What is this?

This info-mural is part of an ongoing project we have been conducting at Stanford University. The project has focused on creating a comprehensive set of info-murals that represent the social, political and economic views of a country. The infomurals are each approx 5 feet by 15 feet in size and contain hundreds of data elements, diagrams, and other visuals.

What does it contain?

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How do I get updates & revisions?

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DRAFT – Feedback Requested

What is the current situation in CHINESE FOREIGN AND REGIONAL RELATIONS?

DRAFT

2007

Foreign Relations

Chinese foreign relations are primarily driven by economic interests, and China is also pursuing its political, military, and soft power to gain greater global influence

Growing Trade | Foreign Consumption and Investment Spurs Economy | Building Foreign Influence | Growing World Economic Influence | Rightful Place

China is the world's 3rd largest trade nation. The trade surplus has increased more than 7 times since 2000.

Because China has huge demands for energy, China's diplomats have begun to secure energy resources and to strengthen relations with most parts of the world

China is utilizing wealth from economic growth to increase its military, economic, and unilateral loans and aid around the globe to increase its international influence

China is increasing its activity in international organizations in order to **regain its status as a central power** and world affairs

China wants to expand its economic, political, and military influence in Asia and beyond

Foreign economic relations have strengthened due to increased trade, energy deals, and foreign investment inflows

China's trade surplus has grown 8-fold since 2004, reaching nearly $180 billion

China's trade volumes with top partners soared from 2000 to 2005

China's share of world energy consumption is expected to rise over 15% by 2030

China ranks 2nd for world energy consumption

China's growing activity in foreign relations is largely driven by export trade and the need for larger shares of global resources

Most of China's export growth (and its with the world's non-OECD economies (excluding Mexico and Turkey)

Many nations welcome and benefit from China's growing energy-related interests

Over half of China's oil imports will come from the Persian Gulf by 2030

Other countries are becoming concerned about the implications of China's global energy hunt

Foreign Relations

Opportunism is a large component Chinese foreign policy, especially when US relations with nations becomes fragile

China's global foreign policy can be characterized as opportunistic...

When US foreign relations become shaky...

1. The US has sanctioned and/or isolated Cuba, Venezuela, Sudan, Burma, and Zimbabwe
2. Tensions between the US and the EU run high during the first term of G.W. Bush's administration

China tries to warm relations...

1. Chinese "investors, traders, and energy companies" are flocking to these countries to buy natural resources. Sudan, etc.) with sound US relations
2. China tried to "leverage its growing relationship with the EU to explain" tensions between the EU and the US. Though the EU and China have a "robust" relationship, there are slightly opposing views on human rights

China is trying to expand its global soft power and influence largely through a stronger role in the United Nations, especially in the Security Council. Some nations are concerned about China's perceptions and decisions on the Security Council

Some members of the United Nations are concerned with China's perceptions and decisions

China will continue to oppose Japan's bid for a permanent seat on the Security Council

China also displays a stronger, more active role in the United Nations through peacekeeping contributions

China's contributions to UN peacekeeping forces has increased 17-fold since 2000

China is the 12th largest contributor to UN peacekeeping operations

China contributes more troops than any other permanent member of the UN Security Council

Since 1990 China has sent 5,600 personnel in 15 UN peacekeeping missions

As of 2007, China has 1,666 personnel in 11 out of 16 UN missions, mostly in Africa

The 2008 Beijing Olympics is symbolic of China's global rise, and it is an opportunity to show the world its rapid and significant growth. However, some of the preparations may have negative effects on the city's residents

Foreign Relations

The Middle East is increasingly a strategic supplier of China's oil imports. China views the region as an important economic and political partner

Saudi Arabia

Estimated percent of China's oil from Saudi Arabia: 17%

Trade between China and Saudi Arabia grew 30% from 2003 to 2006

Iran

11% of China's oil imports come from Iran

In 2004, China and Iran signed a contract worth 150,000 barrels of oil/day in exchange for natural gas

In 2004, Sinopec, a state-owned China company signed an $70 billion deal with Iran

Sinopec has contracted 250 million tons of natural gas from Iran next 30 years

Egypt

China and Egypt have agreed to increase trade from $2 billion to $5 billion in the next few years

Iraq

China and Egypt have $2.5 billion in joint investments

CNPC, one of China's three state-owned companies, has signed a $1 billion contract for Iraqi oil concessions

Middle East

Growing diplomatic ties between China and the Middle East

China's oil imports from the Middle East are increasing from 45% to 70%

China's share of Middle East oil imports will increase from 17% to 25% by 2015

China says it wants to become one of the global hegemon

China says it wants to become one of the global hegemon

Greater energy and economic ties are creating closer China-Australia relations

Foreign Relations Challenges

Energy deals between China and Latin America have facilitated stronger political and military ties, and have increased China's influence in the continent's vast, untapped resources and emerging markets

Latin America

Colombia

Major oil company signed deals with China and India jointly produced a Colombian oil field

Peru

CNPC, one of China's three state-owned companies, signed energy firms' contracts for oil concessions in Peru

Venezuela

China's government has lent Venezuela $1.3 billion

CNPC, one of China's three state-owned companies, signed contracts for oil concessions in Venezuela

Brazil

China's state-owned firms have signed contracts for Brazilian oil

While the US is concerned over China's global hunt for energy, Canada and some other Western nations welcome China's growing relations

Canada

China and Canada signed a MOU in 2005 to build a $2 billion oil pipeline from western Canada to Asia

In late 2004, Canada agreed to allow Sinopec Chinese state-owned company to explore Canada's natural gas, oil sands, and uranium

United States

China's Sinopec is a national security and economic issue. Some US politicians and corporations view China as a threat to US national security and economic and economic situation. For example, China's state-owned company, the CNOOC, from buying out Unocal, a US company. Western firms say Chinese state-owned firms distort global markets, and do so by subsidies and other means

US Congress passed legislation to block CNOOC's buyout of Unocal

$19 billion US. 2006

Many African nations view China's interests as a strategic opportunity, particularly because China's interests are left out of global economics and politics. Some "rogue nations especially welcome alliances with China

Sudan

China has 2/3 of Sudan's oil exports and China's demand for oil despite genocide and war

China has deployed about 4,000 troops to Sudan to guard oil pipelines on a daily basis

CNPC, one of China's largest state-owned energy firms, has acquired six concessions in Sudan

Angola

"War-torn" Angola is China's 8th oil supplier

Angola extended a $2 billion credit line to China

Angola's state-owned oil company signed a $19 billion deal with China in 2006

Africa

Much of the uranium used in China's nuclear power program is increasingly imported from Africa

China's oil imports from Africa grew 30% in recent years

$5 billion in loans and credits and $1 billion in aid to Africa

China's trade with Africa in 2006 was $55 billion

Foreign Relations Challenges

Leaders believe that China's global rise is contingent on peace and prosperity within Asia. In the region, China's diplomatic efforts are largely to help enable peace and stability within its own borders. However, remaining issues are potentially destabilizing, and are complicated by US presence and influence

Oil

PROTECTING SEA LANES China's economy and society could face a crisis of oil shortages if oil supplies are transported by sea

46% of oil imports come from Middle East

70% of oil imports come through the Strait of Malacca

Indian Ocean

OBTAINING FOREIGN OIL is vital to economic growth, but political or economic instability from oil-producing regions could threaten supplies to China, which could also destabilize economic sustainability

40% of China's oil imports from Middle East

11% of China's oil comes from Iran

Angola is China's 8th oil supplier

Remaining Tensions

Still, some relations remain tense or unstable, and some are complicated by China's recent Taiwan's independence initiatives. Some of these tensions are long-standing, despite economic growth. The North Korean nuclear situation remains unstable, and China's role in it is

Generally warming regional relations are primarily driven by economic and energy interests

US-China Relations

MUTUAL CONCERNS AND UNCERTAINTIES China's leaders worry that the US could use power and influence to impede China's growth and development

54% US Congressional staff "worried" or "very worried"

36% US public "worried" or "very worried"

Most Chinese view the US favorably

Most Chinese view the US favorably

World Energy Consumption

HIGHER ENERGY CONSUMPTION means increasing shares of energy will be imported, making China dependent on foreign sources and vulnerable to supply disruptions. China's goal is to contribute more to global pollution and climate change

China's share of world energy consumption is expected to rise from 15% to 30%

China's share of world energy consumption is expected to rise from 15% to 30%

China may become the world's largest energy consumer

By the end of 2007 China may become the world's largest energy consumer

China remains close to Russia, which is a major energy supplier

China's Sinopec and Russian firms have signed a $2 billion deal to develop oil fields in Russia