

### GEOPOLITICS AND US CHINA STRATEGY

- Spykman, like Mackinder, viewed Eurasia as the world's dominant landmass and warned U.S. policymakers to prevent any Eurasian-based power from controlling the key power centers of the continent—what he called the Rimland (Europe, the Middle East, South Asia and East Asia).
- Mahan believed that America's greatness was tied to its command of the sea. He foresaw that the United States—effectively a continental-sized island—would overtake Great Britain as the world's leading maritime power and become the "holder" of the Eurasian balance of power. Today, it is American sea power—what Mahan called her "command of the sea"—that undergirds the liberal world order that China seeks to replace.

Source: Francis P. Sempa, Look to Classical Geopolitics to Understand China's Challenge, RealClearDefence.com

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- China's Belt and Road Initiative: attempt to extend its influence throughout the World-Island
- China's strategic alliance with Russia presents the same geopolitical nightmare as the Sino-Soviet bloc of the early 1950s did (...). The threat now, however, is even greater because China's economic power is greater than the Soviet Union's ever was, and there is no ideological baggage to cause a rift in today's Sino-Russian alliance as there was in the 1950s.
- US objective: Try to drive a political wedge between the two giant Eurasian powers to prevent them from dominating the Eurasian Heartland.

Source: Francis P. Sempa, Look to Classical Geopolitics to Understand China's Challenge, RealClearDefence.com

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