

Spring 2018 Crisis Simulation: East China Sea Participant Guide

Thank you for confirming your participation in the Center for Security Policy Studies' Spring 2018 Crisis Simulation. This short guide is intended to help you and your colleagues get the most benefit possible out of your participation and ensure you arrive at the simulation prepared.

Two other documents are provided you before the simulation, the event schedule and the game rules. Make sure you are familiar with the event schedule, and skim the game rules; however, do not worry that the rules seem overly complex when reading them. The exercise in-brief and your facilitator's orientation session will help familiarize you with the exact conduct of the scenario, and your team room includes a CSPA facilitator to provide immediate answers to any questions that may arise.

Rest assured, you do not need to be an expert in anything – especially not in military matters! The most important skills you can bring to the exercise are the abilities to think critically and collaborate with others to develop options and decide on courses of action. However, all players can benefit from making an effort to establish a basic knowledge of the issues represented in the scenario.

The following page includes resources to help you prepare for the simulation. We strongly recommend that you read as many of the linked articles as possible, with the following goals:

- 1. A general understanding of the scenario setting and dispute background**
- 2. A basic awareness of the most relevant recent developments in the dispute**
- 3. A broad familiarity with the perspectives of each of the three player countries**

Finally, remember that there are no wrong answers and that simulations are designed to create stressful situations, mirroring the stressors present in real world crises. Stay engaged, enthusiastic and respectful, be forthcoming and honest in the after-action review, and have fun!

- *The CSPA Simulation Team*

Resources

The game rules document provides a limited degree of background for the scenario. The links below provide additional information and perspectives to help you arrive informed and aware.

[Tensions in the East China Sea](#)

Council on Foreign Relations Global Conflict Tracker

[Likelihood of Conflict in the East China Sea](#)

Ryan Hass, Brookings Institution

[A Second Territorial Dispute in Asia Could Be More Dangerous than the South China Sea](#)

Nyshka Chandran, NBC

[China's Policy in the East China Sea](#)

Mathieu Duchâtel, China Perspectives

[Scenarios abound for Japan getting dragged into a U.S.-China conflict: expert](#)

Jesse Johnson, The Japan Times

[Japan, China Agree to Implement East China Sea Crisis Management Hotline](#)

Ankit Panda, The Diplomat

[Chinese Frigate, Unidentified Submarine Enter Japan-Claimed Waters Near Senkaku Islands](#)

Ankit Panda, The Diplomat

[The U.S.-Japan Alliance in an Age of Elevated U.S.-China Relations](#)

Brian Harding

[The Senkakus Dispute: U.S. Treaty Obligations](#)

Congressional Research Service

[Abe May Have Hit a Snag in his Plans to Revise Japan's Pacifist Constitution](#)

Anna Fifield, The Washington Post

[China's 'New Thinking' of the East China Sea Dispute](#)

Jian Zhang, Maritime Issues

[White Warships, Little Blue Men and Looming Conflict in the East China Sea](#)

James Fanell and Kerry Gershaneck, German Southeast Asian Center of Excellence for Public Policy and Governance