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U.S. and UAE Unveil AI Partnership and Campus

The United States and the United Arab Emirates have launched the U.S.-UAE AI Acceleration Partnership, a comprehensive bilateral framework to deepen cooperation on artificial intelligence and critical technologies. The centerpiece of the agreement is the groundbreaking of a 1GW AI data center, part of the largest AI infrastructure project outside the United States. READ MORE

AI Diffusion Rule Officially Scrapped

Tuesday, the Department of Commerce (DOC) initiated a rescission of the Biden Administration's Al Diffusion Rule, while announcing additional steps to strengthen export controls on semiconductors worldwide. Below find links to the Commerce Guidance issued with the changes. READ MORE

DOJ Overhauls Whistleblower and Monitor Policies

In remarks at SIFMA's Annual Anti-Money Laundering and Financial Crimes Conference, Matthew Galeotti, Head of the U.S. Department of Justice's Criminal Division, announced sweeping reforms to the Division's white-collar enforcement framework. The new strategy emphasizes prosecutorial focus, regulatory efficiency, and enhanced incentives for corporate cooperation. READ MORE

Swashbuckling Trade Policy Yields Modest Fruit

President Trump has conceded that he may have bitten off more than his team can chew, by picking simultaneous trade battles with nearly every country on Earth. "We have, at the same time, 150 countries that want to make a deal, but you're not able to see that many countries," he told an audience in the UAE, conceding that it is "not possible to meet the number of people that want to see us". READ MORE

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TARIFF UPDATE

U.S., China Trade Talks Yield 90-Day Truce

China and the United States released a joint statement Monday following their high-level economic and trade meeting in Geneva, committing to a 90-day suspension of newly imposed tariffs and the establishment of a bilateral mechanism for continued negotiations. The Geneva joint statement signals a temporary partial de-escalation in the latest round of U.S.-China trade tensions, but it does not affect the broader architecture of tariffs already in place prior to April 2025. READ MORE

Beijing Calls for End to 232 Campaign

China has called on the United States to terminate its Section 232 tariffs on automobiles, steel, and aluminum, and to stop its ongoing national security investigation into imported pharmaceuticals. Speaking at a regular press conference, Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) spokesperson He Yongqian denounced the measures as unjustified and harmful to global trade. READ MORE

Critical Minerals 232 Investigation Draws Fire

The National Foreign Trade Council (NFTC) submitted comments Friday to the Department of Commerce for the Section 232 National Security Investigation of Imports of Processed Critical Minerals and Derivative Product, stating "we once again reiterate our support for the Administration's objective to bolster national security by increasing domestic manufacturing of certain products and inputs, but believe that tariffs are not the best option." READ MORE

232 Tariff "Stacking" Refund Guidance Published

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has issued a notice implementing President Trump's Executive Order 14289, "Addressing Certain Tariffs on Imported Articles," to eliminate the compounding of overlapping national security tariffs on covered goods. Qualified entries made on or after specified effective dates may be eligible for refunds if excess tariffs were paid. READ MORE

In-Transit Tariff Exception Limits Noted

In a May 15, 2025 update, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) clarified that U.S.-bound goods transferred to a different vessel at a foreign port after the applicable cutoff dates are not eligible for the "in-transit" exception to reciprocal tariffs imposed under Executive Order 14257. READ MORE

POLICY & POLITICS

President Mandates Lower Drug Prices

President Trump Monday signed an executive order aimed at reducing prescription drug costs by establishing a "most-favored-nation" (MFN) pricing policy, which would benchmark U.S. drug prices to those paid in economically comparable countries. READ MORE

State Continues Defense Sales Ban on Cuba

Following last week's announcement of sanctions on Cuban baseball players, the State Department announced a determination that Cuba did not fully cooperate with U.S. counterterrorism efforts in 2024 and has re-certified the country as a "Not Fully Cooperating Country" (NFCC) under Section 40A of the Arms Export Control Act. READ MORE

Senate Bill to Bar Chinese from Transit Funds

A bipartisan group of senators have introduced the Safeguarding Transit Operations to Prohibit (STOP) China Act, aimed at protecting U.S. transit systems and supply chains from Chinese government-linked companies. The legislation would bar the Department of Transportation (DOT) from using appropriated funds to support the purchase of buses or rail cars from entities affiliated with the Chinese government. It also directs the U.S. Trade Representative, in consultation with the Attorney General, to identify and publish a list of prohibited Chinese companies. READ MORE

EXPORT CONTROLS

Cloud Laboratories and Export Controls

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) has published a new analysis highlighting the proliferation risks associated with emerging actors in the biotechnology sector, ... READ MORE

Chemical Weapons Convention Filing Extended

The Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) is seeking final public comments on its request to renew the information collection related to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) Declaration and Report Handbook and associated forms and regulations. READ MORE

SANCTIONS & ENFORCEMENT

SEC Whistleblower Chief Quits

Nicole Creola Kelly left the SEC in March, reportedly having accepted the DOGE buyout offer. The Office of the Whistleblower Chief had served in the position since November 2021. READ MORE

Kazakh Pipeline Waiver, EU Targets NordStream

Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) has issued Russia-related General License 124, "Authorizing Petroleum Services Related to the Caspian Pipeline Consortium and Tengizchevroil." The previous license with similar content - No. 121, which also included the Sakhalin-2 project - expires on June 28, 2025. READ MORE

PRC Carbon Fiber for Iran Missile Program Targeted

Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) imposed sanctions on six individuals and 12 entities involved in Iran's efforts to indigenize the production of carbon fiber and related materials for its ballistic missile program. READ MORE

Iranian Oil Trade and Military Financing

Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) designated nearly two dozen companies across multiple jurisdictions for facilitating Iran's illicit international oil trade, which funds ... READ MORE

More Hizballah Sanctions

OFAC designated four individuals—two senior Hizballah officials and two financial facilitators—for their roles in coordinating and processing funding for the terrorist group. Thursday's designations target operatives based in Lebanon and Iran who manage financial transfers from overseas donors, a critical source of Hizballah's budget. READ MORE

US-Swiss Sanctions Cooperation

Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) and the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to deepen cooperation on economic sanctions enforcement through enhanced information sharing. READ MORE