

Background Brief

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BIPARTISANSHIP IN US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TOWARDS THE CCP THREAT: KEY COMMITTEES

Executive Summary

- 1. A bipartisanship has emerged in the US House of Representatives that is considerably hostile towards China and the Chinese Communist Party at its helm.
- 2. The House Armed Services Committee has expanded its scope beyond external relations. There is a new focus on domestic issues such as American strategic petroleum reserve, farmland and university research deemed to be vital to US national security interests.
- 3. There is an emphasis on arming and financing Taiwan despite Beijing's objections. The 2023 Taiwan Democracy Defence Lend-Lease Act is modelled on the American Lend-Lease Act that backed the Soviet Union during World War II against Nazi Germany and the 2022 Ukraine Democracy Defence Lend-Lease Act.
- 4. The House Foreign Affairs Committee is seeking to name the Chinese Communist Party as an "organised criminal syndicate". This committee also alleges Chinese use of neurobiological weapons against American government personnel.
- 5. The House Financial Services Committee is imposing financial sanctions on Beijing to deter a possible Chinese invasion of Taiwan. Legislation by this Committee threatens Chinese financial interests and access to American capital markets and domestic market for leading Chinese corporates and exporters.
- 6. House Energy and Commerce Committee Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers is investigating TikTok in the United States and wanting it to be banned. In March 2023, Rodgers chaired her committee's hearing which interrogated TikTok's Singaporean CEO Chew Shou Zi.
- 7. Fellow Committee Member Dan Crenshaw is examining alleged Chinese involvement in the fentanyl trafficking into the United States, suspected Chinese infiltration of American universities and Chinese origins of the COVID-19 global pandemic.

8. Winning presidential candidates from the Republican and Democratic Parties will have their own approach and style to the emerging Chinese challenger in the international system. While US domestic politics may seem deeply polarised, the US president can count on the broadly bipartisanship support in the House of Representatives and the Senate to take a tougher stance against China.

BIPARTISANSHIP IN US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TOWARDS THE CCP THREAT: KEY COMMITTEES

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Legislative Role of House Committees in China-US Relations

- 1.1 Under the US constitutional government of checks and balances between the executive and the legislature, the House of Representatives plays a key role in shaping domestic and foreign policies.
- 1.2 Since the Republican Party has regained control of the House after the November 2022 elections, the legislative branch has adopted a tougher stance on China on multiple fronts. This in turn will trigger a pushback from Beijing resulting in the worsening of China-US relations.
- 1.3 The most important House Committees which influence US foreign policy towards China are the House Armed Services Committee, House Foreign Affairs Committee, House Financial Services Committee and House Energy and Commerce Committee.
- 1.4 These Committees are coordinating with the newly established House Select Committee on Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party led by Wisconsin Representative Mike Gallagher (a table of dual or multiple membership in these Committees and the Representative Gallagher's Select Committee can be found in **Annex A**).

House Armed Services Committee: Broader Definition of US National Security Interests

2.1 Chaired by Republican Mike Rodgers from Alabama, this committee has 29 members from the Republican Party, including Mike Gallagher. The Armed Services Committee also has 28 members from the Democrat Party. They include

Ro Khanna (California), who is also a member of the Select Committee on the Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party. Khana, Andy Kim (New Jersey), Mikie Sherrill (New Jersey) and Seth Moulton (Massachusetts) are the Democrats that serve on both Committees simultaneously.¹

- 2.2 Another prominent Republican on the House Armed Services Committee is Matt Gaetz (Florida). He has led in securing American farmland and other strategic land resources from perceived risks posed by China.² He has also introduced legislation to cease all Chinese access to American taxpayer-funded research.³
- 2.3 Republican Member Joe Wilson has sponsored legislation prohibiting the use of federal funds made available to the US Agency for Global Media to 'provide an open platform for representatives of the Chinese government, the CCP, or any entity owned or controlled by the Chinese government or by the CCP'.⁴
- 2.4 The House Armed Services Committee consists of the following Subcommittees:

¹ 'Full Committee', House Armed Services Committee, https://armedservices.house.gov/subcommittees/armed-services-117th-congress (accessed 10 April 2023).

[&]quot;About Mike", Official Webpage of Mike Gallagher, Eighth District of Wisconsin, https://gallagher.house.gov/about (accessed 10 April 2023).

[&]quot;Committees and Caucuses", Official Webpage of Ro Khanna, https://khanna.house.gov/about/committees-and-caucuses (accessed 10 April 2023).

[&]quot;Committees and Caucuses", Official Webpage of Andy Kim, https://kim.house.gov/about/committees-and-caucuses (accessed 10 April 2023).

[&]quot;About Seth Moulton", Official Webpage of Seth Moulton, https://moulton.house.gov/ (accessed 10 April 2023).

For example, see US House of Representatives, "H.R.1569 - CLAMP Act of 2023", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 10 March 2023, (accessed 10 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1569?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=3>(accessed 10 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.809 - Prohibition of Agricultural Land for the People's Republic of China Act", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 2 February 2023, (accessed 10 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/809?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=4>(accessed 10 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.344 - Securing America's Land from Foreign Interference Act", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 12 January 2023, (accessed 10 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/344?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=6> (accessed 10 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.551 - No Taxpayer Funding for the Chinese Communist Party Act of 2023", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 26 January 2023, (accessed 10 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/551?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=5> (accessed 10 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.315 - No Taxpayer Funded Platform for Chinese Communists Act", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 12 January 2023, https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/315?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22joe+wilson%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=66 (accessed 10 April 2023).

• Cyber, Information Technologies and Innovation Chairman: Mike Gallagher (Republican; Wisconsin) Ranking Member: Ro Khanna (Democrat; California)

Intelligence and Special Operations
 Chairman: Jack Bergman (Republican; Michigan)
 Ranking Member: Ruben Gallego (Democrat; Arizona)

Military Personnel
 Chairman: Jim Banks (Republican; Indiana)⁵
 Ranking Member: Andy Kim (Democrat; New Jersey)

Readiness

Chairman: Michael Waltz (Republican; Florida) Ranking Member: John Garamendi (Democrat; California)

Seapower and Projection Forces
 Chairman: Trent Kelly (Republican; Mississippi)
 Ranking Member: Joe Courtney (Democrat; Connecticut)

• Strategic Forces Chairman: Doug Lamborn (Republican; Colorado)

Ranking Member: Seth Moulton (Democrat; Massachusetts)

• Tactical Air and Land Forces (118th Congress)
Chairman: Robert Wittman (Republican; Virginia)⁶
Ranking Member: Donald Norcross (Democrat; New Jersey)⁷

- 2.5 Key Committee/Subcommittee hearings and expert testimony since January 2023 have focused on China as America's primary competitor. While references were made to US adversaries of Russia, North Korea and Iran, China is consistently mentioned as America's greatest security threat.⁸
- 2.6 In February 2023, House Armed Services Committee Chairman Mike Rodgers and Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee Michael McCaul (Republican)

Banks is also a member of the Select Committee on the Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party.

⁶ Wittman is also a member of the Select Committee on the Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party.

⁷ "Subcommittees", House Armed Services Committee, https://armedservices.house.gov/subcommittees (accessed on 10 April 2023).

Author's content analysis based on materials provided from "Hearings", House Armed Services Committee, https://armedservices.house.gov/hearings (accessed 10 April 2023).

sent an official letter to President Biden urging him to enhance America's Foreign Military Financing (FMF) to Taiwan:

"[Congress'] bipartisan legislation authorized up to \$2 billion in FMF grants to Taiwan for each of the fiscal years 2023 through 2027, which would allow the United States and Taiwan to engage in joint long-term planning for the acquisition, deployment, and sustainment of critical capabilities. TERA⁹ also authorized \$1 billion a year in drawdown authority for Taiwan, which could immediately strengthen deterrence in the Taiwan Strait and dramatically accelerate training". ¹⁰

- 2.7 These financial commitments to Taiwan are in addition to the 'day-to-day' American military operations, including Freedom of Navigation exercises and deterrent patrols carried out by the US Navy's 7th Fleet. This defence package to Taiwan in the form of FMF and TERA represents one of America's most serious commitments with the House Armed Services exercising the lead.
- 2.8 In July 2022, Representative Wittman sponsored H R 8547, the 'No Oil for CCP Act' that seeks:

"Bans exports of crude oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) to China, North Korea, Iran, and other specified recipients. Specifically, the bill directs the Department of Energy to require as a condition of any sale of crude oil from the SPR that (1) the oil not be exported to such countries; and (2) the recipient of the oil is not under the ownership, control, or influence of the Chinese Communist Party". 11

⁹ TERA is the acronym for Taiwan Enhanced Resilience Act.

[&]quot;Rodgers, McCaul, Wicker, Risch Urge Biden to Increase FMF for Taiwan", House Armed Services Committee, 17 February 2023. https://armedservices.house.gov/news/press-releases/Rodgers-mccaul-wicker-risch-urge-biden-increase-fmf-taiwan and https://www.foreign.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/02-16-23 taiwan fmf letter.pdf (all accessed 10 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.8547 - No Oil for CCP Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 27 July 2022, (accessed 10 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/8547?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%5D%7D&s=9&r=18>(accessed 10 April 2023).

- 2.9 Representative Lamborn has been active in co-sponsoring various pieces of legislation that address "threats" from China:
 - H.R.1398 Protect America's Innovation and Economic Security from CCP Act¹²
 - H.R.1330 Taiwan Democracy Defence Lend-Lease Act of 2023¹³
 - H.R.1025 Defund the Wuhan Institute of Virology Act¹⁴
 - H.R.809 Prohibition of Agricultural Land for the People's Republic of China Act¹⁵
 - H.R.22 Protecting America's Strategic Petroleum Reserve from China Act¹⁶
 - H.R.7855 Halting Academic Liaisons to Our Adversaries Act¹⁷
 - H.R.7998 Sanctioning Supporters of Slave Labour Act¹⁸
 - H.R.6686 STOP CCP Act¹⁹

US House of Representatives, "H.R.1398 - Protect America's Innovation and Economic Security from CCP Act", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 7 March 2023, https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1398/cosponsors?s=2&r=1&q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7 (accessed 10 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.1330 - Taiwan Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act of 2023", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 1 March 2023, (accessed 10 April 2023).">accessed 10 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.1025 - Defund the Wuhan Institute of Virology Act", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 14 February 2023, (accessed 10 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/1025?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=3> (accessed 10 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.809 - Prohibition of Agricultural Land for the People's Republic of China Act".

US House of Representatives, "H.R.22 - Protecting America's Strategic Petroleum Reserve from China Act", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 9 January 2023, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/22?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=8> (accessed 10 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.7855 - Halting Academic Liaisons To Our Adversaries Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 19 May 2022, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/7855/text?s=2&r=12&q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D (accessed 10 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.7998 - Sanctioning Supporters of Slave Labor Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 9 June 2022, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/7998/text?s=2&r=11&q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%2China%2Chin

US House of Representatives, "H.R.6686 - STOP CCP Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 9 February 2022, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/6686?q

- H.R.4821 To hold accountable senior officials of the Government of the People's Republic of China who are responsible for or have directly carried out, at any time, persecution of Christians or other religious minorities in China, and for other purposes²⁰
- H.R.4792 Countering Communist China Act²¹
- H.R.3922 World Deserves to Know Act²²
- H.R.1145 To direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organisation, and for other purposes²³
- H.Res.500 Condemning the Chinese Communist Party for 100 years of gross violations of human rights and standing with the Chinese people in their struggle for liberty²⁴
- H.Res.90 Supporting an international investigation into the handling by the Government of the People's Republic of China of COVID-19 and the impact thereof on the people of the United States and other nations²⁵

US House of Representatives, "H.R.4821 - To hold accountable senior officials of the Government of the People's Republic of China who are responsible for or have directly carried out, at any time, persecution of Christians or other religious minorities in China, and for other purposes", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 29 July 2021, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4821?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=19 (accessed 10 April 2023).

- US House of Representatives, "H.R.3922 World Deserves To Know Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 15 June 2021, ">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3922?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=21>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3922?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=21>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3922?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=21>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3922?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=21>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3922?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=21>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3922?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=21>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3922?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%2China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=21>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3922?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China
- US House of Representatives, "H.R.1145 To direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization, and for other purposes", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 18 February 2021, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1145?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=26 (accessed 10 April 2023).
- US House of Representatives, "H.Res.500 Condemning the Chinese Communist Party for 100 years of gross violations of human rights and standing with the Chinese people in their struggle for liberty", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 25 June 2021, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-resolution/500?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=31 (accessed 10 April 2023).

^{=%7}B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=15> (accessed 10 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.4792 - Countering Communist China Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 29 July 2021, (accessed 10 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4792?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=20>(accessed 10 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.Res.90 - Supporting an international investigation into the handling by the Government of the People's Republic of China of COVID-19 and the impact thereof on the people of the United States and other nations", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 2 February 2021, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-resolution/90?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=34 (accessed 10 April 2023).

- 2.10 In February 2022, Seapower and Projection Forces Chairman Trent Kelly, with oversight over Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force Programmes, co-sponsored H.R.6711, the "Stop Funding Our Adversaries Act of 2022". This bill "prohibits federal agencies from conducting or supporting, either directly or indirectly, research that will be conducted by China's government, the Chinese Communist Party, or any agent, instrumentality, or entity belonging to or controlled by either entity". ²⁶
- 2.11 The House Armed Services Committee has expanded its scope beyond the oversight of conventional land, sea, air and space forces. There is a new focus on domestic issues such as America's strategic petroleum reserve, farmland and university research deemed as core American national security interests.
- 2.12 There is an increasing emphasis on arming and providing financial facilities to Taiwan despite objections from Beijing. The Taiwan Democracy Defence Lend-Lease Act of 2023 is modelled on the American Lend-Lease Act extended to the Soviet Union during World War II against Nazi Germany and the 2022 Ukraine Democracy Defence Lend-Lease Act.

House Foreign Affairs Committee: China-Focused Activities in Conventional and Unconventional Areas

- 3.1 Chaired by Republican Michael McCaul, the House Foreign Affairs Committee has also taken on a more confrontational approach towards China. There are 23 Republicans and 23 Democrats, with Democrat Gregory Meeks from New York as the Ranking Member.²⁷
- 3.2 Other China-relevant Subcommittees include the Subcommittee on Global Health, Global Human Rights and International Organisations as well as the Subcommittee on the Indo-Pacific. Both are under Republican leadership with Representative

US House of Representatives, "H.R.6711 - Stop Funding Our Adversaries Act of 2022", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 11 February 2022, (accessed 10 April 2023).">accessed 10 April 2023).

[&]quot;Full Committee", House Foreign Affairs Committee, https://foreignaffairs.house.gov/subcommittee/ (accessed 11 April 2023).

Christopher Smith (New Jersey) leading the former and Representative Young Kim (California) leading the latter.²⁸

- 3.3 Chairman McCaul and the House Foreign Affairs Committee published two reports in September 2020 outlining perceived threats posed by China:
 - China Task Force Report: A Policy Blueprint to Address the Chinese Communist Party's Malign Behaviour on the World Stage²⁹
 - The Origins of the Global COVID-19 Pandemic, Including the Roles of the Chinese Communist Party and the World Health Organisation³⁰

In February 2023, this Committee also hosted a hearing titled, "Combatting the Generational Challenge of Chinese Communist Party Aggression". 31

- 3.4 Chairman McCaul has recently sponsored several pieces of China-focused legislation across a wide array of issues:
 - H.Res.104 Condemning the Chinese Communist Party's use of a highaltitude surveillance balloon over US territory as a brazen violation of US sovereignty³²
 - H.R.9010 Taiwan Policy Act of 2022³³
 - H.R.4914 Havana Syndrome Attacks Response Act³⁴

"Subcommittee on Global Health, Global Human Rights and International Organizations", House Foreign Affairs Committee, https://foreignaffairs.house.gov/subcommittee/terrorism-nonproliferation-and-trade/# (accessed 11 April 2023).

"Subcommittee on Indo-Pacific", House Foreign Affairs Committee. https://foreignaffairs.house.gov/subcommittee/asia-and-the-pacific/ (accessed 11 April 2023).

Michael McCaul, "China Task Force Report: A Policy Blueprint to Address the CCP's Malign Behavior on the World Stage", House Foreign Affairs Committee, September 2020.

Michael McCaul, "The Origins of the Global COVID-19 Pandemic, Including the Roles of the Chinese Communist Party and the World Health Organization", House Foreign Affairs Committee, September 2020.

"Combatting the Generational Challenge of CCP Aggression", House Foreign Affairs Committee, 28 February 2023. https://foreignaffairs.house.gov/hearing/combatting-the-generational-challenge-of-ccp-aggression/ (accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.Res.104 - Condemning the Chinese Communist Party's use of a high-altitude surveillance balloon over United States territory as a brazen violation of United States sovereignty", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 8 February 2023, https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-resolution/104?s=1&r=5 (accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.9010 - Taiwan Policy Act of 2022", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 28 September 2022, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/9010?s=1&r=6 (accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.4914 - Havana Syndrome Attacks Response Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 3 August 2021, <a href="https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-1

- H.R.2329 Countering Chinese Communist Party Malign Influence Act³⁵
- H.Res.317 Condemning the ongoing genocide and crimes against humanity being committed against Uyghurs and members of other religious and ethnic minority groups by the People's Republic of China³⁶
- 3.5 The Subcommittee on the Indo-Pacific has held a series of hearings on strategic concerns over Chinese activities in the Pacific Islands, Mekong Delta Region and Southeast Asia.³⁷ The overarching theme of these hearings is the need for decisive American engagement to counter Chinese assertiveness.
- 3.6 Indo-Pacific Subcommittee Chair Young Kim (California Republican) has also linked Taiwan's re-entry into the World Health Organisation to Chinese internal developments:
 - H.R.1107 PRC Is Not a Developing Country Act³⁸
 - H.R.540 Taiwan Non-Discrimination Act of 2023³⁹

congress/house-bill/4914/text?s=1&r=6&q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D> (accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.2329 - Countering Chinese Communist Party Malign Influence Act", (accessed 11 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2329?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=8> (accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.Res.317 - Condemning the ongoing genocide and crimes against humanity being committed against Uyghurs and members of other religious and ethnic minority groups by the People's Republic of China", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 14 April 2021, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-resolution/317?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22 China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=13> (accessed 11 April 2023).

For example, see "Renewed U.S. Engagement in the Pacific: Assessing the Importance of the Pacific Islands", Indo-Pacific Subcommittee, House Foreign Affairs Committee, 23 March 2023. https://foreignaffairs.house.gov/hearing/renewed-u-s-engagement-in-the-pacific-assessing-the-importance-of-the-pacific-islands/ (accessed 11 April 2023).

[&]quot;The Strategic Importance of the Pacific Islands", Indo-Pacific Subcommittee, House Foreign Affairs Committee, 20 October 2021, https://foreignaffairs.house.gov/hearing/the-strategic-importance-of-the-pacific-islands/ (accessed 11 April 2023).

[&]quot;Understanding and Addressing Challenges in the Mekong Region", Indo-Pacific Subcommittee, House Foreign Affairs Committee, 7 December 2022. (accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.1107 - PRC Is Not a Developing Country Act", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 21 February 2023, https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1107?s=1&r=3 (accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.540 - Taiwan Non-Discrimination Act of 2023", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 6 January 2023, https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/540?s=1&r=4 (accessed 11 April 2023).

- H.R.4785 To support the human rights of Uyghurs and members of other minority groups residing primarily in Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and safeguard their distinct identity, and for other purposes⁴⁰
- H.R.1145 To direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organisation, and for other purposes⁴¹
- 3.7 Indo-Pacific Subcommittee Ranking Member Ami Bera (California Democrat) has his own track record of China-focused legislation that parallels the work done by his Republican counterpart:
 - H.R.8153 Indo-Pacific Engagement Act⁴²
 - H.R.5580 Countering China Economic Coercion Act⁴³
 - H.R.3972 Taiwan Peace and Stability Act⁴⁴
 - H.Res.456 Remembering the victims of the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre and condemning the continued and intensifying crackdown on human rights and basic freedoms within the People's Republic of China, including the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, by the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes⁴⁵

US House of Representatives, "H.R.4785 - To support the human rights of Uyghurs and members of other minority groups residing primarily in Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and safeguard their distinct identity, and for other purposes.", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 29 September 2021, https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-resolution/104?s=1&r=5 (accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.1145 - To direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization, and for other purposes", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 18 February 2021, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1145?s=1&r=28 (accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.8153 - Indo-Pacific Engagement Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), United States House of Representatives, 21 June 2022, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/8153?s=1&r=9 (accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.5580 - Countering China Economic Coercion Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 15 October 2021, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5580?s=1&r=16 (accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.3972 - Taiwan Peace and Stability Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 17 June 2021, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3972?s=1&r=20 (accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.Res.456 - Remembering the victims of the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre and condemning the continued and intensifying crackdown on human rights and basic freedoms within the People's Republic of China, including the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, by the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 4 June 2021, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-resolution/456?s=1 &r=27> (accessed 11 April 2023).

- 3.8 Representative Scott Perry (Pennsylvania Republican) has also been active in sponsoring legislation designed to combat perceived threats posed by China:
 - H.R.6319 Falun Gong Protection Act⁴⁶
 - H.R.5786 Defund the People's Liberation Army Act⁴⁷
 - H.R.5431 Designating the Chinese Communist Party as a Transnational Organised Crime Group Act⁴⁸
 - H.R.4281 Tibet Independence Act⁴⁹
 - H.R.4280 Hong Kong Freedom Act⁵⁰
 - H.R.2103 Taiwan PLUS Act⁵¹
 - H.R.1169 Taiwan Voice Act⁵²
- 3.9 Both Republican and Democrat members of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs have expanded the scope of their China-relevant legislative activities beyond

US House of Representatives, "H.R.6319 - Falun Gong Protection Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 16 December 2021, (accessed 11 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/6319?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=2>(accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.5786 - Defund the People's Liberation Army Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 28 October 2021, (accessed 11 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5786?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=3> (accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.5431 - Designating the Chinese Communist Party as a Transnational Organized Crime Group Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 30 September 2021, (accessed 11 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5431?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=4> (accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.4281 - Tibet Independence Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), United States House of Representatives, 30 June 2021, (accessed 11 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4281?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=6>(accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.4280 - Hong Kong Freedom Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 30 June 2021, (accessed 11 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4280?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=7>(accessed 11 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.2103 - Taiwan PLUS Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 19 March 2021, ">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2103?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=10>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2103?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=10>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2103?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=10>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2103?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=10>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2103?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=10>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2103?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=10>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2103?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=10>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2103?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=10>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2103?q=%7B%22Search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%2A%5B%2A

US House of Representatives, "H.R.1169 - Taiwan Voice Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 18 February 2021, ">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1169?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=11>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1169?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=11>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1169?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=11>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1169?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%22China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=11>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1169?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=11>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1169?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=11>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1169?q=%7B%22Search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=11>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1169?q=%7B%22Search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=11>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1169?q=%7B%22Search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2C%2China%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%

traditional strategic issues. There is now a new focus on areas that Beijing would consider to be its own domestic affairs and sovereignty.

3.10 There are legislative attempts to formally classify the Chinese Communist Party as an "organised criminal syndicate" (H.R.5431) while also alleging Chinese involvement in the use of direct energy/microwave weapons against American government personnel (H.R.4914). The latter activity is alleged to cause serious neurological damage to the victims.

House Financial Services Committee: Confrontation in American Market and a Focus on Taiwan

- 4.1 Chaired by Republican Patrick McHenry (North Carolina), this committee consists of 29 Republicans and 23 Democrats.⁵³ On the Republican side, Andy Barr (Kentucky) and Blaine Luetkemeyer (Missouri) are also both members of the Select Committee on the Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party.⁵⁴ California Republican Young Kim, (Indo-Pacific Subcommittee Chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee) serves on the House Financial Services Committee as well.⁵⁵
- 4.2 In addition, Representative Luetkemeyer is the Chair of the Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance and International Financial Institutions.

 Representative Kim is the vice chairwoman and Andy Barr serves on the Subcommittee. 56

[&]quot;Committee Members", House Financial Services Committee, https://financialservices.house.gov/about/members.htm (accessed on 12 April 2023).

[&]quot;Committees and Caucuses", Official Webpage of Andy Barr, https://barr.house.gov/committees-and-caucuses (accessed 12 April 2023).

[&]quot;Barr: 'Let's take the air out of the CCP's next spy balloons with my sanctions bill", Official Webpage of Andy Barr, https://barr.house.gov/press-releases?id=2480E552-6179-49A7-B410-DE18560E1F13 (accessed 12 April 2023).

[&]quot;Luetkemeyer to Serve as Chairman of Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance, and International Financial Institutions", Official Webpage of Blaine Luetkemeyer, 12 January 2023. https://luetkemeyer.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=400793 (accessed 12 April 2023).

[&]quot;Committee Members", House Financial Services Committee. https://financialservices.house.gov/about/members.htm (accessed 12 April 2023).

[&]quot;Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance, and International Financial Institutions", House Financial Services Committee, https://financialservices.house.gov/118th-congress-subcommittees/subcommittee-on-national-security-illicit-finance-and-international-financial-institutions.htm (accessed 12 April 2023).

4.3	On 7	February 2023, the House Financial Services Committee held a hearing titled,				
	"Combatting the Economic Threat from China". This hearing focused on discussing					
	in-pı	rogress legislation by Committee members that has not yet been officially				
	table	ed. This in-progress legislation includes:				
	•	H.R, the "Chinese Military and Surveillance Company Sanctions Act" (Representative Barr; Kentucky Republican)				
	•	H.R, the "Ostracize China Act" (Representative Lucas; Oklahoma Republican)				
	•	H.R, the "Neutralizing Unfair Chinese Export Subsidies Act" (Representative Nunn: Iowa Republican)				
	•	H.R, the "Taiwan Non-Discrimination Act" (Representative Kim; California Republican)				
	•	H.R, the "Taiwan Conflict Deterrence Act" (Representative Hill; Arkansas Republican)				
	•	H.R, the "Special Drawing Rights Oversight Act" (Representative Hill; Arkansas Republican)				
	•	H.R, the "21st Century Dollar Act" (Representative Hill; Arkansas Republican)				
	•	H.R, the "Chinese Currency Accountability Act" (Representative Davidson; Ohio Republican)				
	•	H.R, the "China Exchange Rate Transparency Act" (Representative Meuser; Pennsylvania Republican)				
	•	H.R, the "IMF Reform and Integrity Act" (Representative Huizenga; Michigan Republican)				
	•	H.R, the "Chinese CBDC Prohibition Act" (Representative Luetkemeyer; Missouri Republican)				
	•	H.R, the "China Financial Threat Mitigation Act"				
	•	H.R, the "Securing America's Vaccines for Emergencies Act" (Representative Barr; Kentucky Republican)				
	•	H.R, the "Preventing the Financing of Illegal Synthetic Drugs Act" (Representative De La Cruz; Texas Republican) ⁵⁷				

[&]quot;Hearing Entitled: Combatting the Economic Threat from China", House Financial Services Committee, 7 February 2023, https://financialservices.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=408509 (accessed 12 April 2023).

- 4.4 On 23 March 2023, the Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance and International Financial Institutions held a hearing titled, "Follow the Money: The Chinese Communist Party's Business Model Fuelling the Fentanyl Crisis". This hearing included testimony from:
 - Jonathan Cassara, special agent, US Treasury (Retired)
 - Donald Im, assistant special agent in charge, Chemical, Pharmaceutical, Cyber Section Drug Enforcement Administration Special Operations Division (retired)
 - Professor Celina B Realuyo, adjunct professor, The George Washington University
 - Jason Grellner, vice president of Health Care, Evolv Technology
 - Gretchen Peters, executive director, Alliance to Counter Crime Online⁵⁸
- 4.5 Interestingly, Representative Hill has put forth "H.R.554 Taiwan Conflict Deterrence Act of 2023" for which its purpose is:
 - "To deter Chinese aggression towards Taiwan by requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to publish a report on financial institutions and accounts connected to senior officials of the People's Republic of China, to restrict financial services for certain immediate family of such officials, and for other purposes". 59
- 4.6 This is the first time that the House Financial Services Committee has focused on Taiwan. It also synchronises the House Financial Services Committee with the priorities of the Armed Services, Foreign Affairs and Energy and Commerce Committees.
- 4.7 Legislation by this Committee threatens the full spectrum of Chinese financial interests, specifically currency (digital and physical), access to American capital markets access and general American market access for leading Chinese corporates and exporters.

[&]quot;Hearing Entitled: Follow the Money: The CCP's Business Model Fueling the Fentanyl Crisis", Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance, and International Financial Institutions, House Financial Services Committee, 23 March 2023, https://financialservices.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx? EventID=408655> (accessed 12 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.809 - Prohibition of Agricultural Land for the People's Republic of China Act".

House Energy and Commerce Committee: A New Player in China-US Ties?

- 5.1 Chaired by Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers (Republican, state of Washington), the House Energy and Commerce Committee consists of 26 Republicans and 23 Democrats. 60 This Committee has played a prominent role in confronting perceived threats from China across areas such as energy security, cybersecurity and data privacy, public health, and the activities of Chinese companies in the United States.
- 5.2 Representative McMorris Rodgers has actively investigated TikTok in the United States and has said that she wants it banned. On 23 March 2023, she chaired a House Energy and Commerce Commission hearing that interrogated TikTok's Singaporean CEO, Chew Shou Zi. 61
- 5.3 Representative McMorris Rodgers is also a main sponsor of H.R.809, the "Prohibition of Agricultural Land for the People's Republic of China Act".⁶² She stated:
 - "Agriculture is Eastern Washington's number one industry. We simply cannot allow companies from China to lock down our resources and undermine our farmers and ranchers' ability to feed the world. Americans should not be forced to rely on China for the food they put on the table. Prohibiting the Chinese Communist Party from purchasing farmland in the United States is a no-brainer that will support domestic food production and decrease our dangerous dependence on foreign adversaries". ⁶³
- 5.4 Another prominent member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee is Dan Crenshaw (Republican, Texas). Crenshaw is a former US Navy SEAL.

 Representative Crenshaw is not an official member of the Select Committee on the

[&]quot;Committee Members", House Energy and Commerce Committee, https://energycommerce.house.gov/representatives (accessed 12 April 2023).

[&]quot;Americans Deserve to Know the Truth", McMorris Rodgers' Opening Statement at House Energy and Commerce Committee Hearing on TikTok and McMorris Rodgers Questions TikTok CEO, 23 March 2023. https://mcmorris.house.gov/posts/americans-deserve-to-know-the-truth (accessed 12 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.809 - Prohibition of Agricultural Land for the People's Republic of China Act".

[&]quot;McMorris Rodgers, Newhouse Introduce Bill to Block China from Purchasing American Farmland", Official Webpage of Cathy McMorris Rodgers, 2 February 2023. https://mcmorris.house.gov/posts/mcmorris-rodgers-newhouse-introduce-bill-to-block-china-from-purchasing-american-farmland (accessed 12 April 2023).

Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party. However, he has co-sponsored legislation related to the origins of COVID-19 with now-Select Committee Chairman Mike Gallagher.⁶⁴

- 5.5 Crenshaw is engaged in wide range of China-focused legislative activities including:
 - defence of Taiwan;
 - alleged Chinese involvement in fentanyl trafficking into the United States;
 - alleged Chinese infiltration of American universities;
 - the Chinese government's alleged role in the COVID-19 pandemic; and
 - defunding EcoHealth Alliance, a key American scientific partner of the Wuhan Institute of Virology.
- 5.6 Crenshaw has co-sponsored the following pieces of legislation:
 - H.R.1376 COVID-19 Origin Act of 2023⁶⁵
 - H.R.494 Defund EcoHealth Alliance Act⁶⁶
 - H.R.1330 Taiwan Democracy Defence Lend-Lease Act of 2023⁶⁷
 - H.R.944 Preventing Malign CCP Influence on Academic Institutions Act⁶⁸

US House of Representatives, "H.R.3191 - COVID–19 Origin Act of 2021", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 9 January 2023, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3191 (accessed 12 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.494 - Defund EcoHealth Alliance Act", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 25 January 2023, ">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22\$q=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=%7B%22search%22\$q=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=q=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=q=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=q=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=1&r=60>">house-bill/494?q=1&r=60>">house-bill/4

 $^{^{66}\,}$ US House of Representatives, "H.R.22 - Protecting America's Strategic Petroleum Reserve from China Act".

US House of Representatives, "https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1330?q =%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=20", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 3 January 2023, (accessed 12 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1330?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=20> (accessed 12 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.944 - Preventing Malign CCP Influence on Academic Institutions Act", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 9 February 2023, https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/944?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=36 (accessed 12 April 2023).

- H.R.917 Protecting Military Installations from Foreign Espionage Act⁶⁹
- H.R.1171 Stop CCP Fentanyl Act⁷⁰
- H.R.713 Declaring War on the Cartels Act of 2023⁷¹
- H.R.916 Felony Murder for Deadly Fentanyl Distribution Act of 2023⁷²
- 5.7 Representative Crenshaw's legislation to enable the declaration of war on Mexican drug cartels and the use of military force (H.R.713) has potential implication for China-US relations. This is further amplified by Representative Crenshaw's efforts to make the distribution of fentanyl the capital offence of felony murder (H.R.916), which could involve the death penalty in certain cases.
- 5.8 Representative Crenshaw's parallel legislation of the H.R.1171, the "Stop CCP Fentanyl Act", has the potential of fusing alleged Chinese involvement in fentanyl trafficking with Mexican drug cartels.
- 5.9 These legislative actions could also be augmented by Representative Perry (House Foreign Affairs Committee) and his H.R.5431, the "Designating the Chinese Communist Party as a Transnational Organised Crime Group Act".⁷³

US House of Representatives, "H.R.917 - Protecting Military Installations from Foreign Espionage Act", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 9 February 2023, https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/917?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=37 (accessed 12 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.1171 - Stop CCP Fentanyl Act", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 24 February 2023, ">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1171?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=25>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1171?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=25>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1171?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=25>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1171?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=25>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1171?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=25>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1171?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=25>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1171?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=25>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1171?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=25>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1171?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=25>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/118th-congress/ho

US House of Representatives, "H.R.713 - Declaring War on the Cartels Act of 2023", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 1 February 2023, (accessed 12 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1171?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=25> (accessed 12 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.916 - Felony Murder for Deadly Fentanyl Distribution Act of 2023", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 9 February 2023, (accessed 12 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/916?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22dan+crenshaw%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=38> (accessed 12 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.5431 - Designating the Chinese Communist Party as a Transnational Organized Crime Group Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 30 September 2021, (accessed 11 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5431?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22China%22%2China%22%5D%7D&s=4&r=4> (accessed 11 April 2023).

Implications for China-US Relations

- 6.1 A new bipartisanship has emerged in the US House of Representatives towards its perceived Chinese challenger. This foreign policy bipartisanship is also apparent in the powerful Senate of the US legislative branch of government.
- 6.2 Notwithstanding the polarised nature of US domestic politics with divided government (Democratic White House; Republican House of Representatives), there is the strengthening of bipartisanship in the US Congress towards Beijing. Hence, the executive branch of the US government can count on the support of the US legislature to adopt a tougher stance towards China.
- 6.3 Presumably, this US foreign policy bipartisanship against China is to the chagrin of Beijing and the delight of Taipei. It is unclear whether this American bipartisanship will embolden the Democratic Progressive Party's Tsai Ing-wen of Taiwan against the Chinese mainland.
- 6.4 Conceivably, this emerging legislative bipartisanship may lead to a tougher Chinese pushback against the United States and Taiwan, a vicious cycle of geostrategic competition and tension between the United States and China, and an intensifying and destabilising new Cold War in East Asia.

Annex A

Members of Armed Services, Foreign Affairs, Financial Services and/or Energy and Commerce Committees with Linkages to Select Committee on the Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party

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US House of Representatives, "H.R.1081 – ANTI-SOCIAL CCP Act", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 17 February 2023, https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/1081?s=1&r=3 (accessed 12 April 2023).

US House of Representatives, "H.R.334 - Significant Transnational Criminal Organization Designation Act", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 12 January 2023, https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/334?s=1&r=5 (accessed 12 April 2023).

Dan Crenshaw Republican; Texas Republican; Member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee Republican; H.R.1376 - COVID-19 Origin Act of 2023 82 Republican; H.R.494 - Defund EcoHealth Alliance Act 83 Republican; Texas H.R.1330 - Taiwan Democracy Defence Lend-Lease Act of 2023 84 Republican; Texas Republican; Texas H.R.1376 - COVID-19 Origin Act of 2023 82 Republican; Narcotics and Counter-Intelligence H.R.1330 - Taiwan Democracy Defence Lend-Lease Act of 2023 84 Republican; Texas H.R.1944 - Preventing Malign CCP Influence on Academic Institutions Act 85 H.R.947 - Protecting Military Installations from Foreign Espionage Act 86				H.R.331 - Illicit Arms Trafficking Security	
Texas Energy and Commerce Committee Member of the Subcommittee on Health, Environment, Manufacturing and Critical Materials and Oversight and Investigations ⁸¹ H.R.944 - Preventing Malign CCP Influence on Academic Institutions Act ⁸⁵ H.R.917 - Protecting Military Installations from Foreign Espionage Act ⁸⁶ Counter- Narcotics and Counter- Intelligence Counter- Narcotics and Counter- Intelligence H.R.1330 - Taiwan Democracy Defence Lend-Lease Act of 2023 ⁸⁴ H.R.944 - Preventing Malign CCP Influence on Academic Institutions Act ⁸⁵					
H.R.713 - Declaring War on the Cartels Act of 2023 ⁸⁸	Dan Crenshaw	•	Energy and Commerce Committee Member of the Subcommittee on Health, Environment, Manufacturing and Critical Materials and Oversight and	H.R.1376 - COVID-19 Origin Act of 2023 ⁸² H.R.494 - Defund EcoHealth Alliance Act ⁸³ H.R.1330 - Taiwan Democracy Defence Lend-Lease Act of 2023 ⁸⁴ H.R.944 - Preventing Malign CCP Influence on Academic Institutions Act ⁸⁵ H.R.917 - Protecting Military Installations from Foreign Espionage Act ⁸⁶ H.R.1171 - Stop CCP Fentanyl Act ⁸⁷ H.R.713 - Declaring War on the Cartels Act of	Counter- Narcotics and Counter-

US House of Representatives, "H.R.331 - Illicit Arms Trafficking Security Enforcement Act", 118th Congress (2023-2024), United States House of Representatives, 12 January 2023, https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/331?s=1&r=7 (accessed 12 April 2023).

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US House of Representatives, "H.R.944 - Preventing Malign CCP Influence on Academic Institutions Act".

US House of Representatives, "H.R.917 - Protecting Military Installations from Foreign Espionage Act".

US House of Representatives, "H.R.1171 - Stop CCP Fentanyl Act".

US House of Representatives, "H.R.713 - Declaring War on the Cartels Act of 2023".

			H.R.916 - Felony Murder for Deadly Fentanyl	
			Distribution Act of 2023 ⁸⁹	
	Republican; Virginia	Vice Ranking Member of the Armed Services Committee Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces 90	H.R.3922 - World Deserves to Know Act ⁹¹ H.R.8547 - No Oil for CCP Act ⁹² H.R.8631 - Taiwan Democracy Defence	Biodefence, Energy Security and Taiwan
		,	Lend-Lease Act of 2022 ⁹³	
laine	Republican;	Chairman of the	H.R.804 - Chinese CBDC	Counter-
	Aissouri	Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance and International Financial Institutions of the House Financial Services Committee ⁹⁴	Prohibition Act of 2023 ⁹⁵	Intelligence
-	Republican; Kentucky	House Foreign Affairs Committee Member on the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, Central Asia and Non- Proliferation. 96	On 4 February 2023, Representative Barr introduced a bill that would force President Biden to directly sanction all Chinese companies that were involved in the "balloon incident" over	Military Affairs
		Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, Central Asia and Non-	Biden to directly sanction all Chinese companies that were involved in the	1

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US House of Representatives, "H.R.3922 - World Deserves To Know Act".

US House of Representatives, "H.R.8547 - No Oil for CCP Act".

US House of Representatives, "H.R.8631 - Taiwan Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act of 2022", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 29 July 2022, https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/8631/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%5D%7D&r=17&s=2">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/8631/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%5D%7D&r=17&s=2">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/8631/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%5D%7D&r=17&s=2">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/8631/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%5D%7D&r=17&s=2">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/8631/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%5D%7D&r=17&s=2">https://www.congress.gov/bill/8631/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22wittman%22%2C%22wittman%22wittm

⁹⁴ "Luetkemeyer to Serve as Chairman of Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance, and International Financial Institutions", Official Webpage of Blaine Luetkemeyer.

US House of Representatives, "H.R.804 - Chinese CBDC Prohibition Act of 2023", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 2 February 2023, https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/804?s=1&r=26 (accessed 12 April 2023).

⁹⁶ "Committees and Caucuses", Official Webpage of Andy Barr.

[&]quot;Barr: 'Let's take the air out of the CCP's next spy balloons with my sanctions bill".

Neal Dunn	Republican;	House Committee on	In January 2023,	Counter-
	Florida	Energy and	Representative Dunn	Narcotics
		Commerce ⁹⁸	introduced H.Res 39, a	
			bill to designate fentanyl-	
			related substances as a	
			weapon of mass	
			destruction ⁹⁹	
Jim Banks	Republican;	House Armed Services	H.R.1210 - Stop Fentanyl	Counter-
	Indiana	Committee ¹⁰⁰	Border Crossings Act ¹⁰¹	Narcotics
			H.R.1171 - Stop CCP	
			Fentanyl Act ¹⁰²	
Carlos	Republican;	House Armed Services	H.R.1516 - DHS	Counter-
Gimenez	Florida	Committee – Readiness	Restrictions on Confucius	Intelligence,
		Subcommittee and	Institutes and Chinese	Food Security
		Tactical Air and Land	Entities of Concern	and Counter-
		Forces	Act ¹⁰⁴	Narcotics
		Subcommittee ¹⁰³		
			H.R.809 - Prohibition of	
			Agricultural Land for the	
			People's Republic of	
			China Act ¹⁰⁵	
			H.D. 505. G	
			H.R.597 - Stop the	
			Cartels Act ¹⁰⁶	

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US House of Representatives, "H.Res.39 - Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that illicit fentanyl-related substances are a weapon of mass destruction and should be classified as such", 118th Congress (2023-2024), US House of Representatives, 17 January 2023, ">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-resolution/39?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22h+res+39%22%7D&s=1&r=1>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-resolution/39?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22h+res+39%22%7D&s=1&r=1>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-resolution/39?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22h+res+39%22%7D&s=1&r=1>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-resolution/39?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22h+res+39%22%7D&s=1&r=1>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-resolution/39?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22h+res+39%22%7D&s=1&r=1>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-resolution/39?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22h+res+39%22%7D&s=1&r=1>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-resolution/39?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22h+res+39%22%7D&s=1&r=1>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-resolution/39?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22h+res+39%22%7D&s=1&r=1>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-resolution/39?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22h+res+39%22%7D&s=1&r=1>">https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-resolution/39?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22h+res+39%22%7D&s=1&r=1>">https://www.congress/house-resolution/39?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22h+res+39%22%7D&s=1&r=1>">https://www.congress/house-resolution/39?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22h+res+39%22%7D&s=1&r=1>">https://www.congress/house-resolution/39?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22h+res+39%22%7D&s=1&r=1>">https://www.congress/house-resolution/39?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22h+res+39%22%7D&s=1&r=1>">https://www.congress/house-resolution/39?q=%7B%22search%22search%22search%22search%22search%22search%22search%22search%22search%22search%22search%22search%22sear

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[&]quot;Committees and Caucuses", Official Webpage of Carlos Gimenez, https://gimenez.house.gov/committees-and-caucuses (accessed 16 March 2023).

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Ro Khanna	Democrat;	Armed Services	No China- or Taiwan-	
	California	Committee ¹⁰⁷	specific legislative track	
			record	
Andy Kim	Democrat;	Armed Services	H.R.293 - Banning Oil	Energy Security
	New Jersey	Committee	Exports to Foreign	and Counter-
			Adversaries Act ¹⁰⁹	Intelligence
		Foreign Affairs		
		Committee ¹⁰⁸	H.R.1189 - Undersea	
			Cable Control Act ¹¹⁰	
Mikie Sherrill	Democrat;	Armed Services	H.R.1324 - Uyghur	Human Rights
	New Jersey	Committee ¹¹¹	Human Rights Sanctions	and Counter-
			Review Act ¹¹²	Intelligence
			H.R.944 - Preventing	
			Malign CCP Influence on	
			Academic Institutions	
			Act ¹¹³	
Seth Moulton	Democrat;	Armed Services	H.R.8631 - Taiwan	Taiwan and
	Massachusetts	Committee ¹¹⁴	Democracy Defence	Human Rights
			Lend-Lease Act of	
			2022 ¹¹⁵	
			H.R.3306 - Uyghur SOS	
			Act ¹¹⁶	

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US House of Representatives, "H.R.3306 - Uyghur SOS Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 18 May 2021, (accessed 13 April 2023).

H.R.1630 - Uyghur Human Rights Protection Act ¹¹⁷
H.R.1155 - Uyghur Forced Labour Prevention Act ¹¹⁸
H.Res.130 - Condemning the continued violation of rights and freedoms of the people of Hong Kong by the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ¹¹⁹

US House of Representatives, "H.R.1630 - Uyghur Human Rights Protection Act", 117th Congress (2021-2022), US House of Representatives, 8 March 2021, (accessed 13 April 2023).">https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1630?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22CHina%22%2CMina%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=19>(accessed 13 April 2023).

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