The EastWest Institute (EWI), in coordination with the China Association for International Friendly Contact (CAIFC), gathered retired American senior flag officers to meet with their Chinese counterparts in Beijing from December 6-8, 2019 to discuss security issues of critical concern to both countries.

With U.S.-China competition in full force, amid looming tensions in the South China Sea and across the Taiwan Strait, the 11th U.S.-China Sanya Initiative Dialogue came at a crucial junction where the risk of miscalculation has increased rapidly in the strategic relationship. The dialogue afforded an opportunity for candid exchanges on key current and future flashpoints that are consequential to the security and stability in the Asia-Pacific.

In addition to the closed door exchanges between the American and Chinese delegates, the group has also met with General Zhang Youxia, Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission, the governing body of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army. Senior military and civilian personnel from the United States Embassy in Beijing have also taken part in the event.

Since 2008, the U.S.-China Sanya Initiative has regularly facilitated high-level dialogue between retired American and Chinese generals and admirals in order to strengthen military-to-military ties between the United States and China.
Participants

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