



# China Lays Out Technology Road Map to Catch Up with the United States

**OE Watch Commentary:** Chinese state-run People’s Publishing House, recently released a booklet that provides guidance for the military to catch up with the United States in military capability. According to the following article, published by the *South China Morning Post*, a Hong Kong-based news source, China’s goal is to have the People’s Liberation Army transformed into a modern military force by 2027. In order to accomplish that, China needs to rely on smart technologies and it needs to “keep pace with the developments of the times. This includes keeping pace with evolving theories, formations, personnel, and strategic management.” The article concludes that China needs to strengthen its military so that the military can catch up with the country’s global economic status. **End OE Watch Commentary (Hurst)**

***“History has repeatedly proven that a strong nation can only be built with both economic and military power ... when the ‘sword’ is not sharp enough, a nation may fall.”***

**Source:** “China’s Military Lays Out Technology Road Map to Catch Up with the US,” *South China Morning Post*, 12 November 2020, <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3109443/chinas-military-modernisation-must-be-driven-innovation>

*China must apply cutting-edge technologies such as artificial intelligence if it wants to transform its military into a modern fighting force on a par with those of other leading powers, according to ... a booklet published this month by the state-run People’s Publishing House, in which senior officials, including Chinese President Xi Jinping, outlined the latest five-year plan for the country’s development.*

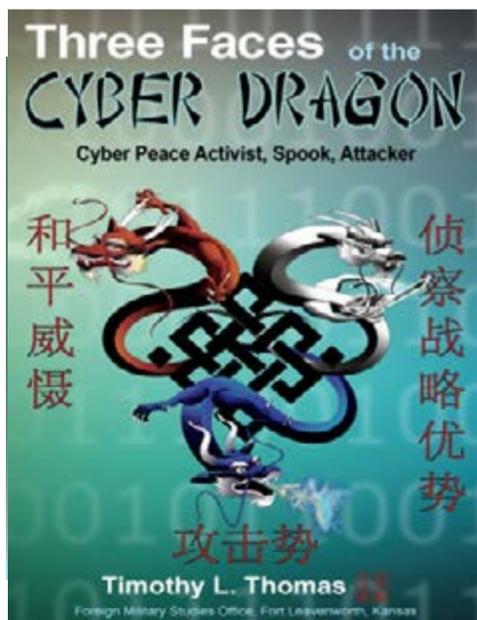
*According to a communique released after a high-level meeting last month, the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) will be transformed into a modern military force by 2027. Analysts say China’s aim is to build an army that is on a par with that of the United States.*

*In an article titled “Speed up the Modernisation of Defence and Military” from the booklet, Xu Qiliang, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission, stressed the importance of smart technologies in modernising the PLA.*

*“[China has to] keep pace with the developments of the times and emphasize the use of smart technologies to achieve interdisciplinary innovation,” Xu said.*

*That would involve modernising military theories, formations, personnel and strategic management, he said.*

*“History has repeatedly proven that a strong nation can only be built with both economic and military power ... when the ‘sword’ is not sharp enough, a nation may fall,” he said.*



**China’s cyber policy appears to have three vectors —peace activist, espionage activist, and attack planner— that dominate China’s cyber policy. Some are always hidden from view while others are demonstrated daily. Three Faces of the Cyber Dragon is divided into sections that coincide with these vectors.**

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