

Kristen Gunness Chief Executive Officer, Vantage Point Asia, LLC; Adjunct Senior International Policy Analyst, RAND Corporation

Kristen Gunness is Chief Executive Officer of Vantage Point Asia, LLC, a consultancy that provides expertise on the Indo-Asia-Pacific region with a focus on Chinese foreign policy and security issues. She concurrently holds the position of Adjunct Senior International Policy Analyst at the RAND Corporation. Formerly, Mrs. Gunness served as the Director of the Navy Asia Pacific Advisory Group at the Pentagon, where she advised the Chief of Naval Operations on security, maritime, and foreign policy trends in the Indo-Pacific region. Prior to her position on the Navy staff, she was a Senior Project Director for Chinese military and security affairs at CNA. Mrs. Gunness has extensive experience studying, living, and working in China. She is a graduate of the Hopkins-Nanjing Center for Chinese and American Studies and has studied Mandarin at Beijing Capital Normal University and the Harbin Institute of Technology. In addition, she worked as a business consultant in a well-established Shanghai firm, where she spent several years consulting and traveling in China, Taiwan, and Southeast Asia. Mrs. Gunness has written extensively on Chinese security, foreign policy, and military affairs, and her research has appeared in academic and policy publications. She is the co-editor of Civil-Military Relations In Today's China: Swimming In A New Sea (M.E. Sharpe, June 2006). She holds a BA from Tufts University and an MA in Security Studies from Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service.

Mrs. Gunness last testified before the Commission in January 2016.