



# China Restricts Rare Earth Exports, Impacting US Economy

## Description

Neodymium is used to make the powerful magnets used in loudspeakers and computer hard drives.

The ongoing trade dispute between China and the US has brought the focus on the escalating tit-for-tat tariffs, but China's imposition of export controls on rare earth minerals and magnets has also significantly impacted the US. Rare earths, including Neodymium, Yttrium, and Europium, play a crucial role in the production of high-tech products such as loudspeakers, computer hard drives, and medical technology. China, with its dominant position in rare earth production and processing, has the power to control the global supply chain, leading to major vulnerabilities for the US.

The recent export restrictions by China have underscored the US' heavy reliance on Chinese rare earth supplies. With 70% of rare earth imports coming from China, the US faces potential disruptions in critical industries like defense, technology, and manufacturing. The shortage of rare earth materials could lead to increased costs, production delays, and strategic vulnerabilities for the US. President Trump's order to investigate the national security risks posed by this reliance highlights the urgency and importance of securing alternative supply chains for rare earth minerals.

While the US has limited rare earth production capacity, efforts to reduce dependency on China through partnerships with other countries like Ukraine and Greenland have been explored. However, geopolitical tensions and trade disputes complicate the US' quest for diversifying its rare earth sources. The US faces a dual challenge of reducing reliance on China while navigating strained international relations to secure its critical mineral supply.

## Vocabulary List:

1. **Imposition** /,ɪm.pə'zɪʃ.ən/ (noun): The act of establishing or applying something typically a rule or restriction.
2. **Escalating** /'ɛs.kə.leɪ.tɪŋ/ (adjective): Increasing rapidly or intensifying.
3. **Reliance** /rɪ'laɪ.əns/ (noun): Dependence on or trust in someone or something.
4. **Vulnerabilities** /,vʌl.nərə.ə'bɪl.ɪ.tɪz/ (noun): The quality of being open to harm or damage.
5. **Disruptions** /dɪs'rʌp.ʃənz/ (noun): Interruptions that disturb the normal functioning of something.
6. **Geopolitical** /,dʒiəʊ.pə'lɪt.ɪ.kəl/ (adjective): Relating to the effects of geography on international politics and relations.

## Vocabulary quizzes



**Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )**

1. Which rare-earth element is commonly used in magnets?  
Option: Neodymium  
Option: Tariffs  
Option: Export  
Option: Furnaces
2. What term describes something of crucial importance or essential for an outcome?  
Option: Reliance  
Option: Critical  
Option: Intervention  
Option: Impact
3. Which practice involves promoting a product or service to attract customers?  
Option: Purification  
Option: Allegations  
Option: Advertising  
Option: Flavor
4. What term refers to the introduction of new ideas or methods?  
Option: Capacity  
Option: Intervention  
Option: Innovation  
Option: Bipartisan
5. Which concept relates to the protection of assets from harm or loss?  
Option: Negotiations  
Option: Security  
Option: Capitalizing  
Option: Exploitation
6. What are the likely consequences or effects of a specific action or event?  
Option: Ramifications  
Option: Turmoil  
Option: Implications  
Option: Disruptions
7. What refers to choices or courses of action that can be taken?  
Option: Capacities  
Option: Sustainable  
Option: Alternatives



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Option: Reliance

8. Which term means to maintain or support over time?

- Option: Capacity
- Option: Intervention
- Option: Purification
- Option: Sustain

9. What is the term for a disturbance or problem that interrupts an event or activity?

- Option: Flavor
- Option: Export
- Option: Disruption
- Option: Innovation

10. What term is used to describe a powerful effect or influence?

- Option: Alternatives
- Option: Impact
- Option: Bipartisan
- Option: Negotiations

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. The country aimed to increase its \_\_\_\_\_ revenue by expanding overseas sales.

12. The process of water \_\_\_\_\_ involves removing impurities to make it safe for consumption.

13. The government decided to provide financial \_\_\_\_\_ to stabilize the economy.

14. The success of the project depended on the team's \_\_\_\_\_ on each other.

15. The factory increased its production \_\_\_\_\_ to meet growing demand.

16. The government imposed higher \_\_\_\_\_ on imported goods to protect local manufacturers.

17. Natural disasters often cause \_\_\_\_\_ to transportation and communication networks.

18. The new policy had a significant \_\_\_\_\_ on the economy.



19. Chemists study the properties of various \_\_\_\_\_ to understand their behavior.
20. The political \_\_\_\_\_ in the region led to widespread unrest.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. The two opposing parties reached a compromise through a cooperative and bipartisan effort.
22. The company's success was built on the solid foundation of mutual trust and reliance among its employees.
23. The company implemented eco-friendly practices to ensure a sustainable environment for future generations.
24. The business seized the opportunity by quickly capitalizing on the latest market trends.
25. The new product launch was accompanied by an extensive advertising campaign to reach a wider audience.
26. The company was accused of unethical exploitation of natural resources in the region.
27. Both parties engaged in tough negotiations to finalize the terms of the contract.
28. The decision had deep implications for the company's future growth and profitability.
29. The scandal had far-reaching ramifications on the political landscape of the country.
30. The government imposed a new tariff on imported goods to protect domestic industries.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Neodymium 2. Critical 3. Advertising 4. Innovation 5. Security 6. Implications 7. Alternatives 8. Sustain 9. Disruption 10. Impact

**Gap-Fill:** 11. Export 12. Purification 13. Intervention 14. Reliance 15. Capacity 16. Tariffs 17. Disruptions 18. Impact 19. Compounds 20. Turmoil

**Matching sentence:** 1. Bipartisan 2. Reliance 3. Sustainable 4. Capitalizing 5. Advertising 6. Exploitation 7. Negotiations 8. Implications 9. Ramifications 10. Tariff

## CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL5

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