

## “New Forms of Human Civilization”: China’s Eurasian Foreign Policy

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### *Abstract*

The 20th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party in 2022 introduced the expression “new forms of human civilization” (*renlei wenming xin xingtai*), indicating a potential shift in China’s approach to global affairs. While Beijing has taken steps to reshape regional dynamics in accordance with the “new forms of human civilization” premise, its implications for global politics remain largely unexplored. This article argues that the expression is an implicit reference to the geopolitical ideology of Eurasianism, which historically underpinned Russia’s efforts to integrate with the Global South and foster a multipolar world. By invoking Eurasianist tropes such as “multiple modernities” and the “civilization-state,” China may be signaling its intent to play a more active role in shaping cross-regional collaborations across Eurasia. This could be seen as filling a void left by Russia, as it remains increasingly preoccupied with its conflict in Ukraine. Through these actions, China seeks to build a multipolar geopolitical structure with Beijing in a pivotal role.

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