

Chairman Gallagher Opening Remarks
Remarks on Global Alliance Threat from CCP
10.11.23
as prepared for delivery

In 1991, a Chinese academic by the name Wang Huning wrote a book called *America Against America*—a critique of the internal conflict he found at the heart of American society.

These days, that academic is one of the most powerful men in the world and a member of the seven-person Politburo Standing Committee, the highest governing body within the Chinese Communist Party.

“America Against America” also describes the strategy that Wang, Xi Jinping, and the CCP have pursued on the global stage in the years since — pitting countries against each other to undermine our ability to defend ourselves as a team.

This strategy has worked well in the past, and the CCP is confident it will work again. Our task is to ensure that it does not.

We must do this within our own countries, and we must do this together, as allies and partners, as we defend the free world from the ideological, technological, economic, and military threat posed by the Chinese Communist Party.

We may call this a “strategic competition,” but this is not a polite tennis match. This is an existential struggle over what life will look like in the 21st century — and the most fundamental freedoms are at stake.

The CCP is laser-focused on its vision for the future—a world crowded with techno-totalitarian surveillance states where human rights are subordinate to the whims of the Party.

For the time being, it’s still up to us to decide if that’s the future we want for our children — but it won’t be for much longer. Time is not on our side.

We must act with a sense of urgency. Our policy over the next ten years will set the stage for the next hundred. We cannot allow the CCP's tech-powered dystopia to prevail.

Therefore, we must learn from our mistakes. For much of the past half century, we tried to win the CCP over with honey, believing that economic engagement would lead to reforms in China.

We were wrong. The CCP laughed at our naïveté while they took advantage of our good faith. But the era of wishful thinking is over. We will no longer allow the CCP to lull us into complacency or maneuver us into submission.

Together, with our allies and partners, we will stand up and defend ourselves, our values, and our future. We may not be perfect, but compared to the CCP's techno-totalitarian vision, there can be no mistaking that we are the good guys.