

Comment by Michael C H Jones  
29th December 2015

I did not intend to write another comment in 2015. It is well known that the best time to attack Australia is during the six to eight weeks from late December to early February when we all disappear to our favourite locals around the country "in the pursuit of happiness".

However during this year a very few perceptive or daring readers have actually asked about my assertions or projections for Chamber's interference in the US Presidential election during 2016, and subsequently the China Presidential election in 2017. Are they for real? And if so what are the reasons, how and when?

This link answers part of the why. Chamber has always been very strong on "rule of law" issues, global governance and leadership by example. Since 2005, outlined in my extensive indepth interview on the ACCCI website for over a decade, we have increasingly applied the same standards to the PRC as to the USA. This means rule of law and governance at all six levels re global, regional, national, provincial/state, city and district. We have as examples criticised strongly Obama's drones policy with respect to civilian populations in foreign countries, as well as Hu/Xi's shut-down of freedom of speech by desenters re the incaseration of 2010 Nobel Peace Prize winner Liu Xiaobo, jailed on the 25th December 2009 for participation in the Charter 08 Manifesto.

It is not in the national interest of Australia, nor of our Australasian or Greater Asian Regions re East, ASEAN, West, and Indauspac generally, to have the elephants of global power trampling aimlessly on international norms of civilized behaviour. Any Manifesto of Fairness that the new Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull might enounce, or an ACCCI Economic Narrative delivered in 2016, must by necessity factor in the health or otherwise of both the USA and PRC Economies. This includes the warfare of current Global Economic Relations wheher within the WTO and G20, or in the rivalries of the TPP and SCO.

The decisions of the US and Chinese governments impact the world, and therefore the people of the world have a right to participate/interfere in that decision-making. When US Presidential candidates countenance blatant breaches of international human rights leading to the deaths of innocent civilians in foreign countries that is a reason for interference in US domestic politics. When the Communist Party of China via its PRC Government seeks to muzzle intellectual endeavour on issues of fundamental importance to the peoples of the world, then both global institutions and domestic institutions need to be democratised assisted by international direct action. Non-violent civil disobedience has a glorious historical record of achievement in bringing about fundamental change even when confronted by murderous State power.