

# ARTICLE ALERT

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## INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

### [1] The Future of U.S.-Chinese Relations

**Henry A. Kissinger**

**Foreign Affairs, March/April 2012**

On Jan 19, 2011, US President Barack Obama and Chinese President Hu Jintao issued a joint statement at the end of Hu's visit to Washington. It proclaimed their shared commitment to a positive, cooperative, and comprehensive US-China relationship. Top American and Chinese officials have exchanged visits and institutionalized their exchanges on major strategic and economic issues. Military-to-military contacts have been restarted, opening an important channel of communication. And at the unofficial level, so-called track-two groups have explored possible evolutions of the US-Chinese relationship. Important domestic political considerations are involved for all parties. But if China and the US come to regard each other's trade-pact efforts as elements in a strategy of isolation, the Asia-Pacific region could devolve into competing adversarial power blocs. Ironically, this would be a particular challenge if China meets frequent American calls to shift from an export-led to a consumption-driven economy, as its most recent five-year plan contemplates.

### [2] Addressing U.S.-China Strategic Distrust

**Kenneth Lieberthal, Wang Jisi**

The Brookings Institution John L. Thornton China Center, Monograph Series, Number 4, Mar. 2012

The issue of mutual distrust of long-term intentions—termed here “strategic distrust”—has become a central concern in US-China relations. The coauthors of this paper explicate both the underlying concerns each leadership harbors about the other side and the reasons for those concerns. Each coauthor has written the narrative of his government’s views without any changes made by the other coauthor. The coauthors have together written the follow-on analysis and recommendations. The purpose of these narratives of distrust is to enable each leadership to better fathom how the other thinks—and therefore to devise more effective ways to build strategic trust. The coauthors hope this paper will improve the potential for a long-term normal major power relationship between the United States and China, rather than an adversarial relationship that might otherwise develop.

### [3] Confronting a Powerful China with Western Characteristics

**Kurth, James.**

**Orbis, Winter 2012, 21 pages**

The rapid rise of Chinese economic and military power has produced the most fundamental change in the global system since the end of the Cold War, and it poses vital questions about China's future direction. Many Western analysts argue that China's great power will cause it to become more like the West, i.e., like Western great powers. Other Western analysts believe that China will continue to be the same, i.e., like the China of the past few decades. An alternative interpretation, however, is that China's new power will enable it to become even more Chinese than it is now, i.e., to become more like the traditional and imperial China that existed before the Western intrusions of the 19th century. This China was the "Central State" of a distinctive Chinese world order, operating with distinctive conceptions about diplomatic relations, military strategy, and economic exchange. However, the new China will be unlike the old China in at least two important ways. It will be a naval, and not just a land, power, and it will be a financial, and not just a trading, power. In other words, it will be a powerful China with Western characteristics. As a formidable naval and financial power, China will present fundamental challenges to the United States and to both the long-standing U.S. security order in the Western Pacific and the long-standing "Washington Consensus" about the global economic order. [source: author's abstract]

**[4] The Ivory Tower Survey: How IR scholars see the world.  
Paul C. Avey, Michael C. Desch, James D. Long, etc  
Foreign Policy, Jan/Feb 2012, 12 pages**

Scholars weigh in on foreign affairs across the globe and in academia. IR scholars take a broad view of the most important foreign-policy issues facing the United States. Thirty-two percent think this shortlist includes the rising power of China, up from 23 percent in our 2008 survey. Another 32 percent of academics rank the Arab Spring among the top three. But concerns about the global economy and monetary regulations, including the global debt crisis and the euro's collapse, loom large.

Also in the special coverage of *Inside The Ivory Tower*, it included exclusive rankings of the best IR programs. Read more on [http://www.foreignpolicy.com/ivory\\_tower](http://www.foreignpolicy.com/ivory_tower)

**[5] Is Burma Democratizing?  
Thomas Carothers  
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace , April 2, 2012**

The victory of Aung San Suu Kyi and several dozen of her National League for Democracy colleagues in Burma's April 1 legislative by-elections is a major event for the country. In a Q&A, Thomas Carothers, who visited Burma in the run-up to the elections, assesses the significance of the vote and the prospects for a democratic transition in Burma. Drawing on his extensive experience with political transitions around the world, Carothers compares the situation in Burma to other transitions away from authoritarian rule, highlighting major challenges but also reasons for hope.

**[6] Advancing Myanmar's Transition: A Way Forward for U.S. Policy  
Priscilla Clapp, Suzanne DiMaggio  
Asia Society, Feb 16, 2012**

A new Asia Society publication, *Advancing Myanmar's Transition: A Way Forward for U.S. Policy*, assesses the nature of the changes that are under way in Myanmar and the challenges and vulnerabilities the country faces. Against this backdrop, the report's co-authors — Priscilla Clapp, former Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Burma (1999–2002), and Suzanne DiMaggio, Asia Society's Vice President of Global Policy Programs — recommend measures that the United States can undertake at this critical moment to encourage, support, and advance the institutionalization of sustainable democracy in Myanmar.

## ENVIROMENT AND ENERGY

### **[7] NASA Space Technology Roadmaps and Priorities: Restoring NASA's Technological Edge and Paving the Way for A New Era In Space** **National Research Council, February 1, 2012, 469 pages**

NASA's Office of the Chief Technologist (OCT) has begun to rebuild the advanced space technology program in the agency with plans laid out in 14 draft technology roadmaps. It has been years since NASA has had a vigorous, broad-based program in advanced space technology development and its technology base has been largely depleted. However, success in executing future NASA space missions will depend on advanced technology developments that should already be underway. Reaching out to involve the external technical community, the National Research Council (NRC) considered the 14 draft technology roadmaps prepared by OCT and ranked the top technical challenges and highest priority technologies that NASA should emphasize in the next 5 years. This report provides specific guidance and recommendations on how the effectiveness of the technology development program managed by OCT can be enhanced in the face of scarce resources.

### **[8] Global Warming Is Real and Has Consequences - Part I.** **William D. Nordhaus** **YaleGlobal. April 4, 2012.**

Although the consequences of global warming are painfully vivid, some scholars still question whether it requires urgent action. In January, a group of scientists, including those from the United States, Australia, France and the Netherlands, summarized reasons for their skepticism and opposition to findings of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. They insist that evidence is lacking to show the world is warming. Nordhaus responds to the essay, pointing out faults in the skeptics' review of climate modeling, temperature trends and basic cost-benefit analysis. The skeptics contend that uncertainties do not warrant alarm or huge investments to launch a transition away from fossil fuels. Nordhaus counters that taking steps to slow climate change won't result in economic catastrophe, concluding, "The claim that cap-and-trade legislation or carbon taxes would be ruinous to our society does not stand up to serious economic analysis.

### **[9] Global Warming Is Real and Has Consequences - Part II.** **Pavin Chachavalpongpun**

**YaleGlobal. April 6, 2012.**

Climate-change naysayers claim that shifting from fossil fuels to alternative energies is unnecessary or too costly for economies. Yet, the cost of climate change is clearly evident. Manufacturers are considering moving from Thailand and other countries threatened by flooding and other forces related to climate change, according to the author. Before the massive floods, "Thailand was an attractive investment destination in the first place, with a well-developed infrastructure, a free-enterprise economy, generally pro-investment policies and strong export industries," Pavin notes. Thai politicians compounded the disruptions by refusing to cooperate on policies to prevent flooding. So in selecting factory locations, investors and businesses could seek competitive advantage and avoid countries with climate woes and political infighting. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

**ECONOMICS AND TRADE ISSUES****[10] U.S. Trade Policy****Alessi, Christopher; McMahan, Robert****Council on Foreign Relations, February 3, 2012, various pages**

While trade accounts for an increasing percentage of U.S. economic output--at 25 percent--U.S. trade as a percentage of GDP is lower than that of every other developed country in the world besides Japan. As the forces of globalization have reshaped the global economy, there has been increasing resistance to trade liberalization within the United States. Many in the American labor movement argue that free trade, which they view as unregulated, disenfranchises U.S. workers by outsourcing jobs overseas. Advocates say that expanding free trade will create new U.S. jobs by opening up U.S. exports to a range of foreign markets, boosting competitiveness. While President Barack Obama has sympathized with U.S. labor concerns, his administration has also increasingly turned to trade liberalization to boost U.S. economic recovery in the wake of the Great Recession. Late in 2011, the administration ratified stalled free trade agreements (FTAs) negotiated by the Bush administration while placing fresh emphasis on negotiating a multilateral free trade agreement in the Pacific region.

**[11] One, Two, Three Free Trade Agreements: Finally, a New Era for Global Trade?****Knowledge@Wharton, January 27, 2012, 4 pages**

Nearly five years after the Bush administration first negotiated free trade agreements (FTAs) with South Korea, Colombia and Panama, revised versions of those pacts were finally approved by the U.S. Congress last fall and will be implemented during 2012. Although global companies reacted with an anti-climactic sense of relief, trade analysts welcomed the new opportunities that the pacts will open for U.S. exporters in 2012. Like other U.S. free trade agreements, the new pacts won't just eliminate tariffs that raise the prices on many U.S. exports to those countries; they will also gradually eliminate non-tariff barriers that make U.S. products harder, or more expensive, to export. Equally important, the pacts will expand trade opportunities for U.S. exporters by requiring stricter protection of their intellectual property in those foreign markets. Like other trade pacts, the

provisions will be a two-way street -- opening markets and lowering costs for exports from those countries to the U.S.

**[12] 2012 Global Cities Index and Emerging Cities Outlook.  
The Chicago Council. April 2, 2012.**

New York and London remain the world's most global cities, while major emerging-market cities strengthened their ability to challenge global leaders in the next 10 to 20 years, according to the report. The Global Cities Index, conducted every two years since 2008, provides a unique measure of global engagement for 66 cities across five dimensions, Business Activity, Human Capital, Information Exchange, Cultural Experience, and Political Engagement.

**[13] Private-Sector Engagement in Food Security and Agricultural Development.  
Johanna Nesseth Tuttle  
Center for Strategic & International Studies. March 29, 2012.**

With the introduction of Feed the Future (FTF), the U.S. government's program to refocus foreign assistance on agricultural development, the private sector has been named a priority partner. The U.S. food and agriculture sector is a thriving, complex industry that has benefited from a legacy of exceptionally strong partnership with the public sector, says the author.

**[14] U.S.-China Parallel Development Assistance Goals  
Xiaoqing Lu Boynton, Conor M. Savoy  
Center for Strategic & International Studies. March 30, 2012.**

The expansion of China's economy in recent decades has brought a corresponding rise in the amount of foreign assistance China offers to the developing world. In particular, China increased aid to countries in Africa, Latin America, and Southeast Asia. Some of China's methods and objectives are controversial within the international aid community, according to the author.

**EDUCATION AND INFORMATION**

**[15] The State of America's Libraries Report 2012  
American Library Association. April 9, 2012.**

As the national economy continues to struggle toward recovery from the Great Recession, 2011 was a year of grim headlines. The federal Library of Congress lost about 9% of its budget and 10% of its workforce. Detroit, a city in fiscal crisis, agonized all year over how many library branches to close. But there was good news as well. The public libraries in many major U.S. cities continue to see circulation rise, with Seattle leading the way with a whopping 50% increase in the past six years. The use of social media by libraries of all types increased dramatically, and the American Library Association (ALA), continues to provide leadership in the transformation of libraries and library services in a dynamic and increasing global digital information environment.

**[16] The Global Information Technology Report 2012  
World Economic Forum. April 4, 2012.**

Through the evolved methodological framework of the Networked Readiness Index (NRI), The Global Information Technology Report 2012 measures the extent to which 142 economies take advantage of ICT and other new technologies to increase their growth and well-being. This year, Sweden tops the rankings, followed by Singapore and Finland.

**[17] The Rise of e-Reading  
Pew Internet & American Life Project. April 4, 2012.**

As the number of Americans that own tablet computers and e-book reading devices has increased, so has the percentage of adults who report that they have read an e-book in the past year. In a February survey, 21% of adults said they had read a e-book in the last year, compared to 17% who reported doing so in December. Those who read e-books read more books than those who don't have the devices: The average reader of e-books has read 24 books in the past 12 months, compared with an average of 15 books by a non-e-book consumer. For device owners, those who own e-book readers also stand out. They say they have read an average of 24 books in the previous year vs. 16 books by those who do not own that device.

**[18] State of the New Media 2012  
Project for Excellence in Journalism. March 19, 2012**

Mobile devices are adding to people's consumption of news, strengthening the lure of traditional news brands and providing a boost to long-form journalism, according to the Project for Excellence in Journalism's ninth annual report on the health of American journalism.

**U.S. SOCIETY AND VALUES**

**[19] When Labels Don't Fit: Hispanics and Their Views of Identity  
Pew Hispanic Center. April 4, 2012.**

Nearly four decades after the U.S. government mandated the use of the terms "Hispanic" or "Latino" to categorize Americans who trace their roots to Spanish-speaking countries, a new nationwide survey of Hispanics finds that these terms still haven't been fully embraced by Hispanics themselves. A majority says they most often identify themselves by their family's country of origin while just one-quarter says they prefer a pan-ethnic label.

**[20] Occupational Outlook Handbook 2012-2013  
Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. March 28, 2012.**

The profiles featured here cover hundreds of occupations and describe What They Do, Work Environment, How to Become One, Pay, and more. Each profile also includes BLS employment projections for the 2010-20 decade.