

**Dr. Andrew S. Erickson** is a Professor of Strategy (tenured full professor) in the [U.S. Naval War College](#) (NWC)'s [China Maritime Studies Institute](#) (CMSI). As a core founding member, he helped to establish CMSI and to stand it up officially in 2006, and has subsequently played an integral role in its development. CMSI has inspired the creation of other research centers, to which he has provided advice and support. Since 2008, Erickson has been an [Associate in Research](#) at Harvard University's [John King Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies](#). He is also a member of the [Council on Foreign Relations](#).

In 2017 Erickson received [NWC's inaugural Civilian Faculty Research Excellence Award](#). In 2012 the National Bureau of Asian Research awarded him the inaugural [Ellis Joffe Prize for PLA Studies](#); he currently serves on the selection committee. His publications have [won a variety of awards](#), including the NWC Foundation's Capt. Hugh G. Nott Prize (first & second place), the U.S. Naval Institute General Prize Essay Contest (third prize), and repeated recognition by the [Center for International Maritime Security](#).

Erickson has taught courses at NWC and Yonsei University. He advises a wide range of student research and theses at NWC, Harvard, and other institutions; and provides curricular guidance and inputs to NWC and other schools. In 2013, while deployed in the Pacific as a [Naval Postgraduate School](#) Regional Security Education Program scholar aboard the flagship aircraft carrier [USS Nimitz](#), he delivered twenty-five hours of lectures. He has also accompanied a military air patrol. For over a decade, Erickson has managed NWC's scholarly research relationship with Japanese counterparts. In 2014 he helped to escort the Commander of China's Navy and his delegation on a visit to Harvard. He subsequently helped to establish, and to escort the first iteration of, NWC's first bilateral naval officer exchange program and field studies class in China, which he continues to support. Erickson was a scholar escort on a five-member congressional trip to China in 2011.

Since 2015, Erickson has served on the [Naval War College Review](#)'s Editorial Board. From 2012-17 he was an [expert contributor](#) to the *Wall Street Journal*'s [China Real Time Report](#) (中国实时报), for which he authored or coauthored thirty-eight articles. During 2010-11 Erickson was the [Princeton-Harvard China and the World Program Fellow](#) in residence at Harvard's [Center for Government and International Studies](#). From 2008-11 he was a Fellow in the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations' [Public Intellectuals Program](#). In 2005-06, he was a Research Fellow sponsored by the late longtime [director of the Pentagon's Office of Net Assessment, Andrew Marshall](#).

Erickson has presented extensively at academic, private sector, and government institutions throughout the United States and Asia. He has briefed a broad array of senior U.S. and foreign policy-makers and principals. Within the U.S. Navy: the Chief of Naval Operations, his Executive Panel, the Secretary of the Navy, and leaders throughout the Indo-Pacific. Elsewhere in government: the Secretary of Defense, other Executive Branch officials, the Coast Guard Commandant, and multiple Members of Congress. Erickson testifies periodically before such congressional bodies as the House [Foreign Affairs](#) and [Armed Services](#) Committees and U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission. He has provided inputs for, and reviews of, multifarious government programs, simulation exercises, and reports; including in support of the National Intelligence Council's *Global Trends* study.

Erickson received his Ph.D. and M.A. in politics from [Princeton University](#) (concentration: China/comparative politics and international relations) and graduated *magna cum laude* from [Amherst College](#) (majors: history and political science; certificate in international relations). He studied Mandarin in the [Princeton in Beijing](#) program at Beijing Normal University's College of Chinese Language and Culture; and Japanese language, politics, and economics in the year-long [Associated Kyoto Program](#) at Doshisha University. Erickson previously worked for [Science Applications International Corporation](#) (SAIC) as a Chinese translator and technical analyst. He gained early experience interning extensively at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, Consulate in Hong Kong, Peace Corps Headquarters, Senate, and White House. Erickson has traveled across the Indo-Pacific, from key islands, waters, and airspace to China's Zhongnanhai leadership compound and remote hinterlands of Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. Proficient in Mandarin Chinese and conversant in Japanese, he has lived and performed academic work in China, Japan, and Korea.

Erickson's research focuses on Indo-Asia-Pacific defense, international relations, technology, and resource issues. He has envisioned, developed, and led a path-breaking five-year project to uncover China's critically important but insufficiently understood Maritime Militia; his coauthored China Maritime Report No. 1—[China's Third Sea Force](#) inaugurated a new series of CMSI studies. Erickson's work has been published widely in English- and Chinese-language edited volumes and in such peer-reviewed journals as *International Security*, *China Quarterly*, *Journal of Contemporary China*, *The China Journal*, *Asian Security*, *Journal of Strategic Studies*, *Orbis*, *Asia Policy*, and *Acta Astronautica*. It has also appeared in *Foreign Affairs*, *The Washington Quarterly*, *The National Interest*, *Foreign Policy*, *Joint Force Quarterly*, *IHS Jane's*, *Geopolitics of Energy*, *Global Health Governance*, *RSIS Commentary*, *IISS Strategic Dossier*, and Peking University's *China International Strategy Review* and *International & Strategic Studies Report*. Erickson has published annotated translations of several Chinese articles on maritime strategy. His coauthored *Foreign Affairs.com* article, "[The Danger of China's 'New Type of Great-Power Relations' Slogan](#)," has been read widely in U.S. and Asian policy circles. Erickson's *National Interest* article "[China Reveals Two 'Carrier-Killer' Missiles](#)" received more than 65,000 page views in its first 24 hours online. His *RealClearDefense* piece "[What Sort of Navy America Needs](#)" registered 60,000 page views in its first day online.

Erickson is the author of the book [Chinese Anti-Ship Ballistic Missile Development](#) (Jamestown Foundation/[Brookings Institution Press](#), 2013). He is coauthor of two other books: [Gulf of Aden Anti-Piracy and China's Maritime Commons Presence](#) (Jamestown/[Brookings](#), 2015) and [Assessing China's Cruise Missile Ambitions](#) (National Defense University Press, 2014). He has coauthored four additional volumes: [Charting China's International Security Activism](#) (Center for a New American Security, 2015), the CMSI monographs [Chinese Antipiracy Operations in the Gulf of Aden](#) (2013) and [Chinese Mine Warfare](#) (2009), and the China Aerospace Studies Institute monograph [The PLAAF's Campaign for a Bigger Maritime Role](#) (2019). Erickson is the editor of, and a contributor to, two volumes: [Chinese Naval Shipbuilding](#) (Naval Institute Press/NIP, 2016) and [Proceedings of the 47th History Symposium of the International Academy of Astronautics](#) (Univelt, 2015). He is coeditor of, and a contributor to, nine volumes. This includes six (in addition to *Chinese Naval Shipbuilding*) of NIP's seven

“[Studies in Chinese Maritime Development](#)” books, for which he is the series editor; comprising [China’s Maritime Gray Zone Operations](#) (2019), [Chinese Aerospace Power](#) (2011), [China, the U.S., and 21st Century Sea Power](#) (2010), [China Goes to Sea](#) (2009), [China’s Energy Strategy](#) (2008), and [China’s Future Nuclear Submarine Force](#) (2007); as well as [Basing and Forward Presence in the Asia-Pacific](#) (NIP, 2014), the CMSI volume [China’s Near Seas Combat Capabilities](#) (2014), and the NWC Newport Paper [China’s Nuclear Force Modernization](#) (2005).

Erickson’s work has been cited widely in scholarly publications and reports from the U.S. government and think tanks such as CSIS and RAND. He has been quoted extensively in numerous newspapers, magazines, and online sources, including *Science*, *Wired*, *The BBC*, *The Financial Times*, *Aviation Week & Space Technology*, *The Nelson Report*, *Bloomberg*, *The Economist*, *Xinhua*, *China Daily*, *The New Yorker*, *Time*, *Der Spiegel*, *The Washington Post* and its *Monkey Cage* blog, *Fortune*, *The Times of India*, *El País*, *Newsweek*, *The Straits Times*, *Defense News*, *Le Monde*, *China Radio International*, *Aerospace America*, and *The New York Times*. Erickson’s work is also featured in a broad range of print, wire service, television, radio, and Internet media. He has published op-eds with CBS and the *Asahi Shimbun* (Japanese- and English-language editions), and has appeared on CNN, C-SPAN, CCTV, NHK, *Al Jazeera*, *Voice of America*, *ABC News 24*, *Bloomberg TV*, National Public Radio, and *The John Batchelor Show*. He tweets via [@AndrewSErickson](#) and is listed among [The China Studies Twitterati 50](#).

Erickson is co-founder of *China SignPost*<sup>™</sup> 洞察中国 <[www.chinasignpost.com](http://www.chinasignpost.com)>, a research newsletter and web portal that covers key developments in Greater China, with particular focus on natural resource, technology, industry, and trade issues. He has coauthored 91 *China SignPost*<sup>™</sup> reports. Analyses have anticipated limitations in the implementation and efficacy of Xi-era reforms ([#81](#)), China’s 2015 stock market slump ([#89](#)), and a long-run S-curved slowdown in China’s economic growth rate and overall development trajectory ([#44](#)). Links to these, and Erickson’s other publications, can be found at *China Analysis from Original Sources* 以第一手资料研究中国 <[www.andrewerickson.com](http://www.andrewerickson.com)>, a website that posts and curates analyses—many based on Chinese-language sources not previously assessed by foreign observers—to offer insights into China and its impact on the world.

### Specialties

- China’s armed forces
- Chinese national security and foreign policy
- China’s maritime and aerospace activities
- Chinese defense science, technology, and industry
- Japan/Indo-Asia-Pacific security and international relations
- Maritime and aerospace technology development, history and current status
- Energy, resources, and geostrategy
- Military basing and power projection
- Sino-American relations and contemporary policy issues
- Open source information acquisition, curation, analysis, and dissemination