

Economic Policy Workshop Series  
1<sup>st</sup> Workshop  
“De-Risking and Recent U.S. Technology Controls – Exploring their Effects on the EU  
and Germany”

Tuesday, October 17, 2023  
9.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.  
Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Ludwigkirchplatz 3–4, 10719 Berlin

## AGENDA

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09.00 a.m. to 10.15 a.m. **Session 1 „The Decoupling of Global Value Chains - Potential Effects on the EU and Germany“**

*Prof. Gabriel Felbermayr, Ph.D., Director, Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO) and Professor of Economics and Business, Vienna University*

As part of its strategic approach to China, the Biden administration has stepped up measures to analyze existing vulnerabilities in U.S. supply chains and accelerated steps to reduce dependence on critical goods. The EU has also recognized the need to become more economically independent of China. Rather than engage in a full or even partial "decoupling" from China, the EU has coined the term "de-risking" to describe its new foreign economic strategy. However, it is still unclear whether it means the same thing on both sides of the Atlantic and how de-risking is supposed to be implemented. This session will discuss the potential economic costs and benefits of unbundling the EU economy from global value chains. How could increased costs, for example due to Chinese retaliation measures, be absorbed? What would be the necessary steps and priority areas for successful transatlantic de-risking?

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10.15 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Coffee break

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10.30 a.m. to  
12.00 p.m.

**Session 2 „The Changing Nature of U.S. Trade and Foreign Economic Policy: From Opening Markets and Free Trade Agreements to De-risking and Controlling Critical Technologies“**

*L. Daniel Mullaney, Nonresident Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council and former U.S. Trade Representative for Europe and the Middle East in the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR)*

U.S. trade and economic policy has experienced a significant shift in recent years. Instead of primarily focusing on advancing a market-oriented agenda, which involved negotiating trade and investment agreements with various countries, the last two administrations have placed greater weight on safeguarding the well-being and prosperity of the American middle class. There is broad bipartisan consensus that economic security is a paramount concern due to growing geoeconomics tensions and rivalry with an increasingly assertive China. As highlighted by Executive Orders in October 2022 and August 2023, export and investment controls, including outbound investments to China, are now central to the Biden administration's strategy of denying Beijing access to critical technologies that could be used for military purposes. This session takes a closer look at the potential impact of the new export and investment restrictions on global supply chains. What challenges are businesses and industries that rely on technology exports to China going to face? And how can they adapt to these changing circumstances?

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12.00 p.m. to 12.30 p.m. Light lunch buffet

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