

China, Taiwan, and the U.S.

Decisions Today That Will Shape the World of Tomorrow

May 4, 2026
University of California, Irvine
Humanities Gateway (HG) 1030

The Chinese Communist Party has claimed sovereignty over Taiwan since it took power in China in 1949, and China's government has been rapidly developing its military capabilities to lay siege to or invade the island. At the same time, China, Taiwan, and the United States have developed economic relationships that would be threatened by any Chinese attempt to assert sovereignty over Taiwan. The U.S. Office of the Director of National Intelligence recently revised its threat assessment to indicate that China would not invade Taiwan in 2027, as previously assumed, but there is still disagreement about China's plans due to its continuing aggressive actions in the Taiwan Strait. The panelists for this event will discuss the following two questions: What is the nature of the regime in China and the threat to Taiwan? What should the United States do to face this threat?

Schedule

Each speaker will make a 10-minute presentation, and the three presentations in each panel will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

2:30 PM	Doors open Humanities Gateway 1030
3:00 PM to 4:15 PM	Should We Worry? The Nature of the Regime in China Gordon Chang, Eric Hendriks, and David Pan
4:15 PM to 4:45 PM	Break
4:45 PM to 6:00 PM	What Should We Do? U.S. Policy Russell Berman, Miles Yu, and John Graham
6:30 PM	Reception and Dinner (for pre-registered guests) Hotel Zessa, 201 E. MacArthur Blvd., Santa Ana, CA 92707

*Sponsored by the Telos-Paul Piccone Institute and the UC Irvine Center
for Global Peace and Conflict Studies*



Panelists

Russell A. Berman, President, Telos-Paul Piccone Institute; Walter A. Haas Professor in the Humanities, Stanford University; Senior Fellow, Hoover Institution; Former Member, Policy Planning Staff and Commission on Unalienable Rights, U.S. State Department

Gordon Chang, author of *The Coming Collapse of China* and *The Great U.S.-China Tech War*

John Graham, Professor Emeritus of the UCI Merage School of Business, Founding Director of the UCI Long US-China Institute, and co-author with Michael Lam of *China Now: Doing Business in the World's Most Dynamic Marketplace*.

Eric Hendriks, Director, Telos-Paul Piccone Institute China Initiative; Visiting Fellow, Danube Institute

David Pan, Professor of European Studies, UC Irvine; Editor, *Telos*; Former Member, Commission on Unalienable Rights, U.S. State Department

Miles Yu, Professor of Military History and Modern China, U.S. Naval Academy; Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute; Former Principal China Policy Advisor, Policy Planning Staff, U.S. State Department

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