Washington Council EY
Trade Alert

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Trade Lines

Policy Intelligence for Global Business Leaders

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Trade Lines brings you timely updates from DC on global trade and regulatory policy. Curated for business leaders and decision-makers, this newsletter highlights key shifts in trade policy —from tariff shifts and supply chain disruptions to legislative developments and compliance trends. Stay ahead, evaluate impact, and make informed decisions in a rapidly changing environment.

In This Issue

Global Signals

U.S. Trade Representative Greer in India to talk trade deal

This week, U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer participated in multiple rounds of discussions with the Indian Commerce and Industry Minister, Piyush Goyal, in India in an effort to finalize a trade deal reached by the two countries last year. Issues under discussion included market access, supply chain resilience, digital trade, reductions in non-tariff barriers, and enhanced economic cooperation in strategic sectors.

According to a statement by the Indian Ministry of Commerce and Industry, "The visit marked a key step in ongoing efforts to advance a balanced, mutually beneficial India–U.S. Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) and to finalize an interim deal in line with the joint statement of 7 February 2026" and that "substantial progress" was made. Similarly, the U.S. Embassy in India described in an X post that "The United States remains focused on securing a fair, reciprocal trade deal that opens markets for American exporters and delivers benefits to both nations."

The timeline for finalizing the deal is unclear, and USTR has not issued a statement.

USMCA review will begin on July 1 with a trilateral virtual meeting

The United States, Canada, and Mexico are expected to meet virtually on July 1 as part of the Joint Review of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). The parties are not expected to renew the pact for another 16-year term and instead are expected to continue negotiating to address bilateral and trilateral issues.

In the leadup to this statutory deadline, the U.S. and Mexico have conducted two bilateral negotiating rounds in an attempt to address a range of trade irritants and other disputes, with a third round of negotiations expected to take place in July in Mexico City. The U.S. and Canada have not held formal negotiations at this point, although Ambassador Greer and the Canadian Minister for U.S. Trade, Dominic LeBlanc, met on the sidelines of the G7 summit and agreed to speak again in the upcoming weeks.

President Trump told reporters at the White House on June 10 that he is "not looking to renew" USMCA. Notably, the President did not say whether he would withdraw the U.S. from the agreement before its expiration.

European Union implements commitments in US-EU trade framework

On June 25, the Council of the European Union adopted legislation recently approved by the European Parliament enacting commitments agreed to in the U.S.-EU trade framework in July 2025, including the elimination of tariffs on industrial goods and preferential market access on a variety of US agricultural products. The approval of the legislation followed significant deliberation and passage of legislation by the European Parliament last week. Previously, President Trump threatened to raise tariffs on European goods if action was not taken to implement the deal by July 4.

Policy Pulse

CBP Withhold Release Orders on forced labor

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has recently issued several Withhold Release Orders (WRO). On June 23, CBP issued two WROs on garment-manufacturing factories in Jordan for violations of the law prohibiting goods entering the U.S. if made with forced labor (19 U.S.C. § 1307). CBP's Office of Trade Executive Assistant Commissioner said, "These actions mark CBP's fifth and sixth WROs this fiscal year, stopping more goods tied to exploitative labor practices from entering U.S. markets." On June 16, CBP also issued a WRO on copper and copper products manufactured by a company in Serbia for violations of the same forced labor law. Merchandise subject to the WROs will now be detained by CBP at U.S. ports of entry.

CBP indefinitely suspends de minimis treatment

CBP issued two interim final rules on June 23 suspending de minimis treatment for goods worth $800 or less indefinitely. CBP issued an Interim Final Rule on de minimis exemption for mail shipments which takes effect on July 24, 2026, and a second Interim Finale Rule for all other merchandise took effect on June 24. CBP is accepting stakeholder comments on both rules through July 24, 2026.

As a reminder, de minimis privileges are currently suspended under Executive Order 14324, which invoked the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA). There is an ongoing case at the U.S. Court of International Trade (CIT) challenging suspension of the de minimis rules under IEEPA. The new interim final rules invoke a new statutory basis for suspension of the de minimis privilege under 19 U.S.C. 1321. CBP explains in the rules that this authority to create or maintain the de minimis exemption is within the Secretary of Homeland Security's discretion. In other words, CBP is setting up a separate legal basis for the de minimis privilege to remain suspended if the CIT overturns the suspension under IEEPA.

Hill Highlights

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Key Dates

June 26: Deadline for determinations in the Section 232 investigations into drones and polysilicon and derivative products, as well as unmanned aircraft systems and their parts and components.

July 1: On six-year anniversary of entry into force, the USMCA joint review takes place.

July 1: Deadline for written comments on USTR's proposed 25% tariffs on Brazilian goods.

July 2: Deadline for written comments on USTR's section 301 investigation into Vietnam IP.

July 6: Deadline for written comments on USTR's proposed tariffs on 60 trading partners in connection with Section 301 investigations into forced labor bans.

July 7: USTR holds a hearing in Section 301 investigations into forced labor import bans.

July 10: Deadline for written comments on USTR's notice on the U.S.-China Board of Trade.

July 17: Deadline for written submissions in the USITC's factfinding investigation concerning China's state support and pricing practices in the biotechnology sector.

July 20: Round 3 negotiations between the U.S. and Mexico take place as part of the USMCA joint review.

July 21: USTR to brief Congress by this date on the negotiating positions of Mexico and Canada.

July 24: The 10% tariff imposed under Section 122 expires.

July 31: Section 232 tariffs on pharmaceuticals take effect for large companies on Annex III.

August 8: Deadline for determinations in the Section 232 investigations into wind turbines.

August 10: Deadline for written comments on USTR's Section 301 investigation into Germany's pharmaceutical pricing practices.

August 26: Deadline for determinations in the Section 232 investigations into PPE, medical consumables, and medical equipment and robotics and industrial machinery.

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