

Introduction

Kuan-Chen Lee, Ming-Te Hung*

The 19th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party has put the goal of realizing the “Two Centenaries” in the Constitution of the Chinese Communist Party. It aimed to build a moderately prosperous society in all respects on the 100th Anniversary of the Chinese Communist Party (2021) and to build China into a great modern socialist country in all respects on the 100th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China (2049). Undoubtedly, Xi Jinping announced the achievement of the first goal for the 100th Anniversary of the Chinese Communist Party on the ceremony.¹ However, in the background of celebrating its 100th anniversary, the CCP strengthened the anti-corruption and rectification campaign and mind control in the aspect of politics to remove the obstacles on Xi’s way of re-election on 20th National Congress of the CCP. At the same time, the CCP concluded the major achievements and historical experience in its 100-year-struggle and confirmed that Xi is the core leader with his thought acting as the foundation of official and governmental guidance through the announcement of the “Resolution of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China On the Major Achievements and Historical Experience of the Party

* Kuan-Chen Lee, Assistant Research Fellow, Division of Chinese Politics, Military and Warfighting Concepts, Institute for National Defense and Security Research; Ming-Te Hung, Assistant Research Fellow, Division of Chinese Politics, Military and Warfighting Concepts, Institute for National Defense and Security Research.

¹ “The Magnificent Declaration of Xi Jinping: Building a Moderately Prosperous Society in All Respects,” China News Service, July 1, 2021, <https://www.chinanews.com/gn/shipin/cns-d/2021/07-01/news893376.shtml>.

Over the Past Century (The Third Resolution on History).” It was to unify the corresponding measures of all members of the party when facing risks in the future. In terms of the CCP’s Taiwan policy, it is going to strengthen its three-pronged strategy composed of “anti-independence, promotion of fusion and promotion of unification” to make progress in the peaceful reunification of Taiwan with China. In the military aspect, China keeps spending money on its armed forces and weapons. This is to accelerate the modernization of its national defense and armed forces. The CCP rectifies the capital market and promotes the idea of common prosperity in the economic aspect, and this is to prevent the expansion of capital from challenging its ruling base. In the social aspect, the Internet platforms and the cultural entertainment industry are strictly regulated in order to curb the subversion of culture by crooked and chaotic trends. Upon this situation, “The 2021 Report on the Development of the Chinese Communist Party’s Politics and Military” took the 100th anniversary of the CCP as the main shaft and covered the political, military, economic and social aspects with reasoning and analysis in the way of discussing specific issues. This report can be divided into totally 10 chapters, including the Section of Politics, the Section of Military Affairs, and the Section of Economy and Society.

In Chapter 1 of the section of politics, the political implications and policy priorities of the “14th Five-Year Plan and the Long-Range Objectives Through the Year 2035” and the profound influence of them on the development of China under the rule of CCP were described from the perspective of the changes in the external situation for CCP and its historical progress. The principles and discourse on the 2021 Taiwan policy of CCP were reviewed in Chapter 2, and the adjustments and changes in the Taiwan policy of CCP were analyzed in this light. In Chapter 3, the division of labor and strategies between the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Taiwan-related issues were compared using the statements made by the two divisions as the examples. China’s promotion of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in the Indo-Pacific region in the past year was reviewed in Chapter 4. The risks and controversies of the BRI, and the countermeasures of the international community at this stage were all

summarized.

The Fifth Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee proposed the idea of “Ensuring the achievement of the military’s centenary goal by 2027,” planning to complete the military transformation by the 100th anniversary of the establishment of People’s Liberation Army. CCP is going to promote intelligentization on the basis of mechanization and informatization to build a military force that matches its national strength in the world. In response to this situation, the changes in the patterns of Chinese warplane incursions were first compiled based on open source intelligence in Chapter 5, Section of Military Affairs in this annual report. the meaning of the frequent access to Taiwan’s southwestern ADIZ by Chinese warplanes was further analyzed, and the possible ways for Taiwan to respond were proposed according to it. The focus of Chapter 6 was on the South China Sea. From the three perspectives: war potential extension and battlefield awareness, the approaches of offense and defense in islands and reefs, and the suppression of foreign forces, the military preparedness of the PLA in the South China Sea were analyzed. In Chapter 7, we took the four official Weibo accounts operated by the PLA as the research subjects to clarify the public opinion dissemination model and development trend of the PLA on social media and to attempt to gain a more thorough understanding of its weaponized propaganda model.

After the inauguration of Joe Biden as the president of the U.S.A., the US-China tensions have not abated, and there has been no relaxation in the control of technology. For its part, the CCP wants to develop technological independence through its domestic market and state capital support in order to get rid of the U.S. containment. Therefore, in Chapter 8 of the Section of Economy and Society, a systematic review of the PRC’s economic situation and semiconductor industrial policy for 2021 was conducted, providing readers with a snapshot of China’s economic outlook and the challenges of semiconductor development. Chapter 9 was focused on the development of PRC’s aerospace science and technology and its related industrial chain. By clearly depicting the path of PRC’s aerospace science and technology development and its related industrial structure, the authors

endeavored to investigate the development mechanism and military application potentials of PRC's aerospace science and technology in depth. Finally, the focus of Chapter 10 was on the social aspect of China, analyzing the various measures taken to strengthen social control during the 100th anniversary of the CCP. The reason why CCP has strengthened its political, economic and social stability maintenance in China is, in the short term, related to the re-election of Xi Jinping at the 20th National Congress. In the long term, it is the risk management to ensure the basic achievement of socialist modernization by 2035.

In conclusion, although the CCP announced on its 100th anniversary that it has built a moderately prosperous society in all respects and set specific targets for 2027, 2035 and 2049, this is by no means a smooth road to prosperity. On the contrary, the CCP is facing the road of changes full of hidden dangers and challenges on its 100th anniversary. This annual report is composed of issue-oriented studies focusing on the political, military, and socio-economic aspects of the PRC, with the hope of providing readers with a more in-depth understanding of the recent political, military, economic, and social developments in the PRC.