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Issue 1. Asia-Pacific Issues: South China Sea Dispute, Senkaku/Diaoyu Islands Dispute, and the U.S. in the Asia-Pacific

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● July 10, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton (<u>Remarks With Foreign Minister Pham Binh Minh After Their Meeting</u>) <p>Quote: "The United States greatly appreciates Vietnam's contributions to a collaborative, diplomatic resolution of disputes and a reduction of tensions in the South China Sea. And we look to ASEAN to make rapid progress with China toward an effective code of conduct in order to ensure that as challenges arise, they are managed and resolved peacefully through a consensual process in accordance with established principles of international law."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● July 2, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Regular Press Conference (<u>Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Regular Press Conference on July 2, 2012</u>) <p>Quote: "On the South China Sea dispute, China always disapproves of unilateral actions by some countries that will complicate and magnify the situation. China values its friendly cooperation with Vietnam and would like to properly settle the South China Sea dispute according to the consensus reached between leaders of the two countries. We hope Vietnam will do more things that will contribute to bilateral relations as well as peace and stability of the South China Sea." "The present situation over the Huangyan Island is stable on the whole. With the easing of tension, the number of Chinese government vessels has been decreased. Due to the upcoming typhoon season, Chinese fishing boats in that area have taken measures to seek shelter." "We hope the Philippines will do more for the relaxation of tensions and the development of friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries." "[...] the Huangyan Island is China's inherent territory beyond dispute. We hope the Philippines will stop making provocative remarks that will complicate the situation."</p>



- **July 11, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton** ([Remarks at the U.S.-ASEAN Ministerial Meeting](#))

Quote: “The United States has an enduring commitment to the Asia Pacific and the Obama Administration has elevated our engagement across Asia as a strategic priority of our foreign policy.” “When I’m asked in my country why I put so much emphasis on ASEAN, I tell people that we work with ASEAN on the issues that are of central importance to the United States, from maritime security to nonproliferation to economic growth. We have more investment in ASEAN than we have in China. That is a surprising fact to many people in our country. And we are working cooperatively and collaboratively on opportunities and challenges in the Asia Pacific region, because we believe, like all of you, that so much of the future will be determined in this region. So we have sought to hear your concerns and priorities, to work with you to advance them, and to be a good partner. What we have heard from you is that ASEAN and the countries of the Asia Pacific are seeking greater American engagement across the board.”

- **July 5, 2012 Remarks by Vice Foreign Minister Cui Tiankai** ([Luncheon Presentation by Vice Foreign Minister Cui Tiankai at the Asia Society Hong Kong Center](#))

Quote: “Throughout the years, China has always acted for enduring peace, mutually beneficial cooperation and common prosperity in the Asia-Pacific. China’s security and development is closely linked with the Asia-Pacific region, and China’s own growth contributes to regional security and development. China has worked actively to promote the peaceful resolution of regional hotspot issues. China helped initiate the Six-Party Talks process, participated in the reconstruction of Afghanistan and supported the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)’s move towards preventive diplomacy on the basis of confidence building, thus playing a unique and important role in upholding peace and stability in the region.” “Regarding the Asia-Pacific, China’s intention is transparent, its policy constructive and its approach inclusive.” “In the security aspect, we believe countries should build mutual trust and seek common security. China never aspires to be THE power in the region. Nor does China approve of such attempt by other countries. Security at the expense of others will only make us all less secure.” “Economically, China is committed to common development and prosperity of all countries in the region and beyond. China has never tried to succeed alone. In fact, we don’t think that any country can really succeed alone.” “On regional affairs, we maintain that regional affairs should be handled by countries in the region through consultations and we respect the role of ASEAN as being the ‘driver’ in East Asia cooperation. China has never coveted dominance on regional affairs and we don’t think anyone should ever try to.”



- **July 11, 2012 State Department Daily Press Briefing ([Daily Press Briefing](#))**

Quote: “[...] broadly speaking on the Senkakus, our policy is longstanding and has not changed. The U.S. policy does not take a position on the question of the ultimate sovereignty of the Senkaku Islands, and we expect the claimants to resolve the issue through peaceful means among themselves.” “In terms of whether they fall under the scope, as you asked, of the treaty, they would fall within the scope of the Article 5 of the 1960 U.S.-Japan Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security, because the islands have been under the administrative control of the Government of Japan since they were returned as part of the reversion of Okinawa in 1972.”

- **July 6, 2012 *China Daily* Editorial ([US military meddling](#))**

Quote: “As ready proof of its strategic pivot to the Asia-Pacific, the United States is leading two military exercises in the region right now. While the largest-ever Rim of the Pacific naval exercises involving the US and 21 Asia-Pacific countries are in full swing in Hawaii, the US and the Philippines are also conducting naval exercises in the Mindanao Sea. Last month the US staged a drill with the Republic of Korea in waters off the west coast of the Korean Peninsula. This came hard on the heels of a drill with the ROK and Japan in the Yellow Sea. Amid lingering tensions in Northeast Asia, people cannot help but ask what is the real intention behind such brazen showboating of military muscle in the region. By staging bilateral, trilateral and multilateral military drills with allies and partners in the region, it seems the US has a multiple agenda. The displays of force help drive home the message that for all its current woes the US remains the supreme military power. It helps mitigate the concerns that the US global influence is waning after fighting two wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. And by building up a high-profile military presence in the Asia-Pacific, the US also intends to deter its potential opponents and imaginary enemies. Last but not least, it is widely perceived that the US strategic maneuvers in the Asia-Pacific cater to its desire to counter the rise of a few regional powers, China included. As US combat operations in Iraq have been brought to end and it is pulling troops out of Afghanistan, the US is counting on such a strategic shift to keep the vital region within the range of its gunpowder. As one of the world’s most economically dynamic regions, the Asia-Pacific area is a land of opportunities. And the region is willing to share those opportunities with the rest of the world, including the US. While benefiting from these economic dividends, the US should behave responsibly and contribute to the region’s peace and stability. However, with the US displaying its war machines and firing its missiles in the region with increasing frequency, it is impossible to believe that Washington means to play a positive and constructive role in the Asia-Pacific.”



- **July 12, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton** (Remarks to the ASEAN Regional Forum)

Quote: “Each of us has followed closely the troubling recent developments in the South China Sea. None of us can fail to be concerned by the increase in tensions, the uptick in confrontational rhetoric, and disagreements over resource exploitation. We have seen worrisome instances of economic coercion and the problematic use of military and government vessels in connection with disputes among fishermen. There have been a variety of national measures taken that create friction and further complicate efforts to resolve disputes. Recent incidents in the Scarborough Reef, including confrontational behavior like the use of barriers to deny access, and regional disputes over oil and natural gas exploration blocks, underscore the need for agreement among all parties on rules of the road and the establishment of clear procedures for addressing disagreements” “For decades, the United States has promoted a rules-based order in the Asia-Pacific. We remain firmly committed to the security of the region and to the principles upon which its remarkable progress has been built. We now look to ASEAN and China to make meaningful progress toward finalizing this Code.” “We also encourage relevant parties to explore new cooperative arrangements for managing the exploitation of potential hydrocarbon resources in the South China Sea.”

- **July 12, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton** (Intervention at East Asia Summit)

Quote: “Whenever possible, territorial issues should be resolved between the claimants. But broader questions about conduct in disputed areas and about acceptable methods of resolving disputes should be addressed in multilateral settings such as the ASEAN Regional Forum. Issues such as freedom of navigation and lawful exploitation of maritime resources often involve a wide region, and approaching them strictly bilaterally could be a recipe for confusion and even confrontation.”

- **July 10, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Regular Press Conference** (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Regular Press Conference on July 10, 2012)

Quote: “China has noted relevant reports. We express our grave concern and strong opposition to such remarks. China has indisputable sovereignty over the Diaoyu Islands, which have been China's inherent territory since ancient times. The US and Japan's secret dealings with China's territory, the Diaoyu Islands, after WWII are illegal and invalid. Being a product of the Cold War, the US-Japan Security Treaty is a bilateral arrangement between the two countries, and should not undermine the interests of a third party, including China. We hope relevant countries will do more for regional peace and stability.” “[...] the South China Sea issue is not an issue between China and ASEAN, but one between China and some ASEAN countries. The series of foreign ministers' meetings of the ASEAN Regional Forum are an important platform to boost mutual trust and deepen cooperation among relevant countries, not a proper venue to discuss the South China Sea issue. Deliberately hyping the issue is turning a blind eye to regional countries' consensus to seek development and cooperation and an attempt to disrupt China-ASEAN relations. The South China Sea situation is now on the whole peaceful and stable. China has smooth and effective communication with relevant countries. China is ready to peacefully resolve the South China Sea disputes through dialogue and negotiation with countries directly involved. Peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific is in line with the common interests of China and the US. China is willing to enhance cooperation with the US under the ARF framework for the sake of Asia-Pacific peace and stability.”

- **July 12, 2012 Remarks by Minister of Foreign Affairs Yang Jiechi** (Remarks by Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi at EAS)

Quote: “The Declaration of the East Asia Summit *on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations* adopted at the EAS last year should be implemented. Facts have proven that it is in the common interest of countries in the region to stick to the nature of EAS as a ‘leaders-led’ strategic forum and persist in advancing cooperation in the six priority areas. As a responsible members of the Asia-Pacific family, China is ready to enhance mutual trust and cooperation with other parties in a spirit of mutual respect, and seeking common ground while shelving differences, and make greater efforts for building a peaceful, growing, prosperous and harmonious East Asia and the Asia-Pacific.”



- **July 16, 2012 State Department Daily Press Briefing** ([Daily Press Briefing](#))

Quote: “[...] we believe stable and positive relations between Japan and China benefit everyone in the region. And so we’ve clearly stated our policy on the issue of these islands, but we want them to have positive and collaborative relations between the two countries.”

- **July 24, 2012 State Department Daily Press Briefing** ([Daily Press Briefing](#))

Quote: “[...] we’ve seen these reports regarding recent actions in the South China Sea. We remain concerned should there be any unilateral moves of this kind that would seem to prejudge an issue that we have said repeatedly can only be solved by negotiation, by dialogue, and by a collaborative diplomatic process among all of the claimants. And the Secretary herself, as you know when we were on our trip not too long ago throughout the region, regularly expressed concerns about any instances of economic coercion, military coercion, et cetera.”

- **July 21, 2012 Remarks by Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Remarks on ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Statement on the Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea Issue](#))

Quote: “China noticed ASEAN’s statement on [the six-point principles on] the South China Sea issue. The core of the South China Sea issue is disputes between relevant countries concerning the sovereignty over the Nansha Islands and demarcation of their adjacent waters. China has ample historical and legal basis for its sovereignty over the Nansha Islands and their adjacent waters.” “China is ready to work with ASEAN countries to fully and effectively implement the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) in a bid to jointly uphold peace and stability in the South China Sea. China is open to discussions with ASEAN countries on working out a Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC). We hope all parties can abide strictly by the DOC so as to create necessary conditions and atmosphere for the discussion of the COC.” “As a signatory to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), China attaches great importance to upholding the principles and purposes of the UNCLOS. The Convention makes it clear right at the beginning that it aims at ‘establishing a legal order for the seas and oceans with due regard for sovereignty of all states’. The Convention is not an international treaty to regulate disputes of territorial sovereignty between states, nor can it serve as the basis to arbitrate such disputes. Countries concerned should settle the demarcation disputes in the South China Sea on the basis of solving disputes of territorial sovereignty over the Nansha Islands, in accordance with historical facts and International Law including the UNCLOS.” “Giving high priority to its relations with ASEAN, China is committed to promoting good-neighborly friendship and mutually beneficial cooperation with ASEAN and jointly advancing the process of East Asian cooperation. As the underlying impact of the international financial crisis continues to unfold, China and ASEAN share common interests in and responsibilities for safeguarding regional peace and stability and maintaining the development momentum in Asia. The two sides should continue to view and handle their relations from a strategic and long-term perspective, strengthen strategic communication and achieve mutual benefit and win-win progress in the spirit of mutual respect and trust.”



- **July 26, 2012 State Department Daily Press Briefing** ([Daily Press Briefing](#))

Quote: “[...] we are continuing to hope and press for all the parties to work together on a code of conduct on some diplomatic resolution to this. As we said earlier in the week, we are concerned by unilateral moves. This is exactly the kind of thing that the Secretary spoke out against, any effort to decide this unilaterally by force – economic force, military force, et cetera. So we will continue to talk to the Chinese Government about this, as are others in the region.” “We share the concern that these issues need to be handled within international law, within Law of the Sea Treaty terms, and we think it’s important that members of Congress are also speaking out and particularly important committee members for that part of the world.”

- **July 30, 2012 People’s Daily Online Editorial** ([US should not cross the line to intervene in maritime disputes](#))

Quote: “Recently, the United States has intervened in maritime disputes of sovereignty between China and other related countries once again. State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland made a fuss over China’s establishment of Sansha City, saying the U.S. side remains concerned about China’s ‘unilateral moves’. Japanese Foreign Minister Koichiro Gemba recently surprisingly claimed that U.S. deployment of 12 Osprey transport aircraft in its military base in Okinawa is in line with U.S. strategic needs and Japan’s security requirements since ‘China plays an increasingly active role in the East China Sea’. Besides, Gemba clearly said that U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton ‘has confirmed’ that the Japan-US Security Treaty is allocable for Diaoyu Islands dispute, which means that the United States and Japan will jointly deal with emergencies over the Diaoyu Islands when they happen. There will be another dangerous game launched by the United States to intervene in China’s core interests if what Gemba said is true. Although America has repeatedly claimed that it holds a neutral stance in the sovereignty disputes over the South China Sea, it has made a fuss over the establishment of Sansha, a normal move within China’s sovereignty and turned a blind eye to the provocative words and deeds of such countries as Vietnam and the Philippines. The United States emphasizes that it is hoped that all the countries involved should respect the international law and other rules in maritime disputes of sovereignty, but it undisguisedly places the Japan-US Security Treaty above the international law, provides military support to Japan over the Diaoyu Islands dispute and send advanced military aircraft to Okinawa at the sensitive time when Japanese politicians stage the farce of buying the Diaoyu Islands.”



Issue 2. Middle East and Africa Issues: China's Veto of UN Resolution Against Syria

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● July 6, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton (Remarks at the Friends of the Syrian People Ministerial Meeting) Quote: "We also think it is imperative to go back to the Security Council and demand implementation of Kofi Annan's plan, including the Geneva communique that Russia and China have already agreed to. So we now have them on record supporting a transition. And we should go back and ask for a resolution in the Security Council that imposes real and immediate consequences for non-compliance, including sanctions under Chapter VII." "Now what can every nation and group represented here do? I ask you to reach out to Russia and China and to not only urge, but demand that they get off the sidelines and begin to support the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people. It is frankly not enough just to come to the Friends of the Syrian People, because I will tell you very frankly, I don't think Russia and China believe they are paying any price at all – nothing at all – for standing up on behalf of the Assad regime. The only way that will change is if every nation represented here directly and urgently makes it clear that Russia and China will pay a price, because they are holding up progress – blockading it – that is no longer tolerable." ● July 6, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton (Press Availability Following the Friends of the Syrian People Ministerial Meeting) Quote: "And we think what happened in Geneva, with Russia's and China's support, was significant. For the first time, the opposition was put on the same level as the Assad regime. The creation of a transitional governing body with full executive authority has to be formed by mutual consent, which obviously means that Assad and the people around him are not going to be part of it. We're now going to work to support what came out of Cairo to build on their compact articulating the rights of all Syrians. And we're going to work hard to make sure that sanctions are enforced because we think that's also a very strong message to Syrians who still support the Assad regime or who haven't chosen sides." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● July 3, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Regular Press Conference on July 3, 2012) Quote: "The expert-level talks [between P5+1 and Iran] will have further in-depth discussion on the substantive issues of the Iranian nuclear program based on the Moscow Dialogue. A leading official of the Department of Arms Control of the Chinese Foreign Ministry will lead a delegation to the meeting. We hope through the talks, relevant parties will gain further understanding of each other's position, build consensus and narrow differences in order to lay a solid foundation for follow-up talks aimed at seeking a resolution plan." "We hope relevant parties in Syria will honestly implement relevant Security Council resolutions, Annan's 'six-point proposal' and the spirit of the communique of the foreign ministers' meeting of the Action Group on the Syrian issue, cease fire, stop violence and launch the political dialogue process, which are in line with the fundamental and long-term interests of the Syrian people." ● July 7, 2012 Remarks by Minister of Foreign Affairs Yang Jiechi (A Strong Commitment to World Peace, Security and Development) Quote: "As a responsible member of the international community, China consistently maintains that disputes be settled through dialogue and negotiation and firmly upholds the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and basic norms governing international relations." "On the Syrian issue, China upholds the principle of non-interference in internal affairs and does not favor or impose its position on any side. China has put forward a six-point proposal to seek a political solution to the Syrian issue and supports the mediation efforts of the Joint UN/Arab League Special Envoy Kofi Annan." "The Foreign Ministers' Meeting of the Action Group on Syria held not long ago in Geneva achieved positive results. China has made due efforts to this end and hopes that what was agreed upon at the meeting will be implemented. We have facilitated and actively participated in the resumption of talks between P5+1 and Iran, put forward proposals conducive to the talks, and played an important role for the restart of the dialogue process on the Iranian nuclear issue."



- **July 13, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton** ([Assad Regime Massacre in Traymseh](#))

Quote: “As long as the Assad regime continues to wage war against the Syrian people, the international community must keep increasing the pressure on the regime to halt the violence and allow for a political solution to go forward. The Security Council should put its full weight behind the Annan plan for an immediate ceasefire and a political transition and make clear to the Syrian regime that there will be consequences for non-compliance. History will judge this Council. Its members must ask themselves whether continuing to allow the Assad regime to commit unspeakable violence against its own people is the legacy they want to leave.”

- **July 8, 2012 Remarks by Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Remarks on the US Comments at the Latest "Friends of Syria" Meeting](#))

Quote: “The above remarks [by US Secretary of State Clinton that Russia and China did not believe they were paying any price at all for standing up on behalf of the Bashar regime and that every nation represented at the meeting should directly and urgently make it clear to Russia and China that their stance was no longer tolerable and they would pay a price for holding up progress in the resolution of the Syrian Issue] are completely unacceptable. China is not the obstacle to the resolution of the Syrian issue. On the contrary, China has made important contribution to upholding the UN Charter and the basic norms governing international relations, maintaining regional peace and stability, safeguarding the fundamental interests of the Syrian people and promoting the political resolution of the Syrian issue. China has also played a positive and constructive role for the important outcome produced at the foreign ministers’ meeting of the Action Group on Syria recently held in Geneva. China’s impartial and constructive stance as well as its diplomatic efforts on the Syrian issue have been widely appreciated and supported by all parties of the international community. Any words and deeds to blemish the image of China or drive a wedge between it and other countries will end in vain.”



- **July 19, 2012 Remarks by Ambassador Rice, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations** (Remarks by Ambassador Susan E. Rice, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, At the Security Council Stakeout, July 19, 2012)

Quote: "It's pitiful and deeply regrettable that again today Russia and China, for the third time, have vetoed a resolution that garnered the overwhelming support of this Security Council. The Security Council has put its best efforts behind the UN mission in Syria, and we commend the brave men and women of that mission for their dedicated service. Yet it was plain from the beginning that if this Council were unwilling or unable to back-up that UN mission with the tools at our disposal—even the basic tools of political support to indicate that if our decisions are not adhered to then there will be consequences—meant that this mission could not succeed." "[...] the message that it sends, as I said in the Council, is that two permanent members are willing to defend Assad and protect him to the bitter end, even if would seem logically not to be in their interests. I think that the consequence of today's action is that the situation will continue to deteriorate and that the best efforts of Kofi Annan and this Council to stem the fighting and to launch a political process have not thus far succeeded." "[...] we and others increasingly will have no choice but to look to partnerships and actions outside of this Council to protect the Syrian people." "[...] I think history will judge those that three times have blocked Council action quite harshly. These resolutions—even this third one did not itself impose sanctions. It simply said that, should the situation persist, sanctions might be the next step within a short period of time. It merely took the decisions that this Council has already made and put them under Chapter VII. It merely took the Action Plan agreed in Geneva by all the permanent members and made it more binding under Chapter VII. So, I think history will judge harshly those that prevented this Council repeatedly from assuming even its most basic responsibilities."

- **July 9, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Regular Press Conference** (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Regular Press Conference on July 9, 2012)

Quote: "[...] it is still the consensus of all parties concerned to peacefully resolve the Syrian crisis through political means as agreed at the foreign ministers' meeting of the Action Group on the Syrian issue. Special Envoy Annan is now in Syria for diplomatic mediation. The pressing task now is for all parties concerned to continue to support and cooperate with Annan's mediation, urge the Syrian government and opposition to implement relevant Security Council resolutions and Annan's 'six-point' proposal at an early date, and push for the enforcement of the communique of the foreign ministers' meeting of the Action Group on the Syrian issue." "During [French Foreign Minister Fabius'] visit, the Chinese side will discuss with him international issues of common interest. The Syrian issue is an important international issue now. It is believed that the two sides' exchange of views on this issue will promote their understanding of each other's position and the political resolution of the Syrian issue. As for setting up a 'no-fly' zone, China's position is clear. China is opposed to external armed intervention or forced regime change." "China is positive and open toward any resolution plan for the Syrian issue as long as it is reached through political negotiations and widely accepted by all parties in Syria and the international community."



- **July 23, 2012 State Department Daily Press Briefing** ([Daily Press Briefing](#))

Quote: "So we now face a situation where, for the third time in a row, the UN track has been checkmated by the Russians and Chinese. They even were unwilling to support consequences for the non-implementation of the Geneva transition plan that they agreed to. So while that is regrettable, the situation moves forward in Syria, and therefore, the international community and those countries who are likeminded in their support for the Syrian people and their desire for change also have to move forward."

- **July 30, 2012 State Department Daily Press Briefing** ([Daily Press Briefing](#))

Quote: "[...] in the Secretary's first meeting with the SNC way – some – almost a year ago now, her very, very first message was that this needs to be a movement towards a more democratic, more united, more pluralistic Syria that respects the rights of all, that we wanted to see the opposition embrace all of the colors and protect all of the people of Syria." "We've seen some of the Free Syrian Army websites, for example, begin to speak out about a Syria for all Syrians, begin to speak about the importance of rejecting extremism, rejecting terrorists, rejecting those who would exploit this revolution for their own purposes, and about the importance that anybody fighting in their name in particular do so on behalf of a pluralistic Syria. So that meshing with the code of conduct that the opposition groups put forward in Cairo, those are the kinds of statements, what we want to see. And they are extremely important in the context of an increasingly violent situation and a situation where some are seeking to exploit that violence for their own purposes." "[...] the Syrian opposition in Cairo put forward a very extensive proposal about a transition plan of its own. It includes a first transition government and then one that results from a broader national meeting, leading to elections. The Syrian opposition has spoken in the last couple of days about now working to try to name some of the figures that they would see representing the different constituencies in Syria when the transition comes. We think that's a good effort to try to put some faces on the plan. They've also spoken about their willingness to include some technocrats who don't have blood on their hands from the Assad regime. That could also be reassuring to some in Syria who fear what will happen when Assad leaves. So from that perspective, we think that moving forward to begin to plan for the day after is a very important trend and something that we're seeking to encourage." "With regard to the Annan plan, these are extremely important foundational principles that he put forward, the six points, the transitional structure that the international community and all the P-5 are prepared to support. The problem is that Assad has been unwilling to implement on any of it. So obviously, we think it should stay on the table. Obviously, these are the first things that need to happen as soon as we can get to that point. But it is Assad who continues to block movement on any of those things."

- **July 13, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Regular Press Conference** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Regular Press Conference on July 13, 2012](#))

Quote: "[...] the foreign ministers' meeting of the Action Group on Syria was successfully held recently and a communique was issued by the meeting. Some positive progress has been made in the political resolution of the Syrian issue. China applauds the efforts made by Special Envoy Annan to this end." "[...] the Security Council members recently had an initial exchange of views on what actions to take next regarding the Syrian issue. China is now seriously studying the draft resolutions circulated by relevant members. So far, parties are still divided. A consensus should be reached through patient consultation in order to uphold the unity of the Security Council and push forward the political resolution of the Syrian issue." "[...] China in principle supports the extension of the [UN Supervision Mission in Syria]. The adjustment of the mandate and size of the mission depends mainly on whether it is conducive to implementing relevant Security Council resolutions, supporting Special Envoy Annan's mediation efforts, implementing his 'six-point proposal' and pushing for the political resolution of the Syrian issue. The opinions of the country concerned should also be listened to."

- **July 24, 2012 China Daily Editorial** ([Mission Possible in Syria](#))

Quote: "The United Nations Security Council unanimously adopted a rollover resolution on Friday to extend the UN Supervision Mission in Syria for 30 days. The international community should seize the opportunity to reach a consensus on the Syria issue and press belligerent parties in the turbulent country to fully comply with the UN resolution. According to the resolution, the extension would be the last unless the use of heavy weapons is stopped and violence by all parties shunned, which remain a challenging task. This may well be the last chance for peace in Syria." "The Syrian government and the opposition both should understand that as long as the UN mission functions in the country, there is still hope and room for diplomatic mediation, and therefore they should declare 'ceasefire' and cooperate with the UN observers. By extending its mission in Syria, the Security Council has exhibited unity. Efforts should continue to be made to build on this momentum so that international support for diplomatic mediation can be mobilized to the greatest extent." "To pave the way for a political resolution to the Syrian crisis, UN Security Council members should enhance coordination and display flexibility and convey a unified message to all parties in Syria to find an effective resolution to the crisis and secure its own credibility. Only Syrians have the right to decide Syria's future. Any outside intervention, if driven by geopolitical ambitions, will only complicate the situation further and lead to more bloodshed in the country."



Issue 3. Direction of U.S.-Chinese Cooperation: Developing U.S.-China Relations

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● July 11, 2012 White House Press Briefing by Press Secretary Jay Carney (Press Briefing by Press Secretary Jay Carney, 7/11/12) Quote: “We have a very important relationship with China that encompasses a lot of different areas. Where we have disagreements, we’re very clear about those disagreements and we work through them in a methodical way, and we take action where we believe it’s necessary.” “I think the President is committed to a relationship with China that is in the best interests of the American people. And he believes that achieving that relationship is also in the best interest of the Chinese people. But he is very focused on ensuring that American companies and American workers are able to compete on a level playing field.” ● July 12, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton (Remarks at the Top of a Bilateral Meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Yang) Quote: “But I want to stress the importance of U.S.-China cooperation in regional institutions such as the East Asia Summit and, in particular, the ASEAN Regional Forum. I am delighted that we are going to be issuing a joint media note that will give specifics about the cooperative project in the Asia Pacific that we are engaging in. And it is an important signal that the United States and China not only can, but will work together in Asia. And I thank you and your team, as well as mine, for the work that went into that.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● July 5, 2012 Remarks by Vice Foreign Minister Cui Tiankai (Luncheon Presentation by Vice Foreign Minister Cui Tiankai at the Asia Society Hong Kong Center) Quote: “What needs to be done now is to truly implement the consensus [China-US Joint Statement] on the ground. Along this line, we will work with the US side and do the following: The first is to nurture mutual trust.” “China and the United States are shaping each other’s Asia-Pacific policies. If one takes the other as a genuine partner, one will get a partner indeed.” “Secondly, the two sides need to have candid communication, make their interests and concerns clear to each other and find new ways and new measures to address the issues.” “Third, the two sides need to expand cooperation. China and the United States have extensive common interests in the Asia-Pacific. Both sides hope to see economic growth and greater trade and investment facilitation in the region.” “Both need to tackle the challenges of terrorism, piracy, transnational crimes and pandemics and both stand to benefit from the sound development of regional mechanisms and win-win regional cooperation. There is a lot that the two sides can do together.” “Fourth, the two sides need to properly manage differences. China and the United States are different in history, culture, development stages and social systems. It is just natural for them to have disagreements, colliding interests and different approaches in some regional affairs. China-US relations are now mature enough that the two sides can not only focus on their commonalities but also, and more importantly, approach their differences correctly.” “They should ‘list’ their differences candidly, and manage and resolve such differences through level-headed and pragmatic discussions. They should identify shared interests and the biggest common divisor in bilateral relations, and remove obstacles that might hinder sound interactions between China and the United States in the Asia-Pacific.”



Issue 4. Economic Cooperation: U.S.-China Trade Disputes

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● July 5, 2012 White House Press Gaggle (Press Gaggle by Press Secretary Jay Carney en route Ohio, July 5, 2012) Quote: “[...] the Obama administration launched an enforcement action against China at the World Trade Organization for imposing unfair duties on more than \$3 billion in auto exports from the United States. The Chinese duties in question cover more than 80 percent of U.S. auto exports to China, including cars manufactured in Toledo and Marysville, Ohio, and Detroit and Lansing, Michigan. And the duties disproportionately fall on General Motors and Chrysler products because of the actions that President Obama took, as you know, to support the auto industry during the financial crisis.” “This is the seventh such action that this administration has taken against China – seventh. The previous six have all been successful. The pace of actions taken by this administration is double that of the previous administration – actions against China for unfair trade practices. And I think it underscores the President’s commitment to American companies and American workers – his commitment to them to make sure that when they compete with their products and their know-how around the world they’re competing on a level playing field.” ● July 16, 2012 White House Press Gaggle (Press Gaggle by Press Secretary Jay Carney Aboard Air Force One, July 16, 2012) Quote: “[...] today the World Trade Organization is announcing another clear win for the United States in a trade dispute with China – this time over so-called ‘electronic payment systems’ like credit and debit cards.” “Today’s win highlights that tackling unfair Chinese trade practices has been a priority of this President throughout his term in office. That is precisely why 3.5 years into the President’s first term we have doubled the rate of WTO cases against China versus the prior administration.” “[...] the heart of the case involves a Chinese prohibition on foreign companies handling credit and debit card payments in China, instead requiring that they go through one single domestic entity – China Union Pay.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● July 6, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Regular Press Conference on July 6, 2012) Quote: “Relevant official of the Chinese Commerce Ministry has made remarks on this issue [of US filing a complaint to the WTO regarding China’s imposition of anti-dumping and anti-subsidy tariffs on the import of US cars]. China will properly handle the request for consultation according to the WTO dispute settlement procedures. China-US economic cooperation is mutually beneficial in essence. It is inevitable that there are frictions and disputes in their trade and economic cooperation. But what’s important and in line with both of their interests is that they should properly solve these disputes through coordination featuring equality, mutual benefit and mutual accommodation, rather than allowing such frictions or disputes to undermine the overall interests of China-US business cooperation.”



- **July 19, 2012 Remarks by Ambassador Marantis** ([Remarks by Ambassador Demetrios J. Marantis at the Washington Council on International Trade on the Obama Administration's Asia-Pacific Trade Policy](#))

Quote: "Since China joined the World Trade Organization (WTO) ten years ago, our bilateral trade relationship has brought us both benefits and challenges. When President Obama took office in 2009, commentators bemoaned U.S. responses to China's growing economic might and discriminatory trade policies. The Obama Administration has risen to meet the enormous challenges posed by China through bilateral engagement, vigorous enforcement at the WTO, and, close coordination with other trading partners." "Working together, the United States and China have made progress on a range of issues under the auspices of the U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade, the U.S.-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue, and in other bilateral engagements, including frequent interaction between Presidents Obama and Hu. Through these fora, the United States has negotiated concrete solutions to pressing trade issues." "Where we could not resolve problems through dialogue, we have made effective use of WTO dispute settlement. In fact, over the last three years, we have brought cases at twice the rate of the previous Administration, addressing export restraints, prohibited subsidies, restrictions on foreign service suppliers, and abuse of trade remedies. In each of the cases, we have either received a favorable ruling from the WTO or settled the case on favorable terms." "Significant challenges remain with China, and we must stay vigilant. We are hopeful, though, that through candid dialogue, and by continuing to hold China accountable when it diverges from the norms of open and fair trade, China will see the value of moving much more assertively toward reform."

- **July 30, 2012 *China Daily* Editorial** ([Do business, not politics](#))

Quote: "China's foreign direct investment (FDI) in the US could cross a record \$8 billion this year, according to research firm Rhodium Group's recent report. The rising investments will not only provide more business opportunities for Chinese firms, but also create more jobs for local people. The amount of China's FDI in the US has long been small. But with its economic scale rising rapidly in recent years, more Chinese investors are eager to test the waters in other parts of the world, including the most powerful economy. Regrettably, their efforts have often been blocked by non-business considerations."



Issue 5. Human Rights: U.S.-China Human Rights Dialogue

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● July 25, 2012 Remarks by Assistant Secretary of State Posner (Briefing on the 17th US-China Human Rights Dialogue) <p>Quote: “The overall human rights situation in China continues to deteriorate. Over the last two days, we’ve focused on a number of cases where lawyers, bloggers, NGO activists, journalists, religious leaders, and others are asserting universal rights and calling for peaceful reform in China. A number of these individuals have been arrested and detained as part of a larger pattern of arrest and extralegal detention of those who challenge official actions and policies in China. Among the cases we raised were lawyers like Gao Zhisheng and Ni Yulan, who have been imprisoned because of their legal advocacy on behalf of clients who espouse controversial positions and who are critical of official actions. We urge the Chinese Government to release such lawyers as well as imprisoned democracy activists like Liu Xiaobo, Chen Wei and Chen Xi, who have actively pursued political openness and the promotion of fundamental freedoms for Chinese citizens.” “We also expressed concern about the denial of access to legal counsel, to criminal defendants such as Chen Kegui, whose lawyers Ding Xikui and Si Weijiang have not been able to meet with him. We continue to state our position that China’s policies in ethnic minority areas are counterproductive and aggravate tensions, and that perceptions of human rights activists trying to give these communities a voice violates their human rights. We’ve raised and will continue to raise our deep concern about more than 40 self-immolations in Tibetan parts of China.” “Our position is that these are – these minority communities and representatives of religious minorities are entitled to live freely, to express their religious views, to practice their religion, to express their cultural differences and customs. And this is an area where clearly the Chinese Government has a different view.” “I would say on the positive side, I think it is becoming a more – it’s – the discussion is now firmly embedded and one where we are raising these issues in a variety of ways and a variety of contexts. We are managing and as we should, to make human rights a priority along with a range of other priorities in the relationship.” “We raised in particular the case of Feng Jianmei, who was beaten, detained, and then forced to have an abortion at seven months. And as a matter of U.S. policy, any coercive measures, including forced abortion, we deplore. There are a number of other cases, including some that have been reported recently. We did raise it [one-child policy] and raised our concern about it.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● July 27, 2012 Remarks by Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei’s Remarks on China-US Human Rights Dialogue) <p>Quote: “From July 23 to 24, the 17th China-US Human Rights Dialogue was held in Washington. The two sides exchanged views on human rights-related issues in a spirit of equality and mutual respect. The US side acknowledged the new progress China has made in human rights during the Dialogue and believed that the Dialogue was frank, open and constructive. But to our regret, the US side still made unfounded attacks at China’s human rights conditions after the Dialogue. We hereby express our dissatisfaction and firm opposition. As was pointed out by the Chinese side during the Dialogue, no country in the world has perfect human rights conditions. The United States have severe problems in areas such as justice, rights of Native Americans and racial discrimination. We hope the US side will devote more energy to reflecting on and promoting its own human rights conditions. The Chinese people are the best qualified to speak about China’s human rights conditions. Over the past 30-odd years of reform and opening-up, thanks to rapid economic development, the Chinese people have enjoyed constantly rising living standards. Their various rights, interests and basic freedoms have been elevated to an unprecedented level. China’s achievements are for all to see. We hope the US side can view China’s human rights conditions in a comprehensive, objective and fair manner, and play a constructive role for the sound development of China-US Human Rights Dialogue.”</p>



Issue 6. North Korea: Military Leadership Change in North Korea and Denuclearization

United States	China
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● July 2, 2012 State Department Daily Press Briefing (Daily Press Briefing) Quote: “We remain concerned about the well-being of the North Korean people, and we remain committed to doing what we can to work with the Government of the DPRK so it will come back into compliance with its international obligations. We were, as you know, prepared to try to work on this issue [humanitarian food aid] until we became concerned about whether we could trust the word of the DPRK Government, and that’s where we remain, unfortunately.” ● July 12, 2012 Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton (Remarks to the ASEAN Regional Forum) Quote: “North Korea’s pattern of provocations, and its pursuit of nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles in defiance of UN Security Council resolutions constitute a serious threat to peace and security in Asia and the world. The new leadership of North Korea faces a clear choice: They can focus on the needs and aspirations of their people and uphold his country’s international responsibilities, in which case the international community will extend a helping hand... or they can allow their country to fall further behind. The United States is committed to achieving the peaceful, verifiable denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. But this is a shared challenge, and so it demands a unified response from the entire region and the international community.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● July 3, 2012 Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Regular Press Conference (Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Regular Press Conference on July 3, 2012) Quote: “China always holds that dialogue and consultation is the only effective means to resolve the Korean Peninsular issue. Confrontation and hostility are counter-productive. The current Peninsular situation is still complex and sensitive. We hope relevant parties [Korea and Japan] will act prudently and do more things that will contribute to peace and stability of the region.”



- **July 16, 2012 State Department Daily Press Briefing** ([Daily Press Briefing](#))

Quote: "So we are aware of developments concerning changes in the DPRK military leadership. We're not in a position to comment on the accuracy of these news reports, but changes in personnel, absent a fundamental change in direction, mean little. We continue to call on the DPRK to make the right choice and to take the path available to it and rejoin the international community by refraining from threats and provocations, by complying with its international obligations and commitments, including taking concrete actions towards verifiable denuclearization, and addressing the needs of its people by educating and feeding them rather than pouring scarce resources into nuclear, missile, and other military programs."

- **July 30, 2012 State Department Daily Press Briefing** ([Daily Press Briefing](#))

Quote: "The Chinese Government and we work very closely together in the context of the Six-Party Talks to make the same points to North Korea, which is if they want a better future for their people, they've got a choice to make. They've got to come back into compliance. And we've been very strong and very united with China with regard to that. China has unique influence there, so we always encourage them to use it to the maximum, and particularly now, where we have a new leader and he's got some new choices to make."

- **July 19, 2012 Remarks by Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei** ([Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Remarks](#))

Quote: "The DPRK announced that the title of marshal was conferred upon comrade Kim Jong-un. China and the DPRK are friendly neighbors. We wish the DPRK every success in its development on all fronts under the leadership of Kim Jong-un and the Korean Workers' Party."



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