



2016-2017



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COUNCILS of
AMERICA

2016-2017 Academic WorldQuest Introductory Packet

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Welcome to the 2016-2017 Academic WorldQuest™!

This year, we host the 15th Annual Academic WorldQuest™, the flagship education program of the World Affairs Councils of America.

One of the greatest challenges facing our nation and our schools across the country is preparing our youth for the globally interconnected world of the 21st Century. America's ability to face the economic and security challenges of the 21st Century and seize new opportunities is dependent on an informed citizenry and a well-educated workforce. Academic WorldQuest™ is a unique opportunity to expose youth to the world outside our borders and prepare them for the challenges and the opportunities of the 21st Century.

Founded in 2003, Academic WorldQuest™ is a team game testing high school students' knowledge of international affairs. In the game, four-person teams compete by answering questions divided into ten unique and engaging thematic categories. The winner is the team with the most correct answers.

Structure of Program:

During the academic year preceding **The Carlos and Malú Alvarez 2017 Academic WorldQuest National Competition** in the spring, over 4,000 students participate in local AWQ competitions hosted by some 50 World Affairs Councils across the United States.

This information packet includes the AWQ Study Guide, which provides detailed resources on each of 10 question categories to help students and teachers to prepare for the competition. Questions for the competition are drawn from the resources in the AWQ Study Guide.

Winning teams are invited to represent their high school, city, and local World Affairs Council at The Carlos and Malú Alvarez Academic WorldQuest National Competition, held in the spring each year in our nation's capital, Washington, DC. This year's national competition also includes a welcome reception at the [U.S. Institute of Peace](#).

Common Core Standards

Academic WorldQuest contributes to the national [Common Core State Standards Initiative](#) by fostering reading comprehension skills for informational text.

To find a local competition in your area, contact the World Affairs Councils of America at 202-833-4557 or waca@worldaffairsCouncils.org.

Academic WorldQuest 2016-2017 Categories

The categories for this year's AWQ National Competition have been updated by the World Affairs Councils of America, with input from member Councils across the country, to several of the most critical global and U.S. foreign policy issues:

Current Events
Great Decisions
Peace and Conflict in Today's World (USIP)
Combating Infectious Disease
European Union
Countering Violent Extremism
Turkey
Global Megacities
China
Women in Technology

Study Guide

The Academic WorldQuest Study Guide is provided on page 6 by the World Affairs Councils of America. Questions for all of the above categories, with the exception of Current Events, are drawn from the resources included in the AWQ Study Guide.

The Carlos and Malú Alvarez 2017 Academic WorldQuest National Competition Details

Event Details:

The newly named Carlos and Malú Alvarez Academic WorldQuest National Competition honors the tremendous dedication and philanthropic support of WACA National Board member Carlos Alvarez and his wife to our flagship program and the Academic WorldQuest Endowment Fund. (For information on making a gift to the AWQ Fund, please visit [our website](#)). The AWQ National Competition is attended by more than 225 of the nation's most promising high school students, along with their parents, teachers, and chaperones. The 3-hour AWQ Competition is a unique opportunity for many students to visit the nation's capital for the first time.

Schedule:

Friday, April 28

11:00am - 3:00pm **Check-In and Registration** at the Washington Marriott at Metro Center
775 12th St NW, Washington, DC 20005

4:30pm - 6:00pm: **Welcome Reception at the United States Institute of Peace**
2301 Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC 20037

Saturday, April 29

9:00am - 1:00pm The Carlos and Malú Alvarez 2016 Academic WorldQuest Competition at
the National Press Club
529 14th St NW, Washington, DC 20045

Hotel Block

The World Affairs Councils of America has arranged a group hotel block at the **Washington Marriott at Metro Center** (775 12th St NW, Washington, DC 20005). Reservation link [here](#).

Qualifying for Academic WorldQuest National Competition Rules and Regulations

All teams that compete in The Carlos and Malú Alvarez Academic WorldQuest National Competition must win a local AWQ competition sponsored by a member organization of the World Affairs Councils of America.

Teams may compete in only one (1) local competition in order to qualify to compete in the National Competition.

A team consists of four (4) Primary Teammates who are currently high school students (freshman – senior year). No more than four players per team will be able to compete in the National Competition.

Teams may designate Alternate Teammates to replace one or more of the four Primary Teammates in the case of sickness or other circumstances which would prevent a Primary Teammate from competing in the National Competition. Please note that local Councils may be unable to send Alternate Teammates to the National Competition.

On the day of the event (Saturday, April 29 2017), once The Carlos and Malú Alvarez Academic WorldQuest National Competition has officially started no substitutions of Alternate Teammates may be made.

Teams of fewer than four students are allowed to compete, but this is strongly discouraged.

If the winning team from a local competition is unable to compete in the National Competition and has no Alternate Teammates, the second place team may compete in its place.

The Carlos and Malú Alvarez 2017 Academic WorldQuest National Competition Rules and Regulations

How to Play

There are 10 rounds of 10 questions each. All of the questions are multiple-choice except for Current Events, which will feature fill-in-the-blank, true/false, and open-ended questions.

Teams have up to 45 seconds to answer each question.

Scoring

One (1) point is awarded for each correct answer. No penalty for incorrect answers or no answer.

The team with the most correct answers out of all 100 questions is declared AWQ Champion.

If, at the conclusion of the competition, there is a tie for 1st through 3rd place, tie-breaker rounds will be played.

Regulations

Teams are not allowed to consult with the audience, wireless devices, cell phones, other teams, books or written material at any point during the competition. Any team found by World Affairs Councils of America judges, staff, or volunteers to be violating this rule will forfeit that round and a penalty of 20 points will automatically be deducted from that team's score.

If a team believes another team is cheating, a player may alert a World Affairs Councils of America representative. However, if the other team is not found to be in violation of any rules, the accusing team will forfeit two (2) points.

A team consists of four (4) players. Player substitutions are not allowed. During the competition, a player can only use the bathroom during the break. If a player leaves at any other point during the rounds, he or she cannot return until after the break.

Parents, alternates, and other guests must remain "off the floor" in the reserved seating area, at all times.

If a team wishes to challenge an answer, one (1) team member may bring the challenge calmly and politely to the judges within the time period allotted after answers are announced. Teams are not allowed to discuss challenges with audience members. The decision of the head judge is final. If the challenge is unsuccessful, the team which brought it will forfeit one (1) point.

Study Guide



2016-2017

Academic WorldQuest 2016-2017

Study Guide

All questions for this year's Academic WorldQuest program will be drawn from the sources in this Study Guide.

The AWQ Study Guide is best viewed in a current version of Adobe Reader. If you are having trouble clicking any of the below links, cut and paste them into your browser instead of clicking them or try a different browser.

Current Events

This round will consist of questions on world news and events. For local competitions, the emphasis will be on the second half of 2016. For the National Competition, the emphasis will be on the first months of 2017 and late 2016. In general, we recommend reading a variety of reputable national and international news sources.

Great Decisions

Great Decisions is an annual program that focuses on critical international issues issued by the Foreign Policy Association, a member of the World Affairs Councils of America. This year's *Great Decisions* categories are: **Shifting Alliances in the Middle East; The Rise of ISIS; The Future of Kurdistan; International Migration; Korean Choices; The United Nations Post-2015; Climate Geopolitics; and Cuba and the U.S.**

The Great Decisions 2016 Briefing Book is required study material for the National Competition. However, the Briefing Book will NOT be required reading for local competitions. In order to prepare for local competitions, students should study the online resources outlined below. The Briefing Book will be made available through the World Affairs Councils of America and member Councils. Please study the following online information for both the local and national competitions:

- **Foreign Policy Association**
http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/?act=gd_topics
 - Under each topic's page, read the Glossary, Background Guide, and all available Updates

Peace and Conflict in Today's World

Our perspective on the world is shaped by what media – and social media – cover. Oftentimes, the headlines are dominated by stories of war, refugees, and extremism. The reality in places like Afghanistan, Iraq, and Colombia is much more complicated. In conflict zones around the world, individuals, communities, and organizations are working to prove that peace is possible when they have the tools and knowledge to resolve disagreements without violence. The United States Institute of Peace (USIP) works to prevent, mitigate, and resolve violent conflict around the world. USIP, created by Congress in 1984, does this by engaging directly in conflict zones and by providing analysis, education, and resources to those working for peace.

- **United States Institute of Peace**

Please note: due to upcoming revisions to the website, some of the direct links to USIP resources might change over the course of the 2016-2017 school year. For that reason, the Institute has created one landing page for all Academic WorldQuest materials listed in the Study Guide. The landing page – <http://www.usip.org/AcademicWorldQuest> - will remain available and include live links to the following resources:

- Read “In the Shadow of a Massacre, a Peaceful Return in Iraq”
http://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/In-the-Shadow-of-a-Massacre_a-Peaceful-Return-in-Iraq_0.pdf
- Read “Colombia’s Peace Accord on the Missing”
<http://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/PB211-Colombia-s-Peace-Accord-on-the-Missing.pdf>
- Read “Women Charting a New Course on Peace and Security”
<http://www.usip.org/olivebranch/2016/03/01/women-charting-new-course-peace-and-security>
- Watch “George Mitchell: Building Peace in Northern Ireland”
<http://www.buildingpeace.org/teach-visit-us-and-learn/exhibits/witnesses-peacebuilding/george-mitchell-building-peace-northern-ir>
- Read the Truth Commission Overviews:
El Salvador: <http://www.usip.org/publications/truth-commission-el-salvador>
Rwanda 1999: <http://www.usip.org/publications/truth-commission-rwanda-99>
South Korea 2005: <http://www.usip.org/publications/truth-commission-south-korea-2005>
Honduras 2010: <http://www.usip.org/publications/truth-commission-honduras-2010>

- **Institute for Economics and Peace**

- Read “Global Peace Index 2016: Highlights”
<http://static.visionofhumanity.org/sites/default/files/GPI%202016%20Highlights.pdf>
- Read “Global Peace Index 2016: Section 4: Positive Peace & Systems Thinking” pages 52-72
http://static.visionofhumanity.org/sites/default/files/GPI%202016%20Report_2.pdf
- Read “Positive Peace Report 2016: Highlights”
<http://visionofhumanity.org/sites/default/files/Positive%20Peace%20Report%202016%20Highlights.pdf>

- **U.S. Department of State**

- Read “Remarks at Oslo Forum”
<http://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2016/06/258506.htm>

- **United Nations**

- Read pages 1-18 “Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21252030%20Agenda%20for%20Sustainable%20Development%20web.pdf>
- Read “Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2015” pages 1-11 and 23-27
<http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/operations/peace.shtml>

- **World Bank**

- Read “The Impact of War and Peace in MENA”
<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/431741468185960497/pdf/105731-BRI-PUBLIC-KNOWLEDGE-NOTE-QN155.pdf>

- **The Asia Foundation**
 - Read “A Survey of the Afghan People: Afghanistan in 2015” Executive Summary
<http://asiafoundation.org/resources/pdfs/Afghanistanin2015PrefaceExecSummary.pdf>
- **National Constitution Center**
 - Read “10 Americans who’ve won the Nobel Peace Prize”
<http://blog.constitutioncenter.org/2015/12/10-americans-whove-won-the-nobel-peace-prize/>

Combating Infectious Disease

It remains pivotal that the international community maintain its commitment to combatting infectious disease in order to improve overall global health. Together, government agencies, nonprofits, as well as private actors across the globe have collaborated in attempts to eradicate infectious disease, particularly through the utilization of multilateral prevention strategies. Prominent threats of infectious diseases today include the Zika virus, Malaria, Tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS. This topic examines the ways in which the formation of cooperative, multi-lateral partnerships across country borders can quell the threat of life-threatening diseases, while also providing a background context in order to comprehend the gravity of such diseases.

- **U.S. Department of State**
 - Read the overview “Infectious and Chronic Disease”
<http://www.state.gov/e/oes/intlhealthbiodefense/id/>
- **Center for Disease Control and Prevention**
 - Read the “Executive Summary” and “Introduction” sections of the report “A CDC Framework for Preventing Infectious Disease”
<http://www.cdc.gov/oid/docs/ID-Framework.pdf>
- **World Health Organization**
 - Read the factsheet “Zika virus”
<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/zika/en/>
 - Read the factsheet “Tuberculosis”
<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs104/en/>
 - Read the UNAIDS report “Global AIDS Update 2016”
http://www.who.int/hiv/pub/arv/global-AIDS-update-2016_en.pdf?ua=1
- **United Nations**
 - Read “Facts and Figures” and “Goal 3 Targets” sections of the overview “Sustainable Development Goals, Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”
<http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/health/>
- **Council on Foreign Relations**
 - Read the backgrounder “Can Malaria Be Eradicated?”
<http://www.cfr.org/public-health-threats-and-pandemics/can-malaria-eradicated/p38243>
 - Read the expert brief “How the SDGs Will Transform Global Health Governance”
<http://www.cfr.org/health/sdgs-transform-global-health-governance/p37482>
 - Read the backgrounder “Sustainable Development Goals”
<http://www.cfr.org/global-governance/sustainable-development-goals/p37051>
- **End Fund**
 - Read the overviews of each of the “Big Five” neglected tropical diseases in the “NTD Overview”

<http://www.end.org/whatwedo/ntdooverview>

The European Union

The EU was established in order to provide stability and support for its 28 member states. Although the union was officially created on November 1, 1993, its origins date back to the conclusion of the Second World War, due to increased calls for European integration. Today, the European Union strives to provide peace throughout Europe and aims to stimulate economic growth through free trade as well as the establishment of a single market amongst its members. In light of the United Kingdom's recent split from the European Union, this topic will provide insight on the history and functions of this politico-economic community.

- **European Union**
 - Read the overviews "The EU in brief" under "About the EU"
https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu_en
 - Go to the "Downloads" section and read the overviews "The EU explained - How the European Union works" read the sections of the report "Introducing the European Union" (Page 3) and "The European Parliament" (Page 9)
https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu_en
 - Read the overview "Trade"
https://europa.eu/european-union/topics/trade_en
 - Read the overview "The history of the European Union"
https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/history_en
- **Congressional Research Service**
 - Read the report "The European Union: Questions and Answers" pages 1-5
<https://fas.org/sgp/crs/row/RS21372.pdf>
- **BBC news**
 - Read the article "What is the EU and how does it work?"
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/zgjwtyc>
 - Read the article "EU Collects Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo"
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-20664167>
 - Read the profile "The European Union"
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/country_profiles/3498746.stm
- **Council on Foreign Relations**
 - Read the backgrounder "The Eurozone in Crisis"
<http://www.cfr.org/eu/eurozone-crisis/p22055>
 - Read the backgrounder "The Debate Over Brexit"
<http://www.cfr.org/united-kingdom/debate-over-brexit/p37747>
- **Center for International and Strategic Studies**
 - Read the pages 1-8 and the "Conclusion" section, page 15, of the report "Transatlantic Economic Statecraft: The Challenge to Building a Balanced Transatlantic Sanctions Policy between the United States and the European Union"
https://csis-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/publication/160621_CNASReport_Economic_State.pdf
- **Pew Research Center**
 - Read the overview and the "Europeans question global engagement" section, page 3, of the report "Europeans Face the World Divided"

<https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/sites/www.un.org.counterterrorism.ctitf/files/Information%20Note%20Media%20PVE%20POA.pdf>

- **United States Institute of Peace**
 - Read the report “Countering Violent Extremism: A Peacebuilding Perspective” pages 1-4
<http://www.icnl.org/research/library/files/Transnational/CVEUSIP.pdf>
- **Washington Post**
 - Read the article “Who supports violent extremism in developing countries?”
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2016/06/20/who-supports-violent-extremism-in-developing-countries/>
- **Brookings Institution**
 - Read the article “It happens on the pavement: Putting cities at the center of countering violent extremism”
<https://www.brookings.edu/2016/06/01/it-happens-on-the-pavement-putting-cities-at-the-center-of-countering-violent-extremism/>

Turkey

Located between Eastern Europe and Western Asia, Turkey is a modern secular republic established in the 1920s that melds the cultures of the ancient Greek, Persian, Roman, Byzantine, and Ottoman Empires. Over the course of the country’s history, Turkey has struggled with numerous invasions and armed coups, establishing a political pattern of military-driven authority and legitimacy that persists in the country today. Studying this topic will build an understanding of Turkish geo-political foundations and origins and provides context with which one can better recognize the fundamentals of the current political climate.

- **Central Intelligence Agency**
 - Read the “Introduction,” “People and Society,” and “Government” sections of “the World Factbook”
<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/tu.html>
- **U.S. Department of State**
 - Read the factsheet “U.S. Relations with Turkey”
<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3432.htm>
- **Congressional Research Service**
 - Read the “U.S. -Turkey Relations” section, pages 20-36, of the report “Turkey: Background and U.S. Relations”
<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/211409.pdf>
- **The Making of Modern Turkey**
 - Reach Chapter 1 “Introduction: Turkey, a military society?”
https://www.kuwi.europa-uni.de/de/studium/master/es/Unser_Team/professuren/Aziz_Nesin_Gastprofessor/Lehre/Lecture-2/The_Making_of_Modern_Turkey_The_Making_of_the_Middle_East_Series_-_copy.pdf
- **BBC News**
 - Read the “Turkey Country Profile”
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-17988453>
- **Center for Strategic and International Studies**
 - Read the commentary “The Future of Turkey: Preliminary Survey Results”
<https://www.csis.org/analysis/future-turkey-preliminary-survey-results>

- Read Chapters 3 and 4, pages 24-31, of the report "Turkey in a Reconnecting Eurasia: Foreign Economic and Security Interests"
https://csis-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/publication/160429_Cevikov_TurkeyReconnectingEurasia_Web.pdf
- **Human Rights Watch**
 - Read the report "World Report 2016: Turkey, Events of 2015"
<https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2016/country-chapters/turkey>
- **Al Jazeera**
 - Read the article "Timeline: A history of Turkish Coups"
<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/europe/2012/04/20124472814687973.html>
- **Middle East Institute**
 - Read the article "Unpacking Turkey's Failed Coup: Causes and Consequences"
http://www.mei.edu/content/article/unpacking-turkey-s-failed-coup-causes-and-consequences?utm_content=buffer64902&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer

Global Megacities

The late 1700's marked the beginning of American Industrialization, which consequently initiated the expansion and urbanization of cities across the world. These changes have revolutionized the ways in which business and commerce are conducted both locally and internationally. Today, the most powerful countries in the world contain vastly developed cities that provide robust networks with which communication, finance, and culture may thrive. It is projected that by 2050 two-thirds of all people will live in urban city settings. This topic analyzes the ways in which megacities have begun to fill industrial, metropolitan, and economic needs, as well as reviews the rapid and massive expansion of these highly complex urbanized systems.

- **United Nations**
 - Read pages 1-11 of "The World's Cities in 2016"
http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/pdf/urbanization/the_worlds_cities_in_2016_data_booklet.pdf
 - Read Chapter 1 of the UN-Habitat "World Cities Report 2016"
<http://unhabitat.org/books/world-cities-report/>
- **World Economic Forum**
 - Read the article "These are Africa's fastest-growing cities – and they'll make or break the continent"
<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/05/africa-biggest-cities-fragility/>
 - Read the article "You knew China's cities were growing. But the real numbers are stunning"
<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/06/china-cities-growing-numbers-are-stunning>
 - Read the article "Latin America's cities: unequal, dangerous and fragile. But that can change"
<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/06/latin-america-s-cities-unequal-dangerous-and-fragile-but-that-can-change>
- **Brookings Institution**
 - Read the article "Figure of the Week: Urban health management in megacities"

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/africa-in-focus/2016/08/11/urban-health-management-in-megacities/?cid=00900015020089101US0001-081401>

- Read the article “Urban inequality and access: Will Habitat III rise to the challenge?”
<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/the-avenue/2016/08/15/urban-inequality-and-access-will-habitat-iii-rise-to-the-challenge/>
- Read the report “Transportation network companies present challenges and opportunities in Asia’s booming cities”
https://www.brookings.edu/research/transportation-network-companies-present-challenges-and-opportunities-in-asias-booming-cities/?utm_campaign=Brookings+Brief&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=34102873

- **Ted Talks**

- Watch the video “How megacities are changing the map of the world” (stop at 5:15 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U7y4GlmwPLQ>

China

With the fastest growing economy in the world, China has become a significantly powerful international actor with widespread political and economic influence across the globe. For this reason, ties between the U.S. and China have developed and expanded, resulting in a substantial strengthening of their diplomatic relationship in recent decades. China remains at the forefront in advancing its capabilities in science and technology, both militarily and in terms of public use for its citizens. Yet, China’s censorship of everyday, unlimited access to this technology, as well as its practice of restricting other civilian freedoms, has caused the country to be critiqued by much of the international community. This topic analyzes the various factors that have shaped China’s rise as a formidable power, as well as the challenges it continues to face as a nation.

- **U.S. Department of State**

- Read the factsheet “U.S. Relations with China”
<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/18902.htm>

- **Department of State, Office of the Historian**

- Read the “Summary,” “Recognition,” and “Consular Relations” sections of the overview “A Guide to the United States’ History of Recognition, Diplomatic and Consular Relations, by Country, since 1776: China”
<https://history.state.gov/countries/china>

- **BBC news**

- Read the timeline “China profile-Timeline”
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-pacific-13017882>

- **Council on Foreign Relations**

- Read the backgrounder “Media Censorship in China”
<http://www.cfr.org/china/media-censorship-china/p11515>
- Read the article “China’s Strategy for Asia: Maximize Power, Replace America”
<http://www.cfr.org/china/chinas-strategy-asia-maximize-power-replace-america/p38124>
- Download to read the full report “China’s G20 Challenge”
<http://www.cfr.org/international-organizations-and-alliances/chinas-g20-challenge/p37915>

- **Atlantic Council**
 - Read the “Executive Summary,” “Four Trends,” and “Conclusions” sections of the report “China’s Evolving Role in Latin America: Can It Be a Win-Win?”
http://publications.atlanticcouncil.org/chinalatam/AC_CHINA090915DP.pdf
- **Center for Strategic and International Studies**
 - Read the report “Evolving Strategies in the U.S.-China Military Balance” pages 3-12
https://csis-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/publication/160808_China_Evolving_Strategy.pdf
 - Read pages 1-9 of the report “China Military Organization and Reform”
https://csis-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/publication/160801_chinese_military_reform.pdf
 - Read “Part I. General Trends: The Chinese State’s Approach toward the Market”, pages 2-12 of the report "State and Market in Contemporary China"
https://csis-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/legacy_files/files/publication/160303_Kennedy_StateMarketChina_Web.pdf
 - Read pages 3-9 of the report "China's Nuclear Forces and Weapons of Mass Destruction"
https://csis-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/publication/160720_China_Nuclear_Weapons_Report.pdf
- **The Heritage Foundation**
 - Read the “2016 Index of Economic Freedom: China”
<http://www.heritage.org/index/pdf/2016/countries/china.pdf>
- **Human Rights Watch**
 - Read the World Report 2016 “China: Events of 2015”
<https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2016/country-chapters/china-and-tibet>
- **Brookings Institution**
 - Read the article “Assessing U.S.-China relations under the Obama administration”
<https://www.brookings.edu/opinions/assessing-u-s-china-relations-under-the-obama-administration/>

Women in Technology

Women have proven themselves to be both capable and qualified contributors and stakeholders in the technology sector. Yet, in 2015 only 17 percent of fortune 500 Chief Information Officer positions were held by women. Women are currently a minority in the technologically-focused workplace, with minority women even less likely to enter the field. Despite the fact that women in technology are very few in number, their individual and collective contributions have been extremely significant. Women statistically tend to outperform their male counterparts within the technology sector. Particularly within the United States government, efforts have been launched in attempts to increase women’s integration and participation in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields. This topic reviews these efforts and analyzes the ways in which women have been professionally marginalized and examines the lengths women have taken to succeed in technology.

- **U.S. AID**
 - Read the article “Harnessing Innovation for Women’s Empowerment”
<https://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/gender-equality-and-womens-empowerment/addressing-gender-programming/harnessing>
 - Read the factsheet “Closing the Digital Gender Gap”

