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# THE OPEN SOURCE MEDIA SUMMARY

**August 11, 2021**

## **CLEAR RULES FOR RESEARCH SECURITY AND RESEARCHER RESPONSIBILITY**

*Dr. Eric Lander, President's Science Advisor and Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy  
The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy | August 10, 2021*

The Biden-Harris Administration holds a strong commitment to protecting research security and maintaining the core values behind America's scientific leadership, including openness, transparency, honesty, equity, fair competition, objectivity, and democratic values. During its final week in office, the previous administration issued a National Security Presidential Memorandum (NSPM-33) to "strengthen protections of United States Government-supported R&D against foreign government interference and exploitation" while "maintaining an open environment to foster research discoveries and innovation that benefit our nation and the world." Given the timing of the release of NSPM-33, the previous administration did not have time to develop implementation guidance for federal agencies. The Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) is working on how to implement NSPM-33 effectively, rigorously, and uniformly across the federal government in a way that protects the nation's interests in both security and openness. Over the next 90 days, OSTP will develop clear and effective implementation guidance for NSPM-33, working in close partnership with the National Security Council staff, fellow Cabinet agencies, and other federal agencies through the National Science and Technology Council.

Read the full article [here](#).

## **TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SSCI**

*Anna B. Puglisi | Georgetown University Center for Security and Emerging Technology | August 4, 2021*

Chairman Warner, Ranking Member Rubio, members of the Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Perhaps no other issue is as controversial or challenging as the one we are discussing today. It is wrapped up in the fundamental feelings we have as Americans regarding democracy, opportunity, capitalism, open markets and the importance of immigrants throughout U.S. history. My own grandparents were immigrants who came to this country with little formal education, worked menial jobs and made a new life for themselves. My presence here today is a testament to the American Dream. I want to start with saying that there is no room for xenophobia or ethnic profiling in the United States -- it goes against everything we have stood for as a nation.

Read the full testimony [here](#).



## **AVOIDING UNDUE FOREIGN INFLUENCE ON IRP RESEARCH**

*National Institutes of Health Office of Intramural Research | August 2, 2021*

The goal of this guide is to enable continuing and future interactions among NIH scientific staff and foreign scientists and institutions without enabling undue foreign influence on NIH-supported research and without violation of applicable federal laws, regulations, policies, or guidelines. The goal is also to satisfy NIH requirements for appropriate conduct in collaborations with foreign entities. This guide is intended to apply to the NIH intramural research program (IRP), not to research conducted solely by extramural research institutions.

Read the full guide [here](#).

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## **YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORK FOR THE CIA TO KNOW WHAT CHINA WANTS**

*Christopher Burgess | ClearanceJobs | August 8, 2021*

Francis Bacon coined the phrase “knowledge is power” in the 16th century and never has the sentiment been more appropriate than today within the context of China’s thirst for both knowledge and global power. China’s quest to support their indigenous industrial base with research and development acquired from the west continues unabated. To satiate China’s thirst for knowledge, they utilize a myriad of methodologies, some legitimate and many illegitimate. China’s road map to knowledge acquisition, or requirements, aren’t always a state secret, nor are their national programs used to identify, source and acquire identified technologies or capabilities. In August 2019, we wrote about China’s “Program 863” which was a 10-year effort spearheaded by China’s Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) in March of 1986 (ergo, Program 863). The salient point concerning technology acquisition in the context of national security can be found in the words provided directly by MOST. They described the goal of the national program as “to strive to achieve breakthroughs in key technical fields that concern the national economic lifeline and national security; and to achieve leap-frog development in key high-tech fields in which China enjoys relative advantages or should take strategic positions.” Program 863 is important today in 2021 because it provides a baseline of perspective and understanding of the multi-generational effort by China to acquire technologies designed to provide advantage to China’s strategic position on the global stage.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **CURRENT US POLICY ON CHINA: THE RISK TO OPEN SCIENCE**

*Philip H. Bucksbaum, S. James Gates Jr., Robert Rosner, Frances Hellman, James Hollenhorst, Baha Balantekin, and Jonathan Bagger | American Physical Society | August 9, 2021*

We are writing to share with you our concerns about our federal government’s current approach to research security. Free information exchange between research groups worldwide is essential for progress in science. Yet the US government is placing new restrictions on Chinese contact based on recent concerns that China is stealing knowledge and technology developed in US research labs. There are real threats to national security posed by unauthorized transfer of knowledge and technical expertise. But a response that chokes off legitimate scientific contacts only compounds the problem it seeks to solve. This will inevitably lead to the loss of US competitiveness and international prestige and threaten our future economic progress. A more effective approach to research security balances the responsibilities of the government and the scientists to address the problem. We scientists need to strengthen our partnership with the federal government to ensure that fundamental research remains open to all.

Read the full article [here](#).



## **A TRUMP-ERA POLICY THAT SHUT OUT TOP CHINESE STUDENTS COULD BE HURTING AMERICA MORE THAN BEIJING**

*Julia Hollingsworth, Yong Xiong and David Culver | CNN | August 10, 2021*

When Dennis Hu came home to China for the 2020 Lunar New Year, he thought it would be a brief visit. He planned to enjoy the festivities with his family, renew his United States visa, and then head back to Boston to continue the fourth year of his doctorate in computer science at Northeastern University. But a year and a half later, he's still stuck -- and he has no idea when he'll be able to return to the US. Hu is one of more than 1,000 Chinese students who spent years working toward studying at a US university, only to have their studies stalled, first by Covid and then by an ambiguously worded visa ban imposed under the Trump administration. Faced with the perceived threat of Chinese students conducting espionage on US soil amid heightened tensions with China, then-US President Donald Trump introduced the ban that effectively prevents graduate science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) students from several Chinese universities from gaining visas to the US, the world's biggest research hub.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **UNIVERSITIES TWEAK RELATIONSHIPS WITH CHINA TO PROTECT ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND AUTONOMY**

*Laure Walters | Stuff | August 8, 2021*

Last year, New Zealand's universities renewed their Confucius Institute agreements with the Chinese Communist Party. Up until this point, Auckland, Canterbury and Victoria universities had held co-operation agreements with the institute's state headquarters of Hanban. But amid global controversy, over the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) using the Confucius Institutes as international propaganda tools, Hanban was quietly disestablished. The CCP set up an NGO to take over the operation of the language and culture centres, in a bid to tackle the international PR disaster. And universities around the world, including New Zealand, re-worked their agreements. And for the first time in the 13-year history of New Zealand's CIs, universities added a paragraph designed to protect academic freedom and autonomy.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **THE LONG GAME: CHINA'S GRAND STRATEGY TO DISPLACE AMERICAN ORDER**

*Rush Doshi | Brookings | August 2, 2021*

It was 1872, and Li Hongzhang was writing at a time of historic upheaval. A Qing Dynasty general and official who dedicated much of his life to reforming a dying empire, Li was often compared to his contemporary Otto von Bismarck, the architect of German unification and national power whose portrait Li was said to keep for inspiration. Like Bismarck, Li had military experience that he parlayed into considerable influence, including over foreign and military policy. He had been instrumental in putting down the fourteen-year Taiping rebellion—the bloodiest conflict of the entire nineteenth century—which had seen a millenarian Christian state rise from the growing vacuum of Qing authority to launch a civil war that claimed tens of millions of lives. This campaign against the rebels provided Li with an appreciation for Western weapons and technology, a fear of European and Japanese predations, a commitment to Chinese self-strengthening and modernization—and critically—the influence and prestige to do something about it.

Read the full article [here](#).



## CHINA HAS STOLEN ENOUGH DATA TO COMPILE A 'DOSSIER' ON EVERY AMERICAN

*Jerry Dunleavy | Washington Examiner | August 6, 2021*

Top national security officials for former President Donald Trump are sounding the alarm about China's illicit pursuit of data through cyber theft and other means, with one warning the sensitive information is enough for them to put together a "dossier" on every American adult. Matthew Pottinger, a former Trump deputy national security adviser, warned during a Senate Intelligence Committee hearing on Wednesday that China was looking to use the data it had stolen from the United States and worldwide to influence and coerce everyone from political leaders to private citizens. "Assembling dossiers on people has always been a feature of Leninist regimes, but Beijing's penetration of digital networks worldwide, including using 5G networks ... has really taken this to a new level," Pottinger said.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## HUNGARIANS PROTEST ENCROACHING CHINESE INFLUENCE

*Niccolo Ellena | Global Risk Insights | August 3, 2021*

Recently, Hungary's President Orban has faced a wave of protests in response to plans to build a Chinese satellite campus at a Budapest University at the cost of \$1.8 billion. The Hungarian public have objected on the grounds that the project could undercut the country's higher education and increase the influence of China's communist authorities in Hungary and across Europe. If the project goes ahead, there could be benefits for Sino-Hungarian relations but at the cost of Hungary's relations with its European neighbours and the stability of Orban's premiership. In recent weeks, Hungarians have taken to the streets to protest the Hungarian Government's plans to build a Chinese University campus at a local university.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## CHINESE STUDENTS ARE NOT A FIFTH COLUMN

*Remco Zwetsloot and Zachary Arnold | Foreign Affairs | April 23, 2021*

Getting tough on China is the rare goal that unites people across the political spectrum in a bitterly divided Washington. As the administration of U.S. President Joe Biden works to turn this unifying sentiment into policy, one thorny question stands out: What should be done about students from China in U.S. universities? There are around 120,000 Chinese students in U.S. STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) programs today, up from 30,000 in 2005. Officials fear that some of these students are moonlighting as "collectors" of intellectual property for the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). In recent years, prominent figures such as Senator Tom Cotton, Republican of Arkansas, and Senator Marsha Blackburn, Republican of Tennessee, have gone so far as to push for an outright ban on Chinese STEM students.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

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