

Panel: China in Northeast Asia (Orchid Room)

Date/Time: Tuesday, December 11, 2012 / 17:15-18:30

Talking Points for: Lee Chung Min, Dean, Graduate School of International Studies, Yonsei University

China's reforms since the late 1970s have resulted in unparalleled dividends but at the same time, unprecedented dilemmas in four key areas that are likely to become pronounced during the Xi Jinping era. First, the convergence of new political, economic, and social forces that will test Beijing's ability to maintain political unity, social cohesion, and pragmatic engagement with the world. Second, contesting the U.S. pivot to Asia while minimizing side effects stemming from more robust responses. Third, expanding growing economic linkages with almost all of the regional economies while mitigating strategic frictions. And fourth, sustaining core alliances and traditional partnerships while preparing for an array of transformations. In sum, just as the PRC is positioned at the apex of its influence since its founding in 1949, it confronts an array of domestic and external challenges that are going to test the leadership acumen of the party as never before.

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