המרכז לחקר מדיניות ואסטרטגיה ימית

המרכז לחקר מדיניות ואסטרטגיה ימית עוסק במחקר בנושאי האסטרטגיה הימית כחלק מהמאמץ של אוניברסיטת חיפה להובלת המחקר הלאומי בתחום הים. המרכז מבצע מחקרים אקדמיים בתחומי הביטחון האזורי ומדיניות חוץ, תנועה של סחורות, אנשים وרעיונות, משפט, אנרגיה וסביבה – וכל זאת תוך Buffered השפעתם על ביטחונה הלאומי של מדינת ישראל.

2019–2018

בתחום הים רבתי לישראל לשנים 2018–2019 נסקרו השינויים העיקריים במרחב הימי מאז פרסום הדוח הקודם, ושולבו בו המלצות למדיניות ולדרכי פעולה למקבלי ההחלטות בתחום הים רבתי, שיחדו את חוסנה של ישראל ובטיחותה, יישרו את מצבה הכלכלי ורווחת תושביה, וכל זאת תוך שמירה על המערכת הסביבתית של המרחב הימי ונכסי המורשת המצויים בה.

בכתיבת הדוח השתתפו חוקרי המרכז לחקר מדיניות ואסטרטגיה ימית באוניברסיטת חיפה, עמית מחקר של המרכז וגורמים נוספים מהאוניברסיטה להם ידע ייחודי בנושאים אלה.

2018/19 הערכה אסטרטגית ימית רבתי לישראל

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The importance of the South China Sea is unquestioned for all the countries bordering it, especially for China, which has been asserting its sovereignty over most of its territory according to the "Nine-Dash Line" since 2013. China, which claims sovereignty over virtually all of the South China Sea, has been building seven artificial islands based on the "Nine-Dash Line." China is engaged in maritime disputes with various countries, primarily the Philippines and Vietnam, which have been conducting extensive naval exercises and weapon developments, some thousands of kilometers off the coast of China.

The Philippines, under President Rodrigo Duterte, has changed its stance several times, as mentioned by the President of the Philippines: "Conflicts over the principles of international law are issues that need to be resolved in 4001 years."

Sources:
אמריקנית בלבד מאחר שלפיליפינים יש טקטיקות אחרות לניהול הסכסוך ולעיסוק בנושא עם סין.3

cכב בשוף 2017 היו עדויות ברורות לכך שהאיים המלאכותיים הם למעשה מוצבים צבאיים שבחם מסלולי נחיתה ומערכות גילוי, מערכות לוחמה אלקטרונית (ל"א) לחסימה, מערכות טילים נגד מטוסים (נ"מ), טילי שייט של יגון, ומערכי שליטה במצבי בית חימום של יוזמות אחרות. עובדות אלו לא מנעו מסין להמשיך ולהכחיש את האיים הצachineryים והציוד שליהם הם למטרות צבאיות.4


A significant turning point regarding the understanding of the actual situation in the islands led to an increase in the frequency of freedom-of-navigation operations, with the discovery of evidence that indeed the islands include not only facilities but also long-range systems designated as attack systems (a fait accompli). This revelation, in the aftermath of the bilateral joint exercises in 2018 between France and the UK, gave rise to several developments and actions. The Freedom of Navigation was used by both nations as a rationale to increase their military presence and capabilities in the region, particularly in Vietnam, as a response to China's actions.

RIMPAC (The Regional Security Dialogue) was one such development, with China being excluded from participating in the 2018 exercise. This decision was a consequence of the actions carried out by China in the South China Sea, including the construction of artificial islands and adding weapons, which China claims is its right. The United States reacted by announcing its intention to impose additional sanctions and to work with other nations in the region to strengthen their military capabilities in the area.

The US also announced its plan to discontinue a bilateral dialogue with China to discuss the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea, which is seen as a move to increase pressure on China to respect international law. In response, China announced that it would impose economic sanctions on the US, further escalating tensions in the region.

The situation in the South China Sea is complex and multifaceted, with various stakeholders involved, including ASEAN members and China. The region is also important for its strategic and economic significance, making the situation highly sensitive and volatile. As such, any development in the region can have significant implications for international relations and security.

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Minnie Chan, 03 June, 2018, South Cinna Morning Post, China is putting troops, weapons on South China Sea islands, and has every right to do so, PLA official says

Asia Times, 6 February 2018, The National Interest, China Has Nearly Conquered the South China Sea, https://nationalinterest.org/print/blog/the-buzz/china-has-nearly-conquered-the-south-china-sea-24371

Association of Southeast Asian Nations

COC – Code of Conduct


The Chinese government has been able to achieve strategic control of the South China Sea, despite the ruling of the UNCLOS and world court decisions. The reasons for the successful control over the majority of the South China Sea are explained in the following:

1. Chinese behavior has been active and assertive, due to Chinese culture and history for thousands of years. Demonstrating power during the process, including low-intensity military incidents; total avoidance of attacks and conflicting opinions; using the characteristic tactics and methods, especially in disputes with its neighbors, including the United States, which included the separation of the opposing forces and internal military coordination, the Chinese government imposed its power, and its neighbors' behavior, particularly the United States, ignored the Chinese behavior, and continued to use the usual tactics, such as "deceptive tricks" and continuous lying, purchasing large amounts of currency and policies to support the future, and using unproven strategies and tactics, such as "navy and mining". Sustaining time and avoiding discussions and decisions regarding the expansion and strengthening of the navy, using aerial or naval bases, and turning the South China Sea into the largest geographical point of any other part of the world (see Chock Point), allowing China to control navigation and air routes in the South China Sea. These bases and military bases became a strategic point for China’s naval and air forces, and helped change the South China Sea into a strategic point for China’s foreign policy.

2. The Chinese government’s behavior was driven by humiliation experienced by China throughout its history. The Chinese government has been motivated by past humiliation, as Clifford Coonan highlighted:


How China’s History Shapes, and Warps, its Policies Toda, For Beijing, the past is exceptionally useful, and usefully exceptional; By Howard W. French, Ian Johnson, Jeremiah Jenne, Pamela Kyle Crossley, Robert A. Kapp, Tobie Meyer-Fong | March 22, 2017, https://foreignpolicy.com/2017/03/22/how-chinas-history-shapes-its-foreign-policy-empire-humiliation"
The draft agreement set forth in the ASEAN Rice Bowl would likely be the most significant of the issues that can be discussed in diplomatic negotiations. If the Chinese agree to dismantle the weapons on the islands, destroy the buildings and infrastructure, or change the “geographical character” by returning the reclaimed land to the sea... The situation, if at all, regarding the freedom of navigation operations (FONOP) in the area is unlikely. It will take a long time to reach an agreement on economic and political projects, as well as the initiative of the maritime route, COC. The Chinese will continue to be a factor for the countries in the region and beyond. The freedom of navigation will remain intact. As long as the United States is involved in discussions with South Korea and the Chinese will continue to protest. The situation can change due to a mistake in the operation of an American combat aircraft or the commander of an American ship, while conducting freedom of navigation operations in the area, or due to a general change in the policy of the US in the region. And the world as usual...

Freedom of navigation operations 25