Timeline of Executive Actions on China (2017–2021)

This document covers executive actions taken by the Administration of President Donald Trump directed at China. Executive actions include (1) executive orders from the president and (2) other significant measures taken by federal agencies relating to U.S.-China policy.

Between 2017 and 2021, the Trump Administration issued eight executive orders that primarily involved China. The Trump Administration issued an additional seven executive orders that did not explicitly target China but affected key policy areas relating to the U.S.-China relationship. In addition to these 15 executive orders, the Commission identified 116 China-related measures taken by White House and other executive departments and agencies from 2017 to 2021.

A list of all currently identified executive actions, including both executive orders and measures taken by executive departments and agencies, can be found in the appendix of this document. This document is based upon press releases by the White House and by executive departments and agencies.

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1 Executive orders in this latter category do not directly mention China but do impact U.S. policy toward China. They are included because China is specifically mentioned in reports or policy action taken as a result of these executive orders (e.g., the 2017 executive order establishing the U.S. Office of Trade and Manufacturing Policy was followed by a report on China’s economic aggression by that office in 2018) or because they address an issue that has been a sustained area of focus in the U.S.-China relationship (e.g., the 2020 executive order on ensuring essential medicines are made in the United States was issued after both Administration officials and outside experts raised concerns about Chinese products in U.S. pharmaceutical supply chains).
Executive Orders Directly Targeting China

Executive Order 13818: Blocking the Property of Persons Involved in Serious Human Rights Abuse or Corruption
Date: December 20, 2017
- Imposes sanctions and travel restrictions on individuals involved in serious human rights abuse or corruption, including Gao Yan, the first Chinese national targeted under the Global Magnitsky Act and chief of police in Beijing’s Chaoyang district when Chinese human rights activist Cao Shunli died in police custody.
- The executive order went into effect at 12:01 a.m. on December 21, 2017.

Executive Order 13925: Preventing Online Censorship
Date: May 28, 2020
- Calls on the attorney general to establish a working group “regarding the potential enforcement of State statutes that prohibit online platforms from engaging in unfair or deceptive acts or practices.”
- The working group should also collect publicly available information regarding the use of algorithms and third-party entities “to suppress content or users based on political alignment or viewpoint” and “differential policies allowing for otherwise impermissible behavior when committed by accounts associated with the Chinese Communist Party or other anti-democratic associations or governments.”
Source: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/06/02/2020-12030/preventing-online-censorship

Executive Order 13936: Hong Kong Normalization
Date: July 14, 2020
- Determines that Hong Kong is “no longer sufficiently autonomous to justify differential treatment in relation to the People’s Republic of China.” This executive order suspends extradition agreements with the government of Hong Kong and differential treatment under immigration, arms export control, and defense production laws.
- Terminates the Fulbright exchange program with China and Hong Kong.
- Imposes sanctions on individuals involved in the implementation and enforcement of the national security law or other human rights violations.
- This executive order followed the implementation of the national security law and the secretary of state’s announcement that Hong Kong no longer warranted differential treatment in relation to China.
- Heads of agencies were directed to begin amending regulations to enforce the order within 15 days.

Measures Taken in Connection with This Executive Order:
Sanctions Imposed under the Executive Order on Hong Kong Normalization
Date: August 7, 2020
The U.S. Department of the Treasury imposed sanctions on 11 individuals for undermining Hong Kong’s autonomy and restricting freedom of expression or assembly of the citizens of Hong Kong pursuant to the executive order on Hong Kong Normalization. These 11 individuals are: Carrie Lam (Chief Executive, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region), Chris Tang (Commissioner of Hong Kong Police Force), Stephen Lo (Former Commissioner of Hong
Kong Police Force), John Lee Ka-chiu (Secretary for Security), Teresa Cheng (Secretary for Justice), Erick Tsang (Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs), Xia Baolong (Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council), Zhang Xiaoming (Deputy Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council), Luo Huining (Director of the Hong Kong Liaison Office), Zheng Yanxiong (Director, Office for Safeguarding National Security in Hong Kong), and Eric Chan (Secretary General, Committee for Safeguarding National Security).


Date: November 9, 2020
Treasury imposed sanctions on four additional individuals pursuant to the executive order on Hong Kong Normalization.

Source: https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20201109

Date: January 15, 2021
The U.S. Department of State designates six People’s Republic of China (PRC) and Hong Kong officials after prodemocracy arrests in Hong Kong. Treasury imposes sanctions on these six individuals on the same day. The individuals are: You Quan, Vice Chairman of the Central Leading Group on Hong Kong and Macau Affairs; Sun Wenqing AKA Sun Qingye, Deputy Director of the Office for Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR); Tam Yiu-Chung, Hong Kong delegate to the National People’s Congress Standing Committee; and Frederic Choi Chin-Pang, Kelvin Kong Hok Lai, and Andrew Kan Kai Yan in the National Security Division of the Hong Kong Police.


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Executive Order 13942: Addressing the Threat Posed by TikTok, and Taking Additional Steps to Address the National Emergency with Respect to the Information and Communications Technology and Services Supply Chain

Date: August 6, 2020
- Prohibits transactions “by any person, or with respect to any property, subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, with ByteDance Ltd…, Beijing, China, or its subsidiaries” beginning 45 days after the date of this order.


Executive Order 13943: Addressing the Threat Posed by WeChat, and Taking Additional Steps to Address the National Emergency with Respect to the Information and Communications Technology and Services Supply Chain

Date: August 6, 2020
- Prohibits “any transaction that is related to WeChat by any person, or with respect to any property, subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, with Tencent Holdings Ltd…, Shenzhen, China, or any subsidiary of that entity” beginning 45 days after the date of this order.


Executive Order 13959: Addressing the Threat from Securities Investments that Finance Communist Chinese Military Companies

Date: November 12, 2020

Transactions in publicly traded securities are prohibited 60 days after any person is determined to be a Communist Chinese military company.

A “Communist Chinese military company” is any person listed by the Secretary of Defense or Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to Section 1237 of Public Law 105-261.


Measures Taken in Connection with This Executive Order:

Executive Order 13974: Amending Executive Order 13959 – Addressing the Threat from Securities Investments that Finance Communist Chinese Military Companies

Date: January 13, 2021

- The amendment prohibits the possession of securities in a Communist Chinese military company, while the original order prohibited only transactions in those securities.
- Transactions for the purpose of divesting are permitted for 60 days after a person is determined to be a Communist Chinese military company.
- The amendment also applies the rules to any subsidiary of listed companies, unless those companies are removed from the list.


The Department of Defense’s (DOD) Listing of “Communist Chinese Military Companies” Pursuant to the Executive Order on Addressing the Threat from Securities Investments that Finance Communist Chinese Military Companies

Date: June 12, 2020

- DOD’s initial list contains 20 entities: Aero Engine Corporation of China, Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC), China Aerospace Science and Industry Corporation (CASIC), China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC), China Electronics Technology Group Corporation (CETC), China General Nuclear Power Group, China Mobile Communications Group, China National Nuclear Corporation, China North Industries Group Corporation (Norinco Group), China Railway Construction Corporation (CRCC), China Shipbuilding Industry Corporation, China South Industries Group Corporation, China State Shipbuilding Corporation, China Spacesat, China State Construction Group, China Three Gorges Corporation, China United Network Communications Group, and Sinochem Group.

Date: August 28, 2020

- DOD adds 11 companies to the list: China Academy of Launch Vehicle Technology (CALT), China Communications Construction Company (CCCC), China Electronics Corporation (CEC), China National Chemical Corporation (ChemChina), China National Chemical Engineering Group (CNCEC), China Nuclear Engineering and Construction Corporation (CNECC), China Spacesat, China State Construction Group, China Three Gorges Corporation, China United Network Communications Group, and Sinochem Group.

Date: December 3, 2020

- DOD adds four companies to the list: China Construction Technology (CCTC), China International Engineering Consulting Corporation (CIECC), China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) and the Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corp (SMIC).
Date: January 14, 2021

- DOD adds nine companies to the list: Advanced Micro-Fabrication Equipment (AMEC), Luokong Technology Corporation (LKCO), Xiaomi Corporation, Beijing Zhongguangcun Development Investment Center, GOWIN Semiconductor Corporation, Grand China Air Co. (GCAC), Global Tone Communication Technology (GTCOM), China National Aviation Holding (CNAH), and Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China (COMAC).


Executive Order 13971: Addressing the Threat Posed by Applications and Other Software Developed or Controlled by Chinese Companies

Date: January 5, 2021

- Prohibits transactions with eight apps (Alipay, CamScanner, QQ Wallet, SHAREit, Tencent QQ, VMate, WeChat Pay, and WPS Office) beginning 45 days after the order.
- Directs the Secretary of Commerce to evaluate Chinese connected software applications that pose an “unacceptable risk to the national security, foreign policy, or economy of the United States” and, in consultation with the attorney general and the director of national intelligence, prepare a report with recommendations to prevent the access of U.S. user data by foreign adversaries.
- References India’s ban on the use of more than 200 Chinese-connected software applications.

Executive Orders on Issues Critical to the U.S.-China Relationship

Executive orders covered in this section do not directly mention China. They are included because China is specifically mentioned in reports or policy action taken as a result of these executive orders (e.g., the 2017 executive order establishing the Office of Trade and Manufacturing Policy was followed by a 2018 report on China’s economic aggression by that office) or because they address an issue that has been a sustained area of focus in the U.S.-China relationship (e.g., the 2020 executive order on ensuring essential medicines are made in the United States was issued after both administration officials and outside experts raised concerns about pharmaceutical supply chains linked to China).

Executive Order 13797: Establishment of the Office of Trade and Manufacturing Policy
Date: April 29, 2017

- Establishes the Office of Trade and Manufacturing Policy within the White House Office, with the mission “to defend and serve American workers and domestic manufacturers while advising the President on policies to increase economic growth, decrease the trade deficit, and strengthen the United States manufacturing and defense industrial bases.”


Measures Taken in Connection with This Executive Order:
Date: June 19, 2018

- The report focuses on two categories of China’s economic aggression: acquiring key technologies and intellectual property from other countries, including the United States, and capturing the emerging high-technology industries that will drive future economic growth and defense industry advancements.

Source: [https://www.hsdl.org/?view&did=812268](https://www.hsdl.org/?view&did=812268)

Executive Order 13806: Assessing and Strengthening the Manufacturing and Defense Industrial Base and Supply Chain Resiliency of the United States
Date: July 21, 2017

- Directs the secretary of defense, in coordination with the secretaries of commerce, labor, energy, and homeland security (in consultation with other agencies) to provide a report on “military and civilian materiel, raw materials, and other goods that are essential to national security,” manufacturing capabilities needed to produce those goods, contingencies that might impact the supply chain of those goods, and recommended policy changes to address any supply chain risks identified in the report.


Measures Taken in Connection with This Executive Order:
DOD Report in Fulfillment of Executive Order 13806: “Assessing and Strengthening the Manufacturing and Defense Industrial Base and Supply Chain Resilience of the United States”
Date: September 2018

- The DOD report notes “the industrial policies of foreign competitors have diminished American manufacturing’s global competitiveness,” including “specific targeting by great powers like China.”
Executive Order 13873: Securing the Information and Communications Technology and Services Supply Chain  
**Date:** May 15, 2019
- Gives the secretary of commerce the authority to prohibit Information and Communications Technology and Services (ICTS) transactions that have been “designed, developed, manufactured, or supplied by persons owned by, controlled by, or subject to the jurisdiction or direction of foreign adversaries” and that pose an undue or unacceptable risk to the national security of the United States.  

Measures Taken in Connection with This Executive Order:  
The U.S. Department of Commerce's Interim Rule to Secure the ICTS Supply Chain Pursuant to the Executive Order on Securing the Information and Communications Technology and Services Supply Chain  
**Date:** January 14, 2021
- The Commerce Department identifies China, Russia, Iran, North Korea, Cuba, and the “Maduro Regime” as foreign adversaries, allowing the department to promulgate regulations to identify, assess, and address certain transactions.  
- The Commerce Department will implement procedures for a licensing process in 120 days.  

Executive Order 13913: Establishing the Committee for the Assessment of Foreign Participation in the United States Telecommunications Services Sector  
**Date:** April 4, 2020  
- Formalizes “Team Telecom” as a committee to assist the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in the national security review of foreign participation in the U.S. telecommunications services sector.  
- The committee consists of the secretary of defense, the attorney general, the secretary of homeland security, and the head of any other executive department the president determined appropriate.  

Measures Taken in Connection with This Executive Order:  
Team Telecom Recommendations Regarding Chinese Telecommunications Companies  
**Date:** April 9, 2020
- Team Telecom recommends the FCC revoke China Telecom’s license.  

**Date:** June 17, 2020
- Team Telecom recommends that the FCC deny Pacific Light Cable Network System’s Hong Kong undersea cable connection to the United States.  
Executive Order 13920: Securing the United States Bulk-Power System

Date: May 1, 2020

- “Bulk-power system electric equipment” is equipment used in the generation, transformation, and control of electricity (e.g., substations, industrial control systems, and large generators).
- Prohibits transactions involving any bulk-power system electrical equipment manufactured, designed, or supplied by a foreign country or foreign national if that person is “subject to the jurisdiction or direction of a foreign adversary” and the transaction poses a national security risk. This determination is made by the secretary of energy in coordination with the director of the Office of Management and Budget and in consultation with the secretary of defense, the secretary of homeland security, and the director of national intelligence.
- Directs the U.S. Department of Energy to develop rules and regulations, including the designation of particular countries or persons as foreign adversaries. As of November 1, the Energy Department was still reviewing comment submissions and has not released these rules.


Energy Department’s FAQs on the executive order: [https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2020/05/f74/DOE%20BPS%20EO%20FAQ.pdf](https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2020/05/f74/DOE%20BPS%20EO%20FAQ.pdf).

Measures Taken in Connection with This Executive Order:

Energy Department’s Prohibition Order Pursuant to the Executive Order on Securing the United States Bulk-Power System

Date: January 16, 2021

- The Energy Department prohibitions of the acquisition of bulk-power system equipment that directly serves Critical Defense Facilities from China.


Executive Order 13944: Ensuring Essential Medicines, Medical Countermeasures, and Critical Inputs Are Made in the United States

Date: August 6, 2020

- Directs executive departments involved in procurement of essential medicines, medical countermeasures, and critical inputs to increase domestic procurement and identify vulnerabilities in U.S. supply chains.
- Directs the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) commissioner to identify an initial list of essential medicines, medical countermeasures, and critical inputs. Directs the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) to modify federal procurement to exclude coverage of that list under relevant free trade agreements and the WTO agreement.
- Directs the secretary of health and human services to identify and mitigate vulnerabilities in the medical supply chain, including by collecting information on the sources of drug products, negotiating with countries to increase site inspections, and refusing admission to medical imports if facilities refused inspections.


The USTR filed two documents with the WTO’s Committee on Government Procurement as directed by the order on November 27, 2020. These documents are currently restricted: [https://www.wita.org/blogs/wto-government-procurement-on-medicine/](https://www.wita.org/blogs/wto-government-procurement-on-medicine/).
Executive Order 13953: Addressing the Threat to the Domestic Supply Chain from Reliance on Critical Minerals from Foreign Adversaries

Date: September 30, 2020

- The secretary of the interior, in consultation with the secretary of the treasury, the secretary of defense, the secretary of commerce, and the heads of other agencies, as appropriate, will investigate the United States’ reliance on critical minerals from foreign adversaries.
- The secretary of the interior will submit a report to the president within 60 days of the order. The report is expected to summarize any conclusions from the investigation and recommend executive action.
- By January 1, 2021, and every 180 days thereafter, the secretary of the interior, in consultation with the heads of other agencies, as appropriate, will inform the president of the state of the threat posed by this reliance on critical minerals from foreign adversaries and provide recommendations.
- This executive order follows a December 2017 executive order (“A Federal Strategy to Ensure Secure and Reliable Supplies of Critical Minerals”), which required the secretary of the interior to identify critical minerals.


Appendix: Executive Actions on China (2017–2021)

**April 2017:** President Trump establishes the U.S.-China Comprehensive Economic Dialogue. The dialogue was cochaired by Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin, Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross, and Chinese Vice Premier Wang Yang.
https://www.treasury.gov/initiatives/pages/china.aspx

**May 11, 2017:** Initial commitments under the 100-day action plan of the U.S.-China Comprehensive Economic Dialogue reached by Secretary Mnuchin, Secretary Ross, and Vice Premier Wang. These initial actions included: resolving issues on trade in beef and chicken, addressing access for U.S. biotechnology, allowing trade in liquefied natural gas (LNG), allowing access for wholly foreign-owned financial service firms in China, allowing access for U.S.-owned suppliers of electronic payment services, and establishing equal regulatory treatment for Chinese banking institutions and other foreign firms in the United States.

**June 12, 2017:** The United States and China finalize details on sending U.S. beef to China for the first time since 2003.


**July 17, 2017:** Treasury sanctions “Chinese national Ruan Runling and three associated Chinese companies for proliferation activities in support of a key designated Iranian defense entity.”

**August 17, 2017:** The USTR initiates a Section 301 investigation into the Chinese Communist Party’s (CCP) behavior related to forced technology transfer, intellectual property theft, and innovation.


**November 9, 2017:** The Commerce Department announces the signing of “approximately a quarter trillion dollars in deals facilitated by the Commerce Department between private U.S. businesses and Chinese entities.”

**January 24, 2018:** Treasury designates seven China-based representatives of North Korean company Korea Ryonbong General Corporation (Ryonbong), four China-based representatives of North Korean Daesong Bank, and China-based Beijing Chengxing Trading Co. Ltd. and Dandong Jinxiang Trade Co., Ltd.
March 5, 2018: U.S. Customs and Border Protection issues a withhold release order (WRO) on toys produced by Huizhou Mink Industrial.  

March 22, 2018: President Trump announces actions the Administration will take “in response to China’s unfair trade practices covered in the USTR Section 301 investigation of China’s Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation.” These actions included tariffs, a WTO dispute on “China’s discriminatory technology licensing practices,” and concerns about investment in the United States “directed or facilitated by China in industries or technologies deemed important to the United States.”  

March 22, 2018: The USTR releases findings of the investigation into China’s acts, policies, and practices related to technology transfer, intellectual property, and innovation under Section 301.  
https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/Section%20301%20FINAL.PDF

April 16, 2018: The Commerce Department imposes denial of export privileges against ZTE.  

April 27, 2018: Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) identifies Chinese fentanyl trafficker Jian Zhang “as a Significant Foreign Narcotics Trafficker pursuant to the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act (Kingpin Act)” and designates “four additional Chinese nationals acting on behalf of Jian Zhang and Zaron Bio-Tech (Asia) Limited, an entity registered in Hong Kong that is owned or controlled by Jian Zhang.”  

June 7, 2018: The Commerce Department announces settlement with ZTE. Under the new agreement, “ZTE must pay $1 billion and place an additional $400 million in suspended penalty money in escrow before BIS will remove ZTE from the Denied Persons List. These penalties are in addition to the $892 million in penalties ZTE has already paid to the U.S government under the March 2017 settlement agreement. ZTE will also be required by the new agreement to retain a team of special compliance coordinators selected by and answerable to BIS for a period of 10 years.”  

July 13, 2018: The Commerce Department lifts the ban on ZTE after it deposited the final tranche of a $1.4 billion penalty.  

June 19, 2018: The Office of Trade and Manufacturing Policy issues the report, How China’s Economic Aggression Threatens the Technologies and Intellectual Property of the United States and the World. The report focuses on two categories of China’s economic aggression: acquiring key technologies and intellectual property from other countries, including the United States, and capturing the emerging high-technology industries that will drive future economic growth and defense industry advancements.  
https://www.hsdl.org/?view&did=812268
August 24, 2018: The Commerce Department announces the selection of ZTE Special Compliance Coordinator Roscoe Howard Jr. as part of the settlement between the Commerce Department and ZTE. The settlement included “a $1.761 billion fine, a ten-year probationary period, and the installation of the coordinator to conduct regular and comprehensive compliance supervision by a team answerable to BIS [Bureau of Industry and Security].”


September 13, 2018: Treasury designates China-based Yanbian Silverstar Network Technology Co. as a North Korea-controlled company.

September 18, 2018: The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) orders Xinhua and China Global Television Network (CGTN) to register as foreign agents. CGTN America registered as a foreign agent February 1, 2019.

October 29, 2018: The Commerce Department adds Fujian Jinhua Integrated Circuit Company to the entity list.

December 7, 2018: The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) release a joint statement on the importance of audit quality and access challenges with respect to U.S.-listed companies with significant operations in China.

May 13, 2019: The Commerce Department adds to the Entity List four new entities located in China and Hong Kong that attempted “to procure U.S.-origin commodities that would ultimately provide material support to Iran’s weapons of mass destruction and military programs, in violation of U.S. export controls” and “two other Chinese entities [that] participated in the prohibited export of controlled technology, which was then supplied to organizations affiliated with the People’s Liberation Army.”

May 15, 2019: President Trump issues an executive order on “Securing the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and Services Supply Chain.”

May 15, 2019: The Commerce Department adds Huawei and its affiliates to BIS’s Entity List.
May 20, 2019: The Commerce Department issues a Temporary General License (TGL) amending the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) to authorize specific, limited engagement in transactions with Huawei involving the export, reexport, and transfer of items through August 19, 2019.


August 5, 2019: Treasury designates China as a currency manipulator.


August 19, 2019: The Commerce Department adds 46 additional Huawei affiliates to the Entity List.


August 21, 2019: Treasury identifies Chinese national Fujing Zheng (Zheng) and the Zheng Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO) as significant foreign narcotics traffickers pursuant to the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act (Kingpin Act). Treasury’s OFAC also designated one additional Chinese national, Guanghua Zheng, for his support to the Zheng DTO’s drug trafficking activities, as well as one Chinese entity, Qinsheng Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., for being owned or controlled by Fujing Zheng. OFAC also identifies Xiaobing Yan (Yan) as a significant foreign narcotics trafficker pursuant to the Kingpin Act.


September 25, 2019: Treasury sanctions six Chinese entities and five individuals for Iran sanctions violations. (Some sanctions were removed in February 2020.) The six sanctioned entities are: China Concord Petroleum, COSCO Shipping Tanker, COSCO Shipping Tanker (Dalian) Seaman and Ship Management, Kunlun Holding Company, Kunlun Shipping Company, and Pegasus 88 Limited. Notably, according to Reuters, sanctions applied to Cosco Shipping Tanker Co and to Cosco Shipping Tanker Seaman and Ship Management Co Ltd, but not the parent company.

https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20190925

Reuters article on the sanctions: https://www.reuters.com/article/iran-nuclear-usa-sanctions/u-s-sanctions-chinese-firms-individuals-over-iran-treasury-website-idUSL2N26G0DI

September 30, 2019: Customs and Border Protection issues a WRO against garments produced by Hetian Taida Apparel Co., Ltd. in Xinjiang because they are produced with prison or forced labor.


October 7, 2019: The Commerce Department adds 28 organizations to its Entity List, restricting “the export of items subject to the Export Administration Regulations to entities that have been implicated in human rights violations and abuses in China’s treatment of Uyghurs and other predominantly Muslim ethnic minorities” in Xinjiang. These organizations include the Xinjiang Public Security Bureau, 19 subordinate elements, and eight commercial entities.


October 8, 2019: The State Department issues visa restrictions imposed on Chinese officials it believes are responsible for human rights abuses against Uyghurs in Xinjiang.

October 16, 2019: The State Department requires Chinese diplomats to notify the U.S. government before official meetings with state officials, official meetings with local and municipal officials, official visits to educational institutions, and official visits to research institutions. 

https://www.state.gov/a-free-and-open-indo-pacific-advancing-a-shared-vision/

November 26, 2019: The Commerce Department proposes rules for identifying, assessing, and addressing information and communications technology and service transactions that “pose an undue risk to critical infrastructure of the digital economy” pursuant to the executive order on “Securing the Information and Communications Technology and Services (ICTS) Supply Chain.”

December 20, 2019: The reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank (EXIM) directs EXIM to establish a new “Program on China and Transformational Exports.” The program supports the extension of loans, guarantees, and insurance that are competitive with rates, terms, and other conditions established by China and other covered countries. 

January 15, 2020: The United States and China sign the Phase One trade deal. 
https://ustr.gov/phase-one

January 28, 2020: DOJ charges Dr. Charles Lieber, the chair of Harvard University’s chemistry and chemical biology department, and two PRC nationals with undisclosed research funding, visa fraud, acting as an agent of a foreign government, and smuggling biological research to illicitly aid China’s research efforts.

February 4, 2020: The Commerce Department publishes two modified regulations for imposing countervailing duties on products that benefit from unfair currency subsidies. 

February 10, 2020: DOJ charges four People’s Liberation Army (PLA) members with hacking into the computer systems of the credit reporting agency Equifax and stealing information of nearly 150 million Americans. 

February 13, 2020: Treasury issues two final regulations to comprehensively implement the Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act of 2018 (FIRRMA), which addresses national security concerns arising from certain investments and real estate transactions. 
February 13, 2020: The Commerce Department announces the extension of a TGL for Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd. and 114 of its non-U.S. affiliates on the Entity List for an additional 45 days.  

February 18, 2020: The State Department designates five Chinese media outlets as foreign missions. These outlets are: Xinhua News Agency, China Global Television Network (CGTV), China Radio International, China Daily Distribution Corporation, and Hai Tian Development USA (distributes the People’s Daily newspaper).  
https://apnews.com/article/46d34436b76c7d131f01b224c509bfc8

February 27, 2020: DOJ announces a PRC scientist was sentenced to 24 months in federal prison for stealing proprietary information worth more than $1 billion from a U.S. petroleum company.  

March 6, 2020: President Trump orders Beijing Shiji Information Technology to divest its interests in StayNTouch, a business that managed hotel guest data, as the result of a Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) investigation.  

March 10, 2020: Dr. James Patrick Lewis, a former West Virginia University professor, pleads guilty to “Federal Program Fraud” for concealing his participation in China’s Thousand Talents program.  

April 4, 2020: President Trump issues the executive order “Establishing the Committee for the Assessment of Foreign Participation in the United States Telecommunications Services Sector.” The order formalizes Team Telecom, the mechanism by which executive branch agencies provide risk-based advice to the FCC as it reviews license applications from foreign telecommunications services companies.  

April 9, 2020: Team Telecom recommends the FCC revoke China Telecom’s license due to “substantial and unacceptable security and law enforcement risks associated with China Telecom’s operations.”  

April 21, 2020: The U.S. Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) and U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) release a joint letter highlighting risks associated with the PCAOB’s inability to audit work papers in China.  

April 24, 2020: The FCC orders China Telecom and three other Chinese companies to show cause why the FCC should not revoke its authorization to operate in the United States.  
https://www.fcc.gov/document/china-telecom-americas-corporation-order-show-cause

April 27, 2020: The Commerce Department announces new export control actions to “prevent efforts by entities in China, Russia, and Venezuela to acquire U.S. technology that could be used in development of weapons, military aircraft, or surveillance technology through civilian supply chains, or under civilian-use
pretenses, for military end uses and military end-users.” The rule changes include the expansion of military end use/end user controls, the removal of license exception civil end users, and the elimination of certain license exceptions.


**May 1, 2020:** President Trump issues the executive order “Securing United States Bulk-Power System.” The order prohibits transactions involving any bulk-power system electrical equipment manufactured, designed, or supplied by a foreign country or foreign national if that person is “subject to the jurisdiction or direction of a foreign adversary” and the transaction poses a national security risk.


*The Energy Department’s FAQs on the executive order:*

https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2020/05/f74/DOE%20BPS%20EO%20FAQ.pdf

**May 8, 2020:** The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) limits visas for Chinese reporters to a 90-day period, with an option for extension.


**May 13, 2020:** The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board announces that it has “deferred the transition” to the MSCI All Country World ex US Investable Market Index (an index fund made up of about 8 percent Chinese companies), citing a “meaningfully different economic environment.” The board manages the Thrift Savings Plan, a retirement savings plan for federal employees.

https://www.rubio.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/3be5290d-3bc6-4772-88e6-ae509ab84b0/T9CF5DFE8FB0204E97A1764FDFF976EB.defer-i-fund-implementation-may-2020.pdf

**May 15, 2020:** The Commerce Department expands the Direct Product Rule “to protect U.S. national security by restricting Huawei’s ability to use U.S. technology and software to design and manufacture its semiconductors abroad.” The rule made semiconductor designs that are the direct product of certain U.S. Commerce Control List (CCL) software and technology and chipsets that are the direct product of certain CCL semiconductor manufacturing equipment located outside the United States subject to the Export Administration Regulations (EAR).


**May 15, 2020:** The Commerce Department issues a 90-day extension of TGL authorizations for Huawei and its non-U.S. affiliates.


**May 19, 2020:** Treasury designates China-based Shanghai Saint Logistics for acting as a general sales agent for or on behalf of Iranian airline Mahan Air.


**May 22, 2020:** The Commerce Department adds to the Entity List 24 Chinese entities representing “a significant risk of supporting procurement of items for military end-use in China.”

May 22, 2020: The Commerce Department adds to the Entity List eight Chinese companies and the PRC’s Ministry of Public Security’s Institute of Forensic Science (Xinjiang). The press release notes that “these nine parties are complicit in human rights violations and abuses … against Uyghurs, ethnic Kazakhs, and other members of Muslim minority groups in Xinjiang.”

May 27, 2020: The State Department decertifies Hong Kong’s autonomy following the PRC National People’s Congress announcement that it will impose national security legislation on Hong Kong. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo states: “Hong Kong does not continue to warrant treatment under United States laws in the same manner as U.S. laws were applied to Hong Kong before July 1997. No reasonable person can assert today that Hong Kong maintains a high degree of autonomy from China, given facts on the ground.”

May 29, 2020: President Trump issues a proclamation suspending the immigration of “high risk” Chinese researchers who are from the PRC “studying or researching beyond the undergraduate level who are or have been associated with the PLA.”

May 29, 2020: President Trump announces he is directing his Administration to begin eliminating policy exemptions that give Hong Kong different and special treatment, including the Hong Kong extradition treaty and export controls. President Trump also states that “the United States will also take necessary steps to sanction PRC and Hong Kong officials directly or indirectly involved in eroding Hong Kong’s autonomy.”
https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-actions-china/
President Trump’s remarks on Hong Kong: https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-actions-china/

June 4, 2020: President Trump issues the “Presidential Memorandum on Protecting United States Investors from Significant Risks from Chinese Companies.” The memo calls on the President’s Working Group on Financial Markets to issue a report with recommendations for action by the SEC, PCAOB, and the executive branch to protect investors in U.S. financial markets from the risks associated with the PCAOB’s inability to audit work papers in China. The memo also calls for recommendations regarding additional actions that the SEC and other federal agencies could take to protect investors in companies that do not comply with United States securities laws and investor protections, including by setting new listing rules or governance safeguards.

June 12, 2020: DOD releases the initial list of Communist Chinese military companies. The list contains 20 entities: Aero Engine Corporation of China, Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC), China Aerospace Science and Industry Corporation (CASIC), China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC), China Electronics Technology Group Corporation (CETC), China General Nuclear Power Group, China Mobile Communications Group China National Nuclear Corporation, China North Industries Group Corporation (Norinco Group), China Railway Construction Corporation (CRCC), China Shipbuilding Industry Corporation, China South Industries Group Corporation, China State Shipbuilding Corporation, China Telecommunications Corporation, CRRC Corporation, Dawning Information Industry
(Sugon), Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology (Hikvision), Huawei, Inspur Group, and Panda Electronics Group. [https://www.defense.gov/Newsroom/Releases/Release/Article/2472464/dod-releases-list-of-additional-companies-in-accordance-with-section-1237-of-fy/]

**June 17, 2020:** Customs and Border Protection issues a WRO on hair products manufactured by Lop County Meixin Hair Product Co. in Xinjiang. [https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/cbp-issues-detention-order-hair-products-manufactured-forced-labor-0]

**June 17, 2020:** Team Telecom recommends that the FCC deny Pacific Light Cable Network System’s Hong Kong undersea cable connection to the United States. [https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/team-telecom-recommends-fcc-deny-pacific-light-cable-network-systems-hong-kong-undersea]

**June 22, 2020:** The State Department designates four PRC media outlets as foreign missions. These outlets are: China Central Television, China News Service, the *People’s Daily*, and the *Global Times*. [https://web.archive.org/web/20210105101708/https://www.state.gov/designation-of-additional-chinese-media-entities-as-foreign-missions/]


**June 30, 2020:** The FCC designates Huawei and ZTE as national security threats, which blocks money in the FCC’s Universal Service Fund from being used on equipment and services from these suppliers. [https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-designates-huawei-and-zte-national-security-threats]

**June 30, 2020:** The Export-Import Bank issues its 2019 Report to the U.S. Congress on Global Export Credit Competition. The report found that “China’s official MLT [medium- and long-term] export credit activity alone was at least equal to 90 percent of that provided by all G7 countries combined.” [https://www.exim.gov/news/exim-debuts-2019-competitiveness-report-finds-chinas-predatory-practices-are-fundamentally]


**July 9, 2020:** Treasury implements sanctions on one Chinese entity and four current or formal Chinese officials “in connection with serious rights abuses against ethnic minorities” in Xinjiang. Those sanctioned include: the Xinjiang Public Security Bureau (XPSB); Chen Quanguo, the Communist Party Secretary of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR); Zhu Hailun, a former Deputy Party Secretary of the XUAR; Wang Mingshan, current Director and Communist Party Secretary of the XPSB; and Huo Liujun, the former Party Secretary of the XPSB. [https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm1055]
July 14, 2020: President Trump issues the executive order on “Hong Kong Normalization,” which determines Hong Kong is “no longer sufficiently autonomous to justify differential treatment in relation to the People’s Republic of China.” The order suspends extradition agreements with the government of Hong Kong and differential treatment under immigration, arms export control, and defense production laws. The order also terminates the Fulbright exchange program with China and Hong Kong and imposes sanctions on individuals involved in the implementation and enforcement of the national security law or other human rights violations. This executive order followed the implementation of the national security law and the secretary of state’s announcement that Hong Kong no longer warranted differential treatment in relation to China. Heads of agencies were directed to begin amending regulations to enforce the order within 15 days. [https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/presidential-actions/presidents-executive-order-hong-kong-normalization/](https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/presidential-actions/presidents-executive-order-hong-kong-normalization/)

July 14, 2020: President Trump signs the Hong Kong Autonomy Act into law. The act requires Treasury to report on foreign financial institutions that knowingly conduct significant transactions with foreign persons the State Department identified as being involved in the erosion of the obligations of China under the Joint Declaration or the Basic Law. [https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/7440](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/7440)


July 24, 2020: The President’s Working Group on Financial Markets releases the Report on Protecting United States Investors from Significant Risks from Chinese Companies. Recommendations include: enhanced listing standards, including access to audit work papers; enhanced issuer disclosures; enhanced fund disclosures; greater due diligence of indexes and index providers; and the issuance of guidance for investment advisers considering investments in “Non-Cooperating Jurisdictions” (jurisdictions like China that do not allow the PCAOB sufficient access to conduct inspections of audits).
July 31, 2020: Treasury sanctions one Chinese entity and two current or former Chinese officials in connection with serious rights abuses taking place in Xinjiang. These designations include: the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps (XPCC); Sun Jinlong, a former Political Commissar of the XPCC; and Peng Jiariu, the Deputy Party Secretary and Commander of the XPCC.  

August 6, 2020: The President’s Working Group on Financial Markets releases the Report on Protecting United States Investors from Significant Risks from Chinese Companies. Recommendations include: enhanced listing standards for access to audit work papers, enhanced issuer disclosures, enhanced fund disclosures, greater due diligence of indexes and index providers, and guidance for investment advisers.  

August 6, 2020: President Trump issues the “Executive Order on Addressing the Threat Posed by WeChat” and the “Executive Order on Addressing the Threat Posed by TikTok.”  
Executive Order on Addressing the Threat Posed by WeChat:  https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-addressing-threat-posed-wechat/

August 6, 2020: President Trump issues the “Executive Order on Ensuring Essential Medicines, Medical Countermeasures, and Critical Inputs Are Made in the United States.” The order directs executive departments involved in procurement of essential medicines, medical countermeasures, and critical inputs to increase domestic procurement and identify vulnerabilities in U.S. supply chains for those products.  

August 7, 2020: Treasury imposes sanctions on 11 individuals for undermining Hong Kong’s autonomy and restricting freedom of expression or assembly of the citizens of Hong Kong pursuant to the “Executive Order on Hong Kong Normalization.” These 11 individuals are: Carrie Lam (Chief Executive, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region), Chris Tang (Commissioner of Hong Kong Police Force), Stephen Lo (Former Commissioner of Hong Kong Police Force), John Lee Ka-chiu (Secretary for Security), Teresa Cheng (Secretary for Justice), Erick Tsang (Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs), Xia Baolong (Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council), Zhang Xiaoming (Deputy Director of the Hong Kong Macao Affairs Office of the State Council), Luo Huining (Director of the Hong Kong Liaison Office), Zheng Yanxiong (Director, Office for Safeguarding National Security in Hong Kong), and Eric Chan (Secretary General, Committee for Safeguarding National Security).  

August 9, 2020: Secretary of U.S. Health and Human Services Alex M. Azar II leads a delegation to Taiwan. This visit marks the first time a Health and Human Services secretary has visited Taiwan and the highest-level visit by a U.S. Cabinet official since 1979.  
August 11, 2020: Customs and Border Protection issues a WRO on garments produced by the Hero Vast Group based on “information that reasonably indicated the use of prison labor in the production of those garments.”

August 13, 2020: The State Department designates the Confucius Institute U.S. Center (CIUS, the de facto headquarters of the Confucius Institute network) as a foreign mission due to the “opacity of this organization and its state-directed nature.” The designation does not require individual Confucius Institutes to close, but requires CIUS to “regularly provide information to the State Department about PRC citizen personnel, recruiting, funding, and operations in the United States.”


August 17, 2020: The Commerce Department expands the foreign direct product rule to cover all of Huawei, “further [restricting] access by Huawei Technologies (Huawei) and its non-U.S. affiliates on the Entity List to items produced domestically and abroad from U.S. technology and software.” The Commerce Department also adds 38 Huawei affiliates added to the Entity List.

August 19, 2020: The State Department announces the suspension or termination of three bilateral agreements with Hong Kong. These agreements cover “the surrender of fugitive offenders, the transfer of sentenced persons, and reciprocal tax exemptions on income derived from the international operation of ships.”

August 24, 2020: The Commerce Department adds 24 Chinese entities to the Entity List for their role in “helping the Chinese military construct and militarize the internationally condemned artificial islands in the South China Sea.”

August 28, 2020: DOD adds 11 companies to the list of Communist Chinese military companies: China Academy of Launch Vehicle Technology (CALT), China Communications Construction Company (CCCCC), China Electronics Corporation (CEC), China National Chemical Corporation (ChemChina), China National Chemical Engineering Group (CNCEC), China Nuclear Engineering and Construction Corporation (CNECC), China Spacesat, China State Construction Group, China Three Gorges Corporation, China United Network Communications Group, and Sinochem Group.

September 2020: The U.S. Department of Labor adds five goods made in Xinjiang (gloves, hair products, textiles, thread/yarn, and tomato products to the “List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor” (TVPRA List).
September 14, 2020: Customs and Border Protection issues five WROs on products made with state-sponsored forced labor in Xinjiang. These orders cover: all products made with labor from the Lop County No. 4 Vocation Skills Education and Training Center, hair products made in the Lop County Hair Product Industrial Park, apparel produced by Yili Zhoowan Garment Manufacturing and Baoding LYSZD Trade and Business Co., cotton produced by Xinjiang Junggar Cotton and Linen Co., and computer parts made by Hefei Bitlad Information Technology.

September 17, 2020: U.S. Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Keith Krach conducts a three-day visit to Taiwan. During the trip, Mr. Krach attends former Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui’s funeral and meets with President Tsai Ing-wen. Mr. Krach was the most senior State Department representative to visit Taiwan since 1979.

September 18, 2020: The Commerce Department prohibits the provision of services to distribute or maintain the WeChat and TikTok mobile applications and the provision of services through the WeChat mobile application transactions as of September 20, 2020, in response to President Trump’s executive orders signed August 6, 2020. (This was delayed September 19, 2020, “in light of recent positive developments.”)

October 14, 2020: The State Department identifies ten foreign persons involved in the erosion of the obligations of China under the Sino-British Joint Declaration of the Basic Law, including the imposition of the national security law. Treasury had already imposed asset-blocking sanctions on these individuals on August 7, 2020.

October 20, 2020: The U.S. Department of Education releases a report on university funding from foreign sources, including China. The report found that Huawei “had financial ties to nearly all the investigated institutions.”

November 9, 2020: The Departments of the Treasury and State impose sanctions on four people for their role in implementing Hong Kong’s new national security law pursuant to the executive order on Hong Kong Normalization. These four people were: Deng Zhonghua, (Deputy Director of the Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office), Edwina Lau (Deputy Commissioner of Police in Hong Kong), and Li Jiangzhou and Li Kwai-wah (officials at the newly established national security office in Hong Kong).

November 12, 2020: President Trump issues the executive order on “Addressing the Threat from Securities Investments that Finance Communist Chinese Military Companies.”
**November 30, 2020:** Treasury sanctions CEIEC, a Chinese technology company, for “supporting the illegitimate Maduro regime’s efforts to undermine democracy in Venezuela, including its efforts to restrict internet service and conduct digital surveillance and cyber operations against political opponents.” The action was taken pursuant to the “Executive Order on Blocking Property of the Government of Venezuela.”

**December 2, 2020:** Customs and Border Protection issues a WRO on cotton and cotton products from the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps.

**December 3, 2020:** DOD adds four companies to the list of Communist Chinese military companies: China Construction Technology, China International Engineering Consulting Corporation, China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC), and the Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corp (SMIC).

**December 4, 2020:** The State Department imposes visa restrictions on PRC and CCP officials, or individuals active in United Front Work Department activities, who have “engaged in the use or threat of physical violence, theft and release of private information, espionage, sabotage, or malicious interference in domestic political affairs, academic freedom, personal privacy, or business activity.”

**December 4, 2020:** The State Department terminates five exchange programs conducted under the auspices of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act (MECEA), noting “the five programs in question are fully funded and operated by the PRC government as soft power propaganda tools.” These programs are: the Policymakers Educational China Trip Program, the U.S.-China Friendship Program, the U.S.-China Leadership Exchange Program, the U.S.-China Transpacific Exchange Program, and the Hong Kong Educational and Cultural Program.

https://www.state.gov/termination-of-prc-funded-propaganda-programs/

**December 7, 2020:** The State Department designates 14 vice-chairpersons of the National People’s Congress Standing Committee (NPCSC) “in connection with developing, adopting, or implementing the Law of the People’s Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.” The NPCSC voted unanimously to impose the national security law in Hong Kong.

**December 11, 2020:** Treasury submits its report to Congress regarding foreign financial institutions (FFIs) that knowingly conducted significant transactions with foreign persons identified by the State Department as “materially contributing to the failure of the Government of China to meet its obligations under the Sino-British Joint Declaration” as required by Section 5(b) of the Hong Kong Autonomy Act. Treasury did not identify any FFIs that had knowingly conducted these transactions.

**December 17, 2020:** The Energy Department designates China as a foreign adversary and prohibits “the acquisition, importation, transfer, or installation of specified bulk-power system (BPS) electric equipment that directly serves Critical Defense Facilities (CDFs)” as of January 16, 2021.
December 18, 2020: The Commerce Department adds 59 PRC entities to the Entity List for actions “deemed contrary to the national security of foreign policy interest of the United States,” including Chinese entities involved in human rights abuses and the Chinese government’s militarization of the South China Sea. Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corporation (SMIC) was among the companies added to the list due to “China’s military-civil fusion (MCF) doctrine and evidence of activities between SMIC and entities of concern in the Chinese military industrial complex.” The Commerce Department’s press release on the addition of SMIC notes that “items uniquely required to produce semiconductors at advanced technology nodes – 10 nanometers or below – will be subject to a presumption of denial.”


December 18, 2020: The FBI charges Xinjiang Jin, a China-based Zoom executive, with conspiracy to commit interstate harassment and unlawful conspiracy to transfer a means of identification. Jin was charged with disrupting video meetings that were commemorating the Tiananmen Massacre.


December 18, 2020: The Export-Import Bank’s Board of Directors establishes a “narrowly-tailored content policy” specific to the agency’s Program on China and Transformational Exports. The policy provides support for ten transformational export sectors, including 5G, artificial intelligence, and renewable energy.


December 21, 2020: The Commerce Department’s BIS amends the EAR to add a new “Military End User” List. BIS also adds an initial tranche of 103 entities, including 58 Chinese companies. A license is required to export, reexport, or transfer designated items to listed entities.


December 21, 2020: The State Department announces additional restrictions on the issuance of visas for PRC officials “believed to be responsible for, or complicit in” human rights abuses.


December 22, 2020: DHS issues a data security business advisory warning of risks associated with the use of data services and equipment from firms linked to the PRC.

December 28, 2020: Treasury issues FAQs clarifying the scope of the executive order on “Addressing the Threat Posed by Communist Chinese Military Companies,” noting that U.S. investors are barred from investing in exchange traded funds (ETFs) or index funds featuring securities of “Communist Chinese military companies.”
https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/financial-sanctions/recent-actions/20201228

January 5, 2021: President Trump issues an executive order amending the previous executive order on “Addressing the Threat Posed by Applications and Other Software Developed or Controlled by Chinese Companies.” The order prohibits transactions with eight apps (Alipay, CamScanner, QQ Wallet, SHAREit, Tencent QQ, VMate, WeChat Pay, and WPS Office) beginning 45 days after the order. The order also directs the secretary of commerce to evaluate “Chinese connected software applications that pose an unacceptable risk to the national security, foreign policy, or economy of the United States” and, in consultation with the attorney general and the director of national intelligence, prepare a report with recommendations to prevent the access of U.S. user data by foreign adversaries.

January 10, 2021: The State Department announces the U.S. will lift restrictions on contacts between U.S. and Taiwanese officials and that the restrictions are now “null and void.”

January 13, 2021: President Trump issues an executive order amending the order on “Addressing the Threat from Securities Investment that Finance Communist Chinese Military Companies.” The amendment prohibits possession of publicly traded securities of any Communist Chinese military company and their subsidiaries.

January 13, 2021: Customs and Border Protection issues a WRO on all cotton and tomato products produced in Xinjiang based on information that “reasonably indicates the use of detainee or prison labor and situations of forced labor.”

January 13, 2021: DHS releases the “DHS Strategic Action Plan to Counter the Threat Posed by the People’s Republic of China,” which categorizes DHS activities into the following areas: border security and immigration, trade and economic security, cybersecurity and critical infrastructure, and maritime security.

January 14, 2021: The Commerce Department’s BIS imposes new controls on “any U.S. technologies and specific activities of U.S. persons who may be supporting foreign military-intelligence end uses and end users in China, Cuba, Russia, and Venezuela.” The rules prevent U.S. persons from supporting named foreign military-intelligence services by brokering the sale of foreign-origin items or providing maintenance and repair. The rules also expanded export license requirements to all items subject to the EAR. The rules impacted China’s Intelligence Bureau of the Joint Staff Department.
January 14, 2021: The Commerce Department issues an interim rule to secure the information and communications technology and services supply chain. The rule identifies China and six other regimes as foreign adversaries.

January 14, 2021: The Commerce Department places China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) on its Entity List, citing its involvement in island-building activities in the South China Sea. The Commerce Department adds Skyrizon, a Chinese state-owned company, to the military end user list for “its capability to develop, produce, or maintain military items, such as military aircraft engines.”

January 14, 2021: The State Department announces the United States is imposing visa restrictions on PRC individuals, including executives of state-owned enterprises and CCP and PLA officials, responsible for the construction or militarization of “disputed outposts in the South China Sea, or the PRC’s use of coercion against Southeast Asian claimants.” These restrictions may apply to immediate family members as well.

January 14, 2021: DOD adds nine companies to the list of Communist Chinese military companies: Advanced Micro-Fabrication Equipment (AMEC), Luokung Technology Corporation (LKCO), Xiaomi Corporation, Beijing Zhongguangcun Development Investment Center, GOWIN Semiconductor Corporation, Grand China Air Co. (GCAC), Global Tone Communication Technology (GTCOM), China National Aviation Holding (CNAH), and Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China (COMAC).

January 15, 2021: The State Department designates six PRC and Hong Kong officials after prodemocracy arrests in Hong Kong, pursuant to Executive Order 13936, “The President’s Executive Order on Hong Kong Normalization.” The designated individuals include: You Quan (Vice Chairman of the Central Leading Group on Hong Kong and Macau Affairs), Sun Wenqing AKA Sun Qingye (Deputy Director of the Office for Safeguarding National Security in the HKSAR), Tam Yiu-Chung (Hong Kong delegate to the National People’s Congress Standing Committee), and Frederic Choi Chin-Pang, Kelvin Kong Hok Lai, and Andrew Kan Kai Yan (officials in the National Security Division of the Hong Kong Police).

January 15, 2021: Treasury’s OFAC sanctions the six Hong Kong and Chinese officials designated by the State Department on the same day.

January 19, 2021: The New York Times reports that the State Department has declared the Chinese government is committing genocide and crimes against humanity through its repression of Uyghurs and other mostly Muslim ethnic minorities in Xinjiang.