

EAI U.S.-China Relations Statement Factsheet
April 2014: Drawing Lines in the Sand;
The Art of Balancing Difference with Cooperation

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April 2014: Drawing Lines in the Sand; The Art of Balancing Difference with Cooperation

Time Period: April 1~ April 30, 2014

Main Issues

1. Asia-Pacific Issues: Obama Snubs China and Throws Weight Behind Japan; Isolated China Talks of a New Silk Road and Digs Its Heels in over Territorial Disputes in the Region

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 1, Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: Begins Asia-Pacific Trip with U.S.-ASEAN Forum ● April 2, Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: Describes Role of Partnerships in Asia-Pacific Rebalance ● April 2, Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: ASEAN Meeting Reflects Commitment to Asia-Pacific ● April 2, State Department Daily Press Briefing ● April 3, Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: ASEAN Defense Ministers Expand Disaster-relief Partners ● April 5, Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: U.S.-Japan Defense Relations in Interview ● April 6, Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: U.S. to Send Two More Aegis Ships to Japan ● April 8, Remarks by Deputy Secretary of State William J. Burns at the Asia Society Policy Institute Launch ● April 9, State Department Daily Press Briefing ● April 10, Remarks by U.S. Assistant Press Secretary Carl Woog: Secretary Hagel Calls South Korean Defense Minister ● April 14, State Department Daily Press Briefing ● April 18, Remarks by U.S. Ambassador to UN Susan Rice: Daily Briefing ● April 21, State Department Daily Press Briefing ● April 24, Remarks by U.S. President Barack Obama: U.S. Treaty Commitment to Japan is 'Absolute' ● April 24, Remarks by President Obama at Joint Press Conference with Prime Minister Abe of Japan ● April 24, Remarks by U.S. Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communication Ben Rhodes ● April 25, Remarks by President Obama at Press Conference with President Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 1, <i>People's Daily Online</i> Editorial ● April 1, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● April 1, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● April 2, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● April 4, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● April 4, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● April 4, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● April 4, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● April 4, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● April 9, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● April 10, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● April 12, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● April 15, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● April 16, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● April 17, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● April 18, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● April 21, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference ● April 29, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference ● April 30, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference



2. Direction of U.S.-China Cooperation: U.S. Underscores Its Alliance with Japan; China Attacks the U.S. for a Lack of Genuine Cooperation

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 5, U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: U.S.-Japan Defense Relations ● April 24, Remarks by President Obama at Joint Press Conference with Prime Minister Abe of Japan ● April 30, State Department Daily Press Briefing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 10, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● April 15, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● April 28, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference ● April 30, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference ● April 30, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference

3. Economic Cooperation: U.S. Lends Its Opinion on China's Currency Reforms and Talks TPP; China Wins Latest Round at the WTO and Talks Soft Power

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 4, Statement of Secretary Lew at the International Monetary Financial Committee Meeting ● April 9, State Department Daily Press Briefing ● April 15, Treasury Department Releases Semi-Annual Report to Congress on International Economic and Exchange Rate Policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 1, Remarks by MOFCOM Spokesman Shen Danyang Comments on WTO Panel Report on the Dispute Case of China's Appeal against U.S. Amendment to Tariff Act ● April 16, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● April 25, MOFCOM Spokesman Yao Jian Answers Questions from the Media on Accelerating the Development of Foreign Cultural Trade

4. Cooperation on Military Security: U.S. Emphasizes Cooperation; China Accuses the U.S. and Japan of Having a Cold War Mentality

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 8, Remarks by U.S. Secretary of Defense Speech Chuck Hagel: PLA National Defense University ● April 15, State Department Daily Press Briefing ● April 18, Remarks by Assistant Secretary Daniel R. Russel at China-U.S. Symposium ● April 27, Press Briefing by Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communication Ben Rhodes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 23, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference ● April 25, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference

5. Human Rights: U.S. Criticizes China over Human Rights; China Defends Itself against British 'Slander'

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 7, Remarks by the U.S. White House Press Secretary Jay Carney ● April 18, Remarks by Assistant Secretary Daniel R. Russel at China-U.S. Symposium ● April 22, Remarks by the U.S. White House Press Secretary Jay Carney: Abroad Air Force One En Route Oso, Washington ● April 25, Remarks by Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communication Ben Rhodes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 15, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference



6. Middle East and Africa Issues: Usual Suspects; Israel-Palestine, Syria and South Sudan Main Focus for the U.S. and China

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 1, Remarks by U.S. Army Gen. Marthin E. Dempsey: Pleased at U.S.-Israeli Review of Threats ● April 2, State Department Daily Press Briefing: Middle East ● April 8, Remarks by the U.S. White House Press Secretary Jay Carney ● April 8, Remarks by U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for African Affairs Amanda J. Dory ● April 8, Remarks by the Commander of U.S. Africa Army Gen. David M. Rodriguez ● April 14, Remarks by the White House Press Secretary Jay Carney: Daily Briefing ● April 17, Remarks by U.S. Pentagon Press Secretary Navy Rear Adm. John Kirby ● April 23, Remarks by U.S. Pentagon Press Secretary Navy Rear Adm. John Kirby 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 14, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● April 16, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● April 24, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference ● April 25, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference ● April 25, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference

7. Korean Peninsula: Consensus on North Korean Denuclearization; Divergence on Method

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 1, Daily Briefing: U.S. White House Press Secretary, Jay Carney ● April 2, Remarks by U.S. Commander of U.S. Forces Korea, United Nations Command and Combined Forces Command Army Gen. Curtis M. Scaparrotti Outlines Posture to Counter North Korean Threats ● April 4, State Department Daily Press Briefing: DPRK/China ● April 6, Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: U.S. to Send 2 More Aegis Ships to Japan ● April 8, Remarks by U.S. Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel: PLA National Defense University ● April 8, American Forces Press Service: Africa Presents Challenges, Opportunities to U.S. Command ● April 22, State Department Daily Press Briefing ● April 24, Remarks by President Obama at Joint Press Conference with Prime Minister Abe of Japan ● April 26, Remarks by U.S. President Obama to U.S. Troops and Personnel at U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 3, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● April 8, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference ● April 15, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference ● April 21, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference ● April 23, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference ● April 24, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference ● April 24, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference



Issue 1. Asia-Pacific Issues: Obama Snubs China and Throws Weight Behind Japan; Isolated China Talks of a New Silk Road and Digs Its Heels in over Territorial Disputes in the Region

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 1, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel: Begins Asia-Pacific Trip with U.S.-ASEAN Forum (American Forces Press Service) Quote: “And we rebalance to the Asia-Pacific with all of those different responsibilities and dimensions as our focus [...] ASEAN is an important affirmative investment for the United States [...] we view ASEAN as a central and strategic player in the region, and this trip [...] is an opportunity to express that.” ● April 2, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: Describes Role of Partnerships in Asia-Pacific Rebalance (American Forces Press Service) Quote: “Achieving sustained security and prosperity in the 21st century requires nations to work together and to meet common challenges with uncommon unity and purpose [...] as a leading economic and military power in the Pacific—one with no disputed territorial claims or ambitions in the region— the United States is uniquely positioned to continue to help Asian nations build a vibrant regional security architecture [...] the rebalance has helped to strengthen our alliances and partnerships in Asia and led to increased engagement, exercises and training on a bilateral and multilateral basis [...] the region has benefited from American leadership, and it will continue to do so. But sustaining this progress is not the work of any single nation—it is a shared responsibility.” ● April 2, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: ASEAN Meeting Reflects Commitment to Asia-Pacific (American Forces Press Service) Quote: “When I invited the ASEAN defense ministers last year to Hawaii, the thought I had then [...] is it’s more and more important that the United States, as we’ve moved over the last three years into a rebalancing to the Asia-Pacific, be clear in our intent [...] it’s imperfect—there’s been conflict. There are still issues and disagreements and we’ll talk about those [...] I think it’s pretty clear, even with budget constraints [...] that this is a priority and we’ll fulfill the commitments we’ve made [...] and I do look forward to talking about this with our ASEAN partners.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 1, 2014 – People’s Daily Online Editorial (People’s Daily Online Editorial) Quote: “Yet, the question of who China prioritizes cooperation with begs the Chinese government to first give a clarification of its partnering strategy [...] from the perspective of China, an ideal blueprint of the “New Silk Road” would include the establishment of energy conduits and a transport infrastructure with a starting point in China [...] there must be conduits, railways, highways and the like linked to the infrastructure to make the “New Silk Road” literally an economic belt rather than a number of economic points. Thus we should scrutinize the industrial structures of different countries and listen to their needs.” ● April 1, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference) Quote: “What policy Japan pursues in the military and security fields reflects where Japan is headed. It also has a bearing on the security environment and strategic stability of the region, hence high attention from us. We hope that the Japanese side could draw hard lessons from history, take seriously the security concern of its Asian neighbors, conform to the trend of times, follow a path of peaceful development and do more to uphold peace and stability of the region.” ● April 1, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference) Quote: “China has indisputable sovereignty over the Nansha Islands including the Ren’ai Reef. China will not sit watching any of the Philippines’ provocative actions aimed at snatching the Ren’ai Reef, and will resolutely safeguard China’s legitimate and lawful rights and interests. If the Philippine side did not attempt to illegally occupy the Ren’ai Reef by running aground its military vessel in 1999, if it did not take further actions to cement its illegal presence at the Ren’ai Reef, there would not have been the escalation of dispute between China and the Philippines surrounding this issue. It is without any doubt that the Philippine side is the one who provokes and makes troubles.”



- **April 2, 2014 – State Department Daily Press Briefing ([Daily Press Briefing](#))**

Quote: “We welcome this revised Japanese policy on defense equipment exports. It expands opportunities and simplifies processes for defense industry cooperation with the U.S. and other partner nations. What the change really does is allow Japan to modernize its defense industry and processes so it can participate in the 21st century global acquisition marketplace. We think it’s mutually beneficial for both Japan and cooperating nations, I would assume including us.”

- **April 3, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: ASEAN Defense Ministers Expand Disaster-Relief Partners ([American Forces Press Service](#))**

Quote: “We also focused on our military-to-military relationships (within ASEAN) and joint exercises that we continue to strengthen and deepen and widen [...] and as I have said and you all know, the United States has been a Pacific power for many years. We intend to continue to be a Pacific power and to cooperate with our ASEAN partners and all nations in the Asia-Pacific.”

- **April 5, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: U.S.-Japan Defense Relations in Interview ([American Forces Press Service](#))**

Quote: “We welcome Japan’s efforts to play a more proactive role in the Alliance, including by reexamining the interpretation of its Constitution relating to the right of collective self-defense. We also support expanding the role of the Japan Self Defense Forces within the framework of the Alliance [...] adapting Alliance roles and missions to meet contemporary and future security realities.”

- **April 6, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: U.S. to Send Two More Aegis Ships to Japan ([American Forces Press Service](#))**

Quote: “I restated the principles that govern longstanding U.S. policy on the Senkaku Islands and other islands [...] and we affirmed that since the Senkaku Islands are under Japan’s administrative control, they fall under Article 5 of our Mutual Security Treaty [...] we take seriously America’s treaty commitments and we strongly oppose any unilateral coercive action that seeks to undermine Japan’s administrative control.”

- **April 2, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference](#))**

Quote: “As the host country (for the Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2014), China will take the annual conference as a platform to showcase China’s overall thinking and major measures in terms of economic development at the current stage, elaborate on China’s policies for the promotion of economic integration and regional cooperation in Asia and push for the implementation of cooperation initiatives in relevant fields. We hope that delegates will pool their wisdom in the light of the theme of the conference, build up consensus and confidence, maintain the momentum of economic stability and growth in Asia and emerging markets and open up a brighter future for Asia.”

- **April 4, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference](#))**

Quote: “Japan’s newly released Diplomatic Bluebook maliciously hypes up the so-called ‘China-threat’, willfully smears China and makes unreasonable accusation against China in disregard of basic facts. China expresses serious concerns about and strong dissatisfaction with that [...] to uphold regional peace and stability is an irresistible trend that accords with the will of the people. Japan goes against the trend of the times, stirs up tension and confrontation and makes excuses for its domestic political agenda of arms expansion, war preparation and breaking away from the post-war order. All these have aroused high vigilance of its Asian neighbors and the international community. It is no one else but Japan that stirs up troubles and changes the status quo of the Diaoyu Islands and the East China Sea with unilateral actions.”

- **April 4, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference ([Regular Press Conference](#))**

Quote: “China’s position on Sino-Japanese relations is clear and firm. The difficulties faced by bilateral relations are caused by the repeated provocative actions by Japan on issues of history and the Diaoyu Islands. We urge the Japanese side to be honest with and reflect on its history of aggression, stop all actions that undermine China’s territorial sovereignty, take concrete actions to correct mistakes, change course and make serious efforts to improve China-Japan relations.”



- **April 8, 2014 – Remarks by Deputy Secretary of State William J. Burns at the Asia Society Policy Institute Launch** ([Keynote Address at the Asia Society Policy Institute Launch](#))

Quote: “Russia’s aggression in Ukraine has violated basic international norms and posed a direct challenge to the rules of the road which have shaped the global order in which the Asia-Pacific has grown and prospered. It has, as President Obama warned last month, put us all at a “moment of testing.” Many Asian nations are watching events in Europe and wondering what they mean for their security and for the region’s future. [...] As a Pacific nation in the midst of a Pacific century, we are fully committed to this historic undertaking. That is exactly why the President is taking a unique trip to four countries in the region later this month: Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, and the Philippines. Two in Northeast Asia and two in Southeast Asia; three are treaty allies; two are in the current round of the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations and two have expressed an interest to join; and all are democracies who work with us on regional and global challenges.”

- **April 9, 2014 – State Department Daily Press Briefing** ([Daily Press Briefing](#))

Quote: “We believe good relations among China and Japan and all of their neighbors benefit everyone in the region. That’s something we’ve consistently conveyed to all parties, whether that’s the Chinese, whether that’s the Japanese. [...] We regularly discuss with China and Japan and others ways to reduce tensions and build trust in the region. That will continue, and I’m certain that was a part of Secretary Hagel’s visit as well.”

- **April 10, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Assistant Press Secretary Carl Woog: Secretary Hagel Calls South Korean Defense Minister** ([American Forces Press Service](#))

Quote: “Secretary Hagel told Minister Kim that his discussions in China included a focus on North Korea, and the threat to the United States and the region posed by North Korea’s nuclear and ballistic missile developments. In this context, he also noted his recent decision to send two additional BMD capable Navy destroyers to Japan by 2017 [...] the secretary also discussed the meetings he had in Japan and the first ever U.S.-hosted ASEAN defense ministers’ meeting in Hawaii noting all of these sessions help contribute to the United States goal of supporting allies and partners and achieving continued economic growth and prosperity.”

- **April 4, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “We have been requiring the Japanese side to face up to history with honesty and teach the next generation with a correct conception of history. The Japanese side should tell younger generations what is true about the Diaoyu Islands in textbooks, that is, the Diaoyu Islands that belong to China are illegally snatched by Japan. We require the Japanese side to stop provocations on relevant issue.”

- **April 9, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “We have seen remarkable success achieved by ‘one country, two systems’ since the return of Hong Kong. The development of Hong Kong’s political system falls within China’s domestic affairs that cannot be interfered by any external forces. The government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is pushing forward relevant work in accordance with law. What has been done by the U.S. side is completely wrong. China hereby expresses strong dissatisfaction and firm opposition. We urge the U.S. to bear in mind the overall interests of China-U.S. relations, earnestly respect China’s position and concerns and stop any form of interference in the internal affairs of Hong Kong.”

- **April 10, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “As far as I have learned, Mr. Hu Deping was invited to attend non-governmental exchange activities in Japan [...] we urge the Japanese side to abide by the principles and consensus enshrined in the four political documents, properly deal with the outstanding problems between China and Japan, show sincerity and take concrete actions to remove the political stumbling blocks of their own making and make real efforts to bring China-Japan relations back to the correct track.”



- **April 14, 2014 – State Department Daily Press Briefing** ([Daily Press Briefing](#))
Quote: “As we’ve indicated many times, we encourage Japan to work through its neighbors to resolve concerns over history in an amicable way through dialogue. We believe that strong and constructive relations between countries in the region to promote peace and stability are in interests – are in their interests and in the interests of the United States.”

- **April 18, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Ambassador to UN Susan Rice** ([Daily Briefing](#))
Quote: “The President’s trip to Asia is an important opportunity to underscore our continued focus on the Asia Pacific region. President Obama has pursued a strategy of rebalancing to the Asia Pacific region given its stature as the world’s largest emerging region [...] and at a time of ongoing regional tensions, particularly with regard to North Korea and territorial disputes, the trip offers a chance for the United States to affirm our commitment to a rules-based order in the region. There’s a significant demand for U.S. leadership in that region, and our strategy of rebalancing to Asia includes economic, political, security and cultural interests in Northeast and Southeast Asia.”

- **April 21, 2014 – State Department Daily Press Briefing** ([Daily Press Briefing](#))
Quote: “Decisions regarding Japan’s defense and security are for the Japanese Government and people to make. Japan has demonstrated over the last 60-plus years an abiding commitment to peace, democracy, and the rule of law. It’s very significant contributions to global security speak for themselves. We welcome Japan’s efforts to be transparent as it implements its evolving defense policies, and good relations between Japan and all of its neighbors benefit everyone in the region.”

- **April 24, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. President Barack Obama: U.S. Treaty Commitment to Japan is ‘Absolute’** ([American Forces Press Service](#))
Quote: “Let me reiterate that our treaty commitment to Japan’s security is absolute, and Article 5 covers all territories under Japan’s administration, including the Senkaku islands [...] we share a commitment to fundamental principles such as freedom of navigation and respect for international law [...] historically, they have been administered by Japan and we do not believe that they should be subject to change unilaterally.”

- **April 12, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Remarks** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Remarks](#))
Quote: “The visit by the Japanese Cabinet member to the Yasukuni Shrine, a place where Class-A WWII criminals are honored, exposes once again the current Japanese Cabinet’s wrong attitude towards history. The Chinese side has lodged solemn representations and protests with the Japanese side. An important political basis for China-Japan relations to rebuild and develop after WWII is that Japan should earnestly face up to and reflect upon its history of aggression, and make a clean break with militarism. We urge the Japanese side to fix its attitude on issues of history, take seriously the call for justice from its Asian neighbors and the international community, and stop taking any provocative action that runs counter to the trend of the times.”

- **April 15, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference](#))
Quote: “The Diaoyu Island and its affiliated islands have been inherent territory of China since ancient times. This is supported by abundant historical facts and jurisprudential evidence. Whatever means the Japanese side employs to publicize its erroneous position, it cannot change the fact that the Diaoyu Islands belong to China and that Japan snatches and attempts to permanently occupy China’s territory. We urge the Japanese side to face up to history and facts, correct mistakes, stop provocations and come back to the right track of managing and resolving problems through dialogue and consultation.”

- **April 16, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference](#))
Quote: “Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) is the largest multilateral security forum in Asia that covers all sub-regions of Asia. Its member states differ in political systems, religions, cultures and development levels, and thus highly representative. Asian countries have realized the urgency and importance of security cooperation and are willing to speak with one voice to the world: Asia should take the lead in dealing with Asian affairs, and Asian security should and can be realized through strengthened cooperation among Asian countries.”



- **April 24, 2014 – Remarks by President Obama at Joint Press Conference with Prime Minister Abe of Japan** ([Joint Press Conference with President Obama and Prime Minister Abe of Japan](#))

Quote: “We don’t take a position on final sovereignty determinations with respect to Senkakus, but historically they have been administered by Japan and we do not believe that they should be subject to change unilaterally. And what is a consistent part of the alliance is that the treaty covers all territories administered by Japan [...] the United States’ position is that countries should abide by international law.”

- **April 24, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communication Ben Rhodes** ([Daily Briefing](#))

Quote: “We’ll also be discussing trilateral defense cooperation that we’re seeking to foster between the United States, Japan and the Republic of Korea, which was a subject at the President’s trilateral meeting in The Hague and his conversations with Prime Minister Abe [...] clearly there are very sensitive historical issues that continue to be acutely important to the people of the Republic of Korea. At the same time, there have been, I think, some constructive statements in recent weeks by Prime Minister Abe about upholding the apologies that have been made with respect to comfort women and to pursue a dialogue with the South Koreans on that issue. Our hope is that that dialogue could lead to further healing associated with these issues and that we also can recognize our shared interest in moving forward with trilateral cooperation in Northeast Asia.”

- **April 25, 2014 – Remarks by President Obama at Press Conference with President Park** ([Press Conference](#))

Quote: “We consider ourselves a Asia Pacific power. We don’t have a stake in the specific claims that have caused some of these disputes [...] our primary interest is making sure that international norms and rule of law are upheld and that disputes of this sort are resolved through peaceful, diplomatic means. And we will continue to encourage all the parties concerned – whether it’s Japan, China, the Republic of Korea, or with respect to disputes in the South China Sea – to use the law and diplomacy to resolve these disputes [...] we’re not interested in containing China; we’re interested in China’s peaceful rise and it being a responsible and powerful proponent of the rule of law and an international system. In that role, it has to abide by certain norms.”

- **April 17, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “China attaches importance to developing a strategic and mutually beneficial relationship with Japan [...] China-Japan relationship is beset at present by great difficulties and the reason is widely known, that is, the Japanese leader has taken extremely wrong actions on the Diaoyu Islands issue and historical issues. The ball is in Japan’s court.”

- **April 18, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “It is not China who takes provocative actions and changes the status quo. The Chinese side has the firm resolve and strong will to safeguard national sovereignty and territorial integrity. Bearing in mind regional peace and stability, we always exercise restraint and stay committed to properly managing and resolving relevant disputes through dialogue and consultation. The Japanese leader has been making erroneous remarks with two obvious purposes. The first is to divert people’s attention, mislead public opinion and cover up Japan’s perverse actions on historical issues. The second is to draw in a third party to contain China’s growth. The tricks of calling white black and self-deceiving will fool no one, nor will they daunt China.”

- **April 21, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang’s Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “The Yasukuni Shrine honors Class-A war criminals of WWII. The Japanese leader’s words and deeds about this shrine can tell us whether Japan genuinely faces up to and reflects upon its history of aggression. [...] I would like to stress that an important political basis for China-Japan relationship to rebuild and develop is that Japan should honestly face up to and reflect upon its militarist history of aggression and make a clean break with militarism.”



- **April 29, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang’s Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “China will hold the chairmanship of CICA from 2014 to 2016. The CICA Summit will be held in China this year. We will fulfill our obligations as the host and increase dialogue and cooperation with all relevant parties to make the CICA Summit a substantive one where more consensus can be forged and fruitful results yielded. We hope to promote, in particular, a new concept of security in Asia during the Summit, featuring common security, comprehensive security, cooperative security and sustainable security, and discuss the building of a new framework of Asian security and cooperation.”

- **April 30, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang’s Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “China holds a consistent and clear-cut stance on improving and developing China-Japan relations. We urge the Japanese side to abide by its commitment made in the four political documents between China and Japan, take solid steps to remove the serious political hurdles getting in the way of bilateral relations, and make efforts to bring bilateral relations back to the right track of development. Meanwhile, we welcome Japanese people from all circles including ruling and opposition parties to exert positive influence on the improvement of China-Japan relations.”



Issue 2. Direction of U.S.-China Cooperation: U.S. Underscores Its Alliance with Japan; China Attacks the U.S. for a Lack of Genuine Cooperation

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 5, 2014 – U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: U.S.-Japan Defense Relations (American Forces Press Service) Quote: “China’s ADIZ announcement was a provocative, unilateral action that raised tensions in one of the world’s most geopolitically sensitive areas, including territory administered by Japan. It clearly increases the risk of a dangerous miscalculation or accident that could escalate quickly and dangerously [...] as a former member of the United States Congress I know there are always going to be different views on the key challenges facing our nation. But I reject the notion that we’ve been weak on China, or on any other aspect of our relationships in the region.” ● April 24, 2014 – Remarks by President Obama at Joint Press Conference with Prime Minister Abe of Japan (Joint Press Conference) Quote: “They (Japan) are a critical country not just to the region, but to the world [...] but what we’ve also emphasized – and I will continue to emphasize throughout this trip – is that all of us have responsibilities to help maintain basic rules of the road and an international order so that large countries, small countries, all have to abide by what is considered just and fair, and that we are resolving disputes in peaceful fashion. And this is a message that I’ve delivered directly to the Chinese and it’s one that I think is entirely consistent with China being successful [...] my hope is, is that China will continue to engage with us and other countries in the region where we do not take a position on the particular sovereignty of this piece of land or this rock but we do take a position in making sure that all countries are following basic international procedures in resolving these disputes. And if that happens, then I think not only will China be successful, but I think there’s a great potential for Chinese and Japanese cooperation, Chinese and Vietnamese cooperation, cooperation with the Philippines and China – all of which will benefit the peoples of the region.” <p>]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 10, 2014 - Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference) Quote: “The so-called Taiwan Relations Act unilaterally made by the U.S. goes against the spirit of the three joint communiqués between China and the U.S. China’s firm opposition to the act is consistent and clear-cut. U.S. arms sales to Taiwan constitute a severe violation of principles of the three joint communiqués, especially those of the August 17 Communiqué and interfere in China’s domestic affairs. China firmly opposes that. We urge the U.S. Congress to stop moving ahead with relevant Taiwan-related bill, and the U.S. administration to take measures to prevent the adoption of the bill by the U.S. Congress so as to avoid hurting China-U.S. relations and disturbing the peaceful development of cross-Strait relations.” ● April 15, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference) Quote: “The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator’s visit to Taiwan, for whatever reason, goes against the three joint communiqués between China and the U.S. and the commitment made by the American side to China on the Taiwan Question. China is firmly opposed to and strongly dissatisfied with that. We have lodged solemn representations with the American side. We urge the American side to abide by the principles of the three joint communiqués and the commitment it has made, stop all forms of official interactions with Taiwan and properly deal with Taiwan-related issues in a prudent manner so as to avoid further damages to China-U.S. relations.”



- **April 30, 2014 – State Department Daily Press Briefing** ([Daily Press Briefing](#))

Quote: “We believe it’s important to cooperate with the Chinese on counter-proliferation issues, whether it’s North Korea where we work very closely together in terms of denuclearizing the peninsula, whether it’s on the P5+1 talks with Iran where we sit at the table with China on the same page working to see if we can get a resolution to that issue. So clearly, we’re working together on counter-proliferation very, very closely.”

- **April 28, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang’s Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “What I want to stress here is that entering the 21st century, the trend of this region and the common aspiration of all the people living in this region is peace, development and win-win cooperation. We hope that the U.S. and relevant countries in this region can base their actions on this trend and aspiration, and make positive efforts to ensure peace, stability and prosperity of this region. I have also noticed some media reports in recent days saying that President Obama did not include China in his trip to Asia because he meant it as a way to counter China. Whether it is to counter China or not, we will tell based on what the U.S. says and does. As for China not being one of the destinations of President Obama’s trip, I’d say China is right here, whether he comes or not.”

- **April 30, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “We believe that relevant parties (U.S. and China) should all make positive efforts to enhance mutual trust and cooperation and promote common peace, stability and prosperity in this region, rather than the opposite [...] we also maintain that upholding peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific is in the interests of all parties of the region and requires common efforts of all.”

- **April 30, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang’s Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang’s Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “China resolutely opposes the U.S. citing domestic laws to unilaterally impose sanctions on Chinese companies or individuals [...] What the American side has done will not help resolve the issue and will harm bilateral cooperation on non-proliferation. I’d like to emphasize that the Chinese government attaches high importance to non-proliferation exports management and control, and we will seriously deal with any violation of China’s non-proliferation laws and regulations in accordance with law. Relevant concerns of the American side should be addressed through cooperation with China on non-proliferation law enforcement. China urges the American side to stop the wrong acts of imposing sanctions on Chinese companies and individuals and return to the right track of non-proliferation cooperation.”



Issue 3. Economic Cooperation: U.S. Lends Its Opinion on China's Currency Reforms and Talks TPP; China Wins Latest Round at the WTO and Talks Soft Power

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 4, 2014 - Statement of Secretary Lew at the International Monetary Financial Committee Meeting (U.S. Department of Treasury) Quote: "The forward-looking reforms set out in China's Third Plenum hold promise for a shift to a more balanced economy that delivers higher living standards to its population, as well as continued economic stability and growth that have characterized China's remarkable economic progress. The timing and specifics of China's reform agenda will be important to that economic transition. Rebalancing the Chinese economy will require further exchange rate appreciation so that consumption, rather than investment, drives domestic demand. It is critical that China demonstrate that they are committed to moving toward a market-determined exchange rate, and that progress continues on a steady basis. This is very important for preserving a level playing field for world trade." ● April 9, 2014 – State Department Daily Press Briefing (Daily Press Briefing) Quote: "We welcome Taiwan's interest in TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership), noting it's ongoing domestic work to assess its readiness to take on TPP's ambitious commitments. TPP is open to regional economies that can demonstrate this readiness and win consensus support of the current TPP members for them to join. Right now, the 12 TPP members are focused on concluding the negotiations to create the TPP. In the near term, the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement provides an opportunity for Taiwan to resolve existing U.S. trade and investment concerns, demonstrate its preparations to take on new trade commitments, and set itself on a path of new liberalization of its economic regime." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 1, 2014 - Remarks by MOFCOM Spokesman Shen Danyang Comments on WTO Panel Report on the Dispute Case of China's Appeal against U.S. Amendment to Tariff Act (MOFCOM Spokesman's Remarks) Quote: "The panel supported China's stand in double remedy and presumed that the U.S. Department of Commerce did not avoid the tax adjustment of double remedy among the 25 anti-dumping and countervailing cases against China from 2006 to 2012 and violated the World Trade Organization Rules. China welcomes such decision. [...] this case involved more than USD7.2 billion each year and touched upon an enormous trade benefit of China. China hopes that the U.S. could respect WTO ruling and change the abuse use of trade remedy measures as soon as possible to ensure an environment of fair competition for Chinese enterprises. [...] the panel presumed that the U.S., through Amendment to Tariff Act on March 13, 2012, dated back and authorized the investigation institutions to levy countervailing tax on "non-market economy countries" from November 20, 2006, which did not violate WTO rules. China feels regretful for that." ● April 16, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference) Quote: "I want to point out in principle that China will continue to press steadily ahead with the reform of the RMB exchange rate formation mechanism and improve the managed floating exchange rate regime. This overall direction will remain unchanged. We hope that the American side will have a correct view, properly deal with economic issues such as the RMB exchange rate and work together with China in a cooperative and constructive attitude so as to push forward the sound and steady growth of China-U.S. business ties."



- **April 15, 2014 - Treasury Department Releases Semi-Annual Report to Congress on International Economic and Exchange Rate Policies ([U.S. Department of Treasury](#))**

Quote: "China's currency (RMB) appreciated on a trade-weighted basis in 2013 but not as fast or by as much as is needed, large-scale intervention has resumed, and so far this year the currency has reversed the appreciating trend. The recent widening of the trading band gives China the opportunity to reduce intervention and allow the market to play a greater role in determining the exchange rate. The report notes that recent developments in the RMB exchange rate would raise particularly serious concerns if they presage renewed resistance to currency appreciation and a retreat from China's announced policy of reducing intervention and allowing the exchange rate to reflect market forces. The Treasury Department will continue to carefully monitor China's exchange rate regime and the path of China's currency and will press for further policy changes consistent with market determination of the exchange rate and transparency with respect to intervention."

- **April 25, 2014 - MOFCOM Spokesman Yao Jian Answers Questions from the Media on Accelerating the Development of Foreign Cultural Trade ([MOFCOM Spokesman's Remarks](#))**

Quote: "In 2013, China has become the largest goods trader in the world, and its trade in services has surpassed USD 500 billion. Our major task now is speeding up the transformation from a large goods trader to a strong goods trader. Accelerating the development of foreign cultural trade is of great significance to broaden China's development space of culture, enhance the quality of foreign trade development and improve China's soft power. In recent years, the scale of China's foreign cultural trade is expanding, and the structure is optimizing. In 2013, the total import and export of China's cultural products amounted to USD 27.41 billion. Among that, export was USD 25.13 billion, 2.6 times of that of 2006. Exported cultural products are mainly visual artwork (like arts and crafts), new medium (like game consoles), printing material and musical instruments. In 2013, China's total import and export of cultural service amounted to USD 9.56 billion."



Issue 4. Cooperation On Military Security: U.S. Emphasizes Cooperation; China Accuses the U.S. and Japan of Having a Cold War Mentality

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 8, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Secretary of Defense Speech Chuck Hagel: PLA -National Defense University (American Forces Press Service) Quote: “We have also made tremendous, significant progress between our two nations (China and U.S.), including the relationship between our defense establishments [...] to preserve the stable regional security environment that has enabled this historic economic expansion, the United States and China have a very big responsibility to address new, enduring regional security challenges alongside all the partners of the Asia-Pacific. The Asia-Pacific region is the most militarized in the world, and any one of these challenges could lead to a conflict, a deadly conflict [...] but this reality also presents new opportunities for cooperation [...] in particular, I'd like to address how we can develop a “new model” of military-to-military relations that General Chang and I announced this morning [...] America's rebalancing to the Asia-Pacific is about ensuring that America's presence and engagement – including our relationship with China – keeps pace with the Asia-Pacific's rapidly evolving economic, diplomatic, and security environment [...] with these ideas in mind, I believe our “new model” of military-to-military relations should proceed on three tracks: first, maintaining sustained and substantive dialogue; second, forging concrete, practical cooperation where our interests converge; and, third, working to manage competition and differences through openness and communications.” ● April 15, 2014 – State Department Daily Press Briefing (Daily Press Briefing) Quote: “I would let the Chinese speak for their own position. Obviously, they didn't – they declined – they abstained in the UN vote several weeks ago. They have a history of not – of non-intervention, so we'll let them speak for themselves. But I don't have any other particular analysis on it [...] I'm going to let China make their own choices. Obviously, we are encouraging all countries around the world to respect the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine, and that's the same message that we're conveying to China as well.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 23, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference) Quote: “It should be noted that the U.S.-Japan alliance, as a bilateral arrangement forged during the Cold War era, should never infringe upon China's territorial sovereignty and legitimate rights and interests. China firmly opposes the inclusion of the Diaoyu Islands into the U.S.-Japan security treaty. The U.S. should respect facts, act responsibly, stick to its commitment of taking no sides in relevant territorial disputes, think twice before saying or doing anything and truly play a constructive role in ensuring regional peace and stability.” ● April 25, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference) Quote: “Fundamentally speaking, to use the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty to strengthen their alliance and damage the interests of a third party is not only out of step with the times, but also violates the basic norms governing international relations [...] we urge the U.S. and Japan to discard their Cold War mentality, truly respect the interests and concerns of other countries in this region so as to avoid causing further disturbance to regional peace and stability. In order to promote regional peace, stability and prosperity, what should the U.S. and Japan do [...] China's ancient philosopher Confucius said over two thousand years ago that a wise man pursues harmony without uniformity, and a wise man is all embracing and not partial. I hope that the U.S. and Japan can be enlightened by Confucius' wisdom.”



- **April 18, 2014 – Remarks by Assistant Secretary Daniel R. Russel at China-U.S. Symposium** ([Remarks at China-U.S. Symposium](#))

Quote: “We have security concerns, centered on ambiguous maritime claims in the South China Sea that China is asserting through problematic maritime behavior, economic retaliation, and other coercive tactics against neighbors such as the Philippines. And while we take no position on territorial claims in the South China and East China Seas, we do take a strong position on the manner in which those disputes are resolved. We consistently call on all parties, including China, to peacefully manage and resolve disputes in accordance with international law.”

- **April 27, 2014 – Press Briefing by Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communication Ben Rhodes** ([American Forces Press Service](#))

Quote: “On China, I’d say two things. One is we’ve also increased our military-to-military exchanges with China, in part to have greater transparency and in part to avoid any unnecessary and inadvertent escalation. And so that’s an important part of how we approach these issues, that we have that type of dialogue and exchange with China. The fact of these negotiations has been public and known in the region, so it’s certainly something that the Chinese have been aware of.”



Issue 5. Human Rights: U.S. Criticizes China over Human Rights; China Defends Itself against British ‘Slander’

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 7, 2014 – Remarks by the U.S. White House Press Secretary Jay Carney (American Forces Press Service) Quote: “We are helping Syria’s neighbors, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq cope with the spillover from the conflict, and we are coordinating with partners to counter the threat of extremism [...] On the question of Syria, we remain deeply committed to the Syrian people and are assisting those affected by the violence through our approximately \$1.7 billion now in humanitarian assistance [...] I think that the United States, this administration have — we have acted aggressively in supporting the Syrian people, in assisting the opposition, in working with our partners to try to put pressure on the Assad regime, a regime that has committed unspeakable atrocities.” ● April 18, 2014 – Remarks by Assistant Secretary Daniel R. Russel at China-U.S. Symposium (Remarks at China-U.S. Symposium) Quote: “We have values-related concerns. China rejects what we consider to be certain universal human rights and fundamental freedoms. Human rights advocates and prisoners of conscience are incarcerated, sometimes for decades. Citizens are prevented from speaking or assembling freely. China blocks international media websites and foreign social media. It has engaged in security crackdowns in Xinjiang that alienate the Uighur population and repression in Tibet that has similar results. We will continue to speak out on these issues, as we have done, both in public and during our bilateral dialogues as we advocate for universal values and represent our nation’s interests. And we will continue to show our support for those values even when China objects.” ● April 22, 2014 – Remarks by the U.S. White House Press Secretary Jay Carney: Abroad Air Force One En Route Oso, Washington (American Forces Press Service) Quote: “There’s no question that North Korea is a nation that violates human rights—the human rights of its own citizens. It’s one of the most oppressive nations in the region and on the planet. It’s also one of the most closed societies and opaque societies. It’s the kind of subject that is frequently discussed in meetings between government officials of the United States and South Korea, and I would expect that would be one of the topics of discussion when we’re in Seoul.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 15, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference) Quote: “The spirit and principle that guide people-to-people and state-to-state dialogue and exchanges are equality and mutual respect. The purpose is to enhance mutual understanding, deepen mutual trust and promote cooperation through dialogue and exchanges. China always attaches importance and stands ready to carry out dialogue and cooperation with countries including the UK in the field of human rights based on equality and mutual respect. But what we have seen is that the UK released a so-called Human Rights and Democracy 2013-14, making irresponsible remarks about the political system of China, slandering and criticizing China’s human rights situation. China is strongly dissatisfied with and firmly opposed to that. What the British side has done does no good to its dialogue and communication with China on the subject of human rights, nor does this benefit the sound and steady growth of China-UK relations. We urge the British side to stop using human rights as a pretext for interference in China’s internal affairs and judicial sovereignty and create conditions for the next round of human rights talks.”



- **April 25, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communication Ben Rhodes** ([American Forces Press Service](#))

Quote: “The latest revelations and the U.N. report of an outrageous pattern of human rights abuses in North Korea will certainly be a topic of conversation. And I think the President will say that there’s no place in the world where one can see more clearly the difference between an open society that respects human rights and a closed society that violates them than Korea [...] of course, even as we have nuclear concerns on the Korean Peninsula, we have grave human rights concerns, and we’ll be addressing that going forward with the Japanese.”



Issue 6. Middle East and Africa Issues: Usual Suspects; Israel-Palestine, Syria and South Sudan Main Focus for the U.S. and China

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 1, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Army Gen. Marthin E. Dempsey: Pleased at U.S.-Israeli Review of Threats (American Forces Press Service) Quote: “Israel would define its concerns as Iran, radical Islam and violent extremist organizations and instability on its periphery [...] that we have the capability to use a military option if the Iranians stray off the diplomatic path [...] we concluded that our pressure has been successful, but that success has caused the network to adapt and that network has become more decentralized, more franchised—very much more a network than a group.” ● April 2, 2014 – State Department Daily Press Briefing: Middle East (State Department Daily Press Briefing) Quote: “When you look at Middle East peace, we’ve made a lot of progress here, quite frankly [...] on Iran, we have them at the negotiating table today with our P5+1 partners. Their nuclear program is, for the first time in almost a decade, halted [...] on Syria, it’s a tough challenge. Nobody is naïve about that. We are continuing to try to move the ball forward on that as well [...] we’ve seen eight months of very intense negotiations where both parties have made courageous decisions. Not only through the decisions of both parties but through the Secretary’s direct involvement did we get the talks restarted, which was a very important milestone [...] we know this process is going to be very difficult. What we’re focused on now isn’t a timeframe. It’s not a date on a calendar. But whether the two parties can take this moment, which is a tough moment – we’ve seen tough moments before – but take this tough moment, make tough decisions, and move the process forward.” ● April 8, 2014 – Remarks by the U.S. White House Press Secretary Jay Carney (Daily Briefing) Quote: “We’re very focused on it. The situation in South Sudan is of great concern, and we are working with our partners to address it. I think some of the questions that you ask have to do with the United Nations and not just the United States, but our focus from our representation at the United Nations as well as here at the White House and the State Department is very intense on this challenge.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 14, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference) Quote: “The turmoil in Syria has lasted for more than three years, bringing untold sufferings to the Syrian people and delivering a heavy blow to regional peace and stability. The Chinese side is deeply concerned about that. The Syrian government and opposition have carried out two rounds of talks under the framework of the Geneva II Conference, taking an important step forward toward the political settlement of the Syrian issue. What is pressing now is that the two parties of Syria should convene the third round of talks as soon as possible, understand and accommodate each other, meet each other half way and blaze a ‘middle way’ that takes into account all parties’ concerns and is accepted by all. To host the delegation of the National Coalition is part of the efforts made by China to work on all relevant parties in a positive and balanced way and push for the political settlement of the Syrian issue.” ● April 16, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying’s Regular Press Conference) Quote: “We hope that the warring parties can earnestly implement this ceasefire agreement (in South Sudan), respond positively to the mediation efforts of Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and other parties, and resolve their differences peacefully through inclusive negotiations. We also hope that they can put their country’s and people’s interests first, bear in mind the long-term economic development of their country, and keep important economic facilities that bear on the country’s future and the livelihood of the people out of harm’s way. We stand ready to enhance communication and coordination with IGAD and other parties concerned and work with them to bring South Sudan back to stability as soon as possible.”



- **April 8, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for African Affairs Amanda J. Dory** ([American Forces Press Service](#))

Quote: "The department's focus in Africa is to foster stability and prosperity [...] the potential for rapidly developing threats, particularly in fragile states, including violent public protests and terrorist attacks, could pose acute challenges to U.S. interests [...] these (the quality of the elections) are the types of resources that help in terms of promoting civic action, freedom of the press, independent electoral commissions in various countries, and they are absolutely under pressure [...] and I think from a DOD perspective, we understand that elections - good elections—serve as a conflict prevention mechanism, in a sense, and where you don't have that kind of ability for the people to have a voice and for change of power on some basis, that's where the tensions seem to build, and occasionally explode."

- **April 8, 2014 – Remarks by the Commander of U.S. Africa Army Gen. David M. Rodriguez** ([American Forces Press Service](#))

Quote: "Our programs, exercises and operations strengthen military-to-military relationships in a region where the United States has little forward presence [...] Africa's expanding security challenges make it vitally important that we align all our resources with our priorities, leveraging partnerships and increasing our operational flexibility [...] we will continue to deepen our collaboration with international and interagency partners to advance our mutual interests."

- **April 14, 2014 – Remarks by the U.S. White House Press Secretary Jay Carney** ([Daily Briefing](#))

Quote: "I would note that the OPCW-U.N. Joint Mission's confirmation of the removal of 65 percent of Syria's declared chemical weapons was just made. And Syria remains behind the schedule agreed to by the OPCW Executive Council, and we continue to press the Syrian regime to transfer these chemicals to Latakia for removal by April 27th [...] I think that it is important to note [...] that OPCW-U.N. has confirmed the removal of 65 percent of Syria's declared chemicals [...] we have a policy with regards to Afghanistan that I think is very focused on the mission that sent U.S. troops to Afghanistan—the President refocused our attention on upon review of our Afghan policy. And we continue to pursue that policy, and that includes drawing down forces this year."

- **April 24, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: "China always believes that peace between Palestine and Israel can only be achieved through peace talks. Now, the peace talks have reached a crucial juncture. We hope that Palestine and Israel can aim for peace, discard prejudices, and overcome obstacles. They need to walk towards the same direction, keep the talks going and strive for an early result. The international community should give its unequivocal encouragement and continuous support to these efforts."

- **April 25, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: "After multiple batches of chemical weapons have been shipped out of Syria under the joint escort of naval vessels from China, Russia and other countries, now the transport of Syria's chemical weapons has reached its final stage. China welcomes that and commends the efforts made by all sides. To resolve the issue of Syria's chemical weapons through political means stands as an exemplary case of resolving security issues through international cooperation. China has played an important, positive and constructive role in this process."

- **April 25, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: "We have been calling on all sides in Syria to realize ceasefire and cessation of violence as soon as possible, and press ahead with a political solution through dialogue and consultation. The sooner the country returns to stability, the sooner the life of the Syrian people can return to normal. Under the current circumstances, the Geneva talks need to be continued, and an inclusive political transition of Syria must be unrelentingly pushed forward. The UN and the international community should foster such efforts in a constructive way. China has been participating in UN discussions on Syria in that spirit, and played a positive role in moving ahead the process of Syria's political transition. We stand ready to continue our joint efforts with the international community so that Syria can achieve peace and stability at an early date."



- **April 17, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Pentagon Press Secretary Navy Rear Adm. John Kirby (American Forces Press Service)**
Quote: “Reiterated the steadfast U.S. commitment to its strategic partnership with the UAE and affirmed the importance of maintaining strong bilateral defense cooperation to ensure a stable and secure Middle East, a common objective of both countries.”
- **April 23, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Pentagon Press Secretary Navy Rear Adm. John Kirby (American Forces Press Service)**
Quote: “Secretary Hagel told General Sobhy that we are not yet able to certify that Egypt is taking steps to support a democratic transition [...] and he urged the Egyptian government to demonstrate progress on a more inclusive transition that respects the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Egyptians.”



Issue 7. Korean Peninsula: Consensus on North Korean Denuclearization; Divergence on Method

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 1, 2014 – U.S. White House Press Secretary Jay Carney: Daily Briefing (Daily Briefing) Quote: “Well, as I said yesterday, actions taken by DPRK are dangerous and provocative, and their continued threats and provocations merely aggravate tensions in a region that's already tense and further the DPRK's isolation. We remain steadfast in our commitment to the defense of our allies and remain in close coordination with both the Republic of Korea and Japan [...] so we call on the DPRK to comply with its international obligations, and to refrain from actions that threaten regional peace and security [...] well, we obviously see in activity out of the regime in North Korea sort of ebbs and flows in these kind of provocative actions. I'm not predicting where we're headed except to say that what they've done so far is provocative and dangerous.” ● April 2, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Commander of U.S. Forces Korea, United Nations Command and Combined Forces Command Army Gen. Curtis M. Scaparrotti Outlines Posture to Counter North Korean Threats (American Forces Press Service) Quote: “We will [...] combine communications systems, an alliance counter missile defense strategy, and a procurement of precision-guided munitions, ballistic missile defense systems and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance platforms [...] at the core of mission success is the close relationship we share with our South Korean partners; we benefit from an important history forged on many battlefields, shared sacrifices and democratic principles [...] we will continue to ensure strong and effective deterrence posture so that Pyongyang never misjudges our role, commitment or capability to respond as an alliance.” ● April 4, 2014 – State Department Daily Press Briefing: DPRK/China (State Department Daily Press Briefing) Quote: “China is on the same page with us in terms of needing the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, and that because China has a relationship with North Korea, unlike other countries, that it does have a special role to play in terms of pushing the North Koreans to do things we'd like them to do [...] this is about us working with our international partners to see if we can get North Korea to take some steps to come back in line with their obligations.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 3, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference) Quote: “As a close neighbor of the Korean Peninsula, China always supports the DPRK and the ROK in improving relations through dialogue and promoting reconciliation and cooperation for the final realization of peaceful reunification on their own. We hope that all parties will work with China to keep moving the situation of the region toward relaxation, push for progress of the Six-Party Talks and make positive contribution to denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula as well as peace and stability of the region.” ● April 8, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference) Quote: “China has elaborated on many occasions its position on the Korean nuclear issue. The current situation of the Korean Peninsula is quite fragile. We hope that all parties concerned would bear in mind the overall interests, be discreet in words and deeds and do more things that are conducive to reducing tension and resuming the Six-Party Talks.” ● April 15, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying's Regular Press Conference) Quote: “To safeguard peace and stability of the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia and push toward denuclearization serves the common interests of all parties concerned and meets the shared aspiration of all peoples in the region. As a responsible major country, China always upholds objectiveness and fairness and has been encouraging all parties to hold peace talks. We are opposed to any action that may lead to the escalation of tension. We disapprove of joint military drills and the threat of nuclear tests. We maintain that problems should be resolved through talks. China will continue to play a positive role to ensure the soft landing of the situation on the Korean Peninsula. We also hope that all parties concerned can keep the overall picture in mind, avoid provoking each other and do more to build mutual trust and move the situation toward relaxation.”



- **April 6, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel: U.S. to Send Two More Aegis Ships to Japan** ([American Forces Press Service](#))

Quote: “In response to Pyongyang’s pattern of provocative and destabilizing actions, including recent missile launches in violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions, I can announce today that the United States is planning to forward-deploy two additional Aegis ballistic missile defense ships to Japan by 2017.”

- **April 8, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel: PLA National Defense University** ([American Forces Press Service](#))

Quote: “We’ve asked China to work more closely with the United States and regional partners on another shared challenge where we have had some disagreement, responding to the dangerous destabilizing behavior of North Korea [...] the regime’s nuclear program and its recent missile launches in violation of UN Security Council resolutions pose a continued and stark challenge and threat to the United States homeland [...] America will continue to respond to North Korea’s actions by reinforcing our allies and increasing our deterrence, including through my announcement this week that we will deploy two additional ballistic missile defense ships to Japan [...] we look to China to play a constructive role in meeting this challenge, to help us, partner, cooperate with us, because of China’s interests, its status as a leading power in Asia and the world, and because its largest trading partners are the nations being threatened by North Korea.”

- **April 22, 2014 – State Department Daily Press Briefing** ([Daily Press Briefing](#))

Quote: “We have certainly seen the press reports you are referring to regarding possible increased activity in North Korea’s nuclear test site. We’re closely monitoring the situation on the Korean Peninsula. The United States remains steadfast in its commitment to the defense of its allies and continues to coordinate closely with both South Korea and Japan. We continue to urge North Korea to refrain from actions that threaten regional peace and security, and to comply with its international obligations and commitments.”

- **April 21, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “Last week, at the invitation of Glyn Davies, the Special Representative of the U.S. Secretary of State for North Korea Policy, Special Representative for the Chinese government on the Korean Peninsula Affairs Wu Dawei went to America. They had candid and in-depth discussions on resuming the Six-Party Talks, achieving denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and safeguarding peace and stability of the Korean Peninsula. The visit shows that both sides are expanding consensus and narrowing differences. China is willing to remain in close communication and coordination with the U.S. as well as other parties concerned, and will continue to play a constructive role in promoting peace through dialogue.”

- **April 23, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference** ([Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “China has been following closely the tense situation in the Korean Peninsula. On the issue of the Korean Peninsula, China upholds a fair and objective position, and stays in close communication with all relevant parties. We believe that under the current circumstances, relevant parties should keep calm, exercise restraint and do more things that can help ease the tension and lead to peace and stability in the Korean Peninsula. What should be done is turning off the heat and cooling down, rather than adding more fuel to the burning fire. We are opposed to any action that may further escalate tension in the Korean Peninsula.”

- **April 24, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference** ([Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “I would like to add that as a close neighbour to the DPRK and the ROK, China has a big stake in the peace and stability of the Korean Peninsula. We will never allow war or unrest to happen right at our doorstep. Having committed ourselves to peacefully resolving relevant issues through dialogue and negotiation, we call on other parties concerned to bear in mind the larger picture and work together with us so that denuclearization can be achieved and long-lasting peace and security of the Korean Peninsula secured. This serves the common interests of the region and all parties concerned.”



- **April 24, 2014 – Remarks by President Obama at Joint Press Conference with Prime Minister Abe of Japan** ([Joint Press Conference](#))

Quote: “What we have to do is to continue to try to contain and mitigate the potential damage that this behavior has and continue to put pressure on them so that we can see a shift. And China’s participation in pushing the DPRK in a different direction is critically important as well. They have not only an opportunity but I think a security interest and a broader interest in a peaceful resolution to what has been a generation-long conflict and is the most destabilizing, dangerous situation in all of the Asia Pacific region.”

- **April 26, 2014 – Remarks by U.S. President Obama to U.S. Troops and Personnel at U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan** ([White House Briefing Room](#))

Quote: “All of you have helped keep this alliance the linchpin of security and stability in the Asia Pacific [...] but obviously, in addition to dealing with the threat from North Korea, this is also an alliance that represents the incredible bonds between peoples [...] North Korea’s continued pursuit of nuclear weapons is a path that leads only to more isolation. It’s not a sign of strength [...] that doesn’t make you strong. It does not lead to security, or opportunity, or respect. Those things don’t come through force [...] but we will not hesitate to use our military might to defend our allies and our way of life [...] this alliance is special, forged on the battlefield, and it has been fortified by the common values and mutual interest and mutual respect of our peoples. The United States and Korea are more than allies — we are friends.”

- **April 24, 2014 – Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Qin Gang's Regular Press Conference** ([Regular Press Conference](#))

Quote: “China’s position on the issue of the Korean Peninsula is clear and firm. We are resolutely committed to realizing denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, safeguarding peace and stability of the Peninsula and peacefully resolving relevant issues through dialogue and consultation. For a long period of time, we have never stopped engaging with relevant parties, and the efforts we put into this are continuous. At the same time, we hope other relevant parties can bear in mind the larger picture, walk towards the same direction, accumulate mutual trust, and scale down factors that may cause tension, friction or even rivalry. China has been in close contact and coordination with other relevant parties. We are working to set the stage ready. We hope other relevant parties can pitch in and be helpful, rather than to undercut our efforts.”



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