. Norton & Company, New York, pp. 43-59.

<sup>6</sup> Arežina, S. (2018), Op. cit., pp. 20-27.

<sup>7</sup> Novačić, A. (1979). *Veliki zaokret*, Globus, Zagreb, pp. 67-84.

Central Committee, the party adopted a “Resolution on certain questions in the history of our party since the founding of the People's Republic of China.” This resolution gave impetus to the reform under the leadership of Deng Xiaoping, assessed the history of the CCP, the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the course of socialist revolution and development. Since then, the moment has led to a great transition after the establishment of the PRC, setting its general guidelines for the primary development of socialism. Deng Xiaoping resolutely promoted both the reform and the opening up of the PRC.

Under his leadership, the Republic managed to overcome risks and challenges from all directions, and founded, supported, and developed socialism with Chinese characteristics. This enabled China to transform itself from a highly centralized planned economy into a socialist market economy full of vitality, and from a generally closed country to a country open to the world on all its fronts. It also enabled China to make the historical leap from a country constrained by backward productive forces to the world's second-largest economy. Furthermore, it enabled the historical transformation of the standard of living for its people, from mere subsistence to general prosperity. These achievements have spurred pressure on the national rejuvenation by providing strong institutional conditions and a material basis for rapid development.

By succeeding in their persistent struggle for development and progress, the CCP and the Chinese people have shown the world that reform and opening are of crucial importance for China to become what it is today. China has made great strides and kept up with the times. A new resolution was adopted in November 2021. The resolution was divided into seven major parts and has marked four different periods in the CCP's history: “The Great Victory in the New Democratic Revolution”, “The Socialist Revolution and the Construction”, “Reform, Opening and Socialist Modernisation”, and finally, “A New Era of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics”. Moreover, the sixth plenary session reaffirmed the CCP's dedication to do support Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong's thought, Deng Xiaoping's theory, the Three Representatives' theory and the scientific view of development, and the full implementation of Xi Jinping's views on

socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new era. Finally, this resolution cements the CCP's history of the last century with a positive assessment that the Party has achieved, in Xi's words, "the first hundred-year goal of building a moderately prosperous society in every way". The CCP's next goal is to realize the second hundred-year goal, which is according to Xi's, to turn "China into a great modern socialist country in every way, continuing to advance towards the ultimate goal of national rejuvenation." For the past hundred years, the CCP has led the Chinese people ending the humiliation and misery inflicted on them in the modern era. Without CCP there wouldn't be the new China. This is a fact that is clear to the Chinese people about China's achievements in revolution, reconstruction, and reform. The CCP leadership is a choice of history and people. This leadership is vital to the country's future and the nation. Over the past hundred years, through its fearless efforts to create a new China, the CCP has led the Chinese people in writing a magnificent chapter in the millennial history of the Chinese nation. The great path they have set out on, the great goal they have undertaken and the great achievements they have achieved over the past century will enter the annals of the Chinese nation and humanity.<sup>8</sup>

## HISTORICAL STRENGTH OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA

The Chinese Communist Party has a long history. It all started with 12 cups of tea, at the founding assembly, 1921 in Shanghai. There were 12 delegates, representing 57 members of the party. The founding assembly was held in legal conditions in one of the teahouses, and the party was founded by left-wing writers and intellectuals. The first president was Professor Cheng Dishyu and among the delegates was Mao Zedong. The founders of the CCP were influenced by the October Revolution in Russia and Marx's ideas about the revolution of the proletariat. The problem was that in China only a mere

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<sup>8</sup> Xinhua. (2021, November 17). Resolution of the CPC Central Committee on the Major Achievements and Historical Experience of the Party over the Past Century. (2021), p. 17–29.  
[http://english.www.gov.cn/news/topnews/202111/17/content\\_WS61945ecbc6d0df57f98e5141.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/news/topnews/202111/17/content_WS61945ecbc6d0df57f98e5141.html)

0.5% of the population made up the working class, while the peasantry represented over 95% of the people<sup>9</sup>. In addition to this, the Chinese working class was under triple exploitation: foreign capitalism, domestic feudalism, and domestic capitalist forces. The Communist Party of China aimed to transform this and has shown remarkable creative momentum in the preparation, execution, and ultimate victory in the revolution. They won the final victory in very unfavourable conditions, when the two largest world powers, the USA and the then USSR, recognized the Kuomintang government, and the USA helped this government both economically and militarily.<sup>10</sup> However, representatives of the Comintern from Moscow provided assistance in founding the People's Republic of China. In 1933, Chiang Kai-shek launched a general offensive to destroy the Communists and occupy the territories they controlled. During this period, the famous Long March began, during which, within a year, most Red Army fighters moved to a safer area, to the north of China. After the occupation of parts of China by imperial Japan in 1937, the Communists formed a truce with the Kuomintang and joined the fight against the occupiers. Despite this, the Kuomintang began to limit the spread of communist influence as early as 1939, which led to frequent conflicts. The tasks of the Chinese revolution were to fight against Japanese imperialism and the feudal class. These two great tasks consisted of carrying out a national revolution keeping it interconnected. For this reason, one of the basic guidance's of the Communist Party of China was to assist the peasantry in overthrowing the feudal landowner class, because the peasantry was the main army of the CCP.<sup>11</sup> After the end of the occupation in 1945, the civil war continued, and the communists defeated the nationalists until 1949.<sup>12</sup> Since its establishment in 1921, the Communist Party of China (CCP) has remained true to its original aspirations and mission,

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<sup>9</sup> Novačić, A. (2018). *Op. cit.*, pp. 148-149.

<sup>10</sup> Dinić, J., & Lazić, D. (1970). *Narodna Republika Kina - Konceptije o socijalističkom razvoju i politika u međunarodnim odnosima*, Institut za međunarodni radnički pokret, Beograd, pp. 61-89.

<sup>11</sup> Ce Tung, M. (1968). *Kineska revolucija*, Vuk Karadžić, Beograd, pp. 39-42.

<sup>12</sup> Wang, Z. (2012). *Never Forget National Humiliation: Historical Memory in Chinese Politics and Foreign Relations*, New York: Columbia University Press, p. 31.39.

seeking happiness for the Chinese people, and rejuvenating the Chinese nation. Remaining committed to communist ideals and socialist beliefs, it united and led the Chinese of all ethnic groups to work tirelessly to achieve national independence and liberation and to make the country prosperous and strong.

With the ascendance of the Communist Party of China, at the head of the revolution, and later at the head of the state, new forces emerged, with new historical tasks, which gave colour and character and determined bigger and more ambitious goals than the old bourgeois-democratic revolutions. According to Mao Zedong, the ultimate goal of the revolution was a distant perspective; while closer goals are the nationalization of banks, large industrial and commercial companies, railways, air transport and such, as well as all other key companies important for economic development.<sup>13</sup> A staunch Marxist view on society practitioners, the CCP has creatively transformed and developed a traditional, people-oriented philosophy. From serving the people wholeheartedly, considering the support, approval, satisfaction, and consent of the people who carried out their work, to representing the basic interests of most of the Chinese people, and putting people first, the CCP leadership has enriched traditional people-centred thinking.<sup>14</sup>

## SOCIALISM WITH CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS

The Theoretical System of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics is a set of political theories and policies of the Communist Party of China consisting of Mao Zedong's thought, Deng Xiaoping's theory, Three Representatives (Jiang Zemin), Scientific View of Development (Hu Jintao) and Xi Jinping's socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new era.<sup>15</sup> Marxism does not exhaust the truth but paves the way to it. Based on Chinese reality, the CCP adapted the basic tenets of Marxism to the Chinese context, fully demonstrating its theoretical approach to combining heritage and innovation. From Mao Zedong

<sup>13</sup> Dapčević, S., & Pavlović, P. (1960). *Narodna Republika Kina*, Kultura, Beograd, pp. 70–76.

<sup>14</sup> *Mao Zedong Works* (1999), Vol. VII, Chin. ed., People's Publishing House, Beijing, p. 89.

<sup>15</sup> Novačić, A. (2018). *Op. cit.*, pp. 208-209.

thoughts, the theory of Deng Xiaoping, the theory of three representatives and the scientific view of development, to Xi Jinping's thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new era. It embodies the basic principles of Marxism containing the latest theoretical innovations based on needs at a given time and practice, serving as guidelines for all CCP members and to all Chinese people.<sup>16</sup>

### **MAO ZEDONG'S THOUGHTS WITH REFERENCE TO "RESOLUTION ON CERTAIN QUESTIONS IN THE HISTORY OF OUR PARTY (1945)"**

Mao Zedong's thoughts are a scientific and theoretical system, a combination of the basic principles of Marxist and Leninist ideology and the experience gained during the long period of the Chinese revolution and construction. Mao Zedong's thoughts are the product of the implementation of Marxism and Leninism in accordance with the Chinese Revolution.

This includes summarizing experiences and correct theory of the Chinese Revolution, as well as the collective wise crystallization of the Communist Party of China. Mao Zedong's thoughts have three basic starting points: the search for truth in facts, consistency in the path of the broad masses, autonomy, and independence. The search for truth in facts is the essence of Mao Zedong's thoughts and the ideological direction of the Communist Party of China. The search for the truth is starting from reality, merging theory with practice, uniting the basic principles of Marxism and Leninism with experience in the practice of the Chinese revolution. Consistency on this path of broad masses of the people shows that everything should be done for the benefit of the people. Autonomy, independence, and reliance on one's own strength mean relying on the broad masses of the people, starting from the real situation in China.<sup>17</sup> The first resolution of the Communist Party of China was adopted in 1945, and it confirmed the great role of Mao

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<sup>16</sup> Jizu, B. (2021). *Concise History of the Communist Party of China*, People's Publishing House & Party History Press, Beijing, pp. 180-188.

<sup>17</sup> Jiping, X. (2014). *The Governance of China*, China International Publishing Group, Beijing, pp. 91-

Zedong. The process of disintegration of the colonial system, taking the Chinese Revolution as an integral part of that process, in its own essence, it gained something new after the WW I and the October Revolution in Russia, a new character.

Presenting the economic and political program of the “new democracy”, Mao Zedong spoke about the ultimate goal, which is the establishment of a socialist society. He advocates that the history of China should be studied in detail, especially from the opium wars onwards, the study of experiences of international labour movements and the connection of revolutionary theory and practice. Understanding general legalities that results from the modern historical epoch in which the Chinese Revolution took the place, and at the same time noticing the characteristics, specifics and special legalities of his country and creatively binding it all together into one whole, highlighted Mao Zedong as the great leader in the Chinese Revolution of that time.<sup>18</sup> Mao's circle of thinking was reduced to relations in the economy (heavy industry has the priority over light and foreign economy), to relations in regional development, to national unity (Khan's chauvinism should have been prevented in relation to the national minorities), to revolution and counterrevolution (the party should support the revolution). Briefly the resolution was an analysis of the Chinese situation under the leadership of Mao Zedong<sup>19</sup>.

### **DENG XIAOPING'S THEORY WITH REFERENCE TO “RESOLUTION ON CERTAIN QUESTIONS IN THE HISTORY OF OUR PARTY (1981)”**

Deng Xiaoping's theory, better known as Dengism, represents a series of political and economic ideologies first developed by Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping. The theory does not reject Marxism-Leninism or Mao Zedong's thought, and instead strives to adapt it into China's existing socio-economic

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<sup>18</sup> Dapčević, S., Pavlović, P. (1960). *Op. cit.*, pp. 80-82.

<sup>19</sup> Novačić, A. (2018). *Op. cit.*, p. 210

conditions. Deng stressed China's opening up to the outside world, the concept of one country, two systems, and also through the phrase "seek the truth from the facts", advocating political and economic pragmatism.<sup>20</sup> At the time of the third plenary session of the 11th Central Committee, the CCP struggled to emerge from political and ideological chaos. Doubts arose both inside and outside the party concerning the party's socialism and sustainability, as well as Mao Zedong's lifelong contribution and validity of his ideas. In this context, a resolution has been developed based on some key questions. Beginning in the November 1979, the forming process went through several rounds of discussions and revisions before the final document was adopted by consensus at the sixth plenary session of the Central Committee of the 11th CCP in June 1981.

The resolution affirmed Deng Xiaoping's new reform strategy. The resolution assessed main initiatives launched by the CCP since the founding of the People's Republic of China, in particular the Cultural Revolution. It also assessed Mao's achievements and wrong steps, as well as the basic settings of his philosophy and its value in leading the nation forward. The misconceptions behind the Cultural Revolution and so-called "continuous revolution under dictatorship of the proletariat" have been unequivocally rejected. Conclusions were made based on evidence of the important events and people in history, as well as our experience with the socialist revolution and economic development in socialism. The resolution has reaffirmed the gradual approach to building a strong, modern socialist country, as the answer to China's current reality, which has been under way since the third plenary session of the 11th CCP Central Committee. It determined the future direction of Chinese socialism and helped build cohesion within the CCP. In it the assessment was made of Mao's place in history based on facts and completely reaffirmed Mao Zedong's thought as the CCP's leading philosophy<sup>21</sup>.

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<sup>20</sup> Zhang, W. (1996). *Ideology and economic reform under Deng Xiaoping, 1978-1993*, Kegan Paul International, New York, pp. 14-23.

<sup>21</sup> Deng S. (2012). *Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping*, People's Publishing House, Beijing, p. 341-371.

## XI JINPING'S THOUGHT ON SOCIALISM WITH CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS FOR THE NEW AGE

With reference to the “Resolution of the CPC central committee on the main achievements and historical experience of the party in the past century”, Xi Jinping's view of socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new era is a set of policies and ideas derived from writings and speeches of the general secretary of the Communist Party of China Xi Jinping. Studying the history of China, Xi emphasizes that “Marxism-Leninism and the thought of Mao Zedong brought the Chinese people out of the darkness and established a new China.” As for the future, “the consolidation and development of the socialist system will require a long period of history; it will require a tireless struggle throughout generations, up to the tenth generation.”<sup>22</sup> Xi Jinping emphasized that the new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics is an era in which the PRC will continue to build up on past successes, to further their cause and continue to strive for the success of socialism with Chinese characteristics in these new historical conditions, an era in which we'll use the momentum of our decisive victory in building a moderately prosperous society in every way to encourage overall efforts to build a great modern socialist country. An era in which Chinese of all ethnic groups will work together to create a better life for themselves and gradually achieve their goal of a common prosperity; an era in which all the sons and daughters of the Chinese nation will strive with one heart to realize the Chinese dream of national rejuvenation; and an era in which China will make an even greater contribution to humanity. This new era marks a new historical point in China's development.<sup>23</sup> The new strategy of development, the Chinese renaissance or Chinese dream program, as Xi Jinping often calls it, is different from past plans in that it focuses less on gross national income growth as the only measure of success, and focuses more on key elements of the economic quality growth. This

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<sup>22</sup> Jiping X. (2014). *Op. cit.*, pp. 40-89.

<sup>23</sup> Propaganda Department of the CPC Central Committee. (2019). *Study Guide of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era*, Xuexi Publishing House, Beijing, pp. 87-129.

is exactly the reason why redefinition of Mao's and Deng's philosophy has been required. Xi Jinping has made a change in formulation. This opened a wide space for new ideas that can be expected in years to come.<sup>24</sup>

Xi Jinping's thought on socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new era clearly shows the following: the leadership of the Communist Party of China is a feature of socialism with Chinese characteristics and the greatest strength of the socialist system, and the CCP is the highest power of political leadership. Therefore, all members of the party must strengthen their awareness and maintain the highest political integrity. Furthermore, members are reminded of the vision, and to follow the core leadership, always maintaining compliance with the central party leadership; as well as staying safe on the path, theory, system, and culture of socialism with Chinese characteristics. Therefore, Xi Jinping's thoughts on socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new era are the Marxism of modern China and the 21st century. These embody the best of Chinese culture and nature in our time and represents new breakthroughs in adapting Marxism to the Chinese context. The party has established the core position of comrade Xi Jinping in the party's central committee and in the whole party, reflecting the general will of the party, armed forces, and Chinese people of all ethnic groups. This stance is crucial for the advancement of the party and the country in this new era and for initiating the historical process of national rejuvenation.<sup>25</sup>

In this resolution, the central committee with comrade Xi Jinping made it clear; at its core that leadership of the party is the foundation and lifeblood of the CCP and the country, and the pillar on which all interests and well-being of the Chinese people depend on. All members of the party must maintain a high degree of unity with the central committee, ideologically, politically and in action. We need to improve our capacity to implement sound, democratic, law-based governance, as well as our ability to chart

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<sup>24</sup> Novačić, A. (2018). *Op. cit.*, p. 133.

<sup>25</sup> Propaganda Department of the CPC Central Committee. (2019). *Op. cit.*, pp. 145-149.

our course, make overall plans, create policies, and promote reform. We must ensure that the party fully fulfils its primary role in providing general leadership and coordinating the efforts from all sides.<sup>26</sup>

The central committee of the Communist Party of China ended its sixth plenary session by publishing its very much significant resolution, which coincides with the party's centenary. The resolution covers first 100 years of the CCP in a way that highlights its most significant achievements during a period that its authors justifiably describe as the most glorious in the millennial history of its nation. The resolution emphasizes that Xi Jinping's idea of socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new era must be fully implemented. We must use Marxist points of views and methods to observe, understand and manage the trends of the time, and constantly deepen our understanding of the laws underlying the Communist Party's governance, building socialism, and developing human society. We must adhere to the party's basic theories, lines and policies; strengthen our awareness of the need to maintain political integrity, think big, monitor the core of leadership and maintain compliance with the central party leadership; stay confident on the path, theory, system and culture of socialism with Chinese characteristics; and support the essential position of comrade Xi Jinping in the central committee of the party and in the party as a wholeness, and support the authority of the central committee and its centralized, solely leadership.<sup>27</sup>

## CONCLUSION

In 2021, the Communist Party of China celebrates 100 years of existence, which is one hundred years of impressive achievements, diligence, and hard work. The Chinese Communist party was founded during a time of great challenges, which were faced by the Chinese people. Following the Opium Wars of 1840, old China gradually shrank into a semi-colonial and

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<sup>26</sup> Xinhua (2021, November 17), *Op. cit.*, pp.17-29.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 65-69.

semi-feudal society due to the stubbornness, decadence, and incompetence of feudal rulers, altogether with the aggression of capitalist forces. Following the foundation of the Communist Party of China in 1921, it established the right path for a new democratic revolution, and the Chinese people saw the CCP as new strength, new hope, and new support. More than 100 years of history prove that the Chinese Communist Party, armed with Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong's thoughts, Deng Xiaoping's theory and Xi Jinping's idea of socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new era, showed the strength of the Chinese state for future times. Over the past 100 years since its founding, the Chinese Communist Party has made impressive achievements, led the way to achieving the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, and it fundamentally changed the historical destiny of the Chinese people. Moreover, the Chinese Communist Party contributed to solving global problems for all mankind.

Xi Jinping's thought on socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new age promotes building a new form of international relations and community with a common future of humanity, making a great contribution to peace and the development in the world. One of the most significant results of the CCP leadership is poverty reduction, which has lifted over 850 million people out of extreme poverty, accounting for nearly 70 percent of the world's poverty eradication. This was an unprecedented achievement in history. China has provided unselfish assistance to the developing countries, established and improved cooperation mechanisms such as China and Africa, China and Latin America, China and the Arab States, and China and the Pacific island countries. The CCP conducted extensive cooperation under voluntary and mutually beneficial conditions to support developing countries. China has provided enormous health and medical assistance to African countries. In the struggle against pandemics, China has not only taken the lead in controlling the pandemic, but has also provided technical, material, and medical assistance to many developing countries and provided vaccines developed by China as a global public product, especially to developing countries. Additionally, China made exceptional contributions to the global

fight against the pandemic. In the West, there is a misconception that the one-party system is unsustainable because it allegedly cannot be reformed, but the Communist Party of China, more than any other party in the world, has shown an extraordinary capacity of vitality and reform.

The CCP has never considered its political system to be a model for others, unlike the United States, Britain, and the former Soviet Union. As China becomes more important and influential, it will be inevitable that other countries start striving to learn from its achievements, whether is it for example, economic policy, pandemic struggle, technological innovation, or climate change.

The CCP actively participates and develops relations with political parties in other countries and promotes healthy and stable relation development between China and other countries, thus contributing world peace, economic development, and progress of the humanity. In this process, the CCP follows four main principles: independence, equality, mutual respect, and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. Under the strong leadership of PRC President Xi Jinping, the community building with a common future for humanity has begun, it is highly recognized by the vast majority of countries and international organizations, such as United Nations, and has shown its on the right path and that it has bright prospects for the future. A significant resolution has been adopted at the CCP plenum "Marxist program document", a political declaration of building socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era and a guide to achieving great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, the plenum fully confirmed achievements in cultural construction and ideological work. The CCP remained committed to seeking happiness for the Chinese people and rejuvenating the nation. All three historical resolutions have confirmed that it has never deviated from these historical goals. Over the decades, and despite changing international circumstances, the CCP has improved the effectiveness of its policies, managed to overcome numerous situations in the country, to integrate China in the world, and to restore pride to its people.

Socialism with Chinese characteristics continued to be constantly developed.

Xi Jinping contributed to this evolutionary process through what is now known as Xi Jinping's thought of socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new era. The adoption of resolutions throughout the history of the CCP is of the great political, historical, and economic importance, so far there have been only two resolutions. One was in 1945, which confirmed the great role of Mao Zedong, and another in 1981, which affirmed the new political and economic reform strategy of Deng Xiaoping. According to a resolution passed in November 2021, "the Central Committee, with president Xi at its core, has shown the great historical initiative, great political courage and a strong sense of mission." The party established Xi Jinping's main position in the Central Committee of the party and in the party as a whole and defined the leading role of Xi Jinping's thought on socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new era, as also stated in the resolution. The Central Committee called on the party, army, and Chinese people to gather closely around the Central Committee, along with comrade Xi Jinping as the head of the party. In practice, examples of this include strengthening the CCP's unity, strengthening its self-reform capabilities, balancing the country's development, enriching Chinese culture, prioritizing environmental goals, fighting corruption, modernizing armed forces, ensuring national security, and actively developing the entire human process. The CCP's focus on achieving the great success of Chinese nation isn't happening at someone else's expense. On the contrary, it's the most powerful driver for the human development, as evidenced by the incomparable contribution of this country to humanity over the past century. Considering the 100-year history of the CCP and determining its direction for the next few decades, the resolution serves to strengthen unity among the party members and strengthen authority and leadership of the CCP Central Committee.

Unlike many political parties in the West, the reason the CCP has achieved great success is not that it doesn't make mistakes, but that it does not hide its mistakes and instead taking the steps to correct them, daring to face problems and draw lessons from them. The party has consistently promoted broader and deeper reforms. The life of the inhabitants has

improved in all aspects, and efforts to protect the environment have undergone great, historical, and transformative changes. For the past hundred years, the CCP has led the Chinese people in the path of ending the humiliation and misery inflicted on them in the modern era. Without the CCP, there wouldn't be a new China and national rejuvenation. This fact is clear to the Chinese people based on China's achievements in revolution, reconstruction, and reform.

In terms of foreign affairs, China's diplomacy has progressed on all fronts, and the concept of community with the common future of humanity has become the leading trend of the time. When Xi was elected as the General Secretary of the CCP Central Committee in 2012, he stated two "hundred-year goals" - to make China a moderately prosperous society by the 2021 and a great modern socialist country by the 2049. The former has already been achieved; the plenary session gave new impetus for achieving the second goal. Xi Jinping's idea of socialism with Chinese characteristics for the new age was created by continuous enrichment, deep reflection and application of scientific socialism and continuous research and progress in supporting and developing socialism with Chinese characteristics. This thought represents the latest achievement, encompasses the practical experience and collective wisdom of the Communist Party of China and the people as well, which keeps pace with the times. Under the strong leadership of the CCP Central Committee headed by Xi Jinping, the Chinese people will surely create new and greater miracles that the whole world will admire. Sticking together, maintaining close ties, and giving prosperity to the people, this enabled the CCP to overcome all the difficulties and dangers in the past. This approach also laid the foundations for building a strong party and a prosperous nation. According to Xi Jinping, the CCP will remain invincible as long as it's in the forefront of the time; lead the charge in overcoming difficulties and challenges, and spreading the roots among the people.

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## **ИСТОРИЈСКИ ЗНАЧАЈ УСВАЈАЊА РЕЗОЛУЦИЈЕ ЦЕНТРАЛНОГ КОМИТЕТА КОМУНИСТИЧКЕ ПАРТИЈЕ КИНЕ**

### **Апстракт**

*У раду се говори о историјском значају усвајања три важне резолуције, које је донео Централни комитет Комунистичке партије Кине. Историјски значај ових резолуција је видљив и у политичком и економском контексту, што се огледа у чињеници да је партија превазилазећи бројне унутрашње и спољашње политичке и економске изазове потврдила историјску снагу Кине. Аутор у раду представља три кључне теорије потребне за разумевање саме суштине социјализма са кинеским карактеристикама, систематизујући га у аналитичком оквиру. Свестан сложености овог задатка, аналитичким приступом аутор нуди читаоцу добру структуру која олакшава разумевање тематике, као и самих резолуција у политичко-теоријском контексту следеће три теорије: „Мисли Мао Цедунга“, „Теорије Денг Сјаопинга“ и „Мисао Си Ђинпинга о социјализму са кинеским карактеристикама за нову еру“. Указујући на значај ових резолуција Комунистичке партије Кине за саму Кину, рад даје одговор и на питање шта оне нуде у глобалном политичком контексту.*

**Кључне речи:** *Си Ђинпинг, Денг Сјаопинг, Мао Цедунг, социјализам, реформе, Нова демократска револуција*