

## The Development of U.S.-China Relations in since Nixon's visit to Beijing and China's “cultural diplomacy.”

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Half a century has passed since Richard Nixon, the 37th President of the United States of America, visited China in 1972. Nixon introduced the engagement policy, not the containment policy, toward China, pursuing changes within China for world peace. China embarked on structural economic reforms from the late 1970's and had already emerged as the world's second largest economic power by 2010. China, however, maintained its communist political system and confronted with the United States as a rival and authoritarian power with a modernized military from the 2010s.

On the other hand, China introduced “cultural diplomacy” since the beginning of 21st century, to improve its image and reputation in international society, including in the United States. The Chinese government by providing subsidies and support, such as providing start-up funding and sending Chinese language teachers, encouraged many universities around the world to establish Chinese language schools, called Confucius Institutes.

This article consists of three parts. First, it discusses why President Nixon considered normalizing relations with communist China. Second, it considers the background of the how China reacted when faced with international criticism about Tiananmen Massacre. Finally, we will consider China's cultural diplomacy after the beginning of 21th century.

In spite of China's efforts to increase its soft power, China's image, especially in the United States, has declined since the introduction of a more forceful diplomacy under President Xi Jinping.