

Open Letter to President Xi Jinping

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Dear President Xi Jinping,

I am writing this letter as an observer of China's development and its growing role in the world.

Few leaders in modern history have governed a country undergoing transformation on the scale experienced by China.

Under your leadership, China has continued to strengthen its position as one of the world's largest economies, a major technological power, a manufacturing leader, and an increasingly influential geopolitical actor.

Several achievements deserve recognition.

China has invested heavily in infrastructure, transportation, renewable energy, advanced manufacturing, artificial intelligence, telecommunications, and scientific research.

Chinese companies have become globally competitive in sectors that were once

dominated almost entirely by Western firms.

China has also played a major role in reducing poverty over the past decades and has helped improve living standards for hundreds of millions of people.

In many developing countries, Chinese investments in roads, railways, ports, and energy projects are viewed as important contributions to economic development.

At the same time, serious concerns remain.

Economic growth has slowed compared to previous decades.

The real estate sector has experienced major difficulties.

Local government debt has increased.

Youth unemployment has become a source of concern.

Many observers believe that the Chinese economy now faces structural challenges that cannot be solved solely through investment and construction.

There are also concerns regarding freedom of expression, political participation, media independence, and the ability of citizens to openly criticize government policies.

Critics argue that stability has sometimes been prioritized over openness and public debate.

Internationally, China's relations with several major countries have become more complicated.

Tensions involving trade, technology, security, and the future of Taiwan continue to create uncertainty both within Asia and globally.

Supporters of your leadership argue that strong central authority has provided stability, long-term planning, and national development.

Critics argue that concentration of power increases the risk of strategic mistakes and reduces the ability of institutions to correct them.

The question that may define your legacy is not whether China became stronger.

It clearly did.

The question is whether China can continue becoming stronger while also becoming more open, innovative, and trusted by both its own citizens and the wider world.

The next stage of China's development may require different skills than those that brought it to its current position.

Building prosperity is one achievement.

Maintaining prosperity, confidence, and social cohesion in a more complex world may prove even more difficult.

My overall assessment:

4 out of 5.

Under your leadership, China has continued to grow as an economic, technological, and geopolitical power. Significant challenges remain, particularly in the areas of economic restructuring, international relations, and political openness, but the scale of China's achievements and influence during this period is difficult to ignore.

Respectfully,

A Citizen of the World