

American Corporate Elites Pay \$2,000 a Head to Dine With China's Xi Jinping

American business leaders and other executives will each pay \$2,000 to attend a dinner reception for Chinese leader Xi Jinping next week, according to reports and an invitation sent out by the organizers.

The National Committee on U.S.-China Relations and the U.S.-China Business Council are jointly hosting the gala in San Francisco on November 15, during which they said a "senior Chinese leader" would "delivery a major speech." Bloomberg on Tuesday named Xi as the guest of honor.

China's president is traveling to the United States for the first time since 2017 to attend the annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit. The White House has signaled its expectation for talks between Xi and U.S. President Joe Biden, but the Chinese foreign ministry hasn't confirmed any plans.

"The 'road to San Francisco' will not be smooth sailing and cannot rely on 'automatic driving.' The two sides must effectively 'return to Bali' and truly implement the consensus reached by the two heads of state, eliminate interference, overcome obstacles, enhance consensus and accumulate experience," ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin told reporters in Beijing on Wednesday, referring to the last Biden-Xi summit in Indonesia almost a year ago.

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