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The Global Technology Leadership Act

U.S. Senators Michael Bennet (D-Colo.), Todd Young (R-Ind.), and Mark Warner (D-Va.)
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Today, there is no federal entity responsible for assessing U.S. leadership in key technologies relative to strategic competitors like China. Although the Department of Defense evaluates how our battleships, tanks, and aircraft compare to other nations, there is no equivalent process for critical technologies like artificial intelligence (AI) and quantum computing, despite their far-reaching consequences for America's national security and economic strength.

The bipartisan Global Technology Leadership Act would establish an Office of Global Competition Analysis to bolster competitiveness by analyzing how the United States fares in critical technologies relative to other countries, informing policymakers and strengthening U.S. leadership in strategic innovation.

The Office of Global Competition Analysis would assess U.S. technology competitiveness based on a fusion of intelligence and commercial data, which today are too often siloed in intelligence and civilian agencies, respectively. This has often left the United States blind to its relative capacity in critical technologies compared to other nations, like in the cases of 5G and semiconductors. Analysis that interrogates the entire U.S. ecosystem, including private sector dynamics, is critical to understanding threats and opportunities in strategic emerging technology, such as AI.

The Office would be comprised of experts from the Intelligence Community, Departments of Commerce, Treasury, and Defense, and other relevant agencies. The Office could also draw on expertise in the private sector and academia on a project basis, and leverage the capability of an existing Federally Funded Research and Development Center. The White House's Office of Science and Technology Policy, National Economic Council, and the National Security Council would jointly set priorities and project requirements.

Specifically, the Global Technology Leadership Act will enable the U.S. government to:

- Identify which technologies will matter most to U.S. economic and national security;
- Assess U.S. capacity within each critical technology sector, including advanced manufacturing ability, workforce development, supply chain resiliency, capital access, and national and regional R&D initiatives;
- Evaluate America's technology leadership relative to other countries; and
- Determine the appropriate policy response to ensure U.S. leadership.