

ICC Global Trade Update

2 September 2025

DISCLAIMER: Given the fast-moving trade policy environment, please ensure that latest developments have been taken into account in your operations and communications.

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U.S. TARIFFS LATEST

US Court of Appeals ruling

- The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit [ruled](#) on 29 August in a 7-4 decision to uphold a U.S. Court of International Trade ruling that the Trump Administration's use of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) to impose tariffs was illegal. The ruling permits the tariffs to stay in place until 14 October 2025 to allow time for an appeal to the Supreme Court. The Administration has indicated that it will appeal.
- The majority also sent the case back to the lower court to determine the appropriate scope of injunctive relief - that is, how and for whom any order blocking or unwinding the tariffs should apply - in light of the Supreme Court's 27 June 2025 decision in *Trump v. CASA, Inc.*, which limits universal (nationwide) injunctions.
- Businesses impacted by the IEEPA tariffs should consult their customs broker on whether to reserve their rights by filing timely protests with U.S. Customs and Border Protection in order to claim the potential tariff refunds if relief becomes available.

- Note that the case only relates to the IEEPA-based “Reciprocal” (a/k/a “Liberation Day”) tariff regime and the IEEPA “trafficking/fentanyl” tariffs imposed on Canada, China, Mexico. Other country-specific IEEPA orders (IEEPA tariffs (e.g., on India and Brazil) were outside the scope of the current case. The ruling does not impact the ongoing Section 232 sectoral tariffs (e.g., steel, aluminium, and cars).

Additional 25% tariff on India go into effect

- A 50% U.S. tariff on a range of Indian goods took effect on 27 August, following the [Executive Order](#) issued in August 2025 in response to India’s continued purchases of Russian oil exports.

De minimis removal goes into effect

- Since Friday 29 August, the US\$ 800 duty-free threshold for small parcels has ended. Tariffs apply to all shipments, but exemptions remain in place for gifts valued at less than US\$ 100. Following this announcement, a number of postal services temporarily suspended services to the United States, with certain postal services like NZ Post and the UK’s Royal mail resuming services via new arrangements for the collection of the required duties.

Extension of Section 301 China exclusions

- On 29 August, the United States Trade Representative (USTR) [announced](#) the extension of 164 product-specific exclusions and 14 exclusions covering certain manufacturing equipment subject to Section 301 duties on Chinese imports until 29 November 2025.

Canadian suspension of retaliatory tariffs goes into effect

- The Canadian Government has [published](#) the necessary orders to amend or repeal 25% tariffs on certain U.S. goods imported into Canada, effective 1 September 2025. Canadian tariffs on U.S. steel, aluminium and cars remain in place.

EU tables tariff reductions

- The European Commission has published [here](#) and [here](#) its proposals to implement the terms of the political agreement and Joint Statement that was published on 21 August 2025 which announced the EU-US Framework on an Agreement on Reciprocal, Fair and Balanced Trade.
- The proposals cover the EU’s elimination of tariffs on all U.S. industrial goods and provide preferential market access for certain U.S. seafood and agricultural products. The EU tariff reduction would be retroactive to 1 August 2025. The proposals will follow an “ordinary legislative procedure” and need approval from both the Council of the EU and the European Parliament.
- Both proposals contain broad suspension clauses which would allow the Commission to suspend the tariff relief if the US fails to implement the agreed commitments or takes actions that disrupt the EU-US trade relationship.

OTHER TARIFF DEVELOPMENTS

Australia to eliminate nuisance tariffs

- The Australian Government has proposed eliminating 500 so-called “nuisance” tariffs including on tyres, televisions, wine glasses, and air conditioners. Businesses have until 10 December to respond to the [consultation](#). A final list of agreed tariffs to be removed will be published in the next Budget in 2026.

NEW TRADE GROUPING

Singapore, UAE and New Zealand

- Singapore, United Arab Emirates and New Zealand are [launching](#) a new grouping, the “Future of Investment and Trade Partnership” (FIT-P), aimed at boosting trade openness among small and medium-sized economies.

EU CBAM

EU undertakes more consultation on Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism

- On 28 August, the European Commission published three additional consultations on the functioning of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). The deadline to respond is 25 September 2025. The consultations cover:
 - i) [Carbon price paid in third countries](#)
 - ii) [Methodology for calculating embedded emissions](#)
 - iii) [CBAM certificates and linkages to surrender of EU ETS free allocations](#)

PAPERLESS TRADE

Thailand to join Paperless Cross-Border Trade Agreement

- Thailand has [confirmed](#) its accession to the Agreement on Paperless Cross-border Trade Facilitation in Asia and the Pacific. Current members include Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, China, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Philippines, Korea, Russia, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, and Uzbekistan.

TRADE STRATEGIES

New Irish trade strategy

- The Republic of Ireland has launched a new [Action Plan on Market Diversification](#), with the express objective of strengthening Ireland's global trade resilience. The plan is built around four core objectives:
 - i) Support for exporters and market access
 - ii) Deepening and broadening Ireland's international engagement
 - iii) Delivering trade and tourism missions
 - iv) Enhancing domestic readiness for economic engagement and partnership
- While not explicitly stated in the action plan, the new initiative stems from ongoing uncertainty around U.S. tariff policies and Ireland's significant exposure to the U.S. export market.

Papua New Guinea undertakes mid-term review

- Papua New Guinea's Ministry of International Trade and Investment has [started](#) a Mid-Term Review of its National Trade Policy 2017-2032. The review will cover three main elements:
 - i) a retrospective assessment of the policy to take stock of progress to date;
 - ii) a prospective assessment, taking into account current and emerging trade issues at both international and national levels, with recommendations for adjustments; and
 - iii) a review of the National Trade Policy's Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) and integration of its findings.

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

New WTO dispute

- China has [requested](#) WTO dispute consultations with Canada regarding Canadian measures imposing a surtax in the form of tariff rate quotas on the importation of certain steel goods originating from Canada's non-free trade agreement partners, including China, as well as a surtax on certain steel and aluminium goods that contain steel or aluminium originating from China.

WTO PUBLIC FORUM

- The [Public Forum](#) will take place in Geneva on 17–18 September under the theme “*Enhance, Create and Preserve.*” The event is in person only, and attendees must have registered with the WTO. Our session, “[Addressing Digital Trade Frictions through WTO Mediation](#)” (17 September, 13:30–14:45, Room S1), will explore how mediation can resolve trade frictions early and the steps needed to bring it into use at the WTO.
- On the eve of the Public Forum (September 16), ICC will be hosting an invitation-only morning event with the Geneva Trade Platform, followed by the ICC Global Trade & Investment Commission meeting at the WTO in the afternoon. If you haven’t registered yet for these events and you’ll be in town, let us know – we’d be delighted to see you there.

ICC NEWS & PUBLICATIONS

- A new ICC survey reveals chamber sentiment on how inflation, geopolitical tensions and trade disruptions are reshaping business strategies, and how companies are preparing for an AI-driven future: [Chamber Pulse: Global markets, local landscapes](#), 2 September 2025.
- [How chambers of commerce can strengthen small business resilience in emergencies](#), 28 August 2025.
- [Business takeaways from the first rounds of UN Tax Framework Convention negotiations](#), 20 August 2025.

WHAT WE’RE READING

- New IMF database on [Bilateral Trade in Services](#).
- From ODI, a new report on [Vulnerability of low- and middle-income countries to the impacts of aid cuts and US tariff increases](#).

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