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US China Commission Says Go Full FDR

U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, delivered its 2022 [Annual Report to Congress](#), calling for a repeal of Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) and placing the Executive Branch on a war footing.

Report topics this year include Xi Jinping's centralization of authority, China's trade and energy practices, U.S. supply chain vulnerabilities and resilience, China's cyber capabilities, China's influence in South and Central Asia, a review of Taiwan, Hong Kong, economics, trade, security, politics, and foreign affairs, and more.

The policy prescriptions recall [those](#) of Henry Stimson and Franklin Roosevelt in 1940, but with the object this time to Close the Door on China.

The Report includes 39 recommendations for congressional consideration. The Commissioners agreed that ten of these recommendations are the most important for congressional action.

1. PNTR Review. Congress to direct the Administration to produce within 90 days an interagency report coordinated by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative to assess China's compliance with the terms and conditions of the 1999 Agreement on Market Access between the People's Republic of China and the United States of America. If the report concludes that China has failed to comply with the provisions agreed to for its accession to the WTO, Congress should consider legislation to immediately suspend China's Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) treatment.

2. Preparedness & Resilience. Congress to direct the Administration to create an Economic and Security Preparedness and Resilience Office within the executive branch to oversee, coordinate, and set priorities for cross-agency efforts to ensure resilient U.S. supply chains and robust domestic capabilities, establishing a dedicated Supply Chain Mapping Unit and establishing a Defense Mobilization Unit.

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3. Taiwan Sanctions. Congress to enact legislation creating a permanent interagency committee in the executive branch charged with developing options and creating plans for the imposition of sanctions or other economic measures in a range of possible scenarios, including (but not limited to) a Chinese attack, blockade, or other hostile action against Taiwan.

4. Secure Pharma Supply Chain. Congress to direct the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in cooperation with other federal agencies, within one year and on an ongoing basis thereafter, to identify pharmaceutical products that utilize active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and other ingredients and inputs that are sourced directly or indirectly from the People's Republic of China and develop alternative sourcing arrangements through available tools and resources, including Defense Production Act authorities.

5. IPEF China Trade Tech Ban. Congress to direct the Administration as part of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) to negotiate a prohibition on the utilization of China's National Transportation and Logistics Public Information Platform (LOGINK) or similar systems provided by Chinese state-affiliated entities within IPEF member ports.

6. Increased Disclosure Congress to direct the U.S. Department of the Treasury to require U.S. corporations and U.S.-registered subsidiaries of foreign corporations to publicly disclose, on an annual basis, all holdings in firms linked to China's military, including those that maintain any production permit, qualification, or certification issued by the People's Liberation Army or China's State Administration for Science, Technology, and Industry for National Defense.

7. Divestment Authority. Congress to create an authority under which the president can require specific U.S. entities or U.S. entities operating in specific sectors to divest in a timely manner from their operations, assets, and investments in China, to be invoked in any instance where China uses or threatens imminent military force against the United States or one of its allies and partners.

8. Taiwan Invasion DOD Planning. Congress to direct the U.S. Department of Defense to produce a classified report on current and future military posture, logistics, maintenance, and sustainment requirements to bolster the United States' "capacity to resist force" in the event of a Chinese attack and attempted invasion of Taiwan. The report shall assess the requirements for all scenarios, including protracted combat in a contested environment (e.g., anti-access, area denial), and evaluate how to best enable a dispersed, distributed force in the Indo-Pacific.

9. Taiwan Invasion DOD Funding. Congress should make available significant additional multiyear defense funds in conjunction with: (i) a joint planning mechanism made up of Taiwan and U.S. defense officials identifying sets of interoperable and complementary capabilities required for the defense of Taiwan;

10. Reclassify Hong Kong Mission. Congress, pursuant to the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act, amend the International Organization Immunities Act to remove Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices as a covered organization. "The territorial government is moving to a legal system that increasingly mimics that of the Mainland, threatening prospects for journalists and civil society as well as U.S. and other foreign businesses and expatriates in the territory," the report wrote.

The Commission was created in 2000 by the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act of 2001, with mandate “to monitor, investigate, and report to Congress on the national security implications of the bilateral trade and economic relationship between the United States and the People’s Republic of China. The commission is an independent government agency comprised of 12 commissioners who are appointed to two-year terms by the majority and minority leaders of the US Senate, and by the speaker of the US House of Representatives.

Forced Labor Enforcement Gets Real

Enforcement of the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (UFLPA) has begun in earnest, according to a DHS official. “We've moved a lot of resources over to this new enforcement priority. It's a, it's a new line of work for us that Congress gave to us. We are trying to work closely with Congress to get supplemental resources so we can hire even additional people. But overall CBP has really acted in the nimble and agile way,” Undersecretary for Policy Robert Silvers told the [WSJ Risk & Compliance Forum](#) last week.

“Our enforcement priorities are really as follows:

- The first is those those three categories that I mentioned, **polysilicon, tomatoes and cotton**.
- We also are prioritizing any good shipped from sanctioned entities, entities that are listed on a new [entity list](#) that the new law required us to develop. So any shipments with a tie to those are getting prioritized under our risk based enforcement approach.
- We're also prioritizing shipments that we believe may have been illegally transhipped, that is shipped from shijiang to somewhere else and then shipped onward.
- And we're also prioritizing enforcement where we see affiliated entities of companies known to operate in Xinjiang and we have reason to believe. That the products that those affiliates are sending here may contain components from Xinjiang province.

“We have worked closely with companies. We tell them what kinds of documents would be helpful for us to see. We talked to them on the phone, we talked to them in real time and we’ve been able to clear a lot of shipments that were initially detained for further inspection very, very quickly so that they could go onward into commerce. I think it's really important to note that.

“**We have not seen, you any kind of major disruptions at the ports to trade flow.** We have a mission to enforce our forced labor laws and that's really important. We also have a mission to facilitate lawful commerce and trade in this country. And we take that really seriously too. And the vast, vast, vast majority of trade and cargo is really flowing through unimpeded, but we're doing risk based targeting.

“**It's really heartening to see the sort of compliance-tech, Reg-tech market out there innovate and bring new solutions to market.** I'm not going to call out a particular technology or anything like that, but I'll say it's great to see that. We also are exploring what we can do with technology to create efficiency in this process too. So for example, cotton from Xinjiang province is one of the product categories as prioritized for enforcement. There's interesting new DNA testing technology that can be used to do on apparel for example, or other

products made with cotton where you can tell if the by the DNA whether the product may have originated in Xinjiang province. So we're testing that technology now and we're actually looking to see can we do any pilot programs with industry to to further test that kind of technology.

CTPAT Members Prioritized We're also doing a number of other initiatives to provide greater guidance, greater transparency, greater opportunities for streamlining to industry. So for example, we have a trusted trader program called [CTPAT](#). Anybody in the import or community is a very familiar with it. It's a a counterterrorism trusted trader program that's existed for a long time.

"We've now included forced labor compliance as a required element to be a member of that Trusted Trader program. And what I can announce today is that we will be prioritizing for inspection any shipments under this new Uyghur Enforcement Act that are brought in by CTPAT members in good standing. We really appreciate the work that our CTPAT members have put into earning trusted trader status. And so this is going to be a benefit is that they will get a prioritized review of Fair shipments under the new forced labor law.

"As I've engaged with the trade community over the last, the course of the last year, the vast majority of companies want to comply with this law. I think they find abhorrent the idea that forced labor may affect their supply chains. **They don't want to trade with slave labor anymore than any of us want to buy products made with slave labor.**

"UFLPA has certainly been the biggest issue that the forced Labor Enforcement Task Force has taken on since the law was passed last year. **But we're not a one trick pony. I actually think before too long you're going to see us issue another. Withhold release order."**

G20 Leaders Uphold WTO

The G20 leaders issued a clarion call from Bali last week, rebuffing protectionism while reaffirming that the "rules-based, non-discriminatory, free, fair, open, inclusive, equitable, sustainable and transparent multilateral trading system (MTS), with the WTO at its core, is indispensable to advancing our shared objectives of inclusive growth, innovation, job creation, and sustainable development."

Under the banner of "Recover Together" and "Recover Stronger", the G20 leaders seem to have criticized the growing attempts at the fragmentation of the multilateral trading system and unilateral security-driven trade policies. The two-day conference hosted by Indonesia's President Joko Widodo sent important messages about strengthening and preserving the multilateral trading system with the WTO as a custodian.

From the G20 Bali Leader's [Declaration](#), which contains many commitments, it is clear that credit goes to Indonesia for ensuring the specific concerns of the developing countries, particularly for including strong language on the need for equitable and non-discriminatory trade policies to be pursued at the WTO. More importantly, the commitments in the trade pillar are aimed at containing protectionism, said an analyst who asked not to be quoted.

WTO Reform. The G20 leaders reiterated that “reforming the WTO is key in strengthening trust in the MTS.” They maintained that they will “continue to ensure a level playing field and fair competition to foster a favorable trade to foster a favorable trade and investment environment for all.”

On the face of it, there is still no clarity on what are the main goals of the WTO reform at the WTO as major industrialized countries, including the United States, are remaining somewhat silent except for the push on improving the transparency and notification requirements and for adopting flexible negotiating methods centered on plurilateral negotiations.

The Bali Declaration also mentioned the successful 12th ministerial conference, saying the leaders commit “to seize and advance the positive momentum by engaging in active, constructive, pragmatic, and focused discussions on WTO reform to improve all its functions, including reform of the dispute settlement system, on the path leading to the MC 13.”

In paragraph 37, the Bali Declaration says that “we believe that trade and climate/environmental policies should be mutually supportive and WTO consistent and contribute to the objectives of sustainable development.” It appears WTO Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala and the European Union may have made a strong push for bringing climate change into the orbit of ongoing negotiations, yet several trade policy experts said bringing climate change issues into trade is flawed and does not augur well for the WTO. According to these experts, climate change is a non-trade issue.

Without mentioning the plurilateral Joint Statement Initiatives, the Declaration says “we recognize the need to promote value addition through sustainable and inclusive investment in highly productive sector such as downstream manufacturing, digital trade, and services and to foster linkages between foreign investors and local enterprises particularly MSMEs (micro, small, and medium enterprises).”

In paragraph seven of the Bali Declaration, the G20 leaders reiterated their commitment to “addressing for insecurity by ensuring accessibility, affordability, and sustainability of food and food products for those in needs, particularly in developing countries and least-developed countries.” It emphasized support from G20 countries for “open, transparent, inclusive, predictable, and non-discriminatory, rules-based agricultural trade based on WTO rules.”

Agriculture Trade. The Bali declaration also spoke about enhancing “market predictability, minimizing distortions, increasing business confidence, and allowing agricultural and food trade to flow smoothly.” The G20 leaders reaffirm the need “to update global agriculture food trade rules and to facilitate trade in agriculture and food products, as well as the importance of not imposing export prohibitions or restrictions on food and fertilizers in a manner inconsistent with the relevant WTO provisions.”

The above language in paragraph seven of the Bali Declaration seems to divert the discussion from reducing the most trade-distorting support or the aggregate measurement of support by the European Union and the United States, said trade envoys who asked not to be quoted.

The Bali Declaration welcomed the “multilateral Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies and encourage its rapid entry into force.” So far, not one country has ratified the agreement on fisheries subsidies which was part of the Doha work program.

Diagnostics and Therapeutics / TRIPS. In paragraph 22 of the Bali Declaration, the G20 leaders, while acknowledging the MC12 ministerial decision on TRIPS (trade-related aspects of intellectual properties), merely noted that “no later than six months from the date of the Ministerial Decision on TRIPS Agreement, WTO members will decide on its extension to cover the production and supply of COVID-19 diagnostics and therapeutics” The deadline for a decision on COVID-19 diagnostics and therapeutics is December 17.

WTO / E-Commerce Debate (via Washington Trade Daily) At a meeting of the World Trade Organization’s Committee on Trade and Development, the United States, the European Union and several other members drawn from the plurilateral Joint Statement Initiative group on digital trade apparently opposed any discussion on the e-commerce moratorium raised in a joint proposal circulated by India and South Africa, said people, preferring not to be quoted.

In response to issues raised by India and South Africa at the meeting Thursday, Washington and the EU, along with other JSI members, said while they are willing to discuss issues such as digital divide, apparently they are not ready to any discussion on the moratorium at the CTD, said people who asked not to be quoted. The two countries expressed sharp concern that no comprehensive assessment of the developmental impacts of global e-commerce on exports and export-oriented development of developing countries has taken place until now.

G20 Trade Restrictions Up – Trade restrictions imposed by G20 countries have increased in the face of economic uncertainties stemming from the global pandemic, the war in Ukraine and the food security crisis, the World Trade Organization said in a report released last week.

Between mid-May and mid-October 2022 G20 countries introduced export restrictions at an increased pace, particularly on food and fertilizer. As of mid-October, WTO members still had in place 52 export restrictions on food, feed and fertilizers, in addition to 27 export restrictions on products essential to combat COVID-19, according to the report. Of these, 44 percent of the export restrictions on food, feed and fertilizers, and 63 percent of the pandemic-related export restrictions, were maintained by G20 economies.

During the review period, G20 economies introduced 66 new trade-facilitating measures covering trade worth \$451.8 billion and 47 trade-restrictive measures on goods with a trade coverage of \$160.1 billion. These measures were not related to the pandemic, the report notes. At the same time, the accumulated stockpile of G20 import restrictions continued to grow. By mid-October, 11.6 percent of G20 imports were affected by trade-restricting measures implemented since 2009 and still in force.

Trade Remedy Cases Down Meanwhile, initiations of trade remedy investigations by G20 economies declined sharply during the review period, after a peak in 2020 that was the highest since the beginning of the trade monitoring exercise in 2009. Antidumping measures continued to be the most frequent trade remedy action in terms of initiations and terminations.

Since the start of the pandemic, 201 COVID-19 trade and trade-related measures in goods were implemented by G20 economies, with 61 percent were trade facilitating, while 39 percent could be considered trade restrictive. G20 economies also continued to phase out pandemic-related import and export measures. By mid-October 2022, 77 percent of export restrictions had been repealed, leaving 17 restrictions in place. But the trade coverage of the remaining restrictions is still large, at \$122 billion.

In response to the report, WTO Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala called on G20 countries, and all WTO members, to refrain from adopting new trade-restrictive measures that can further contribute to a worsening of the global economic outlook. “While some trade-restrictive measures have been lifted by G20 countries, the report indicates that the trend has been going in the wrong direction. Export restrictions contribute to shortages, price volatility, and uncertainty. G20 economies must build on their collective pledges from the 12th Ministerial Conference and demonstrate leadership to keep markets open and predictable, so that food and fertilizer in particular can flow to where they are needed,” she said.

OFAC Targets Dirty Nickel Miner in Guatemala.

Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctioned one Russian national and one Belarusian national for their role in exploiting the Guatemalan mining sector, as well as three associated entities connected with their corruption schemes. These individuals and entities are designated pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) 13818, which builds upon and implements the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act and targets perpetrators of serious human rights abuse and corruption around the world.

The named entities are subsidiaries of the Solway Investment Group, a Swiss-based holding company for the interests of Russo-Estonian Industrialist Aleksandr Bronstein. The leader of Solway’s mining operations in Guatemala, Russian national Dmitry Kudryakov, along with Belarusian national Iryna Litviniuk allegedly led multiple bribery schemes over several years involving politicians, judges, and government officials. In addition, Litviniuk conducted corrupt acts in furtherance of Russian influence peddling schemes by unlawfully giving cash payments to public officials in exchange for support for Russian mining interests. Solway has suspended the two pending an investigation.

Solway operates mines and smelting plants in Guatemala, Ukraine, Macedonia and Indonesia, with a focus on nickel production. Solway co-operates with the Guatemala-based company Pronico, whose mine has caused an environmental disaster with emissions of high levels of nickel in Guatemala's largest lake, resulting in diseases and eczema among the local Maya people around the lake.

Aleksandr Bronstein founded Solway Investment in 2002, after chairing the board of directors of Siberian-Urals Aluminum Company, a Russian bauxite and aluminum producer that merged in 2007 with its main competitor in the country, Rusal, and notorious Swiss trader Glencore. Previously, Bronstein headed the London-based trading company Raznoimport, which for a long time, was the Soviet Union’s sole importer and exporter of minerals.

**** Briefs *****

Lame Duck Trade Package Unlikely. Senate Finance Committee Chairman Ron Wyden (D-Ore) is hoping Congress will extend some expired trade programs during the “lame duck” post-election session, but does not foresee room for a major trade package in an already packed agenda.

“The lame duck won’t be for the faint of heart,” the senator told reporters. Tax extenders, retirement legislation, health care and the debt limit – in addition to spending bills, all are on the agenda for the brief final session of the 117th Congress. In terms of trade, Sen. Wyden wants to renew the Trade Adjustment

Assistance program for workers who lose their jobs because of trade and to “do everything I can to begin the process of modernizing this program.”

There also is bipartisan support for renewal of the expired Generalized System of Preferences program and to start the process for a new miscellaneous tariff bill, he said. Bipartisan backing of GSP renewal only exists in the Senate, however. Senators earlier agreed to a straight-forward renewal of GSP. But House Democrats want renewal to accompany reforms to the program, such as new criteria beneficiaries must meet to receive duty-free access to the US market. This difference between the House and Senate prevented GSP renewal from being part of the CHIPS bill.

Finance member Sen. Rob Portman (R-Ohio) has said he would like to see action on a comprehensive trade package in the lame duck that also would include Trade Promotion Authority. A trade package “sounds a little ambitious for the lame duck,” Sen. Wyden commented.

USMCA Case on Biotech Corn Urged. Iowa’s two senators are calling on the Administration to launch dispute settlement discussions under the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement on Mexico’s proposed ban on genetically-modified corn imports.

In a [letter](#) to US Trade Representative Katherine Tai, Republican Sens. Chuck Grassley and Joni Ernst said Mexico’s plan to stop importing biotech corn would violate Mexico’s commitments under the USMCA. It also could phase out the import of 90 percent of US corn by January 2024, the senators said.

IPEF Deliverables Next Year, Tai Says. The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework is not a traditional free trade agreements, which means it can deliver faster results, according to US Trade Representative Katherine Tai. “The key to our vision is to deliver timely results and that is what 2023 is all about,” she told a program in Singapore yesterday sponsored by Bloomberg.

The first formal round of IPEF negotiations takes place next month in Australia and deliverables could begin to emerge next year, Ms. Tai said. In a readout of Ms. Tai’s meetings in Singapore, her office noted that the upcoming round could see progress on text-based and conceptual discussions. Ms. Tai told the Bloomberg conference that the IPEF is designed to address 21st century issues in a time when the global economy is undergoing rapid change.

On the question of China, Ms. Tai called the previous day’s meeting between President Biden and Chinese President Xi an important step forward, saying that the two leaders are very capable of managing the US-China relationship. But she indicated the meeting is not likely to result in any moves on the US side to eliminate tariffs on billions of dollars worth of Chinese products imposed by the previous Administration.

Those tariffs were imposed under Section 301, which is a trade enforcement tool. The tariffs are meant to be a “rebalancing” measure. “So those tariffs remain in place because the underlying issues are still there. We’ve not got resolution yet,” she said.

No Plans For US-UK FTA. UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said he didn’t discuss a prospective trade deal with the US when he met with President Joe Biden on Wednesday, suggesting Britain has given up for now on what was once touted as one of the great prizes of Brexit, according to *Bloomberg*.

“We didn’t discuss the trade deal in particular, but we did discuss our economic partnership,” Sunak told reporters at the G-20 summit in Bali, Indonesia.

It’s a sea-change from 2019 and 2020, when Donald Trump’s US administration said Britain was at the “front of the line” to secure a trade deal. Talks opened up during Trump’s presidency, but were put on the back-burner when Biden came to power. Instead, U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai has suggested free-trade agreements are archaic, calling them a “very 20th-century tool” and saying new approaches are needed.

WHO / Pharma Transparency Rules. *Reuters* [reports](#) the World Health Organization plans to require public disclosure of public procurement contracts for pharmaceuticals. The “pandemic treaty” aims to improve equity in crisis response, enabling poor countries access to treatments. The draft recognizes the importance of IP but says there needs to be better mechanisms for sharing expertise so more companies can produce vaccines and drugs during a crisis. The agreement is not expected to be adopted before 2024 at the earliest.

APEC Year to Focus on Growth The United States will focus on sustainable economic growth when it hosts the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum next year, Vice President Harris told the closing meeting of APEC leaders on Saturday in Bangkok.

“Our host year will demonstrate the enduring economic commitment of the United States to the Indo-Pacific,” Ms. Harris said. “As I have made clear throughout my time in Bangkok: under our Administration, the United States is a strong partner for the economies and companies of the Indo-Pacific, and we are working to strengthen our economic relationships throughout the region, including by increasing two-way trade flows and the free flow of capital, which supports millions of American jobs,” The Vice President announced that the 2023 APEC leaders meeting will be held in San Francisco the week of November 12

Japan Raises EV Credit Concerns. Japanese Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry Nishimura Yasutoshi raised concerns with the electric vehicle tax credit in the Inflation Reduction Act in a meeting last week with US Trade Representative Katherine Tai. Japan joins the European Union and South Korea in taking issue with the tax credits, which will only be available for electric vehicles made in the United States. Countries that do not fully manufacture their EVs in the United States say the credit is discriminatory and violates World Trade Organization rules.

“Ambassador Tai noted the importance of taking meaningful action to combat the climate crisis by investing in clean energy technologies and addressing supply chain vulnerabilities,” according to the readout from her office. Ms. Tai brought up the status of the US-Japan beef safeguard agreement and Japan’s ongoing review of its on-road ethanol use targets, emphasizing the economic and environmental benefits of increased ethanol use. (WTD)

Solar Firms Urge Against New Tariffs. Over 240 solar and storage companies urged Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo to reject a petition for new anti-circumvention tariffs on solar products. Commerce has until December 1 to make a preliminary determination in the anti-circumvention petition from Auxin Solar.

In a [letter](#) to Ms. Raimondo released yesterday, the companies argued that the case lacks legal merit. “The ample evidence in these proceedings verifies that solar cell and module manufacturing involves technologically sophisticated operations which greatly exceed the anticircumvention statute’s ‘minor or insignificant processing’ limitation (19 U.S.C. § 1677j). It would be an improper expansion of U.S. anti-circumvention law for the Department to conclude otherwise,” they wrote.

US, Ecuador Sign Open Skies Deal. The United States and Ecuador have signed an open skies agreement establishing a legal framework for international air transport to facilitate growth of an efficient, market-based international civil aviation system. The agreement enables the expansion of passenger and cargo flights between Ecuador and the United States, promoting increased travel and trade, and ultimately spurring high quality job opportunities and economic growth, the State Department said.

The two sides have been applying the terms of the agreement on the basis of comity and reciprocity since the negotiations concluded in December 2021. The agreement will enter into force upon a further exchange of diplomatic notes. The United States has reciprocal Open Skies air transport agreements in place with more than 130 partners. Over 70 percent of international departures from the United States now fly to Open Skies partners.

ITC Finds Injury from Polymers The International Trade Commission determined that a US industry is materially injured by reason of imports of superabsorbent polymers from South Korea that the Commerce Department has determined are sold in the United States at less than fair value. As a result of the Commission’s final affirmative determination, Commerce will issue an antidumping duty order on imports of this product from South Korea.

***** Appointments *****

Inter-American Development Bank named Ilan Goldfajn President last week during a special meeting of the Bank’s Board of Governors. Mr. Goldfajn most recently served as director of the International Monetary Fund’s Western Hemisphere Department. He is a former president of the Central Bank of Brazil. He replaces former IDB president Mauricio Claver-Carone, the first American to hold the post. Nominated to the position by former President Trump, Mr. Claver-Carone was ousted by the Bank in September following ethics violations.

Former Sen. Chris Dodd has been appointed Special Presidential Advisor for the Americas, following up on his role as Special Advisor for the Ninth Summit of the Americas in Los Angeles in June. In his new position, Mr. Dodd will help advance the implementation of key initiatives President Biden announced at the Summit of the Americas in Los Angeles, spanning economic cooperation, migration, health, human rights, food security, as well as other priorities. He also will support preparations for the upcoming Cities Summit of the Americas planned for Denver in April 2023.

New House Leadership Next Year. House Republicans will hold a narrow majority in the 118th Congress after reaching the magic number of 218 seats, setting the stage for differences with the Democrat-controlled Senate. Current House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif) – the first woman to hold the position – announced that she will not seek a leadership position in the next Congress. House Majority

Leader Steny Hoyer (D-Md) also said he will not seek a leadership position. Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif) will take the speakership in the 118th Congress. The top leadership will remain unchanged in the Senate, with Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY) retaining his position as Majority Leader and Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky) having been re-elected as Minority Leader.

*** Calendar ***

EU Export Control Forum on Dec. 6. The European Commission and the Czech Presidency of the Council will hold the 2022 Annual Export Control Forum, an opportunity for experts from EU Member States and the European Parliament, industry, academia and civil society to review and discuss the latest export control developments in the EU and globally. The Forum will convene selected panels of experts, to be followed by dialogue with stakeholders. [\[Registration\]](#)

Australia Hosting First IPEF Round

Australia will be hosting the first round of in-person negotiating round for the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework December 10-15 in Brisbane. This will be the first time that negotiators sit down to hammer out the details of the four pillars that make up IPEF – trade, supply chains, the clean economy and anti-corruption.

Dear Reader,

The Washington Tariff and Trade Letter and her sister publication The Export Practitioner are getting a makeover after forty years.

We are planning a major relaunch of the titles at year end, Design and editorial.

We look forward to you and your colleagues continuing to find our material useful for your work, and we thank you for your readership.

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