

## Virginia Newman Discusses the Increased Pressure on Businesses Over Forced Labor in China in the Wall Street Journal

### **"U.S. Steps Up Pressure on Businesses Over Forced Labor in China"**

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Virginia Newman, Counsel at Miller & Chevalier, commented on U.S. lawmakers' and the Biden administration's increasing pressure on American businesses to stop imports from Xinjiang, China, as alleged forced labor in the region emerges as a top item on their trade agenda. Western officials have said that manufacturing in Xinjiang, the world's leading producer of cotton and raw materials used in solar panels, relies on the use of forced labor of by Uyghur and other Muslim minorities. Beijing strongly denies the claims. The U.S. has pushed allies to join its efforts in increasing pressure on China, with the U.S. now requiring companies in certain industries to demonstrate that their U.S. imports are not made with forced labor in Xinjiang. Recent U.S. action, including a potential new law that would presumptively ban imports of any goods with supply chains in Xinjiang, could invite countermeasures against the U.S. from China, Newman told the *Wall Street Journal*. Newman added that "It's probably going to affect more people than the industry currently realizes."