

Economic Espionage: China's Economic Warfare Against the United States Supplement to Article 2: US & China Trade and Immigration Timeline

The US and China have shared a lengthy, tumultuous and often retaliatory trade and immigration relationship. Below are some of the key milestones in the relationship that illustrate the progression of the relationship to its current state.

- 1784:
First (unofficial) representative of US, Samuel Shaw, visits China.
- 1810:
US merchants send Opium (mostly of Persian variety) to China.
- 1821:
US refuses to turn over person responsible for death of a Chinese woman selling goods to the crew on a US ship, and China retaliates by ceasing trade with US. The US relents to China, gives over an Italian crewman named Terranova. Trade with China resumes. (aka Terranova Affair).
- 1834:
British East India Company disbands and loses its trade monopoly in China. Private trade is allowed with China, and the US benefits from the change.
- 1835:
US doctor Peter Parker establishes a small dispensary in Guangzhou China. His practice does very well, and the dispensary is transformed into an ophthalmic hospital in China.
- 1839:
Nathan Dunn of Philadelphia brings a large collection of Chinese art, artifacts and botanical samples to the US. He opens the "Chinese Museum" in Philadelphia, PA which gives US visitors a realistic view of what life is like in China.
- 1840:
The first opium war breaks out in China. Britain loses opium business in China, while US opium trade with China increases.
- 1842:
The Treaty of Nanjing is signed which grants Britain Most Favored Nation (MFN) status with China. This Treaty became the model for future trade agreements with the West.
- 1844:
US President Tyler sends a diplomatic representative, Caleb Cushing, to China. **Cushing secures the first American treaty with China (Treaty of Wangxia). The Treaty gives American merchants trading rights in five Chinese ports and MFN status, among other benefits.** Cushing brings four American warships loaded with gifts including revolvers, telescopes, and an encyclopedia to China. Trade with China grows rapidly, with a mostly hostile reaction from the Chinese.

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1847:

Coolie ships began bringing Chinese workers to US ports. Congress passes a law forbidding US merchants from engaging in trade with the Chinese laborers, and it guarantees the freedom of all Chinese workers who came to the US. As well, the California Gold Rush brings more Chinese laborers to the US.

1858:

China signs a new treaty with the US (and foreign nations) called the **Treaties of Tianjin**. The new Treaties “open more treaty ports to foreign trade and settlement, grant additional trading privileges to foreign merchants, legalize the opium trade, give missionaries the right to proselytize throughout inland China, and allow the establishment of permanent diplomatic legations in Beijing.” (Source: <https://history.state.gov/countries/issues/china-us-relations>)

1860:

Britain and France destroy China's Summer Palace, and therein force China's Qing to enforce the Treaties of Tianjin.

1862:

Foreign legations set forth in the Treaties of Tianjin are set up, with Anson Burlingame becoming the first U.S. Minister to live in Beijing China.

1867-1868:

China seeks to renegotiate its treaties with the West and has Anson Burlingame head the effort. Burlingham first resigns his position as U.S. Minister. Burlingham negotiates and signs the new Treaty along with U.S. Secretary of State William Seward.
Unrestricted Chinese migration to the United States begins.

1870:

Yung Wing (Rong Hong) forms the Chinese Education Mission (CEM) with the support from the Government of China. Yung brings a group of 30 Chinese teenage male students to the US for an American education.

1875:

US Congress enacts the Page Act which barred Coolie laborers and female Chinese prostitutes.

1878:

China establishes a diplomatic mission in Washington, D.C. and appoints Chen Lanping as Chief of Mission. Yung Wing, CEM program head, serves as acting chief of mission.
Full bilateral ties between the US and China are established.

1881:

The Qing ends the Chinese Education Mission (CEM) as anti-Chinese sentiment in the US grows. The Chinese become frustrated with the US's failure to deliver on its promise of providing access to US military academies.

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1888:

US and China sign the Bayard-Zhang Treaty which prohibits all new Chinese migration for 20 years, and limits the classes of Chinese people who could return to the US after a trip home to China.

US Congress passes the Scott Act canceling the right of return for Chinese residents who left the United States regardless of the reason. The Chinese in the US challenge the Scott Act, but the California Circuit Court rules that the US Congress could modify any treaty at any time. As well, the US Supreme Court finds that control over immigration was a sovereign right, so Congress can act as it sees fit regardless of any international agreements.

1892:

US passes the Geary Act, **extending the Chinese Exclusion Act's prohibition on Chinese immigration until 1902.** And, all Chinese and Chinese descendants in the US must now carry residence permits or face deportation. Additional rights are also stripped away.

1894-1895:

As a result of the First Sino-Japanese War and the MFN principle, the **US gains the right to build factories in China.** But, the US loses its rights in Taiwan and faces greater competition from Japan in Southeast China.

1898:

The rise of the Chinese conservatives during the Hundred Days Reform Movement produces no immediate impact on US-China relations, but it makes treaty revisions much less likely in the short-term future.

1899-1900:

US Secretary of State John Hay issues the two Open Door Notes to all foreign powers with interests in China over US concerns about recent developments in China. The Notes aims are: 1) to preserve existing systems of trade with equal opportunity for all foreign powers, and 2) to maintain China's territorial integrity so that no foreign power would have an advantage. **This was the first official statement of US-China policy.**

1900:

Anti-foreign sentiments in China and rural unrest birth the Boxer movement. The movement touts slogans like "support the Qing, destroy the foreign" and the "Boxers United in Righteousness." Foreigners and Chinese Christian converts are targeted for violent attacks in China. The Boxers seize Beijing and the foreign legations district. The US Marines defend the legations during the siege and join the multinational force that crushes the Boxers.

1901:

The Boxer Protocol is signed wherein China's Qing Government is essentially bankrupted after foreign powers force the Qing to submit to a punitive settlement of \$333 million.

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1902, 1904:

US Congress continues to pass restrictive legislation regarding Chinese immigration. **New US laws aim to prevent more Chinese from arriving in the US and establish guidelines to remove of all Chinese already in the US.**

1905-1906:

As a result of new laws, Chinese in Shanghai, Beijing, and other cities **boycott US products and businesses. Chinese nationalism rises.**

1908:

U.S. Congress issues a joint **resolution remitting the surplus amount of the U.S. portion of the Boxer Indemnity (roughly \$11 million) to the Chinese government.** After this, China's Qing decides to send between 50 and 100 students a year to the US to receive their education. The remitted funds are used to finance this educational program.

Japan's Ambassador to the US, Takahira Kogorō, confirms Japan's special interests and influence in Northeast China and Korea via the Root-Takahira Agreement. **The preservation of China's territorial integrity is reaffirmed.**

1915:

Japan seizes German territories in Shandong Province and issue 21 demands to the Chinese Government aimed at extensive new trade and territorial privileges. US President Woodrow Wilson objects to the demands, and U.S. Minister in China, Paul Reinsch, tells the Chinese to resist demands. Japan drops the demands that most severely compromised China's sovereignty.

1917:

Yuan Shikai proclaims himself Emperor of China in 1916, and dies soon thereafter. Then, China fragments into territorial fiefdoms ruled by local warlords. A nominal national regime exists in Beijing. The US maintains diplomatic relations with this government. US citizens and companies in China must deal directly with local leaders.

1919:

China joins the Allies in World War I hoping to regain the German concessions that Japan seized. China's hopes are destroyed as secret agreements in the Treaty of Versailles between Japan, Britain, and France give those territories to Japan. Chinese students protest at the Tiananmen in Beijing and storm the house of a pro-Japanese minister. **The May Fourth Movement, that combines cultural and educational reform with rising Chinese nationalism and thorough political and social transformation, begins. Chinese look to the US for models of reform.**

1921:

The Rockefeller Foundation donates a large sum to found the Peking Union Medical College (PUMC), which is a joint US-Chinese project. The PUMC trains nurses and doctors to serve as the core of a modern medical profession in China.

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1924:

US Immigration Act (aka National Origins Act) places stringent quotas on new immigrants based upon their country of origin. **The Act also puts total prohibitions on new arrivals from China and Japan, except for students, certain professionals, and others who do not intend to immigrate to the US.**

1928:

Secretary of State Frank Kellogg signs an agreement granting China full tariff autonomy.

1933:

The Chinese Government's first official rural development program begins in Jiangxi Province. **It relies, to a large extent, on American planning, funding, and/or implementation.**

1938:

After China plunged into war in 1936, US popular and governmental support for China increased significantly. **Franklin D. Roosevelt issues a credit to Chinese Nationalists regime in the amount of \$25 million, which is later expanded to \$100 million.**

U.S. authors and journalists Helen Foster Snow and Edgar Snow, and a few other foreigners, create Industrial Cooperatives (Indusco) to help China produce materials to fight against Japan. These small factories can be established anywhere with very little money. **Chinese Nationalists and Communists picked up on this idea, and cooperatives are set up throughout Chinese held territory.**

1941:

US extends the Lend-Lease program to China and enacts an embargo against Japan. American Volunteer Group ("Flying Tigers") brings a squadron of planes and pilots to defend China from Japan's aerial attacks. When Japanese forces attacked Pearl Harbor, the US formally entered into the war on China's side.

1943:

The US and China sign a treaty formally ending 100 years of extraterritoriality in China. Simultaneously, the United States passes legislation allowing Chinese immigration for the first time in 60 years, under a very low quota.

1950:

First military clash between US and Chinese forces since the Boxer Uprising of 1900 occurs during the Korean War. **Anti-American sentiment rose in China and almost all remaining US citizens began to pull out.**

1957:

41 US students who had been participating in the 6th World Festival of Youth and Students journey to the People's Republic of China at the express wish of the US Government. When the students returned, their passports were seized by the US Government.

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1958:

China's Mao launches a mass campaign to thoroughly reform Chinese society, and also to dramatically increase industrial output quickly. This will be accomplished by organizing the countryside into massive communes that will produce food, iron and steel. **After a series of hardships and failures to meet the targets for industrial production the Chinese economy was near collapse by 1962.**

1965:

US puts an end to immigration quotas based on national origin. Chinese immigration from Taiwan and Hong Kong considerably increases.

1966:

China's Mao launches the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution which unleashes a decade of mass-mobilization in China. PRC ends urban chaos by sending urban youths to the countryside for re-education.

1970:

US and Chinese Ambassadors began meeting again in Warsaw. But, this is quickly suspended when the US bombs Cambodia.

1971:

A US player ends up riding on the Chinese Ping Pong team bus during the international table tennis competition in Japan. The Chinese then invite the US team to visit Beijing. When the U.S. Ping Pong team arrives in China, it's the **first semi-official delegation of Americans in China in two decades. Not long thereafter, the US eases trade and travel restrictions with China.** The Chinese ping-pong team visits the United States in 1972.

1971:

National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger makes a secret trip to the PRC to meet with China's Zhou Enlai and other senior Chinese leaders. The intent of the visit is to pave the way for President Nixon's visit to China. A second public trip was made to finalize arrangements. **After more than 20 years of non-recognition, the two trips mark the reopening of direct ties between Washington and Beijing.**

1972:

US President Nixon visits Beijing to develop the Shanghai Communiqué. Nixon is first American head of State to set foot on the Chinese Mainland. **This began the process of full normalization of relations between the United States and the PRC.**

1976:

China's Zhou Enlai dies, and Deng Xiaoping is purged again. Radicals opposed to relations with the United States grew in power in China. Mao also dies later in 1976. With Mao's passing, **the Gang of Four - the architects of much of the Cultural Revolution in China - and the main opponents of re-opening ties with the United States, were arrested.**

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1977:

Deng Xiaoping rises as China's leader. US President Carter and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance visit China to re-start negotiations on normalization. But, these attempts fail.

1978:

US National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski visits China to meet with Deng and other leaders. **The two governments finally issue a joint communiqué that establishes full diplomatic relations. Formal embassies are established in Beijing and Washington the following year.**

1979:

China's Deng Xiaoping visits the United States to meet with US officials and tour some of the companies China had begun to make deals with. **The two countries sign a trade agreement that enables Chinese products to receive temporary MFN tariff status.**

1980:

China's Deng Xiaoping begins a major process of economic reforms in China. This includes opening the doors to foreign investment and business. Companies from the United States, Europe, and Japan come to China to take advantage of the new opportunities. China also joins the IMF and World Bank.

1986:

China applies for membership in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). **The US does not support China's entry into GATT or WTO because of concerns about China's openness about their economy.** China also joined the Asian Development Bank.

1988:

An agreement is reached to send a group of US Peace Corp volunteers to China, but it took until 1992 for the group to arrive. **The Peace Corp volunteers teach English to the Chinese.**

1989:

US (and other nations) impose economic sanctions on China due to Chinese military crackdowns at Tiananmen Square. As well, many US citizens evacuate China. US President George H.W. Bush covertly maintains relations with China's leadership.

1992:

US President George H.W. Bush and Chinese Premier Li Peng meet at the U.N. conference. At the same time, President Bush authorizes new arms sales to Taiwan and dispatches a Special Trade Representative to Taiwan as well.

1993:

US President Clinton ties annual review of MFN trading status to China's record on human rights. However, Clinton reversed his position the following year and grants China MFN status without changes to China's human rights policies/practices.

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1997:

Chinese President Jiang Zemin visits the United States after nearly a decade, **signaling US-China relations are back on track.**

1999:

Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji travels to Washington to finalize China's entry into the WTO. These negotiations fail, but later in the year after talks in Beijing, the US and China come to an Agreement and **China joins the WTO.**

2000:

US President Clinton decides to grant China permanent Normal Trade Relations status, ending yearly reviews of China's human rights policies.

"Between 1980 and 2004, US-China trade rises from \$5 billion to \$231 billion.

Source: <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/us-relations-china>

2005:

US Deputy Secretary of State Robert B. Zoellick initiates a strategic dialogue with China. After **recognizing China as an emerging power,** Zoellick calls on China to serve as a "responsible stakeholder." China is expected to use its influence to draw Sudan, North Korea, and Iran into the international system.

2006:

China surpasses Mexico as the United States' second-biggest trade partner, after Canada." Source: <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/us-relations-china>

2008:

China becomes the largest holder of US debt—or treasuries—at around \$600 billion, superseding Japan. Concerns over US-China economic imbalances due to the growing interdependence between the US and Chinese economies becomes evident and as a financial crisis threatens the global economy.

2010:

China surpasses Japan as the world's second-largest economy after it is valued at \$1.33 trillion for the second quarter of 2010. In contrast, Japan is valued at \$1.28 trillion for that year. Source: <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/us-relations-china>

2011:

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton calls for "increased investment—diplomatic, economic, strategic, and otherwise—in the Asia-Pacific region." As well, at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, President Obama announces the **US and eight other nations reach an agreement on the Trans-Pacific Partnership—a multinational free trade agreement.** Source: <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/us-relations-china>

China reports a total GDP of \$5.88 trillion for 2010, compared to Japan's \$5.47 trillion.

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2012:

The US trade deficit with China rises from \$273.1 billion in 2010, and all-time high of \$295.5 billion in 2011. United States, the EU, and Japan file a “request for consultations” with China at the World Trade Organization over its restrictions on exporting rare earth metals, which force multinational firms that use the metals to relocate to China.

2013:

US President Obama and China's Xi vow to establish a “new model” of relations, a nod to Xi's concept of establishing a **“new type of great power relations” for the US and China.**

2014:

A US court indicts five Chinese hackers, allegedly with ties to China's People's Liberation Army, on charges of stealing trade technology from US companies.

2015:

US authorities signal there's evidence that Chinese hackers are behind the major online breach of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and the theft of data from twenty-two million current and former federal employees.

2017:

US President Trump questions Washington's 40-year commitment to the “One China” policy. Secretary of State Tillerson visits Beijing, and describes the US-China relationship as one “built on nonconfrontation, no conflict, mutual respect, and always searching for win-win solutions.” Source: <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/us-relations-china>

US President Trump welcomes China's Xi for a two-day summit at Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida. They engage in bilateral trade discussions with North Korea as the top the agenda.

U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross unveils a ten-part agreement between Beijing and Washington that expands trade of products and services such as beef, poultry, and electronic payments. Unfortunately, the Agreement does not address trade issues including aluminum, car parts, and steel.

2018:

The Trump administration announces tariffs on Chinese imports in response to White House allegations of China's theft of US technology and intellectual property. The tariffs are worth at least \$50 billion. The tariff's include clothing, shoes, and electronics, and restrict some Chinese investment in the United States. China retaliates on a range of US products. There are growing concerns that the US and China are stoking a trade war.

The Trump administration imposes new tariffs on Chinese goods. **A 25 % import tax is placed on a total of 800 Chinese products, including goods in the industrial and transport sectors, televisions and medical devices.** China retaliates imposing about \$34 billion in tariffs on more than 500 US products, including beef, dairy, seafood, and soybeans.

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2018: (Continued)

US Vice President Pence says the US will prioritize competition over cooperation by using tariffs to combat economic aggression. Pence accuses China of stealing American intellectual property and interfering in US elections, among other allegations.

Meng Wanzhou, the CFO of Chinese telecom and electronics company Huawei, is arrested in Canada at the US government's request. The US Justice Department alleges Huawei and Meng violated trade sanctions against Iran and committed fraud. US DOJ requests Meng's extradition.

2019:

Huawei sues the US in a separate lawsuit for banning US federal agencies from using Huawei's equipment. President Trump urges other countries not to use Huawei's equipment either, due to alleged spying by China.

The Trump administration raises tariffs on \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods to 25%. China retaliates and increases tariffs on \$60 billion worth of American goods.

President Trump bans US companies from using foreign-made telecommunications equipment that could threaten national security, and Huawei is added to the US Department of Commerce's foreign entity blacklist.

China's Central Bank lets the yuan weaken significantly and **President Trump designates China as a currency manipulator for the first time since 1994.**

2020:

US and China sign Phase One of the ECONOMIC AND TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, which **ends a two-year trade war between nations.**

As well, some US tariffs on Chinese imports are relaxed. **China commits to buying \$200 billion more worth of American goods, including agricultural products and cars, within a two-year period. China also pledges to enforce intellectual property protections.** Days before signing the Agreement, the United States drops its designation of China as a currency manipulator.

Corona virus pandemic is first reported in the city of Wuhan. US and China exchange accusations of its origins. Then, the countries change tones and highlight cooperation. US President Trump places blame on WHO for being biased toward China and halts US funding of the WHO.

The US limits the number of Chinese journalists in five state run media outlets in the US from 160 to 100. Then, some US journalists are expelled from China. And, China requires other US journalists in country to provide info about their operations to China.

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2020: (Continued)

US President Trump signs an executive order ending Hong Kong's preferential trade status with the US. He also signs legislation to sanction officials and businesses that undermine Hong Kong's freedoms and autonomy. China then threatens to impose retaliatory sanctions on US individuals and entities.

The United States orders China to close its consulate in Houston, Texas. The US alleges the consulate is a "hub espionage and intellectual property theft." China then retaliates by closing the US consulate in Chengdu. The US indicts two Chinese hackers for allegedly stealing coronavirus vaccine research.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo declares that the "**era of engagement with the Chinese Communist Party is over, condemning its unfair trade practices, intellectual property theft, human rights abuses in Xinjiang and Hong Kong, and aggressive moves in the East and South China Seas.**" He calls on Chinese citizens and democracies worldwide to press Beijing to change its behavior and respect the rules-based international order." Source: <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/us-relations-china>

"Director of National Intelligence John Ratcliffe calls China "the greatest threat to America today," while the Commerce Department adds dozens of Chinese companies, including the country's biggest chipmaker, Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corporation (SMIC), to its trade blacklist. Source: <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/us-relations-china>

The State Department tightens visa rules for the around 90 million members of the Chinese Communist Party. They also sanction more Chinese officials, including 14 members of China's legislative body. The sanctions are driven by abuses in Hong Kong, Xinjiang, etc. **The White House also bans US investments in Chinese companies that it believes have ties to the People's Liberation Army.** Chinese officials vow retaliation.

2021:

Beijing imposes sanctions on 28 of the Trump administration's former officials that China calls "crazy actions" that "seriously disrupted US-China relations."

Source: <https://www.cfr.org/timeline/us-relations-china>

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken speaks with China's top foreign policy official, Yang Jiechi. Blinken stresses human rights and the ongoing military coup in Myanmar. Yang calls for Washington to stop interfering in China's internal affairs and respect China's sovereignty.

President Joe Biden and China's Xi Jinping participate in a call in which the US expressed concerns about China's economic practices, human rights, and Taiwan. China focused on the need for mutual respect, cooperation, and dialogue.

The Biden administration extends tariff exclusions on about 99 categories of medical products from China until September 30, 2021. The exclusion covers medical masks, gloves, blood pressure cuff sleeves and X-ray tables needed for Corona virus treatment.

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2021: (Continued)

Chinese companies Huawei Technologies Co., ZTE Corp., Hytera Communications Corp., Hikvision Digital Technology Co., and Dahua Technology Co. are named to a new FCC national security threat list under a 2019 law.

The US sanctions an additional 24 Chinese and Hong Kong officials over Beijing's Hong Kong policy. As a result, **foreign financial institutions that conduct significant transactions with the listed individuals will be subject to the US sanctions.**

The US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) launches a proceeding to determine whether to strip the local business license from China Unicom Americas, Pacific Networks and its wholly-owned subsidiary ComNet, due national security concerns.

US and China end their first high-level face-to-face meetings held in Anchorage, Alaska, with no forward progress and accusations by both countries.

Chinese individuals are sanctioned for human rights violations in Xinjiang by US, UK, and Canada. The EU-China Comprehensive Agreement on Investments ("CAI") are put in doubt. Western apparel brands like H&M, Nike, Adidas, and Burberry faced backlash and boycotts in China.

The US Commerce Department adds 7 Chinese supercomputing entities to its Entity List, citing activities that are contrary to US national security or foreign policy interests. The entities include: Tianjin Phytium Information Technology, Shanghai High-Performance Integrated Circuit Design Center, Sunway Microelectronics, the National Supercomputing Center Jinan, the National Supercomputing Center Shenzhen, the National Supercomputing Center Wuxi, and the National Supercomputing Center Zhengzhou. As a result, **American companies are barred from doing business with the 7 Chinese companies without first obtaining a US government license.**

US Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry and China Special Envoy for Climate Change Xie Zhenhua meet in Shanghai and announce joint cooperation with other countries to address climate issues.

US President Biden and Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga pledge to take on challenges from China together. As well, the two countries address peace and stability in the Taiwan strait, and a joint investment by Japan and the US "to invest together in areas such as 5G, artificial intelligence, quantum computing, genomics, and semiconductor supply chains." Source: <https://www.china-briefing.com/news/us-china-relations-in-the-biden-era-a-timeline/>

The US Senate Foreign Relations Committee has approved the **Strategic Competition Act of 2021, signaling bipartisan consensus on orienting US policy towards being more aggressive in efforts to counter China.**

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2021: (Continued)

US Trade Representative Katherine Tai and Chinese Vice Premier Liu He spoke by phone, making it the first such conversation on trade between the two sides since President Joe Biden took office.

Chinese Vice Premier Liu He and US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen participate in a video meeting to discuss economic ties. The US position on the call stressed "Biden Administration's plans to support a continued strong economic recovery and the importance of cooperating on areas that are in US interests, while at the same time frankly tackling issues of concern." Source: <https://www.china-briefing.com/news/us-china-relations-in-the-biden-era-a-timeline/>

US President Joe Biden issues a new executive order titled, "Executive Order Addressing the Threat from Securities Investments that Finance Certain Companies of the People's Republic of China". **The new order bars American investment in Chinese firms with purported ties to defense or surveillance technology sectors.** The new order takes effect on beginning August 2, 2021.

The US Senate approves the "**US Innovation and Competition Act of 2021.**" The Act is intended to boost the US's ability to compete with Chinese technology. **Included with the bill is an investment of more than US\$250 billion into American semiconductor manufacturing, as well as boosting the National Science Foundation, creating regional technology hubs, and spurring 5G innovation.**

US President Joe Biden orders the Commerce Department to launch national security reviews of apps with links to foreign adversaries, including China.

China's National People's Congress (NPC), approves the Anti-Foreign Sanctions Law, which offers a legal foundation for China to counter US and EU sanctions over trade, technology, Hong Kong, and Xinjiang. According to this new law, individuals or entities involved in making or implementing discriminatory measures against Chinese citizens or entities could be put on an anti-sanctions list. Once added to the list the party may be denied entry into China or be expelled from the country. As well, China may seize, detain or freeze any of the party's assets. The party could be prohibited or restricted from doing business or other activities in China. Chinese authorities may also take countermeasures against other individuals or organizations with specific ties to blacklisted individuals or entities. Source: <https://www.china-briefing.com/news/us-china-relations-in-the-biden-era-a-timeline/>

Yang Jiechi and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken participate in a phone call in which US concerns over issues in Hong Kong, Xinjiang, and Taiwan and stressed. As well, the need for a second phase investigation into the origins of COVID-19 are discussed, among other topics. China's Yang urged the US to abide by the one-China principle and he criticized the US for interfering in China's internal affairs, slandering China over COVID-19, and pushing "pseudo-multilateralism" by forming anti-China cliques.

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2021: (Continued)

The Group of Seven (G7) leaders hold a 3-day summit during which they criticize Beijing over human rights in its Xinjiang region, called for Hong Kong to keep a high degree of autonomy, and **demand a full investigation of the origins of the coronavirus in China. The G7 communique said: “with regard to China, and competition in the global economy, we will continue to consult on collective approaches to challenging non-market policies and practices which undermine the fair and transparent operation of the global economy.”** Source: <https://www.china-briefing.com/news/us-china-relations-in-the-biden-era-a-timeline/>

At their annual summit in Brussels, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) leaders acknowledge that China presents a global security risk. The traditionally Russia-focused military alliance for the first time shifted its focus to China, asserting the need to respond to Beijing's growing power. A 30-member alliance, asserted that China's “stated ambitions and assertive behavior present systemic challenges to the rules-based international order”. **The newly passed [NATO 2030 strategy](#) demands that the alliance member states spend more resources on dealing with China's growing global influence.** Source: <https://www.china-briefing.com/news/us-china-relations-in-the-biden-era-a-timeline/>

Credits:

Information in this article was compiled using the following websites. We recommend you visit the sites to learn more.

<https://history.state.gov/countries/issues/china-us-relations>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caleb_Cushing

<https://www.cfr.org/timeline/us-relations-china>

<https://www.china-briefing.com/news/us-china-relations-in-the-biden-era-a-timeline/>

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