

FROM ISOLATION TO PARTICIPATION: ROLE OF CHINA IN THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE POST-COLD WAR ERA

Dure Shahwar Bano *

Mominyar Khalid **

Abstract: *China is fast becoming a global power – a vital partner in the international political coliseum. Once reluctant to participate in any international organization, China soon recognized how imperative its membership in institutions like United Nations is. Since then, China is comprehensively involved in various fields of operations (i.e., peacekeeping, conflict resolution, and humanitarian assistance). This research investigates the indelibility of China's part in the United Nations in the Post-Cold war era. This paper also tries to investigate the impact of China on the West and the third world countries with respect to its participation in the United Nations. Overall, it is an effort to shed light on the correlation between China's legacy and its current role in the United Nations.*

Keywords: China, United Nations, isolation, multilateralism, peacekeeping, humanitarian assistance, open door policy

Introduction

China's modernization, economic prosperity, and sustainable development make her irrevocably an important character in the international system. From a reluctant participant to an active partaker, China has gone through a series of transitional periods. Being a communist state, China perceived international organizations as having an imperialist agenda. It is only with time and experience that China comprehended the importance of the United Nations in

* Dure Shahwar Bano has recently has done her MPhil in Political Science from GC University, Lahore (shahwar_bano@hotmail.com).

** Mominyar Khalid is a student of BA (Hons) Political Science, GC University, Lahore.

global order. China became a permanent member of the United Nations in the 1971. This era is very important in Chinese history as in 1970 China adopted Open Door Policy and improved its relations with other states of various regions, especially the West. China's active participation in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) as a permanent member besides USSR was of great concern for many capitalist powers. However, China's rise as a significant power was appreciated by most of third world countries. It was perceived that through China's active participation, the developing nations could raise their voices more vigorously.

The research primarily explores how and in what ways China's role has increased as an influential international actor with reference to its perceptions and strategies of power through its active participation in the United Nations in the Post-Cold War era by accessing various fields of operations, such as peacekeeping, conflict resolution, and humanitarian assistance. The article additionally endeavors to investigate how China's enrollment in the United Nations is serving for the West and the third world countries.

Chinese Concept of Sovereignty & Security

China, a 5000 years old civilization, had its distinguish political, economic, social, and cultural set up. Confucius (551–479 BC), a known Chinese philosopher, profoundly influenced Chinese political, social, religious, and cultural life. He emphasized on harmony and equilibrium as the main forces without which social justice cannot be established. China did not like to join the world for quite a long time. External invasion and imperial rule compelled China to adopt policies of isolationism that were supportive of their own nationality.

In 1989, following peaceful principles became part of the Chinese constitution:

- ✓ Mutual respect of state sovereignty and territorial integrity
- ✓ Non-aggression
- ✓ Non-interference in the internal issues of a state
- ✓ Equality
- ✓ Peaceful co-existence

By analyzing these principles of peaceful coexistence, it is evident that these principles were essential for maintaining stable and cordial relations among the states. China has a long turbulent history of external interferences and occupation of their land which not only destabilized the Chinese development in the pre independence era, but also hampered the process of political and economic alterations to cope with the changing needs of international politics. As a result of its experience of humiliation under imperial domination, respect for state sovereignty and territorial integrity has been incorporated as core aspect of its relations with other states. China's participation or involvement in any conflict matter and peacekeeping resolution requires consent of the member state. It has been maintained clearly by Chinese policy makers that no action would be taken against the will of a state. This Chinese policy was evident in 1999 during the NATO attacked on Kosovo, which was highly criticized and condemned by the Chinese. China termed this action against the core objectives of China and the United Nations.

Chinese participation in the United Nations was due to two main reasons: that the United Nations supported the idea of collective security and only sovereign states could be its member.

Chinese concept of sovereignty, security, and non-interference is a static concept and not a flux. The strong adherence to Westphalia model is due to the excruciating past. The international community must understand the nexus of China's sovereignty and the integration process in order to understand and enhanced its participation in the globalized world.¹

In Post-Cold War era, China criticized the politicized agenda of the hegemonic powers and emphasized on adopting more pragmatic and rational choices to deal with the emerging turmoil. State sovereignty and territorial integrity always remained the cornerstone of China's participation and dealings with any other state. In fact China perceived that international organizations should be

¹ Bill Gates & James Kelly, "Sovereignty, Intervention and Peacekeeping view from Beijing," *Survival* 42, no. 3 (Autumn 2000): 41–59.

independent so that they can perform their duties and obligations without any external influence.

China and the United Nations (UN)

An active participation and representation of China in different forums and organs of the United Nations are significantly relevant to the policies and goal of the People's Republic of China because of the following:

- ✓ China's claim for sole and legitimate government of China could be fulfilled more conveniently after becoming the part of the UN.
- ✓ The United Nations is a platform to display a state's decision making power in diplomacy.
- ✓ The United Nations is a platform to resolve disputes and to raise voice against the disparity and injustice. China, through the United Nations, could not only deal with the internal disputes but external threats as well.
- ✓ Initially, China being part of developing states grabbed the opportunity to acquire the role of leadership of third world countries. By highlighting problems and suffering of less developed states, China voiced the concerns and reservations of the third world.
- ✓ The UN provided platform for sovereign states to discuss their issues and concerns. More importantly, such associations among the sovereign states were essential for the financial ties.
- ✓ As a permanent member of the United Nations, China could extend its influence internationally.

China and the UN: From Suspicion to Active Participation

Initially, China was reluctant to join any international organization due to the bitter history of victimization at the hands of same powers who were again proponents of these international arrangements. Secondly, China was occupied by its internal struggle of ideological conflict, which provided less room for diplomatic

orientation in an effective manner. Thirdly, China was not ready to accommodate nationalist demand of accepting the 'Two China Policy.' Chinese disinclination persisted towards UN until bilateral relation between China and the US were normalized during 1970s, which significantly paved way for China's permanent seat in the UN by replacing Taiwan. In the Post-Cold War era, with a consistent approach and firm point of view, relevant to its principles of peaceful coexistence, China dynamically contributed in the UN and turned out to be one of the most influential and vigorous affiliate of the United Nations. The Chinese involvement in the United Nations can be divided into three phases.

The first phase was characterized by the Chinese insecurity emanating from the Cold war compulsions of initial decade. In this phase, China opposed the international organization mainly due to the historical legacy when International laws were mainly regarded to preserve only the interests of the great powers. The US attack on Korea with UN support further validated China's concerns and reservations and led her to view these international entities only as a legitimized cover to the aggression of powerful states over the weaker one. This time is also known as a survival era as national integrity was the main concern of China. The 'Great Leap Forward' and internal turmoil constrained China to stay away from the external complexities.

The second phase is known as 'reservation era,' starting from 1960s. The decade of the 1960s brought various foreign policy shifts in Chinese priorities as ideological conflict with USSR made the cracks visible in the Communist bloc, which hampered the flow of Soviet material, technical assistance, and diplomatic support to China. Later border dispute with India led to the opening of the war, which ended with the Indian defeat, but it brought another serious threat to China – close association between USSR and India. Moreover Sino-Soviet rift over the Indian territorial issue and disagreement over transferring nuclear technology compelled China to lean towards the West especially the US. This made China look outward of the region to seek support. Though immediate rescue was made by securing warm and cordial relations with Pakistan, whose animosity with India was the result of many years and its relations with the USSR was also not on a smooth drive due to American

influence over it. However the policy of containment of communism as the ultimate goal of US and Western Europe minimized the prospects of Chinese outward approach. Furthermore, deferment of the PRC as the sole Chinese representation by US caused strains in developing relations.

Third era is known as ‘participation phase,’ starting in 1970. AS relations with Soviet Union worsened, China adopted Open Door Policy under Deng Xiaoping (1978–89). Deng sought pragmatic solution for Chinese economy while maintaining its economic relations abroad. Deng realized that drastic changes were needed as he observed the success of its neighbors like Korea, Taiwan, Indonesia, and Japan. Deng believed that China’s future wasn’t based on ‘economic autarky’ (Mao’s approach) but only on joining international economic systems and international economic regimes.²

Thus, Deng abandoned the traditional self-reliance policy and favored Open Door Policy with the world, and developed economic, educational, trade, technological, and political relationships through the international forums such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank (WB), Asian Development Bank (ADB), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and the International Olympic Committee (IOC). In the same era China became the sole legitimate representative of its people in the UNSC. With these organizations, China assimilated official aid and assistance and funds for its economic and social infrastructure countrywide. These arrangements were crucial for the initial phase of economic prosperity. Besides these organizations, China started to promote its role in different courses of action (e.g., managing peacekeeping, peace building, disarmament, and arms control).

The present engagement of China began from the late 1980s, based on comprehensive involvement in the United Nations. That engagement was particularly taken to standardize the image of China after the ‘Tiananmen square’ occurrence. This issue left China in disconnection and was put under authorizations by the West.

² Judith F. Kornberg and John R. Faust, *China in World Politics: policies, processes, prospects* (New Delhi: Viva Books Private Limited, 2007), 65.

Obviously, in this period, the profundity and broadness of China's cooperation in the United Nations had significantly expanded. A soft image of China was required after an incident of Tianamen Square, and China also realized the importance of UN to express their diversity of opinion over human right orientations, which were different from western concepts and perceptions.

Table 1: Chinese Personnel Holding Important Positions in the International Organizations

Name	Position	Assuming Year
Margaret Chan Fung Fu Chun	Director General of WHO	2007
Sha Zukang	Under-Secretary General of UN	2007
Lin Yifu	Chief Economist & Senior Vice President of World Bank	2008
Zhu Min	Special Advisor to the Managing Director of IMF	2010
Zhang Yuejiao	Justice of Dispute Settlement Body of WTO	2008
He Changchui	Deputy Director-General of UN FAO	2009
Wang Binying	Vice Director-General of WIPO	2010

Source: Zihai Xie, "The rise of China and Its Growing Role in International Organizations, *ICCS Journal of Modern Chinese Studies* 4, no. 1 (2011): 89.

During Post-Cold war era China has expanded its membership from only one intergovernmental organization (IGOs) and 58 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to 49 IGOs in 2007 and 1,568 NGOs in 2003 respectively.³ China has also participated in numerous ad-hoc negotiations on topics ranging from public health to arms control and climate change. It is estimated that by the end of 2004, China was the signatory of 267 treaties and protocols. In 2005, China signed 370 bilateral agreements; and according to yearbook of

³ Zihai Xie, "The rise of China and Its Growing Role in International Organizations, *ICCS Journal of Modern Chinese Studies* 4, no. 1 (2011): 89.

international organizations, China joined 40 out of 67 international organizations during 2002–03.⁴

Chinese Engagements in the UN in Post-Cold War Era

The Post-Cold War era is important for the world as frequent humanitarian crisis increased radically. Previously, humanitarian crisis was based on right of intervention rather than the state sovereignty. This issue was under consideration by the United Nations Security Council, and in 2001, International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (ICISS)⁵ discussed the extent of a state power in the humanitarian crisis. Under the Responsibility to Protect doctrine the potential role of a sovereign state in order to protect its citizens was discussed. China encouraged this doctrine and ensured full compliance with the guidelines.

China and the UN Peacekeeping Operations

One particularly instructive lens through which to examine China's changing attitude toward sovereignty and intervention is its response to humanitarian crises, which have been – and are almost certain to remain – a common feature of international relations in the Post-Cold War world. The role China plays in future humanitarian crises will depend, in large part, on its position on the limits of sovereignty and the international legal constraints on humanitarian intervention.⁶ In the Post-Cold War time, China indicated full consistency with the UN peacekeeping operations and completely backed the proposals made by the Brahimi report for the expanding effectiveness of the UN. China has completely acknowledged “the

⁴ Joel Wuthnow, Xin Li, and Lingling Qi, “Diverse Multilateralism: Four Strategies in China's Multilateral Diplomacy,” *Journal of Chinese Political Science* 17, Issue 3 (2012): 269–90.

⁵ The Responsibility to Protect: International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (ICISS), 2001, 49, <http://responsibilitytoprotect.org/ICISS%20Report.pdf>.

⁶ Jonathan E. Davis, “From Ideology to Pragmatism: China Position in Humanitarian Intervention in the Post-Cold War Era,” *Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law* 44, no. 2 (March 2011): 219.

responsibility to protect” and further confirms that China is firm with its stance on sovereignty and the principle of non-interference and won’t compromise over that.⁷

China partaking in the UN Peacekeeping Operations is not only aimed to contribute its share in the maintenance of world peace, stability, and security but it also highlighted China’s aspiration to enlarge its diplomatic say and political influence in world politics. Apart from its preliminary reservations, China while actively participating in the UN forums always applauds the recommendations and suggestions of the UN. However, as a part of its principle stand view, China is adherent of an approach based on non-interference towards State sovereignty and respect for the territorial integrity unless or until such request of assistance is asked by a legitimate government.

Table 2: China participation in Current Peacekeeping Operations

Sr No.	Operation Name	Country Name
1	MINURSO	West Sahara
2	MINUSMA	Mali
3	MONUSCO	Congo
4	UNAMID	Darfur
5	UNIFIL	Lebanon
6	UNMIL	Liberia
7	UNMISS	South Sudan
8	UNOCI	Cote d’Loire
9	UNTSO	Middle East

Source: “China’s role in peacekeeping Operations,” *European Parliamentary Research Service Blog*, accessed August 23, 2015, <http://epthinktank.eu/2013/04/24/chinas-role-in-un-peacekeeping-operations/>.

The 1991 UN peacekeeping operation in Iraq under resolution 678 to topple down the Saddam Hussain regime to desist his misuse of power was supported by China. However, when the operation expanded and deviated from its core objective, China expressed its concerns for devising the limitations to further actions. This action established a notion that China emphasized and stressed on member states to respect the state sovereignty. In another case a slight change in Chinese policy has been observed during an operation in Somali. China’s soft attitude for normative rules such as state sovereignty and

⁷ Ibid., 220.

territorial integrity showed a slight change in their policy of non-interference; however, China clarified that this involvement was due to deteriorating humanitarian crisis and the absence of any legitimate government in Somalia.

China robust deportment over UN-led NATO attack on Kosovo clearly illustrated how sensitive China was about state sovereignty. This attack was justified on the humanitarian ground by the UN, but it raised serious concerns about the legitimacy on this incident. At that time, Kosovo was the part of Republic of Yugoslavia, and this outbreak was the attack on the sovereignty of the Kosovo people. China stated that it's the authority of the UN to decide when to take action. The mandate to intervene should not be in the hands of one state or any military alliance.⁸ Shen Guofang (China's Ambassador), in the United Nation Security Council resolution 1244 meeting, was of the view that:

over two months ago, without authorization by the Security Council, the US led NATO launched a military strike against the sovereign state of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia seriously violating the UN charter and norms of international law, undermined the authority of UNSC and set an extremely dangerous preceded in the history of international relations.⁹

For the mission in Sierra Leone, China stance was clear. China not only fully acknowledged the efforts of UN collaboration with Military Observer Group and Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) but also contributed to the peace operation. Chinese government emphasized on engaging indigenous people in the peacekeeping efforts to ensure peace, stability, and economic development. China also encouraged the rule of Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) in Sierra

⁸ Davis, "Ideology to Pragmatism," 256.

⁹ Security Council Resolution S/RES/1244, June 10, 1999, accessed April, 07, 2015, <https://daccess-ods.un.org/TMP/8796749.11499023.html>.

Leone.¹⁰ A report of International Crisis Group (2009) on China's increasing role in the UN peacekeeping operations stated that China's emerging role clearly reflected the new foreign policy objective that has been undertaken pragmatically by the Chinese government. Chinese engagement is mentioned as an effort to project and cultivate an image of responsible government. This report also illustrated the number of troops, policemen, medical officers, technicians, and financial contribution of China in the UN.¹¹

Table 3: Troop's Contribution of China in the UN Peacekeeping Operations (Year wise):

Sr. No.	Year	Deployed Military Personnel
1	2004	359
2	2005	1,038
3	2006	1,060
4	2007	1,861
5	2008	2,146

Source: Crisis group Asia Report N 166, April 17, 2009, 7.

Role of China as an International Mediator

Darfur, situated in the Western region of Sudan had a crisis between government and Janjeweed Militia and resulted in the humanitarian crisis. Initially, China thought this issue could be resolved by the government without any external influence. However, the situation got worsened when a village was under attack by Janjeweed Militia. Mr. Zhang Yishan (Chinese Ambassador), at the UNSC 5015th meeting, emphasized on the alleviation of humanitarian crisis through political negotiation. China's efforts in Darfur crisis were focused on peace talk rather than any intervention. Outer interference would not only hinder the peace process, but also imbalance the equilibrium in the political system of the country. Throughout this conflict, China sent their senior officials and

¹⁰ Security Council Resolution S/PV/4078, December 10, 1999, accessed April 07, 2015, http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/PV.4078.

¹¹ Crisis group Asia, *China's Growing Role in the United Nations Peacekeeping*, Crisis group Asia Report No. 166, April 17, 2009, 7.

diplomats to the contending parties to stop the issue from further escalation. A Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) was signed between the conflicting parties; South would get independence from North in 2011. UNSC resolution 1564 (2004) indicated that the Sudanese government had failed to fulfill the requirement of the UNSC resolution 1556; therefore, coercive measure should be adopted in the shape of sanctions. China remained refrained from voting on a subsequent resolution of Darfur and elucidated that undue pressure on the government could undermine the peace process.

China supported African Union Mission in Sudan under the UN resolution of 1585 (2005) but this deployment was affirmed by the legitimate government of Sudan. China affirmed the UN resolution 1588 (2005) and the UN resolution 1769 (2006) to support the peace process in Sudan. China welcomed the peace accord between the contending parties and supported UN Mission in Sudan (UNAMIS) but also asked for the consent of the government as it was a prerequisite of any peacekeeping mission. From 2006 onwards, China took a more active role in the Darfur issue and solved it through three strategies (i.e., persuaded the Sudanese government to comply with resolutions under the UN, a joint UN-AU peacekeeping troops, and coordination with other actor in the society).¹² By the mid of 2007, Chinese special representative to Darfur, Mr. Liu Guijin, visited Darfur two times and Sudan four times to peacefully resolve the dispute. Further, Chinese representative visited Europe, Africa, Arab states, and the United States to discuss the possibilities of peaceful resolution of the conflict.

At the request of the UN, China sent 315 members of multi-functional engineering unit to Darfur; a 140-member advance team was already on the ground. It is evident from the Chinese approach in humanitarian assistance and operations that China often makes use of its diplomatic persuasion and negotiation skills to tackle the issues carefully by advocating peaceful coexistence and non-interference principles.

¹² Jian Junbo, "China in the International Conflict Management: Darfur as a Case," *Global Review* (2012): 8.

China was the largest contributor in the Sudanese issues and contributes 63% of total mission expenses. By the end of February 2008, the advance had paved 1,200 meters of roads, leveled 70,000 square meters of ground, built 1,050 meters of fences, completed 9,370 cubic meters of earth work, and installed 24 road lamps and searchlights. It has also helped 'hybrid mission' units from other countries to construct barracks, leveling 40,000 square meters of ground, building 900 meters of fences, finishing 4,100 cubic meters of earth work, building eight fortifications and emplacements, and filling up 4,800 sandbags. Its work is greatly appreciated by the UN and the AU. China had contributed US \$1.8 million to the AU Mission in Sudan (AMIS) by the end of 2006.¹³

China emphasized that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Sudan should be respected and a political solution to the Darfur issue through dialogue and consultation on an equal footing should be sought. The trilateral mechanism comprising the UN, the African Union and the Sudanese Government should play a leading role; and the peacekeeping operation and the political process in Darfur should be promoted in a balanced manner.¹⁴

China's Veto Behavior in the UNSC

China as a permanent member of the UN Security Council holds veto power. Usually 9 out of 15 affirmative votes are required for the process of any resolution. However, the Permanent Five (P5) have special powers to block any decision through a veto. China's decision to veto any action is based on some legal and political implications. China had a firm stance on state sovereignty and territorial integrity. China is not in favor of interference in the

¹³ "On the Issue of Darfur, Sudan," *Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the UN*, March 13, 2008, accessed May 03, 2015, <http://www.china-un.org/eng/xw/t415999.htm>.

¹⁴ Ibid.

domestic issues of other states. China is against the use of sanctions and political pressure and supports bilateral dialogues and consultation process. China abstentions were criticized by the UN members and China was accused of being not so participating and helping in UNSC matters.

Table 4: China's Voting Behavior in the UNSC

China	1971–79	1980–89	1990–99	2000–2009
Affirmative	130	196	598	622
Abstention/nonparticipant	63	13	42	12
Vetos	2	0	2	2

Source: UNO Official documents, cited in PHD thesis, Joel Wuthnow, *Beyond veto: Chinese diplomacy in the UNSC*, (Columbia University, 2011), 29–56.

For China, veto power is a tool to deter the misuse of power among P5. Among all the permanent members, China's vetoes are significantly lower than other members. China discontent with the UN resolution could be summed up as follow.

Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity Issue: China would absolutely veto resolutions touching upon its sovereignty and territorial integrity. The history of foreign intrusion in the territories of China, made self determination its most important concern, For instance, China vetoed Mongolian participation in the UN as Mongolia was considered a Chinese territory.

Non-intervention and Non-Aggression: China would likely veto those resolutions which undermined the non-interference and non-aggression principles. China often advocates minimal interference in the internal issues and conflicts persisted within the territory of any member states until or unless it poses a serious security threat to world peace. In other situations China is in favor of forwarding a request by the state concerned; otherwise its policies in such cases are as she vetoed a UN resolution to put sanctions on Macedonia and Zimbabwe. China maintained that in these cases, conflicts revolved around the internal issues only, and it seemed that level and intensity of conflict was not up to the level of harming world peace.

Yitzhak Shichor in 'China Brief' states:

Beijing's justifications for its occasional abstentions that raised eyebrows at the beginning have been remarkably consistent. They include draft resolution perceived by Beijing as interfering in the domestic affairs of countries or undermining their sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. As a rule, the Chinese prefer that conflicts be settled by the parties' concerns or, as a last option, by local and regional organizations, without external intervention, including that of the UN or the International Criminal Court.¹⁵

In a complex age of increasing lust for security and the compulsions of economic globalization, a state power cannot only be evaluated by its number of weapons and military strength, but its strategy of defense is a combination of its political orientations, economic success and diplomatic expressions indicating its very power by managing its influences. China's policy of abstention in some cases is a result of this approach of combining its power and compulsions. It could be China's vulnerability as neither can it wage a direct military conflict against other major powers nor it is able to enforce its will through aggressive and military means; or sometime issue under discussion is least relevant to China's stand view.

China was the only developing country in the P5; therefore, China believed that it cannot allow any action or policy to undertake that will undermine the security concerns of developing states. But at the same time, China does not want to stand as an obstructionist in the way of peace treaties and other arrangements, so China adopted abstention policy. Recently, on Syrian issue, Russia and China used their veto power which created unease among other major powers and led them to criticize Russia and China for having blind eye on the grave issue. However, both states maintained that the matter should be resolved mutually by contending parties rather than enforcing parties to negotiate in ICC. China rejected the idea of providing latest weapons to the 'good people' only because militancy in not the

¹⁵ Yitzhak Shichor, "China's Voting Behavior in the UN Security Council," *China Brief*, October 31, 2006, accessed April 13, 2015, <http://www.asianresearch.org/articles/2947.html>.

answer to any disagreement and conflicting situation. However, the overall trend of use of the veto power by China in the UNSC is less than other permanent members of the Security Council.

Conclusion

China's entry into the UN as a permanent member not only authenticated its claim of 'One China' but also helped her to get a legitimate recognition of the world community to play an influential role in world politics. This also broadens its economic options, on which its political power was structured. Changing circumstances, devotion to its political and economic aspirations, and its adherence to the principle of coexistence led China to adopt an Open Door Policy, which not only improved its bilateral relations but also initiated its active participation in international organizations like the UN.

Its colonized past and its expected interaction with other permanent members of the UNSC, which previously exploited China as Imperial powers, raised concerns and reservations about China's anticipated approach in international politics. China participation in the UN is overlooked by the West and they focused on the Chinese traditional approach of non-intervention and non-violence. Chinese foreign policy also focused on respect for territorial integrity and state sovereignty. The peaceful coexistence principle has always been a cornerstone of Chinese foreign policy and will most likely keep following the Westphalian model of non-interference, respect of sovereignty, and mutual security arrangements. Chinese active engagements in various modes of operations are constantly being under investigation. China's action as a responsible stakeholder remained a focus of concern.

Even in the Cold War era, China managed to adopt a neutral policy so that the antagonism between the US and the USSR may not collide with Chinese endurance and national interest. Cold War compulsions, survival in bipolar world order, and its economic persistence were the immediate challenges in the Post-Cold War era for China. This led China to advocate a multilateral approach which was an indication of realizing the importance of international organizations and humanitarian operations and assistance. Secondly,

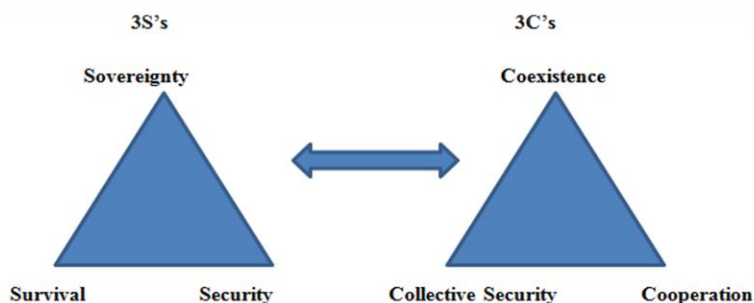
as a part of this rational approach, China comprehended that the UN not only served as a platform to discuss all the burning issues of the world but weak states could raise their voices against injustice as well. China actively participated in the humanitarian efforts in Iran-Iraq issue, Somalia, Sierra Leone, Bosnia, Congo, and crisis in East Timor. The Chinese troops worked professionally and they actively participated in the construction of bridges, roads, and hospitals and helped the indigenous people with latest medical facilities.

According to the UN annual report on China regarding the Chinese position on Millennium Development Goals (MDG) 2015, China's position on various issues regarding gender inequality, women empowerment, HIV/Aids, better living standards, and climate change has been improved and it has played a relatively good role in achieving (MDG) agenda. According to a UN report, during 1990–2005, China has increased the living standard of its citizen and almost 470 million people were lifted out of extreme poverty. Moreover, arrangements have been undertaken to improve the condition of slum dwellers.

On the basis of these principles we can draw a model of 3Cs and 3Ss which clearly illustrates the Chinese policies towards other states and its engagements internationally. Based on its peaceful coexistence principles, China collaborated with other states through Confidence Building Measures (CBM's) and Strategic Partnership.

Model: 3S's & 3C's

Survival, security, and sovereignty are the pre-requisites for China and that could be achieved through collective security, cooperation, and coexistence. In this regard, this model illustrated



how China maintained its relations with others.

So, through its policies in the UN and in the international affairs China has earned respect that none of the P5 countries has. Moreover, it has got huge economic gains by having friendly relations with maximum number of countries in the world. Multilateralism and participation in international organization is visible approach of China in the 21st century. As the Chinese power has increased globally, it has extended its presence and participation in the international organizations. Furthermore, as Chinese power grows, it will have more control and presence to show in the international political system.

With the current policy of active and persistent part in the world affairs and helping the UN have brought China out of the old labels of a threatening communist state, imperiling the security of other states by exporting its political and economic ideology. For the last two decades, China has enhanced its image as an adherent to the international community, though reservations and concerns have been expressed time to time over the power structure of international regime through peaceful means. Now in changed international scenario and perceptions regarding China, many western states have developed their economic relations with China. Image of an expansionist China has been faded out, particularly among the developing countries of Africa and Asia as they are not fearful of China as an imperial power with a political orientation of economic ambitions. Soft policies of China are paying dividends; and its ever increasing economic ties with the countries of third world have provided her influential access to the markets across the globe.