



U.S.-China Sanya Initiative Dialogue

Report from the 11th Meeting



11th Meeting of the U.S.-China Sanya Initiative Dialogue

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

CHINESE PARTICIPANTS

General (ret.) ZHANG Qinsheng

Former First Deputy Chief of Staff,
Chinese People's Liberation Army

General (ret.) WANG Guanzhong

Former Deputy Chief of Staff,
Joint Staff Department,
Central Military Commission

Vice Admiral (ret.) DING Yiping

Former Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff,
Chinese People's Liberation Army Navy

Lieutenant General (ret.) HE Lei

Former Vice President,
Academy of Military Science,
Chinese People's Liberation Army

CAIFC DELEGATES

YI Xian

Vice President,
CAIFC

LI Haoyu

Secretary General,
CAIFC

Shaw WANG

Director, Center for Peace and Development Studies,
CAIFC

CHINESE OBSERVER

Audie WONG

Executive Director,
China-United States Exchange Foundation

U.S. PARTICIPANTS

Admiral (ret.) William A. OWENS

Former Vice Chairman,
Joint Chiefs of Staff

General (ret.) George W. CASEY, Jr.

Former Chief of Staff,
United States Army

Lieutenant General (ret.) Stephen R. LANZA

Former Commander,
I Corps, United States Army

EWI DELEGATES

John K. HURLEY

Director,
EWI

Martha BEJAR

Member, Board of Councilors,
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Dr. James BLAKER

Senior Fellow, East Asia Program,
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