

Understanding Xi's Speech

解讀習主席重要講話

President's speech in Hong Kong contained clear details on the city's unique role and future development

習主席在香港發表重要講話，闡明香港的獨特角色和未來發展

President Xi Jinping's speech on 1 July to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong SAR, as well as the inauguration of the new Government, contained many significant details for the city's future development.

At a Chamber seminar on 2 September, a panel of expert speakers shared their insights on the core messages of the speech and what they mean for Hong Kong's future development.

Anthony Wu, Member of the Standing Committee of the CPPCC National Committee, first acknowledged that for non-Mainland people, it may seem strange that there have been so many forums to discuss Xi's speech. He explained that the nuances of the language meant that it was worth spending some time to study the speech to really understand the message.

He also noted that Xi's speech in Hong Kong carried importance far beyond the words. Firstly, by physically

coming here – his first trip outside the Mainland since the pandemic arrived – he was showing his strong support for the city.

"Xi's visit was also a demonstration of the one-hour Greater Bay Area circle," Wu added. "He was able to travel in and out of Hong Kong during his two-day visit."

Xi's visit to the Science Park and his wife Peng Liyuan's visit to the Xiqu Centre of the West Kowloon Cultural District also signal that Xi wants to promote Hong Kong's role as a centre for both I&T and Chinese culture.

In his speech, the first important point Xi made was that One Country, Two Systems had been successfully implemented for 25 years, and there was no need to change this policy.

"This is reassuring for the international community," Wu said, "as it is the first time such a statement came from the President. So after 2047, the Basic Law and One Country, Two Systems will continue."

Among the "four musts and four hopes" that Xi listed in his speech (see box), Wu drew attention to the President's hope that Hong Kong would continue to strive for growth.

"This is reassuring for the new Hong Kong administration," he said. "It sends the sign that if they want to try something new, they have the support of the Central Government."

Jeffrey Lam, the Chamber's LegCo Representative and



"Xi's speech in Hong Kong carried importance far beyond the words. Firstly, by physically coming here – his first trip outside the Mainland since the pandemic arrived – he was showing his strong support for the city."

「習主席在香港發表講話的意義遠遠超出文字本身。首先，自疫情爆發以來，習主席首次離開內地，親身到訪反映了他對香港的大力支持。」

Xi's 'Four Musts and Four Hopes' for the Hong Kong Government 習主席對香港政府提出的「四個必須」及「四點希望」

Musts

四個必須

- Fully implement the principle of One Country, Two Systems
全面準確貫徹「一國兩制」方針
- Uphold the Central Government's overall jurisdiction while securing Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy
堅持中央全面管治權和保障特區高度自治權相統一
- Ensure that Hong Kong is administered by patriots
落實「愛國者治港」
- Maintain Hong Kong's distinctive status and advantages
保持香港的獨特地位和優勢

Hopes

四點希望

- Further improve the city's governance
着力提高治理水平
- Continue to create strong impetus for growth
不斷增強發展動能
- Address people's concerns and difficulties in daily life
切實排解民生憂難
- Work together to safeguard harmony and stability
共同維護和諧穩定



HKSAR Government

Member of the CPPCC National Committee, agreed that the President's emphasis on the success of One Country, Two Systems was extremely important, and clearly showed Hong Kong's future role. In addition, Lam said, it was significant that Xi had emphasized Hong Kong's unique position as a financial centre and a global business hub.

"Xi's speech – while strengthening confidence in the One Country, Two Systems arrangement, also provide direction for Hong Kong's steady progress in the

next five years and beyond," Lam said. "It has also boosted confidence among Hong Kong people and the international community that this arrangement will continue in the longer term."

Lam added that the Northern Metropolis development plan will offer tremendous opportunities for Hong Kong start-ups and will also help traditional industries to upgrade.

On the topic of further improving governance, Lam said that he has already seen this in action in the two months since John Lee's

administration had started work.

"The new Chief Executive is not just sitting in an air-conditioned office," Lam said. "He is really rolling up his sleeves with his team and going out to different districts to speak to local people."

Lee had already taken action to reduce quarantine and relax other Covid related measures since July, Lam added, and is currently planning overseas trips to promote Hong Kong as a business destination.

Lam suggested that the new Government should look into

changing the tax regime and introduce other incentives to help solve the city's manpower challenges. "We have to have the right policies in place to keep talent and attract new talent," Lam said.

He added that the Government should also focus on ensuring that teenagers and young people understand the many opportunities in Hong Kong. Stanley Hui, Member of the CPPCC National Committee, agreed that Xi's decision to visit Hong Kong, especially at a time when the Covid virus was still circulating in the city,

was of great significance. In addition, the President's comments about Hong Kong's unique position in the nation's development were extremely important.

"In China, when a top leader delivers a speech, it is a policy statement, and it will be carried out fully, without fail," Hui said.

The reassurance that One Country, Two Systems will continue is particularly important to the business community. Wu noted that this helps to solve concern about what will happen to legal contracts and other business matters when 2047 arrives.

Hui drew attention to Xi's comments on the city's key role as a centre for finance, trading and transport. "Whatever has helped Hong Kong to perform in the past will continue in the future – that is a very clear message," he said.

The speech also made clear that Hong Kong will continue to welcome anyone who wants to make their home here, and help to develop the city.

Hui, who is also CEO of Greater Bay Airlines, expressed his confidence that the industry would recover once our borders have fully reopened. He noted that while Hong Kong's travel restrictions have remained among the strictest in the world, they have been eased in recent months, as part of the global move towards restriction-free travel.

"I'm sure that, after the pandemic, the industry will come back," he said. "Investors in the company are confident in the long-term future of Hong Kong's international connectivity."

國家主席習近平於 7 月 1 日的慶祝香港特區成立 25 周年大會暨政府就職典禮上發表重要講話，為香港未來發展指明方向。

在 9 月 2 日的研討會，多名專家剖析講話要旨及其對香港未來發展的意義。

全國政協常委胡定旭首先指出，舉辦連場論壇討論習主席的講話，或會令非內地人士大惑不解。他解釋，遣詞用字的詮釋存在細微差別，因此值得花時間研習講話內容，深入了解箇中訊息。

他補充，習主席在香港發表講話的意義遠遠超出文字本身。首先，自疫情爆發以來，習主席首次離開內地，親身到訪反映了他對香港的大力支持。

「習主席在為期兩天的行程中往返中港兩地，亦體現了大灣區一小時生活圈的優勢。」胡定旭說。

此外，習主席視察香港科學園，夫人彭麗媛則到訪西九文化區戲



曲中心，可見習主席有意推廣香港作為創科和中華文化中心的角色。

習主席講話的首個重點為「一國兩制」在過去 25 年成功落實，沒必要改變這項政策。

胡定旭說：「國家主席首次就此作出聲明，有助加強國際社會的信心。由此可見，《基本法》和『一國兩制』將於 2047 年後延續下去。」

習主席在講話中提出「四個必須」和「四點希望」（詳見附圖），其中胡定旭提到習主席期望香港繼續全力推動發展。

他說：「中央政府的支持能夠鼓勵新一屆特區政府作出新嘗試。」

總商會立法會代表及全國政協委員林健鋒認同，習主席強調成功落實「一國兩制」至關重要，並

“The President’s comments about Hong Kong’s unique position in the nation’s development were extremely important.”

「習主席肯定香港在國家發展中的獨特角色，亦有重要意義。」





以推廣香港作為營商之都的優勢。

林健鋒建議新政府研究修改稅制及提供其他誘因，協助應對本港面對的人力挑戰。「我們要制定合適的政策，方可挽留和吸引人才。」

他又稱，政府亦要着力令青年人了解到香港機遇處處。

全國政協委員許漢忠認同，新冠病毒繼續在港傳播之際，習主席仍然堅持親身訪港，意義重大。此外，習主席肯定香港在國家發展中的獨特角色，亦有重要意義。

許漢忠表示：「中國最高領導人發表的講話等同政策綱領，代表將會全面落實。」

習主席保證「一國兩制」繼續落實，對商界尤其重要。胡定旭認為這有助釋除企業對法律合約和商業事務在 2047 年何去何從的疑慮。

許漢忠指出，習主席還提到香港作為金融、貿易和航運中心的重要角色。他說：「過往造就香港成功的因素，將在未來繼續發揮作用，這個訊息十分清晰。」

講話亦表明香港將繼續歡迎任何有意定居及助力建設這個城市的人士。

身兼大灣區航空行政總裁的許漢忠表示，他有信心業界在全面通關後恢復正常。他又指出，香港實施全球數一數二最嚴厲的旅遊限制，但近月已開始跟隨全球各地重新開放的步伐，逐步放寬限制措施。

他說：「我深信業界會在疫後重整旗鼓，公司投資者對香港國際網絡的長遠發展充滿信心。」

明確香港的未來角色。習主席還重申香港作為金融中心和國際商業樞紐的獨特地位。

林健鋒表示：「習主席的講話加強了各界對『一國兩制』的信心，並指明香港在未來五年以至更長遠的發展方向，使香港市民和國際社會相信這一安排必將行穩致遠。」

他補充，北部都會區發展計劃將為香港的初創企業帶來龐大機遇，亦有助傳統產業轉型升級。

提高治理水平方面，林健鋒表示由李家超領導的新政府上任兩個月內已積極採取行動。

「新任特首和團隊捲起衣袖走出冷氣房，親赴各區與市民會面交流。」林健鋒說。

自 7 月以來，李家超已宣布縮短檢疫期和放寬其他防疫措施。此外，他現正計劃出訪世界各地，

“The President’s emphasis on the success of One Country, Two Systems was extremely important, and clearly showed Hong Kong’s future role. In addition, it was significant that Xi had emphasized Hong Kong’s unique position as a financial centre and a global business hub.”

「習主席強調成功落實『一國兩制』至關重要，並明確香港的未來角色。習主席還重申香港作為金融中心和國際商業樞紐的獨特地位。」

