

# We must give Xi Jinping time to realise his 'modern socialist' mission and 'new era' vision

During his first five-year term (2012-2017) as the country's president, and as general secretary of the Communist Party of China, Xi Jinping galvanised the top leadership to tackle corruption, not only within the party but also in the People's Liberation Army, and in the private sector as well.

Xi has attended many international conferences to spread the word on China's working style of "reform and opening up", and to confer with political, financial and global dignitaries.

During his first term as president, China strengthened its position as the world's second-largest economy.

On October 18, at the 19th party congress in Beijing, Xi announced that China had entered a "new era", with the Communist Party at its helm, that would transform China by 2050 into a modern socialist state with Chinese characteristics: prosperous, strong, democratic, and culturally advanced.

And on March 11, the National People's Congress (NPC) in Beijing amended the national constitution to include the "Xi Jinping thought on socialism with Chinese characteristics". A second amendment to the constitution was a statement that the party leadership was the defining feature of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

One amendment that aroused much speculation among China analysts was the elimination of any term limit for the national president and vice-president.

Since Xi is in just the first year of his second five-year term as China's president, my view is that we in Hong Kong should be pragmatic enough to give him and the leadership more time to consolidate socialist modernisation by 2035 and the vision of a "new era" by 2050.

Under "one country, two systems", Hong Kong has performed remarkably well with the mainland's socialist system, which has enabled the country to reach its current level of economic and social growth.

Chief Executive Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor and the business delegation that she led to Indonesia last month are to be congratulated on their efforts to boost trade ties with the nation of over 250 million, and to further strengthen ties within the region through the recently signed free-trade agreement with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Hilton Cheong-Leen, president, Hong Kong Civic Association

## 使命與願景

### 非一蹴可成

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習近平在出任國家主席和中國共產黨總書記的首屆五年任期內(2012-2017)，令最高領導層振奮，以清除不但黨內，還有解放軍以至私人企業的貪腐。

習主席參與不少國際會議，以宣揚中國的“改革開放”模式，並與政治、經濟和世界領袖交流。

在他的首屆主席任期內，中國的地位得以提升，成為全世界第二大經濟體。

去年 10 月 18 日，中國共產黨在北京舉行全國黨代表大會，習近平在會上宣布，中國在共產黨領導下已進入“新時代”，而且到了 2050 年，中國將會發展成有中國特色的現代社會主義國家：繁榮、強大、民主、文明。

今年 3 月 11 日，在北京舉行的全國人民代表大會通過修訂國家憲法，加入“習近平新時代中國特色社會主義思想”。另一項修訂是確定黨的領導是有中國特色的社會主義的根本。

最令中國分析家關注的修訂是取消國家主席及副主席任期的所有限制。

習近平擔當國家主席的第二屆任期開始了未及一年，我覺得我們香港人應務實地給予他和國家領導層多點時間，以鞏固社會主義的現代化，期於 2035 年達成目標，並實現到了 2050 年進入“新時代”的願景。

中國的社會主義制度令國家達至目前的經濟和社會增長，香港在“一國兩制”的框架之內亦表現卓越。

行政長官林鄭月娥上月率領商界代表團前往印尼，致力促進與這個有 2 億 5 千萬人口國家的商貿往來，以及藉剛與東盟簽署的自由貿易協議進一步加強區內的聯繫，這些努力值得讚揚。

香港公民協會會長張有興