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How China has become the new mediator in global geopolitics

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By Fábio Galão

Assuming a role that used to belong to the United States, China has increasingly sought to exert influence in global geopolitics by mediating agreements to end hostilities between other countries.

The greatest Chinese triumph so far was the announcement, made in March, of the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia with Beijing's mediation, after seven years of broken ties between the two countries.

But China does not want to stop there.

[...]

Tuvia Gering, an expert on China-Middle East relations at the Israel Institute for National Security Studies, said in an interview with DW that China saw “an opportunity” in the Iran-Saudi Arabia deal and was “just the right player at the right time.”

However, being seen as a balanced mediator in other conflicts will be more difficult.

After the conversation between Xi and Zelensky last week, NATO recalled that Beijing still does not condemn the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

The partnership between China and Russia (deepened since the beginning of the war) was reaffirmed with Xi visiting the Russian capital in March.

Gering pointed out that Israel views Chinese overtures for negotiations with the Palestinians with the same skepticism that NATO holds toward Beijing's role in the war in Ukraine.

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