

《吴建民-真正的全球主义者》

导读:作为第一批常驻联合国的工作人员,吴建民大使历任外交部发言人、驻外大使、全国政协外事委员会主任和外交学院院长,为中国外交事业做出卓越贡献。



I was in Vietnam on Friday, and had a chance to meet a senior Filipino diplomat. Talking about how China and the Philippines should improve their strained ties under incoming President Rodrigo Duterte, he suggested inviting one prominent and open-minded Chinese diplomat to give a lecture in Manila later this year.

??Rodrigo Duterte??

"Who do you think would be the right one?" I asked.

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"Ambassador Wu Jianmin," the Filipino replied, without any hesitation.

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"He is a truly respectful diplomat for his exceptional manner, decency, and global view. I'm sure he will be welcomed."

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He then asked if I could help. I accepted the request and said I would contact the 77-year-old former Chinese ambassador to France once I was back in the office on Monday.

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But a huge shock came on Saturday morning, when Wu tragically passed away in a fatal car accident in Wuhan, Central China's Hubei province, that morning. He was on his way to give a lecture at Wuhan University to share his views of the current international situation.

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I was devastated for I have been a longtime supporter of Wu's thoughts and views. His sudden death would be a huge loss to China's diplomacy and the academia of international relations.

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In China, Wu was known as a hardcore "pigeon", who advocated always using peaceful and diplomatic means, like dialogue, to resolve differences between countries, instead of resorting to hardline ways, like showing muscle.

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He famously argued that "anyone who resorts to war will fall in the current era of peaceand development".

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He was even involved in a recent intense debate with Major General Luo Yuan, a researcher at the Chinese People's Liberation Army Military Science Academy. The latter,a known hawk, is a solid proponent of hardline diplomacy.

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Wu's viewpoints left him open to fierce attack by hawkish pundits. Some ultra-nationalists,including many Chinese netizens, even labeled him as a "traitor" to the country.But I would say that Wu's views should be cherished and

appreciated in today's worldwhen we see the slowdown, even retreat, of globalization.

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