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**Chinese Values vs. Liberalism: What Ideology Will
Shape the International Normative Order?**

Review

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Published on 8th June 2022



(The Chinese Journal of International Politics, 2018, 1 – 22,doi: 10.1093/cjip/

poy001;Advance Access Publication Date: 8 February 2018)

In the article, the author *Yan Xuotong* compares the two contending ideologies in the International system and how the fading liberal tendencies have created room for other ideologies to strive for dominance in the global system. The United States liberal hegemony and dominance are declining and other ideologies have been posing challenges to its dominance in the world. The article under review highlights that the Chinese government has tried to combine traditional values with Marxism but that might not alone be fruitful in achieving the desired targets.

According to the author, liberalism is the most prominent ideology and cannot be replaced by other ideologies overnight, but it is losing its influence. Secondly, China's rise suggests that its ideology will pose a challenge to the U.S. Thirdly, China follows traditional values in its foreign policy making. In this aspect, the author suggests two possibilities for international order following these three trends.

- a) The future International system will be dominated by either the competition of Chinese values with liberalism or the combination of these two ideologies (such as Chinese values of benevolence, righteousness and rite with liberal values of equality, democracy and freedom, respectively). The result of this combination will be a new set of modern values of Humane Authority with justice, civility and fairness.

- b) There is more possibility of acceptance of these norms in other countries due to their universal nature and this brings forth the possibility of a more peaceful world. Moreover, the rise of China also suggests that it will reshape the world order from US-led uni-polarity to bipolarity as the disparity between the two is shrinking and China is expected to reach or even surpass the U.S. in many aspects.

There is no doubt that China has risen to an extent where it is believed that this strength will be able to match or even outstrip U.S. in the coming decades. The author stated that the humane authority is somehow different from



liberalism but it has an essence of liberalism; therefore, other states would accept it at a larger-scale. The universal adoption of humane authority by all states requires the one who will lead the International system. It should have a consistent domestic and foreign policy based on humanitarian principles. The author mentioned that the world order and international system can be improved by adopting principles of humane authority and replacing the hegemonic system of the U.S. Even though a desirable world cannot be guaranteed, the author believes that such values can transform the current International order to a more peaceful one.



The author has rightfully pointed out the changing dynamics of the world and the rise of China that is expected to shape the future world order. The growing influence of China and its expansion through different projects like BRI, will expand its diplomatic system and economic model. The Chinese economic model with traditional values has become an example for underdeveloped states that look up to China for its economic growth and how it eradicated poverty level. At present, China is interested in expanding economic outreach along with bilateral/multilateral alliances in various regions. There is no doubt that China has become a role model for other states. The influence of the so-called " liberal doctrine " of the U.S. has been fading due to its contradicting policies at the domestic and international level.

The author also rightly predicts that the world wants humane authority than hegemony. It can be beneficial to combine the values of both ideologies. Among the competing ideologies, there are more prospects that the combination of both ideologies will reshape the new world order in the coming decades.