As part of the pivot to the Asia-Pacific region, announced in late 2011 and early 2012, the United States has significantly intensified and broadened its political and military involvement in that region. Despite this circumstance, many observers say that their position in this part of the world has become weaker rather than stronger, and this is due to their increasingly apparent inability to balance the growing power of China in two, strategically most important areas, i.e., security (hard security) and the economy. In the military sphere, weakened by the financial cuts, the US armed forces are becoming increasingly less able to defend US allies and partners from possible aggression from the ever militarily stronger China. As for the economy, the main great project supported by Washington, the Trans-Pacific Partnership, already has very little chance of being implemented, while the initiatives of Beijing, such as the liberalization of trade and increasing investment in infrastructure, can count on the approval of many countries in the region. If this situation does not change and the necessary change requires, above all, a fundamental breakthrough in American domestic politics, then the pivot to Asia will be a failure.

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