

RECOMMENDATIONS

China in Southeast Asia

- The Commission recommends that Congress urge the administration to continue to increase its engagement with Southeast Asia diplomatically, economically, and militarily. Congress should also press the administration to commit to annual U.S.-ASEAN summits and, when possible commit the President of the United States to travel to Southeast Asia to attend the meetings.
- The Commission recommends that Congress urge the administration to move quickly in appointing a new U.S. ambassador to ASEAN.
- The Commission recommends that Congress urge the administration to press Beijing to make more transparent its planned construction of hydropower dams along the Mekong River.
- The Commission recommends that Congress require the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other relevant government agencies to submit a report detailing the impact that Chinese hydroelectric dams along the Mekong River could potentially have on the global food supply.

Taiwan

- The Commission recommends that Congress direct the Department of Defense to address the issue of Taiwan's air defense capabilities, to include a more detailed net assessment of Taiwan's needs vis-à-vis China's growing military air and missile capabilities and an assessment of the impact that further deterioration in Taiwan's air defense capabilities could have on U.S. forces in the event of U.S. involvement in a cross-Strait scenario.
- The Commission recommends that Congress encourage the administration to continue to support the improving relationship between Taiwan and China.
- The Commission recommends that Congress encourage the administration to identify ways to strengthen economic relations between the United States and Taiwan in order to improve Taiwan's position in further economic negotiations with the mainland.
- The Commission recommends that Congress pass a joint resolution reaffirming the importance of, and continued U.S. commitment to, the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979.
- The Commission recommends that Congress urge the administration to encourage the People's Republic of China to build upon

the improved cross-Strait relationship by renouncing the use of force in regard to resolving its dispute with Taiwan. Beijing should also be encouraged to demonstrate its good intentions by drawing down the number of short-range ballistic missile forces deployed against Taiwan.

- The Commission recommends that Congress encourage the administration to continue to work with Taiwan to modernize its armed forces, with particular emphasis on its air defense needs.

Hong Kong

- The Commission recommends that Congress reauthorize the U.S.-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992, which expired in 2007.
- The Commission recommends that Members of Congress, when visiting mainland China, also visit Hong Kong and that Congress encourage senior administration officials, including the secretary of State, to make visits to Hong Kong part of their travel.
- The Commission recommends that Congress encourage its Members to raise the issue of preserving Hong Kong's special status when meeting with members of China's National People's Congress.