

Science, Security and Foreign Interference

COGR

Council On Governmental Relations

6 June 2019

Conversations About Foreign Threats: The Thin Edge of the Wedge

Briefings on
Prosecuted Cases of
Economic Espionage,
Theft of IP



Threats in Context: Why we must Focus on American & Democratic Values

A global network of partnerships centered on China would replace the U.S. system of treaty alliances, the international community would regard Beijing's authoritarian governance model as a better alternative to Western electoral democracy

Communist Party of China (CCP) (and other authoritarian regimes) are challenging global governance and the validity of competing governance models.

A growing number of countries voicing their concern about the downsides of Chinese investments

The Belt and Road is Xi's vision for a world connected by Chinese-funded physical and digital infrastructure.

United Front bureaucracy has expanded with an estimated 40,000 new United Front Department cadres since Xi became president in 2013

More United Front workers and operations to achieve CCP's strategic and economic goals

Confucius Institutes, Chinese Students and Scholars Associations, Talent Programs, State Owned Enterprises, Media Companies under the direct or indirect control of the CCP

More CCP-controlled entities operating in economic sectors, on university campuses, research labs, in pursuit of technologies, expertise, and controlling how China is perceived.

U.S. Government, University, Private Sector Partnerships must preserve and strengthen American and Democratic values and alliances

Expanded Chinese influence and interference, economic and academic espionage

A Note on Influence vs Interference

INFLUENCE:

Open activities to attract others:
Soft Power 30 uses six dimensions:

Government
Digital
Culture
Enterprise
Engagement
Education

INTERFERENCE:

Crossing boundaries
established by law and
disrupting the normal flow
of political or social activity.

Four categories of United Front Work Activities

Xi Jinping is a strong promoter of united front work tactics, and has increased the resourcing and prominence for these efforts within the CCP political system.

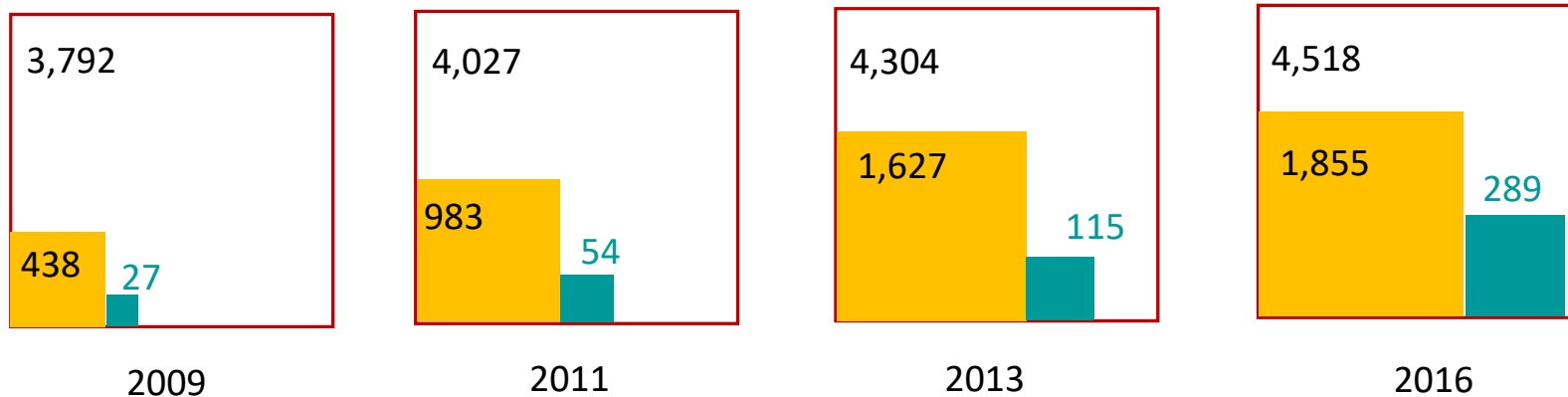
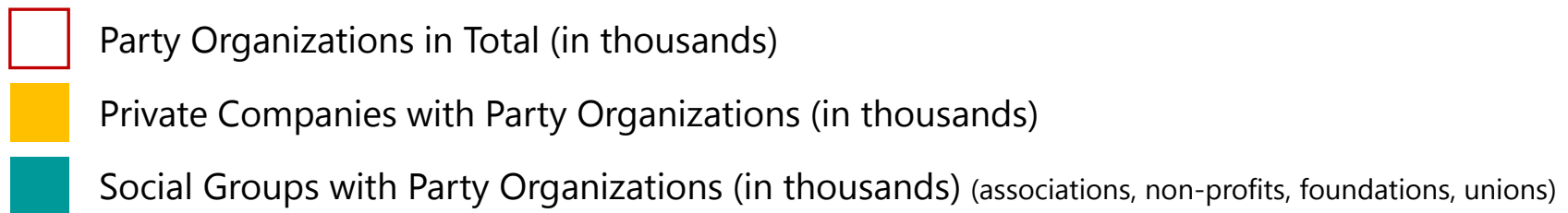
1. Efforts to control the Chinese diaspora, to utilize them as agents of Chinese foreign policy, and to suppress any hints of dissent.
2. Efforts to coopt foreigners to support and promote the CCP's foreign policy goals, and to provide access to strategic information and technical knowledge.
3. Supporting a global, multi-platform, pro-PRC strategic communication strategy aimed at suppressing critical perspectives on the CCP and its policies, and promoting the CCP agenda.
4. Supporting the China-centered economic, transportation, and communications strategic bloc known as the Belt and Road Initiative.

More International Scrutiny by Democracies

- The CCP's "Overseas Chinese work" has become an area of greater emphasis for the CCP—even as it has come under greater international scrutiny by democracies concerned about foreign political interference efforts.
- In 2015, Xi Jinping emphasized Chinese students abroad as a new focus of united front work, and the CCP continues to call on ethnic Chinese to support its growing international ambitions

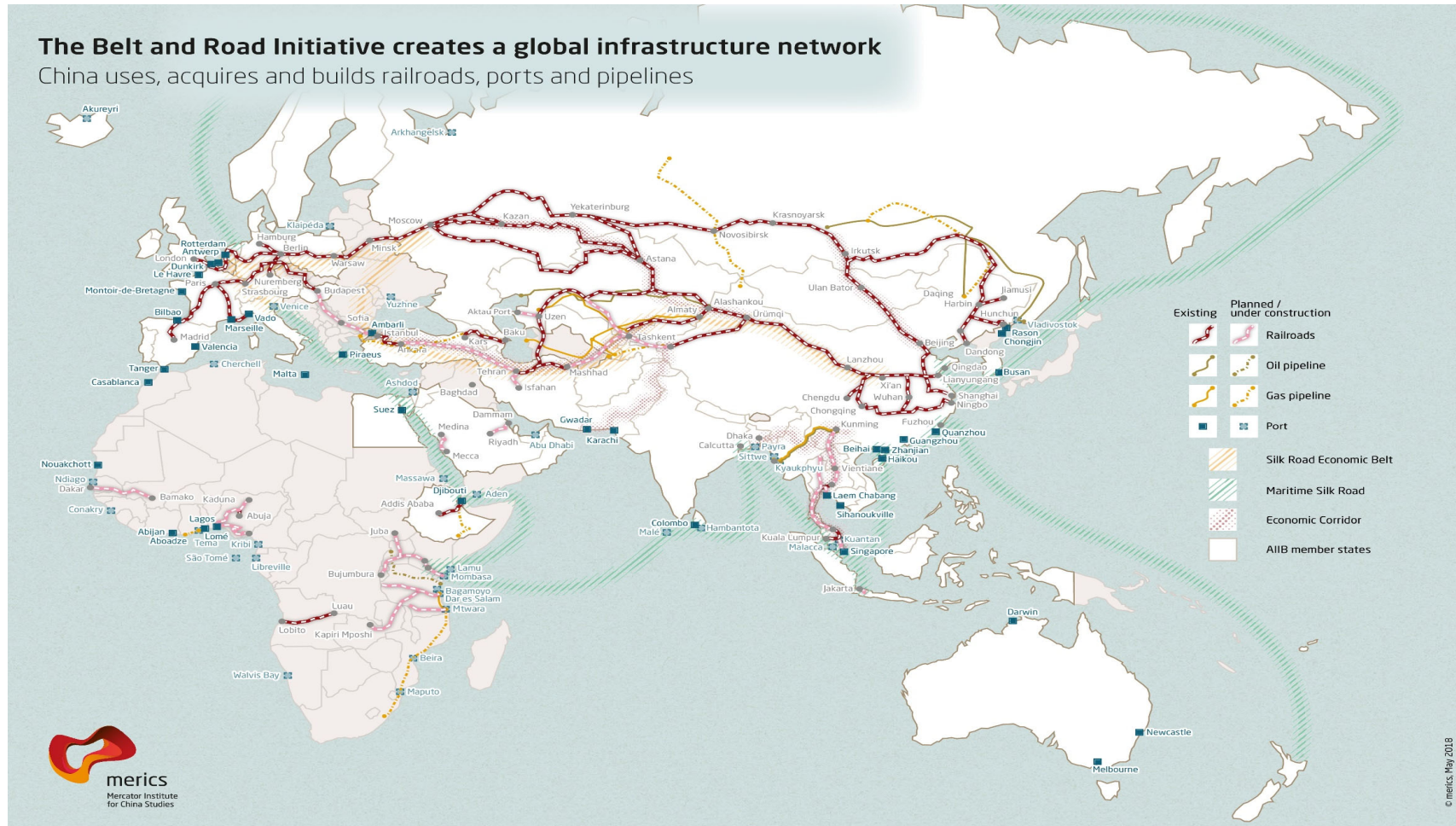
The CCP has Expanded its Presence in the Non-Governmental Sector

Distribution of CCP organizations (2009-2016)



Source: MERICS Mercator Institute for China Studies Central Organization Department of the CCP.

The Belt and Road will increasingly become a vehicle to project China's authoritarian values abroad

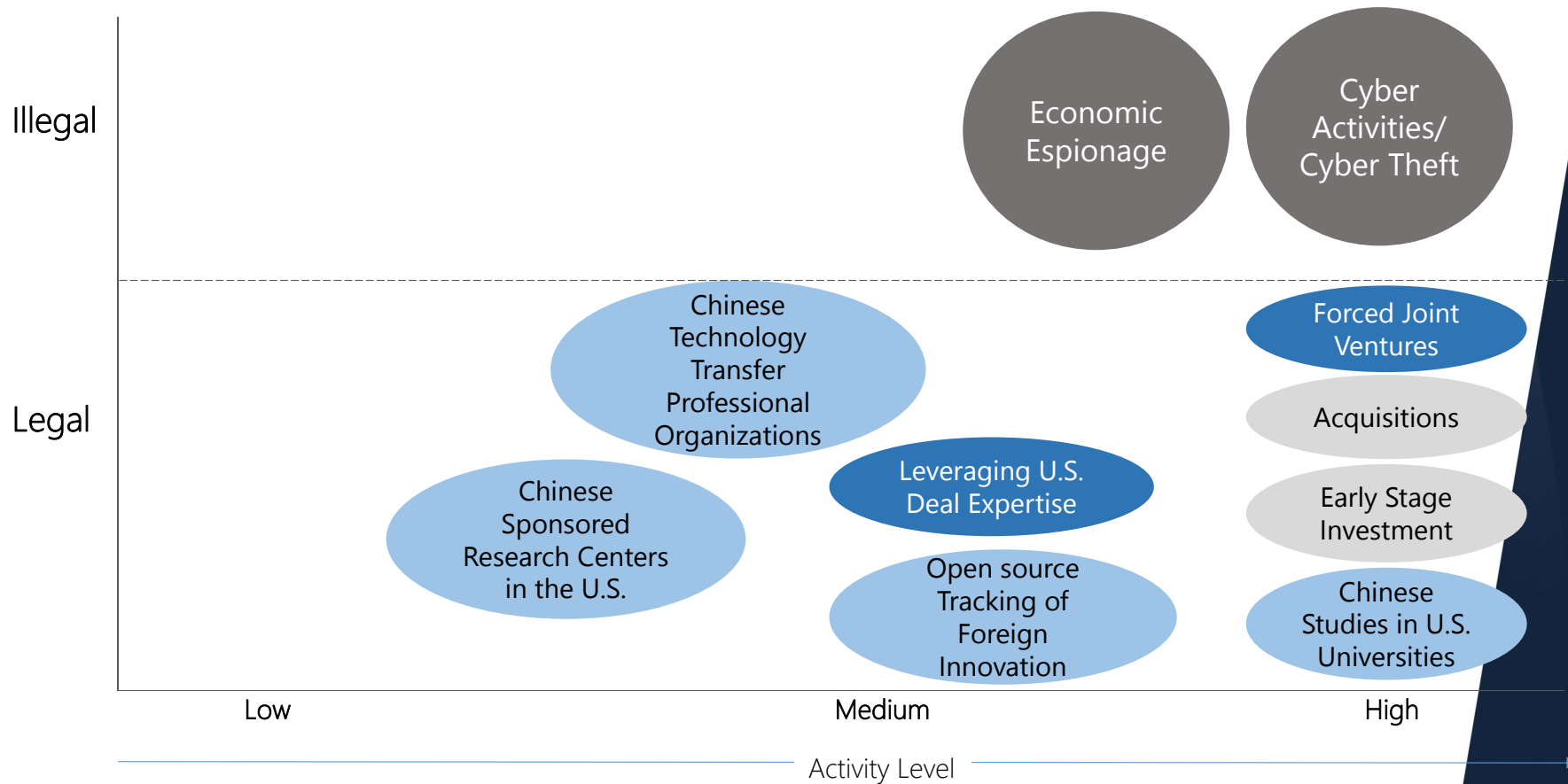


Challenges Posed by Chinese Belt Road Projects

- Erosion of national sovereignty
- Lack of transparency
- Unsustainable financial burdens
- Disengagement from local economic needs
- Geopolitical risks
- Negative environmental impacts
- Significant potential for corruption

How China Transfers Technology

Not Illegal, but Not Transparent Either

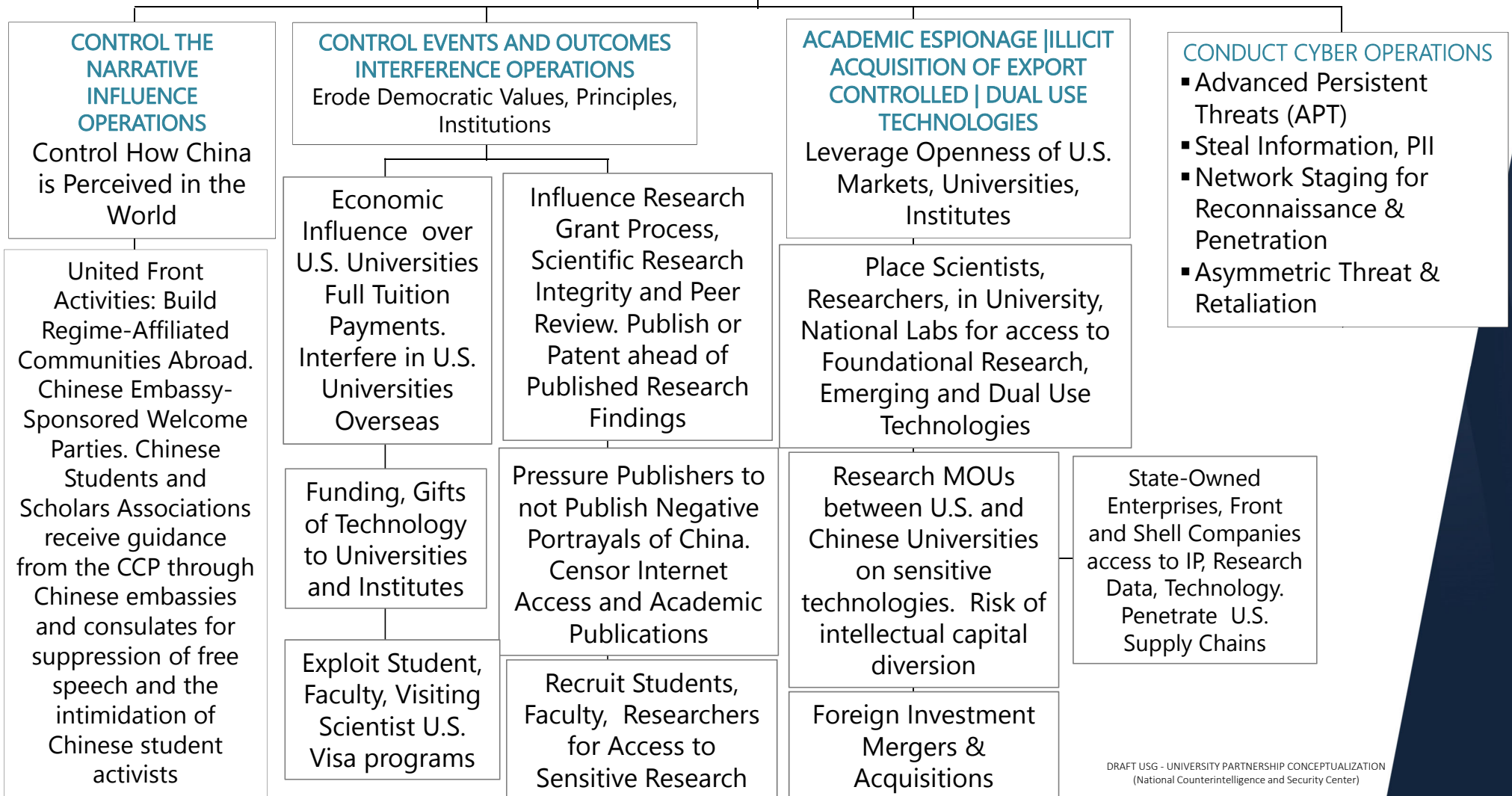


Source: U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission 6 May 2019.

Challenges Posed by Chinese Interference in U.S. University Life and Research

- Academic freedom and freedom of speech at risk
- Unsustainable long-term financial dependency
- Lack of transparency
- No reciprocity in openness
- Potential for loss of research integrity

HOW CHINA OPERATES ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES



How do we have Campus-wide Conversations about this?

Student groups call for Ottawa to investigate alleged interference by Chinese officials on Canadian campuses

The request for a federal probe raised to a new level concerns over Beijing's attempts at moulding opinion in Canada



How China uses shadowy United Front as 'magic weapon' to try to extend its influence in Canada

Its activities include influencing the Chinese diaspora to back China, co-opting foreign political and economic elites and promoting Beijing's agenda worldwide



China's premier denies Beijing tells companies to spy



Chinese President Xi Jinping and Chinese Premier Li Keqiang arrive for the closing session of the National People's Congress in Beijing's Great hall of the People on Friday, March 15, 2019. Ng Han Guan / AP

No one, rich or poor, tourist or local, can escape China's surveillance state

Opinion: Visitors to China rarely realize they have been closely monitored by the intelligence system from the moment they arrived

THE ARREST IN VANCOUVER OF A CHINESE EXECUTIVE HAS CAUSED SHOCK AROUND THE WORLD.



NIKKEI ASIAN REVIEW

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POLITICS

New Zealand scandal renews fears of China's 'United Front' influence

Authorities investigate alleged corruption with suspected Communist Party links

KAT SUHIKO MESHINO, Nikkei senior staff writer
NOVEMBER 12, 2018 13:34 JST



New Zealand opposition leader Simon Bridges speaks to reporters on Oct. 16 in Wellington, New Zealand. © AP

THE CHINA CHALLENGE IS ULTIMATELY ABOUT US, NOT THEM

- We are confronting increasingly illiberal, authoritarian, regimes.
- The foundation of American power is strong and we must approach the challenge from a position of strength and confidence.
- America has talent, a dynamic private sector, strong alliances and partnerships, leading universities, democratic values, and innovative spirit --everything we need to compete with illiberal authoritarian regime activities.
- The cost of inaction is the steady erosion of democratic institutions and values

The importance of a problem
should be measured by its
consequences



HOW CHINA OPERATES ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES



NCSC, FBI, DHS, AND DOD PROVIDE STRATEGIC THREAT AWARENESS



OUR CONVERSATION SPACE

