A high-level U.S. delegation led by EastWest Institute (EWI) CEO and President Cameron Munter held four days of meetings with top Chinese officials and experts from November 16-19, 2015, in Beijing. The confidential meetings, organized by EWI in partnership with the China Institute of International Studies, marked the 9th U.S.-China High-Level Security Dialogue, which occurred on the heels of Chinese President Xi Jinping’s first state visit to the United States and China’s Fifth Plenum.

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 increase understanding between the two sides on the most challenging issues in the bilateral relationship and to generate concrete recommendations to policymakers in both countries on ways to promote mutual long-term trust and confidence.

The key discussions during the week focused on a wide range of issues, including strategic relations in the Asia-Pacific, cybersecurity, counterterrorism, military confidence-building measures, the impact of distinctions between “Chinese” and “Western” values on U.S.-China relations and the role of U.S. and Chinese public opinion in the bilateral relationship.
Meet the U.S. Delegates

Cameron Munter
Cameron Munter is the chief executive officer and president of the EastWest Institute. Ambassador Munter served as U.S. ambassador to Pakistan from 2010 to 2012 and previously was the U.S. ambassador to Serbia.

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.

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.

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, leading EWI’s China, East Asia and United States Program and Russia and United States Program. A career U.S. diplomat from 1992 to 2010, Mr. Firestein has served at the U.S. embassies in Beijing and Moscow.

Paul Haenle
Paul Haenle is the director of the Carnegie-Tsinghua Center based at Tsinghua University in Beijing. Prior to joining Carnegie, he served as the director for China, Taiwan and Mongolia Affairs on the National Security Council staffs of Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama from 2007 to 2009.

From top to bottom: James R. Blaker, Joel H. Cowan and Paul Haenle
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.

Bruce W. McConnell

Bruce McConnell is a senior vice president at the EastWest Institute and manages the institute’s Global Cooperation in Cyberspace Initiative. Beginning in 2009, he was a leader of the cybersecurity mission at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and became deputy undersecretary of Homeland Security for Cybersecurity in 2013.

Jonathan Berkshire Miller

Jonathan Miller has held a variety of positions in the private and public sector, most recently as a Sasakawa Peace Foundation fellow on Japan with the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Pacific Forum. Mr. Miller is also a fellow in EWI's China, East Asia and United States Program.

Jonathan D. Pollack

Jonathan Pollack is the senior fellow in Foreign Policy at the John L. Thornton China Center and the Center for East Asia Policy Studies at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC. He served as director of the John L. Thornton China Center from 2012 to 2014.

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. He also previously served as an Assistant U.S. Trade Representative.

Robert S. Wang

Robert Wang served as the senior official for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) in the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs in the Office of Economic Policy from 2013 to 2015 and was the deputy chief of mission at the U.S. embassy in Beijing from 2011 to 2013. He is currently a senior associate at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).
**U.S. Delegation Activities**

Meeting with His Excellency Wang Jiarui, vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference and minister of the International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

Meeting with officials of the United States Embassy in Beijing.

1.5 days of discussion at the China Institute of International Studies on “Chinese versus Western values,” strategic relations in the Asia-Pacific and cybersecurity.

Meeting with Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Zheng Zeguang.

Half-day discussion with scholars convened by Consensus Media Group on the role of U.S. and Chinese public opinion in the bilateral relationship.

Discussion with military scholars at the Academy of Military Science of the People’s Liberation Army on U.S.-China military confidence-building measures.

Discussion with military scholars at the China Institute for International Strategic Studies on South China Sea and counterterrorism.

Roundtable discussion with students at Peking University.

Host Organization

Dialogue Sponsors

Joel H. Cowan