Rapid Innovation with Chinese Characteristics:

National Defense Science and Technology Innovation Rapid Response Teams

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Adversary Informed Prioritization

What technologies and applications does China prioritize for great power competition?

For which of those technologies does Beijing rely on the civilian sector?

Which actors in the Chinese system are most critical for the process?



In the Open Source: China's Rapid Response Teams





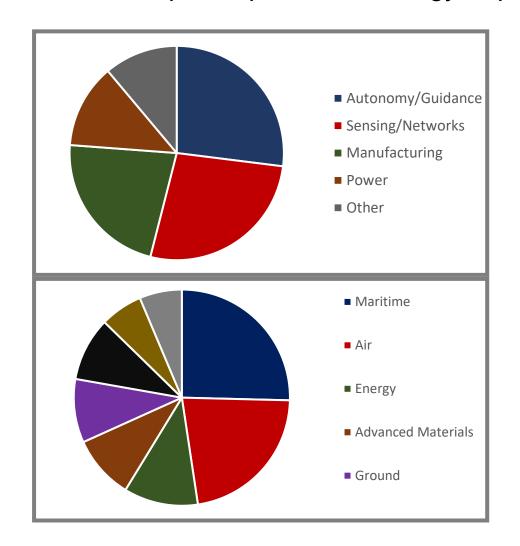
"Link advanced commercial technologies and products to national defense capabilities...Their main task is to pay close attention to advanced commercial technologies, concepts, and models; discover and quickly respond to commercial technologies and products with military application potential; and link frontiers of military and commercial innovation."

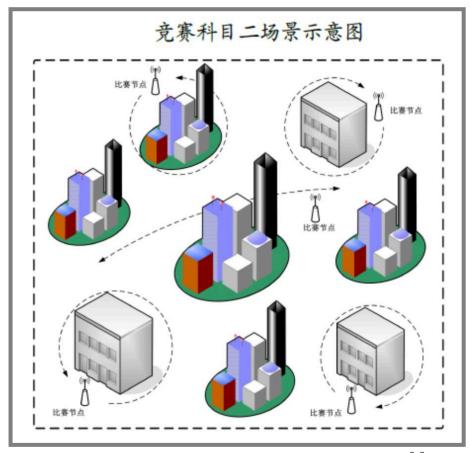
-"Introduction to the Rapid Response Team" (2018)



Rapid Innovation with Chinese **Characteristics**

57 rapid response technology requests and 6 rapid response team challenges





Conclusion

- Beijing's MCF innovation ecosystem prioritizes information technology, broadly.
- More specifically, priority areas for military and commercial fusion within the rapid response projects are: autonomous systems (e.g., UAVs, UUVs), sensing and network technologies to dock into and connect them, and information aggregation and analysis.
- Advanced algorithms and software development do not feature prominently.
- The MCF innovation ecosystem relies on participation and support from a wide range of players: Local governments, military organs, State-owned defense industry conglomerates, private companies, State and military research institutes, universities.





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