

Competition between great powers is not good



By Roberto Morejón

After straining the relationship in recent times, the government headed by Democrat Joseph Biden is trying to present itself as the appeaser of the ties between the United States and China.

The president of the northern nation tried to project himself in this vein when he received his Chinese counterpart, Xi Jinping, in a bucolic enclave on the outskirts of the city of San Francisco.

It is true that the fact of meeting implied a titanic effort on both sides, given the deterioration of ties, a quality that the interlocutors did not hide.

Before the important meeting in California between Biden and Xi Jinping, National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan made a curt pronouncement: "The United States and China are in competition."

Few would dare to contradict Sullivan. The list of disagreements grows, from Taiwan to human rights, from trade to the wars in Ukraine and Gaza, from international drug trafficking to artificial intelligence.

China seemed to be one of the obsessions of the current tenants of the White House.

This was evidenced, among other occasions, when they responded stridently to what the United States described as the appearance of a Chinese spy balloon.

At the same time, provocations were repeated, starting when a defiant Nancy Pelosi visited Taiwan.

The Northern power has also deployed a fierce offensive to prevent China's access to technologies and to curb its commercial expansion in various latitudes, despite this being a right, because it is also based on agreements with third parties.

Beijing took note of the other side's defiance. And in San Francisco, the Chinese president was blunt: "It is unrealistic for either of our countries to try to remodel the other".

If at least Biden and his collaborators took note of their guest's categorical affirmation, then the interview in the rural enclave showed its usefulness.

Much more so if one takes into account that according to press reports the two statesmen reached some coincidences, Biden wrote on the X network that there was "real progress" and a statement from the White House said that the interlocutors had a sincere and constructive discussion.

Earlier it had been announced that China and the United States agreed to strive to triple global renewable energy capacity by 2030.

When the two major powers sit down for talks, the world has expectations.

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