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New form of global relations takes shape

By WANG YI

With the inaugural issue of its Global Edition at the beginning of this new year, China Daily has opened a new window for communication and understanding between China and the rest of the world. I wish to express warm congratulations on the launch of China Daily Global Edition, and extend New Year greetings to readers around the world!

As the tide of history surges with vigor, our world today is experiencing profound changes unseen in a century. We are witnessing a notable increase in uncertainties in the international landscape and rising challenges to the existing international system and order. Yet peace and development remain the call of the day, the trend of economic globalization and multipolarity is moving forward on many fronts, and the application of ICT (information and communications technology) and cultural diversity are reshaping our societies in profound ways.

In the past year, Chinese diplomacy has neither been sidetracked by distractions nor deterred by winds and storms. Instead, it has kept cleaving waves and forging ahead, serving as an anchor of stability in a fast-changing world and an abiding source of confidence in a time of shifting dynamics.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. It is also a crucial year for meeting the first centenary goal, namely ushering in a moderately prosperous society in all respects.

Looking to the future, various risks and challenges will continue to emerge in the new historical context as the global situation and major-country relations evolve.

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Wang Yi, state councilor and foreign minister.

TARGET IN SIGHT

For China, 2019 is one of the final stepping stones to becoming a 'moderately prosperous society' by 2020

By ANDREW MOODY
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With global stock markets ending last year in turmoil, the economic outlook for 2019 remains uncertain.

For China, the year is one of the final stepping stones to becoming a "moderately prosperous society" by 2020, in time for the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China the following year.

The challenge for the global economy, however, is to avoid a recession. There are fears that the often weak but nonetheless sustained recovery from the depths of the global financial crisis in 2009 has now run its course and a correction is inevitable.

There are a number of risks on the horizon, not least trade tensions between the United States and China, which have yet to be resolved.

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