Dr. Sarah Kirchberger

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Dr. Sarah Kirchberger is Head of Asia-Pacific Strategy & Security at the Institute for Security Policy at Kiel University (ISPK). She is also Vice President of the German Maritime Institute (DMI) and a Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council's Scowcroft Center for Strategy and Security. Dr. Kirchberger was previously Assistant Professor of Sinology at the University of Hamburg and has also worked in the shipbuilding industry as a naval analyst with shipbuilder TKMS. She is the author of *Assessing China's Naval Power: Technological Innovation, Economic Constraints, and Strategic Implications* (Springer, 2015), co-author of *The China Plan: A Transatlantic Blueprint for Strategic Competition* (Atlantic Council, 2021) and co-editor and contributor of *Russia-China Relations: Emerging Alliance or Eternal Rivals?* (Springer, 2022). Her published research has focused on China's naval and defense-industrial development; the military-technological co-operation between China, Russia, and Ukraine; emerging technologies in the maritime sphere; and on the strategic importance of the South China Sea, including its subsurface dimension. In addition, Dr. Kirchberger has published a book based on her PhD thesis comparing the PRC's and the ROC's political systems, as well as several articles and book chapters on China's reform era domestic politics and on Chinese perceptions of Taiwan's democratic transformation. Dr. Kirchberger completed MA studies in Sinology, Political Science and Archaeology at Hamburg University and at the Mandarin Training Center in Taipei, followed by PhD studies in Political Science and Sinology at Trier University and in Hamburg. She holds an MA and a PhD in Sinology from the University of Hamburg. A dual citizen of Germany and Finland, Dr. Kirchberger is proficient in German, English, Mandarin Chinese, and Finnish.

Dr. Kirchberger has not previously testified before the Commission.