

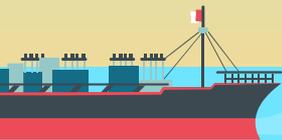
Should the United States Ban Goods from China Produced by Forced Labor?

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Background Information	Xinjiang & Uyghur - who, what, when, where, why, how?
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Actors Involved	United States (cotton and solar companies), China (workers in Xijiang)
Different Policy Alternative	Removed, Middle Stance, Involved?
Group Stance	In favor of UFLPA (#3)



Xīnjiāng 新疆



- ❖ Autonomous territory located in Northwest China
- ❖ Home to many ethnic minority groups (Turkic Uyghur)
- ❖ Home to many of the People's Republic of China's
 - Prison labor camps
 - Vocational skills education and training centers
 - Reeducation centers
 - Poverty Alleviation Through Labor Transfer centers
- ❖ Chinese government gives subsidies companies moving to the Xinjiang region as well as if they use Muslim minority workers
 - Incentive to continue
- ❖ Workers in the Xinjiang camps are subject to constant isolation and surveillance



<https://youtu.be/5FiTfJfea0c?si=7SFKoJGLVZQZr1&t=45>



The Turkic Uyghurs

- Muslim majority ethnic group
- 11 Million living in China, primarily in Xinjiang annexed in 1949
- Government drive to assimilate minority cultures led to discrimination

- A series of incidents has lead to increasing repression against Uyghurs
- Communist Party theorist have called for a monocultural “state-race” society

- “Strike Hard Campaign Against Violent Terrorism”(严厉打击暴力恐怖活动专项行动)

- “Although a certain number of people who have been indoctrinated with extremist ideology have not committed any crimes, they are already infected,” “They must be admitted to a reëducation hospital in time to treat and cleanse the virus from their brain.” - Xi Jinping



The Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (UFLPA)

Implemented by Joe Biden on December 23, 2021

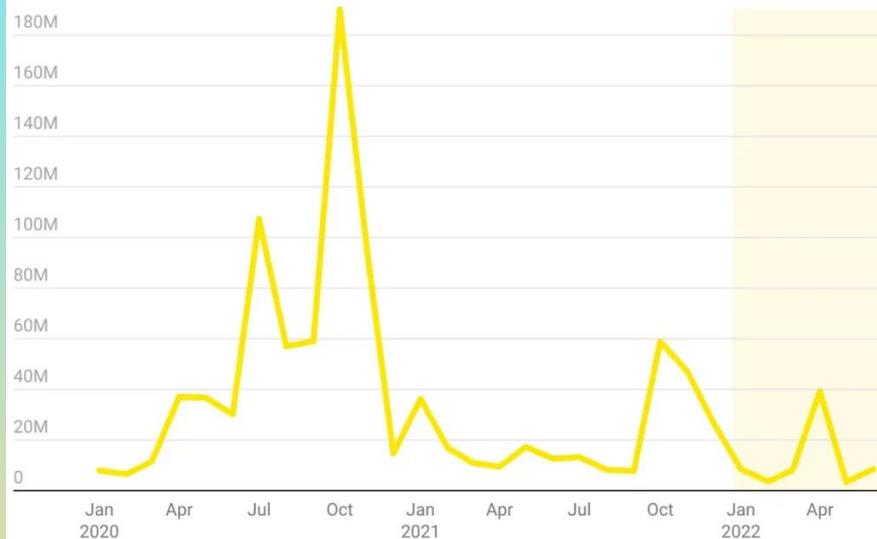


Name of Entity	Effective Date
Baoding LYSZD Trade and Business Co., Ltd.	June 21, 2022
Hetian Haolin Hair Accessories Co. Ltd. (and two aliases: Hotan Haolin Hair Accessories; and Hollin Hair Accessories)	June 21, 2022
Hetian Taida Apparel Co., Ltd (and one alias: Hetian TEDA Garment)	June 21, 2022
Hoshine Silicon Industry (Shanshan) Co., Ltd (including one alias: Hesheng Silicon Industry (Shanshan) Co.) and subsidiaries	June 21, 2022
Xinjiang Daqo New Energy, Co. Ltd (including three aliases: Xinjiang Great New Energy Co., Ltd.; Xinjiang Daxin Energy Co., Ltd.; and Xinjiang Daqin Energy Co., Ltd.)	June 21, 2022
Xinjiang East Hope Nonferrous Metals Co., Ltd.	November 25, 2024
Xinjiang GCL New Energy Material Technology, Co. Ltd (including one alias: Xinjiang GCL New Energy Materials Technology Co.)	June 21, 2022
Xinjiang Junggar Cotton and Linen Co., Ltd.	June 21, 2022
Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps (including three aliases: XPCC; Xinjiang Corps; and Bingtuan) and its subordinate and affiliated entities	June 21, 2022

<https://www.dhs.gov/uflpa-entity-list>

Xinjiang Exports to USA (USD)

Total monthly exports (Jan-2020 to Jun-2022) from Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR) to the United States in USD with highlight from 23 December 2021 to 1 July 2022.



Data from China General Administration of Customs

Source: Castellum.AI • Created with Datawrapper

<https://blog.waveplm.com/what-is-uflpa-certification/>



Actors

US Government

- ❖ Biden
 - Passage of UFLPA (2021)
- ❖ DHS, United States Customs and Border Protection, US Department of State, and US Department of Labor
 - Enforce UFLPA and issue advisories on products of forced labor
- ❖ Current Trump Admin
 - Marco Rubio and Rep. Mike Waltz

Business Actors

- ❖ Nike, Coca-cola, Apple, etc
 - Lobbied congress to weaken UFLPA bill (2021)
 - Support HR but worry about supply chains
 - High standard for supply strain scrutiny under UFLPA
- ❖ AFL-CIO (largest US labor federation):
 - wanted to stop imports of solar products from XUAR (2021)



Other Actors

China

- ❖ The PRC government
- ❖ The Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps (XPCC)

International Actors

- ❖ NGO's
 - The World Uyghur Congress
 - International Labor Orgs
 - Joint NGOs Statement- 2nd anniversary of assessment of atrocity crimes in the Uyghur Region
- ❖ The UN Human Rights Council
 - Oppose forced labor because PRC is committing HR violation
- ❖ Other governments:
 - The UK's Proceeds of Crime Act (2022)- similar to the UFLPA
 - The EU's Forced Labour Regulation (2024) —FLR framework for member states to investigate and ban products made with forced labour in the EU market

Effects on Industry

- Goods produced in XUAR are inputs for many final goods sold in the US
- Bans such as the UFLPA disrupt supply chains and often raise prices for consumers

Polysilicon

- ❖ Key in solar panel production
- ❖ 45% of China's production from Xinjiang
- ❖ US polysilicon producers have increased their production capacity

Textiles and Apparel

- ❖ more than 20% of global cotton grown in China
- ❖ due to bans, importers have shifted to different suppliers
- ❖ A ban on all Xinjiang cotton could potentially increase price
- ❖ price increase is transferred to the consumer

Other products:

- ❖ Hair products
- ❖ Computer parts
- ❖ Aluminum
- ❖ Seafood
- ❖ Tomato Based Products

Cars

- ❖ Aluminum produced in Xinjiang mixed with other materials and used in car production

PVC

- ❖ Polyvinyl chloride (used in flooring)
- ❖ 10% of world's PVC
- ❖ PVC production has expanded in US, Mexico, India, and Vietnam

Interesting: bans of Xinjiang products deny income to factories in that area who employ Uyghur people and pay them a wage

Policy Alternatives



#1

The United States should respect Chinese sovereignty regarding the treatment of internal groups and decline to impose diplomatic or economic sanctions.



#2

The United States should use diplomatic and other “soft power” strategies to encourage human rights around the globe.



#3

The United States should be more aggressive in supporting human rights by banning goods made with forced labor and the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act is a good way to implement such approach.



Policy Alternatives



#1

The United States should respect Chinese sovereignty regarding the treatment of internal groups and decline to impose diplomatic or economic sanctions.

Advantages

- ❖ Avoids potential conflict with China
- ❖ Allows continuation of purchasing goods at lower price

Disadvantages

- ❖ Gives off the impression that America disregards human rights
 - Encouraging these practices
- ❖ Issues with allies



Policy Alternatives



#2

The United States should use diplomatic and other “soft power” strategies to encourage human rights around the globe.

Advantages

- ❖ Avoids escalation of conflict with China
- ❖ Contributes to long-term change
- ❖ Creates a global consensus

Disadvantages

- ❖ No immediate impact
 - Could end up being ineffective
- ❖ Disagreement from allies
- ❖ Can be viewed as weak



Policy Alternatives



#3 The United States should be more aggressive in supporting human rights by banning goods made with forced labor and the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act is a good way to implement such approach.

Advantages

- Limits US imports of goods produced with forced labor
- Sends a clear policy signal to China and the world that the United States is against forced labor
- Aligns with acts previously implemented by allies

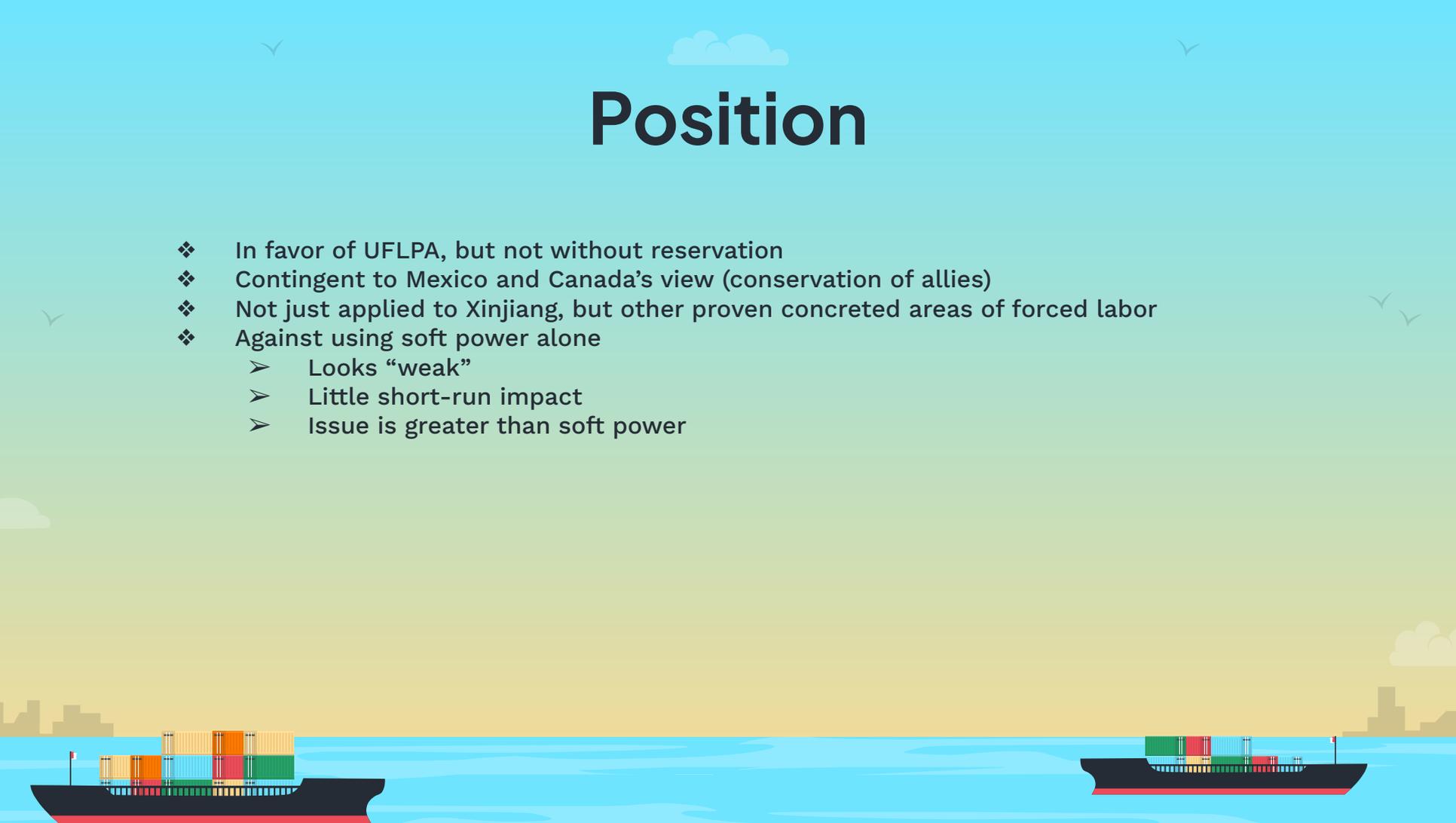
Disadvantages

- tracing supply chains costs \$
- Switching suppliers also causes disruptions and delays
- China could retaliate



Position

- ❖ In favor of UFLPA, but not without reservation
- ❖ Contingent to Mexico and Canada's view (conservation of allies)
- ❖ Not just applied to Xinjiang, but other proven concreted areas of forced labor
- ❖ Against using soft power alone
 - Looks “weak”
 - Little short-run impact
 - Issue is greater than soft power



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