

5HD450 Chapters in History of the Cold War

12. The role of China.



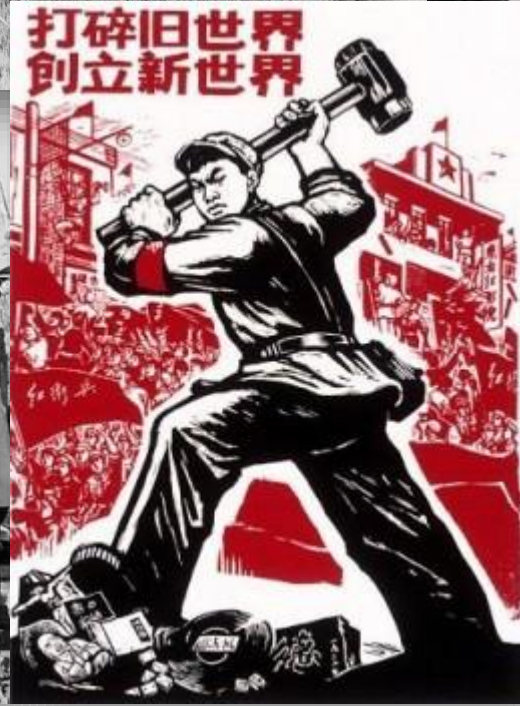
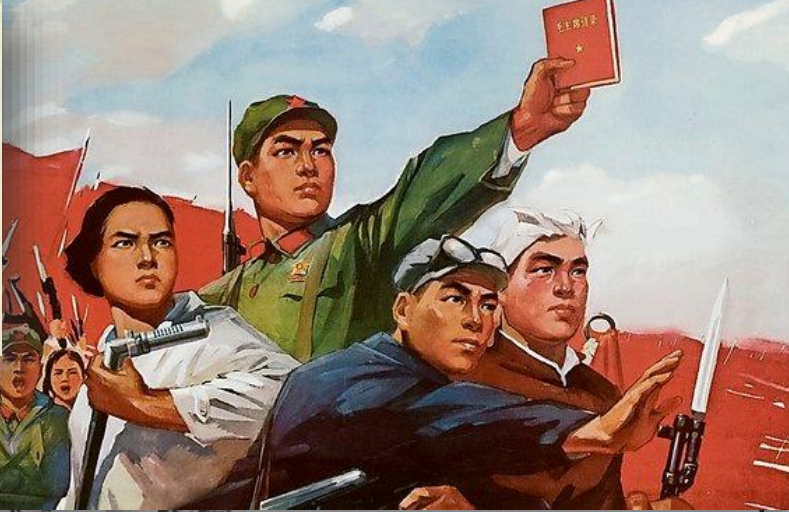
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Operační program Výzkum, vývoj a vzdělávání

MŠMT
MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLSTVÍ,
MLÁDEŽE A TĚLOVÝCHOVY

Chinese communist history briefly

- **Civil war between Nationalist-controlled government headed by Chiang Kai-shek and Communist led by Mao Zedong**
- **Americans favored Chiang Kai-shek, but they did not intervene - low priority**
- **1949 Communists won (People's Republic of China), Chiang fled to Taiwan (claiming true government of China)**
- **1956 Hundred Flowers Campaign** – open criticism, constructive thinking
- **1958–1961 Great Leap Forward** – rapid industrialization and collectivization to achieve socialist society
- **1966–1976 Cultural Revolution**
- **1977 Deng Xiaoping** – gradual economic reforms
- Economic (semi-capitalist) reforms in some areas (special zones) and industries x communist party rule





1950s Soviet little brother

- **1950 Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance, and Mutual Assistance – China relied heavily on Soviet economic and military support**
- **October 1950 massive Chinese intervention provoked by UN/American advance through North Korea**
- **After 1956 huge disputes between Khrushchev and Mao (Sino-Soviet split)**
 - Mao's adoration of Stalin – copying cult of personality, massive and brutal economic and political sweeps, purges
 - Chinese x Soviet supremacy - Mao as a new world leader of communism
 - Chinese more ideologically radical
- **China adversary to the U.S. x Americans wanted to acknowledge China x Americans blocking Chinese membership in the U.N. (political isolation, trade embargo, SEATO)**
- **Taiwan economically supported and militarily defended by Americans – end of the 1950s American Two Chinas Policy x strong pro-Taiwan supporters in the U.S.**
- 1959 USSR did not support China in the conflict with India



1960s Self-reliance

- **The end of communist alliance with the USSR**
 - Intra-communist propaganda
 - Mao evaluated U2 incident and Cuban Missile Crisis Khrushchev's weakness
- **1960 Soviet advisors and personnel removed from China, cancellation of scientific projects**
- **1964 Chinese successful test of nuclear bomb**
- **Kennedy and Johnson unsuccessfully looking for easing of tensions with China, continuing non-official communication**
- **1965 Chinese mobilization for Vietnam War**
 - Chinese requested to discontinue North Vietnamese relationship with the USSR
 - Reparation of aircrafts, providing weapons
- **1969 growing tension along the Chinese-Soviet border - possible Soviet attack of China**



1970s Ping Pong is not only a sport

- **1971 Chinese approached Americans for cooperation**
 - **1972 Nixon arrived**

- **A possibility for the U.S. to weaken the USSR**
 - a chance for easing of Cold War tensions
 - China could gain advance over Soviets
 - **Triangular Diplomacy**

- **U.S. – Chinese economic cooperation**
 - no Chinese in proxy wars, support for Mujahideens in Soviet-Afghan War

- **China gained seat in the U.N., Taiwan was excluded**

- **1979 China officially recognized by the U.S., formal diplomacy**

- **U.S. stopped supporting and recognizing Taiwan x Congress passed Taiwan Relations Act**



1980s “Chinese leaders are not real communists”

- Reagan as a friend of Taiwan x determined to keep a good relationship with China
- 1982 Chinese idea of Three Worlds – China as neutral power
- **1984 Reagan in China** *“Chinese leaders are not real communists.”*
 - America sold weapons to China
- **U.S. – Chinese relations thriving – strategically, economically, culturally**
- **1985 Gorbachev tried to restore good relationship with China**
 - reduction of the Soviet Army at the Sino-Soviet border, in Mongolia, and increase of mutual trade x China remained cold
- 1989 Gorbachev visited China
- China did not officially recognize the USSR as a socialist country



The end of the Cold War – Chinese threat?

- **1989 Tiananmen Massacre** – students' protest at Tiananmen Square – crushed by the régime
- **Communism persisted in China** x economic reforms leading to huge investment from market economies (United States, Japan) and foreign cooperation
- **Growing economic and political influence of China**
 - 2nd biggest economy in the world

- **China as a member of BRICS**



Readings & videos

- Documentaries

BBC Cold War China

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gSPionMrLq0>

PBS China: A Century of Revolution

– The Mao Years 1949–1976, Born Under The Red Flag 1976–1997

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GMaXSKH2w3c>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qsmJXJcvG3g>

Cold War History Videos

- <http://www.history.com/topics/cold-war/cold-war-history/videos>
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/coldwar/>

- Specialized Resources / Collections / Cold War Files

- <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/program/cold-war-international-history-project>
- <http://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/collections>
- http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/hi/themes/world_politics/cold_war/default.stm
- <https://web.archive.org/web/20080411004848/http://www.coldwarfiles.org/index.cfm?thisunit=0&fuseaction=events.list>
- <http://www.avclub.com/special/cold-war/timeline>



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