95% of solar panels worldwide are made up of polysilicon. Nearly half of global production comes from Xinjiang, where polysilicon is produced by Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities under conditions of forced labor. China's system of forced labor threatens solar supply chains around the world.

China has arbitrarily detained more than one million Uyghurs and other mostly Muslim minorities in China's far western Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR). Thousands of people are forced to work under guard and constant threats in mines and factories producing polysilicon, a key input in the production of solar panels.

54% of China's polysilicon production takes place in the XUAR. Solar-grade polysilicon made from mined quartz is mixed, melted, and cast into bricks and cylinders (ingots), making it extremely challenging to trace. Ingots are subsequently sliced into razor-thin wafers.

China owns 97% of global manufacturing capacity of solar wafers.

5% of solar cells and modules
In 2020, the U.S. imported over $300M in solar products directly from China.

Eight countries imported over $1B each from China
In 2020, over 50% of China's $24B in solar cells and panels were imported by just eight countries.

$24B in solar cells and panels
In 2020, 42% of all global imports of solar cells and panels came from China.

$3.3B in solar cells and panels
Vietnam, China's largest solar trade partner, imported 66% of its solar cells and panels from China in 2020.

Solar companies around the world face risks from solar products produced in China. America's top four solar trade partners (Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, and South Korea) also import large quantities of solar materials from China.

Source: US ITC Dataweb and UN Comtrade. Trade data are from 2020.