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# 硕士学位论文

经济安全：美国汽车业在中国

**Economic Security:**

**The American Automotive Industry in China**

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## 摘 要

美国与中国关系代表着21世纪最重要的双边关系。全世界都仔细观察着这两个全球最大经济体的一举一动。它们合作影响着全球政治格局以及全球经济。在这种关系下，经济安全及稳定变成全球主要的关注点。随着世界经济起伏以及国家工业经济周期对国家经济的影响，因此对经济安全及稳定效应的量化因此显得至关重要。美国汽车工业是美国最基本并最具有代表性的行业。此行业在美国经济中占了极具重要的位置，它的起伏会直接影响美国经济。在21世纪，美国汽车工业的起伏，甚至对中国经济都开始产生影响。

本论文通过分析经济安全理论以及结合双边关系理论，阐述了美国汽车工业以及其公共关系，市场和经济策略及其问题从而得到如何达到强有力的美中贸易关系。同时，本论文也对这种美中贸易关系是否会对美国国家带来不稳定的因素，例如美国国家经济，美国劳工和外部制造业对美国汽车业制造业带来威胁进行了分析。

关键词: 中美关系，经济安全，美国自动化工业，国际贸易关系。

## ABSTRACT

United States of America - China relations represents the most important bilateral relationships in the 21st century. As the entire world scrutinizes and heeds every action of the world's two largest economic powers, their partnership sets the tone for international order of political power, withal the international economic order which drives the world economy. Within this strong and ever more symbiotic relationship, economic security has become a central area of concernment. As the rise and fall of economic prosperity and the pendulum of time erode historical industries that once supported national economies, further examination of these effects are required. The American automotive industry represents a primary and representative area for analysis due to its importance to and impact on the overall American economy, and moreover for its 21<sup>st</sup> century proceedings with China.

This paper seeks to analyze economic security theory, with the support of other related international relations theoretical approaches, to explain the American automotive industry and its relationship, market and economic strategies and tactics, and the issues that have arisen as a result of the strong U.S.-China trade relationship. Moreover, this paper will examine if trade and relations with China has created *insecurity* for the U.S.'s national economy, American laborers, and the threatened the vitality of the domestic automotive industry within the international sphere in which it partakes.

**Keywords:** U.S.-China Relations, Economic Security, American Automotive Industry, International Trade Relations.

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## ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

<b>DFI</b>	Direct Foreign Investment
<b>FDI</b>	Foreign Direct Investment
<b>CAFE</b>	Corporate average fuel economy
<b>CF</b>	Corporate Financing
<b>CG</b>	Corporate Governance
<b>GATT</b>	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
<b>GMAC</b>	General Motors Acceptance Corporation
<b>MCO</b>	Multi-Centric Organizational Model
<b>MNC</b>	Multinational Corporation
<b>MNO</b>	Multinational Organization
<b>NTBs</b>	Non-tariff barriers
<b>IFE</b>	International Political Economy
<b>ITC</b>	International Trade Commission
<b>R&amp;D</b>	Research and Development
<b>SUV</b>	Sport Utility Vehicle
<b>S&amp;ED</b>	Strategic and Economic Dialogue
<b>TARP</b>	Troubled Assets Relief Program
<b>UAW</b>	United Auto Workers
<b>US</b>	United States of America
<b>VER</b>	Voluntary export restraint
<b>WTO</b>	World Trade Organization
<b>WWII</b>	World War II

## CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

### 1. Research Background

In the current globalized economy fueled by interconnectedness, transnational mobility and liberal commerce the expansion of the American automotive industry beyond its borders through multinational corporations with its implications on national economic security has long been a query for international relations scholars, especially in relation to the substantial global economic powerhouse that is China. The multifaceted and multidimensional relationship between the U.S.A. and China has been called the single most important relationship in the contemporary times and is predicted to maintain this level of import for years to come.

From the liberalist perspective, freer trade relations between the U.S. and China have been advantageous for the two parties involved, but furthermore the global economic structure in its entirety has benefited. U.S. China trade has opened markets and allowed for greater access to the world's second largest economy to U.S. trade and business. On the other hand, realists would juxtapose this picture of golden opportunity, suggesting a perspective that focuses on the consequences of this relationship and whether it has left the U.S. and the American automotive industry exposed; creating insecurity for U.S. businesses, industries and laborers, especially one of the U.S.'s most paramount industries, the U.S. automotive industry. Globalization of the world's economy has affected governments' ability to manage and safeguard national economies, especially when looking at national interest values such as industry protectionism, jobs, equal and uniform trade partnerships, the adherence to international rules and most importantly the vitality and solidarity of the American economy. Globalization and free trade enables transitioning away from

the insulation of mercantilist protection-oriented governance model that mitigates international market forces, and shifting towards practices that demand national economies to weather the forces of the global market.<sup>1</sup>

## 2. Problem Statement

The main purpose of this paper is to examine the decline of the American Automotive Industry caused by the dichotomy of globalization and poor strategic planning for the evolution of the international global market. Moreover, the misuse of the *economic security* argument in the wake of social unrest and politicization of the issue to the long term detriment of national growth, modernization and global economic dominance, as well as the degradation of quality of life and personal wealth and wellbeing of the American working class. Firstly, the paper provides an overview economic security theory, laying the theoretical foundation in relation to the U.S. automotive industry in the international economic system. Secondly, the paper will provide an in-depth evaluation of the current discourse of the domestic decline of the American automotive industry contrasted by the rise of the Chinese automotive foreign and domestic enterprises; by examining the relationships, practices, and policies between the U.S. and China, and its present trade relations and examining the role of government, multinational corporations and international regulators, such as the WTO. Thirdly, the paper will conclude by estimating economic security, or the *insecurity*, that can arise from international trade that is not properly mitigated, managed, and fairly implemented to uphold the rules and regulations of the international system. Finally, the paper will conclude by providing considerations for policy implications for the United States.

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<sup>1</sup> X. Yang, "Chapter One: Globalization and Management of National Economies: The Relations between Manufacturers and Suppliers," in *Globalization of the automobile industry: The United States, Japan, and the People's Republic of China* (Westport, CT: Praeger, 1995), 1.

### **3. Research Objectives**

The goal of this paper is to fully address the notion of economic security, what is and how it is used by nation states, in particular the U.S., in the wake of greater economic, social, and spatial interconnectedness. Countries are more and more susceptible to their respective national abilities, performance, and political influence in the global arena than ever before. The equilibrium of power is cycling up and down, and swaying left to right. The engine of change is ever growing and evolving. Much of what happens in the international arena effects individuals in the domestic, local and national spheres.

### **4. Research Questions**

This research seeks to answer and address the issue of economic security and its validity. Do nations have actual economic security in the predominance of the interconnectedness, globalization and the greater international political economy? And if so, what does it truly mean for nations domestic economy, laborers, politicians and businesses. The U.S. automotive industry because of its historical and contemporary importance to the U.S's domestic economy, and additionally for its international significance, especially for U.S.-China relations provides the ideal lens through which to investigate the issues and implications of international relations theory.

### **5. Methodology**

Methodology is indeed imperative when it comes to research, not only in international relations but the entire social science realm. The answer to any relevant question in international relations can also be found by looking into the various methods used by the researcher. Therefore, the methodology for this research will include both qualitative and quantitative methods respectively. Qualitative research will be utilized to examine the theoretical perspectives, motives,

and reasoning for the discourse, likewise quantitative research will be wielded to provide an objectifiable process of facts, figures, and numerical data to examine the elected topic.

Furthermore, the techniques employed to analyze the information in this study include the following:

1) Content analysis: This method will focus on gathering and analyzing the contents of available information, which can be words, sentences, paragraphs, pictures or ideas through extensive literature and textual analysis with table illustration. The text will be focusing on available data in human communication such as correspondence, diplomatic notes as well as policy statement. And it will be done qualitatively as well as quantitatively.

2) Descriptive analysis: The reason for this technique is to enable the study to describe concerns about and/or related the topic to include experiences, emotions, and perceptions of the research population.

## **6. Scope and Limitations**

With any research there are always limitations and differing perspectives. As an individual who is from Detroit and grew up in a family of automobile workers, I have witnessed firsthand the implications of globalization as the city of Detroit declined and decayed, as politicians pacified the populous with political rhetoric versus real estimations of the global economy, and economic insecurity as the 2008 Financial Crisis forever changed the U.S. and our domestic workforce, industries, and international standing. The scope of the research comes from a perspective of a native Detroiter retelling the story of witnessed decline, instability, and political rhetoric over industry evolution, progressive management and the concern for national safeguarding over

capitalistic endeavors.

## 7. Thesis Structure

The paper will provide a sound theoretical review of the associated international relations ideologies in the Chapter 2. The paper will focus more towards telling the history of decline in the U.S. automotive industry and likewise the incorporation of international competition to the U.S. domestic market in Chapter 3. Additionally in Chapter 3 a current perspective of events post the 2008 financial crisis to modern times will be provided. The focus on China and the U.S. automotive industry's action plan in China and the motivations, goals and issues surrounding the venture will be examined in Chapter 4. Next, in Chapter 5 globalized governance and the establishment of international governing institutions will be discussed in the scope of trade relations, practices, disputes and between the U.S. and China, looking particularly at each nation's behavior and reaction to their relationship. Lastly, a conclusion and summation of the work will be presented as well as suggestions for better relations between China and the U.S., understanding and preparations of domestic economies to candidly approach economic security in a realistic, functional, and modern estimation.

## CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW & THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

*“International economic structures may range from complete autarky (if all states prevent movement across their borders), to complete openness (if no restrictions exist). - Stephen D. Krasner<sup>2</sup>*

### 2.1 Introduction

Economic security, access and proliferation, is a keystone ambition for all nations in the international system. All nation states partake in the global economic system, and likewise seek to advance their economies through trade ventures and commercial maximization. Through globalization and the liberalization of the international market, the international trading system is not only reserved for nations, but other actors are significant players as well in the global economy: such as multinational companies, capital markets, and businesses who have influence on system and market dynamic. The American automotive industry is no different. As the world is more interconnected, industries seek to expand themselves and gain access to markets and revenue far and wide across the world: a primary destination being China.

### 2.2 Conceptual Review: Interconnectedness, Globalization, Economic Security and

#### International Political Economy

##### 2.2.1 Economic Security: Realist & Liberalist Perspectives

The global economy is the systematic structure that allows for and promotes international trade. It is the massive wheel that has propelled nations into economic greatness, and inauspiciously renders other nations trailing on the fringes of development and economic inequality. The international system of trade has made the world a smaller, more interconnected and interdependent

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<sup>2</sup> Stephen D. Krasner, "State Power and the Structure of International Trade," *World Politics* 28, no. 03 (April 1976) 317, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2009974>.

place; bridging the gaps between nations that sometime cannot see past their historical or social conflicts to make a way for better relations, and a more peaceful world. Liberalists of international relations theory believe this perspective to be true: that trade and economic interdependence will birth a more peaceful, less conflict torn international community. Nations that are economically interconnected are more likely to avoid major conflicts and less likely to allow conflicts to develop into an all-out war. Barry Buzan explains the liberal perspective of economic structure and international security in his critique *Economic Structure and International Security: The Limits of Liberal Case*. He appraises the account of the liberal system's contribution to peace as lying within the overarching argument that free-trade is the only alternative to protectionism. Additionally, the shielding of one's domestic industries and economic wellbeing against foreign competition or exploitation is essential. Buzan most importantly points out that the liberal systems are the only alternative to mercantilism, the belief in commercialism and the benefits of profitable trade. He decomposes liberal thought and identifies two actors in the theoretical perspective: mercantilism and malevolent. Buzan clarifies, saying:

Since mercantilism is widely associated with periods of war, the liberal system can claim a security benefit inasmuch as its continuance prevents a reversion to protectionism. – The benign views see a mercantilism system of large, inward-looking blocs, where protectionism is predominantly motivated by considerations of domestic welfare and internal political stability. Such a system potentially avoids many of the organizational problems of trying to run a global or quasi-global liberal economy in the absence of political institutions on a similar scare. The malevolent views a rerun of the mercantilist dynamic of the past, in which protectionism is motivated primarily by considerations of state power.<sup>3</sup>

The dynamic between protectionism of one's domestic economy and one's participation and status in the global economy, requires balance in the liberal perspective in order to benefit each nation involved. When analyzing trade and its diplomatic spectrum, international trade in the

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<sup>3</sup> B. Buzan, "Economic structure and international security: the limits of the liberal Case," *International Organization* 38, no. 04 (1984): 608, [http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/2706625.pdf?acceptTC=true&seq=1#page\\_scan\\_tab\\_contents](http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/2706625.pdf?acceptTC=true&seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents).

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