

# *The United States, China, and the Indo-Pacific Strategy: The Rise and Return of Strategic Competition\**

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## *Abstract*

China is and will remain the most important great-power rival for the United States in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Trump administration has adopted a whole-of-government approach to compete with China. Washington is taking tough measures confronting China's challenges to the US economic interests, values, and security. The Indo-Pacific region is a key area where US-China strategic competition takes place. The US Indo-Pacific Strategy (IPS) is a core competitive instrument for Washington to contain China's rising power and influence among those countries along the Indian and Pacific Oceans. The articles in this special section examine the changing parameters of the US-China relationship and how Beijing responds to the US Indo-Pacific Strategy.

The relationship between the United States and China, the world's largest and the second largest economy, defines geopolitics of the 21st century. Bound together by economic, security, and social ties, US-China relations are complex, consequential, and tortuous. Over last few decades since

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\* The author would like to acknowledge the support of research grant MYRG CPG2020-00027 from University of Macau.