

## Engaging with the World: Chinese Foreign Policy Decision Making

### Session 2: Historical Legacy and Chinese Foreign Policy (3 hours)

#### Purpose:

To understand the historical context of modern Chinese foreign policy, and to learn to analyse Chinese foreign policy from an historical perspective

#### Key points:

1. Different visions of the international system: traditional Chinese world order vs. the Westphalian System: understanding the Chinese myth of greatness.
2. Convergence and divergence between the Eastern and the Western international system: understand Chinese perception of humiliation.
3. Historical sources of Chinese nationalism and their major features.
4. Nationalism and modern Chinese revolution.
5. Nationalism and Chinese revolutionary diplomacy.
6. The impact of nationalism on Chinese foreign policy.

#### Reading assignment:

John K. Fairbank, ed. "A Preliminary Framework," In *The Chinese World Order*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1968, pp. 1-19.

John Garver, "The Legacy of the Past," in *Foreign Relations of the People's Republic of China*, (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1993), pp. 2-30.

Joseph W. Esherick, "China and the World: From Tribute to Popular Nationalism," in Brantly Womack, ed., *China's Rise in Historical Perspective*, (Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield, 2010), pp.19-38.

#### Questions:

How and why is the traditional Chinese international system of "all under heaven" different from the Westphalian System?

How does pre-revolutionary Chinese history shape Chinese nationalism?

How does Chinese nationalism affect Chinese politics and foreign policy?

How does the Chinese history of revolution affect current Chinese politics and foreign policy?

How do you understand the impact of revolutionary diplomacy upon the founding of PRC?