
Comment

Dr. Cheng Xiaohe, School of International Studies, Renmin University of China

Mr. Euan Graham provided a relatively in-depth analysis on the relationship between China and DPRK. However, there are some aspects of his analogy between China-DPRK relations with US-Israel relations that are worthy of further discussion. China fought for DPRK only for once, while US backed up Israel during the four Middle East Wars. China provided both manpower and material during the Korean War, while US only provided material and diplomatic support in the Middle East Wars without sending troops to be directly involved in them. DPRK is of important geographic and strategic value to China, while Israel is far away from US, and unable to provide a strategic buffer for US. The American Jewish community is powerful in the US political field and in a position to influence US policy towards Israel, while the Koreans in China are weak in power and China's policy towards DPRK is rarely influenced by domestic politics. With regard to the stability of bilateral relations, the China-DPRK relationship fluctuates considerably and nowadays the China-DPRK alliance exists in name only, while US-Israel relationship is relatively stable and US is still a firm ally of Israel.

Thus it can be seen that there are many differences between China-DPRK relationship and US-Israel relationship. It seems inadvisable to put these two together for comparison.