

## ANNUAL REPORT



"Committed to providing a fact-based window into the worldviews of both the United States and China to promote greater understanding between these two vital countries and societies."



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# **2023 ANNUAL REPORT**

## ABOUT US -



The Institute for China-America Studies (ICAS) is an independent think tank in Washington D.C. ICAS focuses on the evolving dynamics in the U.S.-China relationship to promote greater collaboration and mutual understanding through sincere exchanges of fresh ideas, objective policy-oriented research, and fair assessments of this critical bilateral relationship.

Our research focuses on U.S.-China strategic relations, maritime security, economics, trade and technology relations, climate change policy, global governance, and other issues central to the bilateral relationship. Ultimately, we aim to provide a window into the worldviews of both the United States and China, and thereby serve as a vehicle to promote greater understanding between these two countries and societies.

ICAS is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

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#### **OUR VALUES**

- 1. We strive to introduce fresh ideas and perspectives
- 2. We embrace collaborative pathways in our projects and dialogue programs
- 3. We engage policy questions with sincerity and frankness
- 4. We commit to producing objective and fact-based analyses
- 5. We endeavor to provide fair and balanced representation of viewpoints
- 6. We aspire to nurture future thought-leaders
- 7. We are conscious of our duty to be inclusive and diverse

## - ICAS 2023 - By The Numbers

### 26

#### Events & Academic Engagements

- 8 ICAS Hosted/Co-Hosted Events
  - 12 Academic Engagements
  - 5 In-House Scholar Visits
    - 1 Student Lecture

**53** 

## Analytical Publications

- 1 Book
- **2** Journal Articles
  - 3 Reports
  - 8 Issue Briefs
- 16 Commentaries
  - 23 Blog Posts

## 2,455

## Total Communications Engagements

- **2,172** Tweets
- 141 LinkedIn Posts
- **32** WeChat Posts
- 11 New YouTube Videos
- 99 Mass Emails

106

Media

**Appearances** 

1,306

New Subscribers

**70** 

## ICAS Newsletter Issues

- 26 ICAS Bulletins
- 24 TnT Dispatches
- 2 MAP Handbills
- 8 BCCC Quarterlies

## From Our Director

Dr. Nong Hong
Executive Director & Senior Fellow

#### Dear Friends,

On behalf of the ICAS board of directors and academic advisors, I am delighted to provide you with a concise overview of our achievements throughout 2023, produced while committedly observing the intricate and dynamic bilateral relationship between the United States and China.

The U.S.-China relationship experienced various ups and downs in 2023, making it a tumultuous year. Following the high expectations set at the Bali Summit in November 2022, bilateral relations rapidly cooled after the balloon incident in February, approaching a freezing point over the subsequent four months. The visit of U.S. Secretary of State



Blinken to China in early June marked the reopening of communication between high-level officials followed by subsequent visits by other U.S. senior officials. Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, Vice Premier He Lifeng, and other officials reciprocated by visiting the United States. These engagements propelled China-U.S. interactions to a new level over the past five years. The Leaders' Summit in San Francisco in November marked a crucial milestone in stabilizing bilateral relations and expanding cooperation between the two countries. The establishment of new dialogue channels provides an opportunity for the U.S. and China to advance comprehensive consultations, encompassing trade, technology, artificial intelligence, climate, and security issues.

The trajectory of China-U.S. relations in 2023 reflects that, after years of intense competition and repeated adjustments, the resilience of the relationship is gradually becoming apparent.

At the outset of 2024, the dynamics of U.S.-China relations remain complex, marked by ongoing strategic competition. However, both parties are confronted with more immediate priorities. Biden's primary focus is on seeking re-election, while China grapples with economic challenges in the coming year. Consequently, the pursuit of stability in bilateral relations becomes increasingly prudent. While there are optimistic expectations, several challenges have the potential to hinder positive momentum, testing the resilience of the relationship anew. In 2024 and beyond, both nations must exert concerted efforts to understand each other's mindsets and engage in collaborative endeavors to mitigate risks and enhance stability.

Currently in its 10th year of existence, ICAS has established itself as a fresh voice in the Washington, D.C. think tank community. ICAS continually strives to provide a window into the worldviews of both the United States and China, and thereby serve as a vehicle to promote greater understanding between these two countries and societies through our various research programs. The Maritime Affairs Program—gathering, displaying, and debating both the historic and the newly developed maritime related issues—the Trade 'n Technology Program—chronicling and analyzing the evolving dynamics of U.S.-China trade and technology affairs as they occur—and the Blue Carbon and Climate Change Program—exploring new policy pathways for sustainably developing the blue carbon economy and combating climate change—collectively form the three-pillar academic and policy research focuses of the ICAS team. Launched in May 2023, the U.S.-China Legislative and Executive Actions Directory (L.E.A.D.) Project is designed to track and summarize prominent critical issues and developments related to China originating from both the White House and Capitol Hill. The Expert Voices Initiative, featuring oncamera sit-down interviews with prominent experts, continues to capture candid opinions on crucial aspects of the U.S.-China bilateral relationship that cover a diverse range of topics, spanning economics, trade, soft power initiatives, climate, security, politics, and foreign policy.

ICAS is committed to maintaining our ongoing engagement with the global community, dedicated to conducting timely and relevant analyses of the U.S.-China relationship. We are excited about the potential achievements that lie ahead and sincerely appreciate your continued support.

## ICAS MARITIME AFFAIRS PROGRAM

CAS staff and fellows have always valued researching and understanding critical issues, conflicts, and resolutions in maritime affairs. In 2021, ICAS officially developed and released the ICAS Maritime Affairs Program (MAP) to better gather, display, and debate both historic and newly developed maritime related issues; especially those that have the potential to impact U.S.-China relations. In early 2023, ICAS created an online archive for the monthly MAP Handbill newsletter's accompanying Spotlight commentaries, which also began to be individually published on our website in an effort to provide expanded accessibility to essential information on these timely, core issues in global maritime affairs.

The goal of this program is to inform and stimulate open, fact-based, intellectual discussion on an array of topics including but not limited to international law of the sea, maritime security, fisheries, shipping, oil and natural gas management, and marine environment protection to ultimately identify potential issues for cooperation and productive engagement.

#### Maritime Issue Trackers

The ICAS Maritime Issue Trackers project is an online, collaborative platform designed to encourage intellectual exchange on maritime developments and issues around the world. The longest-running project at ICAS, it currently features trackers for three regions:

Polar (Arctic & Antarctic)

East China Sea

South China Sea

The ICAS Team is looking forward to updating current maps as time allows as a part of our commitment to ensuring that the public, researchers, and policymakers have easy access to information on these critical regions.

#### **MAP Publications**

MAP publications focus on analyzing and understanding the evolving and long-standing multinational interactions uniquely found in the maritime realm. MAP publications can range in size from blog posts and commentaries to full-length books and our monthly maritime newsletter, the MAP Handbill.

#### **MAP Events**

Hosted periodically throughout the year, ICAS MAP events promote the free and equal exchange of ideas on maritime affairs and international law, especially as they relate to U.S.-China relations. The format of maritime-related events that the ICAS team hosts or co-hosts — and participate in as experts themselves — can range from public roundtables to multinational conferences and private dialogues between field experts.

#### **MAP Media**

ICAS MAP Program media projects include but are not limited to short-form blog posts, Expert Voice Initiative (EVI) interviews, and Twitter campaigns. We welcome anyone curious about this field to follow us on Twitter and explore our #ICASMAP and #MAPWave campaigns.

#### MAP Handbill

Released the last Tuesday of every month, the MAP Handbill is a specialized newsletter that highlights the major news stories, research products, analyses, and events occurring in or with regard to the global maritime domain during the past month.

Each issue also includes a **Spotlight**: a short-form written background and analysis of a specific issue related to maritime affairs, which changes with each issue. The goal of the Spotlight is to help our readers quickly and accurately understand the basic background of a vital topic in maritime affairs and how that topic relates to ongoing developments today.

2023 MAP Handbill Spotlight topics:

The Black Sea
Carrier Strike Groups
Strait of Malacca
Joint Naval Exercise
U.S. Shipping Reforms
Maritime Search and Rescue
Nine-Dash Line
Ocean Temperature
The Panama Canal
Air Interception and Close Encounters
Submarine Volcanoes

ICAS
ICAS
MARITIME AFFAIRS
PROGRAM



Volume 2 - 2023

Like all ICAS newsletters, the MAP Handbill is also released as quarterly collections and a singular, annual volume at the end of the year.

#### **Selected Publications**

COMMENTARY

Nong Hong

February 25

As war in Ukraine freezes the Arctic Council, how will Asia break the ice?

The Red Sea

SUE BRIEF

The New Marcos Administration: Re-Paving the Philippines' Grand Strategic Path Jessica Martin
March 9

COMMENTARY

Nong Hong

March 17

What does the High Seas Treaty imply for China in the South China Sea and the Arctic Ocean?

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

Alec Caruana April 10 **2023 ANNUAL REPORT** 

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## TINT ICAS TRADE 'N TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

n 2021, ICAS established the ICAS Trade 'n Technology (TnT) Program, which chronicles and analyzes the evolving dynamics of U.S.-China trade and technology affairs as they occur. Topics of interest range from private sector technology developments and trends in multinational trade to domestic legislation, diplomatic engagements, and global governance involving the intersection of trade and technology. In 2023, ICAS was able to utilize several methods, such as its Expert Voices Initiative interviews, to go further in-depth on the issues with experts in this contentious and expanding field.

The goal of this program is to provide well-rounded, timely products on issues involving U.S.-China trade and technology developments and expand public dialogue surrounding this critical and contentious topic.

#### **TnT Dispatch**

Released about every 2 weeks, the TnT Dispatch is a curated newsletter built to inform readers of notable, recent developments in U.S.-China trade and technology ties. The content of the Dispatch typically includes 2-3 themed news sections highlighting ongoing trends in U.S.-China trade and technology issues and, if applicable, a summary list of major related issues and actions that have taken place on U.S. Captol Hill in recent weeks. Each of these sections finish with a succinct and direct expert analysis of trends to keep an eye on and a list of sources.

#### **TnT Publications**

In addition to the TnT Dispatch, ICAS scholars release a variety of publications throughout the year of varying length and content to best inform and update the audience on key issues. TnT issue briefs are in-depth, short-form analyses of important topical issue areas in U.S.-China trade and technology ties. Other publications include more in-depth, far-reaching reports and smaller, more timely publications like commentaries and summaries of events involving expert speakers.

#### **TnT Events**

Hosted periodically throughout the year, TnT events promote the free exchange of ideas on U.S.-China trade and technology ties. To support this goal of free exchange of ideas, most TnT events are open to the public, are viewable online both during and after the event takes place, and are typically conducted in the form of a roundtable where relevant experts—from both the U.S. and other nations—share their analyses and then discuss a series of interactive, timely questions on the issue. We look forward to adding to our TnT Program events in 2024.

#### **TnT Media**

ICAS TnT Program media projects include but are not limited to short-form periodicals, Expert Voice Initiative (EVI) interviews, and Twitter campaigns. We welcome anyone curious about this field to follow us on Twitter and explore our #ICASTnT and #TnTFlash campaigns.

#### **TnT Dispatch**

A regular feature of the ICAS Trade 'n Technology (TnT) Program is the TnT Dispatch—a newsletter curated and released about every other Friday with the most recent news and legislative developments on trade and technology issues.



DISPATCH



Examples of 2023 TnT Dispatch Topics:

U.S. and China's Duelling Views of Globalization [January 26]

Decouple with China, but at What Cost? [March 10]

USTR Tai Puts Pedal to the Metal on Trade Initiatives [April 7]

America's New Trade Story: Many Talks but Limited Delivery [April 27]

Hope for U.S.-China Trade Persists Amid Apprehension Over Vulnerabilities [May 5]

Tale of Two Antagonists: Outlook for U.S.-China Trade & Tech in 2023 [January 16]

IPEF: Modest Progress Made in Detroit, Many Questions Remain [June 5]

Above the Fray: The EU's Position Between the U.S. and China [July 14]

The EU's Derisking Dilemma [October 6]

Larger Divisions Expected as U.S.-China Derisking Plows Ahead [November 6]

Autos and AI, the New Trade and Tech Chessboard [November 20]

The 24th China-EU Summit was Held in Beijing, To Mixed Results [December 14]

#### **Selected Publications**

Slow Crawl Ahead Towards a "Thaw" in U.S.-China Trade

SSUE BRIEF

COMMENTARY

COMMENTARY

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

Sourabh Gupta

BLOG POST Amanda (Yue) Jin August 14

Event Summary: The Outbound Investment EO: What's in, what's out, and what does it all mean?

The Expanded BRICS at Fifteen

Sourabh Gupta

Sourabh Gupta November 20

Scientific 'coupling' must be preserved for global good

## BCCC ICAS BLUE CARBON & CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAM

ewly established in early 2022, the ICAS Blue Carbon and Climate Change (BCCC) Program explores new policy pathways for sustainably developing the blue carbon economy and combating climate change through open dialogue and policy research. In 2023, ICAS was able to solidify its foundational knowledge of this novel field and provide space for experts to share their own.

The goal of this program is to establish a platform for academic exchange between experts around the world to produce tangible policy recommendations for countries to follow together. Most prominently, the program endeavors to find new pathways for multilateral engagement and mediation in areas of competition to promote mutually beneficial cooperation on climate change where possible.

#### **BCCC Quarterly**

Released the first week of every new quarter, the BCCC Quarterly is a magazine-style newsletter that records the most important trends and developments regarding blue carbon and climate change policies and regulations in China, the U.S., and other regions, as well as international regimes, such as under the United Nations framework. It also includes two special sections the 'Theme of the Quarter' and the 'Blue Carbon Country Profile' — that aim to bring a fresh and applicable element to each issue.

The ICAS Team also produces a concentrated Chinese language version of this product to disseminate to an Asian audience so that both sides have access to our research.

#### **BCCC** Research

Working in a field that is yet young, the BCCC Program Team releases commentaries, issue briefs, and other analytical publications that explore the complexities and emerging news in the field of blue carbon.

#### **BCCC Events**

Hosted periodically throughout the year, ICAS Blue Carbon & Climate Change (BCCC) events promote the free and equal exchange of ideas on policy pathways for sustainably developing the blue carbon economy and combatting climate change, especially as they relate to or involve the United States, China, and other regions.

#### **BCCC Media**

ICAS BCCC Program media projects include but are not limited to short-form periodicals, Expert Voice Initiative (EVI) interviews, and Twitter campaigns. We welcome anyone curious about this field to follow us on Twitter and explore our #ICASBCCC and #BCCCGrove campaigns.

#### **BCCC Quarterly**

#### - Theme of the Quarter -

Despite the quiet evolution of the blue carbon field, there are identifiable trends of interest during any given three month period. Thus, every quarter the ICAS Team identifies and summarizes a major trend or long-term topic of interest relevant to the most recent quarter, culminating in the release of the BCCC Quarterly.

In addition to collections of relevant news summaries, government actions and statements, and scientific research activities, the theme includes an analytical commentary from our researchers on how this theme relates to other present-day developments, policy interests, climate change and environment concerns, and implications for the blue carbon field.

2023 Q1: Renewable Energy is on the Table

2023 Q2: Electric Vehicle Popularization

2023 Q3: The Rise of Carbon Crediting

2023 Q4: Multinational Climate Engagements

#### **ICAS** BCCC **ICAS BLUE CARBON & CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAM**



Quarter 4 - 2023

蓝碳与气候变化 主题研究

#### - Blue Carbon Country Profile -

Given that 'blue carbon' is a relatively new subject to both scientists and policymakers, it is the goal of the BCCC Program to provide a collective view on how individual nations are recognizing, analyzing, and applying blue carbon at all levels of the government, through cross-border and international engagements, and in private sector and non-profit activities.

This profile is also intended to identify places that are in need of particular attention. The profile concludes with issues that interested parties should pay attention to in the coming months and years, including areas that need improvement, potentials worth exploring as well as possibilities of bilateral and multilateral cooperation in both policymaking and scientific exploration.

2023 Q1: China

2023 Q2: Indonesia

2023 Q3: Pacific Island Countries and Territories

2023 Q4: The United Kingdom

#### **Selected Publications**

"Greenwashing" is slowing down the needed progress in renewable electricity studies Zhangchen Wang

COMMENTARY

Nong Hong April 7 Why China is hesitant about endorsing marine protected area proposals in the Antarctic

Think and Plan Ahead for The Problem of Scrapped Lithium Batteries in Electric Vehicles

**Zhangchen Wang** June 29

**Zhangchen Wang** 

November 14

Event Summary: Unpacking China's Climate Action, Wilson Center

## - EVENTS & ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENTS-

Interacting With & Growing Alongside Experts From Around the World



#### Breakfast Roundtable with Amb. Cui Tiankai on the U.S.-China Relationship

March 24 | Washington, DC

ICAS hosted an in-person roundtable discussion under Chatham House rules at its office in Washington, DC with the assistance of the Beijing Club for International Dialogue. The approximately participants included former Chinese Ambassador Cui Tiankai and some of the top voices in U.S.-China relations at local think tanks and foreign policy research groups representing the views of both the United States and China.

#### 12th Track II Dialogue on Maritime **Affairs & International Law**

September 19 & 21 | Virtual

#### 5th China-U.S.-Canada Trilateral Dialogue

October 18 | Washington, DC

Conducted under Chatham House rules, this roundtable consisted of two panels—one on Politics & Security and the other on Trade & Climate. In each panel, there were two participants each from Canada, the United States and China, each of whom contributed their own expertise on a related topic of their choice. After their initial remarks, each panel engaged in a moderated group discussion, joined by questions and comments from all gathered participants.

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

April 13 | Virtual (Washington, DC & Alberta, Canada)

#### Digital Trade and IPEF: New Rules, New **Opportunities, New Challenges**

May 10 | Washington, DC (Hybrid)

#### The China-U.S. Relationship: Reviews of the Past and Prospects for the Future

July 12 | Virtual



#### **ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENTS**

Aside from participating as an event host or sponsor, ICAS scholars have also contributed their expertise on U.S.-China relations and maritime studies at forums both inside and outside the United States.

#### Yenchin Global Symposium 2023

April 15 (Hybrid; Hainan, China) | Hosted by Yenching Academy, Peking University

Technology, Trade, and U.S.-China Relations: Rough Seas Ahead?

April 20 (Washington, DC) | Hosted by New America

#### 8th International Maritime Security Conference

May 4-5 (Singapore) | Hosted by S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies

#### 2023 DILA-KOREA and ICIS Roundtable on East Asian States' Potential Leadership

June 15 (Hybrid; Tokyo, Japan) | Hosted by Development of International Law in Asia-Korea & Center for International Studies of Inha University, Korea

#### Bai Xian Asia Institute Summer Program 2023

August 4-18 (Hybrid; Tokyo, Japan) | Hosted by Bai Xian Asia Institute, Waseda University

#### **Pacific Forum International Comparative Connections Roundtable**

August 24 (Virtual) | Hosted by Pacific Forum International

#### Charting a Blue Future for Cooperation between West Africa and China on Sustainable Fisheries

September 14 (Virtual) | Hosted by Stimson Center Environmental Security Program & Ocean Security and Sustainable Fisheries Project

#### Symposium on Global Maritime Cooperation and Ocean Governance 2023

November 8-9 (Hybrid; Sanya, China) | Hosted by National Institute for South China Sea Studies, Huayang Center for Martime Cooperation and Ocean Governance & China Ocean Development Foundation

#### CIGI's The Second Annual Workshop on Digital Governance in China

December 4 (Virtual) | Hosted by Centre for International Governance Innovation

#### **ICAS Events Partners in 2023**

- · China Institute of the University of Alberta
- · The Carter Center
- · National Institute for South China Sea Studies
- Grandview Institution
- · National Committee on U.S.-China Relations
- Beijing Club for International Dialogue
- · Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament

Recordings of all public ICAS events are published on the ICAS website and the YouTube page. The ICAS Team also live-tweets key quotes during public events. Stay informed and join in the conversation on Twitter!

**2023 ANNUAL** 

**REPORT** 

# - 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE -

Stopping "Gray Rhinos", Handling "Black Swans" and Removing "Tigers Blocking the Way": Assessing Challenges and Exploring Prospects for U.S.-China Relations in 2024

Georgetown Marriott Hotel, Washington, D.C.
October 17, 2023

n October 17, ICAS organized its 2023 Annual Conference. With COVID-19 thankfully more or less in the rear-view mirror, the conference was held in full, in-person format for the first time in more than four years. Dr. Hong Nong, Executive Director of ICAS, opened the conference and Dr. Wu Shicun, Chairman of ICAS' Advisory Board, delivered the introductory remarks in which he spoke of the pressing need for both sides to present a forward-looking vision of ties so as to remove risks to the bilateral relationship and stabilize its long-term development.

Dr. Wu's introductory remarks was followed by the highlight of the conference—a keynote dialogue featuring Madam Xu Xueyuan of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the United States and Professor David Lampton of Johns Hopkins University. The dialogue was moderated by Professor Gordon Houlden, an ex-senior Canadian diplomat and Director Emeritus of the China Institute at the University of Alberta, Canada.

Two panels, including 11 Chinese and American experts in U.S.-China diplomatic, social and economic relations followed thereafter, bringing together a variety of perspectives and opinions on the current state of bilateral relations and how the two sides could realistically work together more cooperatively, even in spite of tensions and competitive priorities.

The ICAS 2023 Annual Conference was rounded off by a keynote luncheon address by Ms. Amy Celico, Partner at the Albright Stonebridge Group and an ex-senior U.S. government official, who called on stakeholders on both sides to publicly help steer the bilateral relationship to a more stabilizing platform.



Ms. Amy Celico, Partner at the Albright Stonebridge Group and ex-senior U.S. government official, answering an audience question following her Luncheon Speech



#### Panel I

Cooperation, Competition and Rivalry in U.S.-China Relations



#### Panel II

Taking Stock of Selective Decoupling in U.S.-China Economic Relations



## PUBLICATIONS

Disseminating Our Analytical Perspectives

#### **BOOKS, BOOK CHAPTERS & JOURNAL ARTICLES**

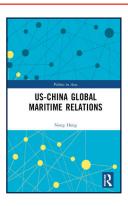
Book by Nong Hong: US-China Global Maritime Relations

(Routledge, 2024)



**Journal Article by Sourabh Gupta:** "India: Forsaking Strategic Autonomy for Strategic Alignment in the Indo-Pacific"

In CSCAP Regional Security Outlook 2024 (Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific, 2023)



Journal Article by Nong Hong: "China and the United States in the South Pacific Ocean: Will Strategic Competition or Practical Cooperation Drive the Future Development"

In Asia-Pacific Journal of Ocean Law and Policy (Brill | Nijhoff, 2023)

#### SELECTED ISSUE BRIEFS, COMMENTARIES & BLOG POSTS

Alec Caruana February 6

Slamming the door on diplomacy over surveillance balloon is reckless,

not resolute

Sourabh Gupta March 21

China's Two Sessions Meeting: Ushering in the New; Projecting Stability;

Responding to Technology Suppression

Sukjoon Yoon April 26

Will the US permit the ROK its own nuclear deterrent?

Sourabh Gupta June 5

US-China ties need principled 'guardrails'

Sourabh Gupta July 7

Settling robust US-China guardrails after Blinken's and Yellen's

China visits

Amanda Jin September 12

Event Summary: What's next for China's economy?, PIIE

Shicun Wu October 25

Creating a new world of peaceful coexistence among great powers

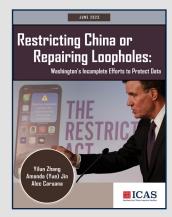
Zhangchen Wang December 30

"Transitioning away" from fossil fuels requires patience and fresh ideas

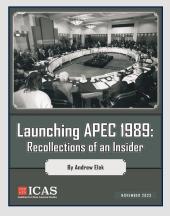
#### **REPORTS**



By ICAS and The Grandview Institution · February 2023



By Yilun Zhang, Amanda Jin & Alec Caruana - June 2023



By Andrew Elek · November 2023

## U.S.-China Legislative and Executive Actions Directory (L.E.A.D.) Project

- Tracking Critical Developments in U.S.-China Relations, and On China, Within the Beltway -

In May 2023, the ICAS Team launched the L.E.A.D. Project to track and summarize trending critical issues and developments on China, emanating from both the White House and Capitol Hill. The goal of this project is to closely track the key issues and developments on China within the Beltway for scholars and policymakers, and thereby provide a framework for the better understanding of this critical and consequential bilateral relationship.

The Executive Actions Directory tracks and analyzes major developments in U.S.-China relations and on China originating from within the U.S. executive branch. Each release also includes a detailed chronology listing major events, actions and happenings in U.S.-China relations on a triannual basis.

The Legislative Actions Directory summarizes the major China-focused bills on Capitol Hill and their purposes.

Meanwhile, L.E.A.D. Notes, in a blog post format, summarize major speeches, events, and hearings with the goal of tracking the pronouncements and views of officials who stand at the forefront of, and play a significant role in, shaping U.S.-China relations.

#### 2023 Executive Project Briefs [Sourabh Gupta]

January-April: US-China Effort to Set "Guardrails" Fizzles with Balloon Incident

May-August: US-China Effort to Set "Guardrails" Back on Track for Now

#### 2023 Legislative Project Briefs [Yilun Zhang & Amanda Jin]

January-April: 118th Congress on the Move on China in its First Few Months

May-August: Congress Refining and Zooming in on Critical Issues

Explore the full ICAS publications archives and other special projects at chinaus-icas.org

## **Expert** Voices nitiative

Focused Interviews on U.S.-China Relations

he Expert Voices Initiative is a series of oncamera, sit-down interviews with leading global scholars on important issues in the U.S.-China bilateral relationship. In 2023, ICAS revamped its EVI project to better serve the interests of our audience and the ICAS mission.



A VARIETY OF OPINIONS The series seeks to elicit candid opinions from experts across a range of topics, extending from economics, trade, and soft power initiatives to security, politics and foreign policy.



IN-DEPTH PERSPECTIVES Our goal is to provide for a global audience in-depth expert views from various national perspectives on a topical issue of significance in U.S.-China relations.

André Aguino on Cooperation Between Developed and Devloping Countries on Blue Carbon Projects May 25, 2023

Wang Sheng on Blue Carbon Development in China August 3, 2023

William Vogt on the Chinese Internet September 1, 2023



Gordon Houlden on Canada's Perspective on U.S.-China Relations November 1, 2023







All EVI interviews can be found at chinaus-icas.org or on the ICAS YouTube channel

## IN THE MEDIA

Contributing to the Public Conversation

ICAS scholars regularly contribute to a range of U.S., Chinese, and international written and televised media outlets, providing insights and analysis on maritime security, strategic stability, U.S.-China and multinational relations, Asia-Pacific economics and trade, as well as global governance issues. Examples from 2023 include:

Alhurra

Ashara News

**Associated Press** 

CBS News

**CGTN** 

China Daily

**Global Times** 

The Herald

Hong Kong China Review News Agency (Chinese)

Inside US Trade

International Business Times

Nature

Newsweek

Nikkei Asia

People's Daily

Reuters

RT News

Scripps News

South China Morning Post

Sputnik Radio

The Wall Street Journal

Washington Examiner

Xinhua

#### **FORUM**

San Francisco summit chance to stabilize bilateral ties, reach consensus on 'deliverables'

May 30 · South China Morning Post

"The Central Asia summit is a perfect platform for China to project to the Central Asian republics and to the world that China embodies a new type of international relations - one that is based on a shared interest in political stability and economic prosperity and not one based on sanctions. punishments and coercion."

Senior Fellow Sourabh Gupta commenting on summit diplomacy competition between the U.S. and China admidst the G7 meeting in Japan







**2023 ANNUAL REPORT** 

Inviting & Enabling All to Join the Discussion

Engaging & Encouraging the Next Generation



ICAS continues to be fully committed to keeping with technological shifts in a rapidly changing society, freely sharing academic research to make it more accessible while engaging with professionals, the media, and the general public where possible. After launching its new website in August 2020, the ICAS Team has continued to work to improve its public relations and online connections with the hope of providing our viewers with a clearer, fresher, and more engaging experience online with the Institute and the work the ICAS Team produces. In 2024 we will continue to strive to expand and improve the Institutes' website operations, ease of audience participation in events, and visibility across platforms as the Team aims to dynamically engage with the public on these vital, pervasive and ever-changing issues.



he Institute for China-America Studies prides itself on preparing young and emerging professionals for their future careers in international relations, security studies, economics and trade, energy and the environment, and more. The ICAS Internship Program provides its interns with numerous professional development experiences including but not limited to authoring or co-authoring analytical written pieces of varying sizes, assisting hands-on with events, and engaging in projects unique to their interests. It is the hope of the ICAS staff that its interns will gain an appreciation for the importance of promoting U.S.-China relations through balanced and fact-driven methodologies as they grow into their future careers.

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YouTube



Amanda Jin



Jacqueline Cheng



**Zhangchen Wang** 



Skyler Standridge



Alec Caruana



Xiaohang Zhou

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# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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## ADVISORY BOARD

he ICAS Team is comprised of four full-time staff members in our Washington, DC office, in addition to a number of non-resident fellows and interns. Our scholars come from a diverse set of backgrounds, with professional experience in China, the United States, Canada, Asia and Europe. Our research covers maritime security, economics, trade and advanced technology relations, strategic competition, global governance, blue carbon and climate change, and other issues central to the U.S.-China bilateral relationship.



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scholars in their field, the work of our board members closely coincides with ICAS' research portfolio and complements the work of our scholars. Their advice enables ICAS to stay on top of the latest developments in the fields of maritime security, economics and trade, climate change, and strategic stability. We are grateful for their commitment and dedication toward improving the most important bilateral relationship in the world.



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The Institute for China-America Studies (ICAS) is an independent think tank in Washington D.C. ICAS focuses on the evolving dynamics in the U.S.-China relationship to promote greater collaboration and mutual understanding through sincere exchanges of fresh ideas, objective policy-oriented research, and fair assessments of this critical bilateral relationship.

We aim to provide a window into the worldviews of both the United States and China, and thereby serve as a vehicle to promote greater understanding between these two countries and societies.



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