

Brief Biography
SHIRLEY KAN

- Independent Specialist in Asian Security Affairs
- Retired Specialist in Asian Security Affairs who worked for the U.S. Congress at the non-partisan Congressional Research Service (CRS)

Shirley Kan closely supported Congress as a Specialist in Asian Security Affairs at CRS from 1990 to 2015. She analyzed policies and challenges in a range of CRS Reports, memoranda, briefings, and work for hearings.

CRS commended her with a Special Achievement Award for 25 years of dedicated service and commitment to Congress.

Ms. Kan has served as an original Member of the Advisory Board of the Global Taiwan Institute (GTI), a think tank in Washington, DC, since its founding in 2016.

Shirley Kan writes analyses that have appeared widely in publications that include: Project 2049 Institute's *AsiaEye*, GTI's *Global Taiwan Brief*, *National Interest*, Pacific Forum's *PacNet Newsletter*, *Taipei Times*, *The Diplomat*, the University of Nottingham's *Taiwan Insight*, and NBR's "Online Roundtable." (See: shirleykannet.wordpress.com.)

She also speaks at events and is cited in the media as an independent specialist.

Serving the U.S. Government since the late 1980s, Ms. Kan specializes in security policies concerning Taiwan and concerning the People's Republic of China (PRC). Her objective writings have discussed weapons nonproliferation, counter-terrorism, military-to-military contacts, the PLA's buildup, U.S. arms sales to Taiwan, the U.S. "one China" policy for the Taiwan Strait, and defense buildup on Guam.

She attended the Commandant's National Security Program at the Army War College in 2012.

During the Taiwan Strait Crisis of 1995-1996, Ms. Kan directly assisted the Defense Attaché at the Embassy in Beijing. She received the Defense Department's Special Achievement Award.

At the Consulate in Shenyang, PRC, in the summer of 1989, she reported on the pro-democracy movement and political-military crisis (aka "Tiananmen Crackdown") as the Political Intern.

Ms. Kan graduated *cum laude* from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service (SFS) in Washington, DC, and the University of Michigan's Rackham Graduate School in Ann Arbor, MI.

