

Back to Basics: The West STILL Doesn't Understand China – Thanks to Its Own Ideological Biases and Perceived Stereotypes

As American expat Cyrus Janssen (Chinese name 王德中) puts it in his video *What Does Freedom Mean in China?*, the vast majority of misunderstandings between the West and China really boil down to cultural differences. While China has been trying to learn all it can about the rest of the world, the West seems happy with its limited, outdated, and at times outright erroneous views of China. Professor Kishore Mahbubani, former Singapore Permanent Representative to the United Nations and former President of the UN Security Council said that America has a very fundamental misunderstanding of China. A 240-year-old country (America) is judging a 2400+ year-old country (China) at a time when China is having the most undoubtedly best time of its long history? Mahbubani points out that today's China is radically different from the Maoist era.

Link with the excerpt of Kishore Mahbubani's speech <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ojr-tqaQOOQ>

A few from Global Times:

[What is root cause of West's misinterpretation of China? - Global Times](#)

[GT Exclusive: West's biggest misconception, cliché about CPC is that it's not democratic: Italian economist - Global Times](#)

[Twisted in translation: Western media, social groups set up language barriers by intentionally misreading, misinterpreting Chinese materials - Global Times](#)

The Events in Tiananmen Square on 4th June 1989

Like many in this sub have pointed out, Beijing DOES NOT say that absolutely nothing happened then. There were indeed violent clashes between security forces and protestors that resulted in deaths on both sides. What the government denies is that the security forces indiscriminately declared open season on large swathes of protestors, gunning down hundreds to thousands, which is the mainstream belief today. And indeed, there is no quality evidence to support this, unless you want to believe British government reports that up to 10,000 died. All available evidence from Western media testimonies to the leaders of the protests themselves admit that Beijing security forces **neither** killed anyone in the Square **nor** unleashed indiscriminate gunfire on civilians. Any fighting that occurred was *outside* the Square, and no, even those were not security forces deliberately attacking defenceless people. The sub already has plenty of good posts on this, so I'll just add two more:

This site is already mentioned in the sidebar and here is the link [https://archives.cjr.org/behind the news/the myth of tiananmen.php](https://archives.cjr.org/behind_the_news/the_myth_of_tiananmen.php)
<https://johnmenadue.com/the-tiananmen-square-massacrethe-one-sided-story/>

And for the billionth time, Mister Tank Man, the darling of the Western press much like the Aleppo boy Omran, was NEVER run over! The tanks were trying to get **out** of the place and he was blocking them, which meant the soldier of the lead tank had to come and have a nice chat with the guy. Difference being, Aleppo Boy is no longer useful as the Syrian government forces regained full control of Aleppo long ago, while Tank Man becomes Superman every 4th June.

I also agree with those on the sub who criticise Beijing's decision to totally censor 4/6/1989. Censoring an event this significant only gives your haters even more talking points and gives people the impression that you have something fishy to hide. But it has not prevented later generations of Chinese from knowing about it, contrary to what CNN claims. Regardless of the reason behind it, I feel this is a counterproductive move. The West now has an endless supply of ammunition in this regard.

Hong Kong Protests of 2019

No need to add more to this. MintPressNews and [The Grayzone](#) have irrefutable proof that the HK protests were generously funded by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), which is notorious for supporting coups against governments Washington views as unfriendly.

The ones that cracked down on the HK protestors were the Hong Kong Police Force, who did not take orders from Beijing to take action, by the way. Only two protesters died from beginning to end, and neither was caused by the police. On the other hand, the protesters utterly trashed the city when their demands were not met. Armed with graffiti, steel poles, bricks, rocks, bows and arrows and Molotov cocktails, this spoilt bunch burnt down public property, vandalised shops, obstructed traffic, attacked mainlanders and whoever disagreed with them which resulted directly in the deaths of at least one innocent person, destroyed COVID-19 shelters, occupied airports and caused so much mess that even HKers who opposed the extradition bill criticised them heavily. They even shamelessly broke into the HK parliament, defaced government symbols and the national flag, and flew the flags of the USA and the British colonial era.

While the Anglosphere excitedly cheered on all this nonsense, Washington reacted with shock at the 6th January 2021 insurrection at the US Capitol by pro-Trump MAGA mobs, calling it embarrassing and an assault on democracy. Also, US government figures had no problem

calling for more use of force against the Black Lives Matter (BLM) protestors. Can anyone imagine how US police would have reacted if any protest in the US reached the levels of the HK ones and those involved desecrated American national symbols and wanted to be under Chinese or Russian rule?

Surprisingly, the minute a white person showed up, the protestors became meek as mice. In any case, Beijing did not see the need to dispatch the paramilitary People's Armed Police or the People's Liberation Army to intervene, although the PLA Garrison in HK was eventually sent out...on cleaning duty to clear up stuff that they did not cause.

The American Conservative, no fan of China's and great fan of the HK protests (a contributor nominated them for Nobel Peace Prize), has this to say about the NED in general: <https://www.theamericanconservative.com/articles/the-national-endowment-for-political-meddling-democracy-ned/>

A catalogue of what the dark-shirted rascals were up to: <https://www.truth-hk.com/>

As for all the wailing and gnashing of teeth over National Security Law (國安法), people should know that under Hong Kong's own Basic Law, not only is it stated that HKSAR in an inalienable part of the PRC, it requires HK to enact its own law to prevent sedition and treason. This was never implemented. The fierce riots of 2019 convinced Beijing that it had to step in this one time and so it did, much to the horror of Apple Daily boss Jimmy Lai, the West's beloved saints Joshua Wong, Nathan Law and Agnes Chow, the Anglosphere and Good Guy Chris Patten.

Now here comes the big one:

Xinjiang Uyghur Muslims “Concentration Camps” Brought to You by Adrian Zenz, World Uyghur Congress and Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI).

ShanghaiPanda exposes Zenz (check out the pinned tweets if you want to understand how the Chinese government works)

https://twitter.com/thinking_panda/status/1469210375422083072

Adrian Zenz cannot grasp basic concepts of Chinese civilisation, ethnicity and national identity.

<https://randomtextneeded.medium.com/adrian-zenz-shows-theres-no-uyghur-genocide-d033f8a70c2b>

The Canada Files, The Grayzone and the Australian Citizens Party are a treasure trove:

<https://www.thecanadafiles.com/articles/uygur-separatist-organization-takes-canadian-government-to-court-hints-at-extent-of-their-need-funding>

<https://www.thecanadafiles.com/articles/bloc-qubcois-mp-attends-cia-front-funded-world-uyghur-congress-while-his-party-rails-against-china>

<https://thegrayzone.com/2021/10/17/uyghur-tribunal-us-government-china/>

<https://thegrayzone.com/2020/03/26/forced-labor-china-us-nato-arms-industry-cold-war/>

<https://thegrayzone.com/2021/03/17/report-uyghur-genocide-sham-university-neocon-punish-china/>

<https://thegrayzone.com/2019/12/21/china-detaining-millions-uyghurs-problems-claims-us-ngo-researcher/>

<https://citizensparty.org.au/aspi-forced-labour-hypocrites-and-academic-fraudsters>

<https://citizensparty.org.au/independent-legal-analyst-shreds-aspi-uyghur-forced-labour-claims>

<https://citizensparty.org.au/ever-changing-testimony-xinjiang-witnesses-points-coaching-us-backed-separatist-groups>

All states that attack China's Xinjiang policy are not Muslim majority states. The ones that are however... <https://thecradle.co/Article/analysis/1707>

Lovely thread on the US-funded World Uyghur Congress and East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM)

https://twitter.com/Shikima_King_/status/1454838738220044299

Breaking Down the BBC's Visit to Xinjiang

<https://medium.com/@sunfeiyang/breaking-down-the-bbcs-visit-to-hotan-xinjiang-e284934a7aab>

Xinjiang Police Files (anyone find it interesting these were uncovered just as UN human rights official Michelle Bachelet was about to visit Xinjiang?)

<https://suidaila.substack.com/p/xinjiang-police-files-zenz-reality?s=r>

<https://www.mango-press.com/the-xinjiang-police-files-are-actually-boring-zenzs-reality-warping/>

And finally, one by The Libertarian Institute. These fellows are no fans of China either, calling it the same names as mainstream media, but even they don't buy the story of an ongoing "genocide"

<https://libertarianinstitute.org/articles/independent-media-parrots-questionable-uyghur-genocide-claims/>