

Subject: Follow up to Academic Roundtable with Under Secretary Keith Krach

Good afternoon,

On behalf of the Office of the Under Secretary of State Keith Krach, I would like to share some of the following materials with you, both attached and linked below.

Under Secretary Krach sent a [letter](#) recently to the governing boards of American universities, alerting them to the threats the Chinese Communist Party poses to academic freedom, to human rights, and to university endowments. These threats can come in the form of illicit funding for research, intellectual property theft, intimidation of foreign students, and opaque talent recruitment efforts.

University governing boards can help ensure their institutions have clean investments and clean endowment funds by taking a few key steps:

- Disclose all PRC companies invested in endowment funds, especially those in emerging-market index funds.
- Divest from Chinese companies on the Commerce Department Entity List that are contributing to human rights violations, military coercion, and other abuses.
- And simply understand the recommendations issued by the President's Working Group on Financial Markets, which examined the risk to investors of Chinese companies that are listed on U.S. stock exchanges.

A number of countries, either their governments or non-governmental bodies, have created websites with guidance for their own academic sectors. A few of them are here for your reference: [Australia](#); [Canada](#); UK: ([for academia](#)) and ([for industry](#)); [Universities UK \(non-government\)](#); [German universities \(non-government\)](#).

In addition:

- Open [letter](#) by the College Democrats and College Republicans
- State Department fact sheet, "[The Chinese Communist Party on Campus: Opportunities and Risks](#)"
- State Department fact sheet, "[Military-Civil Fusion and the People's Republic of China](#)"
- Secretary of State Pompeo and Secretary of Education DeVos' [joint letter](#) to State Commissioners of Education
- Secretary of State Pompeo and Secretary of Education DeVos' [joint letter](#) to Presidents of American Institutions of Higher Education and Affiliates

As mentioned by the Under Secretary during the roundtable, please consider the State Department a resource, and do not hesitate to reach out to myself or Sona Ramesh (cc'd here) on any issues. We are happy to connect you with relevant offices in the Department.

We know that the academic community takes these issues seriously and is already implementing steps to strengthen existing campus policies that protect its research endeavors and academic freedoms. We look forward to continued close collaboration, alongside our colleagues in the U.S. government, on how we can best safeguard our higher education academic institutions while still maintaining and bolstering our open, transparent, and vibrant academic ecosystem that attracts students, scholars, and researchers from around the world.

Best,
Allison

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