

GREAT DECISIONS DISCUSSION GROUP
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KATONAH VILLAGE LIBRARY
January 7, 2013

10:15 A. M. – Noon

China's Foreign Policy

Topic Leader: Tyler Beebe

AGENDA

10:15: Kickoff

- Welcome and Introduction of New Participants
- Briefing Book Orders/Delivery
- Topic Leader Presentation & Discussion

CHAPTER MOTTO - "DISCUSSIONS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED WITHOUT FONDNESS FOR DISPUTE OR DESIRE FOR VICTORY" – BEN FRANKLIN

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING MEETINGS AND TOPICS

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|-------------------|--|
| February 11, 2014 | Climate Change and Food
Topic Leader: Ken Krieger |
| March 4, 2014 | Israel and the United States
Topic Leader: Tyler Beebe
Special Guest: Professor Dov Waxman, CUNY |
| March 18, 2014 | Japan and the Far East
Topic Leader: Charles Kimball
Special Guest: Devin Stewart, Carnegie Council |
| April 1, 2014 | Islamic Awakening
Topic Leader: Fred Piker |
| April 15, 2013 | Foreign Policy Implications of Energy Independence
Topic Leaders: Tyler Beebe and Charles Kimball |

April 29, 2014 **International Human Trafficking, Women's Rights and Foreign Policy**

Topic Leader: Ann Marie Karl

May 13, 2014 **Turkey's Challenges**

Topic Leaders: Mike and Barbara Kornfield

TODAY'S TOPIC

A Chinese Navy frigate purposely cuts 100 yards in front of a U.S. missile cruiser in the East China Sea, narrowly avoiding a collision...A Japanese military spokesman says Japan will shoot down any Chinese drones penetrating its air space around the Senkaku Islands....A new Chinese Air Defense Zone, which intentionally overlaps existing Japanese and South Korean defense perimeters, is purposely probed by U.S. B-52 bombers which ignore Chinese demands to report their positions....What do these disturbing events tell us about China's new foreign policy under Xi Jinping's leadership?

At this session Tyler will assess what appears on the surface to be a clearly more confrontational foreign policy than that followed by Beijing under the Hu Jintao regime. This new assertiveness reflects rising nationalism, a sense that China is destined to expand its geopolitical reach well beyond its traditional bounds and a notion that it can exploit a gradual decline in U.S. influence abroad. But it also brings a troubling rise in risky behavior that could have serious unintended consequences.

Or is there less here than meets the eye? Behind these seeming provocations lies a softer, more constructive policy as China recognizes it needs to accommodate both its Asian neighbors and the U.S. to preserve its dramatic economic rise, which it certainly doesn't want compromised by conflict or war.

What is really going on in Beijing? What kind of response should be coming from Washington? Are these challenges for the State Department or the Defense Department?

SUGGESTED READINGS

"China's Foreign Policy" by David M. Lampton. Chapter 7 of the 2014 FPA Great Decisions Briefing Book.