



8th U.S.-China High-Level Security Dialogue



U.S. and Chinese delegations at the China Institute of International Studies

A high-level U.S. delegation led by General (ret.) Eugene E. Habiger held four days of meetings with top Chinese officials and experts from November 17-20, 2014, in Beijing. The confidential meetings, organized by the EastWest Institute in partnership with the China Institute of International Studies, marked the eighth U.S.-China High-Level Security Dialogue, which occurred on the heels of this year's Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit and President Obama's visit to Beijing.

The High-Level Security Dialogue is an annual dialogue between U.S. and Chinese academics, former and current military and government officials, and business leaders. The goal of the dialogue is to generate concrete recommendations to policymakers in both countries on building a common vision for the bilateral relationship, promoting mutual long-term trust and confidence and fostering cooperation in challenging areas within the relationship.

The key discussions during the week focused on a wide range of geopolitical and military issues, including prospects and challenges for cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region, such as Japan and the Korean peninsula; building trust in the U.S.-China military-to-military relationship; and the development of "a new type of major-country relationship" between the U.S. and China.

Meet the U.S. Delegates

Eugene E. Habiger

General (ret.) Eugene E. Habiger has more than 35 years of experience in national security and nuclear operations. In his previous position as the commander in chief of the United States Strategic Command, he was responsible for all U.S. Air Force and U.S. Navy strategic nuclear forces supporting the national security strategy of strategic deterrence. General Habiger is currently a distinguished fellow and policy advisor with the University of Georgia's Center for International Trade and Security, where he assists with the center's international programs aimed at preventing weapons proliferation and reducing nuclear dangers.



James R. Blaker

James Blaker is a private consultant and author whose distinguished career in public policy and defense included stints as senior advisor to the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, deputy assistant secretary of defense for policy analysis and deputy undersecretary of the U.S. Air Force. In addition to his government service, Dr. Blaker previously served as vice president and senior scientist at Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). He has also worked at the Hudson Institute as the director for National Security and the Center for Naval Analyses as a division director.



Joel H. Cowan

Joel Cowan is on the EastWest Institute's Board of Directors and is a professor of the Practice for the Scheller College of Business and the Institute for Leadership and Entrepreneurship at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He founded Georgia's Peachtree City, serving as its first mayor from 1959 to 1963, and was the treasurer of the Democratic Party of Georgia from 1982 to 1986. Mr. Cowan's international focus is on Central Asia and its neighboring countries. He co-founded the Central Eurasia Leadership Academy in Istanbul, sponsored programs aimed at educating young women in Afghanistan and Tajikistan and is active in social impact investing in the region.



David M. Finkelstein

David Finkelstein currently serves as vice president at the CNA Corporation, a non-profit, independent research institute in Arlington, Virginia. He is also the director of CNA's China Studies Division. Dr. Finkelstein previously served in command and staff positions at several Army command levels. He also held significant China-related positions at the Pentagon as an advisor to the secretary of defense and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Dr. Finkelstein is a widely published writer and currently serves on the advisory board of *Issues & Studies*, a social science quarterly on mainland China, Taiwan and East Asian affairs.



EWI on Facebook: EastWestInstitute

David J. Firestein

David J. Firestein is the EastWest Institute's Perot fellow and vice president for the Strategic Trust-Building Initiative and Track 2 Diplomacy. In this capacity, he leads the EastWest Institute's China, East Asia and United States Program and Russia and United States Program as well as the institute's work on U.S.-Iran trust-building and weapons of mass destruction. A career U.S. diplomat from 1992 to 2010, Mr. Firestein is an expert on China, Russia, public diplomacy and U.S. politics. He has served at the U.S. embassies in Beijing and Moscow, speaks near native-level Chinese and fluent Russian and has interpreted for senior U.S. officials in both languages.



Piin-Fen Kok

Piin-Fen Kok is the director of the China, East Asia and United States Program at the EastWest Institute. She is responsible for developing and managing EWI's activities focusing on building strategic trust between the United States, China and key East Asian players. Ms. Kok has more than a decade's experience in public policy analysis and government relations concerning China and Asia. She has written and commented on political, economic, security and military aspects of the U.S.-China relationship, developments in the Asia-Pacific region, cybersecurity and climate change.



Daniel M. Slane

Daniel Slane is the founder and co-owner of The Slane Company, whose principal business includes real estate development, lumber and furniture. He has served on the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission since 2007 and served as chairman for the 2010 report cycle. In addition to his extensive international business experience, Mr. Slane has also served in the U.S. Army, the Central Intelligence Agency and the White House during the Gerald Ford administration. He currently is on the board of two financial institutions and a number of nonprofit organizations.



Timothy P. Stratford

Timothy Stratford is the managing partner in Covington & Burling LLP's Beijing office and a member of the International Trade, Corporate and Government Affairs Practice Groups. His practice focuses on advising international clients doing business in China and Chinese companies seeking to expand their businesses globally. As a former Assistant U.S. Trade Representative, Mr. Stratford is the most senior former U.S. trade official to join the U.S. business community in China. He is fluent in Mandarin and Cantonese.



U.S. Delegation Activities

1.5 days of discussion at the **China Institute of International Studies** on U.S. and Chinese foreign policy values; prospects for building “a new type of major-country relationship between the U.S. and China;” and U.S.-China cooperation on issues in the Asia-Pacific, including China-Japan relations, the Korean peninsula and the South China Sea.



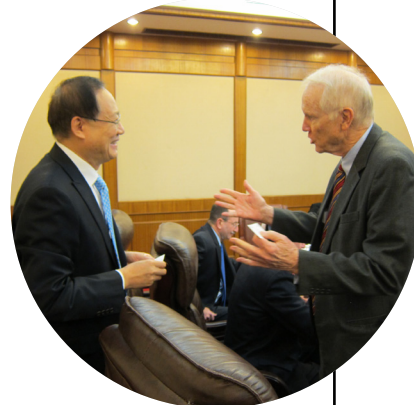
Full-day discussion with experts from the **China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations** on Asia-Pacific regional issues, including China-Japan relations and the Korean peninsula.



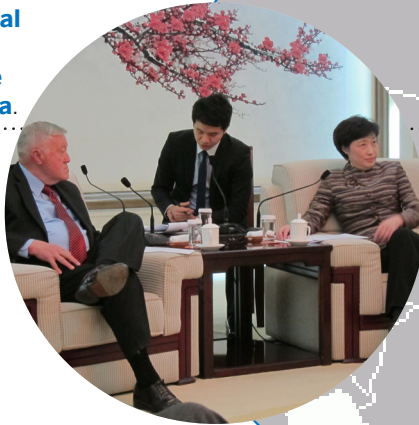
Meeting with Vice Minister **Xu Lyuping** of the **International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China**.



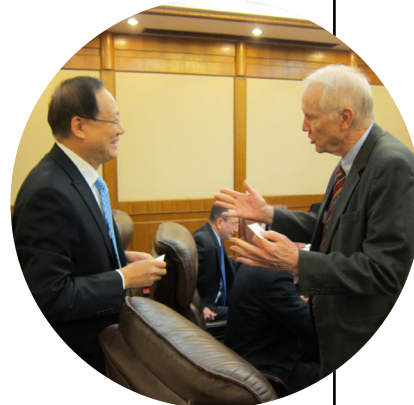
Meeting with the **China Institute for Marine Affairs of the State Oceanic Administration**.



Meeting and discussion with administrators and military scholars at the **National Defense University of the People's Liberation Army** on operationalizing trust in the U.S.-China military-to-military relationship.



Meeting with Mr. **Daniel J. Kritenbrink**, Deputy Chief of Mission of the **United States Embassy in Beijing**.



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Joel H. Cowan