

Isaac Kardon

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Isaac B. Kardon (孔适海) is senior fellow for China studies at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Prior to joining Carnegie’s DC-based Asia Program in 2023, Isaac was assistant professor at the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, RI, where he was a core member of the China Maritime Studies Institute. He studies Chinese foreign and security policy, with specialization on maritime disputes, port development, overseas military basing, and China-Pakistan relations. Kardon’s book, *China’s Law of the Sea: The New Rules of Maritime Order* (Yale, 2023), analyzes PRC influence on “the rules” of the law of the sea. His writing on China’s foreign ports and basing appears in *International Security*, *Security Studies*, *Foreign Affairs*, and the *Naval War College Review*, and has been delivered as congressional testimony and briefed across the joint force and interagency. Kardon earned a PhD in Government from Cornell University, an MPhil in Modern Chinese Studies from Oxford University, and a BA in History from Dartmouth College. He was China & the World post-doctoral fellow at Princeton University, and held visiting appointments at NYU School of Law, Academia Sinica, and the PRC National Institute for South China Sea Studies. He studied Chinese (Mandarin) at Peking University, Tsinghua University, Hainan University, and National Taiwan Normal University.

Dr. Kardon previously testified at the Commission’s 2019 hearing titled “A ‘World-Class’ Military: Assessing China’s Global Military Ambitions,” and 2020 hearing titled “China’s Military Power Projection and U.S. National Interests.”