

-(The New York Times 9/11) [Philippines, Seeking to Appease Beijing, Halts Construction in SCS](#) : This signals an effort to improve ties with China before a regional summit meeting in Vietnam this weekend.

-(The Diplomat 8/11) [Does Vietnam Have Trump's Backing?](#) Clarity sought in Hanoi ahead of President Donald Trump's state visit.

-(ABS-CBN 8/11) [Duterte: China has to clarify its intentions in South China Sea](#) : He said the Philippines and its fellow members in the ASEAN will have to eventually confront China on the bitter sea dispute.

-(Foreign Affairs 7/11) [What China Wants From Trump](#) : Why Beijing Will Avoid Real Compromise on Trade and North Korea.

-(Reuters 7/11) [Philippines starts construction near China's manmade islands in disputed waters](#) : A contractor was building a beach ramp on Thitu Island.

-(Asia Sentinel 7/11) [South China Sea Needs Science Diplomacy Policy](#) : Science initiatives are more widely accepted as efforts to solve global issues that require contributions from all players.

-(CIMSEC 6/11) [The U. S. Coast Guard in the South China Sea: Strategy or folly?](#) A comprehensive risk analysis should be undertaken and the mission should be considered a "go" only if the benefits heavily outweigh the costs.

-(National Interest 5/11 ) [Why the Indian Ocean Must Not Become Like the SCS](#) : The maritime domain has been marked as the latest theater of war, and so a code of conduct is needed.

-(The Washington Post 5/11) [A more hawkish Trump approach to China is coming soon](#) : Trump's time in Beijing will be a smile-fest, but that will be his least important stop among the five countries he visits.



-(SCMP 4/11) [Launch of Beijing's new dredger may spark concerns of renewed island building in SCS](#) : Testing of Tian Kun Hao could upset Beijing's neighbours, but Chinese analyst says vessel will not be used to boost China's claims in disputed waters.

-(The American Interest 4/11) [The Indo-Pacific: What's in a Name?](#) What statesmen come to call various regions of the world predisposes them to adopt certain strategic concepts over others.