

美參議院同意討論譴責中國外匯政策的提案

1,207 words

11 April 2005

中國資訊行-新聞頻道 (繁體)

Chinese - Traditional

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INFOBANK訊 美國參議院日前以壓倒多數通過一項譴責中國人民幣政策的提案，這意味著布什政府在經濟問題上進一步承受著對中國採取強硬立場的壓力。

據《華爾街日報》4月8日報道，參議院以67-33的票數決定討論由參議員舒默 (Charles Schumer) 和格雷厄姆 (Lindsey Graham) 提出的修正案，即如果北京不同意讓人民幣升值，就對所有中國出口至美國的商品一律加征27.5%的關稅。長期以來，美國一直認為中國的匯率制度將人民幣的匯率人為壓低，使得中國出口商品價格相對低廉，在全球市場上同美國產品競爭時處於不公正的有利地位。

這項提案的支持者們表示，設置這樣一個關稅完全是為他們認為人民幣匯率本應有同樣幅度的升值，並無其他含義。但其實不能把加征關稅與貨幣升值的效果簡單地等同起來，因為實際上加征大額關稅導致的中國商品價格升幅可能要遠遠超過人民幣以同樣幅度升值所產生的效果。

舒默-格雷厄姆修正案不大可能成為法律，但表決結果實際上使得這項提案已經不可能遭到參議院領導人的封殺，至少會成為一項有待批轉的國際事務法案的一部分。從更廣義的角度來講，此次表決也是對北京的一次譴責，凸現出美國公眾對中國經濟實力日漸壯大的深層憂慮，以及國會對布什政府無力改變中美貿易狀況的日益不滿。2004年，美國對中國的貿易逆差為1620億美元，逆差之大高居各貿易伙伴國之首。

中國官員曾多次承諾，隨著中國經濟的發展，人民幣終將走向浮動匯率制。但他們並未給出何時實現這一目標的具體時間表。舒默說，中國政府只是空口承諾，根本沒有拿出實際行動來。

這項提案有這麼多擁護者讓參議院領導人始料不及。由於是附加在處理國際事務的法案之中，僅憑修正案獲得通過尚無法決定最終是否採取行動。舒默表示，一個可能的結果是把外匯問題單獨拿出來，制定一項專門的法案。

Zogby International對百人會 (Committee of 100) 所作的最新調查顯示，在美國的民眾、商界領袖以及國會議員中，國會議員對中國的猜疑最深。雖然大多數受訪者都認為美中貿易正在朝著積極的方向發展，但36%的國會議員認為中國對美國構成了嚴重的軍事威脅，而持這一觀點的公眾和商界領袖比例只有15%和16%。當被問及在反恐戰爭中，中國是否是美國可靠的盟友時，給予了肯定答案的公眾和商界領袖比例分別為27%和25%，而國會議員的比例只有16%。

對人民幣匯率爭議的關注升溫正值中美關係處於複雜時期，從中還可以看出美國在和中國打交道時的矛盾立場。一方面，布什政府多次制裁那些和伊朗有貿易往來的中國公司；另一方面，它又在敦促朝鮮放棄擁有核武器的努力方面希望得到中國的協助。

美國官員表示，調查反映出政府擔心2004年12月31日配額制度終

結後，中國紡織品對美出口激增侵害到美國製造商的利益。中國官員對美國展開調查的舉動反響強烈，並表示不準備採取額外的措施來約束紡織品出口。

美國政府面臨的強大壓力與歐盟的溫和立場形成了鮮明對比。歐盟領導人7日宣佈了準備允許短襪、長褲等紡織品2005年的進口增加1倍的計劃。而且，歐盟貿易委員曼德爾森（Peter Mandelson）的講話也意味著歐盟不可能在近期內推出限制中國紡織品出口的措施。他堅持說，歐盟首先要做的是從所有25個成員國那裡收集至少3個月的數據。這些數據最早也要在4月下旬才能公佈。

POLL: AMERICAN VIEWS ON NATION IMPROVING

By Wu Yixue

413 words

8 April 2005

China Daily

English

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China's popularity is growing in the United States, with larger portions of the public and business community viewing the country favourably.

A survey released on Wednesday by the **Committee of 100** a group of prominent US citizens of Chinese descent showed that 59 per cent of Americans hold a favourable view of China, up from 46 per cent in 1994. The poll also showed that 63 per cent of top executives held the same view.

"The improvement of Americans' attitude should be attributed to a shift in US foreign policy towards China in recent years," said Yan Xuetong, director of the Institute of International Studies at Tsinghua University.

For some years after the end of the Cold War, the United States had exaggerated the strategic threat posed by China, creating a generally negative impression, Yan said.

"Since the September 11 terrorist attacks, the US administration of President George W. Bush, however, has shown a desire to work with China in its campaign against global terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction," Yan said. "Thus, the administration has changed its past tactics of exaggerating China's threat into one of strengthening the country's partnership."

The United States is now looking to work with China on a wide range of international issues, such as the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula, Yan said.

The **Committee of 100** poll also found that 82 per cent of business leaders and 73 per cent of ordinary people consider Sino-US trade beneficial to the United States.

Only 24 per cent of the public saw China as an economic threat and 15 per cent regarded the country as a military threat.

However, among the congressional staff polled, only 19 per cent held a positive attitude towards China and 54 per cent still considered China an economic threat. And 36 per cent still thought the country posed a military threat.

The poll was conducted by Zogby International and surveyed 203 opinion leaders and 1202 American adults at random in December 2004. Zogby also surveyed 101 mostly senior congressional staff members and 150 American business leaders in March 2005.

In a poll released by the Beijing-based Global Times in February, 52.9 per cent of Chinese respondents said they "generally like" Americans while 13.2 said they "like" them. Also 51.9 per cent said they feel generally satisfied with Sino-US ties.

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WSJ 更正：美國參議院同意討論譴責中國外匯政策的提案

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道瓊斯中文財訊 (繁體)

Chinese - Traditional

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(格林威治時間4月7日12點49分發出的報導中，有關提案的內容恐引起歧義，特此更正重發。對部分客戶而言，此次重發將覆蓋原文)《華爾街日報》--

美國參議院日前以壓倒多數同意討論一項用抬高關稅來懲罰中國人民幣政策的提案，這意味著布什政府在經濟問題上承受著對中國採取強硬立場的更大壓力。參議院以67-

33的票數決定討論由參議員舒默(Charles Schumer)和格雷厄姆(Lindsey Graham)提出的修正案，即如果北京不同意讓人民幣升值，就對所有中國出口至美國的商品一律加征27.5%的關稅。長期以來，美國一直認為中國的匯率制度將人民幣的匯率人為壓低，使得中國出口商品價格相對低廉，在全球市場上同美國產品競爭時處於不公正的有利地位。這項提案的支持者們表示，設置這樣一個關稅完全是為他們認為人民幣匯率本應有同樣幅度的升值，並無更多的含義。但其實不能把加征關稅與貨幣升值的效果簡單地等同起來，因為實際上加征大額關稅導致的中國商品價格升幅可能要遠遠超過人民幣以同樣幅度升值所產生的效果。舒默-

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“我們認為雙方將繼續展開磋商；眼下，對話仍然是政府的優先選擇。”在參議院昨天展開激烈辯論的同時，一個美國紡織品企業組成的廣泛聯盟呼吁政府對中國製造的服裝實施更為嚴格的進口限制。紡織品行業的管理人士表示，儘管本週政府對中國紡織品展開一系列調查、為對進口自中國的紡織品採取新的限制措施鋪平了道路，但他們認為這遠遠不夠。美國官員表示，調查反映出政府擔心去年12月31日配額制度終結後，中國紡織品對美出口激增侵害到美國製造商的利益。中國官員對美國展開調查的舉動反響強烈，並表示不準備採取額外的措施來約束紡織品出口。紡織品遊說團體昨日表示，他們準備向政府提交正式請願書，要求對部分毛衣、睡衣和文胸等另外14種中國紡織品實施進口限制。一旦政府受理他們的請求，政府要再過90天的時間才能決定是否批准他們的請求。美國製造業貿易行動聯合會(American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition)的執行董事奧古斯丁·坦蒂洛(Auggie Tantillo)敦促政府加快審批過程，否則的話，將給國內紡織品市場帶來長久的傷害。他表示，如果美國政府行動遲緩，紡織業將流失數以萬計的工作崗位。美國政府面臨的強大壓力與歐盟的溫和立場形成了鮮明對比。歐盟領導人昨天宣佈了準備允許短襪、長褲等紡織品今年的進口增加一倍的計劃。而且，歐盟貿易委員曼德爾森(Manderson)

Peter Mandelson)的講話也意味著歐盟不可能在近期內推出限制中國紡織品出口的措施。他堅持說，歐盟首先要做的是從所有25個成員國那裡收集至少3個月的數據。這些數據最早也要在本月下旬才能公佈。曼德爾森表示，“任何行動都必須以事實和明確的數據為基礎。” -By Greg Hitt-0-

WSJ(4/7) Senate Slams China Currency Policy

1,103 words

8 April 2005

10:21

Dow Jones Chinese Financial Wire

English

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WSJ(4/7) 2nd UPDATE: Senate Slams China Currency Policy

(From THE WALL STREET JOURNAL) By Greg Hitt

Pressure mounted on the Bush administration to draw a harder line against China on economic issues, as a strong majority of the Senate voiced discontent with Beijing's currency policies.

The 67-33 vote came amid procedural sparring over a proposal by Sens. Charles Schumer, a New York Democrat, and Lindsey Graham, a South Carolina Republican, to impose a 27.5% tariff on all Chinese products entering the U.S. if Beijing doesn't agree to raise the value of its currency. The U.S. has long contended that China's fixed yuan-dollar exchange rate has kept its currency artificially weak and made its exports relatively less expensive, giving its manufacturers an unfair advantage over American competitors in the world market.

Supporters of the proposal claim the amount was calibrated simply to offset that advantage, and no more. But currency markets don't intersect in such a simple way with goods markets and, in reality, such a large duty likely would boost prices of Chinese-made goods significantly higher than any currency adjustment.

The Schumer-Graham amendment is unlikely to become law, though yesterday's vote on a procedural question blocked the Senate leadership from killing off the measure, at least as part of a pending international-affairs bill. But on a broader, symbolic level, the roll call amounted to a rebuke of Beijing, underscoring the depth of public concern over China's rising economic power and the growing frustration in the Congress with the inability of the Bush administration to force changes. In 2004, the U.S. recorded a \$162 billion trade deficit with China -- the biggest with any trading partner.

"This is a red-hot issue," Sen. Schumer said. "What it shows is the overwhelming bipartisan sentiment -- from every part of the country -- that the Chinese must once and for all play fair."

Chinese officials have promised many times that they will move to a floating currency as their economy is modernized, but they have offered no timetable for doing so. "The Chinese give lip service," Sen. Schumer said, "and don't change."

Senate leaders were caught off guard by the depth of support for the measure, and final action was postponed on the amendment, which was offered to a bill on international-affairs programs. Sen. Schumer said one possible outcome would be to bring up the currency initiative as freestanding legislation.

A new survey by Zogby International for the **Committee of 100**, a group of Chinese-American leaders, indicated greater suspicion of China among some Congressional staff members than among other Americans or U.S. business leaders. While majorities of all three groups surveyed -- the general public, business leaders and Congressional staff -- viewed trade between the U.S. and China trade in a positive light, 36% of Congressional staff members said China posed a serious military threat to the U.S., compared with 15% of the general public and 16% of business leaders. When asked if China were a dependable ally in the war on terror, 27% of the general public, 25% of business leaders and 16% of Congressional staff said yes.

The heightened attention to the currency controversy comes at a complicated time in U.S.-China relations, and it demonstrates how sometimes disparate U.S. goals aren't in harmony. The Bush administration, for example, has repeatedly sanctioned Chinese companies for trading with Iran, a country it accuses of illegally pursuing a nuclear weapon. At the same time, the administration is pressing Beijing to persuade North Korea to give up its nuclear

ambitions.

The balancing act can be particularly difficult on the economic front, where the administration is trying to persuade China to clamp down on the piracy of intellectual property, such as movies and music.

Bush administration spokesman Trent Duffy said the U.S. wants to resolve the currency issue through negotiations with Beijing. "The administration has an open dialogue with the Chinese on this issue," he said. "We believe those [negotiations] are proceeding, and that is the administration's preferred option at this point."

Amid the sharp Senate debate yesterday, a broad coalition of American textile concerns called on the administration to embrace much tougher import curbs on Chinese-made apparel. Textile-industry officials said Bush aides didn't go far enough this week when they launched a series of trade investigations that have set the stage for imposing new import limits on Chinese products.

U.S. officials said the probes reflect concern that American manufacturers are being hurt by a flood of Chinese imports that began after Dec. 31, when the intricate global system of quotas on textile exports expired. Chinese officials bristled at the U.S. action and said they had no intention of taking additional steps to contain garment shipments.

Yet textile lobbyists yesterday filed seven petitions with the administration to impose import limits on 14 additional categories of clothing, including certain sweaters, dressing gowns and bras. An administration official said Bush aides will decide by April 27 whether to consider the petitions. If the petitions are accepted, it could then take as much as 90 days -- or longer in some cases -- to consider whether they have merit. Auggie Tantillo, executive director of the American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition, a trade group, urged the administration to expedite action, or risk permanent damage to the domestic market.

"The U.S. industry will lose tens of thousands of jobs if the U.S. government waits," he said.

The pressure for tough action in the U.S. contrasts with the course of action in Europe on textiles. European Union leaders yesterday unveiled plans that will allow imports of products such as socks and trousers to double this year. Moreover, European trade chief Peter Mandelson dismissed the possibility of an imminent crackdown, insisting the EU first must gather at least three months of import data from each of its 25 member states. Those data will emerge late this month at the earliest. "Any action must be taken as a result of facts and clear data," Mr. Mandelson said.

52% OF CONGRESSIONAL STAFF THINK U.S SHOULD DEFEND TAIWAN: POLL

378 words

8 April 2005

Asia Pulse

English

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WASHINGTON, April 8 Asia Pulse - About half of the Congressional staff and business leaders in the United States think that the United States should defend Taiwan militarily if China attacks the island, the results of a study on American attitudes toward China showed Wednesday.

Seventy-six per cent of U.S. Congressional staff questioned oppose the European Union lifting its arms embargo on China, the results of the first poll of a two-phase study commissioned by a Chinese-American elite group, the **Committee of 100**, showed.

The study, conducted by the polling firm Zogby International in March, gauged the opinions about China of Congressional staff, including legislative consultants, legislative authorities, aides and press secretaries, as well as business leaders, including enterprise chairmen and CEOs, corporate public relations authorities, department managers and board directors.

When asked, "Should the United States protect Taiwan with its military forces in the event of a cross-Taiwan Strait conflict after Taiwan declares independence?" 52 per cent of the Congressional staff queried said that the U.S. should defend Taiwan militarily; only 19 per cent said "no," while 29 per cent provide no precise answer.

For the same question, 48 per cent of business leaders think the U.S. military should help defend Taiwan; 50 per cent think the U.S. military should not, and only 3 per cent are undecided.

Meanwhile, 76 per cent of the U.S. Congressional staff expressed strong opposition to the European Union's plans to lift its arms embargo on China, compared with a mere 2 per cent who said that they absolutely support the E.U. lifting the embargo.

In addition, 49 per cent of the Congressional staff and 50 per cent of the business leaders surveyed think that the United States should be more active toward the development of cross-Taiwan Strait relations.

The same survey also found that Americans think the biggest obstacle to doing business with China is "bureaucratic intervention."

Other major obstacles included cultural and language barriers, poor financial and judicial systems, as well as corruption, in that order, the poll found.

The **Committee of 100** is a national, non-partisan organization composed of prominent American citizens of Chinese descent.

(CNA)

Asia - China

Unlike politicians, Americans positive on China

Roger Mitton , US Bureau Chief

671 words

8 April 2005

Straits Times

English

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Survey finds politicians are wary and antagonistic while public is much more positive

WASHINGTON - A MAJOR survey of attitudes towards China has revealed a stunning gulf between Washington and the rest of America.

The survey showed that political staffers in the nation's capital still regard China with a wariness that borders on outright antagonism.

But in complete contrast, Americans from all walks of life had an increasingly positive view.

The survey found that 59 per cent of the American public had a favourable opinion about China, up from 46 per cent 10 years ago.

The friendlier attitude, however, is not based on a particular love for Chinese people.

It stems from the fact that Americans relish the low-cost products that are made in China and that increasingly fill the shelves of their neighbourhood shops and department stores.

Said Ms Carolyn Chin, who runs an investment firm in New York: 'Americans are consumers first. They like cheap goods.'

She is a director of the **Committee of 100**, an organisation of Chinese-Americans whose governors include musician Yo-Yo Ma and architect I. M. Pei. The group commissioned US polling firm Zogby International to do the survey.

And while the results confirmed that most Americans thought China took away more jobs than either India or Mexico, they also showed that even trade unionists and retrenched workers did not blame China for this. It was, instead, accepted as a consequence of globalisation.

The trade-inspired 'feel good' factor was illustrated even more prominently by business leaders. A whopping 63 per cent of those polled had a favourable view of China.

Unfortunately, their political counterparts in Washington did not. Fewer than one in five US congressional staff members regarded China in a positive way. They also viewed China as a greater economic and military threat than did members of the public and business leaders.

The disparity has caused unease and some suggest that it indicates how US legislators are at odds with the rest of the country when it comes to attitudes about Asia's rising giant.

Mr Lu Xiaobo, director of the Weatherhead East Asia Institute in New York, said: 'Long-term perceptions have not changed much. So, for example, most people in Congress still regard China as first and foremost a communist country.'

In his view, a greater push to educate legislators about China was urgently needed.

But many others say the problem is self-inflicted and that Beijing has been remiss in not cultivating members of the Senate and the House of Representatives more assiduously.

Pollster John Zogby said: 'There is no doubt that China has a problem. It has developed good relations with the American heartland, but its relationship with Congress is still hostile.'

That hostility is exacerbated by other key factors illustrated by the survey. For a start, a sizeable majority in all groups polled felt that China was not a dependable friend of the United States in the war against terrorism.

Most also remained deeply concerned about China's human rights record. Around two-thirds of those surveyed said they thought China's access to American markets should be linked to an improvement in human rights.

But in another sign of the gulf, most Americans said the US should not defend Taiwan if it were to declare independence and be attacked by the mainland.

In contrast, more than half of those working in Congress who were polled said the US should commit troops to help Taiwan if it was attacked.

Overall, however, the survey results brought satisfaction, especially to America's large Chinese community. Mr Robert Lee, the San Francisco-based chairman of the **Committee of 100**, said they were heartened that the dominant attitudes towards China were positive.

For the survey, Zogby International polled 203 US opinion leaders and 1,202 American adults at random in December 2004. It then surveyed 101 mostly senior congressional staff members and 150 business leaders last month.

“百人會”調查：美公眾對中國態度顯著改善

773 words

8 April 2005

聯合早報（繁體）

14

Chinese - Traditional

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中國新聞

（華盛頓綜合電）美國華人組織“百人會”（**Committee of 100**）前日公佈的一項調查結果顯示，與10年前相比，美國人對中國的態度顯著改善，被調查的一般民眾對中國持正面看法的比例由去年的46%上升至59%，63%被調查的商界精英對中國有正面看法。

經濟威脅大於軍事威脅

據法新社報道，調查還顯示，儘管人權和知識產權問題仍是美國對華關注的主要問題，但受訪的美國人認為，中國對美國的經濟威脅大於軍事威脅，而且中國比印度和墨西哥更“嚴重”威脅美國人的工作機會。

調查分兩個階段，由佐格比國際（Zogby International）民意調查機構分別於2004年底及今年3月進行。第一階段的調查對象是普通公眾，第二階段是商界精英和國會工作人員。

但調查發現，只有19%的國會工作人員對中國持正面看法，普通公眾的這一比例是59%，商界精英中有63%的人對中國有正面看法。

百人會的一名理事在公佈調查結果時說：“美國公眾對中國的態度在過去10年有顯著改善，而且正變得越來越好。”

百人會主席李錫輝指出：“美國主流社會對中國的態度是積極的和富有建設性的。我們堅信，美國和中國應該找到合作的途徑，共同建設更為繁榮、和平的世界。”

三組被訪人士對美中貿易大多持積極態度，認為中國的廉價商品對美國公眾有益。

儘管中國被認為比印度和墨西哥更威脅美國人的工作流失，但一般公眾的意見顯示，“因工作流失而強烈反對中國的人有限”。

調查表明，人權問題是美國公眾和國會工作人員關注的首要課題，商界精英則對知識產權最為關注，人權居第二位。

美國人不希望國家過多介入台灣問題，只有少數人認為，中國對美國構成軍事威脅。

佐格比國際負責人約翰·佐格比說：“中國在世界上的地位十分重要。美國特別是領導人應該更好地了解中國。”

百人會於1990年由著名華裔建築大師貝聿銘創辦，由不同領域傑出美籍華人組成，總部設在紐約，旨在倡導中美人民建立建設性關係，並推動美國華裔全面融入美國社會。自成立以來，百人會一直關注外交、貿易、公共政策、公民權益、社會公義等與美籍華人有關的事務，並致力推廣中美之間的文化聯繫。

華盛頓綜合電

Morning Business
Reid, Pelosi Challenge Bush

404 words
7 April 2005
Roll Call
English

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Staffers' Views on China. While the general public and business leaders tend to have similar opinions on China, new data released Wednesday by Zogby International shows more divergent views among Congressional staffers.

The survey was completed by Zogby for the **Committee of 100**, a nonpartisan organization made up of Chinese American leaders.

The survey randomly sampled 1,202 adults, plus smaller numbers of business leaders and Congressional aides. A majority of each group saw U.S.-China trade positively.

However, Hill staffers were more likely to see China as an economic and military threat. On economic issues, 24 percent of the general public and 30 percent of business leaders saw China as a threat, compared to 54 percent of Hill staff. On the military question, 15 percent of the general public and 16 percent of business leaders were concerned, compared to 36 percent of Congressional staff.

- Emily Pierce, Tory Newmyer and Jennifer Lash

1/2 OF U.S. CONGRESSIONAL STAFF THINK U.S. SHOULD DEFEND TAIWAN: POLL

376 words

7 April 2005

Central News Agency English News

English

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Washington, April 6 (CNA) About half of the Congressional staff and business leaders in the United States think that the United States should defend Taiwan militarily if China attacks the island, the results of a study on American attitudes toward China showed Wednesday.

Seventy-six percent of U.S. Congressional staff questioned oppose the European Union lifting its arms embargo on China, the results of the first poll of a two-phase study commissioned by a Chinese-American elite group, the **Committee of 100**, showed.

The study, conducted by the polling firm Zogby International in March, gauged the opinions about China of Congressional staff, including legislative consultants, legislative authorities, aides and press secretaries, as well as business leaders, including enterprise chairmen and CEOs, corporate public relations authorities, department managers and board directors.

When asked, "Should the United States protect Taiwan with its military forces in the event of a cross-Taiwan Strait conflict after Taiwan declares independence?" 52 percent of the Congressional staff queried said that the U.S. should defend Taiwan militarily; only 19 percent said "no," while 29 percent provide no precise answer.

For the same question, 48 percent of business leaders think the U.S. military should help defend Taiwan; 50 percent think the U.S. military should not, and only 3 percent are undecided.

Meanwhile, 76 percent of the U.S. Congressional staff expressed strong opposition to the European Union's plans to lift its arms embargo on China, compared with a mere 2 percent who said that they absolutely support the E.U. lifting the embargo.

In addition, 49 percent of the Congressional staff and 50 percent of the business leaders surveyed think that the United States should be more active toward the development of cross-Taiwan Strait relations.

The same survey also found that Americans think the biggest obstacle to doing business with China is "bureaucratic intervention."

Other major obstacles included cultural and language barriers, poor financial and judicial systems, as well as corruption, in that order, the poll found.

The **Committee of 100** is a national, non-partisan organization composed of prominent American citizens of Chinese

descent. (By Wennie Chi and Deborah Kuo) ENDITEM/mw

Poll says Americans have more favorable view of China

PP

609 words

7 April 2005

05:35

Agence France Presse

English

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WASHINGTON, April 6 (AFP) -

Americans have a more favorable view of China compared to a decade ago although human rights and copyright piracy remain top concerns, a study commissioned by a Chinese-American business group showed Wednesday.

It also showed that the American public views China as more of an economic than military threat and found it the most "severe" source of American job losses compared to India and Mexico.

The study was based on two polls conducted for the **Committee of 100**, an organisation of Chinese-American leaders, by polling firm Zogby International.

The surveys covered opinion leaders and the general public in December and business leaders nationwide and staff working for US legislators in March.

But only 19 percent of Congressional staff had a favorable impression of China, compared with 59 percent among the general public and 63 percent among opinion and business leaders.

"American general public attitudes toward China have improved significantly over the last 10 years and are getting better," Carolyn Chin, a director of the **Committee of 100**, told a news conference to present the findings.

Its previous study among the general public in 2004 indicated that 46 percent viewed China favorably. Business leaders and Congressional staff were not polled then.

"The dominant American attitudes towards China are positive and constructive," committee chairman Robert Lee said. "It's our belief that the US and China, two great powers, must continue to find ways of working together for a more productive and peaceful world."

All three groups polled tend to view low-cost products manufactured in China as beneficial to the American public and see US-China trade in a positive light.

Although China was seen as a bigger magnet than India and Mexico for attracting American jobs amid shifts in production to low cost areas, the general view indicated "limited backlash against China over job losses."

"For the **Committee of 100**, I guess you can consider this report as being some kind of signal of job security," Lee said.

Labour and other groups have expressed concerns in recent years over the number of US jobs lost in recent years to China's low cost factories.

The survey showed that human rights was the top concern expressed by the general public and Congressional staff.

Business leaders cited intellectual property rights as their biggest worry and human rights as the number two concern.

The groups however agreed that access to US markets should be linked to China's human rights record.

The US government has shelved a resolution criticizing China at an upcoming human rights conference in Geneva but continues to slam Beijing for alleged rights violations.

A State Department report this year summarised China's human-rights record as "poor," accusing China of maintaining "tight restrictions on freedom of speech and of the press" and highlighting the lack of an independent judiciary and the arrest of several dissent writers.

Between 12 to 16 percent of the general public, and opinion and business leaders viewed China's emergence as a military power compared with 36 percent by Congressional staff.

Fifty four percent of Congressional staff saw China's emergence as a global power as a serious threat compared with 24 percent by the general public and 30 percent by opinion leaders.

John Zogby, the chief executive of the polling firm, said given China's importance in the world, as a strategic ally for the United States and as a consumer of American products, "it is essential that China be better understood by all of us in this country and especially by our national leaders."

pp/tw

U.S. Congress harsher on China than public - Zogby poll.

By Paul Eckert, Asia Correspondent
423 words
7 April 2005
02:13
Reuters News
English
(c) 2005 Reuters Limited

WASHINGTON, April 6 (Reuters) - The U.S. public and business community increasingly view China in a positive light, but Congressional staff hold strongly critical views of Beijing, according to a new survey on Wednesday.

The poll by Zogby International showed the America public and Congressional staff united in citing human rights as their top concern about China and in voicing fears about job losses. Business leaders listed counterfeiting as their top concern.

A majority of respondents from the general public, business leaders and Congressional staff agreed that low-cost Chinese goods benefited U.S. consumers and that bilateral trade was good for both countries.

But the Congressional staffers were markedly more hawkish on the questions of whether China was an economic or military threat and whether the United States should intervene in the event China attacked the island of Taiwan.

The 2005 poll, commissioned by the **Committee of 100**, a group of prominent U.S. citizens of Chinese descent, found 59 percent of ordinary Americans held a favorable view of China, up from 46 percent in a poll taken in 1994. Only 19 percent of Congressional staff saw China positively in the 2005 survey.

Only 24 percent of the public saw China as an economic threat and 15 percent regarded the country as a military threat. But China was seen as an economic threat by 54 percent of Congressional staff, and a military threat by 36 percent.

"It appears that China is on its way to developing good to very good relations with the heartland, but the debate on policy issues on Capitol Hill is a hostile debate," said John Zogby, chief executive officer of the polling agency.

"China has a problem on Capitol Hill, period," he told a news conference. He said hawkishness on China transcended party lines on human rights, the environment and military issues.

Asked if the United States should intervene if a declaration of independence by Taiwan led to hostilities with China, which claims the self-governing island, 32 percent of the public said "yes," while 59 percent said "no."

But 52 percent of Congressional staff supported the idea of U.S. defending Taiwan, while only 19 percent rejected it, indicated the poll, published on www.committee100.org .

Zogby International polled 203 U.S. opinion leaders and 1202 American adults at random in December 2004. The

agency then surveyed 101 mostly senior Congressional staff members and 150 U.S. business leaders in March 2005.

Committee of 100/Zogby Survey Finds General Public and Business Leader Views Aligned on China, but Congressional Staff at Variance with Prevailing Views

955 words

6 April 2005

22:30

Business Wire

English

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WASHINGTON - (BUSINESS WIRE) - April 6, 2005 - While the American general public and business leaders are aligned in increasingly favorable views toward China, the views of Congressional Staff members are at variance with those of the other groups, according to newly released data compiled by Zogby International for the **Committee of 100**, an organization of Chinese American leaders.

The survey of the general public, whose initial findings were released in January 2005, indicates that 59% of Americans have a favorable view of China today, as compared with 46% ten years ago. Although not specifically polled ten years ago, the current survey shows that 63% of Business Leaders had a favorable impression of China, versus only 19% of Congressional Staff.

In terms of the U.S.-China relationship, 27% of Congressional Staff described the relationship as improving as compared with 45% of the General Public and 43% of Business Leaders.

All three groups - the General Public (63%), Business Leaders (77%) and Congressional Staff (57%) - tend to view low-cost products manufactured in China as beneficial to the American public. In a surprise finding of the general public survey, even union households (63%, the same as for the general public) indicated an appreciation for low-cost goods made in China.

On the question of sources of job losses, all three groups (General Public-52%, Business Leaders-48% and Congressional Staff 51%) described the phenomenon as "severe," relative to China, more so than for India or Mexico. Union households and even those who have lost jobs track with the general public views indicating limited backlash against China over job losses.

In a similar vein, the three groups generally see trade between the United States and China in a positive light: 82 percent of the Business Leaders see trade as a benefit, as compared with 73 percent of the General Public and 67 percent of Congressional Staff.

More distinct disparities are evident on the question of China's emergence as a global economic power: Whereas the General Public (24%) and Business Leaders (30%) see China as an economic threat to the United States, 54% of Congressional Staff view China as an economic threat.

Similarly, the General Public (15%) and Business Leaders (16%) in lesser numbers described China as a serious military threat, while a significantly greater percentage of Congressional Staff members (36%) described China as posing a serious military threat.

Human rights is the top concern expressed by the general public (46%) and Congressional Staff (54%), while Business Leaders cite intellectual property concerns as the top concern (53%) and human rights as the second concern (49%). And on the subject of the U.S.-led war on terror, 27% of the American General Public and 25% of Business Leaders described China as a dependable ally, as compared with 16% of Congressional Staff.

For those polled who answered the question, "If a declaration of independence by Taiwan leads to hostilities, should the U.S. commit military forces to defend Taiwan?": 32% of the General Public said yes, and 59% said no. On that same question, Congressional Staffers answered 52% yes, 19% no, and 29% not sure; Business Leaders were evenly divided.

"The **Committee of 100** is heartened that the dominant American attitudes toward China are positive and constructive," commented Robert Lee, Chairman of the **Committee of 100**. "It's our belief that the US and China, two great powers,

must continue to find ways of working together for a more productive and peaceful world."

According to pollster John Zogby, "Given the importance of China in the world, its importance and potential as a strategic ally for the US, and the importance of China as a consumer of American products, it is essential that China be better understood by all of us in this country, and especially by our national leaders."

The **Committee of 100**/Zogby Survey on American Attitudes Toward China has been conducted in two phases: Phase I (General Public and Opinion Leaders) was conducted in December 2004 with findings released January 2005 (see www.committee100.org for more information). Phase II, comprised of two new segments, business leaders and Congressional staff members, was conducted in March 2005.

The Business Leader sample consists of chief executives, communications directors, corporate board members, and other top officers at major companies throughout the United States. Business leaders were polled from March 17 through 30, 2005. The margin of error for this sample is +/-8.3%.

The Congressional Staff sample is comprised of chiefs of staff, legislative counsels, legislative directors, legislative assistants, press secretaries, and staff assistants; 48.5% of the sample is Democratic; 36.6% is Republican and the remaining 14.9% is Independent, Libertarian or other. Congressional staff were polled from March 17 through March 24, 2005. The margin of error for this sample is +/-9.9%.

The General Public was polled in December 2004 and consisted of 1202 randomly selected adults nationwide. There is a margin of error for this sample of +/- 2.9%.

Founded in 1989 by prominent Chinese Americans, the **Committee of 100** is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit membership organization composed of Chinese American leaders in a broad range of professions. With their knowledge and experience, they have committed to a dual mission: (1) encouraging stronger relations between the U.S. and Greater China and (2) encouraging the full participation of Chinese Americans in all aspects of American life. For more information, please visit our web site: www.committee100.org .

Committee of 100 Andrew Frank, 212-935-0210 cell: 646-552-1210 An Ping, 212-371-6565 cell: 917-670-5871

The Washington Daybook - General News Events

Federal Information & News Dispatch, Inc./Agence France-Presse

90 words

6 April 2005

Washington Daybook

English

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++ New - 9:30 a.m. Foreign Affairs - News conference

SPONSOR: The **Committee of 100**

TOPIC/SUBJECT: holds a news conference to release the results of phase two of its Survey of American Attitudes Towards China.

PARTICIPANTS: John Zogby, Zogby International

DATE: April 6, 2005

LOCATION: National Press Club, 529 14th Street NW, 13th Floor, Washington D.C.

CONTACT: An Ping, 212-371-6565; Andrew Frank 212-935-0210; or <http://www.committee100.org>

Newscast: Marketplace Datebook

87 words
5 April 2005
Minnesota Public Radio: Marketplace
English
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JANE LINDHOLM reporting:

From the MARKETPLACE Date Book, here's what's shaping up for Wednesday.

It's release day in Washington.

The Urban League unveils its State of Black America Report, highlighting continuing inequality among the races.

The **Committee of 100**, a group of Chinese American leaders, releases phase two of its survey American Attitudes Towards China.

And Citizens Against Global Waste releases the 2005 Congressional Pig Book, identifying the biggest pork projects on the congressional agenda this year.

I'm Jane Lindholm.

Data on American Attitudes Toward China to be Released in Washington Committee of 100 Survey to Focus on Congressional Staffers and Business Leaders

358 words
5 April 2005
22:45
PR Newswire (U.S.)
English
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WASHINGTON, April 5 /PRNewswire/ -- The **Committee of 100**, an organization of Chinese American leaders, will release the results of Phase Two of its survey of American Attitudes Towards China, conducted by Zogby International, at a press conference on Wednesday, April 6, at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

Phase One of the survey, released in January 2005 at a **Committee of 100** First Greater China Conference in Hong Kong, found that:

- Americans' overall attitudes towards China have improved by 13 percentage points over the last ten years
- A substantial majority of Americans favor self-determination for Taiwan, but only about one-third of those would favor U.S. military intervention if the tension between Taiwan and mainland China were to lead to open conflict.
- Americans, even union households, recognize the benefits of low-cost goods manufactured in China

Phase Two of the survey applies these, and additional questions, to Congressional staff and business leaders. Comparisons will be made with the Phase One "omnibus" survey of the general public.

Who: John Zogby and **Committee of 100** leaders
What: Press Conference Releasing Survey Results of American Attitudes Toward China
When: Wednesday, April 6, 2005 at 9:30 a.m.
Where: National Press Club
529 14th Street, NW, 13th floor

Washington, DC 20045
Tel: 202-662-7500

Founded in 1989 by prominent Chinese Americans, the **Committee of 100** is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit membership organization composed of Chinese American leaders in a broad range of professions. With their knowledge and experience, they have committed to a dual mission: (1) encouraging stronger relations between the U.S. and Greater China and (2) encouraging the full participation of Chinese Americans in all aspects of American life. For more information, please visit our web site: <http://www.committee100.org/> .

Web site: <http://www.committee100.org/>

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