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THE OPEN SOURCE MEDIA SUMMARY

November 11, 2020

CHINA'S COERCIVE TACTICS ABROAD

U.S. Department of State

The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) takes advantage of the freedoms of the United States and other democracies to advance its own ideologically-driven narratives and manipulate world press coverage. The CCP accomplishes this by using government-owned or operated media outlets, as well as CCP-controlled "educational" and "cultural institutes" strategically located in the United States and overseas. Key representatives of the People's Republic of China (PRC) actively use Western social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook, all banned inside China, to spread lies and false narratives approved by the CCP core leadership. These entities serve to disseminate propaganda and disinformation while suppressing criticism about the CCP. Within China, the CCP controls the media and all forms of debate and information. The CCP also bans virtually all domestic access to international news and media outlets, threatens and intimidates foreign journalists who report critical stories about the CCP, and actively monitors and obstructs the flow of data through telecom networks and smartphone apps. Globally, the CCP exerts pressure on software developers and telecom service providers to ensure any dialogue critical of China — on issues including human rights, Taiwan, Tibet, the Tiananmen Square massacre, Hong Kong, and other "sensitive" topics—is either suppressed or presented in a positive light. The CCP also uses its economic weight to threaten and coerce entertainment companies, automakers, sports teams, airlines, and any other company with exposure to the Chinese market to self-censor products, advertising, and public statements in order to fall in line with CCP messaging.

Read the full article [here](#).

U.S. URGES PARTNERS TO COUNTER CHINA'S FOREIGN MEDDLING

U.S. Embassy in Georgia | November 9, 2020

The Chinese Communist Party is challenging the free and open nature of democratic societies, a senior U.S. official says. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs David Stilwell warned October 30 that the CCP is conducting "covert, coercive, and corrupting" political influence activities worldwide, even as it denies foreign meddling and promises countries "non-interference" and "win-win" deals. The CCP "wants control, or at least veto power, over public discourse and political decisions the world over," Stilwell said in remarks at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. The CCP "poses a real risk to our basic way of life — prosperity, security, and liberty." He called on countries around the world to recognize the regime's authoritarian influence campaigns and defend the basic principles of democracy, openness and individual dignity.

Read the full article [here](#).



WHY CHINA IS THE BIGGEST FOREIGN POLICY RISK FACING THE U.S., ACCORDING TO A SCHOLAR

Seema Mody | CNBC | November 4, 2020

China remains the biggest foreign policy risk facing the U.S., according to Liz Economy, a senior fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution and the Council on Foreign Relations. Both President Donald Trump and former Vice President Joe Biden acknowledge the risk that China poses to the U.S. – from an economic and national security standpoint. However, the two candidates have competing views on how to confront Beijing. "I think if Trump earns another four years, he is going to double down on China, and it's going to mean more resources — military, economic and political — dedicated towards pushing back against China at multiple levels. It will be economic, it'll be military, and it'll be political," Economy, author of "The Third Revolution: Xi Jinping and the New Chinese State," said Tuesday on CNBC's "Trading Nation." As president, Trump has waged a trade war with China, increased scrutiny of Chinese companies doing business in the U.S. and taken aim at firms like TikTok.

Read the full article [here](#).

UNIVERSITIES ALARMED BY BILL ON INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

Geoff Maslen | University World News | November 6, 2020

Universities Australia, the federal body representing higher education institutions, has called on the government to scrap references to higher education institutions in new proposed international agreement laws. A bill currently before parliament would allow the foreign minister to veto or alter a wide range of university agreements with other nations. Universities Australia says the government should scrap all references to higher education institutions in the new act. A parliamentary report has echoed the universities' concerns and highlighted the need for further consultation. The proposed Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Bill was published on Thursday, creating alarm in higher education circles. Universities Australia Chief Executive Catriona Jackson said universities should be written out of the bill. "If this is not possible, then significant amendment is required," Jackson said. "Our primary concerns go to both the workability of these laws that will cover thousands and thousands of agreements and the deterrent effect this could have on international partnerships. These partnerships are the lifeblood of research."

Read the full article [here](#).

AS HONG KONG LAW GOES AFTER 'BLACK SHEEP,' FEAR CLOUDS UNIVERSITIES

Vivian Wang | The New York Times | November 7, 2020

When Harry Wu, a professor of medical humanities at the University of Hong Kong, gave a lesson last fall about doctors' responsibilities in society, he focused on a real-world example: the volunteer medics treating protesters and police in the antigovernment demonstrations convulsing the city. But this semester, after China imposed a new national security law on Hong Kong, Professor Wu hastily reworked his lesson plan. He included photographs of the protests in his lecture slides, but did not explicitly address them. Before uploading the slides to a university portal after class, he deleted the photographs altogether. "It's right in front of your eyes, but you don't have any opportunity to talk about this in class," he said. As China tries to quell the political upheaval in Hong Kong, the city's universities — ranked among the best in Asia, if not the world — have become potent symbols of the shrinking space for dissent or even discussion.

Read the full article [here](#).



4 TIPS FOR PROTECTING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY IN ACADEMIA

Mike Chapple | EdTech | October 19, 2020

Around the world, academic researchers have turned their focus to combating the novel coronavirus. From medical schools to biology labs, researchers are working nonstop to better understand the virus, develop therapeutic treatments and create a vaccine that could lift the pandemic's shadow. Collaboration across higher education is bringing the world's best minds to bear on COVID-19. The resulting intellectual property could have tremendous public health benefits. But it also has massive potential commercial value, and few things are more attractive to would-be cybercriminals than other people's valuable ideas. Companies and countries around the world are racing to develop safe, effective and potentially profitable treatments and vaccines. Recent reports from intelligence agencies and prosecutors in the United States and the United Kingdom accuse the Russian and Chinese governments of engaging in hacking efforts to steal coronavirus research. Universities find themselves in the crosshairs, suddenly the targets of sophisticated intelligence-gathering operations.

Read the full article [here](#).

EUROPE SETS OUT WHAT ARE 'SAFE' RESEARCH LINKS WITH CHINA

Yojana Sharma | University World News | November 7, 2020

European governments and institutions are becoming more aware of challenges and pressures on continuing extensive research collaboration with China, with several countries and the European Union drawing up new guidelines to step up knowledge security and academic integrity, and for protection of academic freedom. According to a new report by the Leiden Asia Centre at Leiden University in the Netherlands, it is in the interests of European governments and higher education and research institutions to develop guidelines for 'safe' and more sustainable research collaboration with China, to ensure the continuation of research collaborations, which are likely to be disrupted by geopolitical developments or national foreign and domestic policies, including security policies. China-specific guidelines are in the institutions' interests not only for "the security and the academic freedom of their staff and students, but also in terms of their long-term competitive positions in research and their reputations as institutions", the paper, *Towards Sustainable Europe-China Collaboration in Higher Education and Research*, published on 28 October, said.

Read the full article [here](#).

PAPER ON CHINESE INFLUENCE TESTS ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN NEW ZEALAND

Joyce Lau and John Ross for Times Higher Education | Inside Higher Ed | November 6, 2020

Global academics have rallied around Anne-Marie Brady, a professor at the University of Canterbury, in New Zealand, who has been under review by her institution since August and has been told not to speak publicly about her case, according to her lawyer. Her research, "Holding a pen in one hand, gripping a gun in the other," co-authored by Jichang Lulu and Sam Pheloung, investigated alleged links between New Zealand universities and the Chinese military. The paper was submitted to Parliament in July and also published by the Wilson Center, a U.S. think tank. In the paper, Brady outlines the high stakes for China-New Zealand relations. "Until the COVID-19 pandemic, the PRC [People's Republic of China] was also New Zealand's largest market for foreign students, largest tourism market, and sixth largest foreign scientific research partner."

Read the full article [here](#).



COLLEGE BOARD TO SEVER TIES WITH CHINESE INSTITUTE AFTER SENATORS' LETTER

Inder Singh Bisht | *The College Post* | November 6, 2020

The College Board, a non-profit that administers the SAT and AP tests, has announced it is ending ties with the Chinese government-affiliated Confucius Institute Headquarters, informally known as Hanban. College Board senior vice president Elissa Kim revealed the decision in a letter to seven Republican senators on October 30. On Tuesday, Senator Marsha Blackburn (R-Tennessee) made the letter public on Twitter, which stated that the College Board was awarded an annual grant by Hanban from 2006 to 2020 to support the teaching and learning of Chinese language and culture in US schools. It further revealed that "2020 is the final year in which the College Board will receive or pursue any grant funding from Hanban."

Read the full article [here](#).

PACNET #59 – CHINA'S FOREIGN BEHAVIOR WARRANTS SUSTAINED US COUNTERMEASURES

Robert Sutter | *Pacific Forum* | October 29, 2020

Americans are nearing the end of the most divisive election year in living memory. China is the main foreign policy issue in the 2020 campaign, with continuing strong debate going forward. Advocates of hard countermeasures toward China say previous US administrations' failure to counter Chinese challenges resulted in China now posing an enormous danger to American interests. Critics play down past failures and dangers posed by China, condemn excesses in the recent US hard line, and favor a more moderate and nuanced approach. Which approach is better? Comprehensive evidence-based assessment finds the United States, its allies, and its partners are fundamentally challenged by wide-ranging and intensifying Chinese efforts to weaken America in headlong pursuit of ever-expanding Chinese ambitions.

Read the full article [here](#).

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

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