

## ***The U.S.-China Economic Friction and TPP (Summary)***

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Under the U.S. Trump administration, economic friction between the U.S. and China has intensified. President Trump's personal focus is on the U.S. trade deficit with China, whereas Congress including the Democratic Party, on the other hand, places emphasis on issues such as intellectual property rights and preferential treatment of state-owned enterprises. This is the background of the hard posture toward China. The economic friction between the U.S. and China is not limited to commerce but can be said to include such fields.

However, intellectual property rights and international rules for state-owned enterprises have already been incorporated into the TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement), led by the U.S. The Obama administration's policy intention toward China was also clear. In order to solve various problems that are currently central to the conflict between the U.S. and China, it is desirable to create multilateral rules among the countries of the TPP rather than bilateral negotiations using tariffs as weapons. This is supported by the case of policy recommendations in the U.S.

At present, the U.S. cannot return to TPP, and China's accession to TPP is considered difficult in the short term. However, even in such a situation, it will be important to make international efforts to form international rules in each field addressed by TPP.

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