

The American Chamber of Commerce in China | 2025 Policy Priorities

Priority One: Stability and Certainty in US-China Economic Relations

The US-China economic relationship is the world's largest bilateral partnership, pivotal to both nations and the global economy. However, escalating tensions remain a top concern for American businesses in China, of which around 800 are members of AmCham China. 57% of respondents in AmCham China's recent *China Business Climate Survey Report* stress the critical importance of positive bilateral ties for business growth¹.

Recommendations

- **Limit Controls on Trade:** Both sides should restrict export controls, outbound investment screening, and supply chain access to only the most sensitive national security risks, minimizing disruptions to interconnected economies.
- **Provide Policy Reassurance:** US policies must avoid unnecessary harm to businesses reliant on integrated supply chains. Over-de-risking, aggressive financial decoupling, or excessive tariffs risk fragmenting global trade systems and increasing uncertainty.

Priority Two: Boost People-to-People Exchanges

In 2024, while people-to-people exchanges between the US and China rebounded, including that of senior business executives, government leaders and officials, and academics and students, we are yet to return to pre-pandemic levels. Concerns over safety and regulations continue to limit the willingness of executives to travel. Congressional absence from China also hampers informed policymaking.

Recommendations

- **Tone Down Rhetoric:** Both sides should take steps to reduce inflammatory language and unfair narratives that exacerbate tensions.
- **Foster Direct Engagement:** Expand government-to-government and business leader interactions at national and regional levels for better insights and informed policy.
- **Clarify Regulations:** The Chinese government should improve transparency on entry/exit bans and national security rules to ease foreign business concerns.

¹ AmCham China, 2025 *China Business Climate Survey Report*, Figure 67.

Priority Three: Support for Foreign Investment with Fair, Transparent Policymaking

Uncertainty about China's commitment to opening its market to foreign investors continues to undermine business confidence, with 38% of responding companies expressing doubt². Barriers to growth include trade tariffs, inconsistent policy implementation, and rigid data transfer regulations.

Recommendations:

- **Engage Early with Stakeholders:** Increase collaboration between AmCham China, its members, and Chinese authorities to address business concerns before policy finalization.
- **Level the Playing Field:** Ensure consistent, transparent policies that treat foreign and local businesses equally. Align implementation across national, regional, and local levels.
- **Clarify Legal Boundaries:** Narrow the scope of the Anti-Espionage Law to prevent disruptions to normal business activities and global operations. For example, allow for due diligence in line with global standards.

Beijing, China

² AmCham China, 2025 *China Business Climate Survey Report*, Figure 44.