# THE EPOCH TIMES

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Truth & Tradition

THEEPOCHTIMES.COM | B1

#### **SPECIAL COVERAGE**



A paramilitary police officer stands guard in Tiananmen Square in a file photo.

# Communist China's Silent War Against the West

For decades, CCP has been using 'unrestricted warfare' to weaken allied Western nations, including Canada, from within

#### **BOWEN XIAO & OMID GHOREISHI** THE EPOCH TIMES

#### News Analysis

tealthily and with sweeping precision, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has been waging a decades-long war against the West to achieve world domination by utilizing a military strategy known as "unrestricted warfare."

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consequences, are far-reaching. Skirting the traditional, direct military confrontation offensives that have become somewhat outdated in modern times, this unconventional strategy has become central to the communist regime's approach to warfare.

The strategy is highlighted in the 1999 book "Unrestricted Warfare," authored by two Chinese air force colonels—Qiao Liang and Wang Xiangsui—and published by the People's Liberation Army, the armed forces of the CCP. The book, which has been translated into English, is based on the original army documents. Beijing uses an array of subversive tactics, including but not Unrestricted warfare has become central to the communist regime's limited to propaganda warfare, culture warfare, memetic warfare, front operations, political infiltration, technological and telecommunications warfare, legal warfare, economic espionage, education espionage, cyberwarfare, and sanctions warfare. The regime employs all of these to varying degrees simultaneously in multiple sectors of society in order to undermine or influence the targeted country. In 2014, Chinese state-sponsored hackers infiltrated the computer networks of Canada's National Research Council. The attack cost Canada hundreds of millions of dollars.

#### EXCLUSIVE

GREG BAKER/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Calgary Mayor, Other Officials Target of Chinese Regime Influence: Leaked Document

FRANK FANG & OMID GHOREISHI THE EPOCH TIMES

Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi, a number of Calgary city officials, several academics, and a former



icials, demormer Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi.

mayor of St. John's JEFF MCINTOSH are all on a list of targets that Chinese officials hope to influence to further the communist regime's interests.

The list, disclosed in a leaked government document recently obtained by The Epoch Times, reveals names spanning a wide range of sectors and countries in which the Chinese regime seeks to "cultivate talent."

The 2019 document was issued by the Foreign Affairs Office of the municipal government of Daqing, a city in northeastern China.

Continued on **B2** 

How Chinese Data Trove on 2 Million People, Including Canadians, Serves Beijing's 'Unrestricted Warfare'

#### JUSTINA WHEALE THE EPOCH TIMES

#### THE EPUCH TIMES

#### News Analysis

A Chinese database containing the personal information of millions of people around the globe—including at least 5,000 Canadians, among them Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Conservative Party Leader Erin O'Toole—was recently leaked to Western media, offering a glimpse into the regime's effort to harvest data on targeted foreigners.

Unbeknown to most of the population, the CCP has infiltrated almost every major avenue of life in countries like the United States and Canada—leaving virtually no industry untouched. While this threat has largely existed undetected, the effect it has had on the targeted nations, as well as its geopolitical

#### approach to warfare.

Continued on **B3** 

Continued on B3

### 'Generational Threat': US Taking Unprecedented Steps to Counter Communist China

#### JOAN DELANEY THE EPOCH TIMES

#### **News Analysis**

In its efforts to counter the threat of an increasingly belligerent Beijing regime, the United States has been pulling out all the stops. A slew of extensive measures in 2020 to oppose the Chinese Communist Party's growing hostility signify a sea change in Washington's China policy. In this new era of direct



U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

U.S. confrontation of the CCP, speeches by several top officials, including Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and National Security Adviser Robert O'Brien, strongly lashed out at Beijing and its increasingly aggressive and hostile actions toward America and the world.

Continued on **B8** 



#### YAO LIANG & TANYA DU THE EPOCH TIMES

#### Commentary

For decades, high-level Canadian leaders, well-connected elites, and powerful corporations have pushed for closer ties between Canada and China.

These closer links have benefited a narrow group of individuals and corporations, while the average Canadian has borne the brunt of the adverse consequences, such as weakened national security and job loss.

The Chinese regime has an ambition to become the world's number one global power, scholars Clive Hamilton and Mareike Ohlberg write in their 2020 book "Hidden Hand."



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang speaks at a conference of the Canada China Business Council in Montreal on Sept. 23, 2016.

Its implementation strategy, they say, is to "target elites in the West so that they either welcome China's dominance or accede to its inevitability, rendering resistance futile."

Canada is one of the countries Beijing has targeted for elite capture for decades.

Continued on **B6** 





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#### THE EPOCH TIMES

#### **ABOUT THIS** SPECIAL REPORT

We hope you enjoy this Epoch Times special report, bringing you the facts behind communist China's influence and infiltration within Canada and exposing the true nature of the Chinese Communist Party.

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# Introduction

#### **DANA CHENG**

hen I was growing up in China a few decades ago, we were told the communists were going to liberate the whole world.

In the 1950s, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) directed the entire country to make quality steel. China would catch up with the United Kingdom in 5 years and America in 10 years. Instead, this movement brought the Chinese economy to near collapse and, in the three years from 1959 to 1962, 40 million people died due to famine.

Yet the CCP has never given up on the idea of catching up and taking over (or "liberating," as it would say) the world. Under Deng Xiaoping, China began doing business with the rest of the world and the door to China was opened wide. The CCP has been systematically infiltrating other countries ever since, and it has used its propaganda media to influence public opinion in the West.

The regime seeks to muddle the concepts of the CCP and China, so that any criticism of the Party is said to be a criticism of China and the Chinese people. In this way, the CCP takes advantage of people's generosity and kindness toward the Chinese people. The CCP is not a political party or regime in the normal sense. It does not represent the Chinese people; it is a small group that seized power illegitimately and holds onto it by tyranny.

The CCP has stolen military technology from other countries to build its own military, with the clear goal of global domination.

It developed the Thousand Talents Plan and many other such programs to bring advanced technology from overseas to China, and it has gradually lured manufacturers and high-tech companies from other nations to China. It has used its century-old "united front" strategy to infiltrate international organizations and think tanks and to influence politicians and elites in every field. It has gradually shaped mainstream opinion in the West in favour of the Chinese communist regime.

The CCP uses Confucius Institutes and Chinese student organizations to influence the academic system in other countries, while stealing innovation and research ideas in their initial stages.

The way the CCP handled the coronavirus outbreak clearly showed its true nature. It covered up information about the virus from the Chinese people until more and more cases were found in nearby countries among travellers from China. It does not care about its own people. Why should it care about people in other countries?

Canada is at a crossroads in its relations with Beijing, as the communist regime continues to hold Canadian citizens captive, punishes Canada's economy, commits human rights violations against the Chinese people, and acts ever more belligerent on the world stage. This makes looking at Beijing's behaviour globally, and its impact in Canada, all the more relevant.

In this special report, we present a few aspects of how the CCP has targeted Canada, especially its elites. Perhaps more important than understanding these details is understanding the nature of the CCP itself and its threat to the world.

We're also including an excerpt of the new book "How the Spectre of Communism Is Ruling Our World," published

> by The Epoch Times to shed light on how China replaced the Soviet Union as the primary threat to the free world. The West got China wrong for many reasons.

This special report also covers recent unprecedented efforts by Canada's allies to counter the CCP threat.

Dana Cheng grew up in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. She earned her doctorate in physics in the United States. One of the founders of The Epoch Times, she is currently senior editor of China news.

### Leaked Document: Calgary Mayor, Other Officials **Target of Chinese Regime Influence**

#### **CONTINUED FROM B1**

Daqing's Foreign Affairs Office states in the document that it would start an initiative called the "100 overseas talent cultivation plan."

It's a program found in many other local governments in China, as well as within the central government.



the cities," note Hamilton and Ohlberg. This strategy originates from the time before the CCP came to power in China in 1949, when the Party retreated to the countryside and surrounded the cities in its fight against the rival Nationalist Party.

"This slogan should not be understood only in the literal sense; the idea is to go to areas where



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A 2019 report by the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission (USCC) listed several national-level talent programs that have "recruited or repatriated tens of thousands of individuals to China." The same report stated that hundreds of such programs exist at the local government level as well.

In the leaked document, although the Daqing office doesn't explain how it would carry out its plan or what the plan's specific goals are, it listed 129 "overseas" individuals it wished to recruit.

The document contains only the first name for some of those individuals, but each entry states the person's current or former job positions, career fields, and contact information.

The list consists of 19 people in Canada, 13 of whom are based in Calgary. Besides Nenshi, the list includes a number of other senior city officials as well as an individual who at one point was in charge of the China initiative at Calgary Economic Development, a not-for-profit corporation partly funded by the city and other government partners. Other targets are academics, a University of Calgary senior administrative official, and senior executives with a number of Calgary-based businesses.

The City of Calgary is a sister city of Daqing, also an energy hub.

A spokesperson for Nenshi told The Epoch Times that the mayor was not aware he was on any list.

"While Daging has been one of Calgary's sister cities since 1985, Mayor Nenshi has had no personal contact with city officials," Adam Noble-Johnson, the mayor's communications strategist, said in an email.

The document also lists officials from the Atlantic provinces. Included are former St. John's mayor Dennis O'Keefe as well as an official with Halifax Partnership—the city's public-private economic development organization.

The Epoch Times contacted



Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi in a file photo.

Calgary Economic Development and the mayor's office in St. John's but didn't hear back.

The list has targets that span the globe, including people in the United States, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Pakistan, Spain, and the current mayor of the small city of Esbjerg in Denmark. The Epoch Times contacted the Esbjerg mayor but received no reply. Two former mayors of the Australian city of Perth were also included.

#### 66

The CCP will carefully identify where the centres of political, economic, and cultural power lie, and who are the most powerful people in those areas.

**CLIVE HAMILTON** academic and author

According to China commentator and Epoch Times contributor Heng He, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) dubs its city partnerships as "citizen diplomacy."

Heng says that the Chinese organization in charge of promoting ties between Chinese and foreign citiesthe Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC)—has senior Party officials among its ranks and "is a proxy of China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs."

"In this way, in addition to the official embassy and consulate, CCP foreign affairs agencies have added a quasi-diplomatic organization that isn't on the list of diplomatic envoys and isn't regulated by foreign governments," he says.

According to Heng, the friendship city can be "co-opted" to perform tasks that further the CCP's interests without being noticed. This includes "united front work," the CCP's term for efforts to influence people and organizations overseas to promote its agenda, Heng says.

#### **CCP** Influence

Scholars Clive Hamilton and Mareike Ohlberg write in their new book "Hidden Hand" that Chinese officials use sister city arrangements to build personal relationships. These can then be "weaponized" when a city plans activities that go against CCP positions, such as deals with Taiwan or meetings with the Dalai Lama.

The CCP uses a strategy dubbed as "using the countryside to surround the CCP's enemies are weak or not well represented, organize the population there, and then use them to encircle the enemy's strongholds," the book says.

Connections with these local politicians can then be leveraged to pressure national governments, Hamilton, a professor of public ethics at Charles Sturt University in Canberra, told The Epoch Times in a previous interview.

In 2010, when Richard Fadden was head of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, he said that a number of provincial and municipal politicians in Canada were suspected of being under the influence of foreign governments.

Other security experts and China analysts also support that position.

"The CCP will carefully identify where the centres of political, economic, and cultural power lie, and who are the most powerful people in those areas," Hamilton said.

"It will then attempt to create a profile of each person and find a way to approach them to draw them into the CCP world."

Hamilton said the CCP is very good at "disguising its operations," hiding behind ideas such as "people-to-people exchanges" or "win-win cooperation and building economic linkages."

"Mostly the elites themselves are duped by this strategy, because the CCP plays on their weaknesses. It appeals to their desires and their hopes."

With reporting by Cathy He

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The logo of social media video sharing app TikTok on Nov. 21, 2019.

### **CHINA INFILTRATION Communist China's Silent War Against the West**

#### **CONTINUED FROM B1**

Canadian telecom giant Nortel, which filed for bankruptcy in 2009, was the subject of massive years-long IP theft by Chinese hackers, according to the company's former senior security adviser Brian Shields. Shields is convinced that the beneficiary of the IP theft was Chinese telecom giant Huawei, which started to prosper in glo markets around the same time Nortel was going bankrupt.

In a recent speech, Britain's Chief of the Defence Staff General Sir Nick Carter said Beijing is aiming to defeat the West "using attacks below the threshold that would prompt a war-fighting response."

The Chinese regime, for example, has "harnessed technologies and tactics that have outpaced the evolution of international law to avoid their actions being classified as conflict under the current definitions of international law," Carter said.

To counter this threat, Carter said the British Armed Forces have adopted a new "Integrated Operating Concept." The strategy, which marks a significant shift in military thinking, is a response to the advancing technology and non-traditional tactics, such as disinformation campaigns, used by adversaries.

Canadian media, and influence discourse on Canadian campuses in its favour.

The committee pointed out similar threats in its 2018 annual report, saying China is conducting "espionage and foreign influence activities in Canada." The report added that China is among the most active foreign state actors trying to access Canadian govnment networks and the communications

of federal government officials.

According to Conservative MP Garnett Genuis, the gravest security threat the free world faces is ongoing efforts by the Chinese regime and other non-state actors to influence elites and take over control of democratic institutions for their own purposes.

"There's a need for a broader recognition of the risk ... a recognition of the fact that elites at every level

are subject to efforts at this kind of co-opting, whether it's school boards, smalltown mayors, university presidents, individual members of Parliament—there's a lot of attempt at this kind of influence," said Genuis, a member of the Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China, an international cross-party group of legislators, in a recent interview.

Liberal MP John McKay describes China as

One such avenue is its CCP-backed Confucius Institutes, which infiltrate and operate on university and college campuses in Canada and other countries in order to boost the regime's image. It also aims to push a foreign policy goal of making the regime not only an economic superpower, but also a cultural one.

Other examples are more blatant, such as a former chair of Harvard University's chemistry department being recently indicted for making false statements about funding he received from China, and a Chinese citizen in the United States who was found guilty of economic espionage, theft of trade secrets, and conspiracy.

In the latter case, a man identified as 41-year-

Canada has not made a decision on whether to ban Huawei from its 5G networks.

old Hao Zhang was found to have attempted to steal trade secrets from two U.S. companies "for the benefit of the People's Republic of China," according to the U.S. Justice Department. Zhang stole information specifically related to the performance of wireless devices.

The Thousand Talents Plan, one of the more widely known CCP talent recruitment or "brain gain" programs, encourages theft of intellectual property from government institutions, according to the FBI. By offering competitive salaries, state-of-the-art research facilities, and honorific titles, these programs lure talent from overseas to China, "even if that means stealing proprietary information or violating export controls to do so," the bureau states. The Globe and Mail said in an August report that it has found at least 15 Canadian academics who have taken part in the Thousand Talents Plan. These experts specialize in the fields of quantum computing, advanced electronics and engineering, vaccines, chemistry, and artificial intelligence. One of the key organizations the CCP uses for influence operations abroad is the United Front Work Department. This unit coordinates thousands of groups to carry out foreign political influence operations, suppress dissident movements, gather intelligence, and facilitate the transfer of other countries' technology to China, according to a June report by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute.

FBI Director Christopher Wray testified in 2018 that the bureau was attempting to view the danger posed by China "as not just a wholeof-government threat, but a whole-of-society threat on their end." To counter China's strategy effectively, Wray said the United States must also employ a "whole-of-society response."

U.S. officials have also begun to realize the national security threats posed by Chinese telecom giants Huawei and ZTE. In June, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) formally designated Huawei and ZTE as national security threats, thus banning access to money from the FCC's US\$8.3 billion a year Universal Service Fund to buy or modify any equipment or services produced or provided by these two suppliers.

Chinese-owned TikTok, which has seen meteoric growth in North America, was also recently found to be secretly reading users' clipboard data, although the app now claims that it has fixed the issue. There are similar concerns about Zoom, as researchers with the University of Toronto's Citizen Lab found that encryption keys were being transmitted to servers in China. Recently unsealed court documents filed by U.S. federal prosecutors said that a Zoom executive worked with Chinese authorities to provide data on users located outside China. This summer, Washington announced that it is banning TikTok as well as Chinese social media WeChat, citing national security concerns. TikTok is racing against time to sell its U.S. business to an American firm, while both companies have launched legal challenges on the ban. Meanwhile, Canada has not made a decision on whether to ban Huawei from its 5G networks. Three of Canada's five allies in the Five Eyes intelligence group-the United States, Australia, and New Zealand-have already banned Huawei from their 5G networks, while the U.K. has established a plan to phase it out.



The seal of the FBI.

A 2018 report on a workshop organized by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service says Beijing is utilizing a "multi-dimensional strategy to lift China to global dominance."

"This strategy integrates aggressive diplomacy, asymmetrical economic agreements, technological innovations, as well as escalating military expenditures," the report says.

The Canadian parliamentary watchdog that oversees national security, the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians, said in its 2019 annual report that Beijing maintains "significant and sustained foreign interference activities" in Canada. This includes targeting the diaspora, seeking to corrupt political processes, manipulate the "colonial power of the 21st century."

"While this may not be a cold war, it is in some respects an asymmetric war with a front on intellectual property, academics, trade, human rights, and pretty well the entire panoply of relational elements between one nation and another as China asserts its colonial status," said McKay, chair of the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security, in a parliamentary session in December 2019.

#### **Tactics**

While some of Beijing's tactics such as its long history of intellectual property theft and unfair trade practices are more obvious, others that use what Chinese officials have called "soft power" are harder to detect.

# How Chinese Data Trove on 2 Million People, Including Canadians, Serves Beijing's 'Unrestricted Warfare'

#### **CONTINUED FROM B1**

The list included influential Canadians in politics, technology, and trade, and even children of politicians, including the 11-year-old daughter of Trudeau, according to The Globe and Mail. The Globe is part of an international consortium of media outlets that obtained the list.

The Zhenhua data leak provides but a small window into the Chinese communist regime's extensive overall data-harvesting activities.

"The scope is beyond most people's comprehension," said Casey Fleming, CEO of intelligence and security strategy firm BlackOps Partners.

According to Fleming, the intelligence gathered in the database is used to support the Chinese regime's "unrestricted hybrid warfare" operations. This includes espionage, covert overseas influence campaigns, and stealing foreign innovation and military technology.

Michael Shoebridge, director of defence, strategy, and national security at the Australian Strategic Policy Institute think tank, likened the database to a single plastic ball in a large ball pit. This dataset would be combined with data compiled by other Chinese entities to be used in a range of operations to further the regime's interests.

#### Files on 2.4 Million People

Chinese company Shenzhen Zhenhua Data Technology amassed the database with files on 2.4 million people, compiled mostly from open-source material such as social media posts and online data but with a substantial portion of information that was not publicly available. A reconstruction of about 10 percent of the database by Australian cybersecurity firm Internet 2.0 revealed that it includes records on some 52,000 Americans, 35,000 Australians, 9,700 Britons, and 5,000 Canadians, according to ABC News.

The ultimate goal of unrestricted hybrid warfare, Fleming said, is to 'destroy democracy for the takeover of Chinese communism globally.'

In response to The Guardian, Zhenhua said that "there is no database of 2 million

NICOLAS ASFOURI/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES



An unidentified Chinese hacker at an office in Dongguan city, China, on Aug. 4, 2020.

people" and denied any links to the Chinese government or military. A representative of the company said Zhenhua's customers are "research organizations and business groups." Experts told The Epoch Times that such a denial is unsurprising.

Shoebridge said the statement "cannot be taken at face value" given that Chinese laws compel the country's companies to assist Chinese security and intelligence agencies and require them to publicly deny doing so.

#### **Unrestricted Hybrid Warfare**

Unrestricted hybrid warfare refers to a

strategy of using a series of unconventional tactics designed to accomplish the objectives of war without engaging in actual combat.

The ultimate goal of this strategy, Fleming said, is to "destroy democracy [to prepare] for the takeover of Chinese communism globally."

Zhenhua's majority owner, Wang Xuefeng, a former IBM engineer, has previously posted on Chinese social media about waging "hybrid warfare" by manipulating public opinion and "psychological warfare," according to ABC.

Shoebridge points out that the database includes profiles on children of powerful people such as politicians and business executives, allowing the regime to target these individuals through vulnerabilities found in their offspring.

"That's a pretty disturbing potential use of data like that," he said.

At the same time, many of these children may themselves become influential people later in life. And so "the ability to exploit and influence those individuals is much greater because you've got a much more comprehensive understanding of them over time," he said.

# The CCP's Influence Over International Groups



### Current and former Chinese Communist Party officials hold key positions in international organizations

## COMMENTARY The Ties Between Beijing and

#### **CONTINUED FROM B1**

We're seeing the results of this now, as Ottawa continues to dally in responding to Beijing's hostilities as the regime holds Canadians Michael Kovrig and Michael Spavor hostage, blocks Canadian imports, persecutes Chinese people, and creates instability on the world stage.

#### **Setting a Course**

In 1970, the government of Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau became one of the first Western governments to establish diplomatic relations with the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) as the ruler of China. Canada's recognition of the regime paved the way for other Western countries to follow suit and for the CCP to join international bodies such as the United Nations.

Establishing relations with communist China and bringing it into the United Nations was one of Trudeau's primary foreign policy objectives after he became prime minister in 1968.

While on a visit to Moscow to attend a propaganda conference in 1952, long before becoming prime minister, Trudeau, then a political activist from Quebec, reportedly told the wife of the U.S. chargé d'affaires that he was a communist and a Catholic and had come to Moscow to criticize the United States and praise the Soviet Union, according to the 2013 book "The Truth About Trudeau" by Bob Plamondon.

Referring to the episode, columnist and author Mark Milke wrote in Maclean's that Trudeau "may not have actually been a communist in 1952 but his remarks revealed an inclination even then to skip over the brutality of communist countries."

Trudeau had travelled to China in 1949 as a young man, and again in 1960 on a trip sponsored by the regime. He chronicled the latter trip with co-author Jacques Hébert in their book, "Two Innocents in Red China."

During their visit, the two witnessed scenes of one of the darkest periods of the communist regime, the Great Leap Forward, as noted in an article in The Globe and Mail. During this period, lasting from 1958 to 1962, Chairman Mao Zedong wanted to quickly bring industrialization to China and forced farmers to produce steel rather than crops, with those deemed not complying facing torture and even death. The Great Leap Forward led to a devastating famine that killed tens of millions of people.

In their book, however, Trudeau and Hébert write, "We are convinced that we are witnessing the beginning of an industrial revolution."

During his official visit to China as prime minister in 1973, where he met with Mao and Premier Zhou Enlai, Trudeau praised the regime for its governance, saying the system it had developed "in comparison with all previous Chinese social systems, is striving to provide human dignity and equality of opportunity for the Chinese people."

should use his authority to stop the extradition of Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou, who was arrested in Vancouver in December 2018 on a U.S. extradition request. Mulroney advised that Chrétien and André Desmarais be sent to China on behalf of Canada to negotiate the release of Kovrig and Spavor, who were arrested by Beijing in retaliation for Meng's arrest. In a reversal of position, Mulroney said in June 2020 that he regrets making the suggestion, telling the Globe that Canada should rethink its relations with China.

Several other prominent Canadian politicians, including former cabinet ministers, have also worked for Power Corp.

Another influential executive at the company was Maurice Strong, who later worked as the under-secretary-general of the United Nations. Strong is the nephew of prominent pro-communist reporter Anna Louise Strong. According to the Epoch Times series "How the Spectre of Communism Is Ruling Our World," Maurice Strong was deeply influenced by his aunt and described himself as "a socialist in ideology and a capitalist in methodology."

After retirement, Strong moved to Beijing, where he lived for the rest of his life. In a 2010 interview with the Guardian, he said he still maintained some co-operation with the United Nations "in particular to China and that region."

Power Corp. is a founding member of the Canada China Business Council (CCBC), which was spearheaded by Paul Desmarais Sr. The business mogul once remarked that Mao was one of the four historical figures he respected most.



Canadians Michael Kovrig (L) and Michael Spavor, who have been in captivity in China since December 2018.



**Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau** shakes hands with Chairman Mao Zedong in Beijing on Oct. 13, 1973.

The relationship between Bo and Canada's business community is rooted in the close ties he had with the Desmarais family.

The Globe reported last year that Bo's son, Bo Guagua, works for Power Corp. But the ties go all the way back to the time of Paul Desmarais Sr. and Bo Xilai's father. According to the Globe, Bo's father, Bo Yibo, at that time vice premier of the CCP, visited Paul Desmarais Sr. in the 1970s while en route to Washington to lay the groundwork for U.S. President Richard Nixon's trip to China.

Shortly after Bo became China's commerce minister in 2004, Power Corp. was one of the first foreign companies receiving designation to buy and sell yuan-denominated shares on Chinese stock exchanges, the Globe notes.



Trudeau's comment came at a time when Mao was in the middle of his disastrous and bloody Cultural Revolution, which resulted in an estimated death toll ranging from hundreds of thousands to 20 million, with millions of Chinese suffering from torture and humiliation, seizure of property, and the destruction of the economy and traditional culture.

At Beijing's insistence, Trudeau refused to issue permits to allow Taiwan to take part in the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal, even though the team was recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). To refuse entry to a country recognized by the IOC was unprecedented and met with strong objections by the United States.

Trudeau's admiration for the CCP had long-term implications and set in motion decades of Chinaappeasing policies.

In 2013, when his son Justin Trudeau, then the leader of the Liberal Party and seeking to become the next prime minister, was asked which country he admired most, he said: "There's a level of admiration I actually have for China. Their basic dictatorship is actually allowing them to turn their economy around on a dime."

#### **Corporate Ties**

Behind some of the most aggressive lobbying efforts for stronger Canada-China ties is a handful of big corporations with extensive business operations in China.

The Montreal-based Power Corporation, a multibillion-dollar financial services company, has been described as "the premier gatekeeper of [Canada's] formal relations with China" by author Jonathan Manthorpe in his 2019 book, "Claws of the Panda."

In 1968, the company came under the control of Paul Desmarais Sr. and was run by his sons Paul Jr. and André, who served as co-CEOs until 2019, when they announced they were stepping down from their roles as CEOs but staying on as chairman and deputy chairman respectively.

Some of Canada's most influential people have links to Power Corp., including four former prime ministers.

Former prime minister Jean Chrétien's daughter is married to André Desmarais. Chrétien, Pierre Trudeau, and former prime minister Brian Mulroney all served as advisory board members of Power Corp. after leaving office. Former prime minister Paul Martin was president of one of the company's subsidiaries, Canada Steamship Lines, and later bought it with a partner in the 1980s.

In 2019, Chrétien said Canada's justice minister

#### **Canada China Business Council**

The CCBC advocates for strong relations with China and has counted among its ranks former politicians or individuals who went on to become politicians.

Paul Desmarais Sr. was the founding chair of CCBC. His son André is an honorary chair of the organization, and the current chair is André's son, Olivier.

CCBC, formerly called the Canada China Trade Council, was founded in 1978. It lists eight major Canadian corporations and the Chinese stateowned company CITIC as founding members.

Half of the Canadian founding members namely Power Corp., BMO Financial Group, Bombardier, and SNC-Lavalin—are based in Montreal. The others are Barrick Gold Corp., Export Development Canada, Manulife Financial, and Sun Life Financial, the latter based in Montreal until 1978.

The book "Claws of the Panda" says the founding CCBC members "became a persuasive lobby for enhanced relations with China, for which the benefits of trade were held to be of paramount concern."

The Canada-China business community has strong links with a once-powerful Chinese official, Bo Xilai.

Bo was a rising star of the CCP until he was removed from his post as Party chief of the megacity of Chongqing after a scandal involving Chongqing official Wang Lijun. Wang gave the American Consulate in Chengdu accounts of the involvement of Bo and Bo's wife, Gu Kailai, in the murder of a British businessman.

Bo was part of a faction loyal to former Chinese leader Jiang Zemin, a rival of current leader Xi Jinping. According to some accounts, Bo and some other officials in Jiang's faction had been plotting to overthrow Xi, and this was one of the main reasons Bo was removed from power.

Both Bo and wife Gu were heavily involved in—and profiting from—the state-sanctioned harvesting of organs from Falun Dafa prisoners of conscience.

Chrétien once called Bo an "old friend," and Sergio Marchi, who is a former Liberal trade minister and a past CCBC president, called Bo "one of our key bridges," according to The Globe and Mail.

Behind some of the most aggressive lobbying efforts for stronger Canada-China ties is a handful of big corporations with extensive business operations in China.



André Desmarais, son of Power Corp. founder Paul Desmarais Sr.

#### **CITIC-Power Corp. Ties**

CITIC Group Corporation—the CCBC's only China-based founding member-is one of the Chinese entities with which Power Corp. has deep ties. The company is a state-owned investment company established to bring in foreign investment to China.

It was founded with the personal approval of Deng Xiaoping, the paramount leader of the Chinese regime after Mao's death. Its founder, Rong Yiren, later a vice president of the People's Republic of China, was known as "the red capitalist."

CITIC has a reputation for having links to the Chinese military and to China's espionage apparatus.

Wang Jun, who was at one time the chairman of CITIC, was also at the same time in charge of Poly Group, a Chinese state-owned enterprise formed as a manufacturing arm of the People's Liberation Army. Wang was at the centre of a donation scandal in the United States in the 1990s, when Arkansas restaurateur and Democratic Party donor Yah Lin "Charlie" Trie used his influence to secure a meeting between Wang and then-president Bill Clinton in 1996. At the time of the meeting, Wang's Poly company was under investigation for illegal arms trading in the United States. Representatives of the company were charged with arms smuggling into the United States a few months after the meeting.

Clinton later said he shouldn't have met with Wang, and the US\$640,000 amount donated by Trie to the Democratic National Convention, as well as \$460,000 raised for Clinton's legal defence, were returned amid questions about the source of the funds and allegations of China's role in the affair.

A leaked 1997 joint report by the RCMP and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) accused CITIC of the same influence-peddling tactics in Canada.

"CITIC has repeated the gesture [as it did in the United States] by contributing through its Canadian subsidiaries to Canadian political parties," the report said.

The 2019 book "Chinese Spies," by veteran French journalist Roger Faligot, says the leadership of CITIC "is known to harbour within its ranks a large number of Chinese secret agents."

According to "Hidden Hand," Paul Desmarais Sr. was the main force behind bringing CITIC into the CCBC, "and thus into the most senior levels of Canada's business elite."

# **Canada's Elite and Powerful**

André Desmarais was a board member of CITIC Pacific, a subsidiary of CITIC, from 1997 to 2014. During this period, Power Corp. bought stakes in CITIC Pacific.

Power Corp. also has 13.9 percent ownership in China Asset Management, an affiliate of CITIC. Mackenzie Financial Corporation, an indirect subsidiary of Power Corp., has a 13.9 percent stake in China Asset Management as well.

CITIC has included many CCP "princelings" children of Party leaders—in its leadership ranks, including Wang Jun, the son of one of the CCP's eight elders, and Bo Xicheng, the brother of Bo Xilai and son of Bo Yibo, one of the Party's most senior political figures.

Paul Desmarais Sr. and André first met Rong during a business mission to China at the invitation of Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, according to La Presse. Before Power Corp. bought a stake in CITIC, the Desmarais-Rong relationship had resulted in another joint venture in 1986: an investment in a pulp mill in British Columbia.

#### 'Expanding the Relationship'

Former prime minister Mulroney, who has provided professional services to Power Corp. on different occasions, also sat on the board of CITIC after leaving office. According to a Globe article, Paul Desmarais Sr. was one of Mulroney's two main mentors as a young man. Power Corp. regularly used Mulroney as a labour lawyer.

According to the 2014 book "Engaging China," after a 1986 official visit to China as prime minister, Mulroney wrote, "Much remains to be done in expanding the relationship, but persistent work by successive Canadian prime ministers, principally Pierre Trudeau, is clearly paying off."

Following the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre, when much of the Western world shunned diplomatic ties with Beijing, Mulroney told Zhu Rongji, China's vice premier at the time, that Canada "would be prepared to fully engage with China in the years ahead" but would need to be cautious because of Canadians' concerns about human rights.

Mulroney played a key role in forging a partnership between Desmarais and entrepreneur Peter Munk to invest in gold deposits in China in 1994, a year after the end of his prime ministership. During a trip to China, Munk was impressed that Mulroney was able to arrange a dinner with Zhu Rongji, then head of China's central bank, without whom they wouldn't be able to get access to China's gold deposits.

"This is a good example of how Brian [Mulroney] uses his connections and contacts and turns them into international business opportunities for the companies he's involved with," Munk told the Globe. Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard attends a signing ceremony between Canadian companies and their Chinese counterparts in Beijing on Oct. 29, 2014. Couillard said that he wouldn't raise the issue of human rights during his trip.

#### 66

For the 10 years as the prime minister, I met the president of China 17 times, so I was close to China.

FORMER PRIME MINISTER JEAN CHRÉTIEN in interview with Chinese state-owned media CGTN







to discussing the issue was in a meeting with Chinese premier Li Peng.

"Chretien raised the issue so briefly that a Chinese foreign affairs ministry official later insisted it had not come up at all, and Nova Scotia Premier John Savage, who was at the meeting, did not initially recall any mention of the subject," the article said.

The approach of sidelining human rights in favour of business interests has been far too common a theme among many political leaders.

During a trip to China in 2014, then-Liberal Quebec premier Philippe Couillard said he would not be bringing up the issue of human rights, saying, "you have to listen to the point of view of your hosts on these questions."

After leading another delegation to China in 2018, during which he signed 40 agreements worth \$262 million, Couillard said he didn't want to "defeat" the purpose of the mission with "misguided comments." He said others shouldn't "dictate to China how they govern themselves internally."

Former Progressive Conservative deputy prime minister Jean Charest, who was premier of Quebec from 2003 to 2012, criticized the Harper government in 2014 for not pursuing trade ties more aggressively with China.

Charest is now providing consulting services to Huawei to help the company in Meng's extradition case and in its bid to be involved in Canada's 5G network. The former premier, as well as Eddie Goldenberg, former senior political adviser to Chrétien, were among several Canadian politicians whose names were in a dossier of key Canadian influencers Beijing provided to Huawei to advance its interests in Canada, according to the Globe, which obtained a copy of the dossier. During Chrétien's tenure, Canada withdrew its support for a U.N. resolution censuring China for human rights abuses in 1997. Instead, any talk of human rights was reserved for private meetings, where Chinese representatives simply brushed off the issue. The year 1997 was also a key year for Power Corp.'s foray into CITIC, as that was when it acquired a significant stake in the company's subsidiary CITIC Pacific and when André Desmarais became a board member of the subsidiary. Chrétien also supported China's admission to the World Trade Organization, which was instrumental in enriching the regime's coffers.

talks failed in 2017 due to the Chinese side not wanting to entertain Trudeau's request to consider progressive values in the deal.

The same year, Canada committed hundreds of millions of dollars in investment in Beijing's prestige-building initiative, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, meant to rival other multilateral development banks such as the World Bank.

Despite a clause in the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) preventing member countries from forming free trade deals with "non-market" economies—a clear reference to China—Trudeau said in 2018 that Ottawa intends to pursue deeper trade ties with the Chinese communist regime.

The Liberal government was criticized by the opposition and U.S. politicians for allowing the takeover of two security-sensitive high-tech companies by Chinese companies. One was Norsat, a Vancouver-based satellite communications firm, and the other was ITF Technologies, a Montreal-based laser technology company.

In 2016, Trudeau's attendance at cash-for-access events became a source of controversy after it was revealed that some of the guests had ties to Beijing. One guest was Zhang Bin, an adviser to the Chinese regime. The event was held at the mansion of Benson Wong, president of the Toronto Chinese Chamber of Commerce. Attendance cost \$1,500 per person. Zhang and a partner donated \$1 million to the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation and the University of Montreal Faculty of Law, where Pierre Trudeau had taught.

The Liberal government has been consistently soft on China. At one point, Ottawa was even considering an extradition treaty with Beijing.

#### **Pro-Beijing Turn**

Under the leadership of Chrétien, Canada became much more pro-Beijing.

Chrétien once told the Chinese stateowned news network CGTN that he visited China "many, many" times when he was prime minister.

"For the 10 years as the prime minister, I met the president of China 17 times, so I was close to China," Chrétien said.

The Chinese leader during Chrétien's tenure was Jiang Zemin, who came to power following the Tiananmen Square massacre, as the previous leader, Zhao Ziyang, was deemed too sympathetic to the protest movement. Jiang went on to launch a brutal campaign of persecution against the traditional meditation discipline Falun Dafa in 1999.

After the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre, Chrétien was one of the first world leaders to bring China out of isolation, rebooting relations with Beijing after the West had shunned the regime for its killing of unarmed protesters.

Chrétien made a trade visit to China in 1994, bringing along premiers, foreign affairs officials, and some 400 business executives. The delegation signed \$9 billion in trade deals while in China.

Ahead of the trip, Chrétien and other officials said they would be using the visit to discuss the issue of human rights. But that issue was put aside, a Maclean's article noted.

"We do not practise megaphone diplomacy, but we do not practise doormat diplomacy either," a senior Foreign Affairs Department official told Maclean's at the time.

The article said the closest Chrétien came

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien meets with Chinese leader Jiang Zemin before their bilateral talks in Shanghai on Oct. 20, 2001.

Two men chat next to the offices of CITIC Pacific in Hong Kong in a file photo. Power Corp. bought a significant stake in CITIC Pacific, a subsidiary of CITIC, in 1997, and André Desmarais was a board member of the subsidiary from 1997 to 2014.



Martin, who succeeded Chrétien as prime minister, maintained his predecessor's China policy. During a 2005 trip by Chinese leader Hu Jintao to Canada, Martin and Hu agreed to build a "strategic partnership" between the two countries.

Some of the biggest orders for Martin's shipbuilding business before he became prime minister came from China. According to an article published in The Walrus, in 1995 his Canada Steamship Lines company commissioned three new self-unloader vessels from the Chinese stateowned Jiangnan shipyards.

#### **Resuming Close Ties**

When Stephen Harper became prime minister in 2006, there was a considerable change in Canada's China policy, with Harper more vocally calling out Beijing's human rights violations. He also refused to go to the 2008 Beijing Olympics, which angered the CCP.

However, in the later years of his tenure, his government began to ease its tone on China.

Manthorpe writes in "Claws of the Panda" that behind this warming up in tone was "a major lobby operation mounted using the CCP's agents of influence in business and academia to get the Harper government to change its attitude toward China."

After the Liberal Party won the 2015 federal election, it almost immediately began a policy of seeking closer ties with China. The government also spent money on public relations initiatives to warm Canadians toward closer Canada-China ties.

Trudeau visited China in 2016 and 2017, pursuing preliminary talks toward a free trade agreement, despite a \$50 billion imbalance in trade between the two countries in China's favour. The Human rights and national security concerns aside, close economic ties and inclusion of a regime that doesn't play by the rules in global organizations may have benefited some corporations and individuals, but it hasn't been to the benefit of Canadians.

A 2017 report by the Centre for the Study of Living Standards found that between 2001 and 2011, Canada lost 150,000–170,000 jobs due to increased Chinese imports. Another report in the same year by the Broadbent Institute said Canada has lost close to 550,000 manufacturing jobs since 2000, around the time that China was brought into the World Trade Organization—a move Chrétien was a proponent of.

Ottawa's tone on China has seemingly become more direct of late, with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau recently calling out Beijing for its "coercive diplomacy." But this has yet to be backed up by any concrete actions—and that's what Canadians want, according to a poll by Ekos Research in November. The poll showed that 83 percent of respondents said Canada should stand up to China to uphold Canadian values of respect for human rights and the rule of law.

It created an uproar when internal government documents made public in early December showed that Global Affairs had pushed for the Canadian military to maintain training exercises with China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) in early 2019, shortly after China arrested Kovrig and Spavor. The pushback by Global Affairs occurred following a decision by the Canadian military to cancel winter training with the PLA due to security concerns raised by the United States. The move demonstrated Ottawa's flawed thinking that the communist regime can be a trusted partner.

The Liberal government also still hasn't ruled out using Huawei equipment in Canada's 5G networks, despite security concerns from the intelligence community and the United States, which has warned that it would limit intelligence sharing with Canada if it allowed Huawei to participate in the country's 5G. A poll in May 2020 by Research Co. showed that 75 percent of Canadians don't want Huawei equipment in Canada's 5G.

According to scholar Hamilton, untangling the Chinese regime's influence in Canada would be a 10-year struggle, as "the influence of the CCP runs very deep in Canadian institutions."

If our leaders want to seriously put the interests of Canadians first rather than those of a few among the elite, they should make the effort to start today—and achieve it much sooner than 10 years.

## 'Generational Threat': US Taking Unprecedented

As Washington pushes back against an increasingly hostile Beijing, a number of countries are also taking action against the threat posed by the regime

#### **CONTINUED FROM B1**

"The days of American passivity and naivety regarding the People's Republic of China are over," O'Brien said in a speech in June about the CCP's ideology and global ambitions, noting that "the Chinese Communist Party does not equal China or her people."

The Department of State reported that the CCP "poses the central threat of our times, undermining the stability of the world to serve its own hegemonic ambitions." Pompeo has been working to create a bloc, what he has termed "a new grouping of like-minded nations—a new alliance of democracies," to stand together against the regime.



The FBI headquarters in Washington on April 3, 2019. As part of building such an alliance as well as persuading countries to avoid using Chinese telecom giant Huawei's equipment in their 5G networks—he has met with officials in allied countries, including Japan, Australia, India, Israel, and European states.

"This is not a rivalry between the United States and China—this is for the soul of the world," Pompeo told Japan's public broadcaster NHK. "This is about whether this will be a world that operates [as] a rulesbased international order system, or one that's dominated by a coercive totalitarian regime like the one in China."

He called on the group to collaborate against what he called Beijing's "exploitation, corruption, and coercion."

In his groundbreaking speech in California in July, Pompeo said it needs to be recognized that the CCP is fundamentally



The FBI currently has more than 2,000 active investigations that trace back to the Chinese Communist Party.

### World Actions Against Beijing's Threats



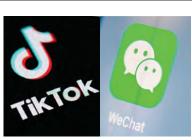
A Hikvision camera at a shopping mall in Beijing.

#### US Takes Action on Chinese Companies, State Media

Washington has labelled 15 Chinese state-owned media outlets, including CGTN and People's Daily, as foreign missions, identifying them as propaganda organs of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). The U.S. Senate has also introduced a bill to limit Chinese state media journalists' presence in the United States.

In February, U.S. prosecutors charged Huawei with conspiracy to steal trade secrets.

Hundreds of Chinese companies and government entities, including Huawei and about 150 of its non-U.S. affiliates, have been placed on the Commerce Department's "entity list," meaning that American firms need to obtain special licences in order to do business with them. Dozens of the Chinese companies



The logos of TikTok and WeChat.

#### US Takes Action on Chinese Companies, State Media

Continued

subsidiary ComNet—from operating in the United States unless they can show they are free of influence from Beijing.

In June, the FCC designated Huawei and ZTE as national security threats, as both are subject to Chinese law—as are all Chinese citizens and organizations—which obligates them to cooperate with Beijing's intelligence agencies.

The same month, the Pentagon named 20 Chinese companies that are either owned or controlled by the Chinese military. These companies include mobile operators China Mobile and China Telecom, rail car manufacturer CRRC, and video surveillance manufacturer Hikvision.

In August, the White House issued executive orders to ban WeChat and TikTok from the United States if they are not sold by their Chinese-owned parent companies. In November, three Congress members introduced a bill that would ban blacklisted Chinese companies and their affiliates from accessing U.S. capital markets.



The Huawei logo.

#### US Slaps New Export Rules on China

In April, the U.S. Commerce Department released new export control rules to prevent efforts by entities in China to acquire U.S. technology that could aid the Chinese military. The rules require U.S. companies to obtain licences to sell certain items—including semiconductor equipment and sensors—to companies in China that support the military, even if the items are indicated to be for civilian use.

In May, the United States blocked Huawei from buying semiconductors from global chipmakers that are made with U.S. technology. This action cut off supplies to Huawei and closed a loophole that the company had been exploiting after being placed on the U.S. entity list in May 2019.

In September, Washington imposed export restrictions on China's biggest chipmaker, Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corp. and its subsidiaries, requiring U.S. firms to apply for a licence to export certain products to that company. In December, 58 Chinese militarylinked entities were added to a new list called the "military end user" list.



A sign for Wall Street in New York.

#### US Bill Aiming to Delist Chinese Companies From Stock Exchanges

Washington announced in August a proposal to delist Chinese companies from U.S. stock exchanges if they fail to comply with U.S. securities laws and investor protection requirements.

In a report by the President's Working Group on Financial Markets, the U.S. Treasury recommended that companies from China and other countries that do not comply with U.S. auditing and accounting standards be delisted from U.S. stock exchanges starting on Jan. 1, 2022.

The U.S. Senate had passed a bipartisan bill, the Holding Foreign Companies Accountable Act, in May 2020 to force Chinese companies listed on U.S. stock exchanges to open their audit books to U.S. regulators or face delisting. The bill was passed in the House in December 2020. Although the legislation's requirements are not limited to any one country, Rep. Brad Sherman, the lead House sponsor of the bill, made clear that the primary target is China.



NYPD officer Baimadajie Angwang.

#### US Cracks Down on Chinese Espionage

U.S. federal prosecutors announced new Chinarelated espionage cases almost every week in the last few months.

Some notable examples include the arrest of New York police officer Baimadajie Angwang accused of spying for the Chinese Consulate; five Chinese nationals charged with hacking more than 100 companies and entities worldwide; a Chinese researcher at the University of California, Los Angeles, charged with destroying evidence (a hard drive) to hamper an FBI investigation into whether he had transferred sensitive software or data to China; a former CIA officer arrested for allegedly spying for China for a decade; a NASA researcher arrested and accused of hiding his funding from China; and a former chair of Harvard University's chemistry department indicted for making false statements about funding he received from China. FBI Director Chris Wray said in June that the bureau had more than 2,000 active investigations connected to the CCP. He said the bureau opens "a new counterintelligence investigation that ties back to China every 10 hours."

were added to the list because of their links to the Chinese military or human rights abuses.

In April, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) threatened to bar four Chinese state-controlled telecom firms—China Telecom, China Unicom, and Pacific Networks Corp. and its *Continued* 



Japanese soldiers train on a beach by the South China Sea.

#### Global Actions to Counter China in Indo-Pacific



The two countries are part of a four-member forum dubbed the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, or Quad, along with Japan and Australia.

Quad nations have vowed to step up coordination to keep the Indo-Pacific open and free, countering what Washington has called China's "exploitation, corruption and coercion" of smaller states in the region.

Also in July, the United States, Australia, and Japan held joint naval exercises in the Philippine Sea. Warships from the three countries joined forces in a show of strength as Beijing reportedly continued live-fire drills in the South China Sea in the region.



A paramilitary police officer stands guard in Beijing in May.

#### Global Actions to Hold CCP Accountable for Pandemic

All 194 WHO member states have unanimously adopted a resolution to investigate the international response to the pandemic.

Lawmakers in many countries, including opposition MPs in Canada, have pushed their governments to revisit their China policy as well in light of the CCP's handling of the pandemic.

In April, over 200 China experts and politicians from around the world, including several Canadian MPs, signed an open letter expressing concern over the Chinese regime's coverup of the pandemic, saying that its rule by fear endangers not only Chinese citizens but also the world.

Legal action against the Beijing regime for its handling of the virus outbreak has been launched in several countries, including the United States, India, Israel, Egypt, Turkey, Argentina, and Nigeria.



Riot police chase demonstrators in Hong Kong on July 1, 2020.

#### Global Actions to Support Freedom in Hong Kong

In July, the U.K. began offering a path to citizenship to eligible Hongkongers following the passing of Beijing's draconian national security law for Hong Kong on June 30. Canada has also started accepting Hong Kong prodemocracy activists as refugees.

In response to Beijing's measures, multiple countries, including Canada, have suspended their extradition agreements with Hong Kong.

In May, the United States and U.K. had already called on the United Nations to take action against Beijing's clampdown on freedoms in Hong Kong. And the United States, U.K., Canada, and Australia expressed "deep concern" over the proposed security law in a joint statement.

In June, Washington announced an end to exports of U.S.-origin defence equipment to Hong Kong. Two months later, the United States suspended or terminated three bilateral agreements with Hong Kong covering extradition and tax exemptions.



Police violently detain a Falun Gong adherent in Beijing in 2000.

#### Global Actions on Human Rights in China

In June, 50 U.N. experts called for decisive measures to protect fundamental freedoms in China.

In July, marking 21 years since the start of the persecution of Falun Gong adherents by the CCP, over 640 lawmakers from 32 countries including Canada signed a joint statement calling on the Party to immediately stop the persecution. By Dec. 10, Human Rights Day, over 920 lawmakers from 35 countries had signed the statement.

The U.S. State Department issued numerous statements in 2020 on China's human rights violations, including abuses against Falun Gong, Uyghurs, Tibetans, and Hongkongers. The Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China (IPAC) has also issued over a dozen similar statements.

In October, 39 nations called on China to respect the human rights of Uyghurs, Tibetans, and Hongkongers, and a coalition of over 150 groups in some 90 cities around the world held rallies to protest the Chinese regime's human rights abuses.



Xi Jinping inaugurates a Confucius Institute in Australia in 2010.

#### Global Actions on Huawei, Confucius Institutes

In July, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said he plans to phase out Huawei equipment from the country's 5G networks.

The United States, Australia, New Zealand, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Japan, and Sweden have all banned Huawei from their networks.

Huawei was also ousted from the heart of the European Union after competitor Nokia won two major Belgian 5G contracts.

EU members have been stepping up scrutiny of high-risk vendors. This subjects Huawei's governance and technology to critical examination and is likely to lead other European operators to strip it from their networks.

Beijing's Confucius Institutes (CIs) have also faced backlash in several countries for alleged efforts to advance the authoritarian regime's agenda.

Since McMaster University closed its Cl in 2013, more than 50 other universities in other parts of Canada, the United States, Australia, Germany, France, Sweden, Netherlands, Belgium, and Denmark have severed their ties with the program.

## **Steps to Counter Communist China**

a Marxist-Leninist regime, saying that "it's this ideology that informs [Chinese leader Xi Jinping's decades-long desire for global hegemony of Chinese communism."

He asked democracies to work together to defend against the expansive threats posed by the CCP, calling it a choice "between freedom and tyranny."

"We, the freedom-loving nations of the world, must induce China to change ... in more creative and assertive ways, because Beijing's actions threaten our people and our prosperity," he said.

Internal U.S. counteractions have also ramped up. FBI Director Chris Wray said in July that the bureau currently has more than 2,000 active investigations that trace back to the CCP, marking a roughly 1,300 percent increase in economic espionage probes with links to the Chinese regime. He said the bureau opens "a new counterintelligence investigation that ties back to China every 10 hours."

Wray has called the Chinese regime "the greatest long-term threat" to the United States.

The China Task Force, made up of House Republicans, released a report on Sept. 30 that they described as a "comprehensive blueprint" to counter a range of threats posed by the CCP. The report made more than 400 recommendations to respond to the regime's malign actions against the United States and the free world, dubbing the CCP a "generational threat."

"Now the greatest challenge for this generation is the Chinese Communist Party. It is a generational struggle. And this is a generational document that will guide the Congress for many years to come," said the task force's chair Rep. Michael McCaul.

On Oct. 1, Rep. Scott Perry introduced a bill to designate the CCP as a

"transnational criminal organization" and eliminate sovereign immunity for CCP officials—which would allow them to be tried in U.S. court for criminal prosecution.

If the legislation passes, it would add the CCP to the Department of Justice's Top International Criminal Organizations Target list.

In its first-ever report on security threats to the United States released on Oct. 6, the Department of Homeland Security identified Beijing as a state actor that poses a "significant threat." Among a list of concerns were disinformation campaigns, diplomatic pressure, and counterfeit medical products exported to the United States.

As Washington pushes back against the CCP for its technology theft, human rights violations, and military aggression, a number of other countries are also taking action to counter the regime.

For example, Australia called for an

investigation into Beijing's handling of the COVID-19 outbreak that allowed it to spread around the world, and it didn't back down in the face of the CCP's threats. And the U.K. is planning to phase out Huawei equipment from the country's 5G networks.

Measures similar to those taken by the United States or other countries to counter Beijing are not in the works in Canada, despite the fact that Canada faces the same situation. Canada still hasn't made a decision on whether to exclude Huawei equipment from its 5G networks, making it the only member of the Five Eyes intelligence alliance that hasn't yet done so.

The infographic below takes a look at some of the key actions the United States and other countries have taken against the Chinese regime.

With reporting by Bowen Xiao

#### US has taken the most actions by far in recent months against threats posed by the Chinese regime



U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

#### **US Counters China's Influence and Coercive Activities**

In August, Washington designated the Confucius Institute U.S. Center as a foreign mission of the CCP.

On Oct. 28, the State Department designated a CCP front organization operating in the United States as a foreign mission under the U.S. Foreign Missions Act. It also terminated a 2011 agreement with Beijing to promote collaboration between governors in the two countries.

On Dec. 4, the State Department imposed visa sanctions on Chinese officials "engaged in coercive influence activities." The State Department may now deny entry to officials in the regime's United Front Work Department (UFWD) "who have engaged in malign activities to co-opt and coerce those who oppose Beijing's policies," Secretary of State Mike Pompeo wrote in a tweet. Also on the same day, the State Department terminated five PRCfunded programs disguised as "cultural exchanges" with China.



The Department of Justice sign in Washington.

#### **United States Targets CCP Members**

Washington, on national security grounds, has banned anyone "who is or has been a member of or affiliated with the Communist or any other totalitarian party" from immigrating to the United States, with two categories of exceptions covering involuntary membership and past membership. Members of the CCP and its affiliated organizations are expected to be affected most by the new policy, as the CCP is the world's largest communist party.

On Dec. 3, the State Department slapped new visa restrictions on CCP members and their immediate family members who hold a B1, B2, or B1/ B2 visitor visa, reducing the maximum duration of their stay to one month, single entry, from 10 years, multiple entries, aiming to "protect our nation from the CCP's malign influence."



People move items in bags from the Chinese Consulate in Houston.

#### **US Closes Chinese Consulate, Sanctions Chinese Officials**

In an unprecedented move in summer 2020, the United States ordered the Chinese Consulate in Houston to close, with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo accusing the facility of being a "hub of spying and intellectual property theft."

In September, the United States began requiring senior Chinese diplomats to get State Department approval before visiting U.S. university campuses or holding cultural events with more than 50 people outside mission grounds.

Starting in June, the U.S. government began to impose visa restrictions on certain CCP officials deemed responsible for undermining Hong Kong's autonomy, and later imposed sanctions on officials involved.

Since July, the department has imposed sanctions and visa restric tions on Chinese officials linked to rights abuses in Xinjiang and Tibet and in the persecution of Christians and Falun Gong adherents. In July, it also imposed visa restrictions on certain employees of Chinese technology companies, including Huawei, that aid the regime in rights abuses.



U.S. Navy fighter jets in South China Sea in October 2019.

#### **US Strengthens Presence in Indo-Pacific**

The United States said in July that China has no legal grounds for most of its maritime claims in the South China Sea.

In August, the Pentagon warned Beijing over its ballistic missile launches in the South China Sea, saying it has destabilized the situation in the region. The U.S. Navy stated that its guided-missile destroyer USS Mustin conducted "routine operations in the waters" near the Paracel Islands to ensure a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific."

On Oct. 7, Defence Secretary Mark Esper said the Pentagon plans to have more than 500 Navy ships in its fleet by 2045 to counter China's growing military ambitions and other threats.

The United States has also taken a series of moves to strengthen relations with Taiwan, including steppedup arms sales and support for the island's participation in international forums. It also passed the Taiwan Assurance Act in December, which states that the State Department's guidance regarding Taiwan "should be crafted with the intent to deepen and expand U.S.-Taiwan relations."



Medical workers test a patient for COVID-19 in San Francisco.

#### **US Holds CCP** Accountable for Pandemic

Several lawmakers have proposed bills targeting Beijing's role in the pandemic. In July, six Republican senators jointly introduced a bill allowing affected Americans to file lawsuits against the Chinese government in U.S. courts.

The states of Missouri and Mississippi as well as individuals and businesses in multiple states including Florida, Texas, California, and Pennsylvania have filed lawsuits against Beijing, seeking trillions of dollars in compensation.

On Sept. 22, President Donald Trump told the U.N. General Assembly that the world "must hold China accountable for their actions" that led to the global pandemic.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said in May that China did everything it could "to make sure the world didn't learn in a timely fashion" about the virus outbreak. "China behaved like authoritarian regimes do, attempted to conceal and hide and confuse," Pompeo told ABC.

As of the week of Sept. 8, U.S. authorities had revoked more than 1,000 visas of Chinese nationals over military links, following a proclamation by Trump to limit Beijing's ability to leverage Chinese researchers to steal U.S. information in order to develop advanced military capabilities.



Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payne.

#### Australia Criticizes **Beijing's Handling** of Pandemic

The Australian govern-**∕**∎ \* ment has been one of the most forceful critics of Beijing for its mishandling of the pandemic, including pushing for the establishment of an independent inquiry into the virus outbreak, which has garnered the support of over 100 countries.

Australia has also made significant changes to its foreign investment laws. The changes were driven in part by concerns that financially distressed Australian assets were being targeted by foreign takeovers, particularly by China, as a result of the pandemic.

In mid-June, Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payne called out Russia and China for spreading disinformation about the pandemic.

On July 1, Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced 270 billion Australian dollars in additional spending on defence over the next decade to address economic and strategic uncertainty in part due to tensions between China and the United States.



Lena Hallengren, Swedish minister of health.

#### Sweden Closes All **Confucius Institutes**

Sweden has closed all of its Confucius Institutes (Cls), making it the first country in Europe to close all of its CIs and associated classrooms, which are controlled and funded by the Chinese regime.

Though billed as Chinese language and cultural centres, the institutes have drawn mounting international criticism over their role in stifling free speech and promoting Chinese propaganda and influence in academic institutions.

Multiple Swedish cities have also ended their sister-city agreements with Chinese cities in the past year.

In April, the federal health minister told Parliament that Sweden would push for the EU to support an "international, independent investigation" to look into the origin and the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

A December 2019 Pew Research Center poll showed that 70 percent of respondents in Sweden hold unfavourable views of China.



Zdenek Hrib, mayor of Prague.

#### **Czech Republic Politicians Slam** Beijing

The Czech Senate adopted a resolution criticizing Beijing for sending a letter with a threatening tone to former Senate speaker Jaroslav Kubera. The letter from the Chinese Embassy said his planned trip to Taiwan would create "complications for Czech companies trading with China."

The current Senate speaker, Milos Vystrcil, visited Taiwan at the end of August despite threats from China. He said, "I am inclined to uphold morals and values instead of counting money."

Prague Mayor Zdenek Hrib, who called Beijing an "unreliable business partner" last December, signed a sister-city agreement with Taipei in January.

The friendship between the Czech Republic and Taiwan dates back to the 1990s, when former Czech president Vaclav Havel in 1995 told the U.N. General Assembly to offer Taiwan a seat in the United Nations.



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

#### **India Toughens Stance on China**

India toughened its ۲ stance on China following deadly clashes at its disputed border in the Himalayas in mid-June, when 20 Indian soldiers were killed by Chinese troops. Since then, Indian politicians, traders, and ordinary citizens have initiated campaigns to boycott Chinese products.

The Indian government has also banned 118 Chinese phone applications, including TikTok and WeChat.

In April, the Indian government enacted stricter rules on investments from companies based in countries that share a land border with India, requiring those investments to first obtain its approval. The trade ministry said the aim was to curb "opportunistic" takeovers and acquisitions of Indian companies under financial distress due to the pandemic.

Recently, Indian media reported that the government is considering banning Chinese tech giants Huawei and ZTE from providing equipment to the country's state-run telecommunications companies.



**European Commission President** Ursula von der Leyen.

#### **EU Adopts New Strategy on China**

The European Union adopted a new strategic stance on China in March 2019, labelling the country as a "systemic rival." The following month, an EUwide framework for the screening of foreign direct investments (FDI) entered into force, under the rationale that an FDI in one member state could pose risks to other member states or the whole union.

On June 17, the European Commission issued a white paper setting forth its policy of preventing foreign investors, especially from China, from using government subsidies to outbid rivals for European assets.

In April, the European External Action Service issued a report on COVID-19 disinformation, in which it noted "evidence of a coordinated push by official Chinese sources to deflect any blame for the outbreak" and said there is "significant evidence of covert Chinese operations on social media" that for example sought to praise China's handling of the crisis while attacking the United States.

#### **SPECIAL EDITORIAL SERIES**

# How the Spectre of Communism Is Ruling Our World

Editor's note: To help readers understand the objective and some of the strategies and tactics the Chinese Communist Party uses to influence, control, and subvert Western countries including Canada, we are including in our special edition an excerpt from the book "How the Spectre of Communism is Ruling Our World," published by The Epoch Times. The book explains that although

the communist regimes of Eastern Europe have disintegrated, the spectre of communism has not disappeared. On the contrary, this evil spectre is already ruling our world, and humanity must not harbour a mistaken sense of optimism. Communist China has replaced the Soviet Union as the primary threat to the free world, building up its strength in a bid for global hegemony.

### Introduction

**An excerpt** from the introduction to "How the Spectre of Communism is Ruling Our World."

he collapse of the communist regimes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe marked the end of a 50-year Cold War between the capitalist and communist camps in the West and the East. At the time, many were optimistic, believing that communism had become a relic of the past.

The sad truth, however, is that a transmogrified communistideology has taken hold and entrenched itself around the world. In China, North Korea, Cuba, and Vietnam, there are outright communist

regimes; in Eastern European countries, communist ideology and customs still exert a significant influence; and in African and South American countries, socialism is practised under the banner of democracy and republicanism. Then there are the nations of Western Europe and North America, which have become host to communist influences without people even realizing it.

Communism breeds war, famine, slaughter, and tyranny. These in themselves are terrifying enough, but the damage dealt by communism goes far beyond this. It has become increasingly clear that, unlike any other system in history, communism declares war on humanity itself -

including human values and human dignity.

After establishing massive dictatorships in the Soviet Union and China, communism came to rule billions of people and caused more than 100 million unnatural deaths in less than a century. In its overt attempts at world revolution, the communist bloc brought the world to the brink of nuclear war; meanwhile, leftist thinkers and activists have promoted the deliberate and widespread destruction of the family, social order, and traditional morality.

What is the nature of communism? What is its objective? Why does it take mankind as its enemy? How can we escape it?

### The Chinese Communist Party's Global Ambitions The Aim of United Front Work: Disintegrating the Free World From Within

On Dec. 18, 2018, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) celebrated the 40th anniversary of China's so-called reform and opening up. It awarded the China Reform Friendship Medal to 10 influential foreigners to "thank the international community for supporting China's reform." The 10 included Juan Antonio Samaranch, former president of the International Olympic Committee, which had selected China to host the 2008 Olympics Games; and Robert Lawrence Kuhn, an American businessman who lent his name as author of a fawning biography of former CCP head Jiang Zemin.

Over the past few decades, countless politicians and celebrities have acted as accomplices to the CCP's "united front" tactics.

Mao labelled the United Front Work Department (UFWD) as one of the CCP's "three magic treasures." Western governments have been deceived and suffered losses by these tactics, but some are beginning to wake up, and a number of investigative reports about the United Front have been published.

politicians and businesspeople; academicians and members of think tanks; overseas Chinese leaders, businessmen, and students; the movie and entertainment industries; and overseas dissidents.

#### **Politicians and Businesspeople**

The USCC report says the CCP regards its United Front as an important tool to strengthen domestic and international support for the Party. This includes buying off Western politicians. Through persuasion, temptation, and relationship-building, the CCP maintains close ties with many highlevel officials in Western governments. The Party treats these politicians as its "state treasures," giving them lavish gifts and conferring upon them titles such as "old friends of China." Among them are current and former United Nations secretaries general, heads of state, high-ranking government officials, senior government advisers, heads of international organizations, famous academics and think-tank scholars, and media consortium tycoons. All these people in the United Front network are expected to voice their support for the CCP at crucial moments.

agents in those nations in order to further spread communist ideology.

The CCP uses the same tactics on those in the financial sector and a number of other industries. Business people and entrepreneurs are treated as kings and given business incentives. In return, they become the CCP's voice for lobbying their governments and influencing their countries' financial and economic policies. In the U.S.-China trade war, the CCP had frequent contact with Wall Street tycoons. Many top financial companies and international corporations do business in China. To help expand their business there, these companies hire numerous children of high-ranking Chinese officials, called "princelings." In turn, these princelings act as the Party's eyes, ears, and voice in those companies.

#### **Academic Circles and Think Tanks**

Many think tanks in the West directly shape their country's policies and strategy toward China; therefore, the CCP pays them special attention. The CCP exerts control over think tanks via financial sponsorship. It has bribed, controlled, or influenced almost all think tanks related to China. The Chinese tech giant Huawei has provided financial support to think tanks in Washington, who then write positive reports about Huawei, according to a 2018 Washington Post report. people willingly collaborate with the Party. When this doesn't work, the regime uses threats and intimidation to exploit their fears or mistakes, effectively blackmailing them into assisting the Party. In some cases, the CCP has even provided transplant organs obtained by killing to buy off influential figures in need of a transplant.

The resources the CCP is able to bring to bear to infiltrate other countries defy the imagination, and the facts uncovered at present are only the tip of the iceberg. People in all walks of life, especially in politics and business, have become the CCP's pawns in its unrestricted warfare campaign. Almost all countries in the world have begun to feel the CCP's global ambitions and its evil, unrestricted means.

The above is an abbreviated excerpt of Chapter 18: The Chinese Communist Party's Global Ambitions, 3. Unrestricted Warfare With Chinese Communist Characteristics, b. The Aim of United Front Work: Disintegrating the Free World From Within.

A 2018 report by the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission (USCC) titled "China's Overseas United Front Work" outlines the CCP's overseas United Front work structure and operations, including how the Party uses various types of governmental and non-governmental organizations for its United Front work and the implications for the United States and other Western countries. The report states, "This elevation of the importance of United Front work has resulted in an increased number of UFWD officials assigned to top CCP and government posts, adding roughly 40,000 new UFWD cadres."

The think tank Global Public Policy Institute published a report in 2018 detailing the activities of CCP's United Front in Europe. The Hoover Institution at Stanford University released a detailed report on the same topic on Nov. 29, 2018. The report states: "China's influence activities have moved beyond their traditional United Front focus on diaspora communities to target a far broader range of sectors in Western societies, ranging from think tanks, universities, and media to state, local, and national government institutions. China seeks to promote views sympathetic to the Chinese Government, policies, society, and culture; suppress alternative views; and co-opt key American players to support China's foreign policy goals and economic interests."

The CCP's United Front primarily targets the following actors in the West:

Local politicians are also targets of the United Front. These include community leaders, city council members, mayors, state senators, and others. The usual approach is to donate to local politicians through Chinese organizations or merchants, who are invited to visit China, where they receive bribes. Their family businesses get special treatment in China. Cases of sexual entrapment, known as "honey traps," often involve blackmail, and the CCP regularly uses this tactic.

Chen Yonglin, a former officer at the Chinese Consulate in Sydney, Australia, who defected in 2005, told The Epoch Times that the United Front had infiltrated the Australian government and had corrupted officials. Chen said: "The amount of private bribery for the officials far surpassed political donations. Especially those higher-ranking officials, the bribes were huge. ... Another aspect of bribery is the all-expenses-paid trips to China, where officials are treated as kings. This includes prostitution paid for by Chinese companies. Many officials changed their stances after returning from China."

With its strong financial backing, the CCP has paid communist and leftist politicians around the world to become its

To make things worse, over the past several decades, Western humanities scholars and sociologists have been heavily influenced by strains of communist ideology. With a small amount of CCP influence, they can go from merely supporting leftist ideology to embracing the Party's rule.

#### **Unrestricted Warfare**

The core of unrestricted warfare is about mobilizing evil people to destroy humankind step by step. The CCP is highly skilled at tempting people to go against morality and their own conscience, and those who do so often end up as either passive in the face of the regime's abuses, or active participants. Therefore, for influential figures in the political, economic, military, media, cultural, technological, educational, and other fields, the CCP uses all means to discover their weaknesses-whether vested interests or desires-and uses them to make

To read all 18 chapters online, go to TheEpochTimes.com

#### **The 36 Strategies** to Destroy Mankind



This is a must-read for every freedomloving individual. The book reveals the ways in which the communist spectre has burrowed into the minds of today's people. It charts communism's global advance and explains how this spectre has embedded itself in nearly every facet of today's society - from education to the judicial system - and the path humanity must take to escape its grip.

#### To read the full book, visit ept.ms/communism

To order a hard copy of the book, visit Amazon.ca or EpochShop.com



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