

## Key Developments Under the Trump Administration Regarding Imports and Tariffs: 2019 Tracker

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*A summary of developments under the Trump Administration regarding US imports and tariffs in 2019. This tracker covers, among other topics, developments regarding free trade agreements (FTA), including Congress's consideration of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), which, if approved, would replace the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and negotiations of possible trade agreements with Japan, the European Union (EU), and the United Kingdom (UK). Other topics covered include US Treasury Department reviews regarding possible currency manipulation by other countries and investigations by the US Department of Commerce and the US Trade Representative (USTR) under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 and Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974.*

This tracker summarizes key developments affecting US imports and tariffs under the Trump Administration in 2019. The tracker contains links to relevant sources. For a summary of developments in 2017 and 2018, see [Practice Notes](#), [Key Developments Under the Trump Administration Regarding Imports and Tariffs: 2017 Tracker](#) and [Key Developments Under the Trump Administration Regarding Imports and Tariffs: 2018 Tracker](#).

Date	Development	Source
January 7, 2019	In a move that the USTR described as unprecedented, the USTR requested consultations with Peru under the Environment Chapter of the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement (PTPA) to resolve US allegations that Peru has violated certain obligations relating to illegal logging. If the parties are unable to resolve the matter within 60 days, the US may request separate consultations under the PTPA's dispute settlement provisions. Senator Sherrod Brown has pointed to the enforcement mechanisms in the PTPA's forestry annex as a possible model for addressing compliance with labor laws under the United-States-Mexico Canada Agreement, which Congress is expected to vote on this year.	<a href="#">USTR: USTR Requests First-Ever Environment Consultations Under the U.S.-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement (PTPA)</a>
January 11, 2019	The USTR released a summary of US negotiating objectives for a trade agreement with the European Union. Under US law, formal negotiations with the EU could begin as early as 30 days from today. However, the EU's member states must still approve a negotiating mandate, and the EU and the US disagree on whether certain issues should be part of the discussions. For example, US negotiating objectives include agriculture issues, but EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom has stated that agriculture must be excluded. Similarly, the EU hopes to discuss government procurement, but the US has opposed including procurement in the negotiations.	<a href="#">USTR: United States - European Union Negotiations: Summary of Specific Negotiating Objectives</a>
January 29, 2019	The USTR submitted to Congress a list of changes to existing US laws that would be required to bring the US into compliance with the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), which Congress is expected to consider this year. The USTR's notification is required under the Trade Promotion Authority law, under which the President may submit a trade agreement like the USMCA to Congress for an up-or-down vote without any amendments.	<a href="#">Senate Finance Committee: Grassley Receives Description of Changes to U.S. Law Needed for U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation</a>

January 31, 2019	President Trump signed an executive order intended to strengthen Buy American principles in federal government procurement for infrastructure projects. The executive order directs the heads of US departments and agencies administering a covered infrastructure program, within 90 days, to encourage recipients of new federal financial assistance awards under these programs to use domestically produced iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products. The executive order also requires the department and agency heads, within 120 days, to provide a report to the President identifying any tools, techniques, terms, or conditions that have been or could be used to maximize the use of these domestically manufactured products.	<a href="#">Executive Office of the President: Executive Order 13858, Strengthening Buy-American Preferences for Infrastructure Projects</a>
February 15, 2019	In an explanatory statement to the Consolidated Appropriations Act signed into law today by President Trump, Congress directed the USTR to establish a process for parties to request product exclusions from the third tranche of Section 301 tariffs covering \$200 billion worth of imports from China. Congress directed that the process be initiated within 30 days from today and follow the same procedures as those implemented for the first two tranches of Section 301 tariffs, which together cover \$50 billion worth of imports from China.	<a href="#">US Congress: Explanatory Statement Submitted by Mrs. Lowey, Chairwoman of the House Committee on Appropriations Regarding H.J. Res. 31</a>
February 17, 2019	The US Commerce Department submitted to President Trump a report of Commerce's findings in its investigation into the effect of imports of automobiles and automobile parts on US national security. The report, issued under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, was not released to the public. President Trump has 90 days to decide whether to act in this matter, which potentially may include the imposition of tariffs or quotas on imports of these goods into the US.	<a href="#">U.S. Agency Submits Auto Tariff Probe Report to White House, Reuters, Feb. 17, 2019</a>
February 24, 2019	Citing substantial progress in trade negotiations with China, President Trump announced the postponement of a rate increase (from ten percent to 25 percent) for Section 301 tariffs on \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods that was to have taken effect on March 2, 2019. The President stated that if both sides make additional progress, he intends to meet with President Xi of China at Mar-a-Lago to conclude an agreement. No deadline was set for the talks to conclude.	<a href="#">Trump Delays Tariff Hike on Chinese Goods, Citing Trade Talk Progress, Reuters, Feb. 24, 2019</a>
February 28, 2019	The USTR released a summary of US negotiating objectives for a trade agreement with the United Kingdom after the UK leaves the European Union. Under US law, formal negotiations with the UK could begin as early as 30 days from today, but it remains unclear when negotiations may actually start.	<a href="#">USTR: United States - United Kingdom Negotiations: Summary of Specific Negotiating Objectives</a>
February 28, 2019	The USTR released a notice stating that in accordance with President Trump's announcement on February 24, 2019, which postponed the increase in Section 301 tariffs on \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods that was scheduled for March 2, 2019, the Section 301 tariffs on these goods will remain at ten percent until further notice.	<a href="#">USTR: Notice of Modification of Section 301 Action: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
March 1, 2019	The USTR submitted the President's 2019 Trade Policy Agenda to Congress. The report notes that among other initiatives, the Trump Administration will (1) urge Congress to approve the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, (2) launch new trade negotiations with Japan, the European Union, and the United Kingdom, (3) continue to press China to address longstanding US concerns about unfair trade practices, (4) defend US interests at the World Trade Organization, and (5) vigorously enforce US trade laws.	<a href="#">USTR: 2019 Trade Policy Agenda</a>
March 4, 2019	Following a petition filed by a US producer of titanium sponge, the US Commerce Department initiated a Section 232 investigation into whether the quantity or circumstances of titanium sponge imports into the US threaten to impair national security. Titanium sponge has uses in a wide range of defense applications, for example, helicopter blades, tank armor, and fighter jet airframes and engines.	<a href="#">Department of Commerce: U.S. Department of Commerce Initiates Section 232 Investigation into Titanium Sponge Imports</a>
March 4, 2019	The USTR announced that the US intends to terminate India's and Turkey's designations as beneficiary developing countries under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), a program that provides duty free treatment to eligible goods imported into the US from	<a href="#">USTR: United States Will Terminate GSP Designation of India and Turkey</a>

	designated developing countries. According to the USTR, India's loss of GSP status is due to its failure to assure the US that it will provide equitable and reasonable access to its markets in numerous sectors, while Turkey's termination from the GSP is based on a finding that it is sufficiently economically developed and should no longer benefit from preferential access to the US market. These changes will not take effect until at least 60 days after the Trump Administration notifies Congress and the governments of India and Turkey and will be enacted by a Presidential Proclamation.	
March 25, 2019	The USTR published a Federal Register notice announcing the second set of product exclusions from the Section 301 tariffs on imports from China. The excluded products were originally covered as part of \$34 billion worth of Chinese goods that were made subject to a 25 percent tariff effective July 6, 2018. The exclusions, which were granted based on 87 separate requests, are retroactive to July 6, 2018, extend for one year from today, and are available for any product that meets the description in the Annex to the Federal Register notice, regardless of whether the importer filed an exclusion request. The USTR will continue to issue determinations on pending exclusion requests on a periodic basis.	<a href="#">USTR: Notice of Product Exclusions: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
April 8, 2019	Following a ruling last year by the World Trade Organization's Appellate Body upholding the US's challenge to certain European Union subsidies to Airbus, the USTR today released a preliminary list of EU products on which it proposes to impose countermeasures worth approximately \$11 billion per year. The US believes this figure is commensurate with the adverse effects caused by the EU subsidies. The EU has challenged this estimate and a WTO arbitrator is expected to issue a decision this summer regarding the amount. The USTR will announce a final product list after the arbitrator issues its report. The USTR will hold a public hearing regarding the proposed retaliation on May 15, 2019, and will accept written comments, including post-hearing rebuttal comments, until May 28, 2019.	<a href="#">USTR: USTR Proposes Products for Tariff Countermeasures in Response to Harm Caused by EU Aircraft Subsidies</a>
April 9, 2019	The USTR announced the successful resolution of the first-ever consultations under the Environment Chapter of the US-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement (PTPA), resolving US allegations that Peru violated certain obligations under the PTPA. Peru agreed to annul certain action that violated its obligations relating to illegal logging. Congressional Democrats view the enforcement mechanisms in the PTPA's forestry annex as a possible model for ensuring Mexico's enforcement of labor rights under the United-States-Mexico Canada Agreement, which Congress is expected to vote on this year.	<a href="#">USTR: USTR Successfully Resolves Concerns Raised in First-Ever Environment Consultations Under the U.S.-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement (PTPA)</a>
April 14, 2019	The US Commerce Department submitted to President Trump a report of Commerce's findings in its investigation into the effect of imports of uranium on US national security. The report, issued under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, was not released to the public. President Trump has 90 days to decide whether to take action. US uranium producers seek the imposition of a quota reserving 25 percent of the domestic market for US producers and a requirement that US government agencies use only domestically produced uranium.	<a href="#">U.S. Agency Submits Uranium Import Probe to White House, Reuters, Apr. 15, 2019</a>
April 15, 2019	The European Union approved negotiating mandates for trade discussions with the US to eliminate tariffs on industrial goods (but not on agricultural products) and remove non-tariff barriers to make it easier for companies to prove their products meet technical requirements both in the EU and the US. The directives state that the EU (1) will suspend negotiations if the US imposes new measures against the EU under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (for example, additional tariffs on automobiles), (2) may suspend negotiations if the US adopts trade restrictions against EU exports under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 or a similar law, and (3) will require that the US has removed the Section 232 tariffs on EU-origin steel and aluminum before concluding the negotiations.	<a href="#">European Council: Trade with the United States: Council Authorises Negotiations on Elimination of Tariffs for Industrial Goods and on Conformity Assessment</a>
April 16, 2019	US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Japan's Economic Revitalization Minister Toshimitsu Motegi concluded two days of talks in Washington, DC to open negotiations on a new bilateral trade pact, the United States-Japan Trade Agreement.	<a href="#">USTR: Statement from USTR on Meetings to Discuss the United States-Japan Trade Agreement</a>
April 17,	Following a ruling last month by the World Trade Organization's Appellate Body that US	<a href="#">European Commission: WTO Boeing</a>

2019	subsidies to Boeing continue to harm Airbus, the European Union issued a preliminary list of US products on which the EU may impose retaliatory tariffs. The EU will consider comments on the proposed list submitted by May 31, 2019. In 2012, at an earlier stage of this dispute, the EU requested the WTO to authorize up to \$12 billion worth of countermeasures, equivalent to the EU's estimate of damage caused to Airbus by the subsidies to Boeing. A WTO arbitrator will determine the extent of allowable countermeasures, after which the EU intends to draw up a final list of US products.	<a href="#">Dispute: EU Issues Preliminary List of U.S. Products Considered for Countermeasures</a>
April 18, 2019	The USTR published a Federal Register notice announcing the third set of product exclusions from the Section 301 tariffs on imports from China. The excluded products were originally covered as part of \$34 billion worth of Chinese goods that were made subject to a 25 percent tariff effective July 6, 2018. The exclusions, which were granted based on 348 separate requests, are retroactive to July 6, 2018, extend for one year from today, and are available for any product that meets the description in the Annex to the Federal Register notice, regardless of whether the importer filed an exclusion request. The USTR will continue to issue determinations on pending exclusion requests on a periodic basis.	<a href="#">USTR: Notice of Product Exclusions: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
April 18, 2019	The US International Trade Commission released its report assessing the likely impact of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, which Congress is expected to vote on this year.	<a href="#">ITC: USITC Releases Report Concerning the Likely Impact of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)</a>
April 25, 2019	The US Trade Representative released the annual Special 301 Report on the adequacy and effectiveness of US trading partners' protection of intellectual property (IP) rights. The report includes a Notorious Markets List that highlights online and physical markets that reportedly engage in and facilitate substantial copyright piracy and trademark counterfeiting. Countries presenting the most significant concerns are placed on either a Priority Watch List or a Watch List, to be subject to increased bilateral engagement with the USTR to address IP concerns. For countries that have been on the Priority Watch List for multiple years and fail to address US concerns, the USTR may pursue enforcement actions under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 or pursuant to World Trade Organization or other trade agreement dispute settlement procedures.	<a href="#">USTR: USTR Releases Annual Special 301 Report on Intellectual Property Protection and Review of Notorious Markets for Piracy and Counterfeiting</a>
May 8, 2019	At the direction of President Trump and citing a lack of progress in negotiations with China, the US Trade Representative released a notice announcing that, effective May 10, 2019, Section 301 tariffs on products of China with an annual trade value of approximately \$200 billion will increase from ten percent to 25 percent. According to the notice, the new rate applies to goods (1) entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 12:01 a.m. eastern daylight time on May 10, 2019, and (2) exported to the US on or after May 10, 2019. The USTR also announced that it will issue a separate notice setting out a process for interested parties to request the exclusion of particular products from these tariffs or submit oppositions to exclusion requests.	<a href="#">USTR: Notice of Modification of Section 301 Action: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
May 9, 2019	The US Trade Representative announced the fourth set of product exclusions from the Section 301 tariffs on imports from China. The excluded products were originally covered as part of \$34 billion worth of Chinese goods that were made subject to a 25 percent tariff effective July 6, 2018. The exclusions, which were granted based on approximately 515 separate requests, are retroactive to July 6, 2018, extend for one year after notice of the exclusions is published in the Federal Register (expected soon), and are available for any product that meets the description in the Annex to the USTR's notice, regardless of whether the importer filed an exclusion request. The USTR will continue to issue determinations on pending exclusion requests on a periodic basis.	<a href="#">USTR: Notice of Product Exclusions: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
May 10, 2019	The US Trade Representative and US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued updated guidance concerning the Section 301 rate increase that was announced on May 8, 2019 and took effect today with respect to Chinese-origin goods covered by the third round of tariffs imposed in September 2018. The USTR and CBP indicated that for goods exported to the US before today to be subject to the ten percent rate rather than the 25 percent rate, the goods	<a href="#">USTR: Implementing Modification to Section 301 Action: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property,</a>

	must be entered for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, before June 1, 2019. If those goods are entered into the US on or after June 1, 2019, they will be subject to the 25 percent rate.	<a href="#">and Innovation; CBP: Cargo Systems Messaging Service: CSMS #19-000238</a>
May 13, 2019	The US Trade Representative released a list of Chinese-origin products with an annual trade value of approximately \$300 billion on which the US proposes to impose Section 301 tariffs of up to 25 percent. The proposed list covers essentially all remaining imports from China that are not already subject to Section 301 tariffs. Interested parties may request to appear at a public hearing to be convened in Washington, DC on June 17, 2019. Requests to appear and a summary of expected testimony must be filed by June 10. Written comments are due by June 17 and post-hearing rebuttal comments are due seven days after the last day of the hearing.	<a href="#">USTR: Request for Comments Concerning Proposed Modification of Action Pursuant to Section 301: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
May 15, 2019	President Trump signed an executive order prohibiting the acquisition, importation, transfer, installation, dealing in, or use of information and communications technology or services (ICT) if the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with other department and agency heads, determines the transaction (1) involves ICT that is designed, developed, manufactured, or supplied by persons owned, controlled by, or subject to the jurisdiction or direction of a foreign adversary, and (2) poses either (a) an undue risk of sabotage to or subversion of ICT in the US, (b) an undue risk of catastrophic effects on the security or resiliency of US critical infrastructure or the digital economy of the US, or (c) otherwise poses an unacceptable risk to US national security.	<a href="#">Executive Office of the President: Securing the Information and Communications Technology and Services Supply Chain</a>
May 16, 2019	President Trump issued a proclamation announcing that based on its level of economic development, Turkey's designation as a beneficiary developing country under the Generalized System of Preferences, a program providing duty free treatment to eligible goods from certain developing countries, is terminated effective May 17, 2019.	<a href="#">The White House: Proclamation to Modify the List of Beneficiary Developing Countries Under the Trade Act of 1974</a>
May 16, 2019	President Trump issued a proclamation announcing that, effective May 21, 2019, the tariff imposed on steel imports from Turkey under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 is reduced from 50 percent to 25 percent. The tariff was previously raised from 25 percent to 50 percent on August 13, 2018.	<a href="#">The White House: Proclamation on Adjusting Imports of Steel into the United States</a>
May 17, 2019	President Trump issued a proclamation announcing that (1) the US Commerce Department determined, under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, that imports of automobiles and certain automobile parts into the US threaten to impair national security, and (2) he has directed the US Trade Representative to pursue negotiations for 180 days with the European Union, Japan, and any other country the USTR deems appropriate to address the threatened impairment of national security. After the 180-day period, the President will assess whether to take further action, which could include new tariffs or quotas on imports of autos and auto parts.	<a href="#">The White House: Proclamation on Adjusting Imports of Automobiles and Automobile Parts into the United States</a>
May 17, 2019	The US, Canada, and Mexico announced that the US has agreed to remove all tariffs imposed under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 on imports of steel and aluminum products from Canada and Mexico, and that Canada and Mexico have agreed to remove all their retaliatory tariffs on US goods. The three countries also agreed to terminate all pending litigation in the World Trade Organization regarding the Section 232 action and to implement measures to prevent surges in imports of steel or aluminum products beyond historic volumes of trade.	<a href="#">USTR: United States Announces Deal with Canada and Mexico to Lift Retaliatory Tariffs; Global Affairs Canada: Joint Statement by Canada and the United States on Section 232 Duties on Steel and Aluminum; and Presidency of the Republic: Agreement Between the United States and Mexico on Section 232 Tariffs on Steel and Aluminum</a>
May 28, 2019	The International Trade Administration (ITA) of the US Department of Commerce published a proposed rule under which a foreign government's manipulation and undervaluation of its currency relative to the dollar could be considered an export subsidy subject to the imposition of countervailing duties. Comments on the proposed rule are due by June 27, 2019.	<a href="#">ITA: Modification of Regulations Regarding Benefit and Specificity in Countervailing Duty Proceedings</a>



May 28, 2019	The US Treasury Department belatedly released its semiannual report on the foreign exchange policies of major US trading partners to Congress. Treasury again declined to label China or any other major US trading partner as a currency manipulator. China, Germany, Japan, and South Korea remain on a monitoring list of major trading partners whose currency policies were found to warrant close attention. Italy, Ireland, Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam, whose currency policies were examined as part of an expanded group of countries reviewed by Treasury, were also placed on the monitoring list. India and Switzerland were removed from the monitoring list.	<a href="#">Department of the Treasury: Macroeconomic and Foreign Exchange Policies of Major Trading Partners of the United States</a>
May 30, 2019	Invoking the International Emergency Economic Powers Act as authority, President Trump announced that starting June 10, 2019, a five percent tariff will be imposed on all imports from Mexico, which will increase to ten percent on July 1, 2019, 15 percent on August 1, 2019, 20 percent on September 1, 2019, and 25 percent on October 1, 2019, unless the government of Mexico takes effective actions to curb the flow of migrants into the US.	<a href="#">The White House: Statement from the President Regarding Emergency Measures to Address the Border Crisis</a>
May 30, 2019	The US Trade Representative submitted to Congress a draft Statement of Administrative Action (SAA) to implement the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). Submission of the draft SAA is a procedural requirement in the USMCA ratification process, which also requires the Administration's submission of a final SAA, implementing legislation, and the final, binding USMCA text for Congress's consideration.	<a href="#">USTR: Letter Regarding Draft Statement of Administrative Action</a>
May 30, 2019	The US Trade Representative released the fifth set of product exclusions from the Section 301 tariffs on imports from China. The excluded products were originally covered as part of \$34 billion worth of Chinese goods that were made subject to a 25 percent tariff effective July 6, 2018. The exclusions, which were granted based on approximately 464 separate requests, are retroactive to July 6, 2018, extend for one year after notice of the exclusions is published in the Federal Register (expected on June 4, 2019), and are available for any product that meets the description in the Annex to the USTR's notice, regardless of whether the importer filed an exclusion request. The USTR will continue to issue determinations on pending exclusion requests on a periodic basis.	<a href="#">USTR: Notice of Product Exclusions: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
May 31, 2019	The Office of the US Trade Representative announced that it is extending the deadline for certain Chinese-origin goods to enter the US before they will be subject to the higher Section 301 tariff rate announced on May 8, 2019. Covered products exported to the US before May 10, 2019 will remain subject to the ten percent rate, rather than the 25 percent rate, if entered into the US before June 15, 2019. The original entry deadline for these goods to avoid the increase to 25 percent was June 1, 2019.	<a href="#">USTR: Notice Regarding Application of Section 301 Action</a>
May 31, 2019	President Trump issued a proclamation announcing that because India has not assured the US that it will provide equitable and reasonable access to its markets, India's designation as a beneficiary developing country under the Generalized System of Preferences, a program providing duty free treatment to eligible goods from certain developing countries, is terminated effective June 5, 2019.	<a href="#">The White House: Proclamation to Modify the List of Beneficiary Developing Countries Under the Trade Act of 1974</a>
June 7, 2019	President Trump announced in a tweet that Mexico has agreed to certain measures to curb the flow of migrants into the US and, as a result, the tariffs on imports from Mexico that were scheduled to be implemented on June 10, 2019 have been suspended indefinitely.	<a href="#">Trump Calls Off Tariffs After Mexico Vows to Tighten Borders, Reuters, June 7, 2019; Department of State: U.S.-Mexico Joint Declaration</a>
June 13, 2019	The US Trade Representative published a Federal Register notice announcing that, effective today, certain solar products listed in the Annex to the notice are being excluded from the safeguard measure imposed on imported solar products under Section 201 of the Trade Act of 1974. This is the second set of exclusions (the first set was announced on September 19 of last year). The USTR has completed its review of pending exclusion requests and is not entertaining additional requests at this time. The USTR will monitor developments in the US solar products market and, if warranted, will provide an opportunity for companies to submit additional exclusion requests at a future date.	<a href="#">USTR: Exclusion of Particular Products From the Solar Products Safeguard Measure</a>

June 19, 2019	Mexico became the first country to ratify the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) when Mexico's Senate approved the pact today. The US Congress and Canadian Parliament also must ratify the USMCA for it to take effect and replace the North American Free Trade Agreement.	<a href="#">USTR: USTR Robert Lighthizer: USMCA Ratification by Mexico 'Crucial Step Forward'</a>
June 19, 2019	The US Trade Representative announced procedures (including information requirements) for interested parties to request product exclusions from the third tranche of Section 301 tariffs on imports from China that took effect on September 24, 2018. Those tariffs were imposed on \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods, initially at the rate of ten percent and subsequently raised to 25 percent. The USTR will open an online portal for submission of exclusion requests on June 30, 2019 at noon EDT. The deadline for submitting exclusion requests is September 30, 2019.	<a href="#">USTR: Procedures for Requests to Exclude Particular Products from the September 2018 Action Pursuant to Section 301: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
June 29, 2019	After meeting with President Xi of China on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Osaka, Japan, President Trump announced that trade negotiations with China are resuming and the proposed Section 301 tariffs on \$300 billion worth of Chinese goods, first announced on May 13, 2019, have been put on hold. No timeline for the negotiations was provided.	<a href="#">The White House: Remarks by President Trump in Press Conference   Osaka, Japan</a>
July 1, 2019	The US Trade Representative released a supplemental list of products imported from the European Union that may potentially be subject to additional duties in response to EU subsidies to Airbus. This list adds to the initial proposed list of products released in April of this year. The USTR will convene a public hearing regarding the proposed supplemental product list on August 5, 2019. Requests to appear at the hearing and a summary of testimony are due by July 24, written comments are due by August 5, and post-hearing rebuttal comments are due by August 12. A final list of products to be subject to additional duties may be drawn from both the initial and supplemental lists and will take into account a World Trade Organization arbitrator's report on the appropriate level of retaliatory duties.	<a href="#">USTR: USTR Proposes Additional Products for Tariff Countermeasures in Response to Harm Caused by EU Aircraft Subsidies</a>
July 9, 2019	The US Trade Representative published the sixth set of product exclusions from the Section 301 tariffs on imports from China. The excluded products were originally covered as part of \$34 billion worth of Chinese goods that were made subject to a 25 percent tariff effective July 6, 2018. The exclusions, which were granted based on 362 separate requests, are retroactive to July 6, 2018, extend for one year from today, and are available for any product that meets the description in the Annex to the USTR's Federal Register notice, regardless of whether the importer filed an exclusion request. The USTR will continue to issue determinations on pending exclusion requests on a periodic basis.	<a href="#">USTR: Notice of Product Exclusions: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
July 10, 2019	The US Trade Representative initiated an investigation under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 to determine if France's Digital Services Tax (DST) is discriminatory or unreasonable and burdens or restricts US commerce. The DST is to be imposed on revenues that certain companies generate from providing certain digital services to, or aimed at, French users. If the USTR makes an affirmative determination, it could result in retaliatory US tariffs or other restrictions on imports from France. The USTR will convene a public hearing in Washington, DC on August 19, 2019. Requests to appear at the hearing and a written version of expected testimony are due by August 12 at noon EDT, written comments are due by August 19 at noon EDT, and post-hearing submissions are due by August 26.	<a href="#">USTR: USTR Announces Initiation of Section 301 Investigation into France's Digital Services Tax</a>
July 12, 2019	The White House released a Presidential Memorandum announcing that President Trump has concluded that, contrary to the Commerce Department's findings, imports of uranium into the US do not threaten to impair national security as defined under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962. Accordingly, the President did not impose any restrictions under Section 232 on uranium imports. The President called for a fuller analysis of national security considerations with respect to the entire nuclear fuel supply chain. In addition, to address the concerns identified by the Commerce Department regarding domestic uranium production, the President ordered the establishment of a United States Nuclear Fuel Working Group to develop recommendations for reviving and expanding domestic nuclear fuel production. The working group is to report its findings and recommendations to the President within 90 days.	<a href="#">The White House: Memorandum on the Effect of Uranium Imports on the National Security and Establishment of the United States Nuclear Fuel Working Group</a>

July 31, 2019	The US Trade Representative published the first set of product exclusions from the second tranche of Section 301 tariffs on imports from China. The excluded products were originally covered as part of \$16 billion worth of Chinese goods that were made subject to a 25 percent tariff effective August 23, 2018. The exclusions, which were granted based on 292 separate requests, are retroactive to August 23, 2018, extend for one year from today, and are available for any product that meets the description in the Annex to the USTR's Federal Register notice, regardless of whether the importer filed an exclusion request. The USTR will continue to periodically issue decisions on pending exclusion requests.	<a href="#">USTR: Notice of Product Exclusions: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
August 1, 2019	President Trump announced in a tweet that starting on September 1, 2019, the US will impose a ten percent tariff on an additional \$300 billion worth of Chinese products, comprising virtually all remaining imports from China not already subject to tariffs under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974. The US Trade Representative is expected to publish a notice in the Federal Register shortly, formally implementing these tariffs and setting out a list of affected tariff codes.	<a href="#">Trump: U.S. Will Hit \$300 Billion Worth of Chinese Goods with 10% Tariff, Reuters, Aug. 1, 2019</a>
August 2, 2019	The US Trade Representative published the first set of product exclusions from the third tranche of Section 301 tariffs on imports from China. The excluded products were originally covered as part of \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods that were made subject to a 10 percent tariff effective September 24, 2018, which increased to 25 percent on May 10, 2019 (the \$200 billion action). The exclusions, which were granted based on 15 separate requests, are retroactive to September 24, 2018, extend for one year after notice of the exclusions is published in the Federal Register (expected in several days), and are available for any product that meets the description in the Annex to the USTR's Federal Register notice, regardless of whether the importer filed an exclusion request. The USTR will continue to periodically issue decisions on pending exclusion requests. Exclusion requests for goods subject to the \$200 billion action may be filed through September 30, 2019.	<a href="#">USTR: Notice of Product Exclusions: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
August 5, 2019	US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin announced that the Treasury Department has designated China as a currency manipulator. This determination followed a decision by the People's Bank of China to let China's currency, the renminbi (also known as the yuan) fall to an exchange rate of seven yuan to the US dollar, the yuan's lowest level in more than ten years. The Treasury Department stated that the US will engage with the International Monetary Fund to eliminate the unfair competitive advantage created by China's action.	<a href="#">Department of the Treasury: Treasury Designates China as a Currency Manipulator</a>
August 13, 2019	The US Trade Representative announced that a ten percent Section 301 tariff on \$300 billion worth of Chinese products will go into effect on September 1, 2019, as announced by President Trump on August 1, but will be delayed until December 15, 2019 for certain articles. The tariff on products on "List 4A" included in the USTR's press release will go into effect on September 1, while the tariff on products on "List 4B" will go into effect on December 15. The USTR intends to conduct a product exclusion process and will publish a Federal Register notice with additional details as soon as possible.	<a href="#">USTR: USTR Announces Next Steps on Proposed 10 Percent Tariff on Imports from China</a>
August 23, 2019	President Trump ordered the US Trade Representative to increase the 25 percent Section 301 tariff currently in effect for \$250 billion worth of Chinese goods to 30 percent effective October 1, 2019, and to increase, from ten percent to 15 percent, the tariff scheduled to go into effect for an additional \$300 billion worth of Chinese goods on September 1 and December 15, 2019. This action followed China's announcement earlier in the day that it would impose another round of retaliatory tariffs on US goods.	<a href="#">USTR: USTR Statement on Section 301 Tariff Action Regarding China</a>
August 30, 2019	The US Trade Representative published a notice in the Federal Register formally implementing a 15 percent Section 301 tariff on \$300 billion worth of Chinese goods, effective September 1, 2019 and December 15, 2019.	<a href="#">USTR: Notice of Modification of Section 301 Action: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
September	The US Trade Representative published a notice in the Federal Register proposing to	<a href="#">USTR: Request for Comments</a>



3, 2019	increase, from 25 percent to 30 percent, the Section 301 tariff in place on \$250 billion worth of Chinese products. The proposed increase would take effect on October 1, 2019. Interested parties may submit written comments on the proposed action by September 20, 2019.	<a href="#">Concerning Proposed Modification of Action Pursuant to Section 301: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
September 11, 2019	President Trump announced that the proposed increase in the Section 301 tariff on \$250 billion worth of Chinese goods, from 25 percent to 30 percent, will take effect on October 15, 2019, rather than on October 1, 2019, as was originally scheduled. The USTR has invited interested parties to submit comments on the proposed increase by September 20.	<a href="#">Trump: U.S. Agrees to Delay Tariff Hike on Some Chinese Goods by Two Weeks, Reuters, Sept. 11, 2019</a>
September 16, 2019	President Trump formally notified Congress that in the coming weeks, the US intends to enter into a limited trade agreement with Japan regarding certain tariff barriers. The President also announced his intention to enter into an Executive Agreement with Japan regarding digital trade. Further negotiations with Japan will take place with the goal of achieving a comprehensive trade agreement between the two countries.	<a href="#">The White House: Presidential Message to Congress Regarding the Notification of Initiation of United States–Japan Trade Agreement</a>
September 17, 2019	The US Trade Representative issued three notices announcing (1) the seventh set of product exclusions from the first tranche of Section 301 tariffs on approximately \$34 billion worth of Chinese imports, (2) the second set of exclusions from the second tranche of Section 301 tariffs on approximately \$16 billion worth of Chinese imports, and (3) the second set of exclusions from the third tranche of Section 301 tariffs on approximately \$200 billion worth of Chinese imports. The exclusions from the first and second tranches of tariffs are retroactive to July 6, 2018, and August 23, 2018, respectively, and extend for one year after publication of the applicable notice in the Federal Register (expected on September 20, 2019). The exclusions from the third tranche of tariffs are retroactive to September 24, 2018, and extend to August 7, 2020. The exclusions are available for any product that meets the description in the Annex to the applicable notice, regardless of whether the importer filed an exclusion request. The USTR will continue to periodically issue decisions on pending exclusion requests.	<a href="#">USTR: Notice of Product Exclusions: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation; Notice of Product Exclusions: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation; and Notice of Product Exclusions, Amendment to the Exclusion Process, and Technical Amendments: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
September 25, 2019	The US and Japan finalized two trade agreements, one addressing market access for certain agricultural and industrial goods, and the other addressing digital trade. The two countries will continue negotiations aimed at reaching a comprehensive agreement that addresses remaining tariff and non-tariff trade barriers.	<a href="#">The White House: Joint Statement of the United States and Japan; USTR: Fact Sheets: U.S.-Japan Trade Agreement and Agriculture-Related Provisions of the U.S.-Japan Trade Agreement</a>
September 27, 2019	The US Trade Representative issued two notices announcing (1) the eighth set of product exclusions from the first tranche of Section 301 tariffs on approximately \$34 billion worth of Chinese imports, and (2) the third set of exclusions from the second tranche of Section 301 tariffs on approximately \$16 billion worth of Chinese imports. The exclusions from the first and second tranches of tariffs are retroactive to July 6, 2018, and August 23, 2018, respectively, and extend for one year after publication of the applicable notice in the Federal Register (scheduled for October 2, 2019). The exclusions are available for any product that meets the description in the Annex to the applicable notice, regardless of whether the importer filed an exclusion request. The USTR will continue to periodically issue decisions on pending exclusion requests.	<a href="#">USTR: Notice of Product Exclusions and Amendments: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation and Notice of Product Exclusions: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
October 2, 2019	A World Trade Organization arbitrator determined that, in response to European Union subsidies to Airbus, the US may impose up to \$7.5 billion in countermeasures annually against the EU and certain of its member states. On April 8 and July 1 of this year, the USTR released two preliminary lists of products that could be targeted for retaliatory duties. The USTR is expected to issue a final list of products and retaliatory duty rates in the near future.	<a href="#">WTO: Arbitrator Issues Decision in Airbus Subsidy Dispute</a>
October 2, 2019	The US Trade Representative announced that, based on the World Trade Organization's arbitration award in the airbus subsidy dispute issued earlier in the day, the US intends to impose tariffs of ten percent on large civil aircraft produced in France, Germany, Spain, or the	<a href="#">USTR: U.S. Wins \$7.5 Billion Award in Airbus Subsidies Case</a>

	United Kingdom, and 25 percent on certain agricultural and other products from these and other EU member states, effective October 18, 2019.	
October 11, 2019	President Trump announced that the scheduled increase in Section 301 tariffs on approximately \$250 billion worth of Chinese goods, which were to set to increase from 25 percent to 30 percent on October 15, 2019, is being suspended pending finalization of "Phase One" of a trade agreement with China. The President stated that he and President Xi of China could sign the Phase One agreement in mid-November at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Santiago, Chile, if details of the agreement are finalized by that time.	<a href="#">The White House: Remarks by President Trump and Vice Premier Liu He of the People's Republic of China in a Meeting and U.S. Outlines "Phase 1 Trade Deal with China, Suspends October Tariff, Reuters, Octo. 11, 2019</a>
October 11, 2019	The US International Trade Commission (ITC) published a notice inviting companies to file petitions for temporary duty suspensions or reductions for imported products that generally are not produced in the US and for which the estimated revenue loss resulting from duty relief for a given product would not exceed \$500,000. Petitions must be filed by December 10, 2019. Next year, the ITC will report its recommendations to Congress, which may approve duty relief as part of a Miscellaneous Tariff Bill (MTB). If signed into law, the MTB may provide duty relief from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2024. Duty relief would apply only to "most favored nation" duties and not to other duties such as Section 301 tariffs on imports from China. The previous MTB, signed into law by President Trump in September 2018, suspended or reduced duties on approximately 1,700 imported products through December 31, 2020.	<a href="#">ITC: Request for Petitions for Duty Suspensions and Reductions</a>
October 14, 2019	President Trump announced that tariffs on steel from Turkey will be increased to 50 percent in response to Turkey's military advance into Syria. The tariffs, imposed under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, were originally set at 25 percent in March 2018, increased to 50 percent in August 2018, and then lowered back to 25 percent in May of this year. In addition to the tariff increase, the President announced that the US is ceasing bilateral trade negotiations with Turkey and imposing certain economic and trade sanctions.	<a href="#">The White House: Statement from President Donald J. Trump Regarding Turkey's Actions in Northeast Syria</a>
October 18, 2019	The US Trade Representative announced procedures (including information requirements) for interested parties to request product exclusions from the fourth tranche of Section 301 tariffs on imports from China that went into effect on September 1, 2019, at the rate of 15 percent. Exclusion requests may be submitted using the USTR's online portal starting on October 31, 2019 at noon EDT. The deadline for submitting exclusion requests is January 31, 2020.	<a href="#">USTR: Procedures for Requests to Exclude Particular Products from the August 2019 Action Pursuant to Section 301: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
October 23, 2019	President Trump announced the lifting of US sanctions against Turkey following Turkey's agreement to a ceasefire in northern Syria. As a result, Section 232 tariffs on steel from Turkey will revert to 25 percent. The President noted that if Turkey fails to honor its obligations, including the protection of religious and ethnic minorities, the US reserves the right to reimpose sanctions, including substantially increased tariffs on steel and other products from Turkey.	<a href="#">The White House: Remarks by President Trump on the Situation in Northern Syria</a>
October 23, 2019	The US Trade Representative published additional product exclusions from the third tranche of Section 301 tariffs on imports from China. The excluded products were originally covered as part of \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods that were made subject to a 10 percent tariff effective September 24, 2018, which increased to 25 percent on May 10, 2019. The exclusions, which were granted based on 95 separate requests, are retroactive to September 24, 2018, extend until August 7, 2020, and are available for any product that meets the description in the Annex to the USTR's notice, regardless of whether the importer filed an exclusion request. The USTR will continue to periodically issue decisions on pending exclusion requests.	<a href="#">USTR: Notice of Product Exclusions: China's Acts, Policies, and Practices Related to Technology Transfer, Intellectual Property, and Innovation</a>
October 28, 2019	The Office of the US Trade Representative announced that it is accepting written comments on whether to extend, for up to 12 months, particular product exclusions from the first tranche of Section 301 tariffs on imports from China. The product exclusions in question comprised the initial set of exclusions granted in December 2018, and are set to expire on December 28, 2019. Interested parties may submit comments from November 1, 2019 (starting at noon EDT)	<a href="#">USTR: USTR to Consider Extending Certain Tariff Exclusions on \$34 Billion of Chinese Imports</a>

through November 30, 2019. The USTR will evaluate possible extensions on a case-by-case basis, focusing on whether the particular product is available only from China. The USTR will also consider whether imposition of Section 301 tariffs on the excluded products would result in severe economic harm to the commenter or other US interests.

#### PRODUCTS

PLC US Commercial Transactions, PLC US Law Department

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