



ACADEMIC SECURITY AND COUNTER EXPLOITATION PROGRAM

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# THE OPEN SOURCE MEDIA SUMMARY

**June 22, 2022**

## **CONGRESS TARGETS HARVARD, YALE AND TOP UNIVERSITIES WITH CHINA-LINKED ENDOWMENTS**

*Phelim Kine | Politico | June 9, 2022*

Congress first targeted U.S. universities' Chinese state-backed Confucius Institutes, then their academic partnerships with China. Now, some in Congress are preparing to go after America's top institutions of higher learning and their enormous endowments in potentially problematic Chinese companies. Rep. Greg Murphy (R-N.C.) is drafting legislation — the Protecting Endowments from Our Adversaries Act — designed to cut U.S. university endowment investments that fund abusive or hostile Chinese entities. Murphy doesn't yet have co-sponsors for the bill, but told POLITICO that he expects "a lot of interest from a lot of folks in both houses." On Thursday, Murphy sent a letter to the 15 private universities with the largest endowments — Harvard, Yale, Duke and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, among them — asking them to purge their investment portfolios of "entities that are supporting the imprisonment of Uyghur Muslims or aiding the Russian Federation's horrific invasion of Ukraine."

Read the full article [here](#).

## **DATA BRIEF: CHINA'S STATE KEY LABORATORY SYSTEM – A VIEW INTO CHINA'S INNOVATION SYSTEM**

*Emily S. Weinstein, Channing Lee, Ryan Fedasiuk, and Anna Puglisi | Center for Security and Emerging Technology | June 2022*

China's State Key Laboratory system drives innovation in science and technology. These labs conduct cutting-edge basic and applied research, attract and train domestic and foreign talent, and conduct academic exchanges with foreign counterparts. This report assesses trends in the research priorities, management structures, and talent recruitment efforts of nearly five hundred Chinese State Key Labs. The accompanying data visualization maps their geographical locations and host institutions. Since the early 1980s, the People's Republic of China (PRC) has built a system of State Key Labs charged with driving innovation in the defense and commercial sectors. Over time, SKLs have become an increasingly important component of China's larger innovation base—conducting cutting-edge basic and applied research, attracting and training domestic and foreign talent, and promoting global academic exchanges. China's oversight of SKLs and the opaqueness of its laboratory system pose national security challenges for the United States and its allies, especially for policymakers, academics, and industry leaders interested in collaborating with Chinese counterparts.

Read the full article [here](#).



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## **DATA VISUALIZATION: MAP OF CHINA'S STATE KEY LABORATORY SYSTEM**

*Emily S. Weinstein, Daniel Chou, Channing Lee, Ryan Fedasiuk, and Anna Puglisi | Center for Security and Emerging Technology | June 2022*

China's State Key Laboratory system drives the country's innovation in science and technology. A key part of China's aim to reduce its dependence on foreign technology, these labs conduct cutting-edge basic and applied research, attract and train domestic and foreign talent, and conduct academic exchanges with foreign counterparts. These laboratories are spread across almost all Chinese provinces except Tibet, with the majority clustered in large coastal cities. This data visualization allows users to view SKLs housed at both enterprises and academic institutions, including those attached to Chinese Academy of Science (CAS; 中国科学院) institutes, and filter among them based on the subject area given to them by the Chinese government. From there, users can view information about selected SKLs, including whether the SKL is on a U.S. government export control or sanctions list, or associated with the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **PLAYING OFFENSE IN THE RACE FOR TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP: PRIORITIES FOR FINAL COMPETITIVENESS BILL**

*Hon. Mark R. Kennedy, Global Fellow | Wilson Center | April 2022*

America is finally poised to begin to go on offense in the contest for technology leadership in the future. Both federal chambers have passed a bill purportedly aimed at elevating the competitiveness of the United States. The United States House of Representatives passed the America COMPETES Act on February 4, 2022, that now must be reconciled with the bill's Senate counterpart, the United States Innovation and Competition Act of 2021 that passed on June 8, 2021. There is perhaps no greater priority facing the nation than to preserve its innovative edge upon which its prosperity and security depends. Playing defense is insufficient. The final bill has the potential to put America on offense. Each bill includes a mixture of provisions not directly relevant to advancing America's competitiveness that are beyond the scope of this paper. They both include provisions vital to bolstering American innovation and sadly other provisions anathema to competitiveness.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **THE DIFFERENCES OF INTERPRETATION OF THE TERM 'CYBER THREAT' IN THE USA, CHINA AND RUSSIA AND THEIR RELATION WITH THE COUNTRIES' POLICIES**

*Daniil Menchikov | SSRN | April 11, 2022*

In the following article the concepts of cybersecurity and cyber-threat in different countries, such as the USA, China, Russia, are analyzed. The national peculiarities of interpretation of these concepts are given. A comparison of interpretation of these terms is provided. The author shows the way in which the concept of cyber-threat is tied with the current foreign policy course of the states. The author comes to the conclusion that in the majority of cases the concepts of cybersecurity coincide with the provisions of the country's foreign policy, however, in the cases of China and Russia there are some minor differences. Currently, the notion "cyber threat" has acquired particular importance in the sphere of a country's national security, as well as foreign policy. National security strategies of a vast majority of countries in the world contain provisions relating to cybersecurity and cyber threat.

Read the full article [here](#).



## **AFTER CONFUCIUS INSTITUTES – CHINA’S ENDURING INFLUENCE ON AMERICAN HIGHER EDUCATION**

*Rachelle Peterson, Flora Yan, and Ian Oxnevad | National Association of Scholars | June 2022*

In the last four years, Confucius Institutes have rapidly closed down across the United States. Amid pressure from the FBI, the Department of State, Congress, and state legislatures, colleges and universities have terminated their agreements for these Chinese language and culture centers sponsored by the Chinese government. Of 118 Confucius Institutes that once existed in the United States, 104 have closed or are in the process of doing so. The demise of Confucius Institutes (CIs), one of China’s most strategic beachheads in American higher education, has not deterred the Chinese government from seeking alternative means of influencing American colleges and universities. It has used an all-of-the-above approach to protecting its spheres of influence on American higher education, ranging from full-throated defenses of Confucius Institutes to threats. Among its most successful tactics, however, has been the effort to rebrand Confucius Institute-like programs under other names. Many once-defunct Confucius Institutes have since reappeared in other forms.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **GO8 LAMBASTS ‘CLUMSY’ TREATMENT OF CHINESE STUDENTS**

*Brendan O’Malley | University World News | June 17, 2022*

Vicki Thomson, chief executive of the Group of Eight (Go8), Australia’s leading research-intensive universities, has called on the new federal government to reset relations with China on research, end the treatment of Chinese students as cash cows, and improve pathways into work for international students. She also urged the government to ditch its predecessor’s policy of “taking fewer students from China and diversifying more into other nations”. In a speech at the ACBC Australia-China Education Symposium on 10 June, Thomson accused politicians of allowing political concern and rhetoric about China to reach fever pitch. She lambasted the previous Liberal government, ousted in May’s general election, for its “clumsy”, “misguided” and “unfortunate” treatment of international students during the COVID-19 pandemic. She lamented the number of international students lost to Australia and “won so well” by competitor nations, such as the United Kingdom and United States, who were “rubbing their hands with glee”.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## **FORTHCOMING DISCLOSURE AND SECURITY REQUIREMENTS FOR INSTITUTIONS HOSTING FEDERALLY FUNDED RESEARCH**

*David Aaron and Thea Percival | JD Supra | June 17, 2022*

National Security Presidential Memorandum-33 (NSPM-33) and implementation guidance from the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) direct federal agencies to standardize and enhance disclosure and security requirements that apply to federally funded research and development (R&D). These new requirements will have direct effects on academic and research institutions that receive federal funding. All federal research funding agencies will be required to bolster and standardize reporting and disclosure requirements. Academic and research institutions that receive federal funding for research will be subject to disclosure requirements as a condition of eligibility for federal R&D awards. Moreover, institutions that receive significant federal funding will incur additional requirements related to research security and integrity. In particular, research security programs that include cybersecurity, insider threat, and export control components must meet certification requirements. NSPM-33 was issued in the final days of the Trump administration and endorsed by the Biden administration in August 2021. The NSTC released its implementation guidance in January 2022.

Read the full article [here](#).



## INDIAN UNIVERSITIES ARE PUSHING FOR INTERNATIONAL TIE-UPS

Yojana Sharma | University World News | June 18, 2022

India is buzzing with university delegations which follow hot on the heels of regulatory changes that allow tie-ups between Indian and foreign universities. Dozens of individual overseas universities have expressed an interest in collaborations on twinning, joint degrees and dual degrees with India, while others join recent or planned university delegations, including from the United Kingdom, Australia, Germany, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar. In a move first flagged up in 2020 but officially announced in April, the Indian higher education regulatory body the University Grants Commission (UGC) said joint programmes would no longer need UGC approval and announced generally reduced red tape and conditions for tie-ups between Indian and foreign universities. More strikingly, the announcement has been accompanied by a flurry of education ministry and diplomatic activities including talks between UGC Chairman Jagadesh Kumar and diplomats of several countries in New Delhi.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## EXPORT CONTROLS: ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES SHOULD BETTER LEVERAGE INFORMATION TO TARGET EFFORTS INVOLVING U.S. UNIVERSITIES

U.S. Government Accountability Office | June 14, 2022

According to U.S. government agencies, foreign entities are targeting sensitive research conducted by U.S. universities and other institutions. Releases or other transfers of certain sensitive information to foreign persons in the United States are subject to U.S. export control regulations. Such releases or transfers, which are considered to be exports, are commonly referred to as deemed exports. A U.S. Assistant Secretary of State wrote in 2020 that greater attention needed to be paid to deemed exports. He noted that these transfers, including the “know how” of cutting-edge science and its applications, are what China's military–civil fusion strategy seeks in its attempts to mine and exploit U.S. academia's open knowledge system.

Read the full article [here](#).

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## A NEW EXPORT CONTROL REGIME FOR THE 21ST CENTURY HOW RUSSIA'S INVASION HAS CREATED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A TECHNO-DEMOCRACY PARTNERSHIP

Emily S. Weinstein and Kevin Wolf | Center for Security and Emerging Technology | May 23, 2022

The unprecedented allied response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine has created an opportunity to establish a new export control regime of techno-democracies to address emerging technology, economic security, national security, and human rights issues that cannot be addressed by the current system, which is focused on non-proliferation objectives. The implications for coordinated China-specific responses are significant. In this event, CSET Senior Fellow Kevin Wolf and CSET Research Fellow Emily Weinstein outlined their vision for a new multilateral export control regime to address contemporary challenges.

Read the full article [here](#).

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