

# What Xi Wants

- Political Stability/political legitimacy
- Social Stability
- Economic Stability





- Beijing craves political stability
- Trump represents a source of instability.
- An example: how does Beijing's desire for stability translate into policy towards North Korea?
- What is Trump's China policy?
- How do China's leaders see a Trump presidency?



### What is Trump's China policy?

- We don't really know. By newness, and, perhaps, by design?
- "I want to be unpredictable," Trump said in Sept. 2015. "I don't want the other side to know what my views are." Also in Sept. 2015, when CNN's Don Lemon asked Trump to "give more specifics about foreign policy," Trump said only "<u>a fool</u>" would do so."
- "We're totally predictable. And predictable is bad." – Conversation with Washington Post editorial board, March 2016.

### Chinese opacity



# How Chinese leaders gather information

Neibao

"It's like Citibank," a Chinese academic told me. "The CCP has branches everywhere."

- -Chinese journalists as spies
- -High-level meetings
- -Chinese experts
- -Learning from American experts

## Chinese leaders on Trump

- Japan
- Human Rights
- Trade
- "We can handle Trump."
- Biggest worry: instability.

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