

# **EAI U.S.-China Relations Statement Factsheet**

## **September 2012**

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December 2012

Time Period: September 1 ~ September 30, 2012

Main Issues

**1. Asia Pacific Issues: Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands Dispute, South China Sea**

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 3, Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</li> <li>● September 4, State Department Daily Press Briefing</li> <li>● September 5, Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</li> <li>● September 9, Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</li> <li>● September 15, Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta</li> <li>● September 17, Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta</li> <li>● September 19, Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta</li> <li>● September 20, Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 3, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference</li> <li>● September 5, Remarks by Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</li> <li>● September 11, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference</li> <li>● September 14, Remarks by Assistant Foreign Minister Le Yucheng</li> <li>● September 14, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference</li> <li>● September 18, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference</li> <li>● September 24, <i>China Daily</i> Editorial</li> </ul>

**2. Middle East and Africa Issues: Syria, Iranian Nuclear Issue, Sudan-South Sudan**

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 5, Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 3, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference</li> <li>● September 5, Remarks by Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</li> <li>● September 14, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference</li> <li>● September 28, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference</li> </ul>

**3. Direction of U.S.-Chinese Cooperation: U.S.-China Cooperative Partnership and U.S. Secretary of State Clinton's Visit to China**

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 5, Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</li> <li>● September 6, Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</li> <li>● September 9, Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 1, Remarks by Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei</li> <li>● September 5, Remarks by Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</li> <li>● September 6, <i>China Daily</i> Editorial</li> </ul>

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United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 5, Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 18, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference</li> </ul>



**5. Military Cooperation: U.S. Secretary of Defense Panetta's Visit to China**

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 18, Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta</li> <li>● September 19, Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 19, <i>China Daily</i> Editorial</li> </ul>

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United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 5, Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 5, Remarks by Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</li> </ul>

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United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 5, Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</li> <li>● September 19, Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 5, Remarks by Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</li> <li>● September 19, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference</li> </ul>

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United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 18, Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 11, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference</li> </ul>

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United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 5, Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</li> <li>● September 19, Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● September 5, Remarks by Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</li> <li>● September 14, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference</li> </ul>



Issue 1. Asia-Pacific Issues: Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands Dispute, South China Sea

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 3, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</b> (<a href="#">Remarks With Indonesian Foreign Minister Raden Mohammad Marty Muliana Natalegawa</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> “The United States has a national interest, as every country does, in the maintenance of peace and stability, respect for international law, freedom on navigation, unimpeded lawful commerce in the South China Sea. As I have said many times, the United States does not take a position on competing territorial claim over land features, but we believe the nations of the region should work collaboratively together to resolve disputes without coercion, without intimidation, without threats, and certainly without the use of force. That is why we encourage ASEAN and China to make meaningful progress towards finalizing a comprehensive code of conduct in order to establish rules of the road and clear procedures for peacefully addressing disagreements. And we endorse the recent ASEAN six-point principles on the South China Sea. We will continue to support the work that ASEAN is doing, and in particular the leadership of Indonesia, to clarify and pursue claims in accordance with international law, including the Law of the Sea Convention.”</li>   <li>● <b>September 4, 2012 State Department Daily Press Briefing</b> (<a href="#">Daily Press Briefing</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> “And you know what our bottom line is on this, that we want a collaborative, diplomatic solution to this. We don’t take any particular position on various competing claims, but we want a collaborative diplomatic process that avoids coercion, and you know that the Secretary has been clear about that.” “Economic coercion is certainly one instance of that, but the bottom line is that we want this to be diplomatic and collaborative, and we’ve also urged the – we think there needs to be a code of conduct. So we’ve urged our ASEAN partners to work in that direction so that they have a common position going forward.”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 3, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference</b> (<a href="#">Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference on September 3, 2012</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> “[...] I want to point out that the South China Sea issue is the dispute over the territorial sovereignty of some islands in Nansha as well as overlapping claims to maritime rights and interests in part of the South China Sea. It should be solved through friendly consultation and negotiation between directly-concerned sovereign states, which is a consensus reached by China and ASEAN countries during the signing of the <i>Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea</i> (DOC). Countries outside the region should respect the choice made by countries concerned in the South China Sea issue, keep to their pledge of not taking a position on the South China Sea issue and make more contribution to regional peace and stability, instead of the other way around.” “As for the Diaoyu Islands, I want to point out that the Diaoyu Island and its affiliated islands have been China’s inherent territory since ancient times. Being a product of the Cold War, the <i>US-Japan Security Treaty</i> should not go beyond the bilateral scope and undermine the interests of a third party. We hope the US will bear in mind regional peace and stability, and concretely honor its commitment of not taking a position over the sovereignty of the Diaoyu Islands.”</li>   <li>● <b>September 5, 2012 Remarks by Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</b> (<a href="#">Remarks with Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> “On the South China Sea, the position of the Chinese Government has been consistent and clear-cut. China has sovereignty over the islands in the South China Sea and their adjacent waters. There is plentiful historical and jurisprudential evidence for that.” “Nowhere else do China and the United States share more converging interest and interact more frequently than in the Asia Pacific region.” “We hope that China and the United States will work together to develop a positive and pragmatic relationship. That is also the shared expectation of the people in the Asia Pacific region. We hope to work with the United States and other countries in the Asia Pacific to make our region one of openness, inclusiveness, mutual benefit, and win-win progress. As for the United States policy towards the Asia Pacific region, we have always hoped that the United States would size up the situation and make sure that its policy is in conformity with the trends of our current era and the general wish of countries in the region to seek peace, development, and cooperation.”</li> </ul>



- **September 5, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton** ([Remarks With Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi](#))

**Quote:** “Another issue, as the Minister mentioned, was the South China Sea. I reiterated, as I have on many occasions, the United States does not take a position on competing territorial claims. Our interest is in the maintenance of peace and stability, respect for international law, freedom of navigation, and unimpeded lawful commerce. And as a friend to the countries involved, we do believe it’s in everyone’s interest that China and ASEAN engage in a diplomatic process toward the shared goal of a code of conduct.” “I appreciate the Minister’s comments about the commitment China has to a code of conduct that was foreshadowed in the Declaration of Conduct agreed to by China and ASEAN nations 10 years ago. We believe, as I said in Jakarta, that it is timely now to proceed with that work and help to lower the tensions and create the code of conduct in the next period, hopefully in preparation for the East Asia Summit. After my talks over the last few days, I believe that with leadership and commitment China and ASEAN can ramp up their diplomacy. And the United States stands ready to support that process in any way that would be helpful to the parties.”

- **September 9, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton** ([Press Availability in Vladivostok, Russia](#))

**Quote:** “[...] So whether we’re talking about the South China Sea or the East China Sea, my message has been the same to all of them. And now is the time for everyone to make efforts to reduce the tensions and strengthen diplomatic involvement for resolving these tensions. And the United States is committed to playing a constructive role based on clear principles which we have consistently enunciated. We want to see the issues resolved through diplomatic processes that lower tension, avoid any form of confrontation, and lead to the ultimate resolution of what are very longstanding disputes in a manner that is consistent with international law. Specifically with respect to our two good friends and allies, Japan and the Republic of Korea, I raised these issues with both of them, urging that their interests really lie in making sure that they lower the temperature and work together in a concerted way, to have a calm and restrained approach. And I think that’s being heard. There does seem to be a recognition on the part of all of the leaders that this region of the world is the economic engine in what is still a fragile global economy. And we can’t let anything happen. It’s not in the interests of any of the Asian countries, it’s certainly not in the interest of the United States or the rest of the world to raise doubts and uncertainties about the stability and peace in the region. So I’m committed to working closely with all of the countries involved. And the United States will do what we can to try to ensure that these longstanding disputes don’t become a significant problem for our friends or for the broader region.”

- **September 11, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference on September 11, 2012](#))

**Quote:** “China will never tolerate any acts that may infringe upon its national sovereignty and territorial integrity. The Chinese government is resolute and determined in safeguarding national sovereignty and territorial integrity. The Japanese side’s so-called ‘purchase’ of the Diaoyu Islands is totally illegal and invalid. It does not change, not even in the slightest way, the fact that the Diaoyu Island and its affiliated islands belong to China, nor will it alter the fact of Japan’s illegal occupation of China’s Diaoyu Islands. We demand the Japanese side to immediately stop all acts that may infringe upon China’s territorial sovereignty. Japan should truly come back to the very understanding and common ground reached between the two sides, and should return to the track of negotiated settlement of the Diaoyu Islands issue. China will take necessary measures to safeguard national sovereignty in light of the developments.”

- **September 14, 2012 Remarks by Assistant Foreign Minister Le Yucheng** ([Remarks by Assistant Foreign Minister Le Yucheng at the Symposium on the Issue of Diaoyu Dao](#))

**Quote:** “[...] Japan claims that there is no territorial dispute between China and Japan. In fact, Japan seized on the first Sino-Japanese war (1894-1895) and illegally occupied Diaoyu Dao.” “The Chinese government has, from the very beginning, firmly opposed and never recognized such backroom deals between Japan and the United States concerning Chinese territories. Facts are facts, and history is not to be reversed. Japan’s claim that there is no dispute between China and Japan over Diaoyu Dao is an outright denial of the outcomes of the victory of the World Anti-Fascist War and constitutes a direct challenge to the post-war international order.” “Regardless of repeated strong representations of the Chinese side, the Japanese government announced on 10 September the ‘islands purchase’, to which the Chinese side made immediate and strong responses.” “The major countermeasures adopted over the past few days have upheld China’s sovereignty over Diaoyu Dao and dealt a blow to Japan’s blatant attempt to violate China’s territorial sovereignty. Going forward, we will continue to react with robust countermeasures in light of the developments of the situation to safeguard China’s territorial sovereignty.”



- **September 15, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta** ([Secretary of Defense Leon E. Panetta Holds a Press Briefing En Route to Tokyo](#))

**Quote:** “Well, you know, I -- I -- I am concerned that -- that -- that, you know, when these -- these countries engage in provocations of one kind or another over these various islands that it raises the possibility that a misjudgment on -- on one side or the other could result in -- in violence and could result in conflict and that conflict would then, you know, have the potential of expanding. So it's for that reason that both Secretary Clinton and myself will strongly urge that -- that these countries, rather than engaging in that kind of provocative behavior, engage in an effort to find ways to peacefully resolve these kinds of issues. And we're going to, you know, we're going to face more of this, countries are searching for resources, there's going to be questions raised as to who has jurisdiction over these areas. There has got to be a peaceful way to resolve these issues. And to the credit of the Asian nations, they developed a code of conduct to try to provide a format for that. I will -- I will strongly urge the Chinese and others to participate in an effort to not only adhere to that code, but find a way to be able to enforce it effectively.”

- **September 17, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta** ([Town Hall Meeting with Secretary Panetta at Yokota Airbase, Japan](#))

**Quote:** “This -- this is an issue that concerns us. These territorial disputes are not just related to the islands that Japan cares about. The fact is, we've had territorial disputes elsewhere, as China tries to assert itself in the South China Sea. And so the disputes over these territories -- I mean, the reason this is happening is because a lot of these countries look to these islands, look to the resources that are out there, look to offshore drilling, look to energy resources, and so it's going to become more competitive between countries as they face this issue. Our goal in the United States is to try to make sure that these countries develop a process in order to try to resolve those issues. We don't -- as the -- the United States does not take a position with regards to territorial disputes. But the one thing that I am urging is that countries develop a process to resolve these disputes peacefully. That's what they have to do. Fortunately, the ASEAN nations developed a code of conduct with regards to navigation rights and with regards to territorial disputes that we think is -- is important, but China's got to participate in that, and so do other countries, to develop an enforcement mechanism that will allow these issues to be resolved -- to be resolved peacefully.”

- **September 14, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference on September 14, 2012](#))

**Quote:** “The South China Sea is a geographic name universally recognized by the international community. The Philippines has all along recognized and used this name. Entering the 21st century, the Philippine side now attempts to rename this area. It violates international regulations concerning the standardization of geographic names, and the name will not be recognized by the international community. China has repeatedly urged the Philippine side to stop deliberately causing disputes and complicating the situation in the South China Sea.” “In accordance with Chinese laws and international law, China will exercise jurisdiction of the [Diaoyu] islands and their adjacent waters. For example, there will be daily weather forecast and marine environment broadcast, as well as a detailed chart of the waters off the islands in order to provide necessary convenience and service to ships passing that part of the sea.”

- **September 18, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference on September 18, 2012](#))

**Quote:** “The Chinese government immediately lodged solemn representations and strong protest, issued a statement to fully elaborate on China's position, published the base points and baselines of the territorial sea of the Diaoyu Islands and deposited the document with the United Nations, declared the submission of the outer limits of the continental shelf in the East China Sea to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf and dispatched maritime surveillance ships to waters off the Diaoyu Islands for patrol and law-enforcement. China's forceful measures have effectively offset the legal consequences of Japan's illegal 'purchase' of the Diaoyu Islands.” “The Chinese people have also voiced their strong indignation. Chinese citizens in various parts of China spontaneously took to the street in protest against the Japanese government's illegal 'purchase' of the Diaoyu Islands, denouncing the Japanese side's defiance of the victory of the World Anti-Fascist War as well as the post-war international order.” “Waters off the Diaoyu Islands are also under China's jurisdiction. Chinese maritime surveillance ships have and will continue to conduct regular patrol and law-enforcement in waters under China's jurisdiction to assert China's sovereignty and curb all kinds of aggression.” “According to the *Regulations on Map Compilation and Publication of the People's Republic of China*, SinoMaps Press has completed the compilation of the thematic map of the Diaoyu Island and its affiliated islands. The map is officially published today. This is another specific measure of the Chinese government to strengthen its jurisdiction over the Diaoyu Island and its affiliated islands.”



- **September 19, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta ([Secretary Panetta Delivers Remarks to the Engineering Academy of Armored Forces in Beijing, China](#))**

**Quote:** “Before I came to China, I visited Japan. And I made very clear to the Japanese leaders that I met with that they have a responsibility to exercise leadership to assure that these issues are resolved peacefully. The United States does not take a position with regards to these territorial disputes. But we are concerned that these -- these kinds of disputes could lead to greater conflicts and to greater violence. And, therefore, it is incumbent on both China and Japan to find ways to hopefully resolve these issues peacefully. I understand the history here. I understand the deep wounds that China suffered during World War II. Nobody understands those wounds better than the United States, because the United States also suffered deep wounds during World War II. But at the same time, we cannot live in the past. We have to live in the future, the present and the future. And for that reason, the United States, China, Japan have developed relationships that extend on the diplomatic front, the economic front, and, indeed, on the military front. And my hope is that, in order to preserve that prosperity and security that we need in the Asia-Pacific region, that countries will work together to find ways to resolve these issues. As I said, I understand the history. I understand the pain. I understand the depth of the wounds. I understand how there are those who, because of their particular ideology, can play these issues up in one country or the other. But responsible leadership in both countries has a duty to both countries to assure that we find ways to resolve these differences.”

- **September 20, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton ([Remarks at the Third Annual U.S.-Indonesian Joint Commission Meeting](#))**

**Quote:** “We also greatly appreciate Indonesia’s leadership as ASEAN chair in supporting America’s engagement with ASEAN. When Indonesia hosted the East Asia Summit last year, President Obama became the first American president to attend. I also want to thank the Foreign Minister for laying the groundwork for diplomacy through ASEAN with regard to the South China Sea. We support ASEAN’s six-point principles to help reduce tensions and pave the way to a comprehensive code of conduct for addressing disputes. And we support a solution through which all concerned parties can resolve any disputes without threats, coercion, or the use of force.”

- **September 24, 2012 *China Daily* Editorial ([US playing dual role](#))**

**Quote:** “Any discerning person can see the motive behind the joint drill between Japan’s Ground Self-Defense Force and the US Marine Corps in Guam on Saturday. It was the first exercise of its kind, held purportedly to enhance the two countries’ capabilities to defend remote islands from ‘foreign assault’. Tension between China and Japan had mounted further on Friday night as scores of Japanese policemen landed on China’s Diaoyu Islands. But instead of taking steps to defuse the tension, Japan started the joint drill, which GSDF claimed was not aimed at any specific island or third country.” “The Diaoyu Islands dispute is a delicate issue, and the US is responsible for creating it. First, it wrongly grouped them with Ryukyu Islands (known as Okinawa today) to take over their administration in 1951. Second, it handed them over to Japan, rather than China, in 1972. Now that it has become a covert part to the Diaoyu Islands dispute, it has the chance of absolving itself by playing a constructive role to resolve it. But it seems it is interested only in making the issue thornier.” “During his recent visit to China, US Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta reiterated that Washington would not take sides in territorial disputes in the region. But while in Japan, which he visited before China, he said the US-Japan security treaty also covered the Diaoyu Islands. The US pivot to Asia and the rebalancing of its armed forces are aimed at just one thing: containing China’s rise.”



Issue 2. Middle East and Africa Issues: Syria, Iranian Nuclear Issue, Sudan-South Sudan

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 5, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</b> (<a href="#">Remarks With Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</a>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Quote:</b> “One issue we discussed at length is the evolving situation in Syria. The United States strongly believes the simplest and best solution to end the violence is for there to be a peaceful political transition that respects the dignity, aspirations, and rights of the Syrian people. The United States wants to work with China and other international partners to take effective steps to end the violence and bring about that political transition, because doing so, we believe, serves our common interest as well as the interest of Syrians and others in the region.” “We discussed our shared commitment in preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons and our work together in the P-5+1 as well as at the upcoming IAEA Board of Governors meeting. China recently reduced its purchase of Iranian oil; and while it took this step for its own commercial and energy security reasons, it aligns with our shared interest regarding Iran and our hope that Iran will live up to its international obligations.” “And I am absolutely convinced that our collaboration has been vital. We’ve worked together on peace in Sudan and South Sudan. We are working to deal with Iran’s nuclear ambitions. We haven’t agreed on how to handle Syria, but we haven’t stopped talking about what should be done, because the violence continues. The instability is quite concerning.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 3, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference</b> (<a href="#">Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference on September 3, 2012</a>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Quote:</b> “Under the current circumstances, all parties concerned should stick even more firmly to the correct direction of resolving the issue politically. We urge parties concerned in Syria to immediately cease fire and stop violence, implement relevant UN Security Council resolutions, Annan’s ‘six-point proposal’ as well as the communique of the foreign ministers’ meeting of the Action Group on the Syrian issue, and initiate and push forward a political transition led by the Syrian people as soon as possible. Relevant parties of the international community should support Joint Special Representative Brahimi’s impartial mediation and work on parties concerned in Syria in a balanced way so as to ease the situation as soon as possible.” “China always believes that dialogue and cooperation is the only correct way out for the Iranian nuclear issue. Therefore, we have been actively involved in the dialogue process between P5 plus one countries and Iran and supporting the IAEA’s enhanced cooperation with Iran. Relevant parties should stick to the general direction of diplomatic solutions, be flexible and pragmatic, and seek common grounds while shelving differences. We hope that the IAEA and Iran can solve the outstanding problems concerning the Iranian nuclear programme through dialogue and cooperation as soon as possible. We also hope that a new round of dialogue on the Iranian nuclear issue will be held at an early date, progress be made as quickly as possible so as to seek a comprehensive, long-term and proper settlement of the Iranian nuclear issue.”</p>





- **September 5, 2012 Remarks by Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi** ([Remarks with Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi](#))

**Quote:** “[...] China stands ready to stay in close contact, communication, and coordination with the United States and other relevant parties on the Iranian nuclear issue. China strictly abides by the relevant UN Security Council resolutions. Of course, all along we have been opposed to unilateral sanctions. When such sanctions affect other countries and damage other countries’ interests, it is something we cannot accept. Although there might be some divergent views between China, the United States, or others on the Iranian issue, we believe there is an ongoing momentum of exchange, communication, and cooperation. And we hope to sustain the momentum of exchanges and cooperation with the relevant parties. China will continue to work persistently for the peaceful settlement of the Iranian nuclear issue.”

- **September 14, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference on September 14, 2012](#))

**Quote:** “China always stands for a peaceful resolution of the Iranian nuclear issue through dialogue and negotiation. The IAEA Board of Governors’ Meeting has just adopted a resolution on the issue, urging Iran to honor relevant UN Security Council and IAEA resolutions, and at the same time supporting P5+1 countries’ efforts to seek a comprehensive, long-term and negotiated settlement of the issue through dialogue. The resolution is a balanced one. We hope the resolution will help enhance the cooperation between the Agency and Iran, and help push forward the dialogue and negotiation process. Going forward, we hope the P5+1 countries and Iran will intensify diplomatic efforts, launch a new round of dialogue at an early date and seek a realistic and reasonable settlement plan. China will continue to play a constructive role for the peaceful resolution of the issue through dialogue and negotiation.”



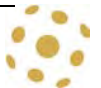
- **September 28, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference on September 28, 2012](#))

**Quote:** "[...] China welcomes the multiple agreements reached between Sudan and South Sudan on bilateral cooperation and some outstanding issues and appreciates the two countries' flexible, pragmatic and responsible attitude during their negotiations as well as the international community's active efforts. We hope Sudan and South Sudan can earnestly implement the agreements they signed and continue to maintain the sound momentum of negotiation and properly solve other outstanding issues as soon as possible." "The remarks made by some countries alluding to or targeting at China are completely unacceptable to us. China laments the casualties of innocent civilians including women and children in Syria caused by violence and conflicts. I want to stress that China is not the reason for the above consequences. On the contrary, China has been making efforts to push for the political resolution of the Syrian issue with the very aim to realize ceasefire and end of violence in Syria at an early date so as to avoid civilian casualties. China believes that an early launch of the political dialogue by relevant parties in Syria and the political transition process led by the Syrian people is the fundamental way out to stop the conflicts and bloodshed and reduce the Syrian people's plight. The international community should bear in mind the larger interests of peace and stability in Syria and the Middle East and jointly work for the realization of this goal. Some countries should draw a lesson from previous mistakes and seriously reflect upon their policies on the Syrian issue."



**Issue 3. Direction of U.S.-Chinese Cooperation: U.S.-China Cooperative Partnership and U.S. Secretary of State Clinton's Visit to China**

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 5, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</b> (<a href="#">Remarks With Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> “[...] our two nations are trying to do something that has never been done in history, which is to write a new answer to the question of what happens when an established power and a rising power meet. Both President Obama and I have said frequently that the United States welcomes the rise of a strong, prosperous, and peaceful China.” “So we are committed to managing our differences effectively and expanding our cooperation wherever and whenever possible. We see this moment as a historic opportunity for our two countries, and indeed, for others as well. To make the most of it, the United States and China must strive to achieve practical outcomes that benefit each of us as well as the broader region and world.” “We have taken to heart the vision set by our two presidents to build a relationship that is positive, cooperative, and comprehensive and that delivers benefits to both our nations, and that, in turn, helps to drive peace, stability, progress, and prosperity throughout the region and the world.”</li> <li>● <b>September 6, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</b> (<a href="#">Remarks With Timor-Leste Prime Minister Xanana Gusmao</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> “With respect to China, look, as I said yesterday, one of the things I am most proud of is the resilience that we have built into the U.S.-China relationship over the past nearly four years. Even when we disagree, believe me, we can talk very frankly now. We can explore the toughest issues without imperiling the whole relationship. And as was evident yesterday, there is a huge amount going on in the world where the United States and China need to consult and try to find as much common ground of agreement as possible. On Iran, on North Korea, we have in-depth discussions on those and others. On Syria and the South China Sea, we are also very much involved in discussing our differing perspectives. And of course, on the need for a continuing economic recovery, I think it was apparent in our discussions yesterday there is a great focus on the part of Chinese leaders about the global economic recovery, what more needs to be done in order for it to really take hold, [...] for example.”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 1, 2012 Remarks by Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei</b> (<a href="#">Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Remarks on the China-Related Comments Made at the US Republican National Convention</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> “[...] it is the common cause of China and the US to push forward the cooperative partnership based on mutual respect and mutual benefit and build a new type of relations between major countries. The sustained, sound and stable development of China-US relations serves the fundamental interests of the two countries and contributes to peace, stability and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region and the world at large. It is a correct direction that both sides should stick to. US statesmen, whichever party they represent, should recognize that fundamentally speaking, it is in the US' interests to look at China's development from an objective and rational perspective, understand correctly relevant issues in China-US relations, stop making groundless accusations against China and interfering in China's internal affairs and promote China-US mutual trust and cooperation in a responsible manner.”</li> <li>● <b>September 5, 2012 Remarks by Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</b> (<a href="#">Remarks with Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> “President Hu Jintao and President Obama have had 12 face-to-face meetings, and they have reached important consensus on working together to push forward a China-U.S. cooperative partnership based on mutual respect and mutual benefit and on working together to explore the construction of a new type of major country relationship. This points the direction for the further development of our bilateral relationship. The various government departments in both countries should redouble efforts to implement this joint vision of our presidents. The economic relationship between China and the United States is an important driving force of our overall relationship. In the economic exchanges between two large nations such as ours, it is quite inevitable that there might be some disputes or even frictions.” “[...] but we believe that the mutual respect for each other's core interests and major concerns is an important precondition for the steady and smooth development of our bilateral relationship. If we can stay focused on that, then we can overcome various disputes or frictions and their distraction to the relationship and maintain the dialogue and cooperation, which is the primary facet of our relationship and to make sure this relationship will continue to be mutually beneficial going forward.” “It has been China's clear choice to work to promote our cooperative partnership with the United States on the basis of the three joint communiques and joint statements.”</li> </ul>



- **September 9, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton** ([Interview With Indira Lakshmanan of Bloomberg News](#))

**Quote:** "I think you have to be yourself. You have to be America. You have to stand up for American values, interests, and security. You have to look for ways to deepen understanding and to find common ground wherever that's possible, to work on enhancing the level of cooperation, but also to stand up for what we believe in. I mean, we've come a long way doing that, and we can't in any way subordinate that." "I mean, we're always balancing, as you say, friendliness and firmness. That's true with everybody. It's just China is a very large presence, now the second biggest economy in the world. So what we do with China is always going to be very carefully followed and analyzed. So the methods are not so dissimilar. The challenges at this point in time are much more front and center because of the growing importance of the role that China's playing economically and politically. So I think it's being aware of how you strike the right approach with all of these countries, and so everything we've done has been to construct a framework of cooperation in the region with China, ensuring our presence and our position now and into the future. And I think we've put the relationship on a firm foundation, and it's been proven because we've had some choppy waters, but we have been resilient, and we have been very clear in expressing concerns that we have. And I think that's the sign of a maturing relationship."

- **September 6, 2012 *China Daily* Editorial** ([More Sino-US exchanges](#))

**Quote:** "Beijing and Washington both have an interest in maintaining peace in the Asia-Pacific and, toward that end, should work to cooperate, clear up misunderstandings and increase their mutual trust." "The US' involvement in the disputes amid its strategic rebalancing in the region has given rise to suspicions about its real intentions and raised doubts about its commitment to strengthening its cooperation and building mutual trust with China." "During her two-day trip, Clinton and Chinese leaders discussed issues of mutual concern and reaffirmed their countries' commitment to advancing the China-US cooperative partnership." "Admittedly, both governments have become more tactful in dealing with their differences and defusing potential problems that may dampen their prospects for cooperation. And true, China and the US have more agreements than differences on a wide variety of issues. But once a difference takes on gravity, it can threaten to overturn the boat. Washington should understand that in matters concerning China's sovereignty and territorial integrity, Beijing will not back off or compromise. The US should refrain from being an instigator of certain countries' attempts to encroach upon China's interests."



**Issue 4. Economic Cooperation: Mutual Benefit Through Cooperation**

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 5, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</b> (<a href="#">Remarks With Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</a>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Quote:</b> “We have held four Strategic and Economic Dialogues, which took the government-to-government relationship much deeper and broader than at any time prior to the Obama Administration.” “We want China to continue to succeed in delivering economic opportunity to the Chinese people. That will, in turn, have a positive impact on the global economy. We want China to play a greater role in world affairs. That strengthens global stability, helps solve urgent challenges. And we are convinced that our two countries gain far more when we cooperate with one another than when we descend into an unhealthy competition.” “Now, that includes our work on economic and trade issues, which are very critical to creating jobs and opportunity on both sides of the Pacific. We are very clear, as we have these discussions, about the need to develop what we call a level playing field for economic investments in both our countries. It also enables us to work together through multilateral institutions, like the East Asia Summit, which the United States has joined out of respect for the importance of that organization; APEC, which is another vehicle.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 18, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference</b> (<a href="#">Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference on September 18, 2012</a>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Quote:</b> “I want to point out that China-US economic and trade ties are mutually beneficial in nature. It is inevitable that there will be frictions and disputes in their expanding economic cooperation and trade. But the two sides should properly resolve relevant disputes based on mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit through dialogue and consultation. It is imperative not to politicize economic issues or engage in trade and investment protectionism. This is in the interests of both.”</p>



Issue 5. Military Cooperation: U.S. Secretary of Defense Panetta's Visit to China

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 18, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta (<a href="#">Secretary Panetta and Chinese Defense Minister General Liang Guanglie hold a Joint News Conference, China</a>)</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Quote:</b> "Our fundamental goal is to build a U.S.-China military-to-military relationship that is healthy, stable, reliable, continuous, and transparent. I believe that sustained and substantive interactions between senior leaders, along with other forums, such as the United States-China Strategic Security Dialogue, are a very important part of being able to achieve that goal. Through these kinds of engagement, we're strengthening channels of communication to improve mutual understanding, build towards great mutual trust and transparency, and reduce the risk of miscalculation. To that end, General Liang and I discussed ways to expand our cooperation in some very key areas and had a very candid discussion on a number of issues. that the United States and China just this week participated in a very successful counter-piracy exercise in the Gulf of Aden. These exercises enhance the ability of our navies to work together to confront the common threat of piracy. And to build on this positive momentum, I informed General Liang today that the United States Navy will invite China to send a ship to participate in RIMPAC 2014 exercise. This is the world's largest international maritime exercise hosted by the commander of the United States Pacific Fleet." "A stable and constructive U.S.-China relationship is absolutely a vital component of our strategy. We will not achieve security and prosperity in the 21st century without a constructive United States-China relationship, including a stronger mil-to-mil relationship. And we encourage our allies and partners in Asia to deepen their engagement with China, as well. As two major Pacific powers, the United States and China have the opportunity and the responsibility to work together to give our children a better and more secure future."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 19, 2012 <i>China Daily</i> Editorial (<a href="#">Panetta's constructive visit</a>)</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Quote:</b> "Visiting US Defense Secretary Leon Panetta sang a harmonious tune in Beijing on Tuesday when he told his Chinese counterpart Liang Guanglie that the United States intends to establish a healthy, stable, reliable and continuous relationship with China and wants to build strong military-to-military relations." "Over the years, bilateral military ties used to be the weak link in Sino-US relations but the link has strengthened since last year. As such, Panetta's ongoing visit to China, following Liang's US trip in May, is another important step toward forging a stronger Sino-US military relationship, as such senior interactions will help the two militaries deepen mutual trust, dispel suspicion and reduce strategic miscalculation. The world financial crisis and the political unrest in West Asia and North Africa have brought new challenges to regional and global security and peace. The militaries of the world's two largest economies will be better able to fulfill their responsibilities in maintaining peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond by cooperating more closely and broadly. Their first joint anti-piracy drill, conducted on Monday in the Gulf of Aden, is just one example of how the two militaries can promote cooperation in nonconventional security fields. China has made continuous efforts to deepen Sino-US military ties. However, improving military transparency and reducing strategic ambiguity is a two-way street. The US needs to reassure China that its strategic rebalancing to Asia-Pacific is not to contain China's rise. Also, US support for some Asian countries involved in territorial disputes with China in the East China Sea and the South China Sea has contributed to the escalation of tensions in the waters. For the two sides to steer their military-to-military ties onto smooth terrain, the US should view China's rise as an opportunity rather than a potential threat and it should adopt a more constructive approach to Asia-Pacific affairs."</p>



- **September 19, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta ([PLA Engineering Academy of Armored Forces](#))**

**Quote:** “Ultimately, any strategy that aims to sustain the security and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific region will be judged by whether we can achieve long-term progress in the United States-China relationship. Now, there are some who see the United States' focus on the Pacific in a different way. They see global security in terms of a zero-sum game, where China's rise will inevitably put it into conflict with the United States. That view was rejected by President Hu and by President Obama. It is not what our new defense strategy is all about. Our rebalance to the Asia-Pacific region is not an attempt to contain China. It is an attempt to engage China and expand its role in the Pacific. It's about creating a new model in the relationship of our two Pacific powers. It's about renewing and revitalizing our role in a part of the world that is rapidly becoming more critical to our economic, diplomatic, and security interests. And as I've made clear, essential to all of these goals -- essential to these goals is a constructive military-to-military relationship with China. Let me conclude by noting that, like many Americans, I admire the transformation that China has succeeded in accomplishing over the past decades. I admire all of you for your willingness to serve your nation. China's rise has brought millions out of poverty and helped to make the world a more prosperous place. I believe that it can also make the world a more secure place. If we work together -- if we work together to build an enduring foundation for military-to-military relations between the United States and China, we can achieve greater prosperity and security in the Asia-Pacific region. Forty years ago, bold leaders who recognized the mutual benefits of cooperation came together to seize these opportunities, and they changed the direction of history in the 20th century. It is now up to us to help ensure that we continue to move in the same direction, towards more cooperation and towards a better and safer future for our children. My parents were immigrants to the United States and came to America like millions of other immigrants. And the reason they came is because they believed in the American dream of giving their children a better life. They believed that they could give their children a better life. That is not just the American dream. It is China's dream, as well. It will happen with a strong and constructive relationship between China and the United States. A prosperous and secure Asia-Pacific region is, indeed, the fulfillment of that dream.”



Issue 6. Human Rights: Human Rights Dialogue

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 5, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</b> (<a href="#">Remarks With Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</a>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Quote:</b> “On some of these issues, China and the United States have much to agree on, and we are engaged in very cooperative behavior to try to reach our common goal. On others, such as human rights, we do not always see eye to eye, but we continue to talk together. And we will never agree on all matters. No two countries do. But we are learning how to manage our differences, deal openly with misunderstandings when they do occur, and remain in communication as transparently and clearly as possible.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 5, 2012 Remarks by Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</b> (<a href="#">Remarks with Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</a>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Quote:</b> “It is apparent to all that China has made important progress in its human rights. On the basis of mutual respect and nonintervention in other’s internal affairs, we’d like to continue to have human rights dialogue with the United States and some other countries.”</p>





Issue 7. North Korea: Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 5, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</b> (<a href="#">Remarks With Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> “We had a productive conversation about how China can use its unique influence with respect to North Korea. There is an opportunity for the new leadership in North Korea to improve the lives of the North Korean people. At the same time, we wish to continue our joint efforts to bring about the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.”</li>   <li>● <b>September 19, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta</b> (<a href="#">Media Roundtable with Secretary Panetta and Ambassador Locke in Beijing, China</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> “I think we agreed that there are changes that are taking place and that we have to keep track of those changes, but at the same time, what I said was that we continue to be concerned about their efforts to test nuclear weapons, to continue to emphasize their missile capabilities, and they’re developing new ways to try to deploy these missiles, and then, thirdly, the fact that they continue to enrich at a secret facility that doesn’t abide by international laws. All of that concerns us. [...] what I urged is that China engage with North Korea to persuade them to engage with us on a diplomatic basis to try to find ways to resolve these issues. And I think their feeling is that they would encourage us to pursue our differences with North Korea on a diplomatic basis. And I think they understand -- I explained our missile defense approach and the fact that it’s -- it’s designed to focus on what we consider to be a real threat from North Korea. I think they understand that. But they also want to strongly encourage us to try to resolve the issues we have with North Korea peacefully, as well.”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 5, 2012 Remarks by Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</b> (<a href="#">Remarks with Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> “[...] China is making continuous efforts towards the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and the maintenance of peace and stability on the Peninsula. We support the efforts of the relevant countries to maintain and increase dialogue with the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.”</li>   <li>● <b>September 19, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference</b> (<a href="#">Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference on September 19, 2012</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> “China always maintains that the Korean Peninsula issue should be solved through dialogue and consultation in a peaceful manner. In order to achieve the above goal, China creatively initiated the Six-Party Talks. Despite twists and turns over the past nine plus years since the launch of the Talks, we have made a series of important progress, including the Joint Statement of September 19. It has been proven that the Six-Party Talks is an effective mechanism to denuclearize the Korean Peninsula and maintain peace and stability of the Peninsula and Northeast Asia, and an important platform for relevant parties to improve their relations. It serves the common interests of all parties to resume the Six-Party Talks as soon as possible. China stands ready to work with all relevant parties to play a constructive role in moving forward the process of the Six-Party Talks, denuclearizing the Peninsula and maintaining enduring peace and stability of the Peninsula and Northeast Asia.”</li> </ul>



Issue 8. Taiwan Issues: Taiwan Independence

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 18, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta</b> (<a href="#">Secretary Panetta and Chinese Defense Minister General Liang Guanglie hold a Joint News Conference, China</a>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Quote:</b> "Let me make clear that the United States has a one-China policy pursuant to the communiqués and agreements that were reached and that we do not support an independent Taiwan. At the same time, we encourage relations -- better relations between China and Taiwan so that they can peacefully resolve the issues that concern both sides. And, frankly, we have been encouraged by recent developments between China and Taiwan that indicate that there is a willingness on both sides to engage in efforts to improve that relationship. Obviously, we have commitments that go back in terms of assistance to Taiwan. But our belief is that this assistance in some ways provides greater confidence and security on their part to be able to engage in those kinds of negotiations and discussions. We are -- as I said -- are committed to a one-China policy. Our goal is to try to improve the relationship between China and Taiwan in order to avoid any kind of conflict in the future. And I believe that both countries are working in that direction."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 11, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference</b> (<a href="#">Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference on September 11, 2012</a>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Quote:</b> "Chinese diplomats have the responsibility to introduce to people of the world China's position on issues concerning its core interests. China's position on issues related to Taiwan and Tibet have been clear and consistent. We are opposed to anyone carrying out splittist activities in any form for 'Taiwan Independence' and 'Tibet Independence'. We also hope relevant countries do not provide platform for such activities."</p>



**Issue 9. Cybersecurity Issues: Cyber Attacks, Security Cooperation**

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 5, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton</b> (<a href="#">Remarks With Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> "I also raised the growing threat of cyber attacks that are occurring on an increasing basis. Both the United States and China are victims of cyber attacks. Intellectual property, commercial data, national security information is being targeted. This is an issue of increasing concern to the business community and the Government of the United States, as well as many other countries, and it is vital that we work together to curb this behavior."</li>   <li>● <b>September 19, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of Defense Panetta</b> (<a href="#">Media Roundtable with Secretary Panetta and Ambassador Locke in Beijing, China</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> "I did raise the area of cyber. Raised it in the context of, you know, this is [...] the potential battlefield for the future and that the technology that's developing in cyber has the potential to cripple a country, paralyze a country. And that in addition to that, cyber is now, you know, being used in order to exploit information, important economic information, from one country to the next, and that the United States has concerns about what China has been doing, in terms of exploiting information. And so what I urged in that context is that it was really important for the United States and China to have a dialogue with regards to cyber. And there was concurrence with that, with the people I talked about, that in the context of the security dialogue that we have, that we raise the issue of cyber and discuss it, talk about trying to develop, [...] kind of international standards and rules, and in addition to that, also discuss space. So I thought that was a very good step to, you know, at least beginning the discussion about dealing with this issue."</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>September 5, 2012 Remarks by Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</b> (<a href="#">Remarks with Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> "Like many countries, China is also a victim of cyber attacks. We'd like to work with the United States and some others to step up our communication and cooperation with respect to ensuring cyber security."</li>   <li>● <b>September 14, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference</b> (<a href="#">Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference on September 14, 2012</a>)  <b>Quote:</b> "China administers the Internet according to law and has had Internet security cooperation with the international community. Internet security is a complex issue. China is also a victim of cyber attacks. The origins of Internet attacks are hard to pinpoint. It is unserious to rush to conclusions without in-depth investigation and full evidence."</li> </ul>



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- The East Asia Institute, an Asia Security Initiative core institution, acknowledges the MacArthur Foundation for its generous grant and continued support.
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