

From (a Sort of) Global Order to (Growing) Global Dis-order



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- Both global order and disorder are created
 - Strategically or by ignorance..
- No international order lasts forever
- Geopolitical re-alignments with unknown outcomes



FT Financial Times @financialtimes.com · 22h
 The Danish military sent explosives and blood supplies to Greenland in January as part of contingency planning for a US attack
ft.trib.al/hqXmKfw



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Don Moynihan @donmoyn.bsky.social

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Hegemonic suicide

Catherine Rampell @crampell.bsky.social · 17h
 Majority of Canadians say it's better to depend on China than on the US under Trump.
 In other key allies - Germany, UK, France - a plurality say the same.

www.politico.com/news/2026/03...

Share of respondents, split by country, who say it's either better to depend on China or on the U.S. under Donald Trump

	China	The U.S. under Donald Trump	Don't know
Canada	57%	23%	20%
Germany	40%	24%	36%
France	34%	25%	40%
U.K.	42%	34%	24%

Numbers may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding. The poll was conducted from Feb. 6 to Feb. 9, surveying more than 2,000 respondents each from the U.S., Canada, U.K., France and Germany, and has an overall margin of error of ±2 percentage points. Smaller subgroups have higher margins of error.

Source: The POLITICO Poll with Public First
 Anna Wiederkehr/POLITICO



↳ PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

Withdrawing the United States from International Organizations, Conventions, and Treaties that Are Contrary to the Interests of the United States

Presidential Memoranda | January 7, 2026

- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Paris Agreement on Climate Change
- International Renewable Energy Agency
- International Union for the Conservation of Nature

- Conflicts in other global environmental fora
- Plastics treaty negotiations
 - An (actually successful) oil blockade
- Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution
 - The meeting that wasn't
 - Russia blocking and US joining

The nameplates for the US and Luxembourg changed from yellow to white because both countries are now Member States. Rejoining the science-policy family made some wonder what “makes chemicals special” for the US, given its recent withdrawal from the ISP-CWP’s sister organizations, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and IPBES.

ENB, 2026

Today’s geopolitics has turned the commendable goal of consensus into a tool for obstruction, delay, and inaction by states and industries profiting from rising plastic production. A bloc of oil-producing states with powerful petrochemical interests—including Russia, Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Kuwait—is distorting scientific findings and opposing any controls on new plastics, almost all of which are derived from petrochemicals. The United States under President Trump, meanwhile, has aligned with these petro-states, enhancing the bloc’s power.

Dauvergne & Allan, 2025 *Science*

Yet, at its first Plenary session, there was no celebratory tone to welcome the newest science-policy panel. As one Panel Member underscored, this meeting was a “stark reminder that a science-policy panel does not exist in a vacuum.” The meeting ended without fully completing any of its expected deliverables. The Plenary elected a Chair and 80% of its Bureau. But since the Panel could not agree on the rules of procedure (RoP), the meeting remained mired in procedural debates. As a result, it did:

- not adopt an agenda;
- not agree to the physical location of the Panel’s Secretariat;
- not consider intersessional work;
- not agree to establish a trust fund;
- not agree to the dates and venue of the next session; and
- not adopt its report.

ENB, 2026

WHAT DO WE DO NOW????



- The global system under much pressure but not (yet) broken
- Most countries continue to support multilateralism
- Working through science-policy fora strengthen them

