

中東之戰帶給世界的變化



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推進中美相互瞭解合作 促成海峽兩岸和平統一 倡導和諧平等多元世界

伊朗是居魯士大帝 (Cyrus the Great) 於公元前 550 年建立，歷史上赫赫有名的波斯帝國的後裔，有2500年光輝及坎坷的悠久歷史及文明。自從1979年極端順從附庸美國的巴勒維 (Shah Pahlavi) 王朝被民眾推翻以後，被流放的阿雅託拉·霍梅尼 (Ayatollah Khomeini) 從巴黎回國成為最高宗教領袖，又發生美國大使館人質事件，使美國與伊朗的關係從此變得互相對立，伊朗就不斷受到美國的制裁打壓。1980年美國鼓動並援助伊拉克發動兩伊戰爭，八年戰爭伊朗軍隊陣亡約30萬人，受傷約70萬人，國力損失慘重。美國凍結伊朗在各國的美元資產超過 1,000 億、禁止貿易與金融往來、排除在 SWIFT 銀行系統之外、全面武器禁運、限制獲得軍事與工業物資、限制對石油、天然氣投資、聯合歐盟對伊朗的銀行、航運、能源全面制裁、限制石油能源出口等等，如同要伊朗滅國。

2015年歐巴馬 (Obama) 總統時代，伊朗和中國、美國、英國、法國、俄國聯合國五常，外加德國、歐盟，共同簽定伊朗核協議 (JCPOA)。解除了部分對伊朗的制裁，恢復部份石油出口，有些歐洲企業恢復投資，短暫緩和了伊朗的經濟。不幸2018年川普 1.0 上任，美國片面退出協議，恢復並加強了石油出口限制、金融封鎖、科技、航運、能源、金屬等多領域制裁。可以說47年來美國對伊朗的制裁幾乎從未解除，幾十年來伊朗學會了表面上忍氣吞聲，對美國退讓，暗中培養國力，深埋武力，隱藏戰力。

去年伊朗經濟衰退，通膨率高達45%，電力天然氣供應不足，工資停滯，失業率上升，公務員、教師、醫護人員多次罷工，終於在12月28日爆發了20天的全民暴亂。以色列總理納坦雅胡認為推翻伊朗

政權機不可失，積極勸說川普 2.0，只要兩國聯合對伊朗發動戰爭，斬首其宗教領袖哈米尼 (Khamenei) 及軍隊指揮官，配合伊朗國內親西方及反政府的民眾，伊朗民眾便會揭竿而起，推翻現在政權，完成顏色革命，使伊朗變成親西方的國家，徹底解決幾十年來的伊朗問題。甚至前巴勒維國王在美國的兒子禮薩·巴勒維 (Reza Pahlavi) 也在盼望能夠回國登基。

美伊之間圍繞著濃縮鈾，解除制裁，解凍資產等問題從2023年就開始低調間歇的談判，一直到最近一輪的談判於2026年2月26日在日內瓦舉行。納坦雅胡最終說服了川普，於2月28日美國和以色列聯軍突然猛烈空襲伊朗，開啟了中東之戰。川普挾綁架委內瑞拉總統馬杜羅 (Maduro) 輕易得勝的餘威，發動了對伊朗迅速斬首宗教領袖及軍事將領五十多人，以及對軍事目標迅速轟炸的行動，躊躇滿志，宣佈三兩天內便可內解決伊朗，重溫委內瑞拉的舊夢。

川普及其內閣不瞭解委內瑞拉是西班牙移民，販賣來的非洲黑人和南美洲印地安土著混血，新建立210年的小國家。而伊朗是帶著根深蒂固的波斯帝國文化，驕傲堅韌，土廣民眾的大國。雖然伊朗有眾多的親西方族群，想不到美以無理的突襲轟炸除了主張對美國退讓，維持和平的當朝領導群，促成了對美國的強硬派革命衛隊掌控絕對的權力，凝聚了伊朗民眾的民族主義愛國心。所以開戰60天以來的革命衛隊愈挫愈勇，戰力愈打愈強，對波斯灣周邊有美國駐軍的保護國，科威特、卡達、巴林、沙特及阿聯酋的13個海軍基地，以無人機及導彈猛烈轟炸，造成嚴重損害。對以色列全境軍事、海港，工

業的攻擊，造成前所未有的損失。已知軍民傷亡超過 7,000 人，受創空前慘重。其間造成美國軍機損失三、四十架，包括高價的全球鷹無人機 MQ-4C、雷神無人機 MQ-9、F-35、F-15、A-10、C-130、外加預警機、加油機、以及直升機、美國軍艦亦被導彈擊傷。美國非但沒有三兩天內推翻伊朗政權，反被伊朗報復，頗有損失。伊朗運用高明的宣傳戰略，標榜美國是侵略者，世界各國皆不支持美國，約束霍爾木茲海峽的通航，造成世界石油，天然氣，糧食，肥料，氫氣市場供應短缺的問題。世人認為所有的動盪不安皆由美國引起，沒有國家站邊美國，使川普國內國外進退兩難，被迫和伊朗談判停戰。

中東戰爭給世人帶來兩個軍事政治思維的改變，即國防經濟的重要，依附美國的風險。

一個貧窮的國家，建立不起現代化，包括戰鬥機，轟炸機，偵察機，加油機等等昂貴的空軍，可以建立相對廉價的低空監視雷達、便攜式雷達或小型相列雷達、防戰機導彈、中短程導彈、自殺無人機，亦足以抗衡只講究高科技武器的富強先進國家。

攔截來襲導彈要比攔截來襲戰機昂貴大約30倍。伊朗沒有昂貴的導彈防空系統，不求攔截來襲導彈，只求能夠擊落敵人低空來襲，執行精準轟炸的戰機，直升機為目的的敵機防空系統。也發揮了擊落30多架美機的戰果。

美國以色列出動戰機轟炸伊朗，一架現代戰機價值6000萬~1.5億美元，每飛行1小時維護成本需要2~7萬美元，1000公里作戰半徑的往返任務通常2-3小時，需要大量支援如空中加油機，預警機，加上地勤、維修、後勤、再加上至少數百萬美元的飛行員訓練成本。伊朗出動的自殺無人機轟炸，成本約為飛機轟炸的 1/5-1/20、導彈轟炸成

本約為飛機轟炸的 1/3~1/10。而且精準度通常優於飛機轟炸。

防空系統如以色列昂貴的多層攔截，從最低空的鐵穹，40公里的魔杖，70公里的愛國者，100公里的箭2，到高空的箭3。固然號稱有90%的攔截率，但是面對來襲兩萬美元的自殺無人機群，昂貴的防空武器絕對是國防經濟作戰的失敗。伊朗能夠先用無人機及簡單飛彈，耗盡以色列防空系統的彈藥以後，再出動高價的高爆的導彈，趁虛攻擊以色列重要目標，重創以色列。伊朗以存量豐富的低價武器對抗存量有限的昂貴武器，正是重視性價比的國防經濟作戰的成功典範。

在波斯灣海岸國家中，阿聯酋和對岸的伊朗最不友善，歡迎美軍在阿聯酋基地設置雷達監控伊朗，開放領空領土供美軍攻擊伊朗使用，鼓勵美國攻擊伊朗、戰前就和伊朗斷交，互驅外交人員、配合美國凍結伊朗資金、限制伊朗企業在迪拜的活動、加強對伊朗商人的審查、在阿拉伯聯盟與海灣合作委員會的會場經常譴責伊朗、配合美國對伊朗的外交施壓。阿聯酋以此為投名狀，把國家安全，經濟發展，未來前景全數寄託於美國，成為最依附美國的國家。

沒想到中東之戰，伊朗前後動用了400枚導彈和2,000架無人機，轟炸了阿聯酋的美國海空軍基地、工業區、煉油廠、海港、國際機場、雲端中心、算力中心及花旗銀行大樓等目標，造成若干損失。形成一場阿聯酋嚴重的富人與商業撤離潮，原本投資在杜拜的亞洲富豪

資金回流香港、新加坡等傳統亞洲金融中心。英國、法國、德國等歐洲富豪資金則流向義大利、瑞士、葡萄牙與希臘各國。阿聯酋短期內發生供應鏈與糧食危機，由於霍爾木茲海峽封鎖，糧食進口依賴空運，迫使食品價格飆升40%至120%，旅遊與外籍人士流失，使阿聯酋打造成世界永久避風港的神話破滅。

阿聯酋與中國一向有良好的合作關係，動盪不安中，阿聯酋王儲阿勒納哈法 (Al Nahyan) 受到邀請，急忙趕到中國。在區域局勢緊張中，尋求政治安定及經濟穩定的狀況下，阿聯酋企圖與中國建立長期戰略與經濟聯繫更緊密的關係。雙方簽署了多項外表光鮮的重大合作備忘錄，涵蓋多筆大單，包括了清潔能源、科技、投資、農業、永續與健康科學等多領域的重大合作協議項目，形成長期、百億級別的合作合作框架。實則在透過中國和伊朗的關係，尋求中國的庇護。

阿聯酋得到的教訓是狐假虎威的時候要留有後路，準備好失去老虎以後的生存之道。如今美國早已衰落而不自知，川普當然發動侵略戰爭，卻無力迅速轟垮伊朗，陷入進退兩難的泥潭。其在中國東的軍事基地以及波斯灣的保護國都遭受轟炸，號稱能護衛全球60多個國家的保護傘早已支離破碎，失去功能了。未來阿聯酋要學習卡達，公開申明要求戰後擺脫的美國軍事介入。不能單獨依附美國的保護傘，必須與周邊鄰國、伊朗以及崛起的中國，共同友好合作，才能保證未來杜拜及阿布扎比 (Abu Dhabi) 的繁榮發展。

中國的人造鑽石產業掌控世界工業

提到人造鑽石大家馬上連想到璀璨奪目，價值不菲，代表愛情的裝飾珠寶。其實人造鑽石的主力是用於散熱降溫的5G/6G通訊、AI算力中心、量子計算與半導體晶片，成為解決高熱問題的關鍵材料。用於平滑打磨的精密加工、半導體、軍工等領域具有戰略價值的耗材。人造鑽石產業是一個重要的工業領域。

中國在人造鑽石領域已是全球主導力量，佔全球產量約90%，珠寶鑽石產值10億美元，工業鑽石產值170億美元。並在工業級與高科技應用中具有壓倒性地位。不僅在產量與技術上突破，還透過出口管制與高端應用掌握全球供應鏈與市場格局。

珠寶級人造鑽石中國年產400萬克拉，約佔全球50%。中國的主要產地是河南的鄭州與柘城，佔中國產量約80%，是全球產能最集中、

規模最大、包括石墨原料、催化劑、切割、拋光等各項技術最成熟的生產基地。中國生產的初級鑽石，送到印度切割打磨，再出口以歐美品牌出售。這是目前全球人造鑽石典型成熟的供應鏈模式。

目前全球珠寶鑽石70%是天然鑽石，30%是人造鑽石，而且人造鑽石的比例年年增加。早期鑽石零售商註明這是人造鑽石，價格較低，與天然鑽石區隔銷售。但是天然鑽石與人造鑽石都是碳原子形成的晶體，無法用肉眼及放大鏡區分。因為天然鑽石難免有些許瑕疵，而人造鑽石接近完美無瑕，必須使用光譜及顯微鏡才能判斷。所以2018年美國聯邦貿易委員會 (FTC) 修改了珠寶法令，取消了對人造鑽石的歧視標誌，承認兩者都是真正的鑽石，結果引起鑽石價格的波動與調

整。人造鑽石由於供應量激增，這幾年價格降低了80%，天然鑽石價格受到拖累也降低了30%。未來鑽石代表愛情，價值不菲的概念將漸漸淡化。

人造的工業鑽石才是重要的產業，中國的工業鑽石，就是金剛石產業，約佔全球的90%以上，是全球絕對主導者。金剛石粉末顆粒是世界上最超硬的品質，是地球上散熱能力最強的材料，也是優良不導電的絕緣體，已成為半導體與高科技產業的核心散熱及平滑打磨的基礎材料。其他工業上用於切割、研磨、鑽探、拋光等領域，都具有不可替代的地位。

堅硬的金剛石碎屑必須研磨成不同等級的金剛石粉末，粗細不同的粉末，從幾毫米，幾微米，甚至奈米級，用在不同等級工業生產的需要。譬如石材切割、鑽探、鋸片 (粗顆粒)；研磨輪、切削工具 (中顆粒)；精密研磨、光學拋光

(細顆粒)；半導體晶圓、光學鏡片 (超細粉)；生醫、潤滑、量子材料 (金剛石奈米細粉)，在全球的工業製造過程是不可或缺的耗材。但是生產不同等級的金剛石粉末，必須嚴格區分，保證無瑕可靠的品質，是非常複雜又精密的過程。河南是全球最大金剛石粉末基地 (佔中國的80%)，山東是超硬金剛石粉末加工基地，安徽是超細微金剛石粉末加工區，湖南是高純度金剛石粉末生產地。中國具有獨到的機械設備及經驗，供應各國不同等級的金剛石粉末，執世界的牛耳。

2025年11月起，中國對人造金剛石粉末、單晶、線鋸、砂輪及鑽石設備與技術列為國家安全項目，實施出口管制。這是與稀土元素同樣重要的工業工具，原料及耗材，被視為對美日科技封鎖的有力反制，凸顯人造鑽石在精密加工、半導體、軍工等領域的戰略價值。如果

說稀土元素管制影響到美國的軍工武器如戰機，雷達，及導彈，也影響到太空航天，人工智能AI產業。工業鑽石管制則影響到半導體的光刻機以及其上游設備的製造，也影響到範圍更廣的民用產業如航空、汽車、精密加工等領域。

工業高度發達的國家，都需要進口中國生產的金剛石粉末。最依賴中國金剛石粉末耗材的國家依序是日本 (精密加工)，韓國 (半導體)，美國 (軍工武器)，德國 (精密光學)，印度 (切割工具)。日本是全球最依賴中國金剛石粉末耗材的國家，從中國的進口佔了28.2%。美國從中國的進口佔了10%。百分比看似不高，但是他們都高度依賴越南，台灣及墨西哥的來自中國的轉口貿易，一旦中國執行二級管制，便都依賴中國。所以在工業製造的高純度單晶和低成本大宗耗材領域，中國幾乎是不可替代的單一來源。制裁美國，日本的金剛石粉末出口，和稀土禁運有同樣的打擊效果。

To War or Not to War?

That was our question. We chose wrong. Again.

Corbin Trent

I'm generally disgusted that here in the US, we almost always frame war in terms of its economic impact. But in this case, the price of oil illustrates how America is deceiving itself about the true cost of its decision to choose, yet again, to go to war.

There are two prices of oil right now, and between them is an unprecedented gap. One is the paper price, the Brent futures you hear about on TV, sitting around 100 dollars as I'm writing this. The other is the physical price, what a refinery pays for a l'm barrel on a real tanker. Dated Brent has hit 144 dollars. The spread is the widest it has ever been. Forty dollars. Before the war, it was less than a dollar.

The paper price is the market telling us a calming story. The physical is describing reality. When those two come back together, and they always do, it's paper that moves to meet physical reality. America is experiencing a similar gap. We are telling ourselves a story about our position in the world that is about forty dollars above what's arriving at the dock.

The war is the clearest picture of what we've chosen. It's not about Iran's nuclear program. It's a resource war aimed at China, routed through Iran, and the administration's own advisors have said so on the record. Look at the pattern. Venezuela first. We seized their oil, kidnapped their leaders, and routed half a billion dollars through a Qatari bank account. Then Iran. Airstrikes, a blockade, and the Strait of Hormuz were closed. Then, Netanyahu's pitch to pipeline Gulf oil overland to Europe and away from Asian buyers. Then pressure on Denmark over Greenland. Then Lebanon, where Israel is now openly planning to occupy eight to fifteen percent of the country with our weapons and our political cover, on top of everything, we are still arming in Gaza. Then, secondary sanctions threats against any bank anywhere that dares touch an Iranian barrel.

The theory is this. Break the world's energy flows before China's navy can project force. Keep oil priced in dollars. Strangle Chinese growth before they catch all the way up. It is coherent. That is the problem. The coherence is the indictment. We think we are going to get back to our status as a respected world power through bullying and through being wannabe gangsters, and the strategy is so openly cynical that even the foreign policy establishment is now celebrating it in public as Trump's best hand against China.

This is not just a Trump problem. The House has forced four war powers votes and they have all failed, partly because Democrats themselves keep defecting on their own resolutions. Four Democrats voted against the first one in March. And when Hakeem Jeffries and the Democratic leadership had a shot to force another vote in late March during a pro forma session, they kept it off the floor. They waited until mid-April, after the troops had been rallied, by which point the war was well underway, and the vote was mostly symbolic.

That is a failure of leadership on something as basic as stripping war powers from a madman. Jeffries has not called any of the defecting Democrats out. Not publicly. Not privately as far as we can tell. No pressure, no cost, no consequence.

Remember when Democrats did a sit-in on the House floor over gun violence? Cameras on, refusing to leave, forcing the country to look. That is what resistance would look like. This isn't that. Both parties see our path to prosperity and relevance through war. That is why the response has been letters, press conferences, and votes they knew would fail. Neither party wants to close the barn door on executive war-making because both parties want to use it when their turn comes.

And this pattern is older than Iran. In 2011, we went into a sovereign

country with drones and jets, killed the leader's protective guards, and set up his murder by local opposition forces. Call it whatever you want. That's what happened. What was Gaddafi working on at the time? A pan-African gold-backed currency meant to price African oil in something other than dollars. The project died with him. When the dollar gets challenged, we break the challenger. Both parties have done it. The rules-based order we like to lecture other countries about has a big asterisk on it, and the asterisk reads "except when it touches the dollar."

The strategy is already backfiring, and everyone who can count can see it. China's clean tech exports hit 21.9 billion dollars in March of 2026 alone, up 70 percent year over year in a single month. The oil shock we engineered to hurt them solved their solar overproduction problem. Iranian oil has been priced in yuan since April of last year. Tankers paying tolls to cross Hormuz are reportedly paying in yuan, too. Deutsche Bank is now openly naming this war as a potential catalyst for the erosion of the petrodollar.

Gallup's global leadership approval poll from April 3 has China at 36 percent and the United States at 31. The widest gap in China's favor in twenty years. U.S. net approval is at negative 15, the worst in the history of the poll. That data was collected in 2025, before the January withdrawal from 66 international organizations, before the Iran war. The real number right now is almost certainly worse. Pew and the European Council on Foreign Relations say the same thing in different words. In most of Europe and Latin America, more people now name the United States than China as the greatest threat to their country. ECFR put it cleanest. If there is a race for global popularity, America is currently losing to its Indo-Pacific rival. We are forcing the world to make choices, and we are not going to like the outcome.

We should be forcing ourselves to make choices instead. When we look at China, we are not looking at an enemy. We are looking at a reflection of our former selves, and we do not want to see it.

Sam Walton had a rule. Until you're number one, you copy number one. He used to get arrested for crawling around competitors' stores with a tape recorder, because the point of walking into a Kmart wasn't to find what they were doing wrong. It was to walk out with an idea you didn't have when you went in.

That's what China is doing to us. And what they are copying is our playbook, the one that created the largest middle class in the history of the world. Hamiltonian industrial policy. State banks. State-directed investment in strategic industries. Alexander Hamilton's Report on Manufactures from 1791. The American System. Lincoln's land grant universities, the transcontinental railroad, and the Homestead Act. The Arsenal of Democracy, where FDR forced competing firms to share their intellectual property because winning the war mattered more than winning the quarter. Apollo. DARPA. The NIH. The internet itself. Every single one was public capital, public purpose, public coordination, with private firms executing. We invented it. We ran it for 150 years. China picked it up off the floor where we dropped it in the 1980s, and is running it now.

Their space program is decades younger than ours, and they have a space station, they are landing reusable rockets, they are scaling rapidly, and they are sharing their information. They are not competing for everything. They are working in unison to do better. The systems they are using are our own. We are being beaten by ourselves.

And we didn't just invent the playbook. We invented the tempo. The Arsenal of Democracy built a wartime industrial economy from scratch in about four years. Ford was rolling a B-24 off the line at Willow Run every hour by 1944. Apollo went from Kennedy's speech to a boot on the Moon in eight years. Rural electrification, the interstate system, the Manhattan Project. None of it took generations. China gets the tempo part too. They built the largest high-speed rail network in the world in about fifteen years from zero. EVs from nobody to global dominance in a decade. Solar in under a decade. Shipbuilding, drones, batteries, the whole deck, faster than we ever went, using our methods, while we tell ourselves a twenty- or thirty-year timeline is realistic.

When I was a kid, we couldn't compete with China because their labor was too cheap and they didn't care about pollution. Then we were overregulated, and our workers wanted too much. Then it was currency manipulation. Now it's that they are too far ahead on robotics, and we will never catch up. The excuse changes every decade. The underlying move never does. We explain why we can't, instead of doing the thing.

This is the part that matters most, because it is bigger than this administration. The entire American establishment, both parties, both sets of think tanks, the Pentagon, the corporate class, the press, has quietly agreed that American renewal is a generational project. Twenty years to reshore semiconductors. Ten years for permitting reform. Slow and steady. Patient. Serious. That timeline is a lie. Nothing we have ever actually built in this country got built on it. Generational change isn't about being pragmatic; it's about putting off the work. It lets everyone currently in power keep their arrangement running while the country erodes underneath them. It assumes our place on earth is God-given or immutable. It's neither. And it's crumbling quickly unless we do something about it.

Which brings me to the thing I want to say. This is a choice between destruction and construction. Between valuing death and valuing life. Between taking responsibility for our future and hoping it all works out.

Destruction is what we are doing right now. Destruction is the blockade. Destruction is hobbling the Chinese by working through proxies, cutting off oil, kidnapping Venezuelan leadership, and pressuring Denmark over Greenland. Destruction is arming a genocide. Break other people's things because we have forgotten how to build our own.

Construction is the other path. Construction is Hamilton's playbook, at speed. Reindustrialize. Repatriate the supply chains we offshored. Pharmaceuticals, semiconductors, steel, rare earths, shipbuilding. Repatriate health care from extractive finance back to something that serves the people paying for it. Rebuild public research. Rebuild the grid. Build rail. Build housing. Do it fast, because fast is the only tempo that has ever actually worked for this country.

Construction is also how you become useful to the world again. China is going to electrify the global south whether we like it or not. We can help build the world into a future like the Jetsons, or we can try to bomb it into a future like the Flintstones. If we choose the Flintstones, the world may turn its collective back on us. A rules-based order means following rules, including the ones against wars of aggression and the ones against arming genocides. A democracy means practicing it. You get your respect back by being the thing you claim to be, not by bullying the people who have noticed you aren't. And this is where the responsibility piece lands, because I mean the word we. The American people allowed this. Voted for some of it. Looked away from the rest. Trusted that the serious people would handle it while the serious people were handling themselves. No version of this gets fixed by waiting. Not for the other party, not for the next election, not for someone else to show up. We is the job description. It has to be, because hoping it all works out is how we got here.

The world is already choosing. Gallup, Pew, and ECFR are telling us in every language they have that they have seen enough. The question is whether we will choose too. To war or not to war was our question, and we answered it wrong. The next question is what we build instead. And that one is still open.