CYNTHIA WATSON,
PHD
WHMA
16 FEBRUARY 2022

# Keeping Xi Jinping up at night

#### discussion

- P.R.C. strategic context
- Issues confronting P.R.C. at home
- Xi's returns to 'the CCP state': preventing chaos
- Returning the CCP to centrality in daily life



#### P.R.C. strategic context

- Geography
- The 'Middle Kingdom' and 'Mandate of Heaven'
- China's culture fears luan
- The 'New China': CCP rule with modern tools, including nationalism through anticolonialism
  - ► The 'Century of Humiliation', 1842-1949
  - 'China is no longer on its knees'
  - Great Leap Forward/Cultural Revolution
  - 'Four Modernisations'
  - Xi Jinping's national renovation increasingly a nationalist, authoritarian w/ Maoist characteristics

### Xi's China: a CCPdriven rule TO PREVENT LUAN

- Primary goal: KEEPING THE PARTY IN POWER as focus
- Balancing rising expectations versus reality
  - Growing economic/social/geographic disparities
  - Economic growth over, challenged, or 'getting by'?
  - Environmental threats: getting a handle on it?
  - Demographic realities: boys, girls, young, old
  - Taiwan/Xinjiang/Tibet
  - Burgeoning nationalism
    - 'Anti-corruption': consolidation of Xi's and returning CCP to center of daily life
- Providing remarkably adapt at addressing expectations and complaints w/o surrendering power

## CCP returns to centrality

- Deification of Xi Jinping on par with Mao and Deng
- Returning Party to daily life as arbiter of culture, education, 'Rule by Law'=>all to prevent *luan*
- Anti-corruption campaign keeps all on their toes
- Eradication of sources of transparency into CCP
  - Foreign Investment Law
  - National Security Law
  - Surveillance state
  - Internet 'self-monitoring'
- Is it CCP or Xi? Still a collective party?
- Xi returns China to position of CCP-provided RESPECT

