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Delegation of German Industry and Commerce
in Washington, DC
Delegation der Deutschen Wirtschaft
in Washington, DC



Dear DGIC Friends,

This April edition highlights a dynamic moment for transatlantic business, marked by both policy shifts and forward-looking investment trends. We take a closer look at the latest German American Business Outlook (GABO) results, where companies signal strong growth ambitions despite ongoing tariff pressures and continued acceleration in AI adoption.

Trade policy remains in focus, with the U.S. and EU advancing a new Action Plan to reinforce critical mineral supply chains and deepen cooperation. We also explore positive momentum in the steel market and what it means for manufacturers and suppliers. Looking ahead, a lineup of upcoming events will offer opportunities to engage with industry leaders and policymakers. Dive in for key updates and insights.

Focus on Greater Washington

Northern Virginia startup signs agreement with Meta

Overview Energy, an Ashburn startup focused on space-based solar power, has signed an agreement to supply energy to data centers operated by Meta. The company plans to transmit up to one gigawatt of power from orbit, providing electricity when terrestrial sources like solar are unavailable. Its technology uses infrared lasers to beam energy from space to existing solar farms on Earth, enabling



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space by 2028, with commercial operations targeted for 2030. Meta sees the partnership as part of a broader effort to diversify energy sources and meet rising demand from AI-driven data centers. The company has also invested in geothermal, nuclear, and energy storage solutions to secure reliable power.

[Read more from Space News](#)

Image courtesy of Overview Energy

Economic Policy Highlights



Business sentiment holds strong as investment and AI adoption surge

Have you explored the [results from the recent German American Business Outlook \(GABO\) survey](#)? GABO results highlighted a mixed but forward-looking outlook among German companies navigating the U.S. market. A striking 86% of respondents report negative impacts from current U.S. tariff policies, though 31% also noted some positive effects. Despite these challenges, investment intentions remain strong, with 67% planning to increase their U.S. investments in 2026. More than half (56%) expect to invest over \$1 million within the next three years.

[View the Full 2026 GABO Results](#)

Image courtesy 2026 GACC / Whitney Tucker



U.S. and EU reveal Action Plan for critical mineral supply chain resilience

The [Representative of German Industry and Trade \(RGIT\)](#) recently reported that the [U.S. and EU have introduced a new Action Plan](#) aimed at strengthening the resilience of critical mineral supply chains. According to the Office of the U.S. Trade

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policies and related measures, with the longer-term objective of establishing a plurilateral agreement. Discussions will focus on tools such as reference pricing mechanisms, including border-adjusted price floors, standards-based markets, subsidies to close price gaps, and offtake agreements, initially targeting a select group of critical minerals and their supply chains.

[Read more from the Office of the United States Trade Representative](#)

Image courtesy of the Office of the United States Trade Representative | Executive Office of the President



U.S. steel market benefits from tariffs

High U.S. tariffs on steel imports are reshaping the domestic market, boosting sales for American producers even as overall demand softens. Imports dropped sharply in 2025, with further declines expected as the full impact of tariff increases takes hold. While domestic producers benefit from reduced foreign competition, key trading partners like Canada and Mexico have seen significant losses, particularly tied to automotive supply chains. At the same time, the U.S. remains reliant on specialty steel imports, especially from countries like Germany, because U.S. alternatives are limited.

[Read more from our partners at Germany Trade & Invest \(in German\)](#)

Image courtesy unsplash.com | Ant Rozetsky

Looking Ahead...

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The WunderbarTogether Gala May 1 | Washington, DC

Join us for the WunderbarTogether Gala on May 1, hosted by the German International School (GIS)! The WunderbarTogether Gala celebrates the remarkable partnership between Germany and the U.S., reflecting the spirit of the WunderbarTogether Campaign initiated by the German Federal Foreign Office and implemented by the Goethe-Institut in 2018. More than a celebration, the Gala is a powerful expression of the GIS mission: to educate and inspire globally minded students who bridge cultures, languages, and nations.

This year, gategroup will be honored with the Global Unity Award, celebrating the enduring partnership between global industry and international education. DGIC President & CEO Christoph Schemionek is also pleased to deliver welcome remarks at this year's Gala.

About the Gala

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Market Entry USA: Defense Industry

Washington, DC & Huntsville, AL | May 18-22



Pitch & Networking Event Market Entry USA: Defense Industry May 18 | Washington, DC

On May 18 DGIC is organizing an exclusive networking event in Washington, DC, hosted as part of the Market Entry Program (MEP) supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWE). This initiative brings together twelve innovative German small and medium-sized enterprises specializing in cutting-edge defense and security technologies, all seeking to establish or expand their presence in the U.S. market.

The delegation represents a diverse range of high-demand capabilities, including sensor technology, electronics, cybersecurity, unmanned systems and drones, aerospace and defense solutions, advanced communications, and next-generation materials and manufacturing processes. The event offers a unique opportunity for U.S. stakeholders to engage directly with these companies, explore potential partnerships, and gain insight into emerging technologies shaping the future of the defense sector.

Don't miss this opportunity to connect with key players from Germany's security and defense industry and explore avenues for collaboration.

[Register](#)

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Business Mission: Project Opportunities with the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank June 15-17 | Washington, DC

In partnership with Advantage Austria, we are pleased to organize an upcoming delegation mission to Washington, DC, centered on engagement with international financial institutions (IFIs).

This program will offer participating companies valuable insights into the procurement priorities, financing mechanisms, and strategic focus areas of institutions such as the World Bank Group and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Through curated meetings with procurement specialists and targeted networking opportunities, participants will gain a clearer understanding of how to position their capabilities for international development projects and strengthen their presence in global infrastructure, sustainability, and innovation sectors.

The mission provides a unique opportunity to explore potential partnerships and receive practical guidance on navigating IFI procurement frameworks.

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Join DGIC's Business Partnership Program

We'd love to hear from you! If your company has any exciting insights or topics you'd like us to cover in our newsletters, reach out to Jayne Peters!

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