



Open Source Media Summary

November 20, 2023

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ENROLMENT RISE IS FASTEST IN 40 YEARS

Nathan M. Greenfield | *University World News* | November 14, 2023

The 12% rise in the number of international students in the United States – the fastest growth rate in four decades – has pushed international student numbers almost back up to pre-pandemic levels. The 1,057,188 international students studying in the US include almost 300,000 who enrolled for the first time, a cohort that grew by 14% following the 80% increase in 2021-22 that was fuelled by the end of travel restrictions following the easing of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the *Open Doors 2023 Report on International Education Exchange* published by the Institute of International Education this week. Although the number of Chinese students declined by 0.2%, China's 289,526 students studying in the United States remained the single largest national group. Enrolment of Indian students grew by a stunning 35%, bringing the number of students from the sub-continent studying in the US to 268,923, the largest number ever for this second largest national group. The number of students from other countries also rose, including Brazilians by 41%, Mexicans by 36%, Nigerians by 46%, Nepalese by 41%, Japanese by 29%, British by 30% and Canadians by 38%, says the *Fall 2023 Snapshot of International Student Enrollment*, released in tandem with *Open Doors* by the Institute of International Education (IIE).

Read the full article [here](#).

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ADD US \$40 BILLION TO ECONOMY

Nathan M. Greenfield | *University World News* | November 13, 2023

The one million international students studying in the United States contributed US\$40.1 billion to the American economy during the 2022-23 academic year, says a report published online on 13 November by NAFSA: Association of International Educators. While the figure is still below the US\$40.4 billion record recorded in 2018-19 (when there were almost 1.1 million international students in the country) – the last year before the COVID-19 pandemic – it is US\$6.3 billion (or 19%) higher than in 2021-22. The 368,333 jobs generated by international students' spending – both at their colleges and universities, and in their communities – is almost 10% higher than last year and is 20% higher than during the year when America's borders were closed because of COVID. These figures, which NAFSA announced in a press release unveiling the website entitled "NAFSA International Student Economic Value Tool" (ISEVT), follows by a few days NAFSA's announcement for the formation of a coalition with 11 other partners to increase enrolment of international students in the United States.

Read the full article [here](#).

SCATTERED SPIDER

FBI and CISA | Joint Cybersecurity Advisory | November 16, 2023

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) are releasing this joint Cybersecurity Advisory (CSA) in response to recent activity by Scattered Spider threat actors against the commercial facilities sectors and subsectors. This advisory provides tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) obtained through FBI investigations as recently as November 2023. Scattered Spider is a cybercriminal group that targets large companies and their contracted information technology (IT) help desks. Scattered Spider threat actors, per trusted third parties, have typically engaged in data theft for extortion and have also been known to utilize BlackCat/ALPHV ransomware alongside their usual TTPs. FBI and CISA encourage critical infrastructure organizations to implement the recommendations in the Mitigations section of this CSA to reduce the likelihood and impact of a cyberattack by Scattered Spider actors.

Read the full article [here](#).

INTRODUCING THE STANFORD EMERGING TECHNOLOGY REVIEW

Condoleezza Rice, John B. Taylor, Amy Zegart and Jennifer Widom | Hoover Institution Defining Ideas November 14, 2023

Emerging technologies are transforming societies, economies, and geopolitics. This moment brings unparalleled promise and novel risks. In every era, technological advances buoy nations that develop and scale them—helping to save lives, win wars, foster greater prosperity, and advance the human condition. At the same time, history is filled with examples where slow-moving governments stifled innovation in ways policy makers never intended, and nefarious actors used technological advances in ways that inventors never imagined. Technology is a tool. It is not inherently good or bad. But its use can amplify human talent or degrade it, uplift societies or repress them, solve vexing challenges or exacerbate them. These effects are sometimes deliberate but often accidental. The stakes of technological developments today are especially high. Artificial intelligence (AI) is already revolutionizing industries, from music to medicine to the military, and its impact has been likened to the invention of electricity. Yet AI is just one among many technologies that are ushering in profound change.

Read the full article [here](#).

AN ASSESSMENT OF U.S.-ALLIED NATIONS' INDUSTRIAL BASES IN QUANTUM TECHNOLOGY

Edward Parker, Richard Silbergliitt, Daniel Gonzales, Natalia Henriquez Sanchez, Justin W. Lee, Lindsay Rand, Jon Schmid, Peter Dortmans, and Christopher A. Eusebi | Rand Research Reports

The U.S. government has identified quantum technology as important for future U.S. economic prosperity and national security because it could eventually offer groundbreaking new capabilities in information collection, processing, and communication. RAND researchers had previously developed a set of metrics for holistically assessing a nation's industrial base in quantum technology and had applied those metrics to the industrial bases of the United States and China. For this report, the authors used a similar methodology to assess the quantum industrial bases of several other nations. The report begins with a broad look at the entire global quantum ecosystem, and then focuses in more detail on Australia, Germany, Japan, and the United Kingdom (UK). The authors considered four categories of metrics: scientific research, government support, industry activity, and technical achievement.

Read the full article [here](#).

BRITISH UNIVESITIES ARE BECOMING DEPENDENT ON CHINA – AND ITS MILITARY

Robert Clark | *The Telegraph* | November 14, 2023

Britain's universities are world-leading. We know it, foreign students know it – and Beijing knows it. It's been well-documented for some time that Chinese parents take a strong interest in British education, sending more of their children to UK campuses than to any country other than the United States. The Chinese state also takes an interest. Beijing's "wolf warriors" have made little secret of their desire to rewrite the global order to defend their authoritarian regime, and safeguard their government against public discontent. Central to this ambition is technological superiority, and strengthening the People's Liberation Army (PLA). In turn, this appears to be increasingly reliant on British universities. My latest Civitas report shows that up to one third of all Chinese research funding, grants and contributions made to UK universities come from entities explicitly linked to the PLA in various forms.

Read the full article [here](#).

U.S. INVESTORS SHOULD BE TOLD OF CHINA EXPOSURE RISKS, SAYS CONGRESSIONAL ADVISORY PANEL

Bochen Han | *South China Morning Post* | November 15, 2023

Congress should consider establishing a framework to compel disclosures from publicly traded American companies so investors are aware of exposure risks to China, a US advisory panel on China policy said on Tuesday. In a sweeping annual report comprising 30 recommendations and covering nearly every aspect of the bilateral relationship, the US-China Economic and Security Review Commission also called on lawmakers to establish a "risk matrix" to evaluate the national security threat posed by electronic goods imported from China. The bipartisan panel also urged Congress to bring the Taiwanese military to the US and train them on weapons systems that have been ordered but not yet delivered to Taipei. The 753-page report comes as Beijing and Washington have resumed in-person high-level talks in a bid to smooth relations. It also was released one day before US President Joe Biden and Chinese leader Xi Jinping meet in San Francisco for the second time since Biden took office in January 2021.

Read the full article [here](#).

AI ENTANGLEMENTS: BALANCING RISKS AND REWARDS OF EUROPEAN-CHINESE COLLABORATION

MERICS | November 16, 2023

AI is a frontier and foundational technology field with enormous implications. It is hugely relevant for economies, societies, and governance, and it plays an increasingly pivotal role in addressing global challenges. China's ambitions and growing capabilities in research and applications have made it a powerhouse of AI innovation at the center of global R&D networks, networks from which it has benefited tremendously. AI's military relevance, the intensifying rivalry between China and the United States and the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) use of AI to strengthen its authoritarian rule overshadow cooperation. US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan called AI one of the "force multipliers" across the technology ecosystem, and Chinese Party and State Leader Xi Jinping dubbed it a "strategic handhold for China" in global science and tech competition". Amid growing geopolitical competition, national security concerns, and ethical dilemmas, joint labs were shut down and people-to-people exchanges subjected to greater government scrutiny.

Read the full article [here](#).

CHINESE ORGANISATIONS WITH MILITARY LINKS FUND £12M TO THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Maryse Bots | The Student | November 14, 2023

A report by think tank Civitas has revealed that the University of Edinburgh has taken over £12m in funding from Chinese organisations with links to the military. The main funder was Huawei Technologies, a controversial organisation which was banned from Britain's 5G network, funding at least £10m to the university. Robert Clark, director of defence and security of Civitas, told the Scotsman: "Of particular concern in this project is the University of Edinburgh's continued and extensive research collaborations and partnerships with Huawei – designated as a military company by the US government." Additionally, the think tank revealed that 96 per cent of this funding came from countries with links to the Chinese armed forces – The People's Liberation Army (PLA). According to the report, the university received between £12.7m to £13.8m from five Chinese organisations between 2017-2022.

Read the full article [here](#).

U.S. STRATEGIC COMPETITION WITH CHINA

Timothy Heath | Rand Research Reports

rapid unraveling of the U.S.-China relationship—which had been widely viewed as stable and mutually profitable despite long-standing disputes—has unsettled global politics. Although both capitals appear committed to peacefully resolving their differences, the intensifying acrimony and distrust have raised fears among many observers that the two countries could be headed toward confrontation. The author reviews past RAND Corporation studies on relevant topics surrounding this relationship, primarily from the past five years and extending to the middle of 2020. In this examination of more than 60 RAND reports, the author discusses various issues pertaining to the competition, including China's strategic goals and priorities, the policies and measures through which China attempts to fulfill these goals, how China's actions affect U.S. strategic interests, and what additional steps might further protect U.S. interests. This review also encompasses studies that take a broader view of the competitive international environment and consider how the competition might differ from U.S. strategic competition with Russia.

Read the full article [here](#).

CHINA RAISES CONCERNS WITH US OVER EXPORT CONTROLS, SANCTIONS, TARIFFS

Joe Cash | Reuters | November 17, 2023

China's commerce minister expressed concern over U.S. curbs on semiconductor exports to China, as well as sanctions on Chinese firms and tariffs on Chinese imports, when he met U.S. Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo on Thursday, his ministry said Friday. Wang Wentao told Raimondo in San Francisco: "it is very important the two sides discuss the boundary between national security concerns and trade and economic cooperation," a statement read. The world's two biggest economies used to be each other's largest trading partners, and while both governments publicly oppose decoupling, China is now trading more with Southeast Asia and the U.S. with neighbouring Canada and Mexico. "Wang Wentao expressed concern about the final rules of the U.S. semiconductor export controls against China, sanctions against Chinese companies, two-way investment restrictions, and Section 301 tariffs," according to China's commerce ministry.

Read the full article [here](#).

CHINA HAWK FROM WISCONSIN WANTS TO CHANGE HOW WALL STREET INVESTS

Edna Curran, Daniel Flatley, and Silla Brush | Bloomberg | November 16, 2023

The White House likes to speak of its China policy as a small yard with a high fence, where critical technologies are protected even as the world's two biggest economies continue to do business together. In the view of one US lawmaker, that yard needs to be much bigger. Representative has emerged as one of the most vocal China critics on Capitol Hill, with ambitions that include curbing the flow of American investor money into China. In January, the Wisconsin Republican of the newly formed. Gallagher wants to change the rules for how asset managers such as , and others are allowed to invest in China. Currently there are prohibitions against direct investments in Chinese companies that are allegedly connected to the country's military. Those prohibitions don't necessarily extend to their subsidiaries, however.

Read the full article [here](#).

SAFETY CONCERNS COULD THWART CHINESE STUDENTS' RETURN TO US

Xiaofeng Wan | University World News | November 13, 2023

For the first time in 15 years, China is no longer the number one international student-sending country to the United States. It has been surpassed by India, ending one of the most remarkable and unprecedented international student mobility trends the world has seen. According to Homeland Security's SEVIS (Student and Exchange Visitor Information System) programme database, as of October, there were more than 338,000 active student visa holders from India, 27% more than China, which sat at a little over 265,000. Graduate students were the major force behind this historic swap. The October data revealed that nearly 80% of student visa holders from India were in a masters programme, compared with less than 40% among Chinese students. However, for those pursuing a bachelor degree, the number of student visa holders from China was nearly 2.4 times more than those from India.

Read the full article [here](#).

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

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USEFUL RESOURCES

U.S.-CHINA ECONOMIC SECURITY REVIEW COMMISSION 2023 REPORT TO CONGRESS

108th Congress | November 2023

Throughout much of 2023, the public discussion of China in the United States was preoccupied with the short-term ups and downs of the relationship between the two countries. Tensions between the two were said to be rising or easing, warming or chilling, usually as the result of high-level visits (or the lack of them). The underlying reality was that, amid these ups and downs, the rivalry between the United States and China was intensifying. While the top-level contacts reflected a general desire, at least by the United States, to improve the relationship with Beijing and create an air of normalcy, the new normal is one of continuing, longterm strategic and systemic competition.

View the full resource [here](#).

STANFORD EMERGING TECHNOLOGY REVIEW

Stanford University | November 2023

Emerging technologies are transforming societies, economies, and geopolitics. This moment brings unparalleled promise and novel risks. In every era, technological advances buoy nations that develop and scale them—helping to save lives, win wars, foster greater prosperity, and advance the human condition. At the same time, history is filled with examples where slow-moving governments stifled innovation in ways policymakers never intended, and nefarious actors used technological advances in ways that inventors never imagined. Technology is a tool. It is not inherently good or bad. But its use can amplify human talent or degrade it, uplift societies or repress them, solve vexing challenges or exacerbate them. These effects are sometimes deliberate but often accidental.

View the full resource [here](#).

YOUR EXECUTIVES AND EMPLOYEES AS TARGETS: BASIC MITIGATION STEPS

National Counterintelligence and Security Center's Post

U.S. corporate executives and employees are key counterintelligence targets today as adversaries seek to acquire technology, data, and talent from virtually every sector of the U.S. economy to advance their interests. See below for basic mitigation steps.

View the full resource [here](#).

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