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Jan 24, 2025 · 11 tweets · [wmhuo168/status/1882692257645801882](https://twitter.com/wmhuo168/status/1882692257645801882)

I've realized my tweets are less commentary and more a chronicle of history in the making—each one marking a watershed moment in China's relentless pursuit to reclaim its rightful place in the global order.



Global China: Global governance and norms

China's efforts to secure a larger role for itself in multiple international institutions have generated questions about the scale of its ambitions and the tools it will use to advance them.

<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/global-china-global-governance-and-norms/>

China is not a geopolitical foe but a combatant in a clash of civilizations. Its rise is not just economic but civilizational, rooted in millennia of Confucian ideals seeking harmony and shared prosperity. 1/10

Sun Yat-sen's vision of datong (大同) emphasized 天下为公—a world for all. He imagined a society free of oppression and inequality, grounded in mutual aid and collective well-being, echoing Confucian values. 2/10

Meanwhile, Adam Smith's capitalism, once balanced by moral philosophy, was hijacked by radical Swiss economists like Friedrich Hayek. They birthed neoliberalism: a dogma of market absolutism that gutted social contracts and deepened inequality. 3/10

China has rejected this neoliberal chaos. Its Confucian foundation, valuing community and responsibility, enabled it to plan, build, and lift hundreds of millions from poverty while pursuing long-term development goals. 4/10

The U.S.-China rivalry is not just about power—it is a confrontation between two philosophies. On one side, a fractured Western order clings to individualism. On the other, China offers a vision of tianxia—a harmonious global system. 5/10

China's Belt and Road Initiative embodies this Confucian ideal, weaving nations into a shared infrastructure network. It challenges the disenchanting neoliberalism that dominates global economics today. 6/10

Yet, datong remains aspirational. China is no utopia, and its governance has its flaws. But its attempt to redefine global norms signals a challenge to the West's dominance and a potential path toward a more inclusive order. 7/10

The Mont Pelerin Society and its neoliberal apostles gutted Adam Smith's legacy, turning capitalism into a weapon of exploitation. China, by contrast, seeks balance, planning, and shared prosperity in its own development model. 8/10

My journey as a Chinahand is one of chronicling these moments. Each tweet captures China's reassertion of its civilizational identity, its ambitions, and its challenges in reshaping the global order. 9/10

The West may have hijacked Adam Smith, but China is reviving Confucius. In this tension between disenchanted neoliberalism and the Confucian ideal of harmony lies the fate of our global order. 10/10

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