Dear Friends,

On behalf of the ICAS board of directors and advisors, I am pleased to present this snapshot of the work we undertook in 2016.

The year 2016 witnessed a variety of issues closely linked to the China-US relationship: the recent tribunal ruling on the South China Sea disputes, the US presidential election, THAAD Deployment to South Korea, and debates about the TPP and the AIIB, among many others. Each of these major events has posed critical challenges to leaders of both countries, reminding us once again of the importance of communication and trust.

In the coming year, we will observe both opportunities and uncertainties in the US-China relations. As a Chinese think tank based in the heart of downtown Washington, DC, ICAS will continue building bridges to facilitate the exchange of ideas and people between China and the United States. We look forward to playing an active role in addressing key issue areas in the US-China relationship in need of greater mutual understanding.

We at ICAS are proud to present our achievements from the past year, and look forward to another year of this important work.

Dr. Nong Hong
Executive Director and Senior Fellow
Institute for China-America Studies
BOOK CHAPTER

Law Enforcement in a Disputed Maritime Zone: A Political and Legal Analysis
Nong Hong
*Arbitration Concerning the South China Sea: Philippines versus China* (Routledge, 2016)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Roundtable: The Arbitral Tribunal’s Ruling on the South China Sea – Implications and Regional Responses
Nong Hong
*Contemporary Southeast Asia*, 18.3. 2016

The South China Sea Dilemma: A Political Game of International Law
Nong Hong

ICAS REPORTS

Think Tank in the United States
Alek Chance
May 2016

American Perspectives on the Belt and Road Initiative
Alek Chance
October 2016
### SELECTED COMMENTARY AND ANALYSIS

**Hong Nong**  
The U.S.-China Battle in the Post-Arbitration South China Sea: Diverging and Converging Interests, *Maritime Awareness Project*  
Managing Sino-U.S. Disagreements in the South China Sea, *Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative*  
Trumpism: Shifting the Spotlight Away Might Help, *IPP Review*

**Sourabh Gupta**  
No Restraint: Judicial Activism in the South China Sea Arbitration Ruling, *China-US Focus*  
China Must Pursue Global Monetary Reform as BRICS Chair, *China-US Focus*  
Sino-Indian Maritime Affairs in the Asian Century, *ICAS Commentary*  
Beijing has case for ‘historic rights’ at sea, *China-US Focus*

**Alek Chance**  
Donald Trump’s Foreign Policy and China: What do We Know? *China Policy Institute*  
American Liberalism and Exceptionalism: Obstacles and Opportunities for US-China Relations, *China-US Focus*

### 2016 ACHIEVEMENTS

- **20+** works of commentary and analysis
- **4** hosted or co-hosted conferences and dialogues
- **20+** ICAS scholars participated in conferences in North America and Asia
- **3** produced American Voices Initiative interviews
- **23** published issues of bulletin and **4** issue primers

ICAS scholars provided insights to several news outlets globally, including: BBC, Australian Broadcasting Corporation, CCTV America, Phoenix TV, Sinovision, Deutsche Welle, China Radio International, South China Morning Post, Australian Financial Review, Global Times, The Strait Times
**EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS**

**June 27 - 28**  
New York, NY  
Legal order in the World’s Oceans: UN Convention on the Law of the Sea  
ICAS co-sponsored the Fortieth Annual Conference of the University of Virginia’s Center for Oceans Law & Policy in Cooperation with the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

**November 2 - 4**  
Nanjing, China  
Fourth Asia Maritime Security Forum  
ICAS co-hosted the Fourth Asia Maritime Security Forum in Nanjing November 2-4, China, along with Nanjing University, the China Institute at the University of Alberta, and the National Institute for South China Sea Studies. The conference included participants from North America, China, and ASEAN states.

**June 29, 30**  
New York, NY  
US-China Track II Dialogue on Maritime Affairs and International Law  
ICAS cosponsored the US-China Track II Dialogue on Maritime Affairs and International Law along with the National Committee on US-China Relations.

**November 30**  
Washington, DC  
Roundtable Discussion on the US Foreign Policy under President Trump  
ICAS executive board members Wu Shicun and Zhu Feng and ICAS scholars welcomed Asia experts from AEJ, NBR, Stimson Center, American Foreign Policy Council, and the East-West Center for a discussion about the potential policy implications of the election of Donald Trump.
The ICAS American Voices Initiative is a series of on-camera interviews with leading scholars at American institutions. The series seeks to elicit a range of opinions from experts covering economic, security, and global governance issues in the US-China relationship. 2016 participants were Joseph Nye, Matthew Goodman, and Michael Swaine.
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ABOUT ICAS

The Institute for China-America Studies is an independent, non-profit think tank funded by the Hainan Nanhai Research Foundation in China. Based in the heart of downtown Washington, DC, ICAS is uniquely situated to serve as a bridge to facilitate the exchange of ideas and people between China and the United States. It achieves this through research and partnerships with institutions in both countries that bring together Chinese and American academic scholars as well as policy practitioners, in order to provide a window into their respective worldviews.

ICAS focuses on key issue areas in the US-China relationship in need of greater mutual understanding. It identifies promising areas for strengthening bilateral cooperation in the spheres of Asia-Pacific economics, trade, international relations as well as global governance issues, and explores the possible futures for this critical bilateral relationship.