

Michael Beckley

www.michaelbeckley.org

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Tufts University, Department of Political Science

Associate Professor, 2019–present; Assistant Professor, 2013–19

American Enterprise Institute

Nonresident Senior Fellow, 2021–present; Jeane Kirkpatrick Visiting Scholar, 2019–21.

Foreign Policy Research Institute

Director, Asia Program, 2023–present

EDUCATION

Columbia University

Ph.D., Political Science, 2012.

Emory University

B.A., International Studies, 2004.

RESEARCH

Books

2022. *Danger Zone: The Coming Conflict with China*. W.W. Norton (with Hal Brands).

- Featured in the Atlantic, CNN, the Economist, the Financial Times, Fox News, MSNBC, the New Yorker, the New York Times, NPR, and the Wall Street Journal.

2018. *Unrivaled: Why America Will Remain the World's Sole Superpower*. Cornell University Press.

- Featured in the Atlantic, Foreign Affairs, the New York Times, and NPR.

Journal Articles

2023. The Peril of Peaking Powers: Economic Slowdowns and Implications for China's Next Decade. *International Security*, 48(1): 7-46.

2023. China's Growing Threat to Global Democracy. *Journal of Democracy*, 34(1): 65–79 (with Hal Brands).

2020. China's Economy Is Not Overtaking America's. *Journal of Applied Corporate Finance*, 32(2): 10–23.

2020. Conditional Convergence and the Rise of China: A Political Economy Approach to Understanding Global Power Transitions, *Journal of Global Security Studies*, 5(2): 1–9.

2018. The Power of Nations: Measuring What Matters. *International Security* 43(2): 7–44.

- Winner: Best International Security Article, American Political Science Association, 2019.

2018. America's Role in the Making of Japan's Economic Miracle. *Journal of East Asian Studies* 18(1): 1–12 (with Yusaku Horiuchi and Jennifer M. Miller).

2017. The Emerging Military Balance in East Asia: How China's Neighbors Can Check Chinese Naval Expansion. *International Security* 42(2): 78–119.

2015. The Myth of Entangling Alliances: Reassessing the Security Risks of U.S. Defense Pacts. *International Security* 39(4): 7–48.

- Outstanding Article Award in International History and Politics, Honorable Mention, American Political Science Association, 2016.

2011/12. China's Century? Why America's Edge Will Endure. *International Security* 36(3): 41–78.

- Reprinted in *The United States and China* (MIT Press, 2014).

2010. Economic Development and Military Effectiveness. *Journal of Strategic Studies* 34(1): 43–71.

- Winner: Amos Perlmutter Prize, Best Article, Journal of Strategic Studies, 2010.
- Winner: Carl Beck Award, Best Grad Student Paper, International Studies Association, 2009.
- Reprinted in David Galbreath and Alex Neads, eds., *Defence Studies: Critical Concepts* (Routledge, 2020).

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

2020. The End of the Affair: U.S. China Policy under Trump. In Stanley Renshon and Peter Suedfield, eds., *The Trump Doctrine and the Emerging International System*. Palgrave MacMillan.

2017. The United States and China. In Donette Murray and David Brown, eds., *Power Relations in the Twenty-First Century: Mapping a Multipolar World?* Routledge.

2014. China in Afghanistan and Pakistan. In Andrew Scobell, Ely Ratner, and Michael Beckley, *China's Strategy toward South and Central Asia: An Empty Fortress*. RAND Corporation.

Selected Essays (2018–2024)

2024. The China Hangover Is Here, *New York Times*, August 19.

2024. Countering Chinese Aggression in the South China Sea, *War on the Rocks*, July 23.

2024. How Primed for War Is China? *Foreign Policy*, February 5.

2024. A Peaceful Solution on Taiwan is Slipping Away, *New York Times*, January 17.

2023. Don't Be Fooled by the Biden-Xi Talks, *The Conversation*, November 17.

2023. Chinese Experts on "Delusions of Detente, *China Perception Monitor*, October 24.

2023. Delusions of Détente: Why America and China Will Be Enduring Rivals. *Foreign Affairs*, 102(4) September/October.

2023. The Dangers of Peak China. *Lanfare*, October 8.

2023. No One Should Want to See a Dictator Get Old. *New York Times*, August 15.

2023. The Flaws of Defensive Realism and the False Promise of Re-engaging China. *Kissinger Center Papers*, July.

2023. A More Hawkish China Policy? 5 Takeaways from House Committee’s Inaugural Hearing on Confronting Beijing. *The Conversation*, March 2.

2022. Accepting a Cold War with China Is the Best Option. *Washington Examiner*, December 6.

2022. What Does China Want? *Foreign Policy*, August 13 (with Hal Brands).

2022. The Coming War over Taiwan. *Wall Street Journal*, August 4 (with Hal Brands).

2022. China’s COVID–19 Lockdowns Are a Symptom of Deeper Problems. *Fox News*, May 2 (with Hal Brands).

2022. The Return of Pax Americana? *Foreign Affairs*, March 14 (with Hal Brands).

2022. Enemies of My Enemy: How Fear of China Is Forging a New World Order. *Foreign Affairs*, 101(2) March/April.

2021. Washington Is Preparing for the Wrong War with China. *Foreign Affairs*, December 16 (with Hal Brands).

2021. What Will Drive China to War? *The Atlantic*, November 1 (with Hal Brands).

2021. The End of China’s Rise. *Foreign Affairs*, October 1 (with Hal Brands).

2021. China Is a Declining Power—and That’s the Problem. *Foreign Policy*, September 24 (with Hal Brands).

- Winner: Best Long Read Article of the Year, *Foreign Policy*

2021. America Is Not Ready for a War with China. *Foreign Affairs*, June 10.

2021. The United States Needs to Rediscover Strategic MacGyverism. *National Interest*, March 27 (with Hal Brands).

2020. Competition with China Could Be Short and Sharp. *Foreign Affairs*, December 17 (with Hal Brands).

2020. China Keeps Inching Closer to Taiwan. *Foreign Policy*, October 19.

2020. Rogue Superpower: Why This Could Be an Illiberal American Century. *Foreign Affairs*, 99(6) November/December.

- Selected as one of the 10 best print articles of 2020 by *Foreign Affairs*.
- Runner Up: Best Policy Article on U.S. Foreign Policy and Grand Strategy, *American in the World Consortium*, a partnership among University of Texas and Duke and Johns Hopkins Universities.

2020. How Will China Shape Global Governance? *ChinaFile*, May 9.

2019. In Future Wars, the U.S. Military Will Have Nowhere to Hide. *Foreign Policy*, November 20.

2019. The United States Should Fear a Faltering China: Beijing's Assertiveness Betrays Its Desperation. *Foreign Affairs*, October 28.

- Selected as one of the 10 best web articles of 2019 by *Foreign Affairs*.

2018. Stop Obsessing about China: Why Beijing Will Not Imperil U.S. Hegemony. *Foreign Affairs*, September 21.

- Selected as one of the 10 best web articles of 2018 by *Foreign Affairs*.

Government and Think Tank Reports (2018–2024)

2024. US-Japan-Taiwan Dialogue: Deterrence Signaling, Domestic Politics, Defense Cooperation, and War Termination. Prepared for the Foreign Policy Research Institute, April.

2022. Modelling a Chinese Assault on Taiwan. Prepared for the American Enterprise Institute, January (with Zachary Cooper and Allison Schwartz).

2022. Protracted U.S.–China War over Taiwan. Prepared for the American Enterprise Institute, January (with Hal Brands).

2021. Into the Danger Zone: The Coming Crisis in U.S.–China Relations. Prepared for the American Enterprise Institute, January (with Hal Brands).

2020. Russian Operations in the Competitive Space and the Arctic. Prepared for U.S. European Command, December 3.

2019. The Chinese Economic Miracle: How Much Is Real...How Much Is a Mirage? In G. Allen et al., eds. *Chinese Strategic Intentions: A Deep Dive into China's Worldwide Activities*. Prepared for the U.S. Department of Defense, Strategic Multilayer Assessment, December 13.

Selected Public Talks and TV, Radio, and Podcast Appearances (2021–2024)

2024. Michael Beckley and Arne Westad on the U.S.-China Relationship, *Lawfare*, July 18.

2024. Flashpoint: Deterring War and Maintaining American Supremacy, *FPRI*, July 11.

2024. Crisis at Second Thomas Shoal: Implications for US-China-Philippines Relations, with Zack Cooper and Ketian Zhang, *FPRI*, July 10.

2024. The U.S.-China Relationship and Rivalry, *A Gentlemen's Disagreement*, June 4.

2024. Interview with Laura Rosenberger, Chair of the American Institute in Taiwan, *FPRI*, April 19.

2024. Interview with Matt Pottinger, Former Deputy National Security Advisor, *FPRI*, April 2.

2024. Discussing a Peaking China. *The Bunker*, February 20.

2024. The United States and China are Locked in a New Cold War: A Debate with Dr. Michael Beckley

and Dr. Arne Westad, *Center for Strategic and International Studies*, January 3.

2024. U.S. Foreign Policy: Current Challenges, *JFK Presidential Library Forum*, November 6.

2023. Global Impacts of the War in Gaza, *FPRI*, October 23.

2023. Putin’s “Turn to the East” in the Xi Jinping Era, *FPRI*, October 19.

2023. Is U.S.–China Conflict Inevitable? A Debate Between Jake Werner and Michael Beckley, *Quincy Institute*, October 4.

2023. Discussing US-China tensions and Taiwan, *Today With Dr. Kaye*, September 25.

2023. Assessing the Past Year of Defending Taiwan, *American Enterprise Institute*, September 18.

2023. Power Trip: The Story of Energy. Episode 2: Disasters; and Episode 6: Globalization, *PBS Documentaries*, September 8.

2023. Threats and Allies in the Indo-Pacific, *The Dispatch*, August 28.

2023. The Implications of “Peak China” for the Belt and Road Initiative. *FPRI*, July 27.

2023. Has China Peaked? *Foreign Policy*, July 14.

2023. Getting Schooled Podcast: What Is the One-China Policy?, *Fox News*, April 17.

2023. China, Russia Experts Call Out the Uneasy Relationship Behind the Facade. *CNN*, March 20.

2023. China’s Alliance with Russia. *Fox News*, March 17.

2023. China’s Aid to Russia. *CNN*, February 26.

2023. Has China’s Power Peaked? Michael Beckley vs. Ian Bremmer. *Intelligence Squared*, February 17.

2022. Discussing What Zero-COVID Protests Mean for China and the World. *In the Bubble with Andy Slavitt*, December 2.

2022. The Danger Zone: What Main Street Needs to Know About the Coming Conflict with China. *Monday Morning Radio*, November 28.

2022. Discussing International Diplomacy and US Foreign Policy: Beckley at the 2022 Miami International Book Fair. *C-SPAN*, November 19.

2022. The Biden–Xi Summit. *CNN*, November 14.

2022. Why China’s Decline Is Dangerous. *NPR*, October 18.

2022. America Is Poking the Dragon, says Expert. *CNN, Amanpour*, September 20.

2022. The Growing Risk of Conflict with China. *NPR, Fresh Air*, August 24.

2022. China's Military Strategy. *MSNBC, Morning Joe*, August 16.
2022. How Russia's War Affects the Risk of Chinese–American Conflict. *Fox News*, March 4.
2022. The Olympics in China. *NPR, Morning Edition*, February 3.
2021. China's Peaking Power. *U.S.–China Perception Monitor*, November 12.
2021. President Biden's Comments on Taiwan, *DW News*, October 22.
2021. Great Power Competition Debate with Graham Allison and Michael Beckley. *BENS Competitiveness Council*, October 18.
2021. China's Cyber Capabilities. *Fox News*, October 1.
2021. The Rise and Fall of China. *Conversations with Coleman*, August 13.
2021. Defending Taiwan. *Munk Debates Podcast*, March 25.
2021. China's 2021 National People's Congress. *DW News*, March 5.
2021. U.S.–China Relations Explained. *Wired*, February 23.
2021. U.S.–China Relations. *Congressional Quarterly Future Podcast*, February 8.
2021. Competition with China. *Tokyo Broadcasting Corporation*, January 13.
2021. China's Future. *American Enterprise Institute, reTHINK TANK*, January 4.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2024 Moynihan Public Scholars Fellowship, City University of New York
- 2021 Wilson China Fellowship, Wilson Center
- 2019 Jean Kirkpatrick Fellowship, American Enterprise Institute
- 2019 National Asia Research Fellowship, National Bureau of Asian Research
- 2018 Grant in Aid, Committee on Faculty Research, Tufts University
- 2016 Grant in Aid, Committee on Faculty Research, Tufts University
- 2015 Strategy and Policy Fellowship, Smith Richardson Foundation
- 2014 Summer Faculty Fellowship, Committee on Faculty Research, Tufts University
- 2012 U.S. Foreign Policy and International Security Fellowship, Dartmouth College
- 2012 Princeton–Harvard China and the World Fellowship, Princeton University (declined)
- 2011 International Security Fellowship, Belfer Center, Harvard Kennedy School
- 2011 Miller Center National Fellowship, University of Virginia
- 2011 Lindt Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2011 Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies
- 2011 Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2011 World Politics Fellowship, Smith Richardson Foundation
- 2011 Minerva Scholars Research Award, U.S. Department of Defense
- 2010 Dwight D. Eisenhower/Clifford Roberts Fellowship, Gettysburg College
- 2010 V.K. Wellington Koo Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2010 David L. Boren Fellowship, National Security Education Board

- 2009 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education
- 2008 Weatherhead Ph.D. Training Grant, Columbia University
- 2008 A.W. Cordier Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2006 Faculty Fellowship, U.S. Department of Defense
- 2005 Faculty Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2004 Junior Fellowship, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Sep 2011–May 2019 Harvard Kennedy School of Government
International Security Fellow
- Oct 2013–Oct 2014 Science Applications International Corporation
Senior China Policy Analyst
- Jun – Sep 2011 RAND Corporation
Summer Associate
- May – Aug 2006 U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), Policy Planning
Faculty Fellow in National Security
- Aug 2004 – Aug 2005 Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
Junior Fellow
- Aug – Dec 2003 Carter Center, Conflict Resolution Program
Intern

INVITED TALKS

The United States Should Fear a Faltering China.

- Public Affairs Lecture Series, Farleigh Dickinson University, March 8, 2021
- Hoover Institution, Stanford University, January 29, 2021.
- Center for International Security Studies, Princeton University, October 8, 2021.

Rogue Superpower: Why This Could Be an Illiberal American Century.

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, South Korea, March 28, 2021.
- World Affairs Council of Orange County, February 18, 2021.

Defense Options for Taiwan.

- Hoover Institution, Stanford University, September 27, 2021.
- Global Taiwan Institute, September 16, 2020.

Assessing the Durability of the Chinese Regime.

- U.S. National Intelligence Council, February 19, 2020.
- U.S. Department of Defense, Joint Staff, Strategic Multilayer Assessment, February 13, 2020.

When Fast–Growing Powers Slow Down: International Evidence and Implications for China.

- Dickey Center for International Understanding, Dartmouth College, February 5, 2021.
- Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School, September 24, 2020.
- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September 8, 2020.

- National Bureau of Asian Research, June 26, 2019.
- Tower Center for Political Studies, Southern Methodist University, October 30, 2019.
- Pardee School of Global Studies, Boston University, December 4, 2019.

America's Role in the World: A Debate in Denver about America's Alliances.

- Brookings Institution/University of Denver, October 4, 2019.

Unrivaled: Why America Will Remain the World's Sole Superpower

- U.S. Naval Academy, July 14, 2020.
- Brookings Institution, September 13, 2018.
- ISS Brady–Johnson Speaker Series in Grand Strategy, Yale University, October 2, 2018.
- MIT Security Studies Program, October 31, 2018.
- Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, November 16, 2018.
- U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, January 11, 2018.
- Boston Committee on Foreign Affairs, January 16, 2018.
- Council on Foreign Relations, February 19, 2018.
- Freeman Spogli Institute, Stanford University, February 25, 2019.
- U.S. Defense Science Board, April 18, 2019.
- New Books Network Podcast, August 7, 2019.
- Geopolitics and Empire Podcast, March 12, 2020.

Pax Americana: The Rise of the United States and the Decline of War

- Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston MA, September 2, 2018.
- Dartmouth College, Dickey Center for International Understanding, September 28, 2018.
- Yale University, Department of Political Science, October 2, 2018.
- University of Chicago, Program on International Politics, Economics, and Security, December 6, 2018.

Drones and Strategic Stability in East Asia

- George Washington University, June 1, 2018.
- Yonsei University, February 2018.

An American Grand Strategy for the Middle Class

- Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, May 23, 2018.

Hegemony, Polarity, and the United States

- National Security Program, Canadian Forces College, January 18, 2018

A Long–Term Asia–Pacific Strategy for the United States

- Office of Net Assessment, U.S. Department of Defense, September 9–16, 2017

Plausible Denial: How China's Neighbors Can Check Chinese Naval Expansion

- Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, September 2017.

Unipolarity and the New World Order

- Roundtable discussion with Stephen Walt, G. John Ikenberry, David Lake, Jennifer Lind, and Nuno Monteiro at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association

Long–term Threat Assessment for the U.S. Military

- Office of Net Assessment, U.S. Department of Defense, October 5, 2016

The U.S. Rebalance in Southeast Asia

- S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Singapore, March 2016.

Why Great Powers Rise and Fall

- Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, Atlanta, March 2016.

Containing China: How the Geopolitics of Asia Check China's Rise

- Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School, September 2016.
- Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, Atlanta, March 2016.

National Power: Measuring What Matters.

- Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, September 2015.
- Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, San Juan, January 2016.
- ISSS-ISAC Joint Annual Conference, Springfield, MA, October 2015.
- Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School, October 2015.

Imperial Overstretch? U.S. Defense Burdens in Historical Perspective.

- Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, September 2014.

Will China's Rise Be Peaceful?

- School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, October 2013, 2014, 2015

Entangling Alliances? Assessing the Security Risks of America's Defense Pacts.

- Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School, October 2013.
- Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, September 2013.

America's Role in the Making of Japan's Economic Miracle.

- Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University, February 2013.
- Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, September 2013.

America's Allies: Friends or Foes?

- Dickey Center for International Understanding, Dartmouth College, November 2012.

Globalization: Diffusion or Polarization?

- Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA, September 2012.

What the U.S. Can Learn from China.

- Democratic Leadership for the 21st Century, New York, NY, April 2012.

China's Century? Why America's Edge Will Endure.

- Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School, October 2012.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Sep 2013 – Present Tufts University
- The Rise and Fall of the Human Population
 - Chinese Foreign Policy
 - Political Economy of China
 - American Primacy
 - U.S. Foreign Policy in Asia
 - Introduction to International Relations
- Sep 2007 – Present Columbia University
- Chinese Foreign Policy
 - Introduction to International Relations
 - International Security

SERVICE

Reviewer: *American Political Science Review, Asian Journal of Political Science, Asian Security, China Quarterly, Columbia University Press, Foreign Policy Analysis, H-Diplo, Harvard University Press, International Organization, International Relations, International Security, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of East Asian Studies, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Strategic Studies, Political Science Quarterly, Routledge, Security Studies, Strategic Asia, World Politics.*

Tufts Service:

Pre-Major Advisor (Summer 2017 – Present)

Member, Committee on Student Life (Fall 2018 – Present)

Chair, Political Science Transfer of Credit Committee (Spring 2017 – Present)

International Relations Subfield Head, Department of Political Science (Fall 2019 – Present)

Events: ALLIES speaker, (Fall 2020), IR Alumni Career Symposium Keynote Speaker (Spring 2014), China–U.S. Symposium Speaker (Fall 2013, Spring 2012), China–U.S. Symposium Faculty Advisor (Fall 2014, Spring 2015), ALLIES Joint Research Project Indonesia Faculty Advisor (Spring/Summer 2014)

BOARD OF EXPERTS.