

WEBVTT

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<v SPEAKER_1>Hello again, and welcome to Global Exchange, part of the Canadian Global Affairs Institute's podcast network.

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<v SPEAKER_1>I'm your host Colin Robertson.

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<v SPEAKER_1>On this episode, recorded on January 20th, we speak with CGAI fellows Stewart Beck, Ted Lipman, Hugh Stephens and Vina Nadjibulla about Prime Minister Carney's recent visit to China and its implications for our relationship with China, the Indo-Pacific and Canadian foreign policy.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Stewart Beck is the former president and CEO of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada.

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<v SPEAKER_1>His diplomatic career included appointments as Canada's High Commissioner to India, Consul General to Shanghai and San Francisco.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Ted Lipman is also a career Foreign Service Officer with assignments in Beijing, Consul General in Shanghai and as our Ambassador to Korea.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Hugh Stephens served at Canadian missions in Hong Kong, Beijing, Islamabad and Seoul and is head of mission in Taipei.

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<v SPEAKER_1>He was Senior Vice President, Public Policy, Asia Pacific for Time Warner for a decade based in Hong Kong.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Vina Nadjibulla is Vice President, Research and Strategy at the Asia Pacific Foundation with extensive experience living and working in the Indo-Pacific.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Her piece in Policy Magazine, What Carney's China trip really signaled, is a necessary read.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Vina is also a Policy Contributor to Policy Magazine.

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<v SPEAKER_1>For listeners, Prime Minister Carney led a delegation, including several of his ministers, and Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe to Beijing, meeting with senior Chinese officials, including President Xi Jinping.

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<v SPEAKER_1>The two leaders announced a new Canada-China strategic partnership, comprised of five pillars, energy, economic and trade cooperation, public safety and security, multilateralism and culture, and people-to-people ties.

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<v SPEAKER_1>The leaders agreed that these are areas where Canada and China can work together constructively to create more stability, security and prosperity for their peoples.

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<v SPEAKER_1>In particular, they acknowledged the strategic opportunities and energy, both conventional and clean, to drive the low-carbon economy, increase energy security and create high-paying jobs.

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<v SPEAKER_1>In practical terms, this means a measured retreat on electric vehicle tariffs in return for renewed access for Canadian agriculture sector to the Chinese market.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Chinese EVs will be allowed into Canada under a gradually rising quota ceiling.

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<v SPEAKER_1>It's all part of a broader understanding aimed at increasing Canadian exports to China by 50% by 2030.

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<v SPEAKER_1>And that push is part of the trade rebalancing that the Carney government is seeking to achieve as it looks to double non-U.S.

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<v SPEAKER_1>exports in the coming decades.

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<v SPEAKER_1>So let's get started.

00:03:13.120 --> 00:03:19.940

<v SPEAKER_1>And I want to begin with your assessment of what this means for of what the deals mean.

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<v SPEAKER_1>So, Stewart, why don't you lead on this?

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<v SPEAKER_2>Yeah, thanks, Colin.

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<v SPEAKER_2>And it's great to see everybody on the screen here.

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<v SPEAKER_2>And for those who can't see us, I think really it's the beginning of a new chapter.

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<v SPEAKER_2>I mean, quite frankly, it's I don't like using the term reset necessarily.

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<v SPEAKER_2>We had a great relationship going in the past.

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<v SPEAKER_2>And, of course, we had some problems in the last five years.

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<v SPEAKER_2>So I think it's just a reflection of the reality, the global reality, global geopolitical reality of what's going on.

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<v SPEAKER_2>And the fact that he has looked at ways that we can work together on key issues such as agriculture, which we've always had a good relationship.

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<v SPEAKER_2>When I said we've always had a good relationship, let's face it, our relationship on agriculture started back in the, the Diefenbaker days, and we dealt with China on that issue.

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<v SPEAKER_2>But agriculture is fundamental, I mean, food security is key for China, and being able to maintain some sort of relationship in that space, I think is very important.

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<v SPEAKER_2>The EV thing is, again, understanding what China has to offer.

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<v SPEAKER_2>And let's face it, up until, you know, 2023, we were importing Chinese EVs.

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<v SPEAKER_2>They were Chinese EVs, you know, they were manufactured in Shanghai, but they were Teslas, still Chinese EVs.

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<v SPEAKER_2>So, you know, we're basically going back to where we were in 2023.

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<v SPEAKER_2>But I'm hoping, and this didn't come out necessarily in the conversations, you know, the reporting from Beijing, but my hope is that we have some sort of structure around investments from the Chinese EV sector into Canada, and creating a supply chain, and creating a dealer network, and creating a service network, so that ultimately we have, you know, we can replace some of the last employment that we've had as a result of, you know, Trump's desire to have the assembly business, essentially the US assemblers in Canada, move back to the United States.

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<v SPEAKER_2>So it's a way to move into diversification, and I think it's one that makes sense, and he used the word guardrails, and guardrails are important, and I'm sure all of us will have some thoughts about that.

00:05:29.280 --> 00:05:32.020

<v SPEAKER_2>So I'll just leave it there, Colin, and let others have something to say.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Thanks, Stewart.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Ted, if not a return to the status quo ante, at least a return to more normal relations?

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<v SPEAKER_3>Yeah, I think so, but if you're going to look at the success of the mission or not, which is part of your question, I think the metric that should be used is, and I don't want to avoid the use of the word resetting, but it's the resetting of the relationship.

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<v SPEAKER_3>Whether that relationship is what it was before, it'll never be what it was before.

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<v SPEAKER_3>That time has gone.

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<v SPEAKER_3>The clear-eyed approach that he has taken in this seems to be a bit more cautious and a little less promotional.

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<v SPEAKER_3>I have been involved in many of these visits before, and people went into them with a sense of elation.

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<v SPEAKER_3>I think this time, there's more of a sense of reality in terms of how the world has changed since the last time a prime minister was there.

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<v SPEAKER_3>If Carney was doing his job, and I think he is doing his job, he's approaching the Chinese as they are rather than as he'd like them to be, and that time has gone, and I don't think it will be returning in the near future.

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<v SPEAKER_1>So Hugh, to pick up on Ted's comment, as Melanie Jolie said, they went in clear-eyed and as Ted said, they're looking at China as it is, not as they would wish it would to be.

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<v SPEAKER_3>Again, less promotional, more cautious, letting people know that there are opportunities, but there are risks related to those opportunities.

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<v SPEAKER_3>I think he's got the balance right.

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<v SPEAKER_3>I'm not sure the balance has been right for a long time.

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<v SPEAKER_3>It's really a matter of maintaining a balance.

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<v SPEAKER_3>We have a very diverse population with very complex interests in Canada.

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<v SPEAKER_3>You know, we were a colony.

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<v SPEAKER_3>We weren't like our competitors, colonialist powers.

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<v SPEAKER_3>And so how we deal with these issues are going to be

different.

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<v SPEAKER_3>But I think that he has taken up the mantle of trying to get things moving again, because really non-engagement is, it's not an option.

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<v SPEAKER_3>We have to do something.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Hugh, risks, opportunities?

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<v SPEAKER_4>Well, indeed, you know, Stewart talked about a new chapter.

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<v SPEAKER_4>You know, you could argue about the terminology reset and so on, but it's a very important first step.

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<v SPEAKER_4>I think, stress that it is a first step.

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<v SPEAKER_4>Of course, there are some concrete deliverables.

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<v SPEAKER_4>And frankly, they're a little bit more concrete than I had expected.

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<v SPEAKER_4>I didn't really think that they would be able to get somewhere on EVs at this stage.

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<v SPEAKER_4>But there's an awful lot that is left for follow up.

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<v SPEAKER_4>And that's part of the new chapter, the first and second steps.

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<v SPEAKER_4>I mean, whether you look at the expectations of what will happen in terms of EV investment or the expectations that tariffs will be lowered beyond the end of this year on canola meal and pork and lobster and so forth, there's a lot of work to be done.

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<v SPEAKER_4>There's a Joint Economic Trade Commission that's been

reactivated.

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<v SPEAKER_4>There are all these memoranda that have been signed on cultural exchange and public security and so forth.

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<v SPEAKER_4>But one thing I want to touch on, which hasn't been mentioned so far, are the multilateral side of this.

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<v SPEAKER_4>The multilateral resets.

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<v SPEAKER_4>Of course, there was a lot on bilateral engagement, trade, tourism, all those kinds of things.

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<v SPEAKER_4>But echoing Carney's speech that he just delivered in Davos, there was a clear reference to the multilateral framework.

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<v SPEAKER_4>It wasn't overtly anti-US, although the US wasn't mentioned even as it wasn't in Davos, but the message was clear.

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<v SPEAKER_4>I think that was very important in terms of reaching out, arguing that we need to strengthen the world's base order because of what the world is rather than what we would like it to be.

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<v SPEAKER_4>And the other thing that he was able to skirt, I think, was the devil of the national security issue.

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<v SPEAKER_4>I mean, Taiwan wasn't mentioned, the South China Sea wasn't mentioned, Hong Kong wasn't mentioned.

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<v SPEAKER_4>There's very little on national security, although there was a statement about senior officials getting together, but then security was talked about in terms of bilateral cooperation on narcotics and cybercrime and so forth.

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<v SPEAKER_4>So I think in terms of the timing, the concrete outcomes, the future work and the messaging, that this visit truly does get an A.

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<v SPEAKER_1>I thought even just seeing the pictures, there looked to be a degree of comfort in as much as I always think, Xi Jinping is a pretty stalling individual, but he appeared certainly in comparison to some of the shots of he and Mr.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Trudeau at previous summits.

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<v SPEAKER_4>Well, I guess chemistry is important and obviously we can only judge and guess, but it does appear that there was a greater degree of mutual respect.

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<v SPEAKER_4>Let's put it that way than there has been in the past.

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<v SPEAKER_1>That's probably a good way to put it, mutual respect.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Vina, you wrote a very good piece and we're going to link to it in our program notes.

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<v SPEAKER_1>You have given a very thorough assessment.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Can you give listeners a summary of what you said?

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<v SPEAKER_5>Sure.

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<v SPEAKER_5>Thank you so much, Colin.

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<v SPEAKER_5>Good to be on this podcast with so many distinguished colleagues.

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<v SPEAKER_5>Thanks for the shout out for the Policy Magazine piece.

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<v SPEAKER_5>I wrote it pretty quickly on the weekend after the visit, trying to situate the consequential trip that Prime Minister Carney took to Beijing and his broader efforts to, in my language, rewire Canada's foreign policy and Canada's approach to its international relations more broadly.

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<v SPEAKER_5>That was an attempt piecing together the various statements that the Prime Minister has been making over the last six to nine months around selective engagement, variable geometry of engagement.

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<v SPEAKER_5>And of course, since then, just a few hours ago, he kind of delivered his masterpiece of a foreign policy speech at Davos, where I think he very clearly outlines how he believes the world has changed, that this is a rupture, not a transition, how our relationship with the US has fundamentally altered, and all the assumptions that were underpinning Canadian foreign policy in terms of alliances, rules-based order, sort of benign economic interdependence and integration, most importantly with the US, but also as part of globalization more generally, that that era has come to an end and something new is emerging, and that countries like Canada that are neither the US nor China, not superpowers, need to seek more independence, more strategic autonomy, more agency, and start to engage in kinds of constructive relationships, more pragmatic, interest-based relationships with countries with whom before they may not have because of non-alignment of values, right?

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<v SPEAKER_5>He sort of said that the era of values-based foreign policy is coming to an end, and we now need to have principled pragmatism.

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<v SPEAKER_5>And I see this new chapter, and I do believe this is a new chapter in the relationship with China as part of that broader rewiring of the Canadian foreign policy, and it's not a reset, and the Prime Minister was very clear about that.

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<v SPEAKER_5>We can't go back to the pre-2018 world, because the world is not the same, China is not the same, our relationship with the US is not the same.

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<v SPEAKER_5>So it is something new.

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<v SPEAKER_5>It's a recalibration around a new strategic partnership, which has these five pillars, much of which still needs to be articulated.

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<v SPEAKER_5>But these pillars don't include things like AI, they don't include things like intelligence sharing, like defence cooperation.

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<v SPEAKER_5>They don't include a lot of the sensitive sectors, which are part of the guardrails.

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<v SPEAKER_5>And we can talk about where the guardrails will be and how these five pillars of this new strategic partnership with China will be operationalized.

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<v SPEAKER_5>I think there's a lot of detail to be worked out.

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<v SPEAKER_5>They did signal a number of machinery of engagement, so that condormant is all being restarted.

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<v SPEAKER_5>And I think that's a good thing.

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<v SPEAKER_5>So all of these more sensitive issues can also be hashed out.

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<v SPEAKER_5>But on the provisional agreement, and I think we need to be careful not to say that we have a deal on EVs and canola.

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<v SPEAKER_5>We have a preliminary provisional agreement that spells out Canada's expectations of what can happen by March 1st from the Chinese side in terms of the EVs and the potential investment.

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<v SPEAKER_5>And I think what's interesting there, Colin, would be to see the auto strategy that Minister Zhou Li said will be coming out in February, right?

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<v SPEAKER_5>That Canada is developing a new strategy for its auto sector with a focus on building here in Canada.

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<v SPEAKER_5>And that as part of that, we're going to be attracting investments including from China, but continue to do stuff with South Korea, Germany, and Japan.

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<v SPEAKER_5>So I think there's a lot of stuff to still work out around that.

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<v SPEAKER_5>And we need to learn the lessons from Europe, Brazil, and other jurisdictions that are trying to attract Chinese investment to build in their countries to build EVs, particularly in their countries, to see how that's worked out.

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<v SPEAKER_5>But I think on balance, I agree with my colleagues that this was a consequential trip.

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<v SPEAKER_5>They worked hard till the very last minute, including on this provisional agreement on EVs.

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<v SPEAKER_5>And we have to give them credit for creativity around the EVs can all issue using quotas, price floors, as a way to find a path forward, but also to recognize that there's a lot of works to be done.

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<v SPEAKER_5>And many more questions to answer.

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<v SPEAKER_5>And while I'm thrilled that the Prime Minister gave a speech in Davos, I feel like there's a lot of conversation that needs to happen here with Canadians about all of these changes and the profound shifts to our foreign policy and our engagements.

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<v SPEAKER_1>I think that's a very good point about the need for conversations on foreign policy.

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<v SPEAKER_1>And I think your other point about the devil's in the detail.

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<v SPEAKER_1>And we take these things just as done, but they're not.

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<v SPEAKER_1>And well, Hugh, you might want to comment, Stewart, on negotiating with the Chinese and Ted.

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<v SPEAKER_1>It's never over till it's over.

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<v SPEAKER_1>And even then, my experience, the Chinese often regard a deal as just a starting point for the next set of negotiations.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Is that a fair comment?

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<v SPEAKER_1>Hugh, why don't you lead?

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<v SPEAKER_4>It is indeed.

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<v SPEAKER_4>And I notice in this provisional agreement, as Vina has pointed out, there's a lot of very cautious wording, again, about expectations.

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<v SPEAKER_4>And in terms of the tariff relief, it's actually only until the end of this year, at least until the end of this year.

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<v SPEAKER_4>So clearly, there's a lot of wiggle room.

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<v SPEAKER_4>There's a lot of things that need to be nailed down there.

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<v SPEAKER_4>What's important, though, is the willingness of both sides to engage on this and to even put in writing some of these quasi commitments.

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<v SPEAKER_4>I mean, there's apparently going to be visa-free travel for Canadians to China, for example.

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<v SPEAKER_4>There's a whole gamut of things that are there that need to be worked on.

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<v SPEAKER_4>But of course, any of these visits, as we all know, it doesn't come fully baked.

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<v SPEAKER_4>But you don't have the visit unless there's definitely something in the oven.

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<v SPEAKER_4>And now we've been given a taste of it, a smell of the baking.

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<v SPEAKER_4>And now we have to wait to see what the rest of the menu is going to be.

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<v SPEAKER_5>Colin, just on that point, please go ahead, Vina.

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<v SPEAKER_5>Just to add to what Hugh said.

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<v SPEAKER_5>So the joint statement from the two leaders that spells out the new strategic partnership exists both in Mandarin and in English, and it's in fact a joint statement.

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<v SPEAKER_5>The provisional agreement, it's only a Canadian document.

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<v SPEAKER_5>There's been nothing said in that way in writing from the Chinese side on this agreement.

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<v SPEAKER_5>So I think we do need to be careful in terms of the language of that particular provisional preliminary agreement.

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<v SPEAKER_5>It's Canada's government's expectations and understanding of that agreement, but it hasn't been confirmed in writing on the Chinese side.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Jennifer May and her team have their work cut out for them.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Ted, any advice on endgame negotiation when you're sitting down with the Chinese?

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<v SPEAKER_3>Well, I think you said it.

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<v SPEAKER_3>It's never over till it's over.

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<v SPEAKER_3>In fact, it's never over.

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<v SPEAKER_3>And I think we have gone into this recognizing that fact based on our unfortunately on our more recent experience as well as the experience that I've had over many years.

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<v SPEAKER_3>I think the fact that they have engaged, that they have so many meetings, that they have come up with some preliminary agreements is in itself a very important thing.

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<v SPEAKER_3>It means that we're talking about the subjects that are important to us and to the Chinese, and we might not see eye to eye with them on all of these, but the fact is that we're doing or we appear to be doing something about it.

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<v SPEAKER_3>Engagement, there is no other option.

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<v SPEAKER_3>Clear-eyed engagement, knowing the risks is a lot better than what we've had in the past, and I think that is the key here.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Stewart, does this deal with China set the stage for one with India?

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<v SPEAKER_1>And what insights might you have on what that might look like?

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<v SPEAKER_1>Because as you've been telling me for many years, we've been negotiating for what, almost 20 years now with India, to try and get some kind of closer economic cooperation?

00:19:45.480 --> 00:19:54.880

<v SPEAKER_2>Well, it started in 2010 when I was in Delhi, and that was the first meeting on what was then called the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement.

00:19:54.880 --> 00:19:59.460

<v SPEAKER_2>By the time I left, I think we'd already gone through 15 rounds, and I forget what it's at now.

00:19:59.460 --> 00:20:03.100

<v SPEAKER_2>So it's, I think, 23 or 24.

00:20:03.780 --> 00:20:04.720

<v SPEAKER_2>I've kind of lost track.

00:20:04.720 --> 00:20:09.860

<v SPEAKER_2>Then we went from Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement to an early progress trade agreement.

00:20:09.860 --> 00:20:16.740

<v SPEAKER_2>I mean, there's different ways of describing it, and if it's difficult dealing with the Chinese, it's difficult plus one dealing with the Indians in many ways.

00:20:17.360 --> 00:20:22.160

<v SPEAKER_2>So I wouldn't compare the two, Colin, in that context.

00:20:22.160 --> 00:20:42.700

<v SPEAKER_2>I think there is a desire now on the Indian side, and certainly in my last conversations not too long ago, there was an even desire to wrap a FIPA arrangement into an agreement, which, you know, for those of the Foreign Investment Protection Agreement, which would be quite important given the amount of money that we now have invested in India through the pension plans and other organizations.

00:20:42.700 --> 00:20:45.260

<v SPEAKER_2>So I wouldn't quite say that it's the same.

00:20:46.620 --> 00:20:51.540

<v SPEAKER_2>And one of the things I would, my one comment I would have on the China situation.

00:20:51.540 --> 00:20:59.000

<v SPEAKER_2>So I was there in 2017 when we were trying to go through a trade agreement, you know, negotiating a trade agreement with the Chinese at the time.

00:20:59.000 --> 00:21:04.120

<v SPEAKER_2>And we were bringing a values dimension, a comprehensive and progressive into an agreement with the Chinese.

00:21:04.120 --> 00:21:05.360

<v SPEAKER_2>And of course, that didn't fly.

00:21:05.360 --> 00:21:10.420

<v SPEAKER_2>I mean, at the end of the day, it didn't even get off the ground, quite frankly.

00:21:10.420 --> 00:21:16.940

<v SPEAKER_2>But there's a difference between 2017 and China at that time, and 2026, China today.

00:21:16.940 --> 00:21:21.460

<v SPEAKER_2>And there's an evolution, I think, in some ways, which...

00:21:21.460 --> 00:21:23.660

<v SPEAKER_2>I mean, there's no guarantee that you're going to come up with a deal.

00:21:23.660 --> 00:21:29.720

<v SPEAKER_2>I think everybody's right in the sense that, you know, it's a long protracted process and no deal is a deal.

00:21:29.720 --> 00:21:38.980

<v SPEAKER_2>But the Chinese are looking at the world quite a bit differently than certainly I was there in the early 2000s, you know, Ted, you know, everybody's here on this, in this conversation.

00:21:39.980 --> 00:21:43.020

<v SPEAKER_2>We've all had lots of experience dealing with China.

00:21:43.020 --> 00:21:55.580

<v SPEAKER_2>So again, I can't say, having not been there in the last few years, you know, where they are, but looking at seeing at the world and how they've been dealing with the world in the last five years, it's quite a bit more mature in some ways, okay?

00:21:55.580 --> 00:22:05.520

<v SPEAKER_2>And that, I think, could work to our benefit at the end of the day by being able to demonstrate an ability to come up with agreements that would have some substance to them.

00:22:05.520 --> 00:22:06.960

<v SPEAKER_2>And that is what I'm hoping.

00:22:06.960 --> 00:22:07.940

<v SPEAKER_2>And I think Vina is right.

00:22:07.940 --> 00:22:17.920

<v SPEAKER_2>I mean, nothing is cast in stone right now, but in some ways that might be good because it allows us the flexibility to do things which will be important for us.

00:22:17.920 --> 00:22:25.440

<v SPEAKER_2>I mean, quite frankly, you and I did that paper back in April last year, Colin, on sort of the next stage of the Indo-Pacific strategy.

00:22:25.440 --> 00:22:27.980

<v SPEAKER_2>And we talked about variable geometry.

00:22:27.980 --> 00:22:29.520

<v SPEAKER_2>We talked about strategic autonomy.

00:22:30.900 --> 00:22:36.200

<v SPEAKER_2>These are issues going into Asia in general.

00:22:36.200 --> 00:22:41.500

<v SPEAKER_2>But I think globally, it came out of the speech today, is what are our interests and how do we pursue our interests?

00:22:41.500 --> 00:22:47.280

<v SPEAKER_2>And I think that came very clear in the Carney visit to China, in his speech at Davos.

00:22:47.280 --> 00:22:50.480

<v SPEAKER_2>I think fundamentally, I think all of us would take great.

00:22:50.480 --> 00:23:02.480

<v SPEAKER_2>We're finally saying what is in our interest and how do we pursue that, understanding that we need some guardrails in the context of dealing with the big powers like China and United States.

00:23:02.480 --> 00:23:03.640

<v SPEAKER_2>We haven't heard much about Russia.

00:23:03.640 --> 00:23:09.220

<v SPEAKER_2>We don't talk about it that much, but certainly China and United States, we need to have our guardrails and we need to pursue our interests.

00:23:09.220 --> 00:23:18.380

<v SPEAKER_2>I think that is really a good foundation for the possibility of a negotiation that will work for both sides.

00:23:18.380 --> 00:23:22.680

<v SPEAKER_1>Hugh, Stewart raises the whole Indo-Pacific strategy.

00:23:22.680 --> 00:23:34.560

<v SPEAKER_1>We did a conversation that involved you last year, because you had done a very good paper, I think, for the School of Public Policy at the University of Calgary, on the Indo-Pacific strategy.

00:23:34.560 --> 00:23:44.460

<v SPEAKER_1>Do we have to now with the new government, and given where they're coming from, Stewart says the interests side of things are very much forefront.

00:23:44.460 --> 00:23:48.900

<v SPEAKER_1>Do we need a new, substantially revised Indo-Pacific strategy?

00:23:48.900 --> 00:23:49.840

<v SPEAKER_4>Well, for sure.

00:23:51.400 --> 00:23:56.500

<v SPEAKER_4>It's going on five years already, and it was written and conceived a couple of years before that.

00:23:56.500 --> 00:24:02.480

<v SPEAKER_4>So even without this most recent visit, it would need to be revisited to some extent.

00:24:02.480 --> 00:24:06.360

<v SPEAKER_4>But looking back at that strategy, remember that it almost had two parts.

00:24:06.360 --> 00:24:10.700

<v SPEAKER_4>One was to deal with our so-called China problem, to contain China.

00:24:10.700 --> 00:24:14.240

<v SPEAKER_4>You know, China was described as the increasingly disruptive power and so on.

00:24:14.240 --> 00:24:16.200

<v SPEAKER_4>And so therefore, what were we going to do?

00:24:16.200 --> 00:24:25.000

<v SPEAKER_4>We were going to enhance our presence and bring about a greater agility and commitment to the rest of Asia Pacific.

00:24:25.000 --> 00:24:28.740

<v SPEAKER_4>ASEAN, kind of three pillars, ASEAN, Japan, Korea, and India.

00:24:28.740 --> 00:24:32.020

<v SPEAKER_4>We know the Indian one hasn't worked out terribly well.

00:24:32.020 --> 00:24:34.340

<v SPEAKER_4>But hope, you know, there's hope for it to move forward.

00:24:34.340 --> 00:24:39.560

<v SPEAKER_4>But on ASEAN, and I think you could argue in Japan and Korea, things have been built.

00:24:39.560 --> 00:24:43.140

<v SPEAKER_4>It's been very slow to roll out.

00:24:43.140 --> 00:24:48.440

<v SPEAKER_4>To get the money flowing is probably inevitable given, given, you know, the way government operates and so forth.

00:24:48.440 --> 00:24:49.160
<v SPEAKER_4>But it is moving.

00:24:49.520 --> 00:24:54.660
<v SPEAKER_4>And so I know some people have called for, well, let's have a complete rethink of the Indo-Pacific strategy.

00:24:54.660 --> 00:24:58.500
<v SPEAKER_4>And I think we have to look at both the China component and the rest of it.

00:24:58.500 --> 00:25:02.340
<v SPEAKER_4>And I don't think there's any doubt that the China component needs to be rethought.

00:25:02.340 --> 00:25:10.200
<v SPEAKER_4>I mean, basically, what we need to do is bring China into the Indo-Pacific strategy without throwing out the rest of it, because there has been some good work done.

00:25:10.200 --> 00:25:13.280
<v SPEAKER_4>It needs to move into a more implementation phase.

00:25:13.280 --> 00:25:21.100
<v SPEAKER_4>The physical presence has been rolled out through a lot of the work that Vina and others have done, the very successful Kayak Conference and so forth.

00:25:21.100 --> 00:25:24.980
<v SPEAKER_4>That needs to continue, maybe be re-calibrated somewhat.

00:25:24.980 --> 00:25:39.140
<v SPEAKER_4>And then we've got to find ways of bringing China in, because the premise that we're going to have this Indo-Pacific strategy and all the rest of Indo-Pacific is kind of with us in worrying about this disruptive power of China, of course, was a bit of a false premise.

00:25:39.140 --> 00:25:40.960
<v SPEAKER_4>A lot of those countries didn't want to have to pick.

00:25:40.960 --> 00:25:50.360
<v SPEAKER_4>And while they were happy to welcome Canada's presence back into the region, they didn't see themselves lining up with us to deal with our China problem.

00:25:50.360 --> 00:25:54.680
<v SPEAKER_4>Now, there's a different dimension to our relations with China.

00:25:54.680 --> 00:26:08.880

<v SPEAKER_4>And even in terms of funding envelopes and so forth, I'm not sure how much flexibility there is, but I think some funding is going to have to be reallocated to these new programs, these people-to-people cultural programs and so forth, that we have just revalidated with China.

00:26:08.880 --> 00:26:10.880

<v SPEAKER_4>There's got to be some substance behind that.

00:26:10.880 --> 00:26:21.580

<v SPEAKER_4>So hopefully, as part of a rethink, China will play a more central role rather than in effect a negative role as it was in IPS 1.0.

00:26:21.580 --> 00:26:24.660

<v SPEAKER_1>Ted, Hugh talks about the people-to-people side of things.

00:26:24.660 --> 00:26:30.620

<v SPEAKER_1>That's an area you've spent a lot of time in, and especially with China in recent years.

00:26:30.620 --> 00:26:38.000

<v SPEAKER_1>The people-to-people aspect, and Hugh also talked about kayak, which Asia Pacific Foundation and others.

00:26:38.480 --> 00:26:45.920

<v SPEAKER_1>Is that going to be the route for us going forward because of our people-to-people ties thanks to students and immigration, and travel?

00:26:46.120 --> 00:26:47.480

<v SPEAKER_3>I don't think so.

00:26:47.480 --> 00:26:51.680

<v SPEAKER_3>I think it's important, very important to have people-to-people ties.

00:26:51.680 --> 00:27:04.280

<v SPEAKER_3>Particularly, those ties are relevant when things are not going too well between us, because they become even more important in that they bind us together in other ways.

00:27:04.280 --> 00:27:11.440

<v SPEAKER_3>But I think what we're talking about for this visit is on a change of government policy.

00:27:11.720 --> 00:27:23.860

<v SPEAKER_3>And as has been said by some of my colleagues in this

discussion, it's not just policy relating to China, but it's a multilateral policy that is seen in a broader context.

00:27:23.860 --> 00:27:34.020

<v SPEAKER_3>And with that in mind, you know, our approach to China has to be more constrained and more realistic.

00:27:34.020 --> 00:27:36.980

<v SPEAKER_3>And I think that is what is happening at this point in time.

00:27:36.980 --> 00:27:39.880

<v SPEAKER_3>We, of course, we're not going to go back to where we were before.

00:27:40.040 --> 00:27:43.740

<v SPEAKER_3>So maybe resetting is not the correct word to use.

00:27:43.740 --> 00:27:57.840

<v SPEAKER_3>But we do need to look at ourselves first to realize that what we want from the relationship and what the Chinese want from the relationship may be quite different.

00:27:57.840 --> 00:28:05.020

<v SPEAKER_3>So focusing on those areas where we might mutually benefit makes a lot of sense.

00:28:05.020 --> 00:28:15.500

<v SPEAKER_3>But to answer your question again, I don't think that the people-to-people ties are as important as they are cracked up to be by politicians on both sides of the Pacific.

00:28:16.720 --> 00:28:19.760

<v SPEAKER_1>Interesting.

00:28:19.760 --> 00:28:21.140

<v SPEAKER_1>Stewart.

00:28:21.140 --> 00:28:23.260

<v SPEAKER_5>Can I come in on the Indo-Pacific question, Colin?

00:28:23.760 --> 00:28:24.420

<v SPEAKER_5>Sorry.

00:28:24.420 --> 00:28:28.440

<v SPEAKER_5>Just because I do feel like it's my day job and it's something that we are working on.

00:28:28.440 --> 00:28:29.600

<v SPEAKER_1>It is your day job, so we're interested.

00:28:29.600 --> 00:28:31.740
<v SPEAKER_5>Please, go ahead.

00:28:31.740 --> 00:28:36.520
<v SPEAKER_5>We've been working on the Indo-Pacific strategy implementation for the last two and a half years.

00:28:37.540 --> 00:28:51.460
<v SPEAKER_5>I think it's in the process of being revised anyways, because it had a five-year horizon and it needs to be revised as part of our overall foreign policy because you can't just have a regional approach to engaging the world.

00:28:51.460 --> 00:28:54.700
<v SPEAKER_5>We do need an overall articulation of a Canadian foreign policy.

00:28:54.700 --> 00:28:56.580
<v SPEAKER_5>We also need a national security strategy.

00:28:56.580 --> 00:29:03.320
<v SPEAKER_5>All of that is in the work and the Indo-Pacific is being re-imagined, if you will, the strategy is part of that.

00:29:04.180 --> 00:29:11.480
<v SPEAKER_5>I think it's absolutely true that the way that India and China has been treated in the document does need to be revisited.

00:29:11.480 --> 00:29:16.500
<v SPEAKER_5>And I think the India chapter was already not fit for purpose even when it came out.

00:29:16.500 --> 00:29:19.120
<v SPEAKER_5>And certainly now it needs to be different.

00:29:19.440 --> 00:29:39.320
<v SPEAKER_5>In terms of the assumptions that were underpinning that particular document, it's true that it was very much aligned with the Biden administration, with Europe, Japan, Australia and others around a de-risking language, not containing China but rather constraining China, I would say, and the balancing that needed to happen in the region.

00:29:39.320 --> 00:29:52.060
<v SPEAKER_5>And now with the US not playing that game anymore, if you will, and not being reliable, obviously we need to have a different approach to both engage in constructively with China but still being able to manage risk.

00:29:52.060 --> 00:29:56.280

<v SPEAKER_5>I don't think de-risking is the framework for Prime Minister Carney, it's more manage risk.

00:29:56.400 --> 00:30:24.520

<v SPEAKER_5>And even if you listen to his speech today from Davos, there's still a very special role for non-US, non-China, middle powers, especially those who follow some sort of rules based order or rules based trade or those who are also liberal democracies in Europe and Japan, Korea, Australia and others to work together through these coalitions of around interest and around values to be able to manage them, their relationship with both of these superpowers.

00:30:24.520 --> 00:30:38.280

<v SPEAKER_5>In fact, he actually used that language that when we negotiate alone with the superpowers, with the hegemons, I think is the language he used, we are weaker and we're not able to get as good a deals as when we work collectively.

00:30:38.280 --> 00:30:53.220

<v SPEAKER_5>So I think we will see an emphasis on doing things plurilaterally with European as well as Asian democracies and countries like Singapore and others who are very invested in rules-based order, rules-based trade.

00:30:53.220 --> 00:30:59.920

<v SPEAKER_5>He's specifically speaking about things like CPTPP and EU bridging and Canada playing that champion role.

00:30:59.920 --> 00:31:07.100

<v SPEAKER_5>He's talking about deepening relations with countries like Japan, Australia, and rebuilding relationships with India.

00:31:07.100 --> 00:31:11.700

<v SPEAKER_5>I think all of that is the Indo-Pacific strategy in action.

00:31:11.700 --> 00:31:13.600

<v SPEAKER_5>I think there will be different language around it.

00:31:13.600 --> 00:31:23.920

<v SPEAKER_5>I think we'll see reprioritization, but a lot of the good work that has been put in place, especially with ASEAN, Japan, Korea, Australia, needs to be built on.

00:31:23.920 --> 00:31:26.860

<v SPEAKER_5>It can just sort of be forgotten and swept aside.

00:31:26.860 --> 00:31:44.000

<v SPEAKER_5>I think we also need to now engage with China through

this new framing that the Prime Minister has outlined, where we cooperate, where interests align, and that's energy, agriculture, and some parts of the multilateral system in terms of discussions around climate change and so forth.

00:31:44.600 --> 00:32:01.220

<v SPEAKER_5>On public safety, it's counter-narcotics, talking about things like essentially mostly transnational crime issues, while still obviously all the issues that we care about, foreign interference, transnational repression, that will be dealt with here in Canada.

00:32:01.220 --> 00:32:05.900

<v SPEAKER_5>It's not something that necessarily will be dealt with through those coordination mechanisms with China.

00:32:05.900 --> 00:32:22.940

<v SPEAKER_5>I think my point is that we are seeing a moment where a lot of these documents that were in place, the Indo-Pacific Strategy, the Arctic foreign policy document, all of that needs to be revisited and put under an overall foreign policy approach that the Carney government is working on.

00:32:23.660 --> 00:32:36.600

<v SPEAKER_5>The word of caution would be not to abandon the things that are working now and have been put in place in the Indo-Pacific region with ASEAN and with others, South Korea, Japan foremost.

00:32:36.600 --> 00:32:41.580

<v SPEAKER_5>As we are shifting our approach to China, we also need to communicate with those countries.

00:32:41.700 --> 00:32:52.080

<v SPEAKER_5>I think Japan particularly would need to be reassured and there needs to be a lot more engagement with Tokyo as we are recalibrating our relationship with China.

00:32:54.180 --> 00:32:57.600

<v SPEAKER_6>Hi, I'm Dave Perry, the President and CEO of the Canadian Global Affairs Institute.

00:32:57.600 --> 00:33:02.220

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00:33:02.220 --> 00:33:11.060

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00:33:11.060 --> 00:33:16.320

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00:33:18.280 --> 00:33:19.360

<v SPEAKER_1>Thanks, Vina.

00:33:19.360 --> 00:33:25.360

<v SPEAKER_1>Let me pull you all up to sort of 5,000 feet from 3,000 feet.

00:33:25.360 --> 00:33:50.220

<v SPEAKER_1>And partly in the context of the speech today by Prime Minister Carney, are we starting to see emerging a Carney doctrine, the world as it is, not as we wish it to be, pragmatism, as he calls it, values-based realism, focused on trade, green tech, middle-class jobs, as he said, or it doesn't use middle-class but enable jobs and prosperity?

00:33:50.480 --> 00:33:53.000

<v SPEAKER_1>Is that sort of where we're going?

00:33:53.000 --> 00:33:54.420

<v SPEAKER_1>Stewart, what do you think?

00:33:54.420 --> 00:33:56.500

<v SPEAKER_2>No, I think absolutely.

00:33:56.500 --> 00:34:06.180

<v SPEAKER_2>One of the things I can say about Mark Carney is he's got a tremendous amount of respect with people who are decision-makers within the various economies.

00:34:06.240 --> 00:34:13.540

<v SPEAKER_2>And I saw that at the G20 in Delhi, when he was one of the keynote speakers there.

00:34:13.540 --> 00:34:19.000

<v SPEAKER_2>The respect that he had in the room, he commanded a full audience.

00:34:19.000 --> 00:34:23.920

<v SPEAKER_2>Then he was with Brookfield, he wasn't the Prime Minister at that time.

00:34:23.920 --> 00:34:31.760

<v SPEAKER_2>And including with Prime Minister Modi and all the senior business leaders within India itself.

00:34:31.760 --> 00:34:38.340

<v SPEAKER_2>So that type of level of respect, and when he talks about pursuing our interests, I think that's what we really have to focus on.

00:34:38.340 --> 00:34:50.340

<v SPEAKER_2>I think everything that you're saying is absolutely true, Colin, but when you boil it down is what are our interests and how do we pragmatically pursue those understanding that we also have to have our values, which we maintain.

00:34:50.340 --> 00:34:56.320

<v SPEAKER_2>So there will be things we won't do because they run counter to how we would approach things.

00:34:56.320 --> 00:35:01.320

<v SPEAKER_2>But there are things that we need to do in order to increase the economic viability of our economy.

00:35:01.320 --> 00:35:02.500

<v SPEAKER_2>I mean, that's just a reality.

00:35:02.500 --> 00:35:13.720

<v SPEAKER_2>And I think having that level of pragmatism will be well respected with the influencers in the various economies that we will be dealing with over the next two to three years.

00:35:13.720 --> 00:35:20.940

<v SPEAKER_2>Particularly, it's a stark contrast to what's happening south of the border and what's going on there in the chaos.

00:35:20.940 --> 00:35:28.760

<v SPEAKER_2>So having a pragmatic, sensible approach, I think, will do us very well going forward as a middle power.

00:35:28.760 --> 00:35:31.880

<v SPEAKER_1>Ted, values-based, pragmatic focus on interests?

00:35:33.640 --> 00:35:40.980

<v SPEAKER_3>Yeah, I think to a point, ultimately, he is a politician.

00:35:40.980 --> 00:35:53.100

<v SPEAKER_3>And when it comes to the voting, the average Canadian are going to look at this and say, as a result of this strategy, has my life got easier or more difficult?

00:35:53.100 --> 00:35:58.440

<v SPEAKER_3>Is this creating prosperity or maybe in some cases even fear?

00:35:58.880 --> 00:36:02.180

<v SPEAKER_3>And that is what he has to consider.

00:36:02.180 --> 00:36:09.060

<v SPEAKER_3>In addition to some of the, let's say, more academic interests that have been expressed in the strategy.

00:36:09.060 --> 00:36:17.040

<v SPEAKER_3>One thing he did say today at the WAF was that nostalgia is not a strategy.

00:36:17.040 --> 00:36:36.040

<v SPEAKER_3>So his wanting to go forward and engage in those areas of interest to Canada are important, but can't be done without looking at our role, our broader role within the world.

00:36:36.040 --> 00:36:46.240

<v SPEAKER_3>And I think that has changed considerably since the Indo-Pacific strategy was developed, began to be developed about seven years ago.

00:36:46.240 --> 00:36:47.980

<v SPEAKER_3>How are we different?

00:36:47.980 --> 00:36:51.960

<v SPEAKER_3>How are we responding to what's happening south of the border?

00:36:51.960 --> 00:37:03.520

<v SPEAKER_3>How are we responding to what is a very, very difficult world where, as Carney himself says, there is a new international order?

00:37:03.520 --> 00:37:14.380

<v SPEAKER_3>That response is the Carney doctrine, and that response appears to be more pragmatic and more focused than in previous years.

00:37:14.380 --> 00:37:19.820

<v SPEAKER_1>Hugh, focused and more better than what we've done in recent years, pretty much on interests?

00:37:21.120 --> 00:37:24.140

<v SPEAKER_4>Yeah, but there is still a role for values.

00:37:24.360 --> 00:37:26.680

<v SPEAKER_4>I think the pragmatism is clearly demonstrated.

00:37:26.680 --> 00:37:28.560

<v SPEAKER_4>I'm going to day one, Mr.

00:37:28.560 --> 00:37:34.000

<v SPEAKER_4>Carney got rid of the carbon tax, or the price on carbon, or whatever you want to call it.

00:37:34.000 --> 00:37:46.220

<v SPEAKER_4>But even in the Davos speech, he talks about values and there is, I agree with Ted, obviously, people depend on bread and butter issues, but there's still a strong values undercurrent, which he can't, nor do I think he wants to throw overboard.

00:37:46.340 --> 00:37:50.300

<v SPEAKER_4>After all, he had a long history in dealing with environmental issues and so on.

00:37:50.300 --> 00:37:58.520

<v SPEAKER_4>And so I noted, actually, when we talked about energy and China, there was a lot of emphasis on clean tech and on climate change.

00:37:58.520 --> 00:38:00.660

<v SPEAKER_4>That was bundled with the energy piece.

00:38:00.660 --> 00:38:06.720

<v SPEAKER_4>And I mean, I think we all have an expectation that there will be more LNG going to China.

00:38:06.720 --> 00:38:14.120

<v SPEAKER_4>Already China is the biggest, takes the greatest off take from the Trans Mountain Pipeline and so forth.

00:38:14.120 --> 00:38:15.620

<v SPEAKER_4>But that was bundled with other things.

00:38:15.980 --> 00:38:19.960

<v SPEAKER_4>Even on the values, okay, so now we don't have a feminist foreign policy.

00:38:19.960 --> 00:38:21.800

<v SPEAKER_4>We don't have that label anymore.

00:38:21.800 --> 00:38:25.720

<v SPEAKER_4>But still elements of that are still important.

00:38:25.720 --> 00:38:34.400

<v SPEAKER_4>And just to come back to Ted's comment of people to people and culture and so forth, I mean, it's always been kind of regarded as window dressing, I guess.

00:38:34.400 --> 00:38:39.040

<v SPEAKER_4>But I do think it's an important part of any bilateral relationship.

00:38:39.100 --> 00:38:43.100

<v SPEAKER_4>You talk about the fabric, weaving the cloth and so forth.

00:38:43.100 --> 00:38:45.240

<v SPEAKER_4>But there's a soft power element to this as well.

00:38:45.240 --> 00:38:51.180

<v SPEAKER_4>So some of our values relate to so-called democratic values or Canadian values or whatever they are.

00:38:51.180 --> 00:39:06.840

<v SPEAKER_4>But in terms of seeing the cultural piece fitting in here, I think it's a way of promoting values without being preachy, without divorcing values and interests, which one could argue has happened in the past.

00:39:07.600 --> 00:39:17.180

<v SPEAKER_4>I mean, it's very much interest-based, but interest-based on values that we believe in, but values that we recognize at the same time, we can't shove down other people's throats.

00:39:17.180 --> 00:39:32.020

<v SPEAKER_4>So we're going to deal with China, we're going to deal with Qatar, we're going to deal with places where we can have shared interests, we don't always have shared values, and at the same time, there may be areas where we can also find common perspectives.

00:39:33.420 --> 00:39:43.040

<v SPEAKER_1>I couldn't help but note that Justin Trudeau is over there as well, and he was giving, speaking to an audience today on soft power, and of course we have Mr.

00:39:43.040 --> 00:39:46.700

<v SPEAKER_1>Carney speaking, as we said, pragmatic power.

00:39:46.700 --> 00:39:53.540

<v SPEAKER_1>Vina, which one goes down better with, well, I know which one goes better with the WIF audience, but what about in the Indian Pacific?

00:39:55.320 --> 00:40:01.000

<v SPEAKER_5>I think there's tremendous respect for Prime Minister Carney in Asia.

00:40:01.000 --> 00:40:01.840

<v SPEAKER_5>We're seeing that.

00:40:01.840 --> 00:40:07.340

<v SPEAKER_5>We saw that during his trip for the APEC Summit, as well as ASEAN Leaders Summit.

00:40:07.340 --> 00:40:09.380

<v SPEAKER_5>There's definitely an interest in what he has to say.

00:40:09.600 --> 00:40:13.200

<v SPEAKER_5>I mean, at Davos, he definitely got a standing ovation for that speech.

00:40:13.200 --> 00:40:22.660

<v SPEAKER_5>To answer your general question about an emerging Carney doctrine, I do believe that he is articulating a very specific understanding of how the world is changing.

00:40:22.660 --> 00:40:31.080

<v SPEAKER_5>I think he has a nuanced, sophisticated understanding, especially of how the global economic order is changing.

00:40:31.080 --> 00:40:37.840

<v SPEAKER_5>And he has an idea of how that can be rewired through the sort of networked interest-based coalitions.

00:40:37.840 --> 00:40:45.780

<v SPEAKER_5>I think the part that's still missing is more around sort of geostrategic and security order considerations.

00:40:45.780 --> 00:40:57.360

<v SPEAKER_5>And you saw that at Davos when he got asked a question around NATO, whether his sort of diagnosis that we need to stop living in alliance, start living in the truth, also applies to NATO.

00:40:57.360 --> 00:41:08.680

<v SPEAKER_5>And the fact that President Trump's actions and words around Greenland are fundamentally questioning the relevance and viability of that collective security arrangement.

00:41:08.680 --> 00:41:13.800

<v SPEAKER_5>And I think Prime Minister Carney stopped short of actually saying that, yes, that also applies to it.

00:41:13.800 --> 00:41:15.420

<v SPEAKER_5>I mean, he sort of gave a bunch of words.

00:41:15.500 --> 00:41:22.320

<v SPEAKER_5>But it was the least clear element, I think, of that whole exchange was around on the economic side.

00:41:22.320 --> 00:41:34.220

<v SPEAKER_5>We have a clear objective to reduce over the lines on the

US double non US trade in 10 years, attract investments from others, have these strategic partnerships and all the rest of it.

00:41:34.220 --> 00:41:42.220

<v SPEAKER_5>I think it's a little less clear both for Canada and for other allies, Japan, Korea, Australia, European allies.

00:41:42.880 --> 00:41:47.840

<v SPEAKER_5>What would the international security order look like without the US fully backstopping it?

00:41:47.840 --> 00:41:49.840

<v SPEAKER_5>And what is our plan B on that?

00:41:49.840 --> 00:41:55.040

<v SPEAKER_5>On the economy, however painful and difficult, we may be able to imagine a plan B.

00:41:55.040 --> 00:42:05.320

<v SPEAKER_5>On the defence and security side, nobody's articulated a plan B that I have seen, and certainly we're not hearing a lot from the Carney government on that side of the equation.

00:42:05.320 --> 00:42:13.120

<v SPEAKER_5>And I think that's now with this whole Greenland conversation on how much that fundamentally impacts Canada and Canadian Arctic.

00:42:13.120 --> 00:42:22.940

<v SPEAKER_5>We will be forced to answer some of those questions, and that's a really challenging set of issues to consider, even harder than the geoeconomic side.

00:42:22.940 --> 00:42:24.120

<v SPEAKER_1>Thanks, Vina.

00:42:24.120 --> 00:42:24.880

<v SPEAKER_1>All right.

00:42:24.880 --> 00:42:37.080

<v SPEAKER_1>My last question before I ask you all what you're reading or streaming, you get into an elevator and Prime Minister Carney is there and he looks at you and says, what's the one thing he needs to do to get done quickly?

00:42:37.800 --> 00:42:39.360

<v SPEAKER_1>And it could be a foreign or domestic issue.

00:42:39.360 --> 00:42:42.220

<v SPEAKER_1>So it's not just China or Indo-Pacific.

00:42:42.220 --> 00:42:43.120
<v SPEAKER_1>What would you say?

00:42:43.120 --> 00:42:45.000
<v SPEAKER_1>Ted, why don't you lead?

00:42:45.000 --> 00:42:46.040
<v SPEAKER_3>Okay.

00:42:46.040 --> 00:42:48.580
<v SPEAKER_3>Here's my elevator pitch.

00:42:48.580 --> 00:42:49.320
<v SPEAKER_3>How long do I have?

00:42:49.320 --> 00:42:51.120
<v SPEAKER_3>Like 30 seconds?

00:42:51.120 --> 00:42:52.020
<v SPEAKER_1>Yeah, both that.

00:42:52.020 --> 00:42:53.420
<v SPEAKER_1>You know what elevators are.

00:42:53.420 --> 00:42:53.640
<v SPEAKER_3>Yeah.

00:42:53.660 --> 00:42:55.880
<v SPEAKER_4>You already used 10 of them.

00:42:55.880 --> 00:42:56.400
<v SPEAKER_3>Exactly.

00:42:56.900 --> 00:42:57.700
<v SPEAKER_3>I'll start now.

00:42:57.700 --> 00:42:59.180
<v SPEAKER_3>How's that?

00:42:59.180 --> 00:42:59.500
<v SPEAKER_3>Okay.

00:42:59.500 --> 00:43:06.040
<v SPEAKER_3>The Canadian Rangers were set up during World War II to in British Columbia to protect ourselves from the Japanese.

00:43:06.120 --> 00:43:14.720
<v SPEAKER_3>They were then demobilized and repurposed in the North using mostly Inuit Rangers who had local knowledge.

00:43:14.720 --> 00:43:15.660

<v SPEAKER_3>It's a militia.

00:43:15.660 --> 00:43:17.540

<v SPEAKER_3>It's under the Canadian Army.

00:43:17.540 --> 00:43:20.020

<v SPEAKER_3>Their expenses, etc.

00:43:20.020 --> 00:43:23.180

<v SPEAKER_3>are part of the Army's expenditure.

00:43:24.680 --> 00:43:30.300

<v SPEAKER_3>We need to have a similar experience for all Canadians and landed immigrants.

00:43:32.500 --> 00:43:54.260

<v SPEAKER_3>Extending the rangers to the vast majority of Canada, whether it be North or South, East or West, and having an experience, a nation building experience, where people together, regardless of their creed, regardless of their color, have a similar experience as a nation building experience that we actually lack.

00:43:54.260 --> 00:44:04.400

<v SPEAKER_3>That's one of the reasons why we have not responded to China in that way, that Germany, France, and Britain have responded to China.

00:44:04.400 --> 00:44:07.880

<v SPEAKER_3>We are more fractured, and that is a result of our history.

00:44:07.880 --> 00:44:14.920

<v SPEAKER_3>So maybe we have to look at the future and think about how to change that, and this would be one way to do that.

00:44:14.920 --> 00:44:17.280

<v SPEAKER_1>Okay, some form of national service.

00:44:17.280 --> 00:44:18.180

<v SPEAKER_1>Good suggestion.

00:44:18.180 --> 00:44:19.720

<v SPEAKER_1>Stewart, what about you?

00:44:19.720 --> 00:44:25.880

<v SPEAKER_2>No, I would say to Prime Minister Carney, you need an immigration czar, like you have an infrastructure czar.

00:44:26.840 --> 00:44:35.580

<v SPEAKER_2>One of our biggest, I think, strengths is the way we have treated immigration historically.

00:44:35.580 --> 00:44:37.120

<v SPEAKER_2>We have a lot of problems right now.

00:44:37.120 --> 00:44:46.320

<v SPEAKER_2>I think everybody on this panel knows how universities are dealing or not dealing with the caps on foreign students.

00:44:46.560 --> 00:44:58.540

<v SPEAKER_2>If we want to have our productivity and economic development, we need to be able to focus on our policies that are going to allow us to bring the right people into the country, the right students, the right professionals to help us build this economy.

00:44:58.540 --> 00:45:06.980

<v SPEAKER_2>And having an Immigration SIR, which will focus on that and bring together a policy coherence, I think will be very important.

00:45:06.980 --> 00:45:07.560

<v SPEAKER_1>Very good.

00:45:07.560 --> 00:45:09.200

<v SPEAKER_1>Talent spotting at the highest level.

00:45:09.200 --> 00:45:10.540

<v SPEAKER_1>Makes sense.

00:45:10.540 --> 00:45:13.000

<v SPEAKER_1>Vina, what about you?

00:45:13.140 --> 00:45:17.740

<v SPEAKER_5>I think I would focus on the need to communicate more with Canadians.

00:45:17.780 --> 00:45:34.520

<v SPEAKER_5>I think some of these important speeches that he's making at the Council on Foreign Relations or Davos are great, but we do need a lot more engagement with Canadians on how the world is changing, how Canada's relationship with the US is fundamentally changing, and what it is that the Prime Minister is doing.

00:45:34.520 --> 00:45:38.940

<v SPEAKER_5>Things are moving at a really impressive speed.

00:45:38.940 --> 00:45:44.020

<v SPEAKER_5>There's a lot of changes that are now happening at all levels of government in Ottawa.

00:45:44.200 --> 00:45:46.100

<v SPEAKER_5>And I'm afraid we are a big country.

00:45:47.380 --> 00:46:03.460

<v SPEAKER_5>I sit here in Vancouver, and all of that seems far removed, but I think we need a lot more cross-Canada conversations with all elements of society, new Canadians, Indigenous Canadians, not just sort of the most policy-engaged or business elites of this country.

00:46:03.460 --> 00:46:03.960

<v SPEAKER_1>All right.

00:46:03.960 --> 00:46:08.360

<v SPEAKER_1>Fireside chats for the 21st century make sense to me.

00:46:08.360 --> 00:46:10.440

<v SPEAKER_1>Hugh, finish this off.

00:46:10.440 --> 00:46:12.200

<v SPEAKER_1>You're in the elevator with the Prime Minister.

00:46:13.560 --> 00:46:17.840

<v SPEAKER_4>When you look at the challenges this man faces, I think they've got to be unprecedented.

00:46:19.160 --> 00:46:25.380

<v SPEAKER_4>I mean, we've got a national unity crisis, potentially in Quebec and in Alberta.

00:46:25.380 --> 00:46:29.080

<v SPEAKER_4>We have Indigenous issues on the table like we've never had before.

00:46:29.080 --> 00:46:32.680

<v SPEAKER_4>We have a rogue elephant in Washington.

00:46:32.680 --> 00:46:34.980

<v SPEAKER_4>You know, the international order is broken down.

00:46:34.980 --> 00:46:37.940

<v SPEAKER_4>I mean, where do you begin?

00:46:37.940 --> 00:46:41.040

<v SPEAKER_4>And I think all of the above suggestions are excellent ones.

00:46:41.160 --> 00:46:49.040

<v SPEAKER_4>I guess I would, actually, he would know this, but it all

comes down to productivity, because without productivity, none of these other things matter.

00:46:49.040 --> 00:46:51.640

<v SPEAKER_4>Immigration is an important part of productivity.

00:46:51.640 --> 00:46:54.440

<v SPEAKER_4>Getting national buy-in is an important part of productivity.

00:46:54.440 --> 00:46:57.860

<v SPEAKER_4>A more effective bureaucracy is an important part of productivity.

00:46:57.860 --> 00:47:01.000

<v SPEAKER_4>But without productivity, you can't deal with any of the rest.

00:47:01.000 --> 00:47:08.740

<v SPEAKER_4>So, and that sounds trite, you know, that is in fact what the infrastructure bank, the infrastructure projects are all about, everything.

00:47:08.800 --> 00:47:10.580

<v SPEAKER_4>But, you know, that's where we need to start.

00:47:10.580 --> 00:47:15.940

<v SPEAKER_4>And when we build from there, hopefully, we can start to tackle some of these other issues.

00:47:15.940 --> 00:47:17.760

<v SPEAKER_1>All right, excellent set of recommendations.

00:47:17.760 --> 00:47:19.700

<v SPEAKER_1>Now, my last, and we'll run it backwards now.

00:47:19.700 --> 00:47:22.520

<v SPEAKER_1>Hugh, what are you reading or streaming these days?

00:47:22.520 --> 00:47:25.520

<v SPEAKER_4>Well, I am just about to pick up the book, which some of you may have read.

00:47:25.520 --> 00:47:26.600

<v SPEAKER_4>I haven't got into it yet.

00:47:26.600 --> 00:47:31.820

<v SPEAKER_4>He Did Not Conquer by Madeline Drohan on Ben Franklin's Failure to Annex Canada.

00:47:31.820 --> 00:47:34.040

<v SPEAKER_4>I can't think of a more topical book.

00:47:34.040 --> 00:47:38.020

<v SPEAKER_4>And, you know, we always talk about history and if we forget it, we're doomed to repeat it and so forth.

00:47:38.080 --> 00:47:40.080

<v SPEAKER_4>So I'm looking forward to diving into it.

00:47:40.080 --> 00:47:41.560

<v SPEAKER_1>Oh, it's had very good reviews.

00:47:41.560 --> 00:47:44.040

<v SPEAKER_1>Vina, what about you?

00:47:44.040 --> 00:47:48.620

<v SPEAKER_5>So I'm revisiting a book that came out a few years ago called How China Works.

00:47:48.620 --> 00:47:56.760

<v SPEAKER_5>It's an introduction to China's state led economy by a Fudan University economist, Xiaohuan Lan, and it's terrific.

00:47:56.860 --> 00:48:00.140

<v SPEAKER_5>I'm reading it in translation by Gary Taup.

00:48:00.140 --> 00:48:07.040

<v SPEAKER_5>It's especially good in explaining kind of the local government engagement in the Chinese economic model.

00:48:07.140 --> 00:48:12.300

<v SPEAKER_5>I find myself these days talking a lot of people about how China got to where it has gotten.

00:48:12.300 --> 00:48:17.060

<v SPEAKER_5>So to make sense of its state led economy, it's I think a useful reminder.

00:48:17.060 --> 00:48:20.280

<v SPEAKER_5>And so it's an academic text, but dense.

00:48:20.280 --> 00:48:24.500

<v SPEAKER_5>But I definitely would recommend it to anyone who's curious about that.

00:48:24.500 --> 00:48:26.180

<v SPEAKER_1>Stewart, what are you reading?

00:48:26.180 --> 00:48:27.580

<v SPEAKER_2>Right now, I'm reading Apple in China.

00:48:27.580 --> 00:48:28.820

<v SPEAKER_2>It's a great book.

00:48:28.820 --> 00:48:42.320

<v SPEAKER_2>If you want to understand how the Chinese have been so successful in the technology space, Apple really has been the leader in terms of developing the technological capabilities of the Chinese.

00:48:42.320 --> 00:48:43.860

<v SPEAKER_2>And that's fascinating.

00:48:43.860 --> 00:48:47.960

<v SPEAKER_2>The other, I would recommend a podcast called Acquired.

00:48:47.960 --> 00:48:56.420

<v SPEAKER_2>It's a fantastic podcast on, again, deep dives into businesses and it's more like reading a book because the podcast is between two and four hours.

00:48:56.420 --> 00:48:56.940

<v SPEAKER_1>Perfect.

00:48:56.940 --> 00:48:58.620

<v SPEAKER_1>Acquired in Apple in China.

00:48:58.620 --> 00:49:00.620

<v SPEAKER_1>Great recommendations.

00:49:00.620 --> 00:49:01.360

<v SPEAKER_1>Ted, what about you?

00:49:02.740 --> 00:49:09.700

<v SPEAKER_3>Just started last week, Civilizations by Laurent Binet in English, translated into English.

00:49:09.700 --> 00:49:17.180

<v SPEAKER_3>It's a sort of a reverse history of the world and what would have happened if and it's fascinating so far.

00:49:17.180 --> 00:49:18.520

<v SPEAKER_1>Very good.

00:49:18.520 --> 00:49:19.940

<v SPEAKER_1>Thank you all.

00:49:19.940 --> 00:49:22.800

<v SPEAKER_1>Thanks for listening to this episode of The Global Exchange.

00:49:22.800 --> 00:49:29.500

<v SPEAKER_1>We were joined today by The Canadian Global Affairs Institute fellows, Stewart Beck, Ted Lipman, Hugh Stephens, and Vina Nadjibulla.

00:49:29.500 --> 00:49:33.360

<v SPEAKER_1>Again, I encourage you to look at Vina's piece in Policy Magazine.

00:49:33.360 --> 00:49:37.180

<v SPEAKER_1>You can find The Canadian Global Affairs Institute on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

00:49:37.180 --> 00:49:45.360

<v SPEAKER_1>The Global Exchange is brought to you by our team at The Canadian Global Affairs Institute and my thanks go out to our producer, Jordyn Carroll, and to Drew Phillips for providing our music.

00:49:45.360 --> 00:49:46.840

<v SPEAKER_1>I'm Colin Robertson.

00:49:46.840 --> 00:49:48.660

<v SPEAKER_1>Thanks for joining us today in The Global Exchange.