

## РОЛЬ КИТАЮ У СУЧАСНІЙ СВІТОВІЙ ПОЛІТИЦІ CHINA'S ROLE IN MODERN WORLD POLITICS

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**Annotation.** *The article examines the role of China in modern world politics. China's share in the world economy in 2022 is analyzed. The key factors that contributed to the country's growth are identified. The dynamics of China's GDP growth in 2010-2022 is studied. China's place in the global competitiveness ranking for 2021-2022 is substantiated. The inflow of FDI is analyzed, which is cyclical in nature, since investments are a direct indicator of crises. It is noted that China's economic expansion is expanding and its influence in the world is increasing due to the formation of dependence on China as both an exporter and an importer. The data of the Global Innovation Index report, where China is among the 20 most innovative countries in the world, are substantiated. The foreign policy of the People's Republic of China is studied and its basic principles are determined. It is substantiated that China has a strong economy and a strong competitive position in the world economy, which allows China to position itself as one of the world leaders in the international arena. The economic power of China is determined. Xi Jinping's foreign policy is substantiated. It is revealed that over the years, China has made significant progress in transforming into a dynamic, knowledge-based economy and has managed to introduce new rules to cope with the governance challenges posed by the onset of the currency crisis, pandemic and the 2022 crisis. It is investigated that China currently accounts for almost a third of world exports and imports. The role of China in world politics is studied on the example of its position on the war in Ukraine and relations with Russia. China's place in the world ranking of countries according to the Innovation Index for 2020-2022 is studied. It is noted that in its foreign policy, China adheres to five basic principles, in particular: mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, non-aggression, non-interference in the internal affairs of another country, equality and mutual benefit,*

*and peaceful coexistence. The dynamics of Russian exports to China is analyzed.*

**Keywords:** *China, expansion, foreign policy, GDP, exports, imports, geopolitics, world politics, strategy, war.*

**Анотація.** *В статті розглянуто роль Китаю у сучасній світовій політиці. Досліджено частку Китаю у світовій економіці. Визначено ключові фактори, які сприяли росту країни. Досліджено динаміку росту ВВП Китаю. Обґрунтовано місце Китаю у рейтингу глобальної конкурентоспроможності. Проаналізовано приплив ПІІ. Зазначено про розширення економічної експансії КНР та збільшення впливу в країнах світу через формування залежності від Китаю як від експортера так і від імпортера одночасно. Обґрунтовано дані звіту Глобального Індексу інновацій. Досліджено зовнішню політику КНР та визначені її основні принципи. Обґрунтовано, що Китай має сильну економіку та сильну конкурентну позицію у світовій економіці. Визначено економічну міць Китаю. Обґрунтовано зовнішню політику Сі Цзіньпіна. Виявлено, що за роки свого існування Китай домогся значного прогресу в перетворенні в динамічну, засновану на знаннях економіку. Досліджено, що в даний час на Китай припадає практично третина світового експорту та імпорту. Досліджено роль Китаю у світовій політиці на прикладі його позиції щодо війни в Україні та відносин з РФ. Досліджено місце Китаю у рейтингу країн світу за Індексом інновацій. Зазначено, що у своїй зовнішній політиці КНР дотримується п'ятьох основних принципів, зокрема: взаємна повага до територіальної цілісності та суверенітету, ненапад, невтручання у внутрішні справи іншої країни, рівність та взаємна вигода й мирне співіснування. Проаналізовано динаміку експорту РФ до Китаю.*

**Ключові слова:** *КНР, експансія, зовнішня політика, ВВП, експорт, імпорт, геополітика, світова політика, стратегія, війна.*

**Introduction.** Today, China is at the center of political and economic events, as its foreign policy, based on the principle of neutrality, is a “unique blend” of geopolitical strategy and economic expansion. This is precisely the uniqueness of this country, which over the past few years has literally absorbed its own and is the second largest most influential country, the power and influence of which is increasing every year. The neutrality that China has chosen in relation to the war in Ukraine is clear evidence of a successful foreign policy, because without accepting either side, China continues to conduct foreign economic relations with world countries and has received a satellite in the person of the Russian Federation, which is beneficial to Xi Jinping and which he successfully uses. The topic of studying the foreign policy of the PRC is not new, but in the maelstrom of events in 2022-2023 it has acquired new relevance, which influenced the writing of this article.

**The purpose of the article.** Conduct an analysis of China's economic development and determine its influence on the formation of foreign policy in the conditions of the third world crisis.

**Literature review.** Studies of Chinese foreign policy were carried out by the following scientists and researchers such as N. S. Heilman (2017), V. A. Callahan (2008), Chu Shulong, Jin Wei (2009) and others. The novelty of the study lies in the peculiarities of the foreign policy of the PRC in the conditions of the third world crisis - the war in Ukraine.

**Main research material.** We will begin this analytical study with an analysis of China's geo-economic position in the world and its economic development, which has actually influenced the formation of China's foreign policy.

To begin with, we studied China's place among the world's largest economies by analyzing countries by GDP as of 2022 (Fig. 1), since the higher the country's GDP, the more competitive it is and, accordingly, the larger its share of the global market.

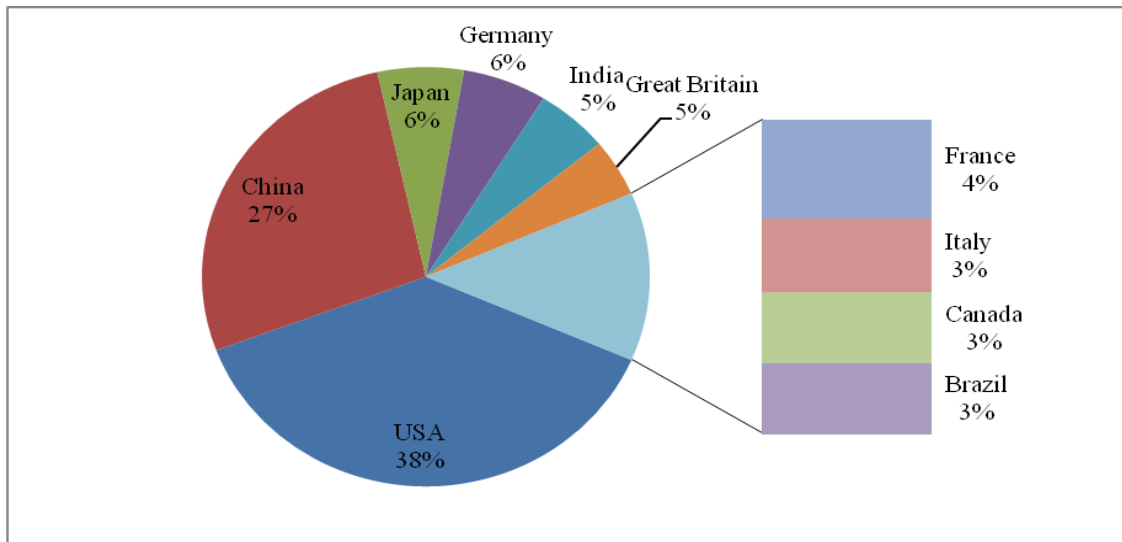


Figure 1 – China’s share in global GDP as of 2022, %  
Source: (*Top 10 economies, 2022*)

Although the United States has maintained its position as the world's largest economy since 1871, China's share is 27%, making it the world's second largest economy and the main competitor of the United States. China is a global economic miracle. After all, in just a few years, the country's GDP has grown many times over, which has increased China's influence in world politics and the international arena (Fig. 2).

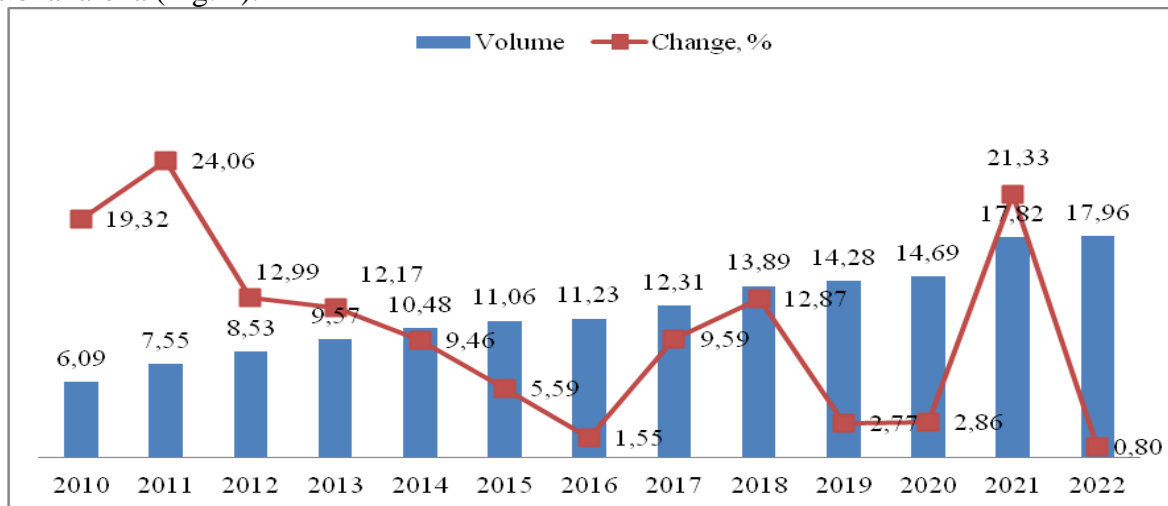


Figure 2 - Dynamics of China's GDP growth for the period 2010-2022, trillion. dollars USA  
Source: (*World Bank, 2022*)

As can be seen from Fig. 2, in general, China's GDP grew by 1.5 times during the analyzed period, which shows the effectiveness of its foreign strategy. In Fig. 2, we can see the dependence of China's GDP growth on external factors, with 2022 being particularly critical, as this year GDP grew by only 0.8% compared to 2021, as a result of the war in Ukraine and the general economic crisis that arose from Putin's aggression, which shook up the global energy, food and IT markets, and had consequences for all countries of the world, including China.

Another important indicator of a country's economic growth is the impact of foreign investment, which also shows the country's foreign policy relations with the rest of the world, so we propose to analyze the overall dynamics of global investment in China over the past 12 years (Figure 3).

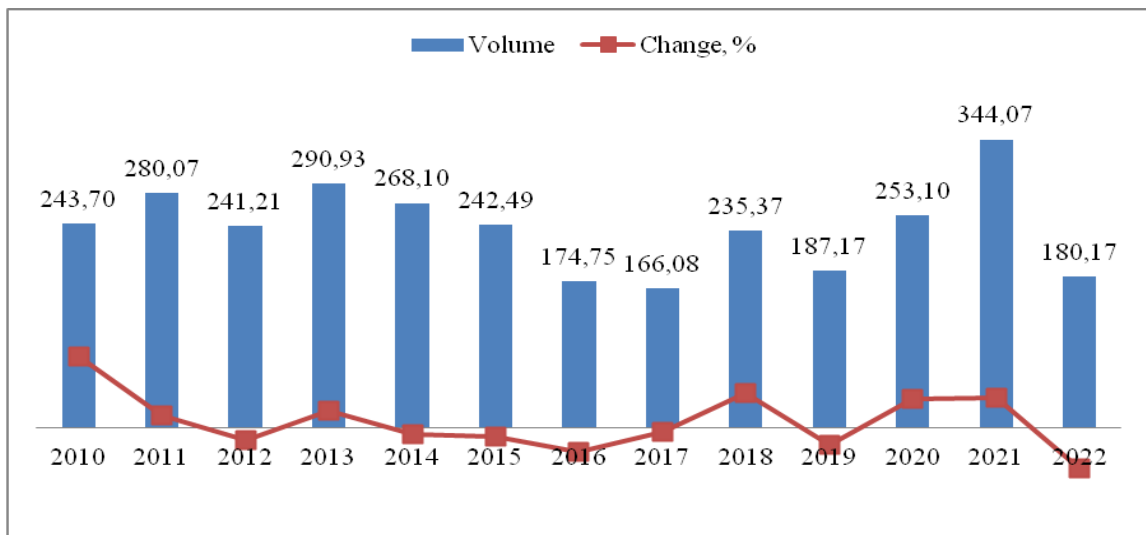


Figure 3 – Dynamics of FDI in China for the period 2010-2022, trillion. dollars USA  
Source: (World Bank, 2022)

Analyzing FDI inflows, we can see their cyclical nature, as investments are a direct indicator of crises during which they decline, which we can see in 2022 in China, where the volume of investments was lower than in 2019. However, if we compare the overall investment picture, thanks to effective government policy, there has been an increase in investment in the Chinese economy, which has a positive impact on the development of the country and the growth of its political and economic power on the world stage.

Another important factor in the country's development and competitiveness is the level of innovation, which is also an indicator of a strong economy. According to the Global Innovation Index report, China is among the 20 most innovative countries in the world (Fig. 4).

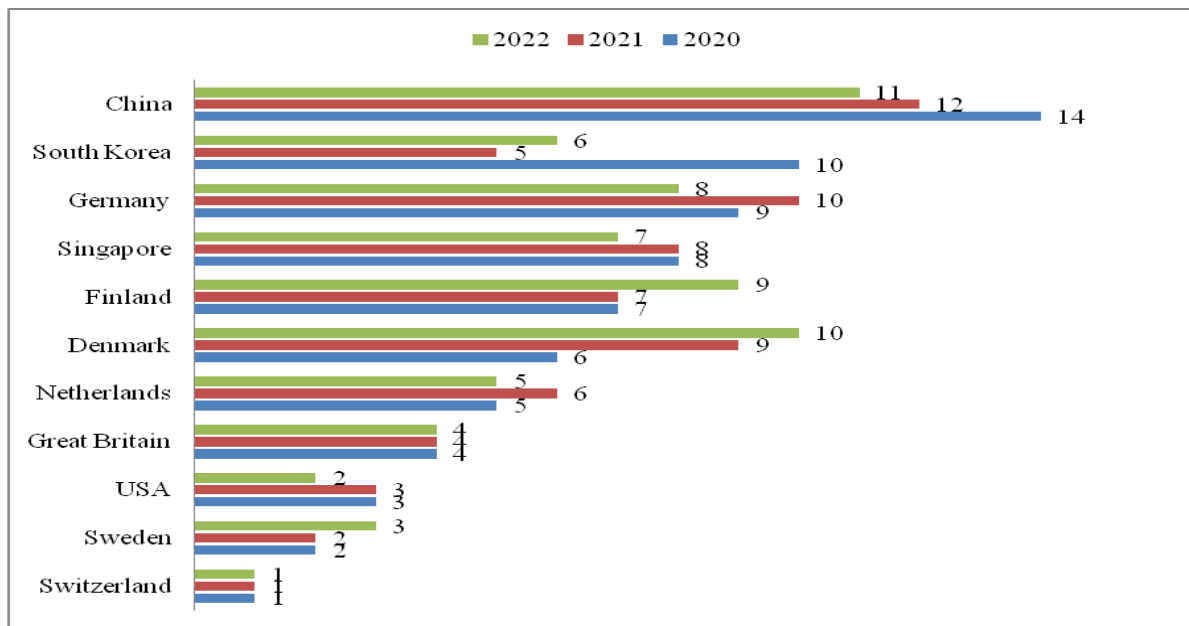


Figure 4 – China's place in the ranking of world countries according to the Innovation Index for 2020-2022.

Source: (Global Innovation Index, 2022; Global Innovation Index, 2022)

Over the past two years, China has firmly established itself as one of the innovation leaders. The Innovation Index is based on eighty indicators, including access to skilled labor, high-tech infrastructure and credit. An additional factor is the high level of legal protection of intellectual property, allowing entrepreneurs and inventors to control their ideas and have the exclusive right to use them to profit from their labor-intensive efforts.

Currently, the main means of generalized assessment of the competitiveness of states is the global competitiveness index. In 2022, the top ten countries represented in it included 6 European countries: the Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany, Sweden, Great Britain, and Denmark. China ranked 17th and is a powerful country with a highly competitive economy (see Fig. 5).

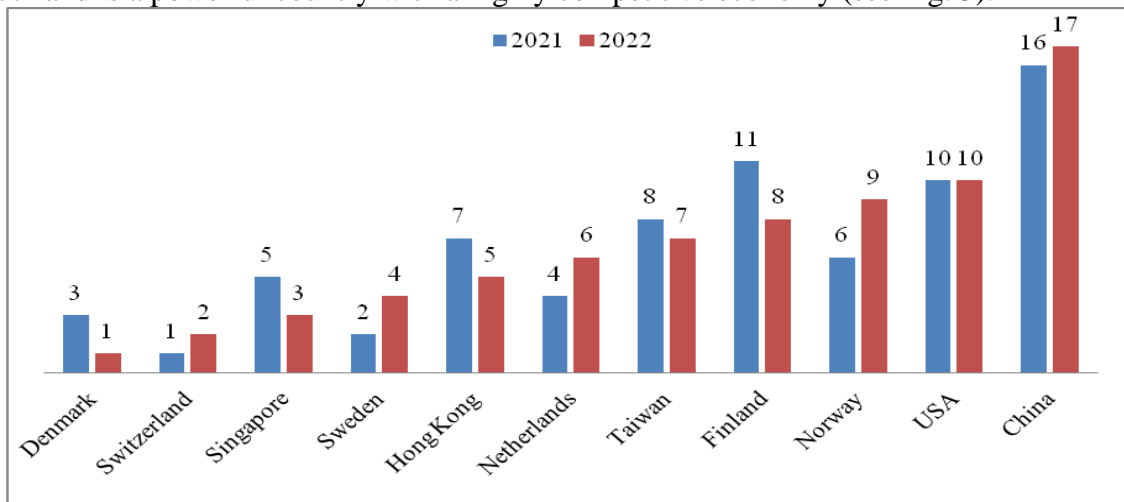


Figure 5 – China’s place in the global competitiveness ranking for 2021-2022  
Source: (IMD, 2023)

China has a strong economy and a strong competitive position in the global economy, which allows the PRC to position itself as one of the world leaders in the international arena.

Researching this topic, it was found that over the years, China has made significant progress in becoming a dynamic, knowledge-based economy and has managed to implement new rules to cope with the governance challenges associated with the onset of the currency crisis, pandemic and the 2022 crisis.

Currently, China accounts for almost a third of world exports and imports (Fig. 6).

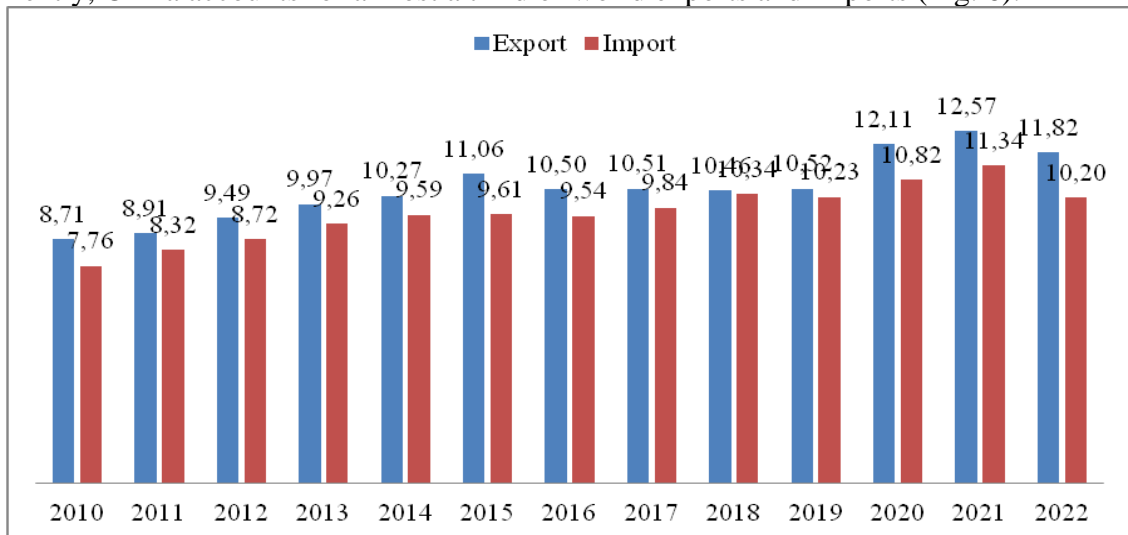


Figure 6 - Share of China's exports and imports in world exports for the period 2010-2022, %  
Source: (World Bank, 2022)

China's share in world exports increased from 8.71% in 2010 to 11.82% in 2022, and the same is true for imports - from 7.76% in 2010 to 10.20% in 2022. Such export and import growth rates indicate that China is expanding its economic expansion and increasing its influence in the world through the formation of dependence on China as both an exporter and an importer. China literally makes countries dependent on its presence, as we see in the example of the Russian Federation. Along with the USA and the EU, China plays an important role in the international arena and is the center in which the most important world events of both an economic and political

nature take place.

So, having defined China's economic power, we propose to examine in more detail the features of foreign policy that have actually created the "cult of China" in the world, namely Xi Jinping's policy.

Xi Jinping's foreign policy can be seen not just as a departure from Deng Xiaoping's (his predecessor) concept of "taoguan yanghui", but also as a complete break with the traditions and mentality of "revolutionary diplomacy" with which Deng Xiaoping's course was closely associated at least levels. There is a fundamental difference between the two foreign policy paradigms - under Deng Xiaoping (and in many ways under Jiang Zemin and Hu Jintao), China did not pursue an active foreign policy, but to a certain extent retained class rhetoric, usually not intending to undermine the social basis of "hegemony" (Heilmann S, 2017). If previously toughness in words often turned into softness in deeds, the transition to a proactive foreign policy under the fifth generation of leaders narrowed the rhetorical gap, but did not completely eliminate it. If, under previous leaders, rather harsh rhetoric compensated for the weakness of politics and the desire to "remain in the shadows" in global affairs, now the opposite is more likely happening - the rhetoric is designed to smooth out the fears that exist in different countries of the world due to the increasing role of China in international affairs.

The ideology of Xi Jinping is the ideology of transforming China from a great state into a strong and durable one with the transfer of global power (Callahan W. A., 2017). Xi Jinping's diplomacy is transitory in nature, which symbolizes the growth of China's global ambitions. Xi Jinping's desire to become better than the United States and completely take over the world with his presence was so strong that we are tracking its real implementation using the example of China's expansion into other countries and the formation of their dependence on the global leadership of the PRC.

In its overall policy, China adheres to five main principles, as shown in Figure 7.

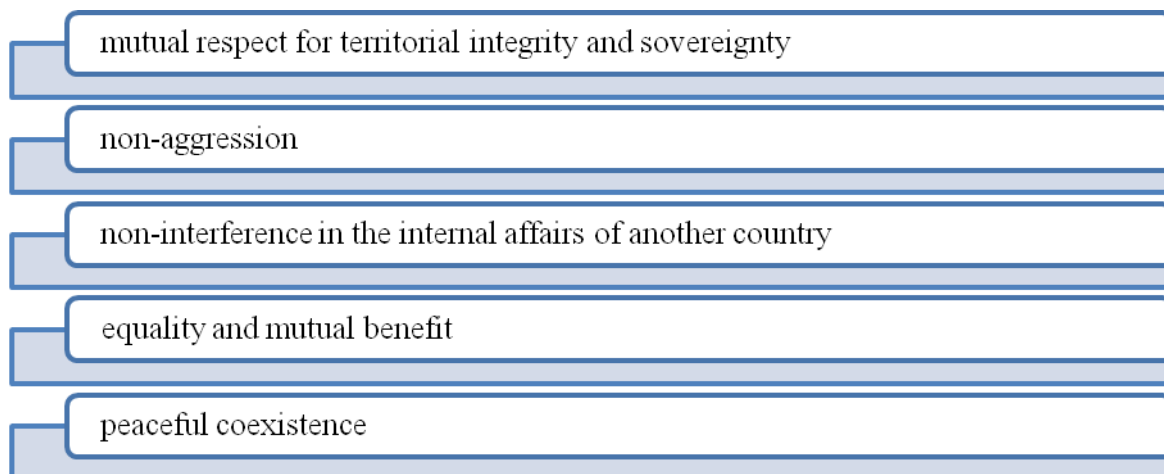


Figure 7 – Principles of Chinese foreign policy  
Source: (Chu Shulong, et al., 2008; Qin Yaqing, 2009)

Adherence to the principles described above is the basis of China's foreign policy, which Xi Jinping is actually manipulating to achieve his ambitious goals. After all, hiding behind the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of another country, China remains neutral in the war between Ukraine and Russia, but benefits from it, which is manifested in Russia's increasing dependence on China. Fig. 8 shows the dynamics of Russia's exports to China, USD billion. It shows that the growth of exports to China increased in 2022-2023, and in 9 months of 2023 it exceeded the level of 2021, which suggests the hypothesis of Russia's total dependence on China and its transformation into a satellite.

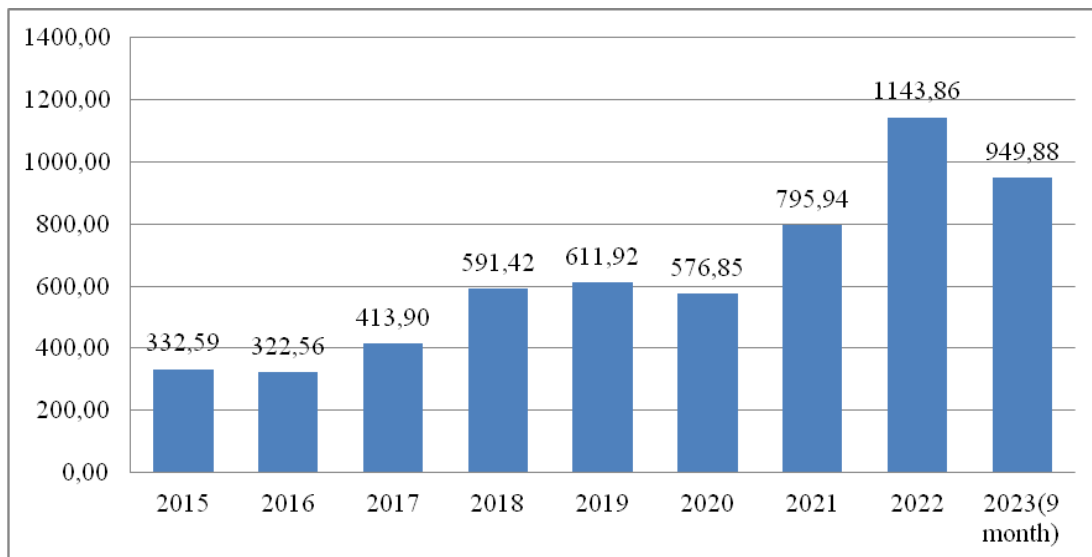


Figure 8 – Dynamics of Russian exports to China, billion dollars. USA  
Source: (*China Customs Data, 2023*)

Despite its trade relations with Russia, China continues to strengthen its relations with other world countries, thus expanding its political and economic expansion.

Thus, it can be said that the main goal of Xi Jinping's foreign policy is to show the world the power and greatness of China as a superpower and to become the world's largest economy, overtaking the United States.

**Conclusions.** A look at Chinese foreign policy reveals China's majestic presence in the world. By adhering to his principles, Xi Jinping has created a strong economy and implemented an effective policy to integrate the world into China, and this, in our opinion, is the main goal of his foreign policy. The leader of China successfully uses international events and takes the most advantage of them, we can see this on the example of the war in Ukraine, because in just two years China has turned such a powerful Russia into its slave, while maintaining friendly relations with the rest of the world. China's foreign policy is a clear example of expansion disguised as good intentions, and we have no doubt that in the next few years China will become the largest economy in the world and turn its creator, the United States, into a satellite.

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