

Following the Cultural Revolution (1966 - 1969) China pursued policies of economic pragmatism and political reorganization, culminating in the convening of the Tenth Congress of the Communist Party in August 1973. Since that time, many of the objectives of the Cultural Revolution have received renewed emphasis in the "campaign to criticize Lin Biao and criticize Confucius".

Signs of a rift in relations between China and the U.S.S.R. were apparent from the late 1950's, and in the summer of 1960 Russian experts were withdrawn from China, leaving many construction projects unfinished. An open break with the U.S.S.R. occurred in 1963.

In recent years China has played an increasingly important international role; this first became apparent at the Geneva Conference of 1954 and the Bandung Conference of non-aligned nations in 1955. Diplomatic relations were established with Canada in 1970, and since that time with numerous Western nations. The People's Republic of China took her place as the representative of China in the United Nations in 1971.