



**Red Lantern  
ANALYTICA**

# THE AMERICAS DIGEST

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# US LAWMAKER PUSHES FOR STRICTER USMCA RULES ON CHINESE GOODS

A US Democrat has called for tighter USMCA regulations to curb Chinese goods entering North America via Mexico. The move reflects growing concerns over supply chain circumvention and highlights efforts to strengthen regional trade rules amid intensifying US-China economic competition.



Chile and the United States are considering collaboration on rare earths and critical minerals, aiming to diversify supply chains. The initiative reflects growing strategic interest in securing resources essential for clean energy and technology sectors amid global competition.

# CHILE AND US

## Explore Cooperation on Critical Minerals

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# CANADA AND MEXICO



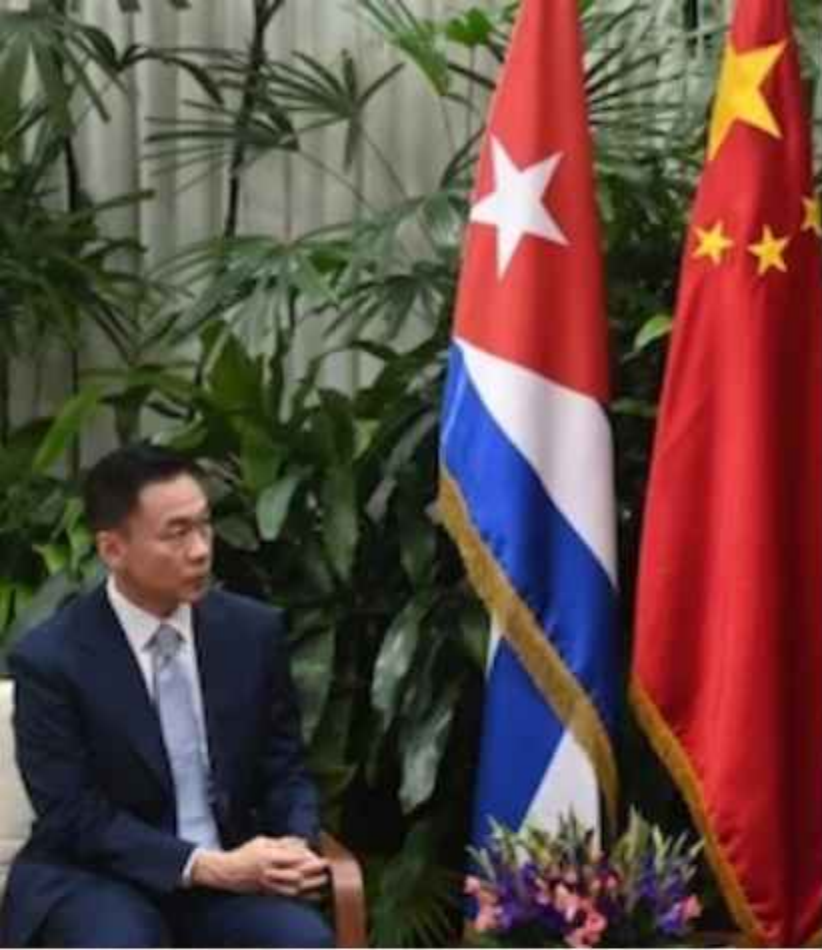
## **Emphasise Importance of USMCA Ahead of Review**

Canada and Mexico reaffirmed the importance of the USMCA trilateral trade framework ahead of upcoming review talks. Both countries stressed the need for stability and continuity in North American trade amid evolving economic and geopolitical challenges.

An underwater photograph showing a diver in a black wetsuit and a yellow fin. The diver is positioned on the left side of the frame, reaching out towards the center. The background is a clear, blue-green underwater environment with rocky terrain. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

# Caribbean Nations Seek Funding for Biodiversity Initiative

Caribbean countries are seeking \$200 million to support a regional biodiversity initiative. The effort highlights growing concerns over environmental sustainability and climate vulnerability, as island states push for greater financial support for conservation and resilience.



# Cuba Engages China and Russia Amid Strategic Realignment

Cuba's foreign minister held talks with Chinese and Russian counterparts, reflecting Havana's efforts to deepen ties with major global powers. The engagement signals a strategic shift as Cuba navigates economic pressures and geopolitical isolation.

# Chile Witnesses Major Political Shift with Kast Presidency

Chile's right-wing leader José Antonio Kast was sworn in as president, marking a significant political shift. The development reflects changing domestic dynamics and could influence Chile's economic policies and regional positioning.





# Cuba Opens Talks with US Amid Economic Pressures

Cuba has initiated talks with the United States as an oil blockade intensifies economic strain. The discussions indicate cautious engagement between the two countries amid ongoing tensions and Havana's urgent need for economic relief.



# Canada Plans to Strengthen Arctic Defence Capabilities

Canada announced plans to boost its Arctic defence, citing the need for greater self-reliance in security. The move reflects increasing strategic competition in the Arctic region and Ottawa's concerns over emerging geopolitical challenges.



# Panama Seeks Resumption of Chinese Port Operations

Panama expressed hope that China's COSCO would resume operations at Balboa port. The development highlights Panama's reliance on Chinese investment and the broader strategic significance of port infrastructure in global trade networks.

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# US Expands Venezuela Sanctions Waivers

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The United States expanded sanctions waivers for Venezuela to support fertilizer exports and electricity investments. The move reflects a pragmatic approach to balancing economic engagement with ongoing political tensions



## **Venezuela and Colombia Discuss Security Cooperation**

Venezuela and Colombia held discussions on security cooperation, with Caracas also calling for an end to US sanctions. The talks signal efforts to stabilise bilateral relations and address cross-border challenges.

# Ecuador Imposes Curfew Amid Security Operations

Ecuador declared a curfew in coastal provinces as part of intensified security operations. The measure reflects rising concerns over crime and instability, prompting stronger state intervention.





## **Canada and Nordic Countries Strengthen Defence Cooperation**

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Canada and Nordic nations explored deeper cooperation in military procurement during a “middle-power” meeting. The initiative highlights efforts by like-minded states to enhance defence collaboration amid global security shifts.



# Venezuelan Students Protest Amid Political Repression

Students in Venezuela returned to the streets in renewed protests after years of suppression. The demonstrations reflect ongoing dissatisfaction with governance and highlight the persistence of civic resistance.



# Chad to Replace Kenyan Force in Haiti Security Mission

Chad is set to gradually replace Kenyan forces in Haiti's security mission. The move reflects shifting dynamics in international peacekeeping and growing African involvement in global security efforts.

# Cuba Restores Power After Major Blackout

Cuba restored electricity after a 29-hour blackout affecting millions, highlighting vulnerabilities in its energy infrastructure. The crisis underscores the impact of economic constraints and fuel shortages.



The background of the slide features a photograph of an industrial oil storage facility. Several large, cylindrical, light-colored storage tanks are visible. The tanks are arranged in rows, and some have identification numbers like 'CG05', 'CG 06', and 'CG07' printed on them. A metal staircase with railings is attached to one of the tanks. In the foreground, there is a security fence with multiple strands of barbed wire. The sky is clear and blue. The overall scene is brightly lit, suggesting daytime.

# **G7 Backs Hormuz Strait Security Amid Energy Concerns**

The G7 signalled readiness to act to protect global energy supplies, emphasising the strategic importance of the Hormuz Strait. The statement reflects rising concerns over disruptions amid Middle East tensions.



# Uber Announces \$500 Million Investment in Argentina

Uber plans to invest \$500 million in Argentina over three years, signalling confidence in the country's economic prospects. The investment aims to expand services and support digital economy growth.

# Colombia and Ecuador Probe Possible Border Violation

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Colombia and Ecuador are investigating a possible border violation during a security operation. The incident raises concerns over sovereignty and coordination in cross-border security efforts.



# Mercosur and Canada Move Closer to Free Trade Deal

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Mercosur and Canada are nearing a free trade agreement, with further talks expected in April. The deal could enhance economic ties and expand market access between the two regions.





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