

Aerial View

China's Next Five-Year Plan

China: A Five-Year Plan, A 15-Year Vision

In this extended *Aerial View*, Geoff Yu examines in detail China's 14th Five-Year Plan, which outlines the rising superpower's strategic and economic goals for 2021-2025.

At the heart of the plan lies an ambition for Chinese economic self-sufficiency, built upon a foundation of continued strong GDP and employment growth propelled by technological innovation.

Perhaps the most eye-catching element is the nation's goal to wean itself away from being the manufacturing center for the world by nurturing a consumption-driven domestic service-based economic model. By 2035, China aims to be a "moderately developed" country.

To read Geoff's deep dive into China's 14th Five-Year Plan, click on the thumbnail to the right.



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China's 14th Five-Year Plan – Prosperity Amid Uncertainty
China has announced its latest Five-Year Plan. Acknowledging external challenges, prosperity through self-sufficient growth is the new mantra.

Charting a Growth Path to 2035

Beijing chooses to think very long term

After nearly a year in the making, China released the details of its 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025) after a leadership plenum in late October. Despite the title, the country is fully aware that the world is embarking upon secular changes sure to extend beyond the plan's tenure. As a result, Beijing has chosen to think even longer term and has established targets and expectations for 2035.

Much of the plan revolves around technological innovation in a bid to create growth and employment. While such aspirations are not new, the realization that global conditions are radically different from five years ago has given innovation a new purpose: self-sufficiency. Weak overseas economies can no longer generate the demand, while the repeal of globalization and worsening trade relations also risks cross-border supply chains. As "dual-circulation" enters China's development lexicon, the new five-year plan is as much about the country weaning itself away from the rest of the world as generating enough domestically driven growth.

More details on the execution of the Five-Year Plan will be released next year. Nonetheless, the strategic targets have already been announced and this piece looks at some of them in detail: dual circulation (especially domestic), innovation and technological prowess, the domestic economic structure, and a green future. We also highlight some international ambitions, such as expanding One Belt One Road, further opening up of the economy, and reshaping global governance.

The 15-year targets in the Plan also serve to underscore China's ability to think long term, but there will be challenges along the way. How successful the country is in achieving its goals will have far-reaching implications for the world.

1 Five-Year Plan, 15-Year Vision

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