



Conference Agenda *(ao.02.11.2025)*

Steptoe LLP: 1330 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036
& Virtual via Zoom

12:00 – 1:00 PM Registration & Networking Luncheon

~12:45 – 1:00 PM Welcome Remarks

- [Sean Stein](#), President, USCBC

1:00 – 1:55 PM China's Economic Outlook for 2025

China's economy is facing considerable headwinds due to subdued domestic demand and the threat of more trade frictions with the United States, all while Chinese policymakers are attempting to guide economic growth along a more sustainable and high-quality path.

Join us for a discussion with two leading economists who will unpack the latest economic data and policy shifts shaping China's macroeconomy. The discussion will explore the trajectory of the Chinese economy in 2025, including the key trends, policy priorities, and challenges and opportunities ahead. Because China's economy will continue to evolve, the panel has been designed to help USCBC member companies navigate and strategize for the year ahead.

- [Michael Hirson](#), Senior Managing Director, Head of China Research, 22V Research
- [Meg Rithmire](#), James E. Robison Professor, Harvard Business School (*participating virtually*)
- Moderated by [Kyle Sullivan](#), Vice President, Business Advisory Services, USCBC

1:55 – 2:50 PM China's Domestic Politics: Navigating Challenges & Opportunities in US-China Relations

As US-China relations unfold against the backdrop of shifting global economic and geopolitical dynamics, understanding China's internal political landscape is more crucial than ever.

This panel brings together leading experts to explore how China's domestic politics—ranging from leadership and governance strategies to public sentiment and domestic policy priorities—shape US-China commercial relations and areas for constructive cooperation amid evolving challenges.



- [Neil Thomas](#), Fellow on Chinese Politics, Center for China Analysis, Asia Society Policy Institute
- [Jessica Chen Weiss](#), David M. Lampton Professor of China Studies, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies
- Moderated by [Sean Stein](#), President, USCBC

2:50 – 3:00 PM Coffee Break

3:00 – 3:55 PM Reflections on and Predictions for Technology Competition and Trade Compliance

The new year heralds not just a change in administration but a new phase in technology competition. This panel will explore the bevy of policy tools created by the Biden administration, which now belong to President Trump, and discuss what they mean for trade compliance. Panelists will also unpack China's reformed response functions and how both sides' tools may play into the bilateral relationship going forward.

- [Scott Kennedy](#), Senior Adviser and Trustee Chair, Chinese Business and Economics, Center for Strategic & International Studies
- [Opher Shweiki](#), Partner, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
- Moderated by [Zach Tomatz](#), Senior Manager, Business Advisory Services, USCBC

3:55 – 4:50 PM Trade and China Policy in the 119th Congress

Congress is poised to play an active role in trade policy over the next two years. We will be joined by trade experts to discuss what to expect on China and trade policy and how Congress will work with the Trump administration in these areas.

- [Sally Laing](#), Partner, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
- [Warren Maruyama](#), Senior Counsel, Hogan Lovells
- Moderated by [Richard Harper](#), Vice President, Government Affairs, USCBC

4:50 – 4:55 PM Closing Remarks

- [David Thomas](#), Senior Vice President, USCBC



FORECAST 2025

& USCBC President Welcome Reception

February 12
Washington, DC

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| ~4:55 PM | Adjournment |
| 4:55 – 5:25 PM | Conference attendees move to pre-reception to enjoy light refreshments and networking. |
| 5:30 – 7:30 PM | Welcome Reception for USCBC's President Begins |

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