

France and the United States

A close and intense bilateral relationship

Part 1: A historic friendship

1513

Juan Ponce de León, sent by France, discovers Florida.

1778

The Treaty of Alliance sealed the alliance between the United States and France during the War of Independence.

1803

Napoleon sells Louisiana to the United States.

Part 2: Intense defence cooperation

- There is exceptional cooperation between French and American forces in the area of counter-terrorism.
- In the Sahel region, Operation Barkhane enjoys considerable U.S. logistics support (aerial refuelling, exchange of information).
- In the Middle East, France is the second-largest contributor to the International Coalition against Daesh led by the United States.

Part 3: A rich and diversified partnership

3.1 A deep, growing bilateral economic relationship

**The volume of trade in goods and services between the two countries:
\$120 billion per year**

France

- Fifth-largest investor in the United States
- 4,600 American companies present in France employ nearly 450,000 people
- The United States is the leading R&D investor in France

United States

- Leading investor in France
- 4,800 subsidiaries of French companies present in the United States employ nearly 575,000 people
- \$7 billion per year of investment in American R&D by French companies

3.2 Strong educational and academic cooperation

In 2014, France and the United States set the goal of doubling mobility between the two countries by 2025

France

- 4th most-popular destination for American students abroad (17,000 American students)
- France's top scientific partner (11,000 co-publications in 2015)

United States

- 8,300 French students studied in France in 2013-2014
- French is the second most-studied foreign language in the U.S. public education system and at U.S. universities

3.3 Innovation

In 2016, France and the United States concluded an action plan for future industry (e.g., self-driving vehicles, 3D printing and smart devices).

Number of registered patents

- 421 by French companies in the United States
- 212 by American companies in France

3.4 Key tourist exchanges

France

- Fifth most-popular destination for Americans
- 4.6 million American tourists visit France (2016)

United States

- 1.7 million French tourists visit the United States (2015)