**You are required to turn in a one paragraph summary explaining which recent international event you INTEND to write your paper on**

**Please be sure there are sufficient newspaper articles available to support your topic choice.**

The purpose of this project is to further develop your critical thinking, research skills and to encourage you to delve into an international issue of your choosing. The project consists of two components: a collection of at least four current newspaper articles related to a single international event of your choosing, and 2000 word summary-analysis paper devoted to the articles you selected for this project. You will also need to include a “works cited” or bibliography page along with hard copies of each of your news articles when you submit your essay

**Purpose of the Paper** (Examining the Production of Contemporary Historiography) - The goal of this paper is to allow you to analyze how “historiography” is an ongoing process largely influenced by the news media. History is a subjectively generated product. History incorporates the biases and viewpoints of those who produce it. The news media today is a key source in providing us with “meaning” connected to newsworthy “historical” events. In fact, the news media is in fact a major part of the process that generates "history.” Although news media reporters and editors frequently claim that they are presenting “just the facts," the way in which these “facts” are presented often carry a number of biases that strongly influence public perception and interpretations of current events.

For this assignment, you are going to pick a specific, single international event and examine how this event is presented by different news media sources from around the globe. You are being asked to compare the articles you have selected for this assignment and discuss how the differing ways in which the event you have chosen actually reflects more than the "plain" facts, but rather reveals complex layers of social values, assumptions, biases, beliefs and meanings by each of your articles' authors.

**Selecting a Topic**

1) First, select a single international news event that has occurred in the past 60 days. Since the purpose of the paper is to address international issues, the event you select for this assignment must have occurred OUTSIDE of the United States (although the issue may INCLUDE the US as one of the agents involved). There are numerous current news issues to choose from, but for this project I strongly suggest that you choose an event of a political or social nature.

If you are struggling to find a topic for this paper, you may want to check out respected news sources online such a CNN, BBC, Al-Jazeera, etc. to get a sense of current news events that are relevant to this assignment.

2) Your topic should be a single, recent event, not an ongoing issue. For example, you might choose to discuss a recent, single action that took place in Egypt or Afghanistan or Syria or the Ukraine or the Central African Republic, but you may NOT choose the overall, ongoing violence in Afghanistan or Syria or the Ukraine or The Central African Republic, etc., as your topic. For example, you could choose a single recent protest, or meeting or act of violence that has recently occurred in Syria as your event for this paper, but you may not choose the ongoing civil war in Syria as your topic. A recent election (**outside** of the US), a newly approved law or act of legislation (**outside** of the US) an international meeting, the signing of a treaty or international agreement, a single act of violence, a recent missile test, a recent day of protest or a recent military action that took place on a single day. However, any paper that tries to address the entirety of the Syrian civil war, war refugees, peace in the Middle East, Aids in Africa, poverty in India, international human rights, human trafficking in Southeast Asia or drug trafficking in Mexico, etc. are all too broad for this assignment and are not appropriate topics for this class. You need to choose something much smaller - a single action or event that occurred on a specific day - as a topic for this assignment. For example, you could pick some relatively small, particular portion of an issue to focus on, such as a reaction to a controversial law that has just been passed, or a particular act of violence that recently occurred, or a recent meeting between heads of state or a recent foreign election, or a recent military intervention, etc. Also, please do not choose a sporting event, a natural disaster, a health crisis or an outbreak of disease for this assignment.

You may NOT write your paper about an event that occurred in the US, such as the recent Las

Vegas shootings, since this would be a domestic issue and you need to choose an international topic for this assignment.

**Selecting Articles**

3) You will need to have collected at least four newspaper articles on the SAME EVENT from DIFFERENT nations. You are only permitted to use one article from a US newspaper source and your other three article choices should be on the same event but each one must be selected from a DIFFERENT newspaper and from a DIFFERENT nation. In other words, each article you choose will come from a different nation’s newspaper, but all four articles must still be focused on the same event and should have been published within 48 hours of each other. This will enable you to distinguish how a particular event is presented differently in various newspapers from around the world. You may use online versions of newspaper articles. The articles may **not** be more than 60 days old when you submit your final paper. Please do not use op-ed pieces (articles from either the opinion or editorial section of a newspaper) for this assignment.You will need to submit hard copies of each of your newspaper articles when you submit your completed

assignment.

**Conclusion: Write a 2000 word Project Summary-Critique**

4) WRITE a 2000 minimum word (double spaced, medium size 10 –12 font, standard margins) in which you provide a summary and comparison of the different articles you have selected for this assignment. You will search for differing emphases and patterns between your articles, and you will consider the differing impact each individual article might make on its reader depending on how the issue is presented and handled by each author. You are to examine and critique the differing ways in which the issue is being presented in your articles.

Also, for this paper, you need to consider how the news reports of today become the “historiography” of tomorrow. This is an opportunity for you to think critically about how the news is presented to the reader in each newspaper. Do you have a sense that certain “facts” are being emphasized in one article while those same facts are dismissed or ignored or presented somewhat differently by the authors in some of your other selected articles? Do you have a sense that only one particular side of the issue is being presented in a particular article? If so, why do you think this is happening? In what ways has the event you have selected for this assignment been reported differently in each of your articles? (Keep in mind that these differences may be subtle). In what way might these differences influence the reader to draw a different conclusion about the event? A particular new article will often (though not always) tend to focus on only side of an issue. Which sides of the issue do you see being presented in your different articles? Why do you think this might this be happening? In what way might ethnocentric perspectives or national interests be influencing how the issue is being presented differently in each of your articles? Do you see any biases built into the way that the issue is being presented or reported by the authors of your articles?

Finally, what have you learned through this process? What have you come to understand about the production of "news" and the power of the news media over the reader by comparing these different articles?

**You must include a hard copy of all of your newspaper articles with your final paper. You must include a bibliography/reference page with your final paper. You must include a word count on your paper.**

Xinhua News (China):

The Communist Party of China (CPC) has rolled out the "Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era" and embarked on a journey to build a "great modern socialist country" as its 19th National Congress opened Wednesday.

Delivering a report at the opening session, Xi Jinping outlined a two-step approach to build China into a great modern socialist country after the completion of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects by 2020.

Hailing the historic achievements in reform, opening up, and socialist modernization in the past five years, Xi said socialism with Chinese characteristics has crossed the threshold into a new era. "This is a new historic juncture in China's development."

According to Xi's report, China will see that socialist modernization is basically realized from 2020 to 2035. From 2035 to the mid-21st century, China will be developed into a great modern socialist country that is prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious, and beautiful.

By then, China will become a global leader in terms of composite national strength and international influence. Common prosperity for everyone will be basically achieved, Xi told more than 2,300 delegates attending the country's most important political meeting in five years.

The two-step approach is an important component of the new Thought, a long-term guide to action that the Party must adhere to and develop.

The Thought builds on and further enriches Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory, the Theory of Three Represents, and the Scientific Outlook on Development. It represents the latest achievement in adapting Marxism to the Chinese context, Xi said.

Xi listed a 14-point basic policy that underpins the endeavors to uphold and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era.

The principal contradiction facing Chinese society has evolved to be that between unbalanced and inadequate development and the people's ever-growing needs for a better life, Xi said.

Now the needs to be met for the people to live a better life are increasingly broad. Not only have their material and cultural needs grown, their demands for democracy, rule of law, fairness and justice, security, and a better environment are increasing, Xi said.

The report draws up a roadmap of developing a modernized economy and socialist democracy, building stronger cultural confidence and improving the people's wellbeing.

"We must regard as our goal the people's aspirations to live a better life," Xi said.

The CPC is the highest force for political leadership, Xi said, stressing strict governance over the Party and improvement of the Party's ability to govern and lead.

Having gained overwhelming momentum in its fight against corruption, the Party is determined to secure a "sweeping victory" over "the greatest threat" to the Party.

The congress will deliberate and adopt an amendment to the CPC Constitution.

It will also elect the Party's 19th Central Committee and Central Commission for Discipline Inspection.

The congress, held in the gigantic Great Hall of the People in central Beijing, was presided over by Li Keqiang.

China has entered an era with the greatest composite national strength since the Opium War of 1840 which plunged China into the darkness of domestic turmoil and foreign aggression.

Established in 1921, the CPC founded the People's Republic of China in 1949 and started the reform and opening up from the late 1970s.

Over the past five years, China's GDP rose from 54 trillion to 80 trillion yuan (8.2 trillion to 12.1 trillion U.S. dollars), contributing more than 30 percent of global economic growth. More than 60 million people have been lifted out of poverty. China launched over 1,500 reform measures, establishing general frameworks for reform in major fields. The country is also building world-class armed forces.

The Chinese nation has stood up, grown rich, and become strong, and it now embraces the brilliant prospects of rejuvenation, Xi said. "Scientific socialism is full of vitality in 21st century China."

It also blazes a new trail for other developing countries to achieve modernization, and offers Chinese wisdom and a Chinese approach to solving the problems facing mankind, he said.

But China is still and will long remain in the primary stage of socialism. Its international status as the world's largest developing country has not changed, Xi said.

"Achieving national rejuvenation will be no walk in the park," Xi said. "It will take more than drum beating and gong clanging to get there."

Xi reaffirmed China's commitment to building a community with a shared future for mankind. "No matter what stage of development it reaches, China will never seek hegemony or engage in expansion."

Cape Argus (Cape Town, South Africa):

BEIJING: More than 50 African journalists attended the press briefing on the eve of the Communist Party of China's **19th**National Congress yesterday expecting to hear what the next five years would hold for China-Africa relations.

Party spokesperson Tuo Zhen was a well-rehearsed proxy of President Xi Jinping. Diplomatic and measured to a point, crafting his responses to criticism with precision and guile.

None of the brash antics of US President Donald Trump was evident as Tuo addressed the world's media.

It is one of the reasons The Economist describes President Xi as "the world's most powerful man" in its latest issue.

While President Trump is forthright in his approach to the media, the Chinese authorities quietly went about the stealthy blocking of social media platforms, like Google and its Gmail, WhatsApp, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram in the days leading up to the congress.

Hassan Moussa-Ali, a journalist from Chad's Le Progrés daily newspaper, said on the sidelines of the press briefing held at Beijing's Great Hall of the People: "What I'm expecting of the new political programme of China is what policy China will have in place for Africa.

"That is what I'm expecting after this congress because in most of the countries of Africa there are Chinese companies and Chinese people working there. But we are not really seeing the development yet. We know the position of China for the next five years is to develop Africa."

Brics, of which South Africa is a key member, is one of the key drivers of co-operation between China and the developing world.

About China's policy for developing economies as part of the **CPC**'s congress agenda, Tuo said yesterday: "We will continue to stick to the basic state policy of opening up, opening even wider to the outside world. To speed-up the dawning of the new open economy system to further expand market access to promote a new round of high quality of opening up, our goal is to achieve a win-win and a common development."

Today, the congress will open at 9am local time and will last for seven days until October 24.

The area around the Great Hall of the People was a ring of steel yesterday with a strong military and police presence.

At the briefing, Tuo was at pains to point out that the political report to be presented at the plenaries at the congress was informed by input from all stakeholders. The congress agenda will also focus on the **CPC**'s ongoing anti-corruption efforts and will ultimately ratify elected delegates to serve on the Party Central Committee.

Tuo said amendments to the party's constitution were also anticipated, as this was the mandate received in consultations for the political report.

Close to a thousand local and foreign journalists attended yesterday's press briefing and that number is likely to swell to 3 000 once the congress gets under way.

The attention is warranted: China is the world's second largest economy after the US and reportedly spent $350 billion in foreign aid and investment since President Xi came into power five years ago. This figure is second only to the US.

The congress will seek to enhance policy to boost China's trajectory on the global stage even further.

"The Chinese economy has entered a new normal… Between 2013 and 2016, the Chinese GDP expanded by 7.2% per year.

"At present, the Chinese economy is building a stronger momentum for steady progress and growth."

Hindu, The (Chennai, India)

Beijing,INTERNATIONAL

Communist Party to amend the Constitution at the Congress to incorporate concepts proposed by the President

Chinese President Xi Jinping’s status as a theoretician, in the same league as the country’s tallest leaders Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping, is likely to be debated during the **19th** Party Congress of the Communist Party of China (**CPC**) which begins its once-in-five-years session on Wednesday.

The Congress will review the work of its predecessor, and newly elected leadership will provide strategic direction for the future.

During a media conference on Tuesday at the Great Hall of the People, the spokesman for the Congress, Tuo Zhen, did not spell out whether an amendment by the outgoing Central Committee of the Party — technically the most powerful body when the Congress in not in session — had recommended that Mr. Xi’s doctrinal contributions be bracketed at par with the theories proposed by Mao and Deng.

“The **CPC** will amend its Constitution at the upcoming National Congress to represent new governance concepts, thoughts and strategies proposed by the **CPC** Central Committee with Xi Jinping at its core,” Mr. Tuo said.

Strategic thoughts

He added: “The amendment will include key theories and strategic thoughts presented by a report to be delivered at the Congress.”

Wednesday’s session is expected to begin with the presentation of a “work report” on the outgoing 18th Party Congress. It will be debated by the nearly-2,300 delegates participating in the Congress.

The **19th** Party Congress will also separately discuss the work report of the 18th Central Commission for Discipline and Inspection (CCDI) — the Party’s powerful anti-corruption wing. Besides, the delegates, through secret ballot will elect a new Central Committee.

In turn, the Central Committee will elect a 25-member Politburo, as well an apex seven-member Standing Committee of the Politburo.

Central leadership

The General Secretary of the **CPC**, the highest ranking official of the party — a position currently occupied by Mr. Xi — would be picked from the Politburo Standing Committee’s ranks.

“A new central leadership will be elected at the first plenary session of the **19th** Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (**CPC**), after the conclusion of the **19th** **CPC** National Congress,” Mr. Tuo observed.

Analysts say that Mr. Xi’s position as the Party General Secretary, the President as well the Chairman of the Central Military Commission stands confirmed. But there is considerable speculation regarding the remaining six members.

In the last few days, a view has been gaining ground that Wang Qishan, Mr. Xi’s top ally in the war against corruption, instead of retiring due to age, may assume a key leadership role in the new line-up.

Mr. Xi has been the architect of “four comprehensives”, which provide the theoretical foundation for achieving China’s two strategic goals. The first is to build a “moderately prosperous society” by 2021 — the centenary of the **CPC**.

Long-term goal

The second is to build an advanced socialist society by 2049 when the People’s Republic of China (PRC) completes 100 years of its formation.

Mr. Tuo underscored that the **19th** Party Congress is of “vital importance as it is being held when China is striving to clinch final victory in building a society of moderate prosperity in all respects and the development of socialism with Chinese characteristics had entered a crucial period”.

Mr. Xi is not the first Chinese leader to make a numerically elaborated doctrinal contribution for advancing Chinese society. Zhou Enlai, the first Prime Minister of the People’s Republic of China is credited for theorising on ‘four modernisations’ — a blueprint which was later elaborated by Deng Xiaoping.

Mr. Tuo said that the **19th** Party Congress would recognise theoretical contributions made by some of the previous leaders. He made a special reference to the theory of ‘Scientific Outlook on Development’, framed by former President Hu Jintao and ‘Three Represents’ by Jiang Zemin which, at the turn of the century, made a successful case for “opening up” the **CPC** to other members, including representatives of the business elite.

Targeted News Service (USA)

BEIJING, Oct. 18 -- International Data Corp., a provider of market intelligence and advisory services, issued the following news release:

On October 18th, 2017, the **19th** National Congress of the Communist Party of China (**CPC**) will convene in Beijing. During this week-long congress, **CPC** will introduce the next generation of China's top leadership team under General Secretary Xi Jinping's second five-year term (2017-2022).

The widely anticipated top leadership team line-up will not only assume the topmost positions in all key aspects of the **CPC**and government functions. They will also kick off the nation's recalibrated strategic direction and roadmap for the five to ten years ahead. Towards the end of their new five-year term that ends in 2022, they will have to showcase to the entire nation how the direction and roadmap followed, executed, and measured when **CPC** celebrates its 100th birthday on July 1st, 2021.

As Kitty Fok , IDC China Managing Director, has pointed out,

"China in its post **19th**-**CPC** era will witness a continuous and deeper application of the nation's five development concepts, which revolved around innovation, coordinated development, green development, opening up, and inclusive development, all of which formed the fundamental development and reform ideology in China's ongoing 13th Five Year Plan (2016-2020). The new era will also feature accelerated digital transformation (or DX) across the board to sustain China's economic growth. Technology vendors who offer products, services, and solutions, and business organizations in various industries who have to transform into digital-native enterprises through the use of digital and disruptive 3rd Platform technologies, will all have to prepare for a new set of opportunities and challenges."