

JEAN-PIERRE CABESTAN

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# FACING CHINA The Prospect for War and Peace Jean-Pierre Cabestan

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## About the Author

**Jean-Pierre Cabestan** is emeritus senior researcher at the French Center for Scientific Research, Paris, and emeritus professor of political science, Department of Government and International Studies at Hong Kong Baptist University. He is associate researcher at the Asia Centre, Paris and at the French Centre for Research on Contemporary China, Hong Kong. He is also visiting Senior Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States, Washington DC.

### Praise for the Book

"Will China and America soon be at war over Taiwan? Many hawkish elites in both countries think so, and they have considerable domestic power in both governments - though they might be wrong. Jean-Pierre Cabestan has deep knowledge of Taiwan, mainland China, and America too. He assesses the applicability (or not) of "Thucydides Trap" warnings that predict conflict between the world's two most powerful militaries. Everyone who is interested in the future should read this book." — Lynn T. White, Princeton University

"Facing China is an important work. Jean-Pierre Cabestan examines China's national security policies from the inside out, looking first at how China's officials and scholars define and debate national interests and whether China can effectively advance those interests with military power. His balanced judgments should be a part of any discussion of China's future trajectory." — Richard C. Bush, Senior Fellow, Center for East Asia Policy Studies, The Brookings Institution

"In this significant contribution to the literature on Asian security, veteran China scholar Jean-Pierre Cabestan digs deep into different potentialities for conflict on China's periphery. The author demonstrates how, in each case, real conflict could erupt—due to a potent combination of mutual misperceptions and miscalculations, China's revanchist nationalism, provocations, or unintended accidents."

- David Shambaugh, George Washington University

"Jean-Pierre Cabestan gives an excellent overview of key areas regarding China's security approach. He addresses several potential conflicts, from Taiwan to the South China Sea and the Senkaku Islands, as well as the Sino-Indian border. Cabestan is good at presenting materials in a clear and pedagogical manner." — Philippe Le Corre, Senior Fellow, Asia Society Policy Institute, Center for China Analysis

"Cabestan provides a masterful and lucid assessment of the prospects for conflict with China. Going beyond the familiar "Thucydides Trap" analyses, he persuasively evaluates both the most obvious and some of the less evident possible pathways to war between China and its neighbors and, in turn, the United States." — Jacques deLisle, director, Center for the Study of Contemporary China, University of Pennsylvania

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