

# U.S. Navy operations in South China Sea

President-elect Joe Biden's administration is expected to maintain, or even expand, Freedom of Navigation Operations (FONOPs) in the South China Sea to challenge China's sovereignty claims in the region



## Number of FONOPs in South China Sea

(Fiscal years, Oct-Sep)



**Programme has escalated since Trump administration took over in 2017**

*Guided-missile destroyer  
USS Wayne E. Meyer transiting  
South China Sea, Oct 2, 2019*