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Abstract:
“Peaceful coexistence,” long a key phrase in China’s strategic thinking, is a constructive doctrine that offers China a path for influencing the international system. So argues Liselotte Odgaard in this timely analysis of China’s national security strategy in the context of its foreign policy practice. China’s program of peaceful coexistence emphasizes absolute sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of other states. Odgaard suggests that China’s policy of working within the international community and with non-state actors such as the UN aims to win for China greater power and influence without requiring widespread exercise of military or economic pressure. Odgaard examines the origins of peaceful coexistence in early Soviet doctrine, its midcentury development by China and India, and its ongoing appeal to developing countries. She reveals what this foreign policy offers China through a comparative study of aspiring powers in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. She explores its role in China’s border disputes in the South China Sea and with Russia and India; in diplomacy in the UN Security Council over Iran, Sudan, and Myanmar; and in China’s handling of challenges to the legitimacy of its regime from Taiwan, Xinjiang, and Japan.

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National security is always at the centre of heated political debate. And states feverishly strengthen their bilateral and multilateral military and political alliances, primarily within NATO. It would seem that the security issue, for NATO at least, should be solved by now – or at least close to being solved once and for all. REUTERS/Luke MacGregor

Igor Ivanov: Russia and Europe: New Rules of the Game. What is more important in our opinion is the fact that the threats faced by all countries in the 21st century – big and small, rich and poor, Eastern and Western – have changed at the most fundamental of levels. First, the main threats do not come from neighbouring states or hostile military alliances, but rather from non-state actors such as Al-Qaeda, ISIS, etc. Beijing wants to improve its global image, with Confucius institutes promoting Chinese language and culture across the world. At the same time, Chinese investors are buying media companies in an attempt to alter China's global perception. China is also actively participating in the United Nations. “The result will be an intense security competition with considerable potential for war. In short, China's rise is unlikely to be tranquil,” John J. Mearsheimer, an American political scientist, wrote in The National Interest journal in 2014. Ming Xia of the City University of New York told DW: “I don't believe that China and the West can coexist if China maintains its own system.” Read more: Opinion: China is looking to challenge the US. Third, the national security commission is a very powerful body. Fourth, there will be more issues between China and West World.

China's New Asia Security Concept. On May 21, 2014, delivering the keynote speech at the fourth summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) in 2. Shanghai, Chinese President Xi Jinping called for a common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security strategy for Asia. Chinese media defines his proposal as "New Asia Security Concept". According to Xi, Asia has come to a crucial stage in security cooperation. With 67