



The ICAS Bulletin

Institute for China America Studies

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

April 12, 2023

What's Going On? ↓

Wave of Consequences Following Taiwan Leader's Visit to the U.S.



U.S. House Speaker Kevin McCarthy meets with Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen at the Reagan Library in California on April 5, 2023.
(Credit: Mario Tama via Getty Images)

- On April 5, U.S. Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy met with Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen in California, marking the highest-level U.S. official meeting with a Taiwanese president on American soil in decades. Among other issues, the two discussed the rapidly increasing tensions between mainland China and Taiwan.
- In response to Tsai's visit, a spokesperson of China foreign ministry denounced the McCarthy-Tsai meeting, stating that the U.S. was on a "wrong and dangerous road" and China would take "resolute and forceful measures to defend national sovereignty and territorial integrity."
- Soonafter, the Chinese People Liberation Army sent in 71 warplanes off the coast of Taiwan to provide a "serious warning against the 'Taiwan independence.'"
- The Chinese government also imposed sanctions on Hsiao Bi-khim, Taiwan's equivalent to an ambassador to the U.S., prohibiting her and her family from visiting mainland China.
- President Tsai Ing-wen defied China's threats before her meeting with House Speaker McCarthy to assert Taiwan's sovereignty, attracting pro- and anti-Taiwan demonstrators to gather outside of Tsai's hotel in Los

Technology Competition Continues as Private Companies Make Moves



An outdoor view of an Apple store in China in 2021.
(Source: Chris Nagahama via Unsplash)

- Tesla CEO Elon Musk stated that Tesla is looking to expand in China and build a new factory to produce 10,000 batteries yearly in Shanghai. The U.S. House congressional committee on China announced serious concern for the new factory, calling for an investigation into Tesla's federal tax breaks and access to the Chinese market.
- European plane maker Airbus will double production capacity in China, while other multinational companies such as Apple rethink their production lines in China.
- Chinese auto-parts manufacturers may be following in Apple's footsteps by seeking to establish offshore factories in Indonesia and Vietnam after years of lockdowns and rising trade tensions.
- Beijing petitioned the World Trade Organization to review chip export restrictions from the U.S., Japan and the Netherlands.
- China has begun conducting a review of U.S. chip maker Micron Technology in order to "safeguard the security of the information infrastructure supply chain," as explained by the Chinese Foreign Ministry.
- Huawei's recently released annual profit reports showed a nearly 70 percent drop in annual profits in 2022, as the effects of U.S. sanctions begin to show.

Angeles.

- China warned U.S. House Speaker Kevin McCarthy not to meet Taiwan's leader Tsai Ing-wen in consideration of regional peace and stability.
- The day before President Tsai visited with Speaker McCarthy, Tsai met with a group of U.S. senators in New York, showing support for the island's democracy and promoting sanctions against China in case of a military conflict.
- Taiwan's leader Tsai Ing-wen arrived in New York on March 29 amid threats from Beijing that American politicians engaging with her could lead to retaliation.
- Taiwan is pushing for a tax deal with the U.S. to eliminate double taxation on firms, but such an agreement may escalate tensions with China.

Associated News Sources:

- ["China sends 71 warplanes near Taiwan as military drills kick off,"](#) *The Japan Times*, April 8 [Paywall]
- ["China imposes sanctions on Taiwan's US envoy, institutions,"](#) *Reuters*, April 7 [Paywall]
- ["U.S. Speaker meets Taiwan leader and stresses need to speed up arms deliveries,"](#) *Reuters*, April 6 [Paywall]
- ["China denounces U.S.-Taiwan meeting, vows 'forceful measures',"](#) *PBS News*, April 6
- ["U.S. Tensions With China on Display as McCarthy Hosts Taiwan's Leader,"](#) *The New York Times*, April 5 [Paywall]
- ["Taiwan defies China pressure before US House speaker meeting,"](#) *AP News*, April 5
- ["China warns US House Speaker not to meet Taiwan president,"](#) *Reuters*, April 4 [Paywall]
- ["Taiwan's President Quietly Met With U.S. Senators Ahead of Kevin McCarthy Sit-Down,"](#) *The Wall Street Journal*, April 4 [Paywall]
- ["Taiwan's President Lands in the U.S. Amid Threats From China,"](#) *The Wall Street Journal*, March 29 [Paywall]
- ["Taiwan Is Pushing Biden for a Tax Deal That Could Infuriate China,"](#) *Bloomberg*, March 29 [Paywall]

- The Walt Disney Company. laid off more than 300 streaming-based employees in Beijing, as a part of a larger restructuring effort.
- Apple CEO Tim Cook met with Chinese Minister of Commerce, Wang Wentao to discuss the stabilization of the technology industry, despite Apple urging suppliers to look elsewhere for production sources.
- New studies by Chinese scientists challenge the U.S. team's "shocking" claim of superconductivity at usable temperatures.

Associated News Sources:

- ["Elon Musk: Tesla to build new battery factory in Shanghai,"](#) *BBC News*, April 10
- ["US House committee chair 'concerned' by Tesla deals in China,"](#) *Reuters*, April 10 [Paywall]
- ["China Auto-Parts Makers Join Apple in Offshore Factory Push,"](#) *Bloomberg*, April 10 [Paywall]
- ["Airbus to Build New China Jet Factory as Apple Pulls Back,"](#) *Bloomberg*, April 6 [Paywall]
- ["China seeks WTO review of chip export restrictions led by US,"](#) *South China Morning Post*, April 5 [Paywall]
- ["Micron Technology: China probes US chip maker for cybersecurity risks as tech tension escalates,"](#) *CNN News*, April 3
- ["The other Chinese apps taking the US and UK by storm,"](#) *BBC News*, April 3
- ["Micron Gets Caught in U.S.-China Crossfire,"](#) *The Wall Street Journal*, April 3 [Paywall]
- ["Huawei reports biggest profit decline ever as U.S. sanctions, pandemic controls hit Chinese giant"](#) *CNBC News*, March 31
- ["Disney Lays Off More Than 300 Streaming-Focused Employees in China,"](#) *The Wall Street Journal*, March 29 [Paywall]
- ["Apple CEO Tim Cook meets with China's commerce minister on supply chain,"](#) *CNBC News*, March 27
- ["More China scientists challenge superconductor bombshell from US team,"](#) *South China Morning Post*, March 27

Third-Party Diplomatic Activities Stay in Play



French President Emmanuel Macron speaking on stage in November 2017.
(Source: Flickr, CC2.0)

- French President Emmanuel Macron has received strong criticism after he stated that Europe cannot become a “vassal” and must not be pulled into the increasing U.S.-Chinese tensions.
- The U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai says that the U.S. is adopting trade strategies with U.S. allies to counter China’s rise and its increasing takeover of the global economy.
- Former Taiwanese president Ma Ying-jeou spoke out about how cross-strait relations are at a worrying level, citing Covid-19 as a fundamental reason.
- Chinese Premier Li Qiang publicly announced that China will continue to be an “anchor for world peace and development” as concerns build around a possible conflict with Taiwan.
- The Saudi Arabian government is noticeably strengthening its ties with China as its relations with the U.S. begin to deteriorate.
- U.S. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Mark Milley stated that war with China and Russia is “neither inevitable nor imminent.”
- Chinese Premier Li Qiang made statements saying that Asia must stray away from “chaos and conflicts” or the future of the region will be lost.
- Indian Army Chief Manoj Pande warned that increasing U.S.-China rivalries could lead to further Chinese-India border conflicts.
- China’s global campaign to win friends at local levels has come under fire by the U.S. Justice Department for its involvement with Utah officials in an effort for China to enhance its image.

Associated News Sources:

[“Macron sparks anger by saying Europe should not be ‘vassal’ in US-China clash,”](#) *The Guardian*, April 10
[“Biden Trade Chief Says US Working With Allies to Counter China,”](#) *Bloomberg*, April 5 [Paywall]
[“Cross-strait hostility at worrying level, Taiwan’s Ma](#)

The Great Economies’ Competition is Risking the Global Community



The American and Chinese flags side-by-side along with various U.S. dollars
(Source: Karolina Grabowska via Pexel)

- U.S. Treasury Undersecretary Jay Shambaugh stated on *Bloomberg TV* that the U.S. is not seeking to decouple from China and that both countries should cooperate on global issues.
- Zambia's president warns that "all parties...[are] not to make Zambia pay a price for a bigger debate," with debt restructuring as the focus of the ongoing International Monetary Fund and World Bank Spring Meetings.
- China's state-owned telecom companies are constructing a \$500 million undersea fiber-optic internet cable network to rival a similar U.S.-backed project, heightening tech tensions between the two countries.
- The International Monetary Fund warns that rising U.S.-China tensions could cause a 2% loss of global output, making emerging markets particularly vulnerable to changes in foreign investment due to geopolitics.
- Proposals to restrict Chinese purchases of American farmland are gaining traction in 27 U.S. states as lawmakers seek to demonstrate their toughness towards China.
- China's yuan gains ground in Brazil as Beijing seeks de-dollarization and avoids financial isolation amidst U.S. decoupling, but limited convertibility and Beijing's capital controls hinder its expansion.
- A former U.S. Commerce Department official sees wider sanctions against China to close loopholes, stating that there is “[n]o line to be drawn” in the tech war, especially regarding semiconductor technology.

Associated News Sources:

[“Top Treasury Official Says US Not Seeking China Decoupling,”](#) *Bloomberg*, April 10 [Paywall]
[“Debt Standoff Between China and U.S. Hurts Poor Countries, Zambia’s President Warns,”](#) *The Wall Street Journal*, April 10 [Paywall]
[“China plans \\$500 million subsea internet cable to rival US-backed project,”](#) *Reuters*, April 6 [Paywall]
[“IMF says U.S-China tensions could cost the world about](#)

[Ying-jeou tells top mainland China official.](#) *South China Morning Post*, March 30 [Paywall]
["China Seeks to Reassure CEOs as Worries Swirl Over Potential War."](#) *Bloomberg*, March 30 [Paywall]
["China's premier warns against 'chaos and conflicts' in Asia."](#) *Al Jazeera*, March 30
["Saudi Arabia Strengthens Relations With China Amid Strained U.S. Ties."](#) *The Wall Street Journal*, March 29 [Paywall]
["Milley Says War With China, Russia Not Inevitable,"](#) U.S. Department of Defense, March 29
["Great Power Rivalry May Fan China Border Spat: India Army Chief,"](#) *Bloomberg*, March 28 [Paywall]
["Amid strained US ties, China finds unlikely friend in Utah,"](#) *AP News*, March 27

[2% of its output."](#) *CNBC News*, April 6
["Heartland lawmakers push bans on Chinese purchases of American farms,"](#) *The Washington Post*, April 4 [Paywall]
["China's yuan makes Brazilian inroads, as 'de-dollarisation reflects cracks' in US currency settlements,"](#) *South China Morning Post*, April 3 [Paywall]
["No line to be drawn' in tech war with China, says former Commerce Department BIS official,"](#) *Digitimes Asia*, March 24

U.S. Lawmakers Touch on China and Chinese Activities



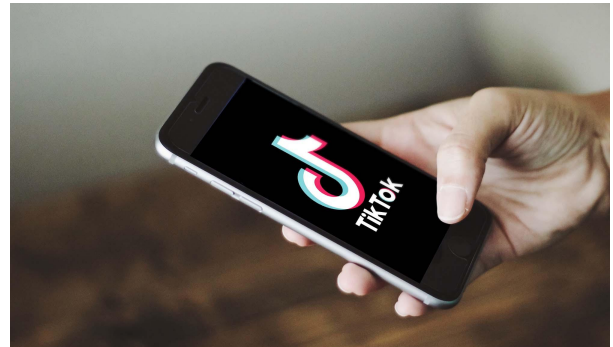
Image of various pills on a flat surface. (Source: Getty Images, Royalty Free)

- Mexico's president asked his Chinese counterpart to assist in stopping Chinese chemicals used by Mexican drug dealers to illegally produce fentanyl. The Chinese government denied that the country had involvement in any illegal fentanyl drug trafficking with Mexico, with the foreign ministry spokesman saying the U.S. "should face up to its own problems."
- The U.S. House of Representatives voted unanimously in a challenge to China's international status as a 'developing nation,' an appointment which allows for special trade and low-interest loans.
- Top U.S. lawmakers overseeing the Department of Homeland Security have called for hearings to investigate Chinese software that runs over 80% of U.S. port cranes.
- U.S. Undersecretary of State for economic growth and energy, Jose Fernandez, spoke in-favor of the U.S. policies towards the Chinese government, citing that they were necessary to create a "level playing field."

Associated News Sources:

["China: We're Still a Developing Nation. US Lawmakers: No Way."](#) *Voice of America*, April 8
["China denies fentanyl trafficking with Mexico; blames](#)

- In Other News -



Cell-phone with the TikTok and a black background. (Source: Nordskov Media, Public Domain via Flickr)

["USF joins Florida colleges in blocking TikTok from being used on campus."](#) *10 Tampa Bay*, April 5
["China watches Trump courtroom drama: A 'premium show without paywall'."](#) *The Washington Post*, April 5 [Paywall]
["Philippines, U.S. hold biggest-ever drills to counter China,"](#) *Nikkei Asia*, April 11
["Le Maire Says EU Must Not Be Pushed Around in US-China Rivalry,"](#) *Bloomberg*, April 11 [Paywall]
["ChatGPT pushes US, China to take similar precautions on AI accountability,"](#) *South China Morning Post*, April 11 [Paywall]
["Korean Air, Japanese Airlines Could Benefit From Limits on U.S.-China Flights,"](#) *Airline Weekly*, April 10
["Chinese Solar Maker Says US May Be Too Pricey for Expansion,"](#) *Bloomberg*, April 9 [Paywall]
["Intel officials watching for signs Russia, China are trying to exploit Trump indictment to widen U.S. political divide,"](#) *NBC News*, April 4

[US," ABC News, April 6](#)
["Mexico asks China's help in curbing production of fentanyl," AP News, April 4](#)
["Congress Seeks Details on Spying Risks From Chinese Cargo Cranes," The Wall Street Journal, April 3 \[Paywall\]](#)
["US Says Tough China Moves Needed to Counter 'National Champions'," Bloomberg, April 3 \[Paywall\]](#)

What Are We Reading? ↓

- National Committee on U.S.-China Relations: ["Open Letter to the Presidents of the United States & the People's Republic of China: On the Need to Stabilize Bilateral Relations"](#)
- *South China Morning Post*: ["For China and the US. is 'no catastrophe' really the best scenario?"](#) by Shi Jiangtao (April 11, 2023) [Paywall]
- *The Wall Street Journal*: ["China Eyes Commercial Ships in a Move to Intimidate Taiwan"](#) by Elisabeth Braw (April 11, 2023) [Paywall]
- *Foreign Affairs*: ["Navigating the New Age of Great-Power Competition"](#) by Bilahari Kausikan (April 11, 2023)
- *AlJazeera*: ["Pakistan is making a mistake in ignoring the US for China"](#) by Riaz Khokar (April 10, 2023)
- Bloomberg: ["China May Not Need Western Technology Much Longer"](#) by Justin Fox (April 10, 2023)
- *The Hill*: ["Biden must reach out to Xi before the US-China impasse becomes irreconcilable"](#) by Nicholas Sargen (April 10, 2023)
- *The Wall Street Journal*: ["For Apple, India Is the Next China"](#) by Megha Mandavia (April 10, 2023) [Paywall]
- *The Wall Street Journal*: ["Macron Blunders on Taiwan—and Ukraine"](#) by the Editorial Board (April 9, 2023) [Paywall]
- *The Wall Street Journal*: ["China Warns Taiwan, With an Eye on Rest of the World"](#) by Jonathan Cheng (April 9, 2023) [Paywall]
- Center for Strategic and International Studies: ["Breaking the Ice: The Role of Scholarly Exchange in Stabilizing U.S.-China Relations"](#) by Scott Kennedy and Wang Jisi (April 7, 2023)
- Bloomberg: ["China Restraint on Taiwan Shows Xi Has Bigger Concerns Now"](#) by Cindy Wang, Lucille Liu, Jing Li, Rebecca Choong Wilkins and Jacob Gu (April 6, 2023) [Paywall]
- *Times*: ["China Plays Long Game With Softer Response to Taiwan President Visiting U.S."](#) by Charlie Campbell (April 6, 2023)
- *Reuters*: ["Explainer: Why is China so angry about Taiwan president meeting US Speaker McCarthy?"](#) (April 5, 2023) [Paywall]
- *The Economist*: ["The view from the front line between Taiwan and China"](#) (April 5, 2023) [Paywall]
- *Foreign Policy*: ["The U.S.-China Fault Line Is Felt in the Academy"](#) by Christina Lu and Rocio Fabbro (April 5, 2023) [Paywall]
- *The Wall Street Journal*: ["Our Bill Is the Best Way to Counter the TikTok Threat"](#) by John Thune and Mark Warner (April 5, 2023) [Paywall]
- *South China Morning Post*: ["How China-US tensions are affecting American aircraft exports to the world's No 2 economy"](#) by Amanda Lee (April 5, 2023) [Paywall]
- *The Wall Street Journal*: ["Our Bill Is the Best Way to Counter the TikTok Threat"](#) by John Thune and Mark Warner (April 5, 2023) [Paywall]
- Bloomberg: ["Apple's Complex, Secretive Gamble to Move Beyond China"](#) by Mark Gurman (April 5, 2023) [Paywall]
- *Financial Times*: ["Tsai Ing-wen's US trip: the deepening political divide in Taiwan"](#) by Kathrin Hille (April 5, 2023) [Paywall]

- *The Information*: [“Sequoia and Other U.S.-Backed VCs Are Funding China’s Answer to OpenAI.”](#) by Juro Osawa (April 5, 2023) [Paywall]
- *The Economist*: [“It is getting even harder for Western scholars to do research in China”](#) (April 5, 2023) [Paywall]
- *Nikkei Asia*: [“U.S. allies are on board for China chip tech controls after all”](#) by Chris Miller (April 4, 2023)
- *AP News*: [“US chip controls threaten China’s technology ambitions”](#) by Joe McDonald (April 4, 2023)
- *South China Morning Post*: [“US-China tech war: without advanced chips, can China’s smartphone industry survive?”](#) by Huifeng He and Jane Cai (April 4, 2023) [Paywall]
- *The Wall Street Journal*: [“China’s New Tech Weapon: Dragging Its Feet on Global Merger Approvals”](#) by Lingling Wei and Asa Fitch (April 4, 2023) [Paywall]
- *South China Morning Post*: [“China’s longest US ambassador vacancy provides latest sign of bleak relations”](#) by Mark Magnier (April 3, 2023) [Paywall]
- *Reuters*: [“China’s intensifying nuclear-armed submarine patrols add complexity for U.S., allies”](#) by George Torode and Eduardo Bapista (April 3, 2023) [Paywall]
- *The New York Times*: [“‘On a Tightrope’: How Taiwan’s President Navigated the U.S. and China”](#) by John Liu, Amy Chang Chien, Chris Horton and Paul Mozur (April 2, 2023) [Paywall]
- *Financial Times*: [“Why Beijing thinks the EU’s China rhetoric is written in Washington”](#) (March 31, 2023) [Paywall]
- *Foreign Affairs*: [“Bangladesh Tilts Toward the U.S. in the Indo-Pacific”](#) by Michael Kugelman (March 30, 2023) [Paywall]
- *The Economist*: [“Why the China-US contest is entering a new and more dangerous phase”](#) (March 30, 2023) [Paywall]
- *The Economist*: [“America’s commercial sanctions on China could get much worse”](#) (March 30, 2023) [Paywall]
- *The New York Times*: [“Do We Really Need to Have a Cold War With China?”](#) by Jacob Dreyer (March 30, 2023) [Paywall]
- *The Wall Street Journal*: [“A TikTok Ban May Be Just the Beginning”](#) by Christopher Mims (March 25, 2023) [Paywall]
- *Reuters*: [“Factbox: Why a broad US TikTok ban is unlikely to take effect soon”](#) (March 23, 2023) [Paywall]

What’s Happening Around Town?

- Past Events -

- [China’s Climate Security Vulnerabilities](#)
April 11 hosted by Wilson Center
- [Grasping Shadows Report Launch: China’s Campaign Against Shadow Banks and its Consequences](#)
April 10 hosted Center for Strategic and International Studies
- [2023 U.S.-China Agriculture Roundtable Opening Ceremony](#)
April 4 hosted by United States Heartland China Association
- [Assessing the Economic and Financial Dynamics of a Cross-Strait Crisis](#)
March 29 hosted by Center for Strategic and International Studies

- Upcoming Events -

- [The Ninth Annual Nancy Bernkopf Tucker Memorial Lecture on U.S.-East Asia Relations](#)
April 12 hosted by Wilson Center
- [Hearing on “China’s Pursuit of Defense Technologies: Implications for U.S. and Multilateral Export Control and Investment Screening Regimes”](#)
April 13 hosted by U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission
- [Whose Grass is Greener? The American and Chinese Climate Challenge](#)
April 20 hosted by The China Project
- [Fireside Chat with Dr. Ko Wen-je, Chairman of the Taiwan People’s Party and Former Mayor of Taipei](#)
April 20 hosted by Center for Strategic and International Studies

What ICAS Is Up To

---ICAS MAP Co-sponsored Event---

Roles of Asian Observers in Arctic Governance: Adapting to a Changing Arctic Council

Thursday, April 13, 2023
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM EST

Climate change has increased accessibility to potential Arctic resources, changing the geopolitical landscape and broadening the international focus on the Arctic to include more geographically distant countries such as China, Japan, South Korea, India, and Singapore. Seeking observer status in the Arctic Council is regarded by these Asian countries to be an important step towards ensuring that they are involved in determining the future of the Arctic; a region which they believe will influence their economic interests and global environmental concerns.

Triggered by the Ukraine conflict, the March 2022 joint statement by the Arctic Council states to pause participation in all meetings of the Arctic Council indicates grave impediments to international cooperation in the Arctic. So long as this statement is in play, the premier forum for Arctic governance, which tended to be immune from geopolitical tensions, can no longer function in its consensus-based format. This subsequently opened up an ongoing debate on the future of the Arctic Council.

What does the suspension of the Arctic Council meetings mean for Arctic Council observers? Will Norway, who will take over the chairmanship in May 2023, make any progress to break through the current ties? Will the debate on the concept of an “Arctic Council 2.0” gain support among non-Arctic states who have a deep interest in Arctic governance? Will non-Arctic countries such as China, Japan, South Korea, India, and Singapore — which have growing Arctic interests and have contributed much to Arctic research — welcome the opportunity for them to establish a more solid role in this region’s affairs? How will the observers adapt to a changing Arctic Council?

This event, co-organized by the China Institute of the University of Alberta, will bring together scholars from the five Asian observers of the Arctic Council, China, Japan, South Korea, India, and Singapore to exchange their views on this critical issue.

[Learn More](#)

[About the Co-Organizer: China Institute, University of Alberta](#)



VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE
April 13, 2023 | 9:30-11:00 am EST

ROLES OF ASIAN OBSERVERS IN ARCTIC GOVERNANCE

Adapting to a Changing Arctic Council

OPENING REMARKS
Jia WANG
Interim Director, China Institute, University of Alberta

MODERATOR
Nong HONG
Executive Director, Institute for China-America Studies

SPEAKERS
ZHAO Long
Senior Fellow and Deputy Director, Institute for Global Governance Studies, Shanghai Institutes for International Studies, China
Sakiko HATAYA
Research Fellow, Ocean Policy Research Institute of the Sakakawa Peace Foundation, Japan
KIM Wonhee
Senior Researcher, Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology, South Korea
Anurag BISEN
Research Fellow, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, India
Christopher LEN
Independent Scholar, Singapore

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---ICAS Partner Event---

COMMITTEE OF 100 **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

The Fight for Representation: The State of Chinese Americans Survey

Thursday, April 27
7pm EDT

Chinese Americans are historically underrepresented in politics and policy, and underserved in healthcare, education, and social services. How do you work to solve these problems? The first step is getting clear and concise data on Chinese Americans, one of the fastest growing populations in the U.S.

Chinese Americans have diverse backgrounds and diverse needs - from culture, family, healthcare, education, employment, finances and political engagement. Data disaggregation is the key to addressing the issues, concerns and challenges of Chinese Americans.

In the largest survey of its kind ever conducted, nearly 6,500 Chinese Americans from 46 states answered 77 key questions about the Chinese American experience in research conducted jointly by Columbia University and Committee of 100.

This disaggregated data specifically on Chinese Americans will inform policymakers and the public of the diverse set of opinions, perceptions, and needs of Chinese Americans across the country and will help develop timely and responsive policies, programs, and services to address those needs.

Join experts from Columbia University, Committee of 100 and the worlds of policy, politics and research for the unveiling of this data at a virtual town hall on April 27 at 7:00pm ET.

RSVP here to hold your spot for this important discussion.

The Fight for Representation: The State of Chinese Americans Survey

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FULL EVENT AGENDA

(ALL TIMES APPROXIMATE)

7:00pm ET	Welcome and Open Gary Locke Chair, Committee of 100; President of Bellevue College; former U.S. Ambassador to China; former Governor of the State of Washington
7:03pm ET	Welcome Dr. Melissa D. Begg Dean of the Columbia School of Social Work, Columbia University
7:06pm ET	Why We Partnered with Columbia University and Why this Research is Important to the Chinese American Community Zhengyu Huang President, Committee of 100
7:10pm ET	Key Findings from The State of Chinese Americans Survey Dr. Qin Gao Professor of Social Policy and Social Work; Associate Dean for Doctoral Education; Director, China Center for Social Policy, Columbia University
7:55pm ET	Panel Discussion — What the Data Means Gordon H. Chang Olive H. Palmer Professor in Humanities; Professor of History, History Department; Stanford University (moderator) Wayne Ho President & Chief Executive Officer, Chinese-American Planning Council Dr. Neil G. Ruiz Head of New Research Initiatives, Pew Research Center Robert L. Santos Director, U.S. Census Bureau
8:25pm ET	Conclusion Zhengyu Huang

---ICAS MAP Issue Brief---

**The Maritime Bedrock of the U.S.-Philippines Alliance:
Understanding Manila and Washington's Interests in the South China Sea**

By Alec Caruana

April 10, 2023

Key Takeaways:

- Manila's recent deepening of military cooperation with the United States is motivated by a perceived need to enhance the Philippines' maritime security and reinforce its position in disputes with other claimant states—primarily China—in the South China Sea.
- Washington takes no official position on sovereignty disputes in the South China Sea, but its overall strategy to promote international maritime law and deter Chinese transgressions in the region substantively aligns its interests with the renewed resolve of Philippine President Ferdinand 'Bongbong' Marcos Jr., inaugurated last June.
- The Philippines' disputed claims in the South China Sea operate on two levels: disputed jurisdiction over maritime space, and disputed sovereignty over mid-ocean territorial features. Both of these categories trace their legal origins back to the Philippines' time as a U.S. colony between 1898 and 1946.
- Manila's rights to resources and jurisdiction in maritime zones extending from its coastline are disputed with Beijing's overlapping claims to "historic rights" in the South China Sea and jurisdiction over "relevant waters" around its controlled islands. The Arbitral Tribunal established under Annex VII of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) ruled in 2016 that China was violating Philippine rights in its entitled maritime zones, but disputes over fishing and hydrocarbon exploration between the two states persist.
- The Philippines is also engaged in territorial sovereignty disputes with its neighboring states over several islands, reefs, and underwater features in the South China Sea, namely: the Scarborough Shoal, which it disputes with China, and parts of the Spratly archipelago, which it disputes with China, Vietnam, and Malaysia. Both disputes are mired by complicated histories, precarious legal arguments, and 'might makes right' attitudes.
- With the recent expansion of U.S.-Philippine security cooperation, Manila has an opportunity to shrewdly pursue constructive diplomacy with other claimant states alongside targeted maritime capacity-building measures with Washington's assistance. The Biden administration may facilitate both 'tracks' if it wishes to positively contribute to regional stability and mitigate the escalation of tensions.

[Link to Full Post](#)

---ICAS Commentary---

Why China is hesitant about endorsing marine protected area proposals in the Antarctic

By Nong Hong

April 7, 2023

The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR, hereafter referred to as the Commission) convenes meetings on a range of topics each year. This includes gatherings to discuss the establishment of Marine Protected Areas (MPA) in the Antarctic. In the [41st Meeting of the Commission](#), held October 24-November 4, 2022, three MPA proposals were brought to the meeting for discussion: Domain 1 MPA (Western Antarctic Peninsula and South Scotia Arc) submitted by Argentina and Chile; East Antarctic MPA submitted by Australia, the European Union and India, New Zealand, Norway, Korea, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States and Uruguay; and the Weddell Sea MPA (WSMPA) submitted by the EU, Norway, Uruguay, Australia, the UK, New Zealand, the U.S., Korea, India and Ukraine. The Commission did not reach consensus on any of the three MPA proposals at this meeting.

The three proposals were supported by most members of the Commission. Russia and China expressed concerns, such as the need for baseline data collection and research and monitoring plans (RMPs) prior to the establishment of a MPA. The United States explicitly stated that it neither currently agrees with all the conclusions nor endorses all the recommendations made by China and Russia regarding MPAs and associated RMPs. The U.S. also called for attention being given to a more constructive dialogue on MPAs and RMPs in the future, starting with a Special Meeting in 2023.

[Link to Full Post](#)

---ICAS TnT Issue Brief---

**China's Data Governance and Cybersecurity Regime:
Balancing Control and Security with Privacy, Inclusion and Commerce**

*By Sourabh Gupta
April 5, 2023*

Key Takeaways:

- China is unique in its farsighted treatment of data as a standalone 'factor of production'. The goal of the central leadership appears to be to chart out the long-term parameters of a deep and liquid marketplace where data elements can be traded seamlessly, data factors are remunerated fairly, and guardrails erected to prevent the misuse, abuse or weaponization of data against the Party and State.
- The focus of regulatory action has been four-fold: (a) to rein-in fintech-linked financial instability risks; (b) to rein-in the anti-competitive practices of Big Tech and compel greater data portability across platforms; (c) to rein-in the misuse and misappropriation of personal information; and (d) to streamline processes for classification of data and network security, including for data export purposes. More lately, regulators have sought to monitor network security risks as well as tighten controls over content at social media platforms through 'golden shares'.
- Chinese regulators have not been reticent to move fast and break things to instill order and structure to the marketplace – a far contrast to the all talk and no action mode of regulatory non-accomplishment across the Pacific. The capriciousness of regulation and the lack of due process has been disconcerting though, particularly at a time when China seeks to convey a more predictable business environment to local entrepreneurs and foreign investors.
- The resemblance of China's approach to Big Tech regulation – be it with regard to privacy and data handling, how content is treated on major digital platforms, or how gatekeeper platforms treat their smaller peers and vendors – bears significant resemblance to the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), Digital Services Act (DSA), and Digital Markets Act (DMA). Which in turn begs the obvious question: Can Europe and China interconnect their digital ecosystems?

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---ICAS Blog Post---

Thoughts on the oil price cap and its impact on China's energy security

*By Xiaohang Zhou
April 7, 2023*

The recent imposition of price caps on Russian oil and petroleum products by the United States, the European Union, other G7 countries, and Australia (a group loosely being referred to as the "Price Cap Coalition") following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 has sent continuous shockwaves across the global energy market. As net importers of fossil fuels, Asian countries have frequently faced rising costs and supply chain disruptions due to unilaterally or collectively imposed sanctions, which have exacerbated issues like poverty, inequality and climate change...

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On Sunday, April 9, 2023, Senior Fellow Sourabh Gupta was [quoted](#) in the *South China Morning Post* on President Macron's trip to China and EU-China relations.

- "China would much prefer that its most important geoeconomic partner be the US. But Washington is not willing to play ball"
- "The essence of the dilemma for Beijing, therefore, is how to balance the [two] relationships ... given that Russia and the Europeans are at loggerheads and China is increasingly being placed in the doghouse with Russia in European eyes,"

On Thursday, April 6, 2023, Senior Fellow Sourabh Gupta was [quoted](#) in an *Inside US Trade* article on the restructuring of China's science and technology ministry.

- "China is not framing this as a response to the U.S...They're framing it as 'What do we need to do to continue with our modernization program in the context of what the U.S. is doing?'"

On Friday, March 31, 2023, Senior Fellow Sourabh Gupta was [quoted](#) by the *South China Morning Post* on the Summit for Democracy and its focus on democratic renewal.

- The democracy forum was "a very useful platform from which to champion" agreements on technology usage, "regardless of whether or not this summit kind of peters out at the end of the Biden administration."

On Thursday, March 30, 2023, Senior Fellow Sourabh Gupta [discussed](#) the Boao Forum 2023 on *CGTN America's The Heat*.

- "...particularly when the conflict in Europe still continues in Ukraine, one cannot discount that these sort of matters could also, at one point in time, come to Asia, that would be very unfortunate. You know, the security infrastructure of Europe has collapsed in the name of 40 million Ukrainians. We don't want the Asian security architecture to collapse in the name of 23 million Taiwanese...so obviously one cannot discount these fears..."

On Thursday, March 30, 2023, Senior Fellow Sourabh Gupta [discussed](#) the US' One-China Policy and President Tsai's Travel on *CGTN America The World Today*.

- "Congress has been in Taiwan from the very first day of normalization of relations with the People's Republic of China. Of course, the U.S. had to move out of Taiwan, but then we had the Taiwan Relations Act and ever since then whenever there have been big period of tension...the administration is forever looking over its shoulders to see as to what the political sentiment is. I think the political sentiment on Congress is so bitter with regard China, particularly vis-a-vis with Taiwan, that I actually commend the Biden administration in this instance to at least, sort of, talk through to Mr. McCarthy and ensure that he doesn't go to Taiwan like Speaker Pelosi did..."

On Thursday, March 30, 2023, Senior Fellow Sourabh Gupta was [interviewed](#) by *Xinhua* on China's Global Security Initiative and its relations to global multilateralism.

- "It is about there is one world and we can't run away from that. We have to live together. We have to sort our problems together."
- "If we frame our collective action under the UN umbrella, we will be able to have the widest possible buy-in into the system, which will be good for the long-term sustainability and prosperity of all human beings. And I think that was the key point [President Xi Jinping] was making."