*Discerning China's Bilateral Relations in the Indo Pacific: Views from China and the Region**

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Abstract

The strategic competition between the United States and China has become a defining feature of international relations in the Indo Pacific. How China interacts with the United States and other major players in the Indo Pacific will shape the nature and process of the potential international order transition, either peacefully or confrontationally, into the future. This special feature systematically explores China's bilateral relations with five key players in the Indo Pacific, the United States, Japan,

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