

# **Going on the Offensive:**

## Proactive Acquisition for Competing with China

May 2026

**HORIZON**  
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# A Reactive Acquisition Approach

The Dark Eagle Hypersonic Missile Will Pierce China's A2/AD Bubble

December 20, 2025 | By: Stavros Atlamazoglou

2025

U.S. Challenged to Defend Against Chinese Missiles

"The investments that we've seen the Chinese make in hypersonics are frankly startling," said Dr. Mark Lewis, executive director of the National Defense Industrial Association's Emerging Technologies Institute, and former director of defense research and engineering for modernization at the Pentagon.

2022

2016

China Successfully Tests Hypersonic Weapon System

The superweapon travels at an eye-watering 7,000 miles an hour.

China's hypersonic missile test 'close to Sputnik moment', says US general

2021

China surprises U.S. with hypersonic missile test, FT reports

By Reuters

October 17, 2021 3:45 AM EDT · Updated October 17, 2021



ough missile on same

2026

US Space Force wants space-based missile interceptors for Golden Dome ready by 2028

NEWS By Brett Tingley published April 30, 2026

2006

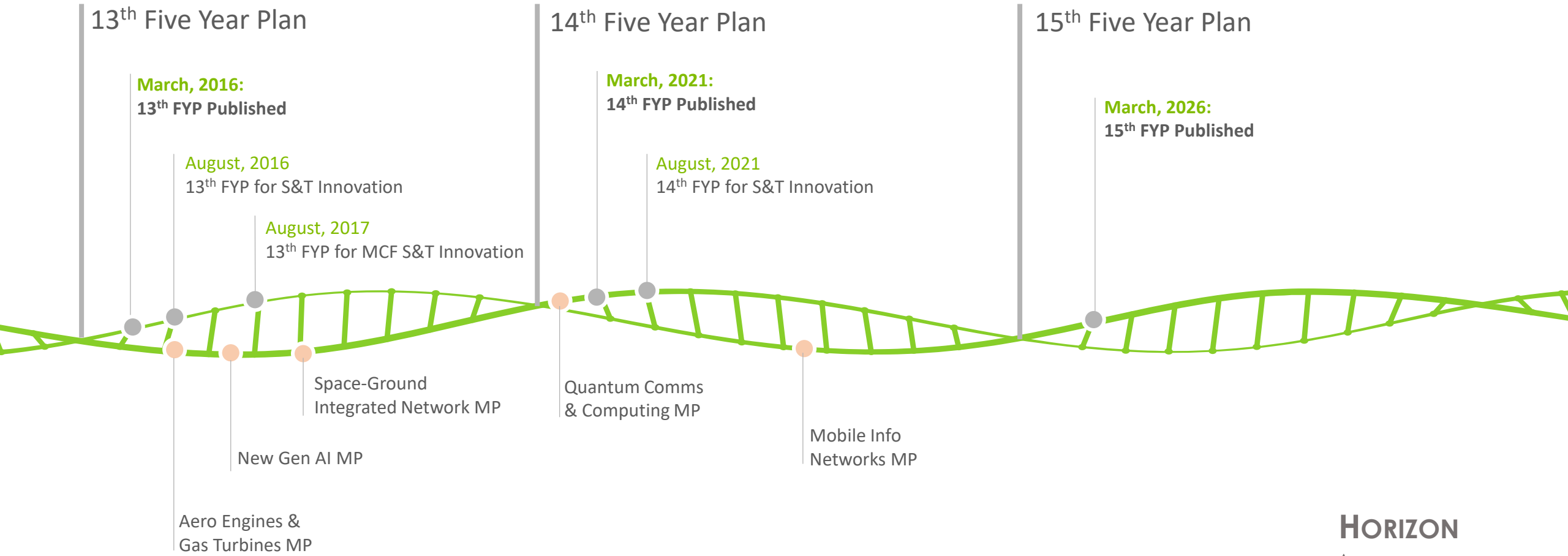
国家中长期科学和技术发展规划纲要  
(2006—2020年)  
中华人民共和国国务院

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  - 2. 发展目标
  - 3. 总体部署
- 三、重点领域及其优先主题
  - 1. 能源
    - (1) 工业节能
    - (2) 煤的清洁高效开发利用、液化及多联产
    - (3) 复杂地质油气资源勘探开发利用
    - (4) 可再生能源低成本规模化开发利用
    - (5) 超大规模输配电和电网安全保障
  - 2. 水和矿产资源

Medium and Long-Term S&T Development Plan

# China's Five-Year Planning Process



# Proactive, Adversary-Informed Acquisition

|       | Defense   | Offense   |
|-------|---|---|
| Early | Use O&M funding to update existing capabilities                       | Use R&D funding to put new PRC investments on the defensive |
| Late  | Re-assert escalation dominance by substituting operational approaches | Demonstrate disruptive offensive capabilities               |



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