

EAI U.S.-China Relations Statement Factsheet

December 2013: The Return of History and a Focus on the Middle East

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December 2013: The Return of History and a Focus on the Middle East

Time Period: December 1~ December 31, 2013

Main Issues

I. Asia-Pacific Issues: Tensions Over China’s ADIZ Persists; China Furious Over Japanese ‘Revisionism’; U.S. Talks Peace, Cooperation and Rebalance to Asia

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 2, State Department Daily Press Briefing: Declared ADIZ of China ● December 3, Remarks by Vice President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe: Focus of the U.S.-Japanese Alliance ● December 5, Press Briefing by Press Secretary Jay Carney ● December 6, Remarks by Vice President Joe Biden on U.S.-Korea Relations and the Asia Pacific ● December 9, State Department Daily Press Briefing: Sri Lanka ● December 9, State Department Daily Press Briefing: China ● December 12, Remarks by the U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: Hagel, U.S. Committed to Singapore Relationship ● December 17, State Department Daily Press Briefing: Japan ● December 18, State Department Daily Press Briefing: Japan ● December 18, Testimony by Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the East Asia and the Pacific, Scot Marciel: Economic Aspects of the Asia Rebalance ● December 27 Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: Hagel Welcomes Approval of Futenma Landfill Permit ● December 30, State Department Daily Press Briefing: Yasukuni Shrine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 2, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference ● December 2, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference ● December 4, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference ● December 12, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference ● December 15, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Remarks: the Japanese Leader’s Improper Comments on the Establishment of the East China Sea Air Defense Identification Zone by China ● December 17, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference ● December 18, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference ● December 26, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang’s Regular Press Conference ● December 26, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang’s Regular Press Conference ● December 26, Statement by Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang: Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s Visit to the Yasukuni Shrine ● December 27, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference ● December 30, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang’s Regular Press Conference



2. Direction of U.S.-China Cooperation: Biden Visits China; Both Sides Emphasize Cooperation; U.S. Appoints New Ambassador to China

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 3, Remarks by Vice President Joe Biden and President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China December 4, Background Briefing by Senior Administration Officials on the Vice President's Asia Trip December 20, State Department Daily Press Briefing: New Ambassador to China December 23, Department of Defense Press Briefing by Admiral Locklear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 2, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference December 3, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference December 5 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Remarks on the Relevant US Official's Statement December 12, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Remarks on the Relevant U.S. Official's Statement

3. Economic Cooperation: Focus on Open Trade; U.S. and China Discuss Bilateral Economic Relations

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 4, Background Briefing by Senior Administration Officials on the Vice President's Asia Trip December 5, Joint Fact Sheet on Strengthening U.S.-China Economic Relations December 18, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Scot Marciel's Remarks in the Senate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 17, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference December 17, China and the U.S. to hold the 24th Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade December 20, Vice Premier Wang Yang, U.S. Secretary of Commerce and Trade Representative Jointly Preside over the 24th China-U.S. Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (JCCT)

4. Cooperation on Military Security: U.S. Urges China to Take More Responsibility; China Claims Pacifist Motivations

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 2, State Department Daily Press Briefing: China December 6, State Department Daily Press Briefing: China's ADIZ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 12, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference December 26, Chinese, U.S. militaries have multiple communication channels: DM

5. Human Rights: U.S. Concerned Over Violations in China; China Ignores the U.S. and Focuses on Domestic Terrorism

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 9, Press Statement by Secretary of State John Kerry's: Fifth Anniversary of Liu Xiaobo's Detention December 11, State Department Daily Press Briefing: China December 30, State Department Daily Press Briefing: Xinjiang 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 16, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference December 30, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference



6. Climate Change: How to Mitigate the Effects of Climate Change: U.S. Looks Out and China Looks In

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 5, Statements by Office of the Vice President: U.S. Fact Sheet on Strengthening U.S.-China Economic Relations ● December 15, Secretary Kerry's Remarks in Vietnam ● December 18, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Scot Marciel's Remarks in the Senate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 18, To Promote the Reform of EIA Approval and the Functional Transformation, MEP Continuously Releases Three Documents to Delegate Approval Authorities, Intensify Information Disclosure, and Strengthen Supervision of EIA

7. Middle East and Africa Issues: Chemical Weapons, Assad and Syria; The Iranian Nuclear Problem; Unrest in South Sudan

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 2, State Department Daily Press Briefing ● December 5, Remarks by the U.S. DOD Senior Defense Officials: DOD Offers Help to Meet Syria Chemical Weapon Deadline ● December 7, Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: Hagel Outlines U.S. Posture, Way Ahead in Middle East ● December 11, Press Briefing by Principal Deputy Press Secretary Josh Earnest ● December 12, Press Briefing by Press Secretary Jay Carney ● December 13, Press Briefing by Press Secretary Jay Carney ● December 16, State Department Daily Press Briefing ● December 18, State Department Daily Press Briefing ● December 19, Remarks by U.S. Pentagon Press Secretary Navy Rear Adm. John Kirby: Hagel, Al-Sisi Discuss U.S.-Egypt Relationship ● December 20, State Department Daily Press Briefing ● December 21, Readout of President Obama's Updates on South Sudan ● December 31, Statement by NSC Spokesperson Caitlin Hayden on South Sudan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 12, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● December 16, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● December 19, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● December 20, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● December 23, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● December 23, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● December 27, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● December 27, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● December 30, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference ● December 31, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference



8. Korean Peninsula: Relations with Both Koreas; China Reassures the ROK on the Issue of the Chinese ADIZ

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 4, Background Briefing by Senior Administration Officials on the Vice President's Asia Trip ● December 6, State Department Press Statement on North Korea ● December 6, 2013, Remarks by the U.S. Vice President Joe Biden: U.S.-South Korea Alliance Key to Regional Security ● December 9, State Department Daily Press Briefing: South Korea ● December 13, State Department Daily Press Briefing: North Korea ● December 17, State Department Daily Press Briefing: North Korea ● December 17, State Department Daily Press Briefing: North Korea ● December 20, State Department Daily Press Briefing: North Korea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 9, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● December 17, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● December 18, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● December 24, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● December 31, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference

9. Cybersecurity Issues: U.S. Expresses Concerns on Cybersecurity; China Adopts a Defensive Position

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 7, Remarks by U.S. Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel: IISS Manama Dialogue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 10, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● December 18, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference



Issue 1. Asia-Pacific Issues: Tensions Over China's ADIZ Persists; China Furious at Japanese 'Revisionism'; U.S. Talks Peace, Cooperation and Rebalance to Asia

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 2, 2013 – State Department Daily Press Briefing : Declared ADIZ of China (State Department Daily Press Briefing) Quote: “There is – for safety and security of passengers, U.S. carriers operate internationally – operate consistently as a process with the notices to airmen issued by foreign countries, as is the case in this case. Their concerns are about the safety and security of passengers. That is different from what the U.S. Government policy is. It is not – this is in no way indicates U.S. Government acceptance of China's requirements in the newly declared ADIZ and has absolutely no bearing on the firm and consistent U.S. Government position that we do not accept the legitimacy of China's requirements.” December 3, 2013 - Remarks by Vice President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe: Focus of the U.S.-Japanese Alliance (American Foreign Press Service) Quote: “The United States looks to our alliance with Japan as the cornerstone of stability and security in East Asia [...] It's a global platform to act on values and interests that we share [...] (we have started a) new initiative to support disaster relief and recovery [...] stronger cooperation on maritime security throughout the Asia Pacific [...] Today [...] we discussed China's sudden announcement of a new Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ). We [...] are deeply concerned by the attempt to unilaterally change the status quo in the East China Sea [...] The world should not forget that our alliances have been critical for the stability that has made this region's remarkable progress possible [...] The United States has an interest in the lowering of tensions in this vital region [...] This underscores the need for crisis management mechanisms and effective channels of communication between China and Japan to reduce the risk of escalation.” December 5, 2013 – Press Briefing by Press Secretary Jay Carney (American Foreign Press Service) Quote: “(The Chinese ADIZ) appears to be a provocative attempt to unilaterally change the status quo in the East China Sea, and thus raises regional tensions and increases the risk of miscalculation, confrontation, and accidents [...] China announced the ADIZ without prior consultations even though [...] (it) overlaps with parts of the longstanding ADIZs of Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Taiwan.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 2, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference Regular Press Conference) Quote: “The submission of flight plans to the competent Chinese authorities by airlines of relevant countries including the US shows their constructive attitude and cooperative will in upholding aviation order and security in the airspace above the East China Sea together with China. We appreciate that. On the other hand, the Japanese side deliberately politicizes the relevant issue, which does no good to the normal cooperation in civil aviation between the two countries. We urge the Japanese side to stop malicious hype, correct erroneous actions, take a responsible attitude, actively cooperate with China and jointly uphold the flight order and security in relevant airspace above the East China Sea.” December 2, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference Regular Press Conference) Quote: “The Diaoyu Island and its affiliated islands have been integral parts of China's territory since ancient times. It is fully reasonable and justifiable for China's ADIZ in the East China Sea to cover this area. The Japanese side has no right to make irresponsible remarks. The ADIZ set up by Japan in late 1960s illegally included China's Diaoyu islands and China has always been firmly opposed to that. I want to reiterate that the purpose of the Chinese government's establishment of the ADIZ in the East China Sea is to protect its national sovereignty and security of territorial land and airspace and uphold the flight order. It complies with international laws and practices and it is not against any particular country or target. To maintain the flight security in the overlapping ADIZ area of China and Japan, China calls for strengthened dialogue and communication, which fully demonstrates China's goodwill.”



- **December 6, 2013 - Remarks by Vice President Joe Biden on U.S.-Korea Relations and the Asia Pacific** ([Remarks at Yonsei Univeristy](#))

Quote: “That’s why our administration adopted a policy of what we call ‘rebalancing’ to the region. Rebalancing economically, diplomatically, and, yes, militarily — and Barack, the President, and I and the American people are all in. We’re determined to strengthen our alliances, cultivate new partners in the Pacific Basin, build constructive relations with China, pursue major agreements that further integrate our economies, and join and strengthen the institutions of the Asia Pacific and of the East Asian Summit — APEC, ASEAN and others. President Obama is absolutely committed to rebalance. And to make the point again, no one should underestimate or question our staying power [...] Let me make clear what rebalancing means. It means adding to, not subtracting from, existing commitments we have around the world. What we seek is an open, transparent economic order to deliver the growth for all – because in growth resides peace. And we believe the way to sustain and enhance the region’s remarkable economic progress is not just make sure it is physically secure, but to eliminate trade barriers at and behind borders, protections for intellectual property, one set of rules that applies to all companies, domestic or foreign. These are the principles behind the Korean-U.S. Free Trade Agreement.”

- **December 9, 2013 - State Department Daily Press Briefing: Sri Lanka** ([State Department Daily Press Briefing: Sri Lanka](#))

Quote: “The U.S. has long urged the Government of Sri Lanka to fulfill its public commitments, to implement the recommendations of its own Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Committee report, and to develop credible justice mechanisms to address outstanding allegations concerning serious violations of international human rights and humanitarian law. We do also continue to be concerned about ongoing issues regarding restrictions on freedom of the press and expression, the erosion of the rule of law, and violence against religious minorities. And we also note with concern that human rights defenders have continued to face reprisals. Obviously, this is something that needs to end.”

- **December 4, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “First, China’s establishment of the East China Sea ADIZ is completely out of the justifiable need for self-defense, which complies with international laws and practices. Both the US and Japan should view it in an objective and just way. Second, it is not China but Japan that is unilaterally altering the status quo and creating tensions. Third, Vice President Biden suggested dialogues and communication between China and Japan. We are ready to communicate with the Japanese side on relevant technical issues based on equality and mutual respect and jointly maintain the flight order and security in relevant airspace. Fourth, we require Japan to stop provoking China, making troubles or playing on this issue. Instead, it should strengthen communication and coordination with China and take concrete steps in maintaining peace and stability in this region and relevant airspace and improving (the) China-Japan relationship.”

- **December 12, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “China and its Asian neighbors are all following closely Japan’s military and security strategy and relevant policy moves. Japan makes irresponsible accusation of China’s normal air and sea operations and hypes up ‘China threat’. There is an ulterior political motive behind that. Japan is to find an excuse to amend its constitution, build up its military strength and adjust its military policies. We urge the Japanese side to stop making irresponsible accusation against China, follow the trend of peace and development, pay heed to the concerns and voice of countries in this region,”

- **December 15, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Remarks: the Japanese Leader’s Improper Comments on the Establishment of the East China Sea Air Defense Identification Zone by China** ([Remarks](#))

Quote: “The Japanese leader took advantage of the international occasion (Japan-ASEAN Special Summit) to slander China. (Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe accused China of unilaterally changing the status quo of the East China Sea and) we are strongly dissatisfied with that. The Diaoyu Islands are integral parts of China’s territory. Japan’s theft and occupation of the Diaoyu Islands has been illegal and invalid since the very beginning. It is Japan who has been deliberately making an issue of the Diaoyu Islands since last year. No one other than Japan is unilaterally changing the status quo of the Diaoyu Islands. It is fully justified and beyond reproach for China to do what is necessary in accordance with law to safeguard national territorial sovereignty.”



- **December 9, 2013 - State Department Daily Press Briefing: China** ([State Department Daily Press Briefing: China](#))

Quote: “Well, that was one of our concerns that we spoke about as it related to China’s announcement of the ADIZ. It was done without prior consultation; there was overlap with other areas including territory – disputed territory, which of course is concerning. It also meant that airliners could receive different conflicting information from different countries, which makes it very, very confusing. South Korea consulted with Japan, with China, with neighbors, before they updated, revised their – made an adjustment to their longstanding ADIZ. So that’s one of the differences because there was communication and cooperation in advance.”

- **December 12, 2013 - Remarks by the U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: Hagel, U.S. Committed to Singapore Relationship** ([American Forces Press Service](#))

Quote: “The United States will continue to stand by our allies and partners in the Asia Pacific [...] and remains committed to the rebalance to the Asia-Pacific in every way and to our important partnership with Singapore [...] The United States will continue to stand by our allies and partners in the Asia Pacific [...] (and) remains committed to the rebalance to the Asia-Pacific in every way and to our important partnership with Singapore.”

- **December 17, 2013 - State Department Daily Press Briefing: Japan** ([State Department Daily Press Briefing: Japan](#))

Quote: “I – we’re aware of press reports, certainly, implying that U.S. and Japan are possibly discussing revision of the Status of Forces Agreement, of the SOFA. That’s not accurate. The U.S. has not agreed to and will not consider opening the SOFA to renegotiation. We’re obviously always exploring ways in which to share concerns over issues, which – and those are best addressed through existing channels. I would point you to the 2+2 statement we put out – I forget the exact date. But we’re in the process of doing that right now in terms of a joint committee. So, obviously, the Department of Defense is probably the place that has much more detail about this, but suffice to say that’s where we stand on the SOFA.”

- **December 17, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “Japan’s policies in the military and security fields, which concern its development direction and have a bearing on regional security environment, have been closely watched by its Asian neighbors and the international community. Given all the negative moves taken by Japan on historical issues, Asian countries and the international community, including China, cannot but pay high attention and stay on high alert. We urge the Japanese side to earnestly face up to and seriously reflect upon history, follow the trend of the times featuring peace, development and win-win cooperation, respect the just and reasonable security concerns of countries in this region and pursue the path of peaceful development. We also hope that Japan will not simply make verbal commitment to peace, rather, Japan should translate it into concrete actions and play a constructive role for regional peace and stability.”

- **December 18, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “China has noted relevant (Secretary John Kerry’s remarks on the South China Sea issue) remarks. It is our long-standing view that the South China Sea issue should be addressed through direct negotiations between relevant countries. China and ASEAN countries have long been engaged in smooth and effective communication on the code of conduct in the South China Sea. We hope the relevant country could respect the efforts China and ASEAN countries have made, honor its commitment of not taking sides on this issue, be prudent in words and deeds, do more things that help build up mutual trust between countries in this region and maintain regional peace and stability, rather than the other way around.”

- **December 26, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “History has already come to a conclusion on the war of aggression waged by the Japanese militarism. Who did the Japanese soldiers die for on the battlefield? Why should the Class-A Second World War criminals enshrined in the Yasukuni Shrine be subject to just trials? What kind of peace and prosperity is built upon their death? What the Japanese leader said is completely duplicity which confuses right and wrong and misleads the public opinion. Some Japanese politicians, on one hand pay lip service to democracy, freedom and peace, on the other hand, call back the ghost of militarism and whitewash Japan’s history of aggression and colonialism.”



- **December 18, 2013 State Department Daily Press Briefing: Japan** ([State Department Daily Press Briefing: Japan](#))

Quote: “We welcome Japan’s adoption of a national security strategy and their revised national defense program guidelines. Our alliance with Japan, as I think I’ve said many times, is the cornerstone of peace, security, and prosperity in the Asia Pacific. We’re pleased that both the strategies and guidelines contain language on strengthening the U.S.-Japan alliance. We think that’s, of course, very important. And we’d also note Japan’s outreach to explain its security policies, including by sending officials to other foreign capitals. We certainly appreciate Japan’s efforts to be as transparent as it implements its evolving defense policies.”

- **December 18, 2013 - Testimony by Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the East Asia and the Pacific, Scot Marciel: Economic Aspects of the Asia Rebalance** ([Statement by Scot Marciel](#))

Quote: “Recognizing that America’s future prosperity and security are very much intertwined with the prosperity and security of the East Asia-Pacific region, President Obama made a strategic commitment when he came into office to rebalance our interests and investments to this region. The President set out a clear, overarching objective for the United States in the region to sustain a stable security environment and advance a regional order rooted in economic openness, peaceful resolution of disputes, and respect for universal rights and freedoms. [...] While the East Asia-Pacific region offers enormous opportunities, there are certainly critical challenges (strains on the region’s food, water, forest, marine and energy resources) as well. We have clear shared interests to address these challenges by working together towards greater energy and environmental security. [...] The Department recognizes that U.S. economic ties to the region are the fundamental underpinning of our relationship and, for the overall rebalance to be successful, we must get the economic component right.”

- **December 26, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “I want to point out that the issue of the Yasukuni Shrine, in nature, is about whether Japan can adopt a correct view of and repent the history of aggression by the Japanese militarism. It concerns Japan’s ties with its Asian neighbors, the political foundation of China-Japan relations, the outcome of WWII and the post-war international order and the peace and stability of Asia and beyond. I also want to point out that Japanese administrations and leaders have made statements on and commitments to the issue of history. Abe's visit grossly violates the principle and spirit of the four political documents between China and Japan. It is undoubtedly a major political and diplomatic issue of right and wrong. If Abe truly respects Japan's neighbors and really wants to improve relations with Asian neighbors, he should go to the Memorial Hall for Compatriots Killed in the Nanjing Massacre by Japanese Forces of Aggression, rather than the Yasukuni Shrine. Only if Japan truly regards history as a mirror can it have a future in its relations with its Asian neighbors.”

- **December 26, 2013 - Statement by Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang: Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Visit to the Yasukuni Shrine** ([Remarks](#))

Quote: “China-Japan relations have been beset by continuous, serious difficulties since the Japanese side created the farce of “purchasing” the Diaoyu Islands last year. More recently, Japan has deliberately stirred up a ‘China threat’ hysteria in military and security fields to undermine China’s security interests. Instead of reining in his acts, the Japanese leader has gone out of his way to once again create a serious incident on the issue of history, thus erecting a new, major political barrier to the improvement and development of bilateral ties. The Japanese side must bear the responsibility for all the consequences arising there from.”



- **December 27, 2013 - Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: Hagel Welcomes Approval of Futenma Landfill Permit** ([American Forces Press Service](#))

Quote: “The realignment effort is absolutely critical to the United States’ ongoing rebalance to the Asia-Pacific region and our ability to maintain a geographically distributed, operationally resilient, and politically sustainable force posture in the region. [...] We look forward to continuing our work with Japan to implement our consolidation plan on Okinawa, and continuing our progress with relocating Marines to Guam and elsewhere in the Pacific. [...] and resolving these years-long issues will enable us to take our relationship to the next level as we revise the guidelines for U.S.-Japan defense cooperation. As the United States continues to rebalance toward the region and further deepens its security ties with Japan, the enduring partnership between our two nations will only grow stronger.”

- **December 30, 2013 State Department Daily Press Briefing: Yasukuni Shrine** ([State Department Daily Press Briefing: Yasukuni Shrine](#))

Quote: “Well, you saw – I think folks our statement, and I’ll repeat it, that Japan is of course a valued ally and friend. Nevertheless, in this case, we were disappointed that Japan’s leadership has taken an action that will exacerbate tensions with Japan’s neighbors. We hope, as we always do, that both Japan and its neighbors will find constructive ways to deal with sensitive issues from the past, to continue improving their relations, and to promote cooperation in advance of all of our shared goals in the region.”

- **December 27, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “The Japanese leader’s feeble argument is not worth refuting at all. From either the sophism Abe made yesterday or his words and deeds over the past one year, what we find are hypocrisy, arrogance and self-contradiction. Abe speaks about morality, peace and dialogue, but what does he actually do? He claims that the definition of what constitutes aggression has yet to be established, whitewashes the history of aggression and colonialism by militarist Japan, beefs up military capacity, attempts to deny the outcome of WWII and challenge the post-war international order. All these shows are enough to give rise to high vigilance and strong concerns of the world over where Japan is heading under Abe’s administration. We cannot help asking: How can a man who refuses and dares not to face up to the history of his own country win trust from the international community?”

- **December 30, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “Abe insisted on visiting the Yasukuni Shrine and deliberately jeopardized the political foundation of China-Japan relations which has severely obstructed the exchanges and cooperation between China and Japan. What he did go against the will of the two peoples, and will ultimately harm Japan’s own interests. For the grave situation of today’s China-Japan relations, Abe can hardly absolve himself from the blame. We noted that over the past days, more and more media, insightful people and man on the street in Japan were criticizing and questioning the erroneous words and deeds by Abe [...] We are ready to work with them in the spirit of regarding history as a mirror and facing up to the future and uphold historical justice and the overall interests of China-Japan relations based on the four political documents between the two sides.”



Issue 2. Direction of U.S.-China Cooperation: Biden Visits China; Both Sides Emphasize Cooperation; U.S. Appoint New Ambassador to China

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 3, 2013 - Remarks by Vice President Joe Biden and President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China (American Foreign Press Service) Quote: "As we've discussed in the past, this new model of major country cooperation ultimately has to be based on trust and a positive notion about the motive of one another [...]. If we get this relationship right, engender a new model, the possibilities are limitless. This is a hugely consequential bilateral relationship that is going to play a significant part in affecting the course of the 21st century [...] change presents opportunity – opportunity on regional security – on a global level; opportunity on climate change, energy, and a whole range of issues that the world needs to see change in the next decade or so [...] complex relationships call for sustained, high-level engagement." ● December 4, 2013 - Background Briefing by Senior Administration Officials on the Vice President's Asia Trip (American Foreign Press Service) Quote: "They (President Xi and President Obama) spent a good amount of time sort of throughout the discussion stepping back to look at the overall bilateral relationship and all of its complexities – the need to build trust, the need to expand practical cooperation, the need to manage differences effectively, predictably, the need to be direct and candid with one another [...] And obviously, also with respect to the bilateral relationship, the need for a consistent and sustained high-level engagement at the leadership level, and the view that they share that there's really no substitute for these extended personal conversations between the leaders of each country." ● December 20, 2013 - State Department Daily Press Briefing: New Ambassador to China (State Department Daily Press Briefing: New Ambassador to China) Quote: "Senator Baucus [...] has visited China eight times. He's also hosted a myriad of senior Chinese diplomats in Washington and Montana for numerous trade delegations. He led the U.S. effort in the 1990s to bring China into the WTO and to establish PNTR, policies from which both countries have benefited enormously. He's also continually worked to bring down trade barriers between the United States and China, and he's insisted that China play by internationally accepted rules regarding currency, intellectual property, labor, human rights, and the environment." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 2, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference) Quote: "The submission of flight plans to the competent Chinese authorities by airlines of relevant countries including the US shows their constructive attitude and cooperative will in upholding aviation order and security in the airspace above the East China Sea together with China. We appreciate that." ● December 3, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference) Quote: "At present, China-US relations in general enjoy an active and stable momentum of growth. Building a new model of China-US major-country relationship and keeping the healthy and steady growth of bilateral relationship serves the fundamental interests of both peoples. It is also conducive to peace, stability and prosperity of the region and beyond. China is ready to work with the US to earnestly implement the important consensus reached by President Xi Jinping and President Obama, and translate the spirit of non-conflict, non-confrontation, mutual respect and win-win cooperation to every aspect of bilateral relationship." ● December 5, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Remarks on the Relevant US Official's Statement (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Remarks on the Relevant US Official's Statement) Quote: "As what you can read from the Xinhua news, Chinese leaders and Vice President Biden had candid and in-depth exchange of views on China-US relationship and other major issues of common interest. The most important agreement between the two sides is that both countries need to strengthen dialogue, exchanges and cooperation and work to promote the building of the new model of major-country relationship."



- **December 23, 2013 - Department of Defense Press Briefing by Admiral Locklear** ([American Foreign Press Service](#))

Quote: “We (U.S. and China) have to do better at being able to communicate with each other in a — in a way that allows us to not lead to miscalculation that won't be productive in the security environment. And so we will continue to talk about this [...] We have a mechanism in place with the Chinese where we meet routinely to talk about maritime incidents, how we interact with each other. So will we see more of these in the future? We will interact more with each other in the future. My hope is that we will learn to interact — continue to learn and to progress in the professional that we exhibit towards each other. This is the best way forward.”

- **December 12, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Remarks on the Relevant U.S. Official's Statement** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Remarks on the Relevant US Official's Statement](#))

Quote: “Chinese leaders and Vice President Biden had candid and in-depth exchange of views on China-US relationship and other major issues of common interest. The most important agreement between the two sides is that both countries need to strengthen dialogue, exchanges and cooperation and work to promote the building of the new model of major-country relationship. With regard to the issue of the East China Sea ADIZ [...] (China) stresses that what China does complies with international laws and conventions, and that the US should adopt an objective and just attitude and show respect.”



Issue 3. Economic Cooperation: Focus on Open Trade; U.S. and China Discuss Bilateral Economic Relations

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 4, 2013 – Background Briefing by Senior Administration Officials on the Vice President's Asia Trip (American Foreign Press Service) Quote: "(President Xi and Vice President Biden) had an extensive conversation on economics [...] (Vice President Biden) inquired about specific aspects of the third plenum outcome document relating to the market as [...] the decisive factor in the economy, interest-rate liberalization and reform, multi-access issues, fair-competition issues that are encapsulated in the [...] document [...] Vice President Biden sought more granularity about what these mean on what time frame and in what manner, and suggested to Xi that (these) reforms [...] can really help deepen and strengthen the U.S.-China bilateral economic relationship [...] (Vice President Biden) also made the point that some of these reforms are going to take years to implement, and that we also need to be making progress in the here and now on [...] WTO-related issues, issues related to silver-dumping cases [...] electronic payment services." December 5, 2013 – Joint Fact Sheet on Strengthening U.S.-China Economic Relations (American Foreign Press Service) Quote: "The United States and China further reaffirm their commitment [...] (to) support strong domestic and global growth, promote open trade and investment, enhance international rules and global economic governance, and foster financial market stability and reform [...] The United States and China recognize the importance of promoting non-discriminatory government procurement policies. The two sides commit to have further consultation on China's concerns regarding non-discriminatory treatment of Chinese-invested enterprises established in the United States in U.S. government procurement." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 17, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference) Quote: "As agreed by China and the US, the 24th China-US JCCT meeting will be held in Beijing on December 19 and 20 [...] JCCT (Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade) is one of the earliest high-level dialogue mechanisms the Chinese and US governments set up in the business field. Over the past 30 years, it has played an irreplaceable and important role in expanding business cooperation and maintaining the stability of business relations between China and the US. China places high importance on this JCCT meeting [...] China hopes that the US will take real actions to relax policies on export control over high-tech products to China, create a level playing field for Chinese companies investing in the US and strengthen cooperation on intellectual property rights protection, work with China to broaden the foundation for shared interests, enrich the new model of major-country relationship between China and the US and keep opening up new chapters for bilateral business cooperation." December 17, 2013 - China and the U.S. to hold the 24th Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (China and the U.S. to hold the 24th Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade) Quote: "The 24th JCCT is the first joint commission after the formation of new leaders in both countries, and also the last round of high-level economic and trade dialogue between China and the U.S. in 2013. Both sides will, on the basis of achievements made in last joint commission, thoroughly exchange views on economic and trade issues of each concerned and probe into approach to expand win-win cooperation in this JCCT. China wishes for the U.S.' practical measures in terms of relaxing limitations on the export control policies on China's high-tech products, fairly dealing with Chinese enterprises' investment in the U.S., and strengthening cooperation on intellectual property protection, agro-foodstuff inspection and quarantine, trade remedy investigation, energy trade and other issues regarding trade and investment and join efforts with Chinese side to expand the ground of common interest, enrich the contents of new-type China-U.S. bilateral relations and open new prospects for China-U.S. economic and trade relations."



- **December 18, 2013 - Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Scot Marciel's Remarks in the Senate** ([Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Scot Marciel's Remarks](#))

Quote: "The United States also maintains an intense level of engagement with China in keeping with the priorities that President Obama set with President Xi at Sunnylands in California earlier this year – notably on the agreement to collaborate to phase-down the use of potent greenhouse gasses known as HFCs (Hydrofluorocarbons). We have emphasized practical cooperation to avoid the trap of strategic competition. Our rebalance to Asia is not meant to contain China as part of a zero sum game, but rather to build a foundation of long-term mutual understanding and respect. At the same time, we continue to press China on issues of significant concern, such as human rights. In the economic sphere, we call on China to strengthen household consumption, allow the renminbi exchange rate to be determined by market forces, protect intellectual property rights (including trade secrets), liberalize factor prices, expand market access, adopt greater regulatory transparency, and establish a level playing field in its markets for private and foreign-invested companies."

- **December 20, 2013 - Vice Premier Wang Yang, U.S. Secretary of Commerce and Trade Representative Jointly Preside over the 24th China-U.S. Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (JCCT)** ([Vice Premier Wang Yang, U.S. Secretary of Commerce and Trade Representative Jointly Preside over the 24th China-U.S. Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade \(JCCT\)](#))

Quote: "With 30 years' development, JCCT has made great efforts and remarkable achievements in promotion of the economic and trade cooperation between China and the U.S. The Third Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee that closed recently proposed to comprehensively deepen the reform and widen opening-up, which renders great support to further strengthen the bilateral economic and trade cooperation. JCCT should constantly play the role of both the "extinguisher" of trade friction and "propeller" of pragmatic cooperation, carry out the consensus reached by heads of both countries and further seek new opportunities and starting points for mutual benefits and common interest so as to lay a solid foundation for new-type China-U.S. relationship."



Issue 4. Cooperation On Military Security: U.S. Urges China to Take More Responsibility; China Claims Pacifist Motivations

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 2, 2013 - State Department Daily Press Briefing: China (State Department Daily Press Briefing: China) Quote: “Evidence of the fact that the U.S. Government does not accept China’s requirement is by the fact that the announcement will not change how the United States conducts military operations in the region, which is something (the) Department of Defense (DOD) announced last week. And that is certainly a U.S. Government decision to make.” ● December 6, 2013 - State Department Daily Press Briefing: China’s ADIZ (State Department Daily Press Briefing: China’s ADIZ) Quote: “The Vice President said this very clearly, that the Asia Pacific region will be the driver of the global economy in the 21st century. And as China’s economy grows, its stake in regional peace and stability will continue to grow as well, and that it will have much more to lose as its economy grows. And that’s why (Biden) said China will bear increasing responsibility to contribute positively to peace and security. That means taking steps to reduce the risk of accidental conflict and miscalculation, to not do things that raise tensions in the region, to act responsibly as a major power. So as its economy grows, as its role in the region grows, it has a responsibility to contribute. That’s what the Vice President – the overall message he was taking to China, and then talking specifically about what it means to not implement or implement, that’s all part of it. But it plays into the overall what we see going forward for China’s role.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 12, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference) Quote: “China sticks to the path of peaceful development and upholds a national defensive policy that is defensive in nature. The normal and legitimate build-up of China’s national defense capacity does not pose threat to any country. Meanwhile, China firmly upholds its national sovereignty and territorial integrity and by no means allows any country to undermine its national sovereignty and territorial integrity.” ● December 26, 2013 - Chinese, U.S. militaries have multiple communication channels: DM (Chinese, U.S. militaries have multiple communication channels: DM) Quote: “The Chinese and U.S. militaries have multiple communication channels and have maintained necessary communication on the action level [...] there are multiple communication channels between the Chinese and U.S. militaries, such as defense consultations, working level meetings and direct phone links between the two defense ministries, and maritime consultative meetings [...] Defense authorities of the two countries have reported relevant information to each other via normal channels and communicated effectively about the matter.”



Issue 5. Human Rights: U.S. Concerned Over Violations in China; China Ignores the U.S. and Focuses on Domestic Terrorism

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 9, 2013 - Press Statement by Secretary of State John Kerry: Fifth Anniversary of Liu Xiaobo's Detention (American Foreign Press Service) Quote: "Yesterday marked the fifth anniversary of Nobel laureate and writer Liu Xiaobo's detention. The United States is deeply concerned that Chinese authorities continue to imprison Liu Xiaobo, as well as other activists, such as Xu Zhiyong, for peacefully exercising their universal right to freedom of expression. Equally concerning is the nearly three-year politically motivated house arrest of Liu Xiaobo's wife, Liu Xia. We note that the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention has determined Liu Xiaobo's ongoing imprisonment and Liu Xia's house arrest to be in contravention of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We strongly urge Chinese authorities to release Liu Xiaobo, to end Liu Xia's house arrest, and to guarantee to Liu Xiaobo and his family members all internationally recognized human rights protections and freedoms." December 11, 2013 - State Department Daily Press Briefing: China (State Department Daily Press Briefing: China) Quote: "Vice President Biden raised this when he was in Beijing just last week, and I know he also met with a group of journalists while he was there to discuss this issue. We certainly have been very engaged with concerns about the efforts to deny visas, efforts to deny the ability of media publications to report, to express their public views, to engage in their craft, for lack of a better word, and that's something we've communicated to the Chinese Government." December 30, 2013 - State Department Daily Press Briefing: Xinjiang (State Department Daily Press Briefing: Xinjiang) Quote: "We are closely following reports of continuing violence in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region of China. We will continue to monitor the situation closely. We continue to call on the Chinese Government to permit its citizens to express their grievances freely, publicly, peacefully, and without fear of retribution. We also call on Uighurs to not resort to violence, for the Chinese security forces to exercise restraint, so we'll keep monitoring it." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 16, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference) Quote: "It is a violent terror gang that was cracked down by the public security authorities of the Xinjiang Autonomous Region. The mobs attacked the policemen with explosive devices. It once again reveals the true face of the violent terrorists who are anti-society and anti-human and should be unanimously condemned by the international community. People in Xinjiang long for a stable and united society. The violent terrorists' conspiracy to damage economic and social stability and ethnic unity of Xinjiang does not enjoy popular support and is doomed to failure." December 30, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference on December) Quote: "The violent terrorist attack in Xinjiang once again shows the anti-society and anti-human nature of the "three evil forces" and the serious harm they cause to the country, the society and people's lives and property. The Chinese government cracks down on these forces in accordance with law. Relevant Chinese authorities are dealing with this case, and details will be released to the public."



Issue 6. Climate Change: How to Mitigate the Effects of Climate Change: U.S. Looks Out and China Looks In.

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 5, 2013 - Statements by Office of the Vice President: U.S. Fact Sheet on Strengthening U.S.-China Economic Relations (U.S. Fact Sheet on Strengthening U.S.-China Economic Relations) Quote: “The United States and China are the world’s two largest greenhouse gas emitters. Strong action by both countries is necessary to address the global challenge of climate change and provide essential leadership for the rest of the world. President Obama and President Xi have made climate change a priority area for bilateral cooperation. Today, both countries reaffirmed the agreements reached by leaders earlier this year regarding phasing down the production and consumption of the highly potent greenhouse gas hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).” ● December 15, 2013 - Secretary Kerry’s Remarks in Vietnam (Secretary Kerry’s Remarks in Vietnam) Quote: “The United States and Vietnam are already cooperating. [...] And today I’m pleased to announce an initial commitment of \$17 million for USAID’s Vietnam Forest and Deltas Program. That money will go towards helping Vietnamese communities reverse environmental degradation and adapt to climate change. But it’s not just about adapting to climate change. We are promoting clean-energy development and energy efficiency. I’m proud to say that American companies are heavily involved in this effort: just yesterday, when I was in Ho Chi Minh City, General Electric signed a \$94 million contract with Cong Ly, a Vietnamese firm, in order to provide additional wind turbines for the first wind farm in nearby Bac Lieu province just to the north of us here.” ● December 18, 2013 - Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Scot Marciel’s Remarks in the Senate (Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Scot Marciel’s Remarks) Quote: “Through efforts by the State Department, the Commerce Department, EXIM, OPIC, and USTDA, we are working with U.S. companies to develop potential smart grid, wind, solar, biomass, and geothermal energy projects throughout the region. We have also worked with the Energy Department, Commerce Department, and USTDA to promote the development of China’s shale gas sector so that U.S. companies may have new opportunities to invest, apply their expertise, and help China meet its energy needs with cleaner-burning natural gas.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 18, 2013 - To Promote the Reform of EIA Approval and the Functional Transformation, MEP Continuously Releases Three Documents to Delegate Approval Authorities, Intensify Information Disclosure, and Strengthen Supervision of EIA (Ministry of Environmental Protection of the People’s Republic of China) Quote: “In recent years, environment-related mass incidents caused by construction project environmental problems have occurred frequently, Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) thus have been increasingly attracting the public and media’s attention. The “Government Information Disclosure Guide for Environmental Impact Assessments of Construction Projects (for Trial Implementation)” issued by (the) Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP) not only puts forward specific requirements for information disclosure during the whole process of EIA application acceptance, examination and approval as well as check and acceptance of finished projects, but also regulates the way, the scope and the content for the national environmental protection system to disclose EIA information.”



Issue 7. Middle East and Africa Issues: Chemical Weapons, Assad and Syria; The Iranian Nuclear Problem; Unrest in South Sudan

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 2, 2013 - State Department Daily Press Briefing (State Department Daily Press Briefing) Quote: "Well, as you know, the United States is committed to supporting the international community's efforts to destroy Syria's chemical weapons in the safest, most efficient and effective means possible. We have offered and are currently outfitting a U.S. vessel with field-deployable hydrolysis system technology to support the OPCW's efforts. We are in close contact with the OPCW and our international partners and remain confident that we can meet the milestones for destruction set out by the OPCW. Of course, the OPCW remains – and the UN – remain the lead coordinators on reaching out to countries and coordinating steps forward and any timeline, et cetera." December 5, 2013 - Remarks by the U.S. DOD Senior Defense Officials: DOD Offers Help to Meet Syria Chemical Weapon Deadline (American Forces Press Service) Quote: "We just didn't know whether it (the chemicals DOD) would be used on land in a neighboring country – perhaps even inside Syria in support of some multinational effort or, as we've now come to, on a ship at sea [...] In terms of the timing, the U.S.-Russian Framework Agreement and the Security Council Resolution and the relevant OPCW Executive Council decisions lay out target dates [...] and our goal of course is to meet those target dates of destruction by June." December 7, 2013 - Remarks by the U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: Hagel Outlines U.S. Posture, Way Ahead in Middle East (American Forces Press Service) Quote: "It (an interim agreement aimed at preventing Iran from producing nuclear weapons) halts any further expansion of Iran's nuclear program, begins to roll it back in important ways, and provides sweeping access to verify [...] Iran's intentions [...] Once the destruction is complete, a major chemical weapons threat will be eliminated. This will benefit the entire region and the world [...] We must also confront the rise of violent extremist groups in Syria, and we must work together to ensure that our assistance to the opposition does not fall into the wrong hands [...] We will continue to ensure that all of our allies and partners in the region – including both Israel and the Gulf States – have these advanced weapons." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 12, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference) Quote: " Foreign Minister Wang Yi's visit to Palestine, Israel, Algeria, Morocco and Saudi Arabia is the first visit to West Asia and North Africa by the Foreign Minister of the new Chinese government. It is also an important visit that will deepen and grow China's relations with Middle East countries. In recent years, China has played a positive and important role in pushing for the resolution of hotspot issues in the Middle East such as issues of Syria, Iranian nuclear and Palestine, supporting countries in this region in independently exploring development paths commensurate with their national conditions and promoting their economic and social development [...] He will also exchange views with relevant parties on implementing the "Four-Point Proposal" made by President Xi Jinping for the resolution of the Palestinian issue and elaborate on China's policies toward Arab countries." December 16, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference) Quote: "Days ago, Iran and the P5+1 reached a framework agreement on the Iranian nuclear issue which marks an important step in resolving this issue through diplomatic means. The P5+1 and Iran are consulting with each other on the implementation of the initial agreement and negotiations concerning the follow-up steps. All parties should stick to the principle of mutual respect and the step-by-step process based on reciprocity, strike while the iron is hot, jointly maintain the atmosphere and momentum of resolving the issue through political and diplomatic means and take the first step as soon as possible. China will continue to promote peace talks and play a constructive role for the comprehensive and proper settlement of the Iranian nuclear issue."



- **December 11, 2013 – Press Briefing by Principal Deputy Press Secretary Josh Earnest** ([American Foreign Press Service](#))

Quote: “A significant portion of our policy towards Syria has been dedicated to providing support to those elements of the opposition that are moderate [...] We have seen the reports that Islamic Front forces have seized the headquarters in question [...] and we’re obviously concerned by those reports. [...] As a result of this situation [...] the United States has suspended all further deliveries of nonlethal assistance into northern Syria [...] what we are interested in doing is trying to coordinate with and lift up the moderate elements of the opposition [...] That has been a challenging proposition from the very beginning and that continues to be challenging.”

- **December 12, 2013 – Press Briefing by Press Secretary Jay Carney** ([American Foreign Press Service](#))

Quote: “I think Iran is fully aware of the cost of non-compliance. They’re so aware of it that they came to the table. They have been paying the price of non-compliance [...] if they fail to comply with their agreements in the preliminary round or fail to reach a comprehensive solution with the P5-plus-1, the sanctions regime remains in place, and the modest relief that is provided with the compliance by the Iranians with the first agreement –the preliminary agreement will be reversed. And we would likely encourage both our partners internationally and Congress to respond to that failure to comply with additional sanctions.”

- **December 13, 2013 – Press Briefing by Press Secretary Jay Carney** ([American Foreign Press Service](#))

Quote: “Well, the agreement very clearly referred to nuclear sanctions and also very clearly referred to the fact that existing sanctions would continue [...] But let’s be clear: the designations announced yesterday were related to the enforcement of existing sanctions, and we have made clear all along that we would continue to enforce existing sanctions [...] we have committed to refrain from imposing new nuclear-related sanctions. That does not prevent us from implementing and enforcing our existing nuclear-related sanctions [...] or from imposing new sanctions targeting Iran’s sponsorship of terrorism or its abysmal human rights record.”

- **December 19, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “China supports the destruction of chemical weapons in Syria under the frameworks of the UN and the OPCW. The decision of sending warships to escort the shipping of Syria’s chemical weapons is another important move by China in implementing Resolution 2118 of the UN Security Council and OPCW’s decisions on the destruction of chemical weapons in Syria. China hopes that the destruction will be completed safely and smoothly, as it contributes to the political settlement of the Syrian issue, enhances regional security and serves the interests of all parties.”

- **December 20, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “China is devoted to supporting and promoting the Middle East peace process. Since early this year, China has been all along making constructive efforts in this regard by hosting Palestinian and Israeli leaders in succession, raising a four-point proposal on the Palestinian issue, holding the UN International Conference in Support of Israeli-Palestinian Peace and backing capacity building in Palestine. China sincerely hopes that the two sides could seize the opportunity, overcome difficulties, meet each other halfway and strive for early and substantive progress of the peace talks. China will continue to work on all parties in its own way and play a positive role for the comprehensive and just resolution of the Palestinian issue at an early date.”

- **December 23, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “China pays high attention to the development of the situation in South Sudan and is making positive efforts in its own way to promote peace talks. We are in close communication with South Sudan and its neighbors as well as the African Union and other regional organizations. We are ready to work together with all relevant parties to engage the two conflicting parties in dialogue and negotiation to address their differences and bring stability back to South Sudan as soon as possible.”



- **December 16, 2013 – State Department Daily Press Briefing ([Daily Press Briefing](#))**

Quote: “Again, the Geneva communique, which outlines very clearly what a transitional government needs to look like, has been signed up to by a number of people, including Russia, who as we know, does exert some influence on the Syrian regime. We’re tracking towards a Geneva II conference, as we all know. But again, I don’t want to downplay the – how complicated this is or sound naive about the challenges that we face. This is why, for example, we’ve called on the Assad regime to allow humanitarian access in certain places to try and get some humanitarian assistance to folks on the ground, because the Syrian people, as you said, are suffering incredibly not just from these awful bombs, but from the fact that it’s freezing cold and it’s snowing and they can’t get food.”

- **December 18, 2013 – State Department Daily Press Briefing ([Daily Press Briefing](#))**

Quote: “We have a longstanding position that has not changed: Assad must go. We’ve said very clearly that given the blood he has on his hands, he has no place in the future of Syria. I would point you, actually, to the press statement issued after the most recent London 11 senior officials meeting on Friday states clearly, ‘Assad will have no role in Syria as his regime is the main source of terror and extremism.’ We remain, of course, firmly committed to the Geneva II negotiations implementing the Geneva communique, which says we need mutual consent from both sides to form a transitional government, which, of course, the opposition would never permit to include Bashar al-Assad.”

- **December 19, 2013 – Remarks by U.S. Pentagon Press Secretary Navy Rear Adm. John Kirby: Hagel, Al-Sisi Discuss U.S.-Egypt Relationship ([American Forces Press Service](#))**

Quote: “Secretary Hagel conveyed that the United States is committed to the U.S.-Egypt defense relationship and wants to continue working with Egypt to support a stable inclusive political transition [...] He told Minister Al-Sisi that, on his visit to the Gulf region, he encouraged regional partners to continue playing a role in improving Egypt’s economy and to play a constructive role in supporting Egypt’s transition [...] Secretary Hagel noted that the United States looks forward to Egypt’s constitutional referendum in mid-January [...] the Secretary noted that civil society organizations play a vital role in any democracy and that incidences such as these can undermine confidence in the interim government’s commitment to a non-violent, inclusive and sustainable democratic transition.”

- **December 23, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference](#))**

Quote: “China and Pakistan have been engaged in cooperation in civil nuclear energy over recent years. Relevant cooperation, which is totally for peaceful purposes, meets their respective international obligations and is subject to the safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Relevant cooperation between China and Pakistan helps alleviate power shortage in Pakistan and serves the interests of local people. China will continue to help Pakistan tackle the shortage of power as its capacity allows. I also want to point out that China takes issues concerning the peaceful use of nuclear energy seriously. Under the precondition of nuclear non-proliferation, we carry out active cooperation and communication with relevant countries and the IAEA in the peaceful use of nuclear energy and provide assistance for other developing countries in developing nuclear energy.”

- **December 27, 2013 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference](#))**

Quote: “China has been actively engaged in promoting peace talks in its own way since the outbreak of conflicts in South Sudan. We have been working on the two conflicting parties in South Sudan through various efforts. Ambassador Zhong Jianhua, the Chinese government’s Special Representative on African Affairs talked on the phone with Foreign Minister Barnaba Marial Benjamin of South Sudan the other day, calling on conflicting parties to exercise restraint, keep calm and start the cease-fire negotiation at an early date. We push the international community to play a positive role in moving the situation in South Sudan toward relaxation and stay in close communication, coordination and cooperation with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the African Union and African countries.”



- **December 20, 2013 – State Department Daily Press Briefing ([Daily Press Briefing](#))**

Quote: “Sure. Well, expert-level talks began, as you know, between the P5+1 and Iran yesterday in Geneva. Geneva’s busy this time of year, it turns out. The goal of these talks is, of course, to resolve a few remaining issues so that we can begin implementation of the Joint Plan of Action. We made progress at technical talks, our teams did earlier this month in Vienna, and considered the atmosphere constructive. They are complicated technical issues, they’re ongoing [...] Our goal, of course, is to start the six-month – start the implementation of the Joint Plan of Action as quickly as possible, but we also have always known that we were going to be working through tough, technical, complicated issues, which is what our teams are working through. So we’re hopeful about them making progress, but I don’t want to predetermine what our next step would be or any future action. Obviously, the agreement that was made on a first step was significant and historic, and of course, we remain committed to seeing the process through.”

- **December 21, 2013 – Readout of President Obama’s Updates on South Sudan ([American Foreign Press Service](#))**

Quote: “The President underscored the urgency of helping to support efforts to resolve the differences within South Sudan through dialogue. South Sudan’s leaders must know that continued violence will endanger the people of South Sudan and the hard-earned progress of independence. This conflict can only be resolved peacefully through negotiations. Any effort to seize power through the use of military force will result in the end of longstanding support from the United States and the international community.”

- **December 31, 2013 - Statement by NSC Spokesperson Caitlin Hayden on South Sudan ([American Foreign Press Service](#))**

Quote: “The United States remains deeply concerned by the fragile situation in South Sudan [...] We continue to call for an immediate cessation of hostilities to stabilize the situation and permit full humanitarian access to civilian populations, which remain in dire need of assistance. The United States will deny support and work to apply international pressure to any elements that use force to seize power. At the same time, we will hold leaders responsible for the conduct of their forces and work to ensure accountability for atrocities and war crimes.”

- **December 27, 2013 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference](#))**

Quote: “China works on all relevant parties in Syria in an active and balanced way through various channels so as to promote peace talks. China has been in touch with the Syrian government and encourages it to attend the Geneva II Conference. Relevant diplomatic missions of China are also in contact with relevant opposition groups in Syria. We have recently invited the delegation of ‘the Syrian national dialogue forum’ composed of some opposition groups and pro-government personages to visit China, as an effort to promote a political settlement of the Syrian issue [...] China will continue to work for the active and constructive participation of relevant parties in Syria

- **December 30, 2013 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang’s Regular Press Conference ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang’s Regular Press Conference](#))**

Quote: “China has long been upholding an objective and just position on the issue of Syrian chemical weapons. It contributes to regional security and serves the interests of all parties to transport chemical weapons out of Syria for destruction in a smooth and secure way. By sending naval vessels, China is implementing Resolution 2118 of the Security Council and relevant decisions of the OPCW on the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons. China answers the call of the UN and the OPCW with concrete actions and makes due contribution to regional and international peace.”

- **December 31, 2013 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference](#))**

Quote: “Since the outbreak of conflicts in South Sudan, China has been promoting peace talks in its own way, such as working on all relevant parties and providing South Sudan with humanitarian assistance. Chinese government’s Special Representative on African Affairs Zhong Jianhua made contact with all relevant parties on the sidelines of the special summit and will continue with his work in South Sudan and the whole region. In the next phase, China will continue to enhance communication and coordination with relevant parties to resume stability in South Sudan as soon as possible.”



Issue 8. Korean Peninsula: Relations with Both Koreas; China Reassures the ROK on the issue of the Chinese ADIZ

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 4, 2013 - Background Briefing by Senior Administration Officials on the Vice President's Asia Trip (American Foreign Press Service) Quote: "They (President Xi and President Obama) spent a substantial amount of time on North Korea [...] they talked at some length about what the Iran example suggests for North Korea, and that is to say a combination of pressure plus dialogue plus international community unity – and especially unity among the significant global power – is what brought Iran to the table to deal constructively, and the same recipe can apply for North Korea [...] there was quite a bit of discussion about the work that our (U.S. and China) respective teams have been doing to think about how to create the conditions for negotiations that could actually be fruitful and not just a repeat of the same old North Korean game." ● December 6, 2013 - State Department Press Statement on North Korea (State Department Press Statement on North Korea) Quote: "We are pleased that Mr. Merrill Newman has been allowed to depart the DPRK and re-join his family. We welcome the DPRK's decision to release him. This positive decision by the DPRK throws into sharper relief the continuing detention of Mr. Kenneth Bae, who has been in DPRK custody for over a year. We call on the DPRK once again to pardon and grant Mr. Bae special amnesty and immediately release him as a humanitarian gesture so that he too can return home to his family. The U.S. Government will continue to work actively on his case. We thank the Government of Sweden for the tireless efforts of the Embassy of Sweden in Pyongyang, which acts as our Protecting Power in the DPRK." ● December 6, 2013 - Remarks by U.S. Vice President Joe Biden: U.S.-South Korea Alliance Key to Regional Security (American Forces Press Service) Quote: "President Park's vision of our journey is already taking shape, our alliance as a lynchpin for peace and security in the Asia-Pacific [...] We're determined to strengthen our alliances, cultivate new partners in the Pacific Basin, build constructive relations with China, pursue major agreements that further integrate our economies, and join and strengthen the institutions of the Asia-Pacific and of the East Asian Summit [...] It's not merely our economic, our political and our strategic necessity for one another; it is ultimately based on shared common values." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 9, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference) Quote: "China expresses regrets over the the ROK's decision(ROK's plan to expand its ADIZ) to the airspace above the Suyanjiao. [...] China will stay in communication with the ROK in the principle of equality and mutual respect. We hope that the ROK will meet China halfway. In terms of the Suyanjiao, I want to stress again that an ADIZ is not the territorial airspace. It is established by a country in the public airspace outside its territorial airspace for identification and early-warning. It has nothing to do with maritime and air jurisdiction. The Suyanjiao is an isolated and submerged reef rather than territory. China and the ROK have the consensus that the two sides have no territorial dispute over that. This issue can only be resolved through negotiation on maritime demarcation." ● December 17, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference) Quote: "General Secretary Kim Jong Il has made important contribution to China-DPRK relations. To ensure the sound and steady growth of China-DPRK relations serves the fundamental interests of both peoples and helps maintain regional peace and stability. China will continue to promote the sound and steady growth of China-DPRK ties and make active efforts to uphold peace and stability of the Korean Peninsula and this region. To my knowledge, the Chinese Ambassador to the DPRK attended relevant memorial activity in Pyongyang together with diplomatic representatives from other countries." ● December 18, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference) Quote: "China's position on the Korean nuclear issue is clear-cut. We stay committed to denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula, upholding peace and stability of the Peninsula and solving problems through dialogue. China will stay in communication with all parties to push for an early resumption of the Six-Party Talks and play a positive role in bringing the Korean nuclear issue back to the process of dialogue and negotiation."



- **December 9, 2013 - State Department Daily Press Briefing: South Korea** ([State Department Daily Press Briefing: South Korea](#))

Quote : “Well, one, the South Koreans – you referenced this, but we appreciate their efforts to pursue the action that they took, which is adjusting their ADIZ – not creating a new one, but adjusting it. Two, pursuing this action in a responsible, deliberate fashion by prior consultations with not just the United States, but also, very importantly, with Japan and China. That was not a step, as you know, that was taken by China. We also appreciate their commitment to implement this adjustment in a manner consistent with international practice and respect for the freedom of overflight and other internationally lawful uses of international airspace [...] But in terms of specifics, they – South Korea’s announcement made an adjustment to a longstanding ADIZ, so that’s an important component; it keeps within its recognized flight information region – FIR is another way that it’s referred to. It also, importantly, doesn’t encompass territory administered by another country, which was another area that had drawn some concern from our end related to the China ADIZ.”

- **December 13, 2013 – State Department Daily Press Briefing: North Korea** ([Daily Press Briefing](#))

Quote: “Well, as you know, our core policy on North Korea remains unchanged, that we remain focused on the need for North Korea to denuclearize. We’re going to increase our discussions with our allies and partners in the region about the internal situation in North Korea [...] But I think what this is indicative of is really the values of the regime, their low regard for human life, what’s probably one of the worst human rights records in the world. I think you saw our statement last night that – and I would challenge anyone to characterize it in a way different than what we did [...] There are sanctions in place that right now have led to this dire economic situation that we see in North Korea today, and it’s up to the North Korean regime to take steps to come back in line with their international obligations and provide the economic space for their people to come out of this horrible situation [...] Obviously, China and the regime in Pyongyang have an important relationship. It’s an important part of the discussions that we and our partners have with North Korea about the possible paths forward.”

- **December 24, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “On December 23, the first China-ROK Dialogue on Diplomacy and Security at the Director-General level was held in Beijing. [...] The two sides had in-depth exchange of views on bilateral relations and international and regional issues of common interest. Both agreed to further enhance strategic communication and all-round cooperation and stay committed to maintaining regional peace, stability and development. China-ROK Dialogue on Diplomacy and Security is held in accordance with the China-ROK Joint Statement Facing the Future which was issued last June during ROK President Park Geun-hye’s visit to China. This dialogue is of great significance. The two sides have strengthened political mutual trust and deepened coordination through this dialogue. China is ready to work with the ROK side to make full use of this platform, so as to make greater contribution to peace and stability in Northeast Asia.”

- **December 31, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “China and the ROK are strategic partners. The two countries have maintained close communication and consultation on issues of common interest. On Japan-related historical issues, China and the ROK share the same or similar experience. Both sides are indignant about Abe’s perverse act of visiting the Yasukuni Shrine. Both hold that Japan must face up to and deeply reflect on history, and that only by upholding a correct historical view can Japan develop future-oriented relations with its neighbors. We have also noted what ROK President Park Geun-hye said yesterday: a country that repeats acts which do not conform to universal values and standards of the international community and go against human conscience will never be credited as a first-class nation, no matter how it thrives economically. We are ready to keep in touch with the ROK side to jointly uphold historical justice and safeguard regional peace and stability.”



- **December 17, 2013 - State Department Daily Press Briefing: North Korea**
([State Department Daily Press Briefing: North Korea](#))

Quote: "I know it's amusing or maybe interesting to talk about Dennis Rodman, but I actually think the focus really should be on the brutality of the North Korean regime he's going to meet with. I mean, you're exactly right. We just saw an execution, a horrific act of brutality, and that's what we're focused on. And we're focused on working with our partners in the region to help get North Korea to a place where it will fulfill its commitments to denuclearize. We need to focus on what's really important here when it comes to the North Korea – the horrible economic situation it has put its people under, not whether or not a former NBA star is going there to play basketball."

- **December 17, 2013 - State Department Daily Press Briefing: North Korea**
([State Department Daily Press Briefing: North Korea](#))

Quote: "Well, we remain deeply concerned about the human rights situation in North Korea, also the treatment of North Korean refugees. There's a whole host of human rights issues that we remain concerned about. We're going to keep working with other countries in the region and international organizations like UNHCR and the Human Rights Council to raise attention to the deplorable human rights conditions in the DPRK, and we were proud to co-sponsor earlier this year – yes, this year – along with Japan, the EU, and South Korea a UN Human Rights Council resolution establishing a commission of inquiry to investigate human rights violations in the DPRK."

- **December 20, 2013 - State Department Daily Press Briefing: North Korea**
([State Department Daily Press Briefing: North Korea](#))

Quote: "As a general matter, North Korea will achieve nothing by threats or provocations, which only further isolate North Korea and undermines international efforts to ensure peace and stability in Northeast Asia. We continue to urge North Korean leadership to heed President Obama's call to choose the path of peace and come into compliance with international obligations. In terms of these specific reports, I would point you to the South Korean Government on them."



Issue 9. Cybersecurity: U.S. Expresses Concerns on Cybersecurity; China Adopts a Defensive Position

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 7, 2013 - Remarks by the U.S. Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel: IISS Manama Dialogue (Secretary of Defense Speech) <p>Quote: "Many challenges that the region already faced, from violent extremism to failed states to proliferation, have actually intensified, and destabilizing actor, state and non-state actors alike, have adopted more and more advanced weaponry, weaponry from ballistic missiles to cyber capabilities [...] Because we must keep pace with emerging threats and technologies together in cyberspace [...] Such an attack could happen to any of the nations represented here today. The United States will continue to help build the capacity of partners and allies to defend their critical infrastructure from cyber attack, especially major energy, infrastructure, and telecommunications facilities."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 10, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference) <p>Quote: "China firmly upholds cyber security and opposes any forms of hacker attacks. We have made laws to crack down on such behaviors and China has been engaged in a wide range of international cooperation to combat cyber crimes. US cyber security companies have long been interested in hyping up the so-called 'cyber threat from China' with no solid proof. The so-called 'evidence' they got, which is not professional and much less responsible, is widely questioned by cyber experts. To divert public opinion and gain people's attention with some groundless stories does no good to international cooperation on cyber security nor does it make for professionalism and fame of relevant companies."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● December 18, 2013 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference) <p>Quote: "In recent years, the East Turkistan terrorist forces, led by the East Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM), poured audios and videos about terrorism onto the Internet to instigate the so called "jihad" against the Chinese government. [...]After the serious and violent "October 28" terrorist attack occurred in Beijing this year, the ETIM uploaded a video, claiming responsibility and inciting more terrorist attacks against the Chinese government. The rampant cyber terrorism by the ETIM and other East Turkistan terrorist forces, not only jeopardizes China's security and stability, but also fosters the thought of international terrorism and extremism which will pose severe threat to world security and stability. [...] Resolution 2129 adopted by the Security Council, for the first time, makes it explicit that all countries should employ specific measures to step up counter-cyber terrorism efforts. [...] China hopes that countries around the world will enhance cooperation to combat cyber terrorist activities by the ETIM and other terrorist forces, so as to jointly uphold international security and stability."</p>



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