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[Hill Republicans Blast BIS for Huawei Phone](#)

House Republicans, led by Chairman Michael McCaul, have urged the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) to take stringent action against Chinese tech giants Huawei and SMIC. According to a letter sent to BIS Under Secretary Alan Estevez, the lawmakers cited national security concerns following reports of Huawei's new smartphone which integrates 7-nanometer chips developed by SMIC, allegedly violating U.S. export control regulations. [READ MORE](#)

[RAPTAC / Regulations & Procedures Roundup](#)

The Commerce Department's Bureau of Industry and Security Regulations and Procedures Technical Advisory Committee met September 12th, with little news, but steady progress on the rulemaking front. [READ MORE](#)

[RAPTAC / Census Updates Country of Origin and Routed Exports](#)

Jerry Horner, Chief of the Trade Regulations Branch at the US Census Bureau, is responsible for formulating regulations governing the requirements for filing the Automated Export System data elements.

This morning, I've been asked to provide updates on two Notices of Proposed Rulemaking: one being the Routed Export Transaction rule, published prior to 2019, and the other, the Country of Origin data element, released in December 2021. [READ MORE](#)

[CRS on Export Controls & International Coordination: Issues for Congress](#)

Congress, through various means, has shown sustained interest in the export policy, emphasizing the balance between maintaining U.S. technological leadership and preventing adversaries from accessing advanced technologies.

Christopher Casey of the Congressional Research Service penned a report released September 8 that frames this topic for policymakers and practitioners alike. [READ MORE](#)

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[Penny Pritzker to Lead US Recovery Efforts in Ukraine](#)

President Biden announced yesterday he has tapped former Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker for the newly-created position of US Special Representative for Ukraine's Economic Recovery.

In her new position, Ms. Pritzker will work with the Ukrainian government, US allies and partners, international financial institutions and the private sector to drive US efforts to help rebuild the Ukrainian economy following Russia's invasion, according to a White House statement. [READ MORE](#)

[Fifth IPEF Round This Week in Bangkok](#)

The fifth round of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework negotiations is being held this week in Bangkok as negotiators seek to essentially finish up the talks before the end of this year. [READ MORE](#)

[Uncle Joe Meets Uncle Ho](#)

President Biden and General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong of the Communist Party of Vietnam met over the weekend and initiated a "Comprehensive Strategic Partnership," a status Vietnam reserves for its closest partners, emphasizing peace, cooperation, and sustainable development.

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam remains categorized as a "non-market economy," and is treated less favorably under US anti-dumping law. Removal of this designation is a priority ask from Hanoi, although it hasn't materially slowed growth in exports to the US. [READ MORE](#)

[US-Taiwan Investment Double Taxation](#)

The Senate Finance Committee on Sept. 14 plans to mark up bipartisan legislation to relieve double taxation of investments between the United States and Taiwan. Following is a summary of the legislation, the United States-Taiwan Expedited Double-Tax Relief Act. [READ MORE](#)

[Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act's Limited Impact](#)

The impact of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act on the US economy is small, but the effect on beneficiary countries is positive, the International Trade Commission reported Sept. 8. This is the ITC's 26th biennial report monitoring US imports under CBERA. The CBERA program, operative since January 1, 1984, affords preferential tariff treatment to most products of the 17 designated Caribbean beneficiaries that received CBERA benefits during the period covered in the report. [READ MORE](#)

[A Busy Week in U.S.-India Relations](#)

A busy week in U.S.-India relations led to settling a WTO dispute, consensus on the New Delhi Declaration and new legislation aimed at encouraging U.S. exports to India. [READ MORE](#)

[US Bahrain Defense & Trade Pact Announced](#)

The Biden Administration announced the “Comprehensive Security Integration and Prosperity Agreement” (C-SIPA) with Bahrain. This pact aims to strengthen various domains including defense, security, trade, and technology.

1. Strengthen defense and security cooperation, focusing on mutual intelligence capacity-building and integrating regional air and missile defense systems.
2. Enhance trade and investment ties, building on the existing US-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement.
3. Encourage infrastructure investments and supply chain resilience.
4. Develop and deploy trusted technologies in the digital and ICT sectors, marking a critical step in today's global security landscape. [READ MORE](#)

[Bill Threatens China's PNTR Status](#)

Legislation to revoke China's Permanent Normal Trade Relations status if it invades Taiwan was introduced yesterday by Sen. James Lankford (R-Okla). The Deterring Escalation Through Economic Retaliation Act in an effort to deter conflict in the Taiwan Strait, according to the senator. [READ MORE](#)

[Schumer Plans China Codel](#)

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) is planning his own trip to China following recent visits by top Administration officials trying to thaw out frosty bilateral relations between the two economic powers. Sen. Schumer will lead a bipartisan Congressional delegation that will include Senate Finance Committee ranking member Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) as the top Republican participating in the visit. [READ MORE](#)

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FOREIGN INVESTMENT

[Lawmakers: Restrict China Investment](#)

Congress needs to legislate tougher controls on US investment in China because Wall Street is turning a blind eye to the threat to national security raised by US financial companies' investment technologies that can be used against the United States and Taiwan, members of the House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party said Sept. 12. [READ MORE](#)

[China Hawks Target IRA Subsidies for Chinese EV Investments](#)

House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party Chairman Mike Gallagher (R-Wisc) and Rep. John Moolenaar (R-Mich) are calling on Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen to withhold any federal support for Chinese battery companies in the United States.

The lawmakers – in a letter to Ms. Yellen – specifically scrutinized Treasury for greenlighting new plans for a Michigan battery factory owned and operated by China based Gotion High-Tech Company. [READ MORE](#)

[Yellen: CFIUS Actions Must Be Targeted](#)

Actions to restrict foreign investment in the United States must be “carefully scoped and targeted,” Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said yesterday at the second annual Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States conference. The inter-agency CFIUS reviews the national security implications of specific foreign investment in the United States. [READ MORE](#)

[CFIUS: Rosen Update on Enforcement](#)

Assistant Secretary for Investment Security Paul Rosen gave attendees of the Second Annual CFIUS Conference an update on enforcement and pending regulatory change.

His remarks follow, well worth the read. For those without the time, here's the gist: ““We are on track to have more civil monetary penalties issued this year than we have in our entire history.” [READ MORE](#)

[CFIUS: Senate Subpoenas Saudi Sports](#)

Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Chair of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations (PSI), issued a subpoena to the Saudi Arabian Public Investment Fund's (PIF) wholly-owned U.S. subsidiary, USSA International LLC, for documents related to PIF's takeover of American golf and other investments throughout the United States.

“The Saudi's Public Investment Fund cannot have it both ways: if it wants to engage with the United States commercially, it must be subject to United States law and oversight,” Blumenthal said. “That oversight includes this Subcommittee's inquiry.” [READ MORE](#)

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

[WTO: Dispute Settlement System Negotiating Text Expected](#)

The facilitator overseeing the informal discussions concerning the reform of the World Trade Organization's dispute settlement system is planning to issue a draft negotiating text next week after ongoing intense meetings in different groups focused on drafting, implementation and peer review among others, WTD has learned.

The intense discussions apparently began early this week. Based on ongoing discussions among members in different groups, the facilitator, Marco Molina, the deputy trade envoy of Guatemala, is expected to issue his draft text next week, said a person, who is familiar with the ongoing discussions. [READ MORE](#)

[WTO DG Upbeat on MC13](#)

GENEVA – World Trade Organization's Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala says she is "excited" about the upcoming 13th ministerial conference to be held in the United Arab Emirates in February 2024, while acknowledging that the "road" to MC13 is "full of potholes." [READ MORE](#)

[WTO World Trade Report Released](#)

This year's World Trade Report, released Septemebr 12, examines the benefits of re-globalization – or integrating more people, economies and pressing issues into global trade and strengthening ... [READ MORE](#)

SANCTIONS & ENFORCEMENT

[Treasury Ratchets up Russian Sanctions](#)

OFAC continues its efforts to target Russian elites and firms that benefit from their ties to Russia's defense sector, military-industrial complex, and affiliation with the Kremlin.

September 13 OFAC imposed nearly 100 sanctions on Russian elites and Russia's industrial base, financial institutions, and technology suppliers, along with designations of more than 70 persons.

Industries affected range from Railroad Equipment and heavy machinery to digital optical systems, diamonds traders, and the Wagner Group's advisor to the president of the Central African Republic.... [READ MORE](#)

[OFAC Names Finns & Turks in Russian Action](#)

Along with numerous Russian entities and persons, OFAC is is designating a Finland-based network that specializes in shipping foreign electronics to Russia-based end-users, as well as Turkish firms involved in the shipment of dual-use items into Russia. [READ MORE](#)

[OFAC: Issuance of Russia-related General Licenses](#)

Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is issuing

Russia-related General License 55A, "Authorizing Certain Services Related to Sakhalin-2" permitting shipment of Russian oil to Japan, and

Russia-related General License 72, "Authorizing the Wind Down of Transactions Involving Certain Entities Blocked on September 14, 2023."

Permitting transactions with [READ MORE](#)

[OFAC: Belarus GL 8 & 9](#)

GLs 8 and 9 were issued on August 9, 2023, regarding:

Transactions Involving Joint Stock Company Byelorussian Steel Works

Transactions Involving Open Joint Stock Company Belavia Belarusian Airlines [READ MORE](#)

[FinCEN Fines Puerto Rican Bank \\$15 Million](#)

Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) assessed a \$15 million civil money penalty against Bancrédito International Bank and Trust Corporation for willful violations of the Bank Secrecy Act and its implementing regulations.

Julio Martin Herrera Velutini, the founder of Bancredito International Bank & Trust Corp. has been indicted for a long list of financial crimes, precipitated by his offer to finance the election campaign of Governor Wanda Vazquez if she would fire the Commissioner of Financial Institutions of Puerto Rico, which she did. [READ MORE](#)

[Florida Steel Trader Cops Sanction Plea](#)

One of the two Florida men arrested this Spring in a scheme to launder funds for the fugitive "Gas King of Ukraine," through a Florida metals service center has entered a guilty plea.

Sergey Karpushkin, a Belarusian citizen from Miami, was indicted and arrested for engaging in a \$150 million scheme to violate U.S. sanctions against Russian oligarch Sergey Kurchenko and his two companies.

Karpushkin's plea acknowledged violation of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act ("IEEPA"), 50 U.S.C. § 1705; and other money laundering charges. [READ MORE](#)

[UK Steel Import Ban Guidance](#)

The UK's ban on the import of certain Russian iron and steel products processed in a third country and/or multiple third countries was introduced on 21 April 2023 as part of a wider package of trade sanctions against Russia. It will come into effect from 30 September 2023.

The UK government have now published specific guidance on third country processed iron and steel of Russian origin to support businesses to comply with the measure. This explains the scope of the ban, and the supply-chain evidence businesses can provide to demonstrate compliance. [READ MORE](#)

[Denial of Export Privileges:](#)

Denial of Export Privileges:

Firearms to Mexico & Ecuador; Rebreathers to Libya [READ MORE](#)

[OFAC ups Iran Sanctions](#)

Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) is designating 29 individuals and entities in connection with the Iranian regime's violent suppression of nationwide protests following the death of Mahsa "Zhina" Amini in custody of its 'Morality Police,' and the regime's continued efforts to detain dissenting voices and restrict access to a free and open internet. [READ MORE](#)

[Hizballah Operatives and Financial Facilitators in South America and Lebanon](#)

Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), in coordination with the Drug Enforcement Administration, designated key Hizballah operatives and financial facilitators in South America and Lebanon.

This action includes the senior Hizballah operative, who carried out the terrorist attack against the Asociacion Mutual Israelita Argentina (AMIA) in Argentina in 1994 that killed 85 people.

Amer Mohamed Akil Rada and his associates manage a commercial enterprise for Hizballah, including charcoal exports to Lebanon. [READ MORE](#)

RULES & REGULATIONS

State: Cyprus ITAR Rule

The President determines and certifies to the appropriate congressional committees, not less than annually, that: (A) the Government of the Republic of Cyprus is continuing to cooperate with the United States Government in efforts to implement reforms on anti-money laundering regulations and financial regulatory oversight; and (B) the Government of the Republic of Cyprus has made and is continuing to take the steps necessary to deny Russian military vessels access to ports for refueling and servicing.

The Secretary of State has certified to the appropriate congressional committees that the Republic of Cyprus meets the statutory requirements to remove the policy of denial for exports, reexports, and transfers of defense articles to the Republic of Cyprus for fiscal year 2024. [READ MORE](#)

CBP interoperability standards test

Customs and Border Protection announced today the completion of its first interoperability test. The test seeks to establish global standards to foster transparency and a standard manner of communication between the private sector and government agencies while allowing both to maintain the ability to choose from various technologies. [READ MORE](#)

BIS: Technical Correction to Software Rule

In this final rule, the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) amends the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) to make a technical correction that also serves to clarify provisions of the EAR pertaining to the release of “software” as set out in the sections on release and transfer of access information. [READ MORE](#)

CBP: AD/CVD Best Practices & Process Quick References

These Quick Reference Cards describe

- 1). The best practices associated when reporting allegations of Enforce and Protect Act (EAPA) violations to U.S. Customs and Border Protection regarding importer Anti-dumping/Countervailing Duty (AD/CVD) evasion. and
- 2). The Enforce and Protect Act (EAPA) investigation timeline when an allegation reasonably suggests that there is evidence of Anti-dumping/Countervailing Duty (AD/CVD) evasion [READ MORE](#)