# Understanding "Socialism with Chinese Characteristics"

#### XI JINPING "Socialism with Chinese Characteristics is socialism. It is not any other sort of 'ism'. Both history and our present reality tell us that only socialism can save China - and only socialism with Chinese characteristics can develop China. This is the conclusion of history, the choice of our people." •

"Socialism" vs "Communism"

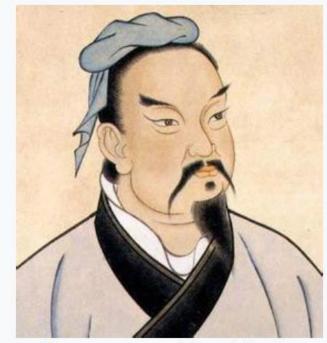
"Communism" aims to establish a society without social classes where all property is owned collectively, whereas "socialism" emphasizes the public ownership of the means of production and prioritizes social welfare.



# Why Bother to Understand? "Socialism with Chinese Characteristics"

# For those who see China as an enemy: "Know the 'enemy' ..."





Qing-era representation of Sun Tzu

"Know the enemy and know yourself in a hundred battles – and you will never be in peril.

When you are ignorant of the enemy but know yourself, your chances of winning or losing are equal.

If ignorant both of your enemy and of yourself, you are certain in every battle to be in peril."

# Why Bother to Understand? "Socialism with Chinese Characteristics"

### "Keep your friends close; keep your enemies closer."





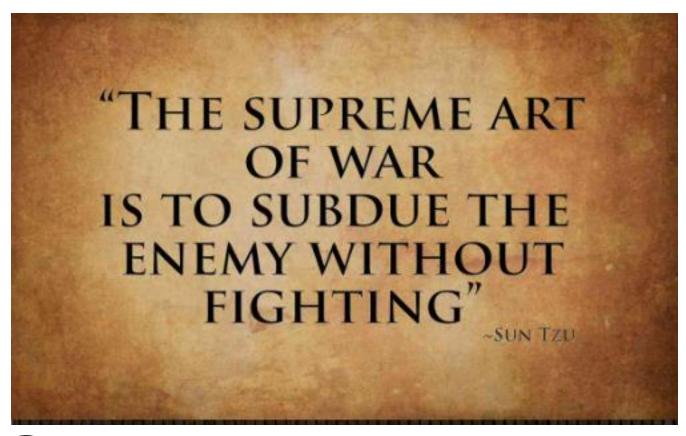
Qing-era representation of Sun Tzu

"Sun Tzu was a Chinese military general, strategist, philosopher, and writer who lived during the Eastern Zhou period. Sun Tzu is traditionally credited as the author of The Art of War, an influential work of military strategy that has affected both Western and East Asian philosophy and military thought." Wikipedia

Born: 544 BC, Died: 496 BC

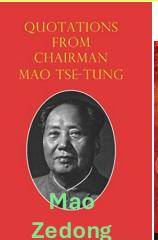
# Why Bother to Understand? "Socialism with Chinese Characteristics"

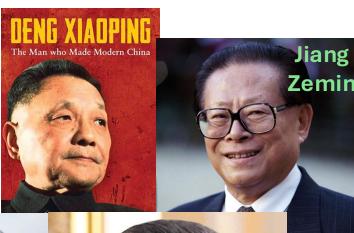






- ☐ XI JINPING IS SHAPING THE CHINESE SOCIALIST SYSTEM AND LEADING IT IN NEW DIRECTIONS
- □ A SUCCESSION OF CHINESE LEADERS
  HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO BUILDING
  THIS CHINESE SOCIALIST SYSTEM –
  BEGINNING WITH MAO ZEDONG
- □ BUT IT WAS DENG XIAOPING WHO INCORPORATE "CAPITALISM" INTO THE SYSTEM.







Xi

#### THE OVERARCHING GOALS OF CHINESE SOCIALISM

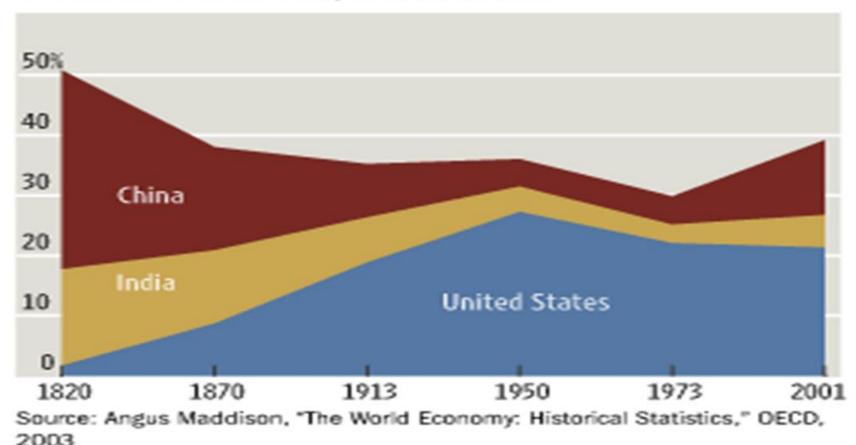
- 1. Socialist modernization and national rejuvenation
- 2. Building a moderately prosperous society in all respects.
- 3. By the middle of the 21st century to build China into a great modern socialist country that is prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious, and beautiful, and to promote national rejuvenation through a Chinese path to modernization.







Share of World GDP, 1820-2001

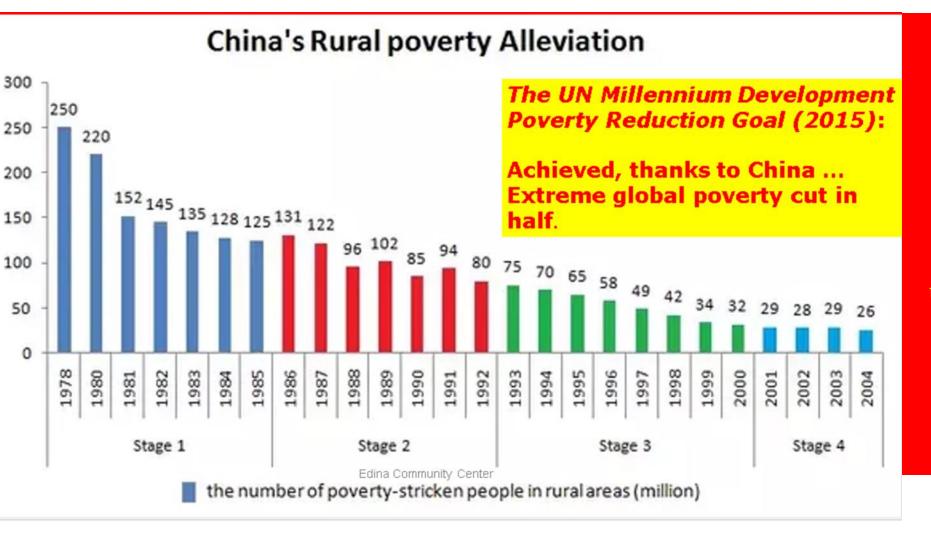


### CHINA'S PRIDE IN ITS ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

For thousands of years, it was the world's largest economy

- until the Industrial Revolution

Now China is making its way back.



### CHINA'S PRIDE IN ITS ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Helping the world achieve the 2015 UN Millenium Development Goal to reduce abject poverty in the world by 50%

# SOCIALISM WITH CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS 社會主義 THIRTEEN OPERATIVE CRITERIA

- 1. Upholding the Party's overall leadership
- 2. Exercising full and rigorous self-governance
- 3. Pursuing economic development
- 4. Deepening reform and opening up
- 5. Advancing political work
- 6. Comprehensively advancing law-based governance
- 7. Driving cultural advancement

- 8. Promoting social advancement
- 9. Spurring ecological advancement
- 10. Strengthening national defense and the armed forces
- 11. Safeguarding national security
- 12. Upholding the One Country, Two Systems policy and promoting national reunification
- 13. Bolstering the diplomatic front

#### The Way Forward

- The principal challenge facing Chinese society in the new era is the gap between inadequate development and the people's ever-growing needs for a better life.
- The Party must therefore remain committed to (a) a people-centered philosophy of development, (b) comprehensive people's democracy, and (c) well-rounded human development and common prosperity for all.

- ☐ Toward an era in which all the sons and daughters of the Chinese nation will strive with one heart to realize the Chinese dream of national rejuvenation; and in which China will make even greater contributions to humanity.
- ☐ The integrated plan for building socialism with Chinese characteristics covers five spheres, namely economic, political, cultural, social, and ecological advancement.
- ☐ The overall goal of comprehensively advancing law-based governance is to establish a system of socialist rule of law with Chinese characteristics and to build a socialist rule of law country.



- China must uphold and improve its basic socialist economic system, see that the market plays the decisive role in resource allocation and the government plays its role better, have an accurate understanding of this new stage of development, apply a new philosophy of innovative, coordinated, green, open, and shared development, accelerate efforts to foster a new pattern of development that is focused on the domestic economy but features positive interplay between domestic and international economic flows, promote high-quality development, and balance development and security imperatives.
- ☐ The Party's goal for **military development** in the new era is to build the people's armed forces into world-class forces that obey the Party's command, that are able to fight and to win, and that maintain excellent conduct.
- ☐ Major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics aims to serve national rejuvenation, promote human progress, and facilitate efforts to foster a new type of international relations and build a human community with a shared future.

- Full and rigorous self-governance is a policy of strategic importance for the Party, and the general requirements for Party building in the new era include making all-around efforts to strengthen the Party in political, ideological, and organizational terms and in terms of conduct and discipline, with institution building incorporated into every aspect of this process, **continuing the fight against corruption**, and ensuring that the political responsibility for governance over the Party is fulfilled. **By engaging in great self-transformation**, the **Party can steer great social transformation**.
- ☐ This is the Marxism of contemporary China and of the 21st century. It embodies the best of the Chinese culture and ethos in our times and represents a new breakthrough in adapting Marxism to the Chinese context.
- ☐ Acting on the general principle of pursuing progress while ensuring stability
- ☐ The Party has practiced democratic centralism. It has put in place sound systems for ensuring its leadership over major work of the state.

#### **COMPARING SOCIALIST SYSTEMS**

"Degrees of Socialism"

#### WHAT DEFINES "SOCIALISM"?

- ☐ A political and economic system in which property and the means of production are owned in common
- ☐ A system typically controlled by the government
- ☐ Based on the idea that common or public ownership of resources and means of production leads to a more equal society







#### COMPARING SOCIALIST SYSTEMS

"Degrees of Socialism"



The Atlantic Report on the World Today



#### February 1951 Issue

"TO MANY people in the United States, European socialists seem dangerously close to communism, and a menace to the American way of life.

American officials abroad, however, have reason to know better. They have found European socialist leaders among the most valuable supporters of American policies in the cold war against communism".







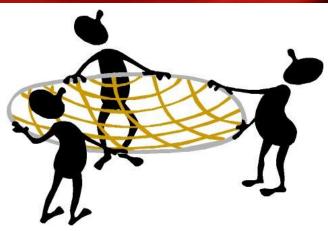
#### "DEGREES OF SOCIALISM"

### Post-War "Soziale Marktwirtschaft" (Social Market Economy)

**Goals of the Social Pact:** 

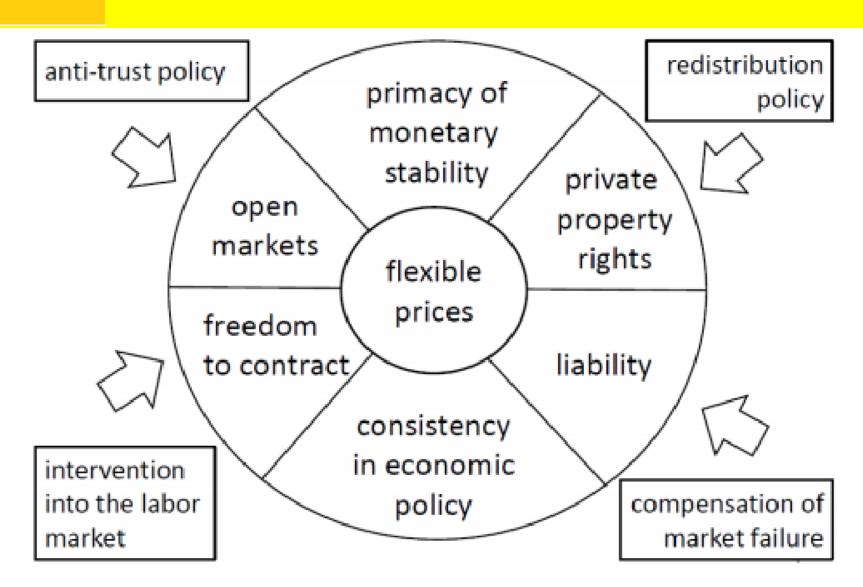
- Capital, Labor, Government Together
- Order & Cooperation
- Free Enterprise and a Strong "Mittelstand"
- Strong Unions and Low Unemployment







#### "DEGREES OF SOCIALISM"





#### "DEGREES OF SOCIALISM"





- A Competitive Economy
- Social Peace
- Preservation of the Environment

### "Degrees of Socialism"- A Way to Measure Ref. the "Gini Coefficient"

- ☐ The Gini coefficient (Gini index or Gini ratio) is a statistical measure of economic inequality in a population.
- ☐ The coefficient measures the dispersion of income or distribution of wealth among the members of a population. Source: World Bank.
- ☐ It measures the extent to which the distribution of income or consumption among individuals or households within an economy deviates from a perfectly equal distribution. A Gini index of 0 represents perfect equality, while an index of 100 implies perfect inequality.

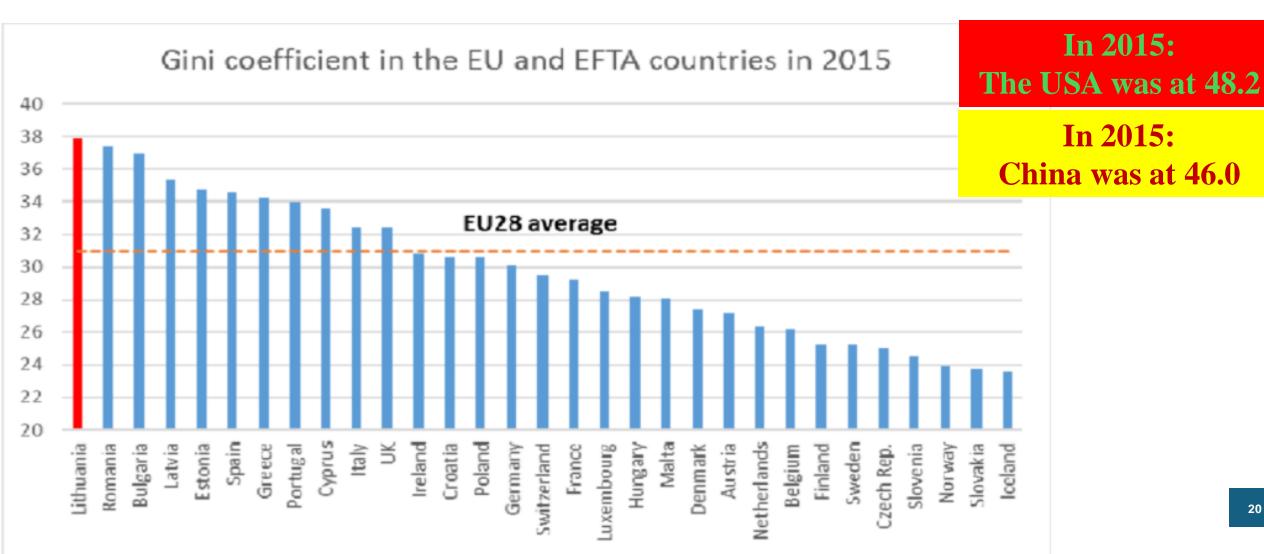




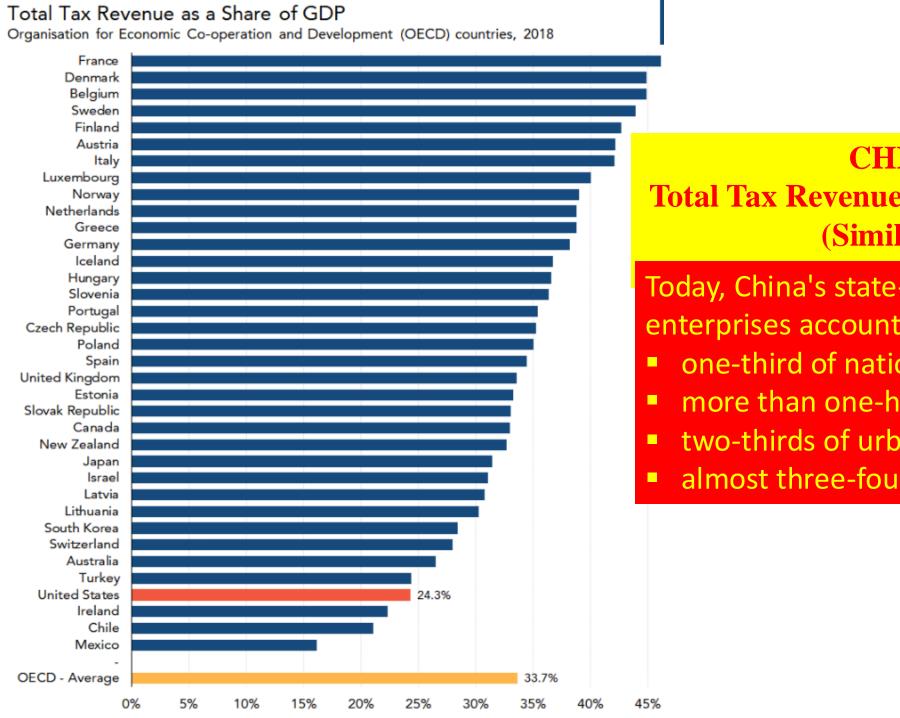




#### "Degrees of Socialism"



China was at 46.0



#### **CHINA (2018):**

**Total Tax Revenue as a Share of GDP = 18%** (Similar to Mexico)

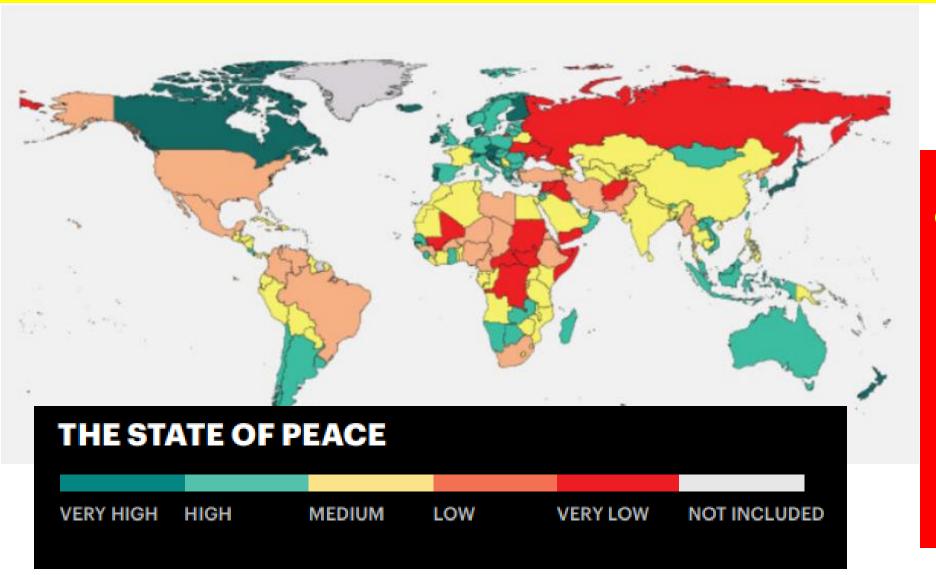
Today, China's state-owned industrial enterprises account for:

- one-third of national production
- more than one-half of total assets
- two-thirds of urban employment
- almost three-fourths of investment.

#### **COMPARING SYSTEMS**

"Global Peace Index"

https://www.visionofhumanity.org/



The GPI covers 163 countries comprising 99.7 per cent of the world's population, using 23 qualitative and quantitative indicators.

Measures the state of peace, country-by-country

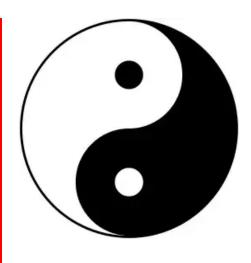
### SOCIALISM WITH CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS DAOISM

The Han Chinese share **a** world view that is shaped by the three Daoist principles of (1) actionless action, (2) simplicity, and (3) living in harmony with nature.

Since its unification in 206 BC, China has never colonized another country or foreign territory\*

The way Chinese people think has evolved free of the effects of colonization.





### SOCIALISM WITH CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS "LEGALISM"

Legalism in ancient China was a philosophical belief that human beings are more inclined to do wrong than right because they are motivated entirely by self-interest and require strict laws to control their impulses.

Arguably, this thread of "legalism" may provide the philosophical basis for restrictions on individual liberties one observes in China.

#### Legalism

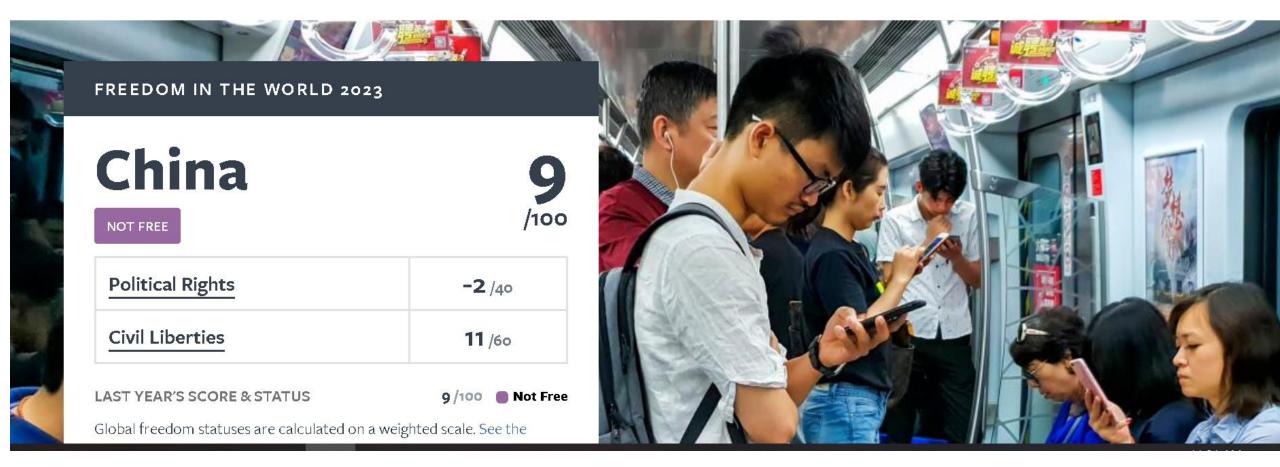


Statue of pivotal reformer Shang Yang

### **COMPARING SYSTEMS**"Degrees of Freedom"



https://freedomhouse.org/



### **COMPARING SYSTEMS**"Degrees of Freedom"



https://freedomhouse.org/

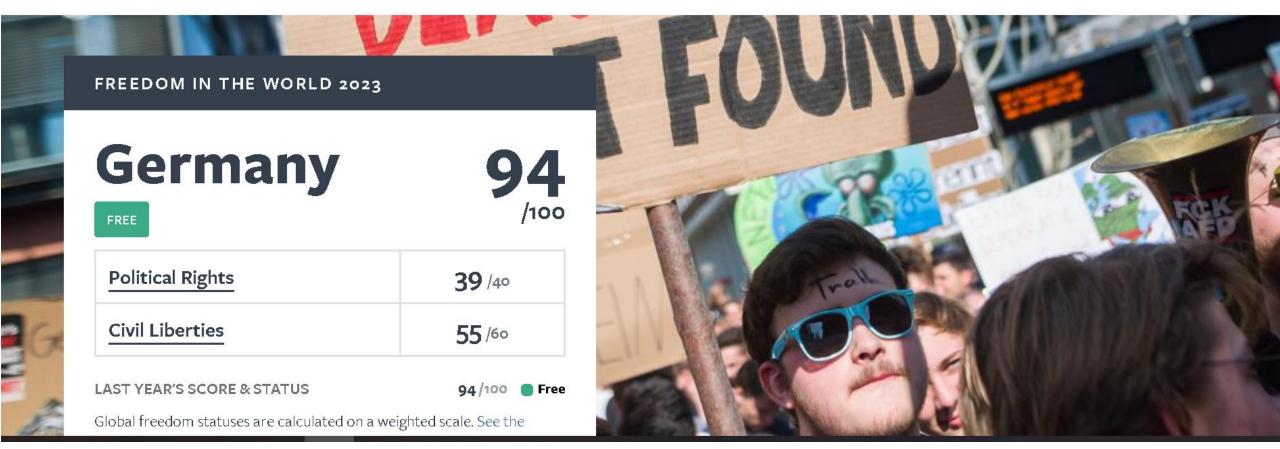




### **COMPARING SYSTEMS**"Degrees of Freedom"



https://freedomhouse.org/



#### XI JINPING

"Socialism with Chinese Characteristics is socialism. It is not any other sort of 'ism'. Both history and our present reality tell us that only socialism can save China – and only socialism with Chinese characteristics can develop China. This is the conclusion of history, the choice of our people."

Xi, 69, had himself named to a third five-year term as party general secretary in October 2022, breaking with a tradition under which Chinese leaders handed over power once a decade.

A two-term limit on the figurehead presidency was deleted from the Chinese Constitution earlier, prompting suggestions he might stay in power for life.



> THE END 結束