



# The ICAS Bulletin

## Institute for China America Studies

### A Survey of Scholarship on U.S.-China Relations

February 16, 2022

#### What's Going On? ↓

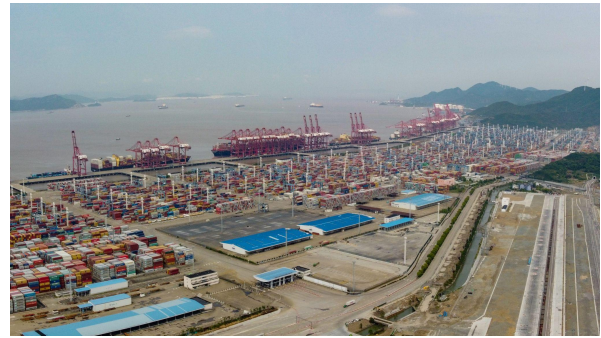
### Beijing Olympics Spark Domestic and International Controversy



*Xi Jinping, President of China is seen on the big screen during the Opening Ceremony on February 4 (Source: Photo by Annice Lyn/Getty Images)*

- On February 13, American-born Chinese skier Eileen Gu sparked controversy on Chinese social media after replying on Instagram to a comment critical of her 'special treatment' in China by saying "anyone can download a VPN" – while some Chinese netizens praised her scrappiness, others criticized her for being out of touch.
- On February 7, George Washington University in D.C. reversed its decision to remove a set of posters on campus linking Chinese athletes to various human rights abuses, which Chinese student groups said "incited racial hatred and ethnic tensions."
- On February 5, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres met on the sidelines of the Olympic opening ceremony with Chinese President Xi Jinping and Foreign Minister Wang Yi where an agreement was reportedly reached that a "credible visit" from UN human rights chief Michelle Bachelet to China – including Xinjiang – would occur.
- On February 3, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi spoke about the U.S. diplomatic boycott of the Beijing Winter Olympics saying "while we fully support, and will root for our athletes, we cannot and will not be silent on human rights in China just to bolster their bottom line."
- On February 2, amid an Olympic boycott, Japan's Diet adopted a rare resolution calling China to address what it calls a "serious human rights situation" in Xinjiang.

### House Passes China Competition Bill As Trade Woes Continue



*Beilun Port in Ningbo, Zhejiang Province, 2020 (Source: Nbfreeh via Wikimedia Commons CC BY-SA 4.0)*

- On February 8, it was reported that China only purchased 57% of the \$200 billion worth of U.S. goods and services that it agreed to purchase in 2020 and 2021 under the Phase One trade deal. Beijing has decried Commerce Secretary Gina Raimundo vow to compel China to make up this deficit before moving forward on lifting tariffs.
- On February 8, the U.S. Department of Commerce added 33 companies to its list of foreign entities with 'unverified' ownership, restricting various transactions with them. The same day, the Justice Department unsealed an indictment against Shenzhen-based Hytera Communications Corp alleging that it conspired with former Motorola employees to steal U.S. mobile radio technology.
- On February 7, a bipartisan group of Senators called on USTR Tai to expand the scope of companies eligible for exclusion from Trump-era tariffs on Chinese goods, citing "the tariffs' negative impacts on U.S. businesses."
- On February 6, it was reported that six Chinese-based companies have filed documents with the Securities and Exchange Commission to list on the NASDAQ in their own right without a U.S.-based subsidiary.
- On February 4, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the America COMPETES Act – a bill intended to enhance U.S. competitiveness with China slated to be reconciled with its Senate counterpart, USICA.

Associated News Sources:

[“After a reply on Instagram, Eileen Gu faces criticism over ‘special treatment’,”](#) *The New York Times*, February 13 [Paywall]  
[“U.S. university reverses decision to remove Olympic protest posters,”](#) *Axios*, February 7  
[“U.N. chief to China's leaders: allow ‘credible’ visit by rights envoy,”](#) *Reuters*, February 6 [Paywall]  
[“Winter Olympics: China stirs controversy with Uighur torchbearer,”](#) *Al Jazeera*, February 5  
[“Beijing Olympics: US legislators decry China human rights abuses,”](#) *Al Jazeera*, February 3  
[“Japan parliament adopts resolution on human rights in China,”](#) *CNN*, February 2

Associated News Sources:

[“Biden Team Sees Limited Ability to Press China in Trade Talks,”](#) *Bloomberg*, February 14 [Paywall]  
[“US-China trade war: Washington urged to cut tariffs despite deal shortfall, stop issuing threats,”](#) *South China Morning Post*, February 10 [Paywall]  
[“US adds 33 Chinese companies to red flag list, unseals Hytera indictment,”](#) *South China Morning Post*, February 8 [Paywall]  
[“U.S. December trade data reveals massive shortfall in China's ‘Phase 1’ purchases,”](#) *Reuters*, February 8 [Paywall]  
[“Senators push for expanded China tariff exclusion process,”](#) *Politico*, February 7  
[“China companies try to list in US in test for regulators after clampdown,”](#) *Financial Times*, February 6 [Paywall]  
[“House passes sweeping China competition bill,”](#) *The Hill*, February 4

## U.S. Takes Steps Towards Announcing an Indo-Pacific Economic Framework



Leaders from the U.S., Australia, India, and Japan participate in the Quad Leaders' Summit on September 24, 2021 (Source: White House via Flickr)

- On February 13, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken met in Hawaii with his Japanese and South Korean counterparts and presented a united front against a recent uptick in ballistic missile tests by North Korea.
- On February 11, the Biden Administration released an Indo-Pacific Strategy paper which emphasized a need – and outlined several tactics – to prevent China from turning the region into its own “sphere of influence.”
- On February 6, it was reported that the Biden Administration plans to unveil its Indo-Pacific Economic Framework – a multi-track strategy intended to increase U.S. economic engagement in Asia – by March 31.
- On February 2, it was reported that President Biden is planning “several” stops throughout the Asia-Pacific region during his planned trip later this spring to attend a summit of the Quad in Japan.

Associated News Sources:

[“US, Japan, South Korea meet in Hawaii to discuss North Korea,”](#) *Associated Press*, February 13  
[“Biden's Indo-Pacific strategy homes in on China's ‘sphere](#)

## Beijing and Moscow Align as Ukraine Crisis is Linked to Taiwan



Russian President Vladimir Putin held talks in Beijing with Chinese President Xi Jinping on February 4 (Source: Presidential Executive Office of Russia)

- On February 11, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken told the Australian press that “others are watching... to see how we respond” to the crisis in Ukraine – several policy analysts have debated the extrapolation of the Ukraine case to Taiwan as Taipei itself “monitors” the situation.
- On February 4, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping issued a joint statement from the sidelines of the Beijing Winter Olympics expressing solidarity against the U.S.-led effort to apply “unilateral approaches to addressing international issues” in Europe and the Asia-Pacific.
- On February 3, State Department spokesman Ned Price warned that the U.S. has “an array of tools” to deploy against “foreign companies, including those in China” if they were to try and circumvent any potential U.S. export controls imposed on Moscow for an invasion of Ukraine.

Associated News Sources:

[“U.S. Sees China Watching Ukraine Crisis as Proxy for Taiwan,”](#) *Bloomberg*, February 11 [Paywall]  
[“Both Sides of Taiwan Strait Are Closely Watching](#)

[of influence.”](#) *Axios*, February 11  
[“Statement by Press Secretary Jen Psaki on the United States Hosting APEC in 2023.”](#) White House, February 10  
[“U.S. Readies New Asia-Pacific Economic Strategy to Counter China.”](#) *The Wall Street Journal*, February 6 [Paywall]  
[“Biden plans 'several' stops on Asia trip, region to remain focus -U.S. official.”](#) *Reuters*, February 2 [Paywall]

[Ukraine’s Crisis.”](#) *The New York Times*, February 7 [Paywall]  
[“Putin and Xi, united at Olympics, air shared grievances against absent U.S. amid Ukraine standoff.”](#) *The Washington Post*, February 4 [Paywall]  
[“U.S. warns Chinese firms against helping Russia against potential Ukraine sanctions.”](#) *Reuters*, February 4 [Paywall]

## U.S. and Taiwan Deepen Diplomatic and Military Ties



*The Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Washington (Source: Voice of America/Public Domain)*

- On February 11, an unidentified aircraft flew over the island of Dongyin—a small island administered by Taipei near the mainland’s coast—in what is likely the first incursion into Taiwan’s territorial airspace (rather than its more expansive air defense identification zone) by a non-commercial Chinese aircraft in decades.
- On February 11, Taiwan "Ministry of Foreign Affairs" Spokesperson Joanne Ou voiced Taipei’s support for the Biden Administration’s proposed Indo-Pacific Economic Framework.
- On February 8, the U.S. Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) announced that it had certified a \$100 million support contract to “sustain, maintain, and improve” Taiwan’s Patriot missile defense system.
- On February 3, a bipartisan group of U.S. legislators proposed two matching bills in the House and Senate that would require the Biden Administration to rename Taipei’s de-facto embassy in Washington from the ‘Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office’ to the ‘Taiwan Representative Office.’

*Associated News Sources:*

[“Mystery Plane Tests ‘Loophole’ in Taiwan’s Defenses.”](#) *Bloomberg*, February 11 [Paywall]  
[“Taiwan vows to help as US eyes Indo-Pacific shift.”](#) *Taipei Times*, February 11  
[“US approves \\$100m support deal for Taiwan Patriot missiles.”](#) *Al Jazeera*, February 8  
[“U.S. lawmakers push to rename Taiwan's de facto embassy in Washington.”](#) *Reuters*, February 3 [Paywall]

## - In Other News -



*Chairman Mao Zedong and President Richard Nixon shake hands during their seminal meeting on February 29, 1972 (Source: Wikimedia Commons)*

[“China plans events with U.S. to mark 50th anniversary of Nixon visit.”](#) *Nikkei Asia*, February 11 [Paywall]  
[“A Beijing think tank offered a frank review of China’s technological weaknesses. Then the report disappeared.”](#) *Science*, February 8  
[“Ivy League’s Brown Rues ‘Big Mistake’ on U.S.-China College Ties.”](#) *Bloomberg*, February 3 [Paywall]  
[“China’s Peng Shuai says there was ‘misunderstanding’ over her allegations, announces retirement.”](#) *The Washington Post*, February 7 [Paywall]  
[“‘You’re treated like a spy’: US accused of racial profiling over China Initiative.”](#) *The Guardian*, February 9  
[“‘Tough on China’ gains traction as electoral test.”](#) *Politico*, February 10  
[“Top US diplomat denies the Quad’s purpose is to counter a rising China.”](#) *South China Morning Post*, February 11 [Paywall]  
[“Asian caucus leader warns against encouraging xenophobia in debate on China competition bill.”](#) *The Hill*, February 1

## What Are We Reading? ↓

- *Foreign Policy*: [“Chinese Support for a Russian Attack on Ukraine Cannot Be Cost-Free”](#) by Bonnie Glaser (February 14, 2022) [Paywall]
- *National Interest*: [“Why the Ukraine-Taiwan Analogy Doesn’t Make Sense”](#) by Charles K.S. Wu, Yao-Yuan Yeh, Fang-Yu, and Austin Horng-En Wang (February 13, 2022) [Paywall]
- *The Wall Street Journal*: [“Ukraine Is a Distraction From Taiwan”](#) by Elbridge Colby and Oriana Skylar Mastro (February 13, 2022) [Paywall]
- *The Diplomat*: [“B3W Might Not Be Able to Compete With BRI in Southeast Asia, But That’s Okay”](#) by Maria Adele Carrai and William Yuen Yee (February 10, 2022) [Paywall]
- *Bloomberg*: [“Why the World Needs China’s Covid-Zero Policy”](#) by James Mayger (February 8, 2022) [Paywall]
- *Brookings*: [“Why is unification so unpopular in Taiwan? It’s the PRC political system, not just culture”](#) by Shelley Rigger, Lev Nachman, Chit Wai John Mok, and Nathan Kar Ming Chan (February 7, 2022)
- *The Diplomat*: [“What Does the US-China AI Rivalry Mean For Southeast Asia?”](#) by Jun-E Tan (February 7, 2022) [Paywall]
- *Financial Times*: [“China and Russia’s hypersonic weaponry threatens US early warning system”](#) by William Schneider (February 6, 2022) [Paywall]
- *The Wire China*: [“Confronting Coercion”](#) by Luke Patey (February 6, 2022) [Paywall]
- *The New York Times*: [“For Xi Jinping, the Olympics is a moment to declare. ‘China is ready.’”](#) by Chris Buckley (February 3, 2022) [Paywall]
- *Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty*: [“China In Eurasia Briefing: Xi’s Diplomatic Olympics”](#) by Reid Standish (February 2, 2022)
- *The New York Times*: [“As the U.S. Pulls Back from the Mideast, China Leans In”](#) by Ben Hubbard and Amy Qin (February 2, 2022) [Paywall]
- German Marshall Fund: [“Closing the Gap: US-European Cooperation on China and the Indo-Pacific”](#) by Andrew Small, Bonnie S. Glaser and Garima Mohan (February 2, 2022)
- *Politico*: [“Biden Promised to Confront China. First He Has to Confront America’s Bizarre Trade Politics”](#) by Bob Davis (January 31, 2022)

## What’s Happening Around Town? ↓

### - Past Events -

- [2022 Lunar New Year Celebration](#)  
February 10 hosted by US-Asia Institute
- [A Liberal Silent Majority in China? A Big Data China Event](#)  
February 11 hosted by Center for Strategic and International Studies
- [China’s online campaign to shift the narrative on Xinjiang](#)  
February 11 hosted by Atlantic Council
- [Taiwan’s Global Gravity](#)  
February 14 hosted by Project 2049 Institute
- [The Impacts of U.S.-China Tech Decoupling](#)  
February 15 hosted by the APARC China Program
- [What’s Next for India and the Quad?](#)  
February 16 hosted by Center for Strategic and International Studies

### - Upcoming Events -

- [The Strategy of Denial: American Defense in an Age of Great Power Conflict](#)  
February 17 hosted by German Marshall Fund
- [China’s Cyber Capabilities: Warfare, Espionage, and Implications for the United States](#)  
February 17 hosted by U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission
- [EU-China Relations under France’s Presidency of the Council of the European Union](#)  
February 21 hosted by German Marshall Fund
- [Americans in China: Navigating the Personal and Political in the Cold War and Engagement Eras](#)  
March 8 hosted by German Marshall Fund
- [Can Hong Kong Continue as Asia’s World City?](#)  
March 10 hosted by SupChina
- [China Conference: Southeast Asia 2022](#)  
March 23-24 hosted by SCMP Events

# What ICAS Is Up To

## ---ICAS Trade 'n Technology Program Event---

**ICAS**  
Institute for China-America Studies

Wednesday, March 2, 2022  
9:30 - 10:50am EDT  
Virtual (Zoom)

### When Data Universes Collide: U.S. and China's Rival Approaches to Data-linked Decoupling

~Roundtable~

*Panelists*

**Paul TRIOLO**  
Senior Vice President for China & Technology Policy Lead  
Dentons Global Advisors-Albright Stonebridge Group

**Kendra SCHAEFER**  
Partner & Head of Tech Policy Research  
Trivium China

**Denis SIMON**  
Professor of China Business and Technology & Senior Advisor to the President for China Affairs  
Duke University

**Sourabh GUPTA**  
Senior Fellow & Head of Trade 'n Technology Program  
Institute for China-America Studies

*Moderated by*

**Yawei LIU**  
Senior Advisor, China Focus  
Carter Center

*Welcome Remarks by*

**Nong HONG**  
Executive Director  
Institute for China-America Studies

TnT ICAS TRADE 'N TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

**When Data Universes Collide: U.S. and China's Rival Approaches to Data-linked Decoupling**  
Wednesday, March 2, 2022  
9:30am – 10:50am EDT

Data is the lifeblood of the digital economy. It is also an arena of fierce maneuvering as China and the United States seek to gain a leg-up in key industries that will define the Fourth Industrial Revolution. President Xi Jinping has emphasized the need to deepen the integration of Internet, big data and artificial intelligence with the real economy, and in just the past few months a number of important regulations have been issued. These include: (a) a revised cybersecurity regulation for network platform operators (stemming from the Didi Chuxing IPO debacle), (b) proposed security assessment rules for cross-border data export, and (c) proposed unified network data security regulations to implement China's Data Security Law (DSL), Personal Information Protection Law (PIPL) and Cybersecurity Law. For his part, President Biden issued an executive order in June 2021 on protecting Americans' sensitive data from foreign adversaries, and the Commerce Department followed up in November 2021 with a proposed rule that could well lead to platforms like TikTok being subjected to third-party auditing and monitoring of user data logs. Earlier, the Trump administration's Treasury Department had enumerated ten categories of sensitive personal data to be placed beyond the reach of foreign adversaries.

What are the drivers behind the U.S. and China's divergent approaches on data sovereignty? What are the key takeaways from these rules and

regulations? Who are the key players involved? What are the investment implications for entrepreneurs and investors on both sides? And as the two sides seek to influence the Indo-Pacific's cross-border data flow rules and standards, what are the implications of their increasingly mutually decoupled data universes for regional partners as well as for realizing a region-wide digital trade agreement?

Link to Poster: <https://chinaus-icas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/3-2-2022-TnT-Event-Poster.pdf>

Link to Program: <https://chinaus-icas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/3-2-2022-TnT-Event-Program-Full.pdf>

Link to RSVP: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_YhUawGznSDOLhU1kfk42VQ](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YhUawGznSDOLhU1kfk42VQ)

Link to Related Page:

<https://chinaus-icas.org/event/when-data-universes-collide-u-s-and-chinas-rival-approaches-to-data-linked-decoupling/>

---ICAS Academic Engagement---

**Who Owns Antarctica? The Geopolitics of the Seventh Continent**

Tuesday, April 5, 2022  
6:00am – 8:00am EST

On April 5, 2022, ICAS Executive Director Dr. Nong Hong will be participating in a Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies conference “Who Owns Antarctica? The Geopolitics of the Seventh Continent” alongside other expert speakers. She will be discussing the important question: “Will China Compete for the Poles?”

Learn more about the event and the other speakers through the links below.

Learn More:

<https://chinaus-icas.org/event/dr-nong-hong-to-speak-at-the-graduate-institute-genevas-who-owns-antarctica-the-geopolitics-of-the-seventh-continent-conference/>

Link to Poster: <https://chinaus-icas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/04.2022-Geneva-Antarctica-Event-Poster.jpg>

Link to Program:

<https://chinaus-icas.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/04.2022-Geneva-Antarctica-Event-Full-Poster-w-Registration.pdf>

Link to Register:

<https://iheid.webex.com/webappng/sites/iheid/meeting/info/632727b328f640eb8459e55580ddd1a9?isPopupRegisterView=true>



**WHO OWNS ANTARCTICA ?  
The Geopolitics of the Seventh Continent**

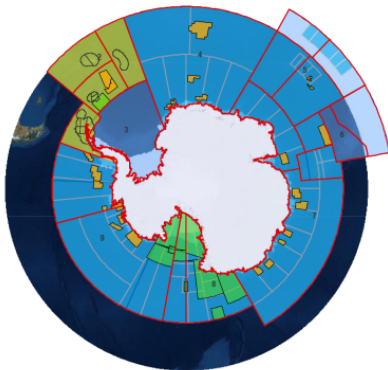
TUESDAY 5 APRIL 2022 | 12:00 - 14:00 (CET) | ROOM 58 | HYBRID EVENT  
MAISON DE LA PAIX | THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE, GENEVA | CHEMIN EUGENE-RIGOT 2, 1202 GENEVA



Event programme & Registration: <https://gicra.de/bcifr>

---ICAS Maritime Affairs Tracker Announcement---

**Announcing Phase 2 of the ICAS MAP Antarctic Issue Tracker: Marine Conservation**



ICAS is proud to launch Phase 2 of its Antarctic Maritime Issue Tracker! In light of the growing importance of Antarctica and its living resources, the new Marine Conservation Tracker details the CCAMLR systems that govern the conservation and sustainable management of marine living resources in Antarctica.

Accompanying this tracker release is a new commentary by Research Associate Matt Geraci on the roles that the United States and China play in Antarctic maritime governance and marine conservation regimes.

Link to Tracker:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/6fa05ed66f5b4c858d729e0da8fc9e92>

Link to Commentary:

<https://chinaus-icas.org/research/the-roles-of-the-united-states-and-china-in-antarctic-maritime-governance/>

---ICAS Commentary---**Will Biden's China policy change in 2022?***By Dr. Nong Hong**February 10, 2022*

The timeline of US-China engagements in 2021, from the high-level meeting in Alaska in March to the virtual summit in Beijing and Washington in December, reflect the ups and downs of the bilateral relationship in the past year. Phrases such as “dominance around the Pacific,” “strength in commerce,” “high-tech supremacy,” “human rights and freedoms,” and “a voice in world leadership” are the primary themes that define China-US relations.

Will US President Joe Biden's China policy in 2021 continue its trajectory in 2022? A close reading of the media coverage of Biden's international affair policy, particularly his views on China, may provide an answer...

Link to Full Post: <https://chinaus-icas.org/research/will-bidens-china-policy-change-in-2022/>

*This commentary was [originally published](#) by China Daily on February 10, 2022.*

---ICAS Commentary---**Building Back Better U.S.-China Relations in 2022 and Beyond***By Sourabh Gupta**February 8, 2022*

On January 20th, Joseph Biden marked his first year in office as the 46th president of the United States. At this time last year when he assumed office, a number of questions swirled on the horizon of U.S.-China ties.

After four years of fickleness, instability, threats and sanctions under Donald Trump, would President Biden deliver the U.S.-China relationship to a more normalized track of dialogue and cooperation? Would Mr. Biden rescind or modify the technology controls that his predecessor had imposed from May 2019 on in order to suppress China's rise? Would Mr. Biden steer the U.S. government away from its decoupling-based theories and press China instead to keep structurally opening up and reforming its domestic marketplace? Would Mr. Biden soften the Trump administration's defense guidance which, as encapsulated within its Strategic Framework for the Indo-Pacific, prioritized the “defen[se of] the first [western Pacific] island-chain nations, including Taiwan” and the domination of all domains outside the first island-chain vis-à-vis China? And could President Biden bring Washington to cooperate with Beijing on virus control and climate change – two issue areas that were manifestly in their mutual interest to do so?

A year on, the best that can be said about the Biden administration's approach towards China is that it has stopped digging the bilateral relationship into a deeper hole than it found itself in...

Link to Full Post: <https://chinaus-icas.org/research/building-back-better-u-s-china-relations-in-2022-and-beyond/>

---ICAS In the News---

On Wednesday, February 9, 2022, Senior Fellow Sourabh Gupta was quoted by the *South China Morning Post* in an article discussing reactions to Chinese de-globalization and rising nationalism.

- Read the quote:

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3166246/deglobalisation-writing-wall-how-china-reversing-cultural>

On Tuesday, February 8, 2022, Senior Fellow Sourabh Gupta discussed the passage of the America COMPETES Act on CGTN's *The Hub with Wang Guan*.

- Watch the Discussion: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5LO1-vhaupg>