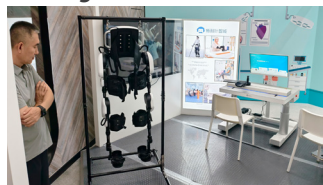


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Authenticity issues of HETs

Human enhancement technologies (HETs) have prompted a series of debates over authenticity, posing new philosophical challenges.



Page 5

Is humor 'uncomputable'?

Humor is considered a 'privileged domain' of human intelligence because it draws on implied meaning, irony, and cultural knowledge—dimensions that cannot be reduced to statistical patterns.

Page 6

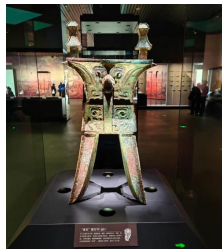
Chinese sociological system

Drawing on disciplinary localization theory, researchers can examine subjectivity, rationality, and humanistic orientation to explore how an independent knowledge system for Chinese sociology might be built.

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A Shang general's diet, life

Archaeological evidence reconstructs the life of a Shang general who came from afar, rose to high rank, died in battle, and was buried with an elaborate feast.



Chinese wisdom in shaping global IR theory

By LIU YUE, ZHA JIANGUO, and CHEN LIAN

The first and second volumes of selected works of Xi Jinping on diplomacy were recently published by the Central Party Literature Press. Spanning January 2013 to November 2025, the collection comprises 134 of the most important and foundational writings on foreign affairs by Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee. Together, these writings constitute an authoritative and systematic body of primary texts through which the Party as a whole and people of all ethnic groups across China can deepen their study and implementation of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, particularly Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy. The collection has been enthusiastically received by scholars in philosophy and the social sciences.

The works in the collection span 13 years of diplomatic practice. The first volume contains 63 pieces that systematically introduce and elaborate on such guiding concepts as building a community with a shared future for humanity, fostering a new type of international relations, and advancing neighborhood diplomacy. Together, they lay the theoretical foundation for major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics. The second volume comprises 71 pieces that further set out the Global Development Initiative, Global

Security Initiative, Global Civilization Initiative, and Global Governance Initiative, offering a comprehensive strategy for improving global governance, advancing neighborhood diplomacy, and strengthening solidarity and cooperation across the Global South.

Xu Jin, director of the Research Division for Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy at the Institute of World Economics and Politics under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, described Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy as a grand, scientifically grounded, innovative, and open theoretical system. A new type of international relations forms its foundation, the shared values of humanity provide its normative guidance, the Four Global Initiatives serve as its strategic vehicles, and high-quality Belt and Road cooperation provides its practical platform, he explained.

Wang Yiwei, a professor from the School of International Studies at Renmin University of China, said the selected works bring together writings on Chinese modernization, high-standard opening-up, global governance, and the transformation of the international order, thereby connecting the theoretical logic of domestic governance with that of foreign affairs. In doing so, the collection embodies the grand strategic vision of "stabilizing the external environment through sound domestic governance and boosting domestic development via external engagement."

"The most important theoretical breakthrough brought by the selected works is embodied in two dimensions: the Four Global Initiatives and the vision of a peaceful, safe and secure, prosperous, beautiful and amicable home," said Liu Jun, deputy dean of the School of Politics and International Relations at East China Normal University. "For the first time, the full original texts of the Four Global Initiatives are presented in published form, fully reflecting China's theoretical awareness as it evolves from a participant to a leader in global governance. The vision of a peaceful, safe and secure, prosperous, beautiful and amicable home, systematically proposed at the Central Conference on Work Relating to Neighboring Countries in April 2025 as a shared aspiration, marks the first systematic practical framework for advancing the vision of a community with a shared future for humanity at the level of peripheral region, representing innovative advances in both concepts and practices of China's neighborhood diplomacy."

Wang Cungang, a professor from the Zhou Enlai School of Government at Nankai University, characterized Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy as the latest achievement in Marxist international relations (IR) theory. It reveals the broad trajectory of global development and the fundamental laws governing the evolution of international relations in the contemporary era, he said. It not only guides Chinese diplomacy as it

steadily advances amid profound change, but also contributes Chinese wisdom, ideas, and paradigms to the development of IR theory worldwide.

Scholars noted that the selected works demonstrate the distinctly practice-oriented character of Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy. This orientation is evident not only in its macro-level strategic frameworks, but also in its in-depth analysis of specific issues and the targeted policy responses it offers. The collection serves as a fundamental guide and roadmap for breaking new ground amid change and seizing opportunities in times of crisis. For researchers, it offers three forms of foundational value: a complete body of primary texts, an accurate reconstruction of their contexts, and authoritative materials for theoretical research. The 134 writings chronicle both the evolution of China's diplomatic concepts and the unfolding of its strategies over 13 years. They also constitute a history of continued theoretical innovation through the adaptation of Marxism to the Chinese context and the needs of the times in the field of foreign affairs.

Turning to the research agenda opened up by the selected works, scholars emphasized the need for concerted efforts in theoretical interpretation, practical application, and international communication to accelerate the development of independent Chinese knowledge, discourse, and narrative systems for IR studies.

Global journey of Chinese academic publications

By LIU YUE

In August 2025, the English edition of *A New History of World War II*, compiled by the Institute of World History at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, was launched in Athens, Greece. Over the past year, this landmark academic volume centering on the Eastern theatre and breaking the Western-centric narrative has garnered wide recognition among Western scholars, with translations into Russian, Spanish, German, French, Arabic, and other languages underway.

The book's international success is far from an isolated case. It vividly reflects the broader transformation in the global outreach of Chinese academic publications in recent years—from sporadic releases by individual authors and publishers to a coordinated, system-wide strategy on a much larger scale. With support from national cultural communication programs such as the National Social Science Fund's Chinese Academic Translation Project, the Classic China International Publishing Project, and the Silk Road Book Publishing Project, Chinese universities and research institutes are accelerating the international dissemination of original academic research.

From scale expansion to quality upgrade

Xu Baofeng, dean of the College of Sinology and Chinese Studies at Beijing Language and Culture University and head of the secretariat for the Special Program Office



Visitors from China and abroad visit the Exhibition of Yu Hua's Works in Translation at the Third Exhibition of Renowned Chinese Authors' Works in Translation during the 32nd Beijing International Book Fair in Beijing, June 19, 2026. Photo: IC PHOTO

of the Central Publicity Department's Asia Classic Works Translation Initiative, said the systematic development of multiple national translation and publishing programs has comprehensively upgraded the global outreach of Chinese academic works. The focus has shifted from popularizing Chinese culture to pursuing substantive academic exchange, while topic selection has become increasingly systematic and research findings are reaching publication more quickly.

By the end of 2024, the Chinese Academic Translation Project had provided translation and publication grants for nearly 2,000 academic monographs, spanning fields such as traditional classics, theoretical works, contemporary governance, regional development, mutual learning among civilizations, and others. The Classic China International Publishing Project and the Silk Road Book Publishing Project have also helped

more than 1,000 China-themed books enter mainstream overseas distribution channels. Publishing in series, by theme, and according to systematic plans have become prevailing models, enabling large numbers of original Chinese monographs to undergo standardized translation into foreign languages. This has begun to reverse the long-standing imbalance of "abundant research output yet limited global circulation, with scarce high-quality translated works."

In international publishing cooperation, Chinese academic publishers have developed a mature, proven model of partnering with established international platforms to reach global markets. Li Yanling, director of the International Publishing Division at the Social Sciences Academic Press, told *CSST* that the press has established long-term, stable strategic partnerships with more than 100 prominent overseas publishing institutions

and academic research platforms. These partnerships form a multidimensional network encompassing mainstream academic circles in Europe and North America while extending across Asia, Africa, Latin America, and other regions. Wang Yan, director of the Overseas Cooperation Department at Peking University Press, added that in-depth cooperation with internationally renowned institutions such as Cambridge University Press and Brill has brought a series of landmark academic works to readers worldwide.

Digital transformation has opened new avenues for academic communication. Li Tang, head of the Chinese collection at the University of Southern California Libraries, explained that overseas libraries have moved decisively toward digital acquisitions, with e-books generally taking precedence over print copies whenever both are available. Databases such as the Chinese Social Science Library, developed by China Social Sciences Press (CSSP), and Zhonghua Book Company's Database for Chinese Classic Ancient Books are helping to build distinctive academic resources in the humanities with Chinese characteristics, a global outlook, and strong scholarly influence.

From interpreting China to China providing interpretive frameworks

A growing number of Chinese academics have come to recognize that earning genuine respect within global academia requires moving beyond established Western research frameworks and grounding their scholarship in local historical materials and original Chinese theories.

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