

Abstract

The question of China's military rise will be the security issue of the 21st century. Chinese economy has been growing since open door policies were introduced and its implications is the military expansion of China's military, which is gaining strength. Thanks to its weapon acquisition process, China's power gap has been shrinking in comparison to other, developed countries.

China's regional military dominance is beginning to be publicly accepted and American strategists are trying to figure out how to keep China respect its international obligations. Despite all disputes, whether historical or current, China assures the other members of the international environment, that her rise, whether economic or military, is a peaceful rise.

However, its acquisition process, whether it is led from domestic or foreign sources, causes concerns not only within the region but also from a global perspective.

This thesis approaches the Chinese military rise from an alternative perspective. In Sagan design, the thesis tries to explain China's military rise by three modules applied to various doctrinal periods of the People's Republic of China. Three modules explain China's acquisition process from three perspectives - security, domestic political and normative terms.

The work assumes that can Sagan's concept, which is aimed at explaining the process of acquisition of nuclear weapons, can also apply to the rationale of the acquisition process of conventional weapons.