



ARTEMIS RESEARCH UPDATES

WINTER 2026

Welcome to the Winter 2026 issue of Artemis Research Updates.

As we enter 2026, we want to thank all of our partners and clients for their continued support and engagement as we work to bring you deeper insights to protect your enterprise and identify high-risk activity.

As this newsletter went to press, the US Government had recently launched an operation against Venezuela, arresting the nominal Venezuelan president, Nicolás Maduro. This move epitomizes the Trump Administration's pivot to the Western Hemisphere, which we explore more deeply as we delve into the trade implications of the 2025 US National Security Strategy—a strategy signaling a major shift in priorities from prior Presidential Administrations, heralding the importance of the Western Hemisphere to the US Government over at least the next three years. We also discuss a Taiwanese semiconductor firm's move to build smart cities in Mexico and what this may mean for US technology manufacturers. We also highlight new risks to the shipping and logistics sector posed by Russia's war in Ukraine, as well as risks to job seekers posed by Chinese fake online recruiters.

In other news, our firm was honored to speak on de-risking export compliance at a meeting of [Tucson Supply Chain TechConnect](#), a technology manufacturing industry group in Arizona. We discussed export policies and regulations, risks of a changing geopolitical landscape, how bad actors obfuscate export diversions, and what companies can do to mitigate this risk. We're always looking for new partners and chances to talk risk mitigation. Please contact us at info@artemisresearchgroup.com to connect with your group.

Taiwanese Semiconductor Firm to Build Smart Cities in Mexico, Expanding Their Access to US Business Intelligence

Artemis Research notes that a recent agreement between Taiwanese semiconductor manufacturer, Foxconn, and the Mexican State of Sonora could position Foxconn to develop key insights about US technology developments, manufacturing, and trade due to its pending access to a large volume of cross-border logistics data. *(Continued on page 3)*



Foxconn factory in the San Jeronimo Free Trade Zone, along the US-Mexico border between New Mexico and Chihuahua. *(Source: United States Geological Survey)*

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Analysis: Trade Implications of the 2025 US National Security Strategy

On December 4th 2025, the US Presidential Administration released the newest iteration of the [US National Security Strategy](#), unveiling a massive shift in priorities from prior administrations. In addition to serving as a roadmap for the US Government, this document can also provide insight for the private sector on areas of probable risk and opportunity for the likely remainder of the Administration.

Based on our assessment of this document, Artemis Research suggests US companies consider expanding their portfolios into the Global South, given the priority focus areas and topics noted in the Strategy. We note technology manufacturers should begin to explore locations, logistics companies develop networks, and due diligence companies expand data sets and networks into this region, while maintaining existing relationships in the event of a return to historical priorities in the next Presidential Administration.

Delving deeper into this document, we note another significant departure in the new National Security Strategy from previous years may be the shifting dynamic in geopolitical relationships. The entire strategy places a heavy emphasis on the Western Hemisphere and Global South, and several sections—both directly and indirectly—indicate intent to change the dynamic with long-term European allies. This may mean new tariffs on old partners, as well as a diversion from the export control regulations of the European Union and other trade regimes with whom the United States was previously aligned.

We also assess there will be a gathering momentum towards manufacturing in the Western Hemisphere, presenting new opportunities for both supply chain diversification and control. This will likely require a large investment in infrastructure and new trade relationships, which carries the risk of beginning long-term projects and expenditures in an era of geopolitical change. We also note probable continued imposition and fluctuation of tariffs and trade restrictions, and that this will likely be dependent upon how countries choose to distance or align themselves with the United States on a range of geopolitical issues.

We assess there will be continued prioritization of many of the leading technology sectors—such as AI, biotechnology, autonomous vehicle, and quantum computing—coupled with an increased emphasis on traditional energy extraction and refining. The strategy also specifically rejects Net Zero policies and efforts to address climate change, which we note poses a risk that US companies could fall behind in the renewable technology sector, reducing future competitiveness in European markets or the United States, if these policies change with subsequent administrations.

Overall, we assess the probable changes ahead present an opportunity to diversify existing trade partnerships, though recommend care to avoid the risks of alienating long-term partners, encountering previously unvetted partners and markets, and expending significant capital investment.

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(Continued from Page 1) In February 2025, Taiwanese semiconductor manufacturer, Foxconn, [signed](#) an agreement with the Mexican state of Sonora to develop smart cities within the state. Smart cities are urban areas which sensors and data collection to optimize operations and improve quality of life, though we at Artemis Research note their inherent analytic capability and vast holdings of diverse data sets can pose security risks, depending upon who can gain access to that data.

Foxconn's Sonoran smart cities are to be primarily focused on transportation, ports, and public security, suggesting the company will be able to gain particular insight into cross-border shipments to and from the United States. Cross-border trade activity in Sonora is particularly rich in Foxconn's three main [business focus areas](#)—namely, smart manufacturing, smart electric vehicles, and smart cities. Sonora sits along the southern US border opposite the states of California and Arizona and is a key region for [near-shore manufacturing](#) by US companies, particularly in the automobile, semiconductor, and aerospace sectors.

We assess smart city technology positioned at Sonora's logistics hubs—such as the Port of Nogales, where technology manufacturers routinely ship components between manufacturing sites in Mexico and assembly sites in the United States—would give insight into valuable business intelligence such as trade relationships, volume, and costs incurred by US manufacturers, giving Foxconn a decisive advantage. We recommend US companies manufacturing in Mexico examine possible insights which could be drawn from their logistics data and take precautions to protect sensitive information from inadvertent exposure.

Chinese Fake Online Recruiters Pose IP Theft and Foreign Recruitment Risk

Artemis Research notes the recent revelation of a fake online recruitment network represents a possible mechanism for intellectual property theft or foreign intelligence recruitment.

The Foundation for Defense of Democracies, a non-partisan think tank in Washington, DC recently revealed a fake job recruitment platform founded by Chinese actors. They identified several job recruiting platforms which, while ostensibly independent, shared the same servers, used similar formatting, employed stock photos in place of real employees, were all registered in China, and were all launched within a three-month timeframe in early 2022. Artemis Research notes this suggests use by a nefarious actor—possibly the Chinese Government—to collect resumes and possibly identify targets for intellectual property theft or intelligence recruitment. We warn that former US Government employees and defense contractors should be wary of online job recruitment platforms, and conduct their own due diligence before sending a resume.

Featured Research Tools

The Atlantic's [Venezuela Sanctions Tracker](#) – List of sanctioned Venezuelan individuals and status across various sanctioned regimes, as well as graphics displaying volume and timelines of sanctions

C4ADS's [Sanctions Explorer](#) – Database spanning over 30 years of global sanctions

Castellum.AI's [Russia Sanctions Dashboard](#) – Data and analysis of global Russia sanctions

OCCRP's [Russian Asset Tracker](#) – Businesses, trusts, real estate, and other assets of Russian oligarchs, which can be used to illuminate links to sanctioned entities

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War in Ukraine Raising Risk in the Global Logistics Sector

Artemis Research notes that Russia's war in Ukraine poses a risk of infrastructure damage and disruption in the international transportation and logistics sectors, as evidenced by numerous attacks on civilian transportation infrastructure over the past few years.



Aerial view of Mika, Poland, near the site of the November 2024 explosion. (Source: United States Geological Survey)

A primary Russian target has been European rail lines, including a mid-November [explosion](#) on a rail line in Poland which was key for providing aid to Ukraine. There was also an [arson attack](#) on a railway system in France in late October 2025 which remained unattributed as of the time of this writing. This is the second such attack on the French railway system in recent years, which was crippled by a similar attack ahead of the Olympics, hosted by France in July 2024.

The [air cargo industry](#) has also faced disruptions, including an incident in which Russian-backed actors used commercial shipping companies to send explosive-laden packages disguised as cosmetics from Lithuania to several other locations in Europe using the commercial carriers, DHL and DPD. One package exploded in Germany, another went off

outside of Warsaw, Poland, and a third made it to United Kingdom before detonating. A fourth parcel failed to ignite due to an unspecified malfunction. Additionally, the information systems supporting the global logistics industry have also faced attack, including a 2024 [incident](#) in which a group of Russian cyber actors known as APT 28 conducted an attack on Germany's air traffic control system. Finally, Nordic and Baltic states face ongoing [disruptions](#) in air travel from regular Russian GPS jamming.

We therefore recommend that risk assessment personnel prepare for the possibility of attack on infrastructure critical to their clients' supply chains, and that law enforcement consider the possibility of hostile foreign actors when investigating suspicious incidents involving US transportation and logistics.

Selected Upcoming Trade and Technology Conferences

[Manifest Conference](#) – February 9th – 11th, Las Vegas, NV
(Category: Trade)

[International Compliance Professionals Association \(ICPA\) Annual Conference](#) – March 1st – 4th, San Antonio, TX
(Category: Compliance, Trade)

[Pittcon](#) – March 7th – 11th, San Antonio, TX (Category: Technology)

[National Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Association \(NCBFAA\) Conference](#) – April 12th – 15th, San Antonio, TX (Category: Trade)

[Association of Certified Sanctions Specialists](#) – April 16th – 17th, Washington, DC (Category: Compliance)

[Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists \(ACAMS\) The Assembly Europe](#) – May 12th – May 13th, Frankfurt am Main, Germany (Category: Compliance)

[BIO International Convention](#) – June 22nd – 25th, San Diego, CA (Category: Technology)

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