

## INSIGHTS

## Multilateral Cooperation Stays Strong Despite U.S. Exits

## Clear Voice



By LIANG Yilian &amp; ZHANG Jiaxin

Recently, U.S. President Donald Trump issued an executive order declaring that the United States will withdraw from 66 international organizations, conventions and treaties — including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Of these, 31 are UN entities, covering core areas such as climate, energy, nuclear security and trade rules.

From Trump's first-term withdrawal from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty and UNESCO to now further abandoning global climate consensus, the United States' "exit" actions have continued to escalate.

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said in a statement that these organizations and conventions have either been "captured by the interests of actors advancing their own agendas contrary to our own" or are "a threat to our nation's sovereignty, freedoms and general prosperity."

The U.S. environmental news site Inside Climate News commented that this behavior is like a new homeowners' association president trying to dissolve the group by posting a note on the front door.

Paolo von Schirach, chair of the London-based Global Policy Institute, further pointed out that this reflects the U.S. bilateral approach of "You want to talk to us, you come here and talk to me," rather than operating within a multilateral framework.

Treating international rules as tools — using them when convenient

The logo of the World Health Organization (WHO) is seen at its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. The United States officially left the WHO on January 22. (PHOTO: XINHUA)

and discarding them when not — exposes the consistent illogic in how the U.S. approaches the international order. After World War II, the U.S. consolidated its leadership by creating multilateral institutions. However today, when multilateral frameworks no longer serve its unilateral decisions unquestioningly, the U.S. has devolved from a "rule-maker" to a "order-breaker."

This reckless behavior is severely disrupting the environment of open cooperation. The leaders of France and Germany recently warned in a statement that the U.S. move is accelerating the collapse of the post-World War II rule-based global governance system.

The American think tank Center for American Progress noted that destroying multilateral avenues of cooperation does not make the U.S. stronger or

give it a freer hand internationally; it takes away a powerful tool that can, and ought to be, used to make Americans safer, more secure and more prosperous.

UNFCCC chief Simon Stiell called this decision "a colossal own goal which will leave the U.S. less secure and less prosperous."

This selfish act will have a negative demonstration effect, weakening collective efforts to respond to global crises and exacerbating the fragmentation of global rules. In an age of frequent extreme weather and global crises, institutions such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change are scientific cornerstones for all to face survival challenges.

Gina McCarthy, former administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, said the U.S. withdrawing from

the UNFCCC is a "shortsighted, embarrassing and foolish decision."

Stanford climate scientist Rob Jackson emphasized that the U.S. withdrawal could hinder global efforts to curb greenhouse gases because it "gives other nations the excuse to delay their own actions and commitments."

Such destruction of consensus poses great risks of rule failure and delayed action when the international community faces global challenges.

However large the withdrawal, it cannot halt the collective will for global cooperation. In response to the U.S. regression, the international community has shown an unprecedented consensus.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said China will always uphold multilateralism, support the UN in playing a central role in international affairs, and work together with the international community to promote a more just and equitable global governance system.

Indian External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said India stands for multilateralism and believes that global issues need consultative and collaborative action by all countries.

The trend of globalization is unstoppable because it is built on the objective reality of mutual interdependence among countries, not on the unilateral will of any single state. The United States' recent series of actions that deviate from agreements and destroy consensus not only harm the common interests of the international community but will also erode its own long-term development and international credibility.

Adhering to multilateralism and maintaining sincere and reliable global partnerships is the fundamental path toward a truly sustainable shared future.

## Voice of the World

## China's Foreign Trade Growth Fuels Global Investor Confidence

Edited by QI Liming

In 2025, China's foreign trade value reached 45.47 trillion RMB (6.48 trillion USD), up by 3.8 percent, according to data released by the General Administration of Customs of China on January 14. Since 2017, China's foreign trade has recorded nine consecutive years of growth.

Exports rose by 6.1 percent year on year to 26.99 trillion RMB. Imports hit a record 18.48 trillion RMB, with year-on-year growth of 0.5 percent, maintaining China's status as the world's second largest import market for 17 years in succession.

**Foreign firms ready to go on investing**

Most multinational companies (MNCs) remain confident of China's long-term prospects, according to the 2025 KPMG MNC China Outlook Report. The survey shows that 94 percent of MNCs continue to invest in China.

In 2025, the import and export volume of foreign-funded enterprises amounted to 13.27 trillion RMB, increasing by 3.7 percent, maintaining growth for seven consecutive quarters.

In 2024, China completely lifted restrictions on foreign investment in the manufacturing sector, providing a vast space for enterprises to expand their production capacity and diversify their business operations.

Birgit Böhm-Wannenwetsch, president and CEO of BMW Brilliance Automotive Ltd., said, China's efforts to promote the high-end, intelligent and green development of its manufacturing industry perfectly align with BMW's vision of establishing a digital and sustainable production.

She said the Chinese automotive industry is continuously innovating, becoming a crucial driving force in promoting the transformation of the global automotive industry toward intelligence, electrification and sustainable mobility.

China is one of the most dynamic markets in the world, attracting a large number of consumers who are tech-savvy, bold in experimentation, and open-minded, she said, adding that the company has always been optimistic about the

prospects of the Chinese market and is confident that her company will achieve significant growth in China.

Ahn Tae Min, chairman of CJ (Shenyang) Biotech Co., Ltd., said, "The continuously improved business environment and infrastructure, as well as stable policy expectations, have provided a stable, transparent and predictable development environment for foreign enterprises, which has strengthened our confidence in deepening the development here."

Li Yanbing, general manager of Michelin Shenyang Tire Co., Ltd., said China has become the world's largest automotive consumer market. "The 30-year development journey of Michelin in Shenyang is not only the growth story of an enterprise, but also a microcosm of the synchronized resonance and mutual achievement between the enterprise and China's automotive industry," Li added.

**China's bullish outlook in 2026**  
According to *Forbes* magazine, consumer spending in China this year is a hot topic among groups ranging from global shoe brands to think tank researchers, owing to hopes that government policies will make it a stronger source of growth in the world's No. 2 economy this year.

Shaun Rein, founder of China Market Research Group, has been tracking trends in consumer spending in China for more than two decades and anticipates gains. "Despite the economic headwinds in China, I'm getting very bullish on consumer consumption in 2026," Rein recently told *Forbes China* in an interview in Shanghai.

According to Rein, Chinese brands have already been strong in domestic market, but now they're starting to go abroad. Companies like BYD and Xiaomi are going to become not just China players, but export their products and dominate markets throughout the entire world.

In 2026, the world had better get ready for the rise of high quality Chinese domestic brands with great branding. They're going to be hitting the shores throughout the entire world. For 2026, China is the next China, Rein said.

## China, EU Forge Cooperative Path on EV Trade

## Opinion

By SUN Jin

After multiple rounds of consultation, China and the EU have agreed on providing general guidance on price undertakings for Chinese companies exporting battery electric vehicle (EV) passenger cars to the EU, according to China's Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM).

The European Commission stated that each price undertaking offer will

be assessed under the same legal criteria and has committed to conducting each review in an objective and fair manner, in line with the principle of non-discrimination and in accordance with WTO rules.

MOFCOM said, the progress shows both China and the EU have the ability and willingness to properly resolve differences through dialogue and consultation under the framework of WTO rules, and maintain the stability of automotive industrial and supply chains in China, the EU and the whole world.

Upstream and downstream indus-

tries in both China and the EU share the expectation that the EU's anti-subsidy case against Chinese EVs will be properly resolved, according to a recent statement by the China Chamber of Commerce for Import and Export of Machinery and Electronic Products.

This resolution will help promote the security and stability of relevant industrial and supply chains between China and Europe, safeguard the broader framework of China-EU economic and trade cooperation, and uphold the rules-based international trade order, the statement added.

China and the EU are deeply integrated in terms of automobile industrial and supply chains. China is a crucial supplier of automotive components, such as aluminum wheels and electronic parts, to EU automakers.

Capitalizing on China's technological and industrial chain advantages, European auto enterprises, including Mercedes-Benz, BMW and Volkswagen, have already integrated deeply into China's auto production and supply chains.

Chinese automakers have also deeply

integrated in Europe through building factories and establishing research and development centers. BYD has built its manufacturing facility in Hungary. Companies such as NIO and XPeng have design and R&D centers in Germany.

The price undertaking guidance will help better balance different interests. Both Chinese and EU companies can enjoy a more stable and predictable auto industry.

Tu Xinquan, dean of China Institute for WTO Studies, University of International Business and Economics, remarked that proper handling of the EV trade difference between China and the EU underscores the fundamental value of dialogue and cooperation in resolving economic and trade differences.

While this move may not resolve all differences, it does show that in a highly interdependent global industrial system, solving differences needs cooperation and communication. With protectionism generating new uncertainties, the China-EU choice demonstrates that cooperation is a practical and necessary option for sustaining the stability of the global economy.

## Enterprises' Principal Role Reinforced in Innovation

From page 1

Continuous investment is the cornerstone of technological breakthroughs, said Zhuo Yibin, chairman assistant of Xiamen Yangsen NC Equipment Co., Ltd., adding that during the 14th FYP period, the enterprise invested over 50 million RMB in R&D annually, to successfully develop high-end machine tools.

## Collaborative effort

The achievements made are inseparable from the empowerment by long-

term policy guidance and practical measures. The government coordinates resources and provides institutional guarantees, thereby promoting the transformation of future industries from technological breakthroughs to commercial application, and forming new quality productive forces.

In the Intelligent Equipment Town of Xinchang county, Shaoxing city, Zhejiang province, Xu Weiqiang, chairman of Hydroc Technology (Zhejiang) Co., Ltd., said that his team came to this small city

in 2020 because of the favorable policies and diverse application scenarios Xinchang has created for the low-altitude economy. This enables the enterprise's products to be widely applied in fields such as anti-drowning aerial patrol, aviation publicity and rescue missions.

Meanwhile, in Xi'an, Shaanxi province, Huasheng Composites made a breakthrough in the domestic production of automatic filament laying equipment during the 14th FYP period. Its founder Duan Yugang told *S&T Daily*

that the Shaanxi Qinchuangyuan sci-tech innovation platform has helped the enterprise deal with complex financing and market issues, which has supported its technology transfer.

Looking ahead, the establishment of China's technological innovation system will prioritize enterprises as its strategic foundation, channel resources towards original innovation, and strive to build a new mechanism featuring a virtuous cycle of "technology - industry - finance" and deep integration of technological innovation, industry, human resource and finance, said Yang Zhen, associate researcher of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

## Glasses-free 3D Display Now a Reality

## Hi-Tech

By Staff Reporters

Researchers from Shanghai Artificial Intelligence Laboratory and Fudan University have together invented a new generation of glasses-free 3D display technology, the EyeReal.

For the first time, it achieves ultra-wide range full parallax glasses-free 3D display at desktop-level size, making "viewing freely without dizziness" a reality. The human eye can perceive a three-dimensional world because objects reflect light in all directions. When these light rays enter the eye, the brain automatically "synthesizes" a sense of stereo perception. The core of glasses-free 3D is to enable the screen to simulate the "all-direction light emission" effect and reconstruct a complete light field.

However, the problem is that the amount of light information required to simulate "all-direction light" is extremely large, while the information transmission capacity of modern optical display systems is limited. This makes it impossible to achieve large size, wide angle and visual continuity simultaneously.

The research team adopted a hybrid technical approach of "light field generation modeling plus neural net-

work decoding," which is equivalent to equipping glasses-free 3D with an "intelligent brain" through AI technology.

The high-precision sensors on the screen act like "trackers," constantly monitoring the user's eyes in real time. Whether the user is sitting, standing or moving, the positions of both eyes can be instantly locked. The AI algorithm functions as a "supercomputer," capable of calculating the most suitable light distribution for the user's current position in real time and precisely sending it in the direction of both eyes, without wasting a large amount of light information on other directions.

This technology is expected to drive the integration of intelligent large models into the real physical world on a comprehensive scale. In the medical, educational, automotive and the entertainment fields, it is expected to provide a comprehensive upgraded experience.



Glasses-free 3D advertising image. (PHOTO: VCG)



People visit the exhibition zone of Chinese electric vehicle maker AITO at the 2025 IAA Mobility in Munich, Germany. (PHOTO: XINHUA)