

STRATEGIC PLENARY II

Technology, AI, Information and Society:

REDEFINING NATIONAL POWER



14TH SEPTEMBER 2026



1345 – 1530 HOURS (PST)

MONDAY

SESSION OVERVIEW

Analyzing technology as the central arena of US–China competition – spanning AI development and diffusion, semiconductors and export controls, quantum innovation, critical minerals and biotechnology. It examines the competing governance visions advanced by US/West and China, and the constrained choices facing states dependent on both. The scope also considers the societal dimension: the contested information environment, disinformation and impact of tech on media.



To view speakers' profile of panelists, click on their names

Mr Fasi Zaka (Chair)



Ms Asmae Ben Bahida



The US–China Technology Contest: A Western Perspective on AI, Semiconductors, Quantum, and the Dimensions of Techno-Strategic Power.



Mr Nan Zhong



China's Perspective on the Technology Contest: Indigenous Innovation, Digital Transformation, and Cooperative Technology Governance



Dr June Park



Middle Powers in Building Tech Sovereignty in AI: Risks and Opportunities



Ms Oksana Boyko



The Battle of Narratives: Information Warfare, Disinformation, and the Contest to Shape Global Perception.



Major General John F. Wharton (Retd.)



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(Online)