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CHINA'S CLIMATE POLICY IN THE AGE OF GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

Background. *The article is devoted to the analysis of China's climate policy in the context of global climate change. The author examines the evolution of China's approaches to solving environmental problems, starting from economic dominance over natural resources in the middle of the 20th century to the integration of the principles of sustainable development into modern state policy. Key internal and external factors that have influenced the formation of China's climate strategy are examined, including threats from climate change, environmental crisis, public pressure, and participation in international agreements. Particular attention is paid to China's commitment to achieving carbon neutrality by 2060 and adapting its energy policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The article also analyzes the internal contradictions of China's climate policy, the impact of an authoritarian governance system, and China's pursuit of global leadership in the green economy.*

Methods. *The study of China's climate policy is interdisciplinary, so the work combines the tools of international political science, environmental studies, economics, and sociology. The following scientific methods and approaches were used: analysis of political documents and official sources, historical method, comparative analysis, systematic approach, critical analysis, and prognostic method.*

Results. *As part of the study, it was found that China's climate policy is a complex and contradictory phenomenon formed under the influence of both global challenges and domestic socio-economic needs. While China is a leader in the development of renewable technologies and promotes sustainable development goals, these efforts are often motivated by a desire for energy security, economic modernization, and political influence on the international stage. The author notes that China's active role in the fight against climate change can serve as a platform for strengthening its global authority. Still, internal contradictions and policy fragmentation create risks for sustainable development in this area.*

Conclusions. *The analysis of China's environmental policy in the era of global climate change allowed us to conclude that China's climate policy is multidimensional and combines domestic needs with global obligations. China has identified climate change as a civilizational threat, which encourages the integration of environmental goals into the national development strategy. The main drivers of this policy are the need to solve internal environmental problems, such as air and water pollution, strengthen energy security, and modernize the economic model. The author emphasizes that China's commitment to achieving carbon neutrality by 2060 and reducing emissions by 2030 are essential steps that meet international standards. At the same time, these initiatives serve as a tool for strengthening China's international authority and consolidating its position as a global leader in the field of green economy. However, the author emphasizes the contradictions of climate policy, which arise due to management fragmentation, competition between local and central authorities, and the influence of economic interests of state and private structures. Despite progress in implementing low-carbon technologies, China's policies remain dependent on domestic challenges, such as the need to support economic growth and social stability. In general, the author concludes that China's climate policy has the potential to become a platform for international leadership, but its implementation will depend on the ability to resolve internal contradictions and adapt the political system to the needs of sustainable development.*

Keywords: *global climate change, climate policy, China, climate neutrality.*

Background

China's climate policy has been shaped by many factors that combine domestic challenges, environmental crises, and the international context. China is the world's largest emitter of greenhouse gases, and climate change seriously threatens its long-term economic prosperity. Especially vulnerable are the densely populated coastal regions, which produce a significant part of the country's GDP, as well as the critical water systems of the Himalayan glaciers, which are in a state of degradation. Deterioration of air and water quality, soil pollution, and depletion of biological resources caused public concern, resulting in local protests' growth.

Rapid environmental degradation due to industrialization has been a critical domestic challenge, prompting the government to seek a balance between economic growth and environmental sustainability. At the same time, energy security problems, particularly the growth of energy imports, forced China to switch to energy-efficient and low-carbon technologies.

The international context also played an essential role in shaping climate policy. China's participation in global climate agreements, such as the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, has stimulated the development of relevant national strategies. In September 2020, President Xi Jinping announced a commitment to achieve carbon neutrality by 2060 and to reduce emissions from 2030. These goals have been confirmed at international climate summits, which shows the seriousness of China's intentions.

Such commitments are integrated into the general strategy of economic development, which includes increasing the share of renewable energy sources and optimizing the industrial structure. At the same time, climate neutrality is seen as a tool for improving the international authority of China, which seeks to take a leadership position in the global fight against climate change. These prerequisites laid the foundation for integrating climate measures into the national sustainable development policy.

The purpose of the article is based on the analysis of the primary documents, achievements, and practices of implementing the goals of the Paris Agreement to show what challenges global climate change poses to the Chinese government. Therefore, the article will attempt to provide answers to the following research questions: how does climate change affect climate policy in the short- and long-term perspective, what are the strengths and weaknesses of China's climate policy, what contradictions arise in the implementation of climate policy in the country, what are the limitations on climate policy communications imposed by the current climate policy.

Methods

The topic of China's climate policy in the era of global climate change is interdisciplinary, so its research combined the tools of international political science, environmental studies, economics, and sociology. Therefore, the methods of analysis of international relations and political processes were applied, in particular, the method of analysis of

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political documents and official sources was applied to study key normative acts, strategies and policies, such as "China's Policy on Overcoming Climate Change", the "1+N" initiative and National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change; the historical method was applied to analyze the evolution of China's climate policy from the 1990s to the present, including the impact of international conferences such as the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement; comparative analysis was applied to compare Chinese approaches to climate policy with global practices and approaches of other countries, which made it possible to assess China's role as the largest emitter of greenhouse gases in international climate policy; the systemic approach helped to explore the relationship between environmental, economic and social aspects of climate policy, to consider the complexity of environmental management in China, including the involvement of various actors; the critical analysis made it possible to consider not only China's positive achievements, but also the internal contradictions and limitations of its climate policy, in particular the role of the authoritarian management system and the influence of economic interests; the forecasting method made it possible to make estimates of future climate changes and analyze the probability of China fulfilling its long-term climate commitments.

Results

Climate change poses a severe threat to China's long-term prosperity. In the short term, the effects of climate change threaten China's densely populated and economically critical lowland coastal cities, home to an estimated one-fifth of the country's population and producing a third of the country's GDP. In December 2015, the Chinese government published two important documents. The first is the conclusion of the Chinese Academy of Sciences that Himalayan glaciers and the Tibetan permafrost (the largest reservoir of fresh water outside the Arctic and Antarctic) are subject to catastrophic climate change, threatening the Yellow, Yangtze, and Mekong water systems. With the area warming twice as fast as the world, it is the "epicenter of global climate risk." A second study – the "Third National Climate Change Assessment Report" – published by the Ministry of Science concluded that China has already warmed by 0,9–1,5 degrees over the past century – above the global average – and could warm by another five degrees by 2100, with consequences that will cover the coastal cities of Shanghai, Tianjin, and Guangzhou. These plans indicate that China is facing a civilizational threat.

Therefore, the Chinese government is interested in implementing policies to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change. In September 2020, President Xi Jinping announced that China would commit to achieving carbon neutrality by 2060. At the Glasgow summit in 2021, he reaffirmed the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions starting in 2030. This means that by 2030, China's emissions may increase annually, and at the global level, achieving the goal of limiting global warming to 1,5 degrees Celsius by 2100 will only be possible if China, as the largest polluter, plays a more active and constructive role. However, China also aims to increase the share of "clean" energy sources (which, according to the Chinese classification, include nuclear power and hydropower) from 15,9 % in 2020 to 25 % of primary energy consumption by 2030.

The evolution of China's climate policy. According to the Chinese researcher J. Du, the formation of China's climate policy and the determination of the country's national strategies for climate change began after the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in 1992 (Du, 2023). Under Mao Zedong, the environment was viewed "not as an object to be protected, but as a resource to be used for economic growth and political campaigns" (Li, 2016). This has led to large-scale degradation and pollution of the environment. The scale of environmental degradation was a cause for concern in the late 1970s, but economic development was still considered more important than environmental protection (Edmonds, 1999, p. 641). At the same time, the Chinese public's tolerance for environmental issues has declined markedly, as evidenced by the rise of public protests against polluting projects across the country. Although the scale of these protests was limited, they caused varying levels of social unrest (Lee, & Ho, 2014). Since the second half of the 1990s, there has been an increasing number of journalistic and scientific publications that point to the negative consequences of the economic strategy of rapid growth in terms of human and environmental costs. This has led to a growing awareness among the Chinese leadership of the need to combat environmental degradation.

In the late 1990s, the central government became more serious about environmental issues and gradually recognized the importance of balancing environmental protection with the need for rapid economic growth. The National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), the top ministry that oversaw China's comprehensive economic development, was tasked with developing plans for the transition to sustainable development (Ong, 2012). In 1998, the State Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), which was later renamed the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP), was established to protect the environment through the implementation of environmental policy.

Since the second half of the 2000s, the Chinese government has taken more active measures to mitigate the effects of climate change, including making changes to national plans and the country's development strategy. For example, in the 12th Five-Year Plan for 2011–2015, goals, basic principles, and critical areas of action regarding climate change were formulated; it was stated that "over the past century, the average annual temperature in China has risen by 0,5 ~ 0,8°C" (Liu, 2015)), the scientific consensus on the anthropogenic cause of climate change was recognized. Mandatory targets for reducing air emissions were established (Lin, & Elder, 2014). The document first mentioned plans to reduce emissions by 40–45 % from the level of emissions in 2005 per unit of gross domestic product by 2020 (Xie, 2015). In 2013, China introduced a pilot carbon trading scheme, capping carbon emissions in some regions (Liu, 2015).

The change in attitudes towards climate challenges in domestic politics has affected China's effectiveness in international negotiations, and, as L. He notes, "China's policy on climate change has been included in its global strategy" (He, 2010). One can agree with the researchers who believe that China has been an essential negotiator at all critical stages of international climate policy development, including the global climate change conferences in Kyoto, Copenhagen, and Paris. According to M. Shreurs, "The Paris Agreement is, in particular, the result of the economic development of China, which has become the largest emitter of greenhouse gas emissions in the world" (Schreurs, 2016).

In May 2018, Chinese President Xi Jinping spoke at a meeting on environmental protection, where he stated that the country's environmental protection and ecological

restoration should be prioritized and that China would transition from an economic regime centered on industrial capital to a new era of "environmental of civilization", which is of fundamental importance for the sustainable development of the Chinese nation.

In October 2021, before COP26, China officially unveiled its long-term low-carbon development strategy and updated its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). According to the documents, the goal is to reach the peak of carbon dioxide emissions by 2030, achieve carbon neutrality by 2060, reduce carbon dioxide emissions per unit of GDP by more than 65% compared to the level of 2005, increase its share of non-fossil fuels in primary energy consumption to by 2030 by about 25 %, increase its forest stock by 6 billion cubic meters compared to 2005 levels, and its total installed wind and solar power generation capacity combined to more than 1,2 billion kilowatts (UNFCCC, 2021; UNFCCC, 2022).

Strengths of China's climate policy. As stated in China's Policies and Actions for Addressing Climate Change presented by China's Ministry of Ecology and Environment in 2022, "In recent years, under the leadership of Xi Jinping's ideas of socialism with Chinese characteristics to promote environmental civilization, China implemented a new philosophy of ecological development" (MEE, 2022). According to the document, the main idea of the national strategy of proactive response to climate change is the synergy between pollution reduction, carbon emission control, and clean economic and social development to form an ecological civilization.

China has ratified the Paris Agreement, and the main achievements of the country's climate policy include, first, the development and implementation of institutional support for climate policy, including the strengthening of overall planning and coordination, for example, the establishment in 2021 of a national steering group to coordinate work during peak emissions of carbon dioxide and achieving carbon neutrality; inclusion of green and low-carbon development goals in general plans of national economic and social development, for example, setting fixed carbon dioxide emissions per unit of GDP in the 14th five-year economic and social development plan for 2021–25 and long-term goals until 2035; the implementation of the "1+N" program for the period of peak carbon dioxide emissions and carbon neutrality, where "1" means the guiding idea and the primary plan for achieving the peak level of carbon dioxide emissions and carbon neutrality, consisting of two documents approved in 2021: "Working guidelines for achieving the peak level of carbon dioxide emissions and carbon neutrality" and "Action plan for achieving the peak emissions of carbon dioxide by 2030", which clearly articulates schedules, road maps and working procedures, and "N" stands for implementation schemes in critical areas and sectors such as energy, industry, transport, urban and rural development, agriculture, synergies between reduction of pollution and control of carbon emissions, coal, oil and natural gas, steel, non-ferrous metals, petrochemicals and construction materials, as well as auxiliary plans These documents formed a system of state environmental policy regarding the peak emission of carbon dioxide and carbon neutrality with defined goals, distribution of functions and planned measures. Second, mid-term and long-term strategies have been formulated to address the issue of greenhouse gas emissions, including China's vision for green development, concrete steps to implement the Paris Agreement, and commitments and efforts to promote green and low-carbon development and respond to global climate change. Thirdly, the implementation of the National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change was formed and started, which established the guiding idea, primary goals, and main principles of its adaptation to climate change in the new era, identified critical areas based on the impact and vulnerability of various sectors and regions to the adverse effects and measures to mitigate the consequences of climate change and adapt to it have been determined.

Therefore, China has defined climate policy as a national strategy, integrating it into the overall plan to promote the formation of ecological civilization and economic and social development, and has approved the institutional framework for combating climate change, applying a holistic approach to the entire process of achieving the target of peak carbon dioxide emissions and carbon neutrality. Official documents state that China's stance on climate change is based not only on its own needs to ensure sustainable development but also on a sense of "responsibility for creating a society with a shared future".

Weaknesses of China's climate policy. Although researchers widely recognize China's low-carbon climate policy as a positive example, most authors agree that it is not a direct result of the country's response to climate challenges but rather a consequence of domestic problems unrelated to global climate change. For example, F. Green and N. Stern believe that the reasons for China's transition to low-carbon development are several factors, in particular, the need to solve energy security issues, confront the deterioration of the population's health due to poor air quality, and respond to the weaknesses of the "old" models of economic growth (Green, & Stern, 2017). A similar position is shared by the Chinese researcher Sh. Zhang notes that the position of the Chinese government regarding the solution to the problem of greenhouse gas emissions was "the result of significant air pollution and growing public dissatisfaction with the deterioration of the environment" (Zhang, 2008); that is, the connection of global climate change with sustainable development, the various social and environmental problems facing China have driven the social, economic and environmental aspects of the climate policy of the crane.

Thus, the factor of energy security is related to the transformation of China from a net exporter to a net importer of energy, when in the 1990s, domestic coal was not enough to meet the needs of the hyper-growth of industrial production, and the explosive growth of the number of cars increased the oil demand. Accordingly, as noted by D. Leung, "the growing dependence of the country, especially on oil imports, has become a problem for national policy leaders, which has led to the need to reduce energy dependence due to a general reduction in energy demand and, accordingly, increase energy security" (Leung et al., 2016). The healthcare crisis as a reason for China's transition to low-carbon development has been attributed to the large number of coal-fired power plants that significantly affect air quality in large urban conglomerations, especially in the developed east of the country. D. Sun and J. Fang note that "benefits from improving air quality have primarily an economic component" (Sun, Fang, & Sun, 2017), and therefore, improving air quality by reducing the use of coal has become a matter of political support for the Chinese government. The transition from the old model of economic growth, which was largely export-oriented, with an unfavorable industrial structure and low innovation potential and performance standards, to the acquisition of

technological leadership, for example, in renewable energy technologies, i.e., the transition to a more sustainable model of economic growth, has become the main task of the Chinese government. In this context, the concept of a low-carbon economy is more promising for the country, as it also provides international recognition.

China's strategy to gain global climate leadership can create a positive reputation. At the same time, China seeks global influence through significant investments in infrastructure abroad, for example, in financing global energy, including investments in fossil fuels (such as coal-fired power plants) or in neighboring Arctic countries to ensure access to the region's fossil resources. In addition, the Belt and Road initiative involves significant investments to provide long-term access to export markets. Such a policy may reduce the global positive effect of low-carbon domestic developments. In our view, the driving forces behind China's low-carbon climate policy can be seen as a need to address domestic needs rather than "environmental" authoritarianism as a way to achieve environmental goals.

A. Engels considers state authoritarianism a significant factor influencing the country's climate policy. The researcher emphasizes that in the field of climate management in China, one can observe "competing goals and processes of internal struggle" (Engels, 2018), that is, with an increase in the number of influential actors in the energy market, such as state institutions, state-owned companies supported by universities and think tanks, energy companies, owners grids, central government, local governments, there are growing contradictions over control over China's national energy planning, for example over the relative importance of coal, nuclear energy and renewable energy sources. Contradictions can manifest in the fact that local authorities favor a development model based on the production and consumption of coal, and the central government favors a low-carbon transition. W.Shen believes that China's renewable energy strategy was the result of lobbying efforts of new industrial interest groups that specialize in renewable technologies, as government institutions are highly dependent on external information support, including operational data of companies, market analysis, and trend forecasting (Shen, 2017, p. 91). At the same time, the regulation of the energy market and the development of climate policy in China are distributed among many actors and require the formation of alliances between central and local authorities and non-state actors and the promotion of active participation of the public as a necessary "recipient" of low-carbon practices.

Despite the climate challenges to China's long-term prosperity, a World Bank Group report notes that "the country is well positioned to meet its climate commitments and transition to a greener economy while achieving its development goals" (World Bank Group, 2022), in particular by realizing its national commitments to peak carbon emissions by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2060. That is, reforms and public-private partnerships will help reduce the cost of climate measures.

Contradictions of Chinese climate policy. So, a feature of Chinese climate policy is its contradictions, caused, on the one hand, by the desire for global leadership and, accordingly, the need to fulfill international obligations, and on the other hand, by the need to solve internal environmental problems caused by the rapid economic development of the country. Frank Umbach, an expert of the international analytical center GIS, characterized the contradictions of China's climate policy as follows (Umbach, 2023). On the one hand, 1.4 billion Chinese residents represent 19% of the world's population, 22 % of the world's gross domestic product, and 26% of energy consumption on the planet. China is the largest emitter of greenhouse gases in the world. The country consumes more than half of the world's coal reserves and imports more oil and, from 2022, liquefied natural gas (LNG) than any other country. At the same time, China is the largest investor in clean energy, sets the pace for the development of solar and wind renewable energy sources, drives hydrogen projects, and has the world's largest market for electric vehicles and batteries.

We can assume that Chinese authoritarianism may be a certain advantage, particularly in the ability to make centralized political decisions regarding the reorientation of the country's energy system by gradually replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy sources. However, implementing climate policies and strategies in a complex multi-level management system requires significant coordination and building of alliances at all levels. Therefore, many authors, in particular M. Shreurs (Shreurs, 2017), L. Zhang, V. Sovakul (Zhang, & Sovakul, 2017), K. Lo (Lo, 2015) and others, believe that these contradictions in China will persist for an extended period. The development of the country's environmental strategy will be "rather fragmented, inconsistent and tense, that is, changing rather than stable".

German researcher A. Enels from the Center for Globalization and Management of the University of Hamburg suggests a broader assessment of China's climate policy and does not focus only on low-carbon development and the transformation of the energy system. She rightly notes that it is essential to analyze all the factors that influence qualitative shifts towards low-carbon development, particularly China's current geopolitical expansion and competition for positions in the world market. That is, China's climate policy will manifest itself "at the national level in reducing the use of coal, introducing low-carbon technologies, improving air quality and the health of the population, and at the global level - in the export of an economy based on fossil fuels to other parts of the world, which will have a greater impact on the global low-carbon transition than any policy officially identified as contributing to climate mitigation."

At the same time, according to domestic researchers V.Lipkan and A.Yakovets, China's climate communications are subordinated to the goals of state information policy, which consist, in particular, of "forming a single information space and strengthening the integrity and unity of the country" (Lipkan, & Yakovtets, 2023, p. 123). This allows China to systematically and gradually move towards world domination.

We believe China's active role in climate change policy can be a "window of opportunity" (Pew Rresearch Center, 2016) for the country to significantly expand its influence and take a leadership role in international efforts to mitigate global climate challenges. The Chinese government will take advantage of this opportunity, regardless of the existing contradictions, since the issue of climate change has been recognized at the highest political level, as well as by the country's public and the media, as urgent and important. China's position in international negotiations on climate change has changed from passive and reactive to more proactive and constructive.

The limitations of Chinese climate communications. Many forms of environmental information are available to the Chinese public today to inform and shape climate-friendly behavior. Since environmental protection is a

component of state policy and a part of economic and social development strategy, some types of environmental information have become officially permitted media content.

Climate coverage in the official and independent media has increased significantly, with newspapers, radio stations, and TV channels often publishing environmental reports, as well as China Central Television and local provincial stations. The national publications People's Daily, Guangming Daily, and Economic Daily have environmental news columns and sections, and planned environmental TV programs include China Central TV's Green Space, China Educational TV's Environmental Focus, Shandong TV's Homeland, Hebei TV's Green Homeland, Hubei TV's Lucky Global Village, Beijing TV's Green Economics, Jiangsu TV's Green Report, and Phoenix TV's Our Shared Planet.

Despite the control by the authorities, environmental protests were not perceived as actions that carry a political challenge. However, in the last decade, due to the aggravation of the environmental crisis and suspicions of foreign funding of Chinese non-governmental environmental organizations, the space for environmental activities and other informational components began to narrow. Environmental protests are often characterized as dangerous because they lead to "disorder." The motives of those involved have been questioned, sometimes characterized as selfish and anti-social, sometimes as serving private interests, and the fate of China's most famous environmental documentary suggests that official encouragement of environmental investigations has waned markedly.

For example, in March 2015, shortly before the annual National People's Congress, former CCTV journalist Chai Jing released a documentary on air pollution that was posted online. The film, titled "Under the Dome," presented the viewer with scientific research on air pollution and accused the state-owned oil industry and other influential companies of failing to comply with China's environmental laws and regulations (see: Chai Jing's review: Under the Dome – Investigating China's Smog). On the one hand, this film had some official support: several officials from the Ministry of Environmental Protection gave interviews, and People's Daily interviewed Chai Jing. The film became an Internet sensation: 200 million people watched it four days after its release. It was taken down five days after it first appeared, and further references to it were removed from official media and the Internet. It can be assumed that such actions on the part of the Chinese authorities were due to internal contradictions, and support for the creation of the film was due to the traditional tactics of Chinese government officials, namely the desire to expand the powers of the ministry and gain access to additional resources for the implementation of new environmental laws and regulations regulation of pollution.

Over the past 20 years, environmental journalism in China has grown in scope and sophistication with the rise of environmental activism, more excellent opportunities provided by the Internet, and more open official media. The quality of professional environmental journalism has increased, and the range of voices has expanded significantly thanks to the development of online citizen journalism.

Significant gains have been made in the right to know and access to environmental information. However, Chinese environmental journalists still need help building relationships with scientists and gaining access to scientific data, and they rarely use freedom of information requests to compel disclosure.

Today, the government has adopted sustainable development as an official policy and promotes the slogan of "ecological civilization" as its ambition for China. However, despite these successes and China's deepening environmental crisis, the space for environmental NGOs and independent environmental journalism has been restricted since 2008 by a party interested in suppressing challenges to its monopoly on power and seeking to maintain "stability." Today, the opportunities provided by the relative openness of the first years of the 21st century are receding again. As long as these conditions prevail, environmental journalism in China will continue to challenge the government's narrative. Still, it will not be able to fully contribute to solving China's environmental crisis.

Discussion and conclusions

The rise of emerging economies since the beginning of this century has changed the global governance landscape. China takes climate change seriously, partly because it will be one of the countries most affected by changing weather patterns. Climate policy also fits well with China's industrial strategy. An aggressive policy promoting solar batteries, electric cars, and other green technologies contributes to China's large global market share for such products.

As a leading developing country and the world's largest emitter of greenhouse gases, China is actively involved in global climate management. It plays a crucial role in reducing emissions and aims to be one of the creators of climate governance norms. Climate change mitigation is an essential component of China's development plan. Since the beginning of intensive development and reforms in the 1980s, the Chinese population has experienced the deterioration of the environment, especially air and water pollution. Environmental concerns of the population have reached a high level, manifested in numerous environmental protests against polluting industries and facilities. The growing public concern about the environment is consistent with the timeline of the Chinese government's efforts to combat climate change. Since 2007, China has been implementing policies and measures to mitigate climate change, and several policy measures have been adopted to improve energy efficiency and optimize the energy structure.

China's active participation in mitigating climate change in recent years can be explained by its need to solve domestic environmental problems and diversify sources of energy supply. Although China's central government is strongly interested in controlling air pollution and achieving energy security that contributes to mitigating climate change, a delay in restructuring the political and economic interests of local governments and state-owned enterprises may hinder the effectiveness of national carbon reduction targets. The main achievements of China's climate policy include the introduction of the "1+N" policy for the peak level of carbon dioxide emissions and the neutralization of harmful emissions, the development of a medium-term and long-term strategy for controlling greenhouse gas emissions, the development of the national carbon market, as well as the implementation of the National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change. The strategy declares the goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2060, shows the vision and technical path for long-term development with low greenhouse gas emissions, and also defines strategic priorities in critical areas, including the economy, energy, industry, urban and rural development, transport, which function on based on a clean, safe and efficient low-carbon energy system, with the majority of non-fossil fuel consumption. China's reform efforts in these two areas are

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inseparable from its commitment to climate change mitigation in the post-COP 21 (Paris Climate Agreement) era.

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КЛІМАТИЧНА ПОЛІТИКА КИТАЮ В ДОБУ ГЛОБАЛЬНИХ ЗМІН КЛІМАТУ

В с т у п . ***Стаття присвячена аналізу кліматичної політики Китаю в контексті глобальних змін клімату. Авторка досліджує еволюцію підходів Китаю до вирішення екологічних проблем, починаючи від економічного домінування над природними ресурсами в середині XX ст. до інтеграції принципів сталого розвитку в сучасну державну політику. Розглядаються ключові внутрішні та зовнішні чинники, які вплинули на формування кліматичної стратегії Китаю, включаючи загрози від зміни клімату, екологічні кризи, тиск громадськості та участь у міжнародних угодах. Особлива увага приділяється зобов'язанням Китаю щодо досягнення вуглецевої нейтральності до 2060 р. й адаптації енергетичної політики для скорочення викидів парникових газів. Стаття також аналізує внутрішні суперечності китайської кліматичної політики, вплив авторитарної системи управління та прагнення Китаю до глобального лідерства у сфері зеленої економіки.***

М е т о д и . ***Дослідження кліматичної політики Китаю має міждисциплінарний характер, тому в роботі поєднано інструменти міжнародної політології, екологічних студій, економіки та соціології. Було використано такі наукові методи й підходи: аналіз політичних документів та офіційних джерел, історичний метод, порівняльний аналіз, системний підхід, критичний аналіз, прогностичний метод.***

Р е з у л ь т а т и . ***У межах дослідження було виявлено, що кліматична політика Китаю є складним і суперечливим явищем, сформованим як під впливом глобальних викликів, так і внутрішніх соціально-економічних потреб. Хоча Китай займає провідну позицію у розробці відновлюваних технологій і просуває цілі сталого розвитку, ці зусилля часто обумовлені прагненням до енергетичної безпеки, економічної модернізації та політичного впливу на міжнародній арені. Авторка зазначає, що активна роль Китаю у боротьбі зі зміною клімату може служити платформою для зміцнення його глобального авторитету, але внутрішні розбіжності та фрагментація політики створюють ризики для стабільного розвитку в цій сфері.***

В и с н о в к и . ***Аналіз екологічної політики Китаю в добу глобальних змін клімату дав змогу зробити висновок, що кліматична політика Китаю є багатовимірною і поєднує внутрішні потреби із глобальними зобов'язаннями. Китай визначив зміни клімату як цивілізаційну загрозу, що стимулює інтеграцію екологічних цілей у національну стратегію розвитку. Основними рушійними силами цієї політики є необхідність вирішення внутрішніх екологічних проблем, таких як забруднення повітря й води, потреба у зміцненні енергетичної безпеки та модернізація економічної моделі. Авторка підкреслює, що зобов'язання Китаю стосовно досягнення вуглецевої нейтральності до 2060 р. і скорочення викидів до 2030 р. є важливими кроками, які відповідають міжнародним стандартам. Водночас ці ініціативи служать інструментом для зміцнення міжнародного авторитету Китаю та закріплення його позицій як глобального лідера у сфері зеленої економіки. Однак автор акцентує на розбіжностях кліматичної політики, які виникають унаслідок фрагментованості управління, конкуренції між місцевими та центральними органами влади, а також впливу економічних інтересів державних і приватних структур. Політика Китаю, незважаючи на прогрес у впровадженні низьковуглецевих технологій, залишається залежною від таких внутрішніх викликів, як необхідність підтримки економічного зростання та соціальної стабільності. Загалом, авторка робить висновок, що кліматична політика Китаю має потенціал стати платформою для міжнародного лідерства, але успішність її реалізації залежатиме від здатності вирішити внутрішні суперечності та адаптувати політичну систему до потреб сталого розвитку.***

К л ю ч о в і с л о в а : ***глобальні зміни клімату, кліматична політика, Китай, кліматична нейтральність.***

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