

Title: Financial Cold War: A View of Sino-US Relations from the Financial Markets

Speaker: Mr. James Fok

Date: 10 May 2022

Time: 1200-1315

Where: Virtual LOO via Zoom

POC: CDR Paul Sierleja

Zoom Link

<https://usnwc.zoom.us/j/83603587318?pwd=L0lPWnhocEgwanV4UGxjS2hBQXBoQT09>

Meeting ID: 836 0358 7318

Passcode: 198325

### Synopsis

The most consequential Great Power relationship of the 21st century is that between China and the United States. Countless commentators assert regularly that Beijing and Washington are now firmly locked into a trajectory of strategic competition, with much of this rivalry being played out in the financial domain. Recent Russian military action in Ukraine and the West's response have further highlighted the power – and limitations – of the financial theatre in modern international conflicts. A perspective that is not commonly examined, however, relates to the role of financial markets in creating and exacerbating geopolitical tensions in the first place.

How does international finance intersect with geopolitics in the 21st century? What role do financial markets play in the accelerating rivalry between China and the US? How might the international financial system and domestic financial policies be reformed to de-escalate tensions between the world's two leading powers? Following the recent publication of his book, *Financial Cold War: A View of Sino-US Relations from the Financial Markets*, author James Fok will speak on the impact of financial markets on the creation and amplification of US-China tensions.

## Bio

James Fok is a veteran financial and strategic advisor to corporations and governments. He served as a senior executive at Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing (HKEX) from 2012 until 2021, during a period of rapid internationalization in China's capital markets. Prior to HKEX, Mr. Fok worked as an investment banker in both Europe and Asia, specializing in the financial services sector. He has written and spoken extensively about market structure issues and the intersection between geopolitics and international finance.