View in your browser

CSIS 中国商务
CHINESE BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

Newsletter

July 2026

This month, Trustee Chair Scott Kennedy moderated a **roundtable discussion** on the Section 301 investigations into how forced labor and overcapacity could be harming U.S. trade interests. Experts Wendy Cutler (Asia Society Policy Institute), Mary Lovely (Peterson Institute for International Economics), Claire Reade (Arnold & Porter), and Wei Liang (Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey) discussed the impact of the investigations from legal, economic, and diplomatic perspectives.

The team was also featured across multiple platforms discussing **technology transfer from Chinese EVs**, **Huawei's clean energy developments**, and **competition in artificial intelligence**. Senior Associate (non-resident) Jeannette Chu also joined an **expert panel discussion** hosted by the Asia Society on the challenges AI poses to U.S.-China relations.

Featured Analysis

The New Carbon Order: China's Response to Europe's CBAM
Report, June 15, 2026

Read Here



In this report, **Ilaria Mazzocco** and **Ray Cai** explain how China has been quietly building the institutional architecture needed to navigate the EU's carbon tariff regime.

Location is Everything: The Promises and Limits of China's Development Zones

Blog Post, June 2, 2026

Read Here



In this blog post, **Ryan Featherston** examines trends in China's defined economic development zones, evaluates the evidence on their effectiveness, and traces early efforts to build regional clusters for AI.

Events

China and the Section 301 Investigations: The Legal, Economic, and Diplomatic Issues

CSIS Event, July 13, 2026

Watch Here

The Trustee Chair in Chinese Business and Economics is delighted to invite you to attend this public, online roundtable discussion on China and the

ongoing Section 301 investigations into how forced labor and overcapacity could be harming U.S. trade interests. The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative is currently carrying out two Section 301 investigations into the potential negative impact that forced labor and overcapacity elsewhere may be having on the U.S. economy. These investigations cover many countries, but China is a central target in both. Moderated by Trustee Chair **Scott Kennedy**, this roundtable will analyze the investigation from the legal, economic, and diplomatic perspectives, featuring insights from **Wendy Cutler** (Asia Society Policy Institute), **Mary Lovely** (Peterson Institute for International Economics), **Claire Reade** (Arnold & Porter), and **Wei Liang** (Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey). The discussion will compare the current case with the 2017-2018 Section 301 investigation into intellectual property rights (IPR) theft by China and consider potential alternative approaches to managing commercial relations with China.

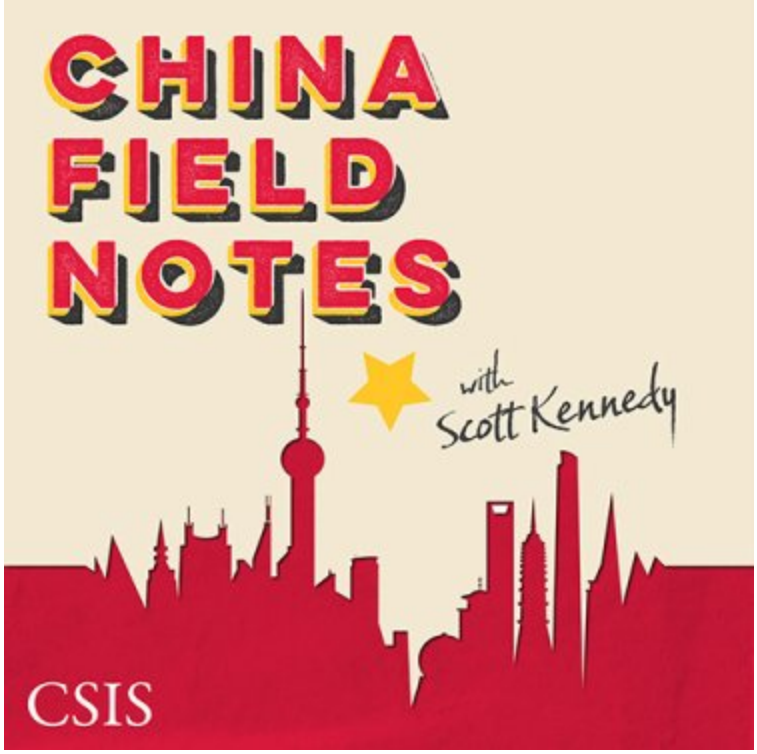
Big Data China



Visit Our Microsite

Big Data China bridges the gap between cutting-edge quantitative academic research and the Washington policy community. Interactive features and analysis from Big Data China on topics such as significant shifts in popular sentiment in China regarding the causes of economic inequality, China's post-Reform Era trajectory, and the expansion of Chinese state sector influence over private firms are all available on our microsite **here**.

China Field Notes Podcast



Subscribe

Catch up on the current episodes of our podcast *China Field Notes with Scott Kennedy*. Understanding China has become more difficult than ever, yet also more important than ever. Hardening geopolitics has made travel to China more difficult, but not impossible. In this podcast, Scott Kennedy offers an on-the-ground look at China, featuring insights from those shaping the country and scholars studying it firsthand.

In The News

U.S., China reach trade 'gentleman's agreement' but AI tensions mount: CSIS

CNBC, July 23, 2026

Scott Kennedy spoke to CNBC about how to interprete the recent U.S.-China trade agreement. **Watch here**.

U.S. auto industry races to purge Chinese connected-car hardware amid federal push

Reuters, July 21, 2026

The strategy of licensing tech from China is one the auto industry has leaned on before. For example, Ford is licensing battery technology from China's CATL for U.S. production of batteries."You could end up with a situation where you end up becoming more dependent on China through these partnerships," said **Ilaria Mazzocco**, deputy director and senior fellow at the Center for Strategic

and International Studies. On the other hand, she said these collaborations might be the only way for the U.S. to gain expertise in an increasingly competitive ecosystem. **Read here**.

China's Questionable Technology Strategy

The Atlantic, July 19, 2026

The process of making semiconductors is immensely complex and dauntingly global, involving supply chains that span numerous countries. Re-creating that chain in one place is "essentially impossible," **Scott Kennedy**, a senior adviser at the Center for Strategic and International Studies who has studied the Chinese tech industry, told me. Even attempting it is "cost-prohibitive and self-defeating." **Read Here**.

Why 'reverse tech transfer' from China remains a non-starter in the U.S. auto industry

South China Morning Post, July 14, 2026

The Trump administration's rollback of electric vehicle tax incentives under the Inflation Reduction Act is also fueling domestic complacency, according to **Ilaria Mazzocco**, a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "Shielding from competition without creating pressure to innovate tends to create stagnant industries," she emphasized. **Read here**.

Huawei's $11 Billion Clean Energy Empire is Opening New Markets

Bloomberg, July 13, 2026

Countries spent $2.3 trillion on clean technologies of all sorts last year, more than double 2020 levels, according to BloombergNEF. And that's only half of what's needed annually for the rest of the decade.

"There is a huge business opportunity," said **Margaret Jackson**, a senior associate at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. **Read here**.

U.S.-China AI: Collaboration, Competition, and Shared Challenges

Asia Society, July 9, 2026

Jeannette Chu participated in a panel discussion on the evolving US.-China relationship on artificial intelligence. **Details here**.

Geo-Strategy: Operational Realities

Rittener Reflections, July 1, 2026

Jeannette Chu and Jeff Rittener discuss the shift from the strategic environment to the operational realities inside companies, where resilience depends on the systems, decisions, and relationships built long before a crisis hits. **Listen here**.

Scott Kennedy, *Senior Adviser and Trustee Chair in Chinese Business & Economics*
Ilaria Mazzocco, *Deputy Director and Senior Fellow*
Ryan Featherston, *Associate Fellow*
Isabella McCallum, *Program Manager*
Eleanor Randolph, *Intern*
Jeannette L. Chu, *Senior Associate (Non-resident)*
Michael Davidson, *Senior Associate (Non-resident)*
John L. Holden, *Senior Associate (Non-resident)*
Margaret Jackson, *Senior Associate (Non-resident)*
Claire Reade, *Senior Associate (Non-resident)*
Daniel H. Rosen, *Senior Associate (Non-resident)*
Deborah Seligsohn, *Senior Associate (Non-resident)*
Logan Wright, *Senior Associate (Non-resident)*



Copyright © 2026 CSIS, All rights reserved.
You expressed an interest in CSIS's work.

Our mailing address is:
Center for Strategic & International Studies
1616 Rhode Island Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Email us at cbe@csis.org

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from all CSIS emails.