



U.S.-CHINA ECONOMIC AND SECURITY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Hearing on “Macau and Hong Kong”

Opening Statement of Vice Chairman Dennis C. Shea

June 27, 2013

Washington, DC

Thank you, Chairman Reinsch, and thank you again to our witnesses for joining us. We greatly appreciate our witnesses taking the time to testify and provide expert insight to the Commission.

In our afternoon panel, we will address a different set of issues in China’s other special administrative region, Hong Kong. The panel will examine Hong Kong’s universal suffrage plan, press freedom, and police surveillance.

First, we will examine Hong Kong’s pledge for universal suffrage in the election of its chief executive and legislature as an “ultimate goal” under Hong Kong’s Basic Law. We will then look at the current state of freedom of press and freedom of speech in Hong Kong, a right also granted by Hong Kong Basic Law. Finally, we will look at police surveillance in Hong Kong and the implications it may have for freedom of speech and other human rights.

Today, our panel of distinguished human rights activists will elaborate on these issues relating to Hong Kong after the lunch break.

We will begin the hearing this morning with an administration witness addressing money laundering, financial crimes, and the threat they pose to the United States, which will lead into our second panel on related issues in Macau. Before we start, however, I would first like to express our sincere gratitude to the Senate Budget Committee, its Chairman Senator Patty Murray, and their staff for helping us to secure this room today. I would also like to remind witnesses to keep remarks to 7 minutes so that we have ample time for our question-and-answer session.