## **US-China Relations**

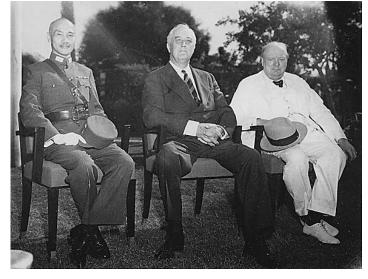
Dr. Min Ye

Department of Political Science

Coastal Carolina University

#### History of US-China Relations before 1979

- 1911: the Republic of China (ROC) was established
- WWII: China became an US ally
- 1946-49: Chinese civil war "biased" mediator
- 1949: the People Republic of China (PRC) was established.
- 1950-53: the Korean War
- 1954: the Sino-American Mutual Defense Treaty
- 1960: President Eisenhower visited Taiwan



The Cairo Conference (Nov. 1945)



Gen. Marshall and Mao Zedong (1945)

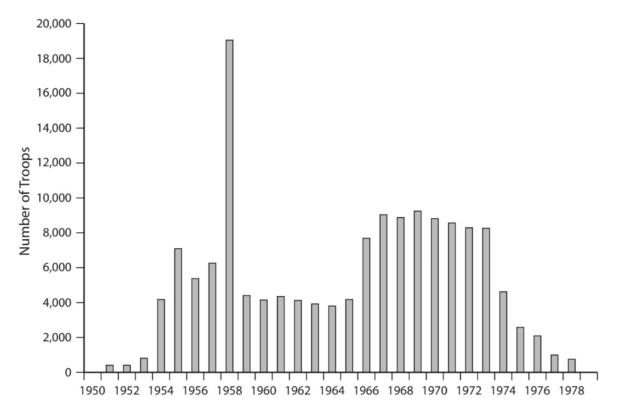


Figure 5.2 U.S. Troops Stationed in Taiwan (1950–1979)

Source: Global U.S. Troop Deployment Dataset, Heritage Foundation, October 2004.



President Eisenhower visited Taiwan (1960)

## US-PRC Rapprochement (1970 – 72)











## The Normalization of Sino-US relations (1979)

- China wants
  - abrogating the 1954 ROC-US treaty
  - withdrawing US troops from Taiwan
  - cutting formal relations with Taiwan
  - stopping selling weapons to Taiwan

- US wants
  - Maintaining a consulate in Taiwan
  - China promised not to use force against Taiwan

## The Normalization of Sino-US relations (1979)

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#### US wants

- Maintaining a consulate in Taiwan
- China promised not to use force against Taiwan

#### Outcome:

- China dropped the last condition and implicitly promised peaceful unification
- US maintained only economic and cultural ties

## Taiwan Relations Act (Apr 10 1979)

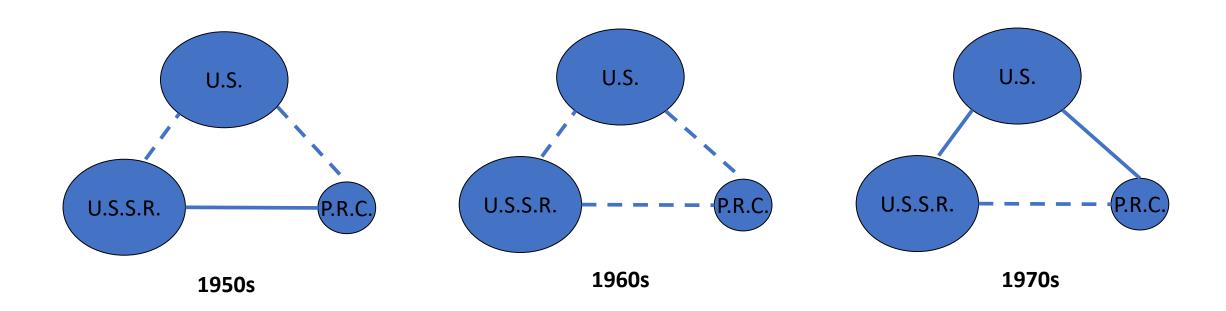
- "make clear that the United States decision to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China rests upon the expectation that the future of Taiwan will be determined by peaceful means"
- US to make available "such defense articles and defense services as may necessary to enable Taiwan to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability".



Protestors in Taipei, (1979)

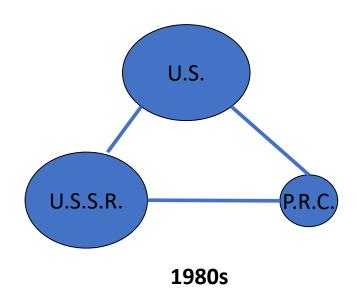
3/15/2023

## The Cold War Superpower Triangle



amity — — - hostility

## Why we should miss the cold war...





Reagan visited China, 1984



Bush visited China, 1989



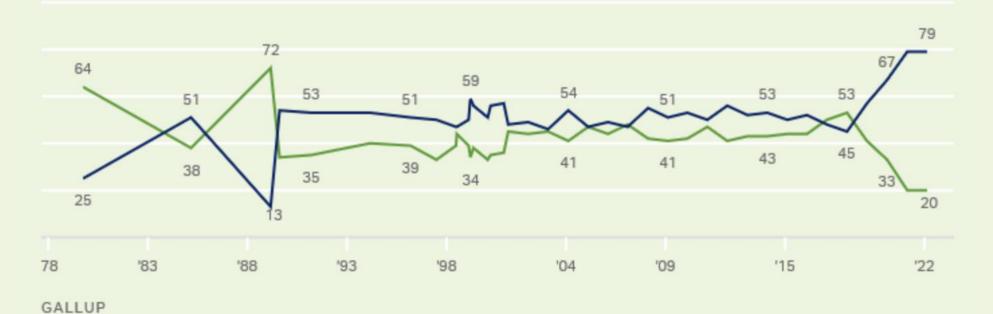
Gorbachev visited China, 1989



A Chinese man stands alone to block a line of tanks heading east on Beijing's Changan Blvd. in Tiananmen Square on June 5, 1989. (AP IMAGES)

# Is your overall opinion of China very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable or very unfavorable?

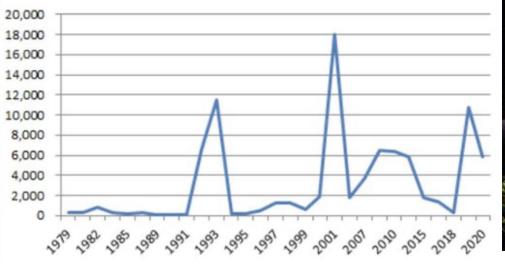
- Total % favorable - Total % unfavorable



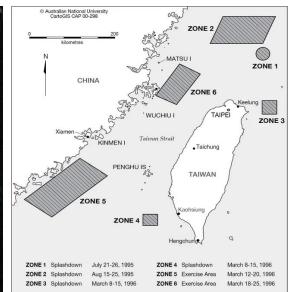
## The troubling 1990s

- 1992: US approved the sale of 150 F-16 jet fighters to Taiwan
- 1993: China lost its bid the 2000 Olympics Games to Sydney by two votes.
- 1990-94: Annual fight for China's most-favored-nation (MFN) trading status
- 1995-96: Taiwanese President Lee Tenghui visited the US, triggering the third Taiwan Strait Crisis
- 1999: US bombed Chinese embassy in Yugoslavia
- 2000: Taiwan's pro-independence candidate won presidential election
- 2001: US-China mid-air collision in South China Sea

#### US arms sales to Taiwan in millions of USD





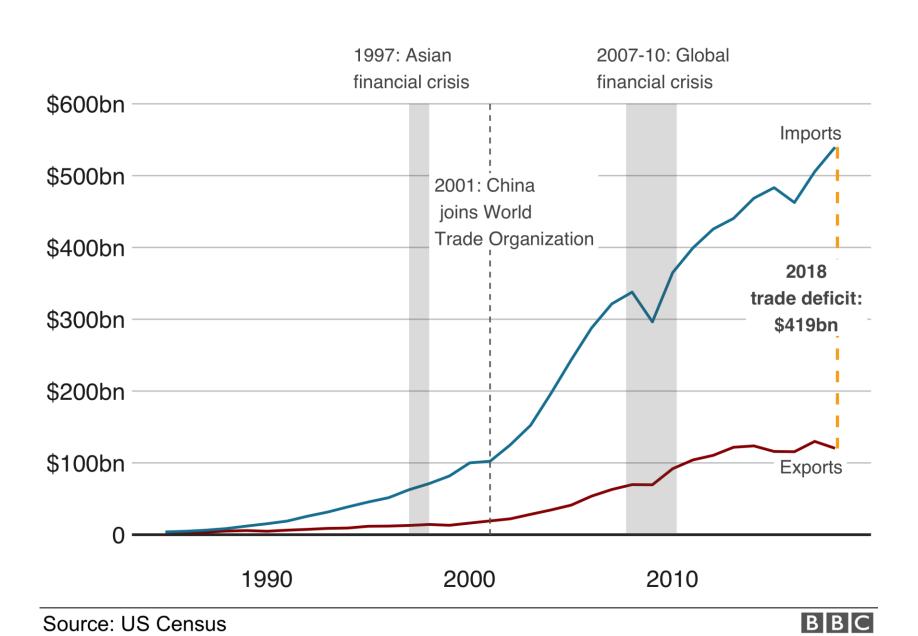






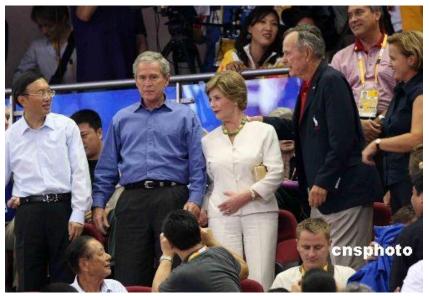
#### **US trade with China**

US trade deficit with China has soared since 1985



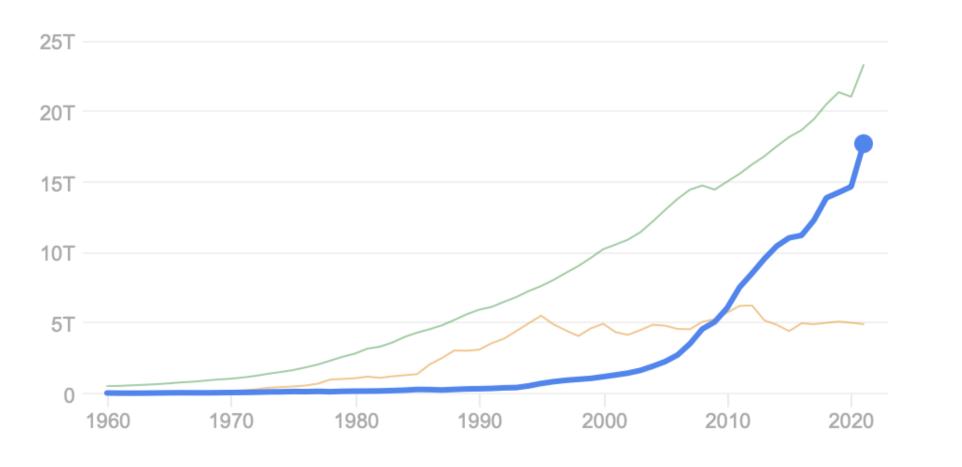
# The 2000s: "the US-China relationship is the best ever!"

- 2001: the war on terror
- 2003: the invasion of Iraq
- 2003: Bush publicly criticized Chen when Chinese premier visited
- 2006: Bush declared the Sino-US relationship the "best ever"
- 2006: China and US cooperated against North Korea's nuclear program
- 2007-8: the Great Recession and the Beijing Olympic games



#### US President Visited China

- Richard Nixon (1972)
- Gerald Ford (1975)
- Jimmy Carter (1979)
- Ronald Reagan (1984)
- George H. W. Bush (1989)
- Bill Clinton (1998)
- George W. Bush (2001, 2002, 2005, 2008)
- Barack Obama (2009, 2014, 2016)
- Donald Trump (2017)
- Joe Biden (?)



United States 23.32 trillion USD

China 17.73 trillion USD

Japan4.941 trillionUSD

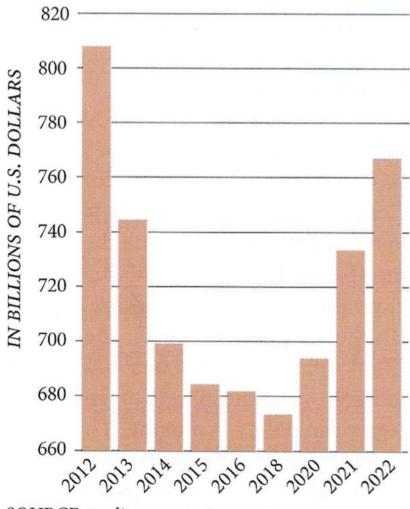
#### From cold peace to cold war

- 2011: President Obama announced an American pivot to Asia
- 2012: Xi Jinping stated the Chinese dream of the "great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation".
- 2013: China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)
- 2016: The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)
- 2018: President Trump started the trade war by imposing \$60 billion tariff.
- 2022: Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the last lost opportunity

#### Reasons for Emerging US-China Tensions

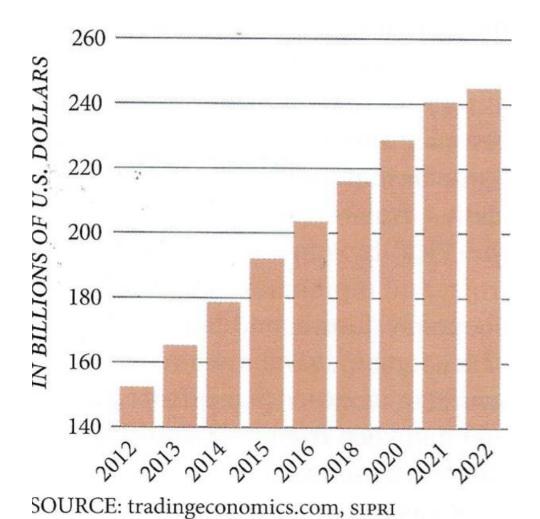
- Changing balance of power
- Lack of a solid foundation for bilateral relations
- Taiwan, the issue that is never resolved
  - From "strategic ambiguity" to "strategic certainty"
  - Sep. 18, 2022: President Biden said U.S. forces would defend Taiwan in the event of a Chinese invasion

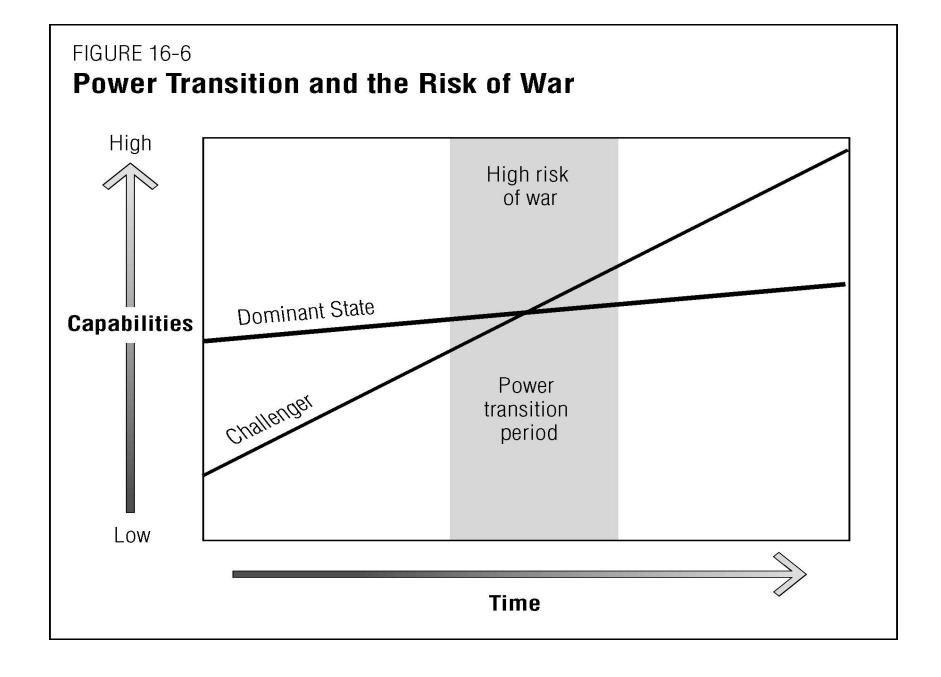
# U. S. Military Expenditure in 2012–2022

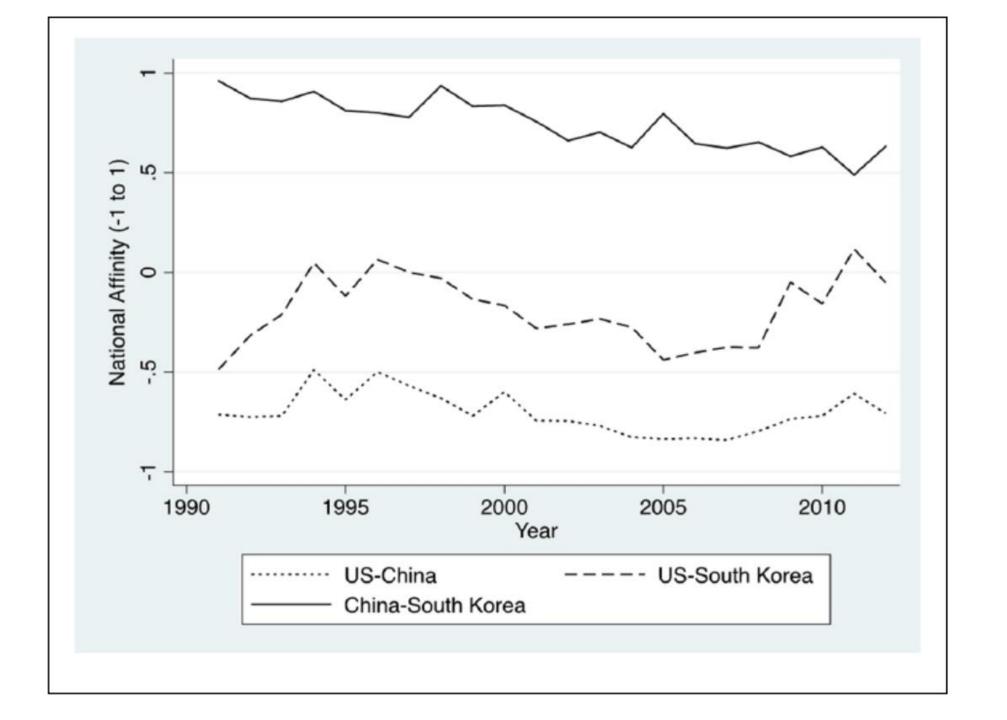


#### SOURCE: tradingeconomics.com, SIPRI

# China Military Expenditure in 2012–2022

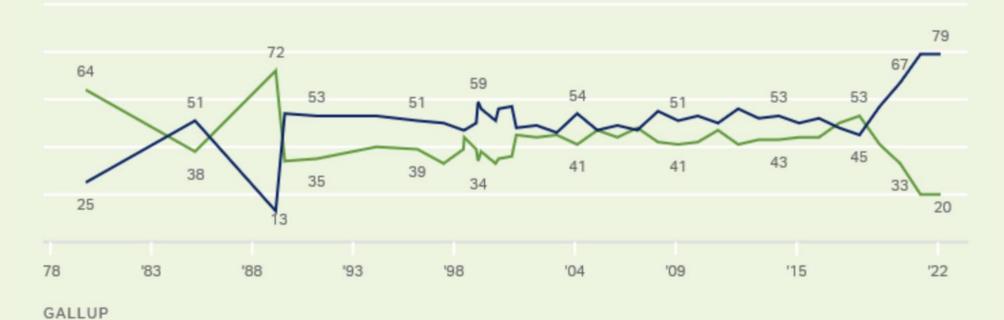






Is your overall opinion of China very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable or very unfavorable?

- Total % favorable - Total % unfavorable



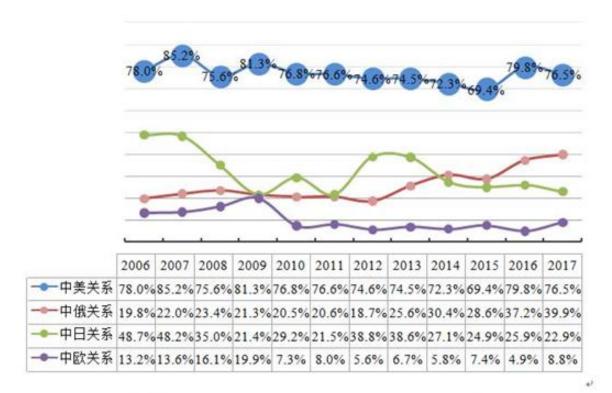
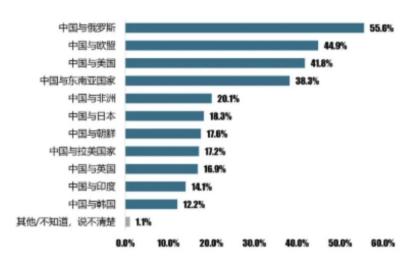
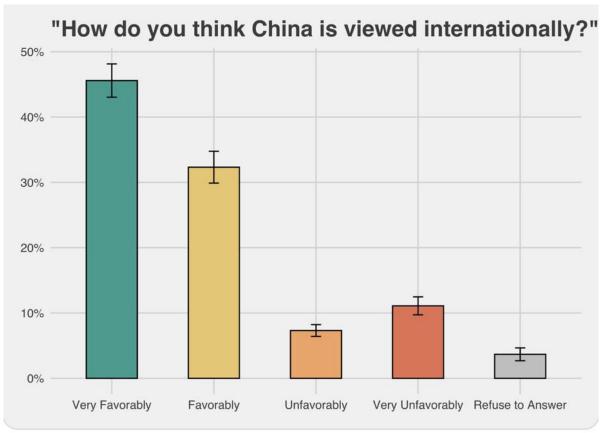
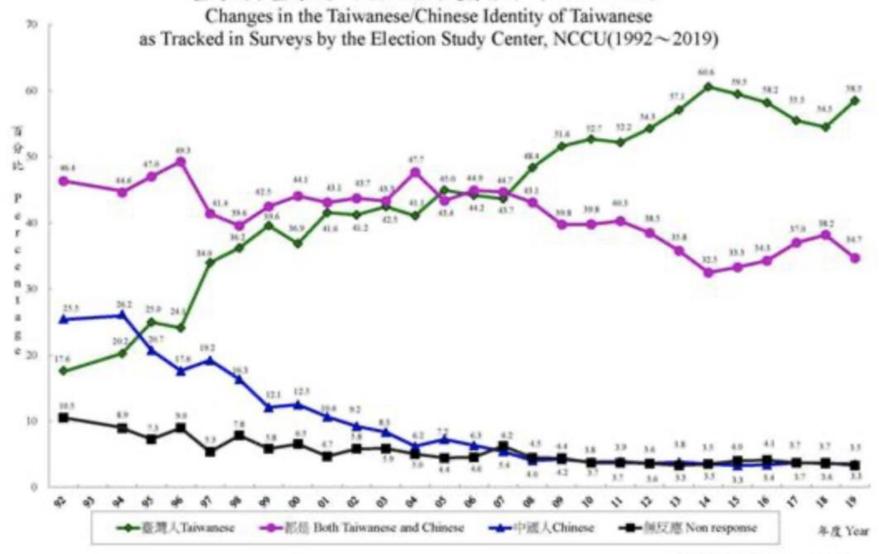


图2-2 2006-2017 年受访者心目中对中国影响力最大的双边关系(2017, N=1033) ↔





#### 臺灣民眾臺灣人/中國人認同趨勢分佈 (1992~2019)



國立政治大學還舉研究中心類

