

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP BRIEFING | GLOBAL TRADE

Trump-Xi summit: big pomp, small print, trade truce extended just two months

Washington and Beijing buy time to 10 January, pushing tariffs, rare earths and chips into the next round.

By **Manasee Kurlekar** | September 27, 2026

US-CHINA TRADE TRUCE

Big summit, short clock

The truce was due to expire in November. Washington bought just two more months.



Effective US tariff on Chinese goods: ~23% (Barclays)

WORLD BUSINESS WATCH

Sources: Reuters, Al Jazeera, CNBC · as of 25 Sep 2026

Xi's Washington state visit produced only a two-month trade truce extension to 10 January, keeping tariffs and rare-earth curbs on hold as bigger issues wait.

Xi Jinping's first state visit to Washington in over a decade delivered ceremony — flyovers, a remodelled Rose Garden, a state dinner with Musk, Cook, Bezos, Altman, Huang and Pichai — but little substance. The headline outcome, announced by Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent as Xi landed, was a two-month extension of the trade truce to 10 January. Markets had hoped for a full year.

The extension keeps lower tariffs in place, suspends China's restrictive rare-earth export controls and holds off higher port fees on ships. Bessent said China was meeting its 25-million-tonne soybean commitment but lagging on a separate \$17 billion farm-goods pledge. The effective US tariff on Chinese goods remains around 23%, per Barclays.

On AI, China's readout says both leaders backed more dialogue on the technology's risks and on preventing misuse, but no joint statement or operational agreement was published, and there was no outcome on chip export controls.

Eurasia Group actually raised its odds of bilateral stability, arguing neither side wants escalation. The leaders are expected to meet again at APEC in Shenzhen in November, with a G20 in Miami also on the calendar.

Key date: 10 January 2027 — new truce deadline.

Read online: <https://worldbusinesswatch.com/global-leadership-briefing/36/175/trumpxi-summit-big-pomp-small-print-trade-truce-extended-just-two-months.html>

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