

CHINA'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE NEW GLOBAL ARCHITECTURE, FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF ITS KEY-CONCEPTS OF EXTERNAL POLICY¹

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Abstract. *The present article intends to open a multidimensional window to the international system, since the beginning of the 21st century, beyond the limitation of a single paradigm, albeit it is realist. The complexity, dynamism and interdependencies among the various subsystems and global actors of today's world render it, in our opinion, difficult to analyse from the realist perspective (preferred by a part of the IR doctrine). We chose to bring into discussion concepts such as "the multipolar world", "Connected daguo", "the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence", regarding certain key-concepts pertaining to the external policy of China, with roots in its ancient history, concepts which prove the extraordinary ability of China to combine two seemingly opposed visions (without being a player in the Westphalian world, governed by its rules, and in the globalized world, governed by other rules and forms of diplomacy).*

Key-words: contemporary international system, global architecture, foreign policy, China, multipolar world, Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence

Motto: *Tao never fights, but Tao always wins*

1. The Contemporary International System: Interpolarity, Multipolarity, Globalism?

The model of the contemporary international system from the early 21st century is the object of constant doctrine-related debate, in international relationships, its nature and dynamics being regard *particularly by the large actors, from the perspective of their specific external objectives*². *There is no*

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² According to Hedley Bull, there is a difference between the concept of "international system" and the concept of "international society", with the first entailing the existence of two or several states, with sufficient contact among each other and sufficient impact on the decisions of each other, to compare as parts of a whole, while the second concepts refers to the situation in which "the states in an international system identify common interests and values, conceived as