



Abstract

The USS Carl Vinson, a US aircraft carrier, was deployed to the South China Sea on January 5th, 2017, transporting military personnel and equipment. This move, though labeled routine by the US, was seen by China as confrontational amid escalating tensions over territorial and trade disputes with the US. This deployment reflects the US strategy of using coercive diplomacy to influence state behavior in line with its national interests. Both the US and China are significant global military powers, with the US maintaining dominance through its 11 aircraft carriers, while China rapidly advances its military capabilities. This analysis focuses on understanding how such deployments impact global dynamics, particularly in the South China Sea, from 2010 to 2022.