

AmCham Taiwan 2022 vDK Paper #4
Issue Thumbnail & Talking Points – Digital Economy Agreement (DEA)

Issue:

Decision-makers / Influencers this call:

AmCham Position & Prior Engagement:

AmCham Objectives for Call:

Learn the prospects for movement toward a DTA during the remainder of the current Biden Administration, before and after the fall mid-term elections.

Press the case

Capture broad support for Taiwan's inclusion in the IPEF, or the initiation of BTA ...

Talking Points:

- *[Generic introductory points for all calls]*
- Thank you for today's conversation and the willingness to take views of the private sector into account on this critical partnership and policy.
- An agreement with Taiwan will help the U.S. to play a leadership role in shaping the digital trade landscape. The United States should build on the digital trade rules in the U.S.-Mexico-Canada FTA (USMCA), the US-Japan Digital Trade Agreement, as well as the Singapore-Australia Digital Economy Agreement. From the perspective of U.S. businesses in AmCham Taiwan these rules and standards are important to include enshrine in a formal agreement with Taiwan to enable open digital markets, facilitate digital trade, and foster trust in the digital economy.

Enable open digital markets

- Promote a free and open internet
- Enable cross-border data flows
- Ensure technology choice and non-discriminatory treatment of digital products
- Prohibit digital customs duties
- Prohibit forced data localization
- Ban forced tech transfers and forced disclosure of source code and algorithms

Facilitate digital trade

- Enable paperless trade
- Permit the use of electronic authentication, e-signatures, and e-invoicing
- Logistics and express shipments
- Promote the development of interoperable e-payments systems
- Prohibit spam

Foster trust in the digital economy

- Protect personal information in digital trade, ensuring that information is transferred across borders consistent with strong privacy principles
- Promote interoperable cross-border data transfer mechanisms such as the APEC Cross-Border Privacy Rules
- Strengthen cybersecurity cooperation
- Encourage online consumer protection
- Ensure that content removal measures are reasonable and tailored to the objective of promoting online safety

Encourage inclusive trade

- Recognize digital inclusion as a driver of economic and social development and enabling access to digital tools and technologies for all
- Enable SME access and participation in digital trade by removing need for local presence
- Facilitate greater access to public government data, especially for SMEs
- Support access to retraining, workforce development, and digital skills
- Strengthen cooperation on digital capacity building

- **Notes & Follow-up**

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Background: The idea of a U.S.-Taiwan treaty to avoid double taxation

References for deeper background: