USCIB in the Media
Highlights of 2017 Coverage

USCIB leaders and staff garnered important coverage from the news media throughout 2017 on issues of importance to our members. Some of these links may require registration or a paid subscription. Many are available at http://www.uscib.org/category/communication-department/media-coverage/. Contact Jonathan Huneke, USCIB’s Vice President for Communications and Public Affairs, at jhuneke@uscib.org to discuss this review and future opportunities with the news media.

Op-eds and Interviews by USCIB President and CEO Peter Robinson:

A trade deal in distress: It's time to save NAFTA
The Hill
October 23, 2017
USCIB President and CEO Peter Robinson joins ICC Mexico Chair Maria Fernanda Garza and Canadian Chamber of Commerce CEO Perrin Beatty in expressing support for efforts to improve and modernize NAFTA. They further state their concern over proposals that they believe are inconsistent with the principles of free trade and free enterprise, calling them “a dramatic reversal of long-held U.S. trade policy objectives” that “would greatly restrict, rather than enhance, cross-border commerce.” The op-ed also appeared (in Spanish) in the Mexican financial newspaper El Economista, and was the subject of coverage in Politico, Xinhua and other news outlets.

The Global Search for Education: Jobsolescence – A Conversation with USCIB President and CEO Peter Robinson
CMRubinWorld
September 5, 2017
Blogger and education activist C.M. Rubin interviews Robinson on the importance of overcoming “jobsolescence” – and what educators, companies and individuals are doing to address the workplace skills gap. The interview was reproduced in Huffington Post and several other news outlets.

Robinson Talks NAFTA, Brexit in ICC-UK World Business Podcast
ICC United Kingdom “World Business” Podcast
June 30, 2017
Robinson gives an interview for ICC UK's new podcast on Brexit, protectionism, and the modernization of NAFTA and what it will mean for U.S. businesses.

How to modernize NAFTA: First, do no harm
The Hill
June 21, 2017
In a timely op-ed, Robinson lays out business priorities for the modernization of NAFTA. The piece builds upon USCIB’s recent submission to U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer’s office.
Ambassador Haley needs to dole out some 'tough love' to United Nations
The Hill
May 2, 2017
Following up his “carrot” op-ed in January (see below) with a “stick,” Robinson further advances USCIB’s position that the UN must work more effectively with the private sector and other stakeholders to advance shared goals.

’Tough Love’ at the U.N.
The New York Times
April 6, 2017
In a letter to the editor responding to U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley’s recent comments criticizing the UN Human Rights Commission and other agencies, Robinson underscores the importance of UN reform and the need for the United States to continue to play a leading role in the UN system.

Walking away from the UN would harm US economic interests
The Hill
January 11, 2017
Robinson rebuts calls in Congress to withhold or withdraw U.S. funding for the United Nations. This op-ed came as President-elect Trump’s top appointees, including his proposed foreign policy team, were on Capitol Hill for Senate confirmation hearings.

Additional Opinion Pieces by USCIB Staff and Members:

Taking the measure of trade facilitation
American Shipper
September 30, 2017
A column by Jerry Cook of HanesBrands, Chair of USCIB’s Customs and Trade Facilitation Committee, takes a close look at recent developments to remove red tape holding up cross-border trade.

NAFTA 2.0 needs to enshrine investor protections
The Hill
July 28, 2017
USCIB’s Shaun Donnelly and Eva Hampl write that, while the Trump administration’s wish-list for NAFTA modernization is fundamentally solid, it gives short shrift to a key element of the original agreement that has only grown more important over time: investor-state dispute settlement.

Corporate Sustainability Unfolding
Forbes
May 30, 2017
In an interview, Tam Nguyen of Bechtel, Vice Chair of USCIB’s Corporate Responsibility and Labor Affairs Committee, discusses the future evolution of corporate sustainability standards and how new technologies are impacting them.
Like it or not, UN needs private sector input in climate talks
The Hill
May 15, 2017
USCIB Vice President Norine Kennedy urges UN negotiators not to freeze the business community out of future discussion of climate change. At UN climate talks in Bonn the previous week, Kennedy worked closely with the U.S. and other governments, as well as numerous business groups including the International Chamber of Commerce, to push back against proposals to curtail private-sector participation under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

To increase trade, sweat the small stuff
Adam Smith Project
May 15, 2015
Jerry Cook, USCIB’s Customs Committee chair and a vice president of government and trade relations at Hanesbrands, writes about updating the World Customs Organization's Harmonized System Convention to address changes in goods classification.

Business takes its climate responsibilities seriously
Financial Times
May 4, 2017
As UN members gathered in Bonn for talks leading up to December’s COP23 summit, the Financial Times publishes a letter to the editor from USCIB Vice President Norine Kennedy on the role of business in the UN climate change talks. A few governments and interest groups have called for new rules aimed at restricting the private sector’s participation in the UN climate process.

The EU Investment Court Proposal: An Inadequate Solution to a Political Problem
Investment Policy Central
April 15, 2017
USCIB’s Eva Hampf writes that, as the European Commission solicits input on its proposal for an international investment court, business groups are concerned that the proposal is an inadequate response to what is largely a political problem in the EU.

Don’t Give Up on a Gold Standard U.S.-China BIT!
Investment Policy Central
April 11, 2017
As President Trump prepares to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping to discuss bilateral commercial relations, USCIB Vice President Shaun Donnelly writes on the importance of a U.S.-China bilateral investment treaty, which has been the subject of numerous rounds of negotiation.

Commentary: Is 2017 the year for trade?
American Shipper
February 10, 2017
Jerry Cook of HanesBrands, Chair of USCIB’s Customs and Trade Facilitation Committee, takes a counter-intuitive look at the Trump administration’s trade priorities, arguing that the imminent entry into force of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement could provide a big lift for cross-border commerce.
Other News Coverage:

Makercard CEO receives International Leadership Award by U.S. leading global company
Xinhua
November 29, 2017
Ajay Banga, president and chief executive officer of Mastercard, was honored by the United States Council for International Business, which represents America's leading global companies.

Mexico, Canada Would be Hurt by NAFTA Exit, Commerce Says
Bloomberg Law
November 14, 2017
Mexico and Canada would fare far worse than the U.S. if the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) were terminated, Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said Nov. 14. USCIB's Eva Hampi is quoted.

US Senate drops border tax on multinationals
Australian Financial Review
November 11, 2017
A radical proposed 20 per cent US "excise" that could double tax Australia's international companies or potentially drain Canberra's revenue coffers has been omitted by Senate Republicans in Washington. USCIB Vice President Carol Doran Klein is quoted.

U.S. Goal May Be Simply to Avoid Spotlight at Bonn Climate Talks
Bloomberg Environment
November 3, 2018
The 190-plus nations that convene in Germany Nov. 6 for the annual climate summit will be keeping a wary eye on the U.S., which essentially will be at the table for a deal from which President Trump has vowed to withdraw. USCIB Vice President Norine Kennedy is quoted.

Big business urges Trump to keep NAFTA's investment protection
Washington Examiner
September 22, 2017
Top US trade associations urged the Trump administration Friday to retain the North American Free Trade Agreement's investor protection provisions. USCIB Senior Vice President Rob Mulligan is quoted.

Siemens AG Tax Official Welcomes Arbitration in OECD Super-Treaty
Bloomberg BNA
June 14, 2017
USCIB’s Carol Doran Klein is quoted on the latest developments in the OECD over a possible multilateral convention aimed at speeding the resolution of disputes under bilateral tax treaties.

Morning Tax: We've Got a List for You Here
Politico
May 12, 2017
USCIB is reported to be "quite pleased" that the Trump administration is taking another look at the last tax regulations issued under former President Obama — and has just a few suggestions on places the Trump team can look.
Bilateral or Multilateral: Which Trade Partnerships Work Best?
Knowledge@Wharton
May 9, 2017
USCIB Senior Vice President Rob Mulligan is quoted as expressing hope that the Trump administration will not neglect trade with Asia in the wake of its abandonment of the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

Global Tax Reporting Conundrum Looms for U.S. Companies
Bloomberg BNA
May 4, 2017
A web of relationships allowing the IRS to exchange confidential taxpayer information will likely have a few holes, with significant reporting consequences for U.S. multinational companies. USCIB Vice President Carol Doran Klein provides industry views.

Morning Trade: Don't Give Up the BIT!
Politico
April 6, 2017
As the U.S.-China Summit in Mar-a-Lago gets underway, a blog posting by USCIB Vice President Shaun Donnelly is cited as putting in a plug for Presidents Trump and Xi to agree to finish long-running talks on a Bilateral Investment Treaty.

Trump’s Paris agreement departure troubles trade groups
American Shipper
April 2, 2017
President Donald Trump’s decision to withdraw the United States from the Paris Climate Agreement has some U.S. industry organizations worried about the impacts on future international trade. USCIB’s statement is quoted.

Trump administration unlikely to repudiate new WTO pact
Journal of Commerce
March 19, 2017
USCIB Senior Vice President Rob Mulligan and Customs Director Megan Giblin are quoted in articles reviewing the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, which recently entered into force and aims to reduce a variety of technical and administrative barriers to trade.

New WTO accord to speed customs clearance, cut costs
Journal of Commerce
March 18, 2017
In a companion piece to the above story, USCIB’s Megan Giblin discusses several aspects of the Trade Facilitation Agreement, including how it can help companies understand customs rules and export with assurance.

U.S. Will Remain Engaged in OECD Tax Work: IRS Official
Bloomberg BNA
March 9, 2017
USCIB Vice President Carol Doran Klein’s comments at the Seventh Annual Pacific Rim Tax Conference are quoted. Doran Klein reacted positively to an IRS official’s statement that the U.S. would remain involved in multilateral discussions of tax policy.
US companies seek "fair play" in India
Economic Times of India
February 2, 2017
USCIB and other American business organizations and industry groups told the U.S. government that “businesses in the U.S. continue to face an evolving array of tariff and non-tariff barriers, both longstanding and new, which impede businesses and manufactures in the United States from competing fairly in India and creating jobs here at home.”

Is Trump abandoning America’s role as a world leader?
Denver Post
January 27, 2017
A USCIB statement is cited in a Denver Post opinion piece on President Trump’s early actions and their possible impact on the U.S. role in the world. Responding to the Trump administration’s intention to withdraw from the Trans-Pacific Partnership, USCIB observed that the Asia-Pacific region accounts for 40 percent of the global economy and will be home to two-thirds of all middle-class consumers by 2030.