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## WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE 2ND US-PACIFIC ISLANDS SUMMIT?

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Patricia O'Brien

*The upcoming summit represents the crowning event of Washingtons explosive re-engagement with the Pacific Islands.*

Pacific leaders will be welcomed back to Washington D.C. for the second summit with the United States on September 25. This year there is a slight, but significant, renaming of this event from the inaugural U.S.-Pacific Islands Country Summit in 2022. It is now named the U.S.-Pacific Islands Forum Summit, an indication of how the U.S. is coalescing its greatly upscaled efforts in the Pacific around the peak regional bodybased in Suva, Fiji. With 18 nations and territories as members of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), it is expected that this year there will be high-level representation from all the island member-states, excluding PIF members Australia and New Zealand, who will observe summit proceedings again this year.

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