

Will Trump Stop **U.S.-China Convergence?**

On July 7, 2015, Communist China’s premier, Li Keqiang, and China’s ruling State Council issued their new 10-year “strategic blueprint” to dominate global hi-tech manufacturing. They named this ambitious roadmap “Made in China 2025.” Their 38-page document outlining this blueprint notes: “China is still in the process of industrialization and there remain gaps between China and advanced economies. Chinese manufacturing is large but not yet strong.”

The Chinese Communist Party’s prescription for achieving a strong industrial economy targets key technology sectors: semiconductors (computer chips), robotics, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, pharmaceuticals and advanced medical products, aerospace and aeronautical equipment, railway transportation equipment, modern maritime transport, new-energy vehicles and equipment — and much more.

How did Beijing’s commissars intend to achieve these lofty goals? The same way they achieved their phenomenal industrial/economic successes of the past 50 years: partner up with globalist U.S. corporations to get as much over-the-counter technology and expertise as possible — and steal the rest. This tried-and-true path had worked wonderfully for them through U.S. Republican and Democratic administrations, and they had every reason to believe it would continue to produce the same spectacular results. “Made in China 2025” became a mantra to direct and inspire all of Chinese society, and to instill confidence in the Communist Party’s vision and leadership.

However, something happened in 2016 that has upset the grandiose plans not only of China’s communist elites, but the plans of their globalist elite comrades in the West as well. The election of Donald Trump has thrown a big wrench into their well-oiled “trade” machine. President Trump has specifically taken aim at the “Made in China 2025” master plan, citing national security concerns to nix Chinese deals with and acquisitions of U.S. chip makers. China’s giant manufacturing base is the world’s biggest consumer of semiconductors, but they are dependent on U.S.-made chips. Last year the Trump administration fined Chinese telecom titan ZTE Corp \$1.3 billion — the largest fine ever assessed by the United States for export control violations — and banned U.S. companies from exporting semiconductors to ZTE. He also signed legislation prohibiting U.S. government agencies from buying products from ZTE and Huawei Technologies, another of China’s “national champion”



tech giants closely aligned with the Communist Party.

In another unprecedented move, the Trump administration zeroed in on China’s exploitation of America’s high-tech university programs. The number of Chinese student visas has exploded in recent years. There are now 350,000 Chinese students at U.S. colleges and universities, accounting for one out of three foreign students. Twenty-five percent of graduate students in U.S. STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) programs are Chinese foreign nationals. They are

an important component of the “Made in China 2025” blueprint. The Trump administration has dramatically shortened the STEM student visa, from five years to one year, and has initiated more strenuous screening.

These and similar White House moves have been greeted with howls of protest by China (naturally), as well as by the usual pro-Beijing lobby. However, after these initial outbursts, an interesting thing happened. Chinese officials, agencies, and media platforms ceased mentioning “Made in China 2025.”

And another interesting thing: U.S. globalists suddenly discovered that China’s aggressive push for tech acquisitions represents an “existential threat” to the United States. “In the saga of the U.S.-China economic rivalry, Made in China 2025 is shaping up to be the central villain, the real existential threat to U.S. technological leadership,” says Lorand Laskai, a research associate at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), in a piece for the CFR’s website.

Goodness, you say, these are the one-worlders who have been the chief sponsors of aid-and-trade with China for decades. It looks like these Deep State folks at the CFR are finally waking up to reality. Not so fast; it’s not what it seems. Just as Xi Jinping and the rest of the ruling thugs in Beijing realize it’s not smart now to broadcast their “Made in China 2025” boasts, so too their CFR colleagues recognize it’s a propitious time to shift rhetoric.

However, while Laskai and some CFR members now peddle faux concern about China’s threat, the rest of the CFR cabal are pushing ahead with still more treasonous trade. As we have reported online, the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations (NCUSCR), a major CFR front, is sponsoring a national “China Town Hall” webcast on October 9 featuring former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice (CFR) and dozens of other “leading experts.” And billionaire Wall Streeters, such as Blackstone Group’s chairman Stephen Schwarzman (CFR), continue pushing mergers and convergence with China. This battle is far from over. ■