



## Biden holds first phone call with China's Xi

February 12, 2021

*U.S. President Joe Biden spoke to his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping on Wednesday, his first direct contact with the leader of the world's second-largest economy since winning the November U.S. presidential election and taking office last month.*



1. U.S. President Joe Biden spoke with Chinese President Xi Jinping

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2-1. Biden stressed human rights concerns

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2-2. while Xi warned that a confrontation between the two nations

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3. Xi also urged that the two sides should re-establish the means to avoid misjudgments,

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4-1. Biden emphasized what he called Beijing's "coercive and unfair practices,"

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4-2. reported human rights abuses in Xinjiang,

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4-3. including toward Taiwan,

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5. But Xi maintained a hardline tone on Hong Kong, Xinjiang and Taiwan,

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6. It was Xi's first call with a U.S. president

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7-1. Since then, relations between the two countries have plunged to their worst level in decades, \_\_\_\_\_

7-2. launching a trade war, sanctioning Chinese officials and firms \_\_\_\_\_

7-3. and \_\_\_\_\_

8-1. Chinese officials have expressed cautious optimism \_\_\_\_\_

8-2. and urged Washington \_\_\_\_\_

9-1. But the Biden administration has made clear \_\_\_\_\_

9-2. while also pledging \_\_\_\_\_

10-1. A senior Biden official said the administration will look at adding new targeted restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

10-2. and there would be no quick moves \_\_\_\_\_

### [Vocabulary]

□ **Xi Jinping**: 1953– general secretary of Chinese Communist Party (2012– ); president of China (2013– )

□ **come into office**: to take office

- *When did the mayor come into office?*
- *All the elected officials come into office just after the election.*

□ **Indo-Pacific**: the Indo-Pacific seas or ocean

- *Indo-Pacific coral reefs*
- *At reefs all over the Indo-Pacific small, brightly colored fish run cleaning stations where other fish come to engage their services.*

□ **account**: a detailed description of how or why something happens

- *He gave a brief account of the accident.*
- *He was too shocked to give a clear account of events.*

□ **call**: If there is a call for something, someone demands that it should happen.

- *There is no call for allowing smoking in such a beautiful place.*
- *There have been calls for a new kind of security arrangement.*

□ **coercive**: using force or threats to make someone do something

- *The eighteenth-century Admiralty had few coercive powers over its officers.*
- *The president relied on the coercive powers of the military.*

□ **crackdown**: strong action that someone in authority takes to stop a particular activity, or to punish people who break laws.

- *...anti-government unrest that ended with the violent army crackdown.*
- *Police are launching a new crackdown on drug users.*

□ **Xinjiang**: an autonomous province in far northwestern China on the border with Mongolia and Kazakhstan; the largest province in the People's Republic of China and the homeland of the Uighur people

□ **human rights abuse**: violation of the basic rights of people by treating them wrongly

- *The government has been accused of human rights abuses.*
- *A country with the worst record for human rights abuse.*

□ **assertive**: behaving in a confident way in which you are quick to express your opinions and feelings; Someone who is assertive states their needs and opinions clearly, so that people take notice.

- *You need to be more assertive to succeed in business.*
- *Debating encourages children to be more assertive.*

□ **hardline**: strict or extreme in your beliefs or opinions, and not willing to change them

- *The United States has taken a lot of criticism for its hard-line stance.*
- *East Germany's last hardline Communist leader.*

□ **sovereignty**: the right of a country to rule itself

- *Hong Kong reverted to Chinese sovereignty in 1997.*
- *Britain's concern to protect national sovereignty is far from new.*

□ **territorial integrity**: the principle under international law that prohibits states from the use of force against the "territorial integrity or political independence" of another state

□ **plunge to**: to fall or drop down to something.

- *The temperature plunged to zero last night.*
- *The burning car plunged to the floor of the canyon.*

□ **perceive**: to understand or think about something in a particular way: If you perceive someone or something as doing or being a particular thing, it is your opinion that they do this thing or that they are that thing.

- *They strangely perceive television as entertainment.*
- *politicians who are generally perceived to be corrupt*

□ **cautious**: avoiding risk

- *Someone who is cautious avoids risks.*
- *She's a very cautious driver.*

□ **cautious optimism**: a feeling that there are some reasons to hope for a good result, even if you do not expect complete success or improvement

- *In interviews, members have expressed cautious optimism about the economy.*
- *But business leaders said there was cause for cautious optimism.*

□ **meet halfway**: to compromise with someone, often in an argument or disagreement

- *Can we meet halfway on this? I'm willing to compromise.*
- *They wouldn't accept our proposal, but they offered to meet us halfway.*

□ **multilateral**: involving three or more groups, especially the governments of three or more countries

- *a multilateral agreement/treaty*
- *Many want to abandon the multilateral trade talks.*
- *A multilateral solution to certain trade problems will be slow in coming.*

□ **sensitive**: needing to be protected; needing to be kept secret; needing to be dealt with carefully

- *He instructed staff to shred sensitive documents.*
- *...sensitive information which, in the wrong hands, could jeopardize the safety of British troops.*

[参照辞書: Merriam-Webster, Oxford English Dictionary, America Heritage of the English language, Collins English Dictionary, Macmillan Dictionary, the Free Dictionary, Wikipedia]