

KING & SPALDING

Trade & Manufacturing Alert



January 2019

Section 301 Update: USTR Grants Exclusion Requests Covering More Than 950 Products

Antoinette Bedros

As we previously [reported](#), in July 2018, the United States Trade Representative (“USTR”) [announced](#) that it was establishing a process by which interested parties could request that their imports from China be excluded from the scope of the tariffs imposed on them under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974. Pursuant to this process, interested persons could submit exclusion requests for the first group of products covered by the Section 301 tariffs until October 9, 2018. [More »](#)

The United States Rejects the European Union’s Proposal To Reform the WTO Dispute Settlement Process

Christopher Hyner

In the most recent meeting of the World Trade Organization’s (“WTO”) General Council, which occurred on December 12, 2018, the United States [rejected](#) the European Union’s (“EU”) [proposal](#) to reform the WTO dispute settlement process. Although the proposal was designed to address on-going concerns of the U.S. about the WTO’s dispute settlement process, the U.S. Ambassador to the WTO, Dennis Shea, stated that it was “hard to see how {the proposal} responds to the concerns raised by the United States.” [More »](#)

The Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership Goes Into Effect Without the United States’ Participation

Clint Long

On December 30, 2018, the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) entered into effect for six of the eleven signatory countries. The CPTPP is the successor to the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP); although the United States had originally agreed to join the TPP, the Trump Administration withdrew from the agreement in 2017. [More »](#)

The U.S. and China Make Progress in Trade Talks but Significant Issues Remain

Unresolved

Seth Atkisson

On Wednesday, January 9, 2018, U.S. and Chinese trade officials concluded three days of intensive trade negotiations that were intended to reduce the on-going trade tensions between the United States and China. The talks reportedly saw the two sides moving closer on discrete issues in the energy and agriculture sectors but did not resolve continued disagreements over significant “structural” questions, such as the protection of intellectual property rights. The negotiations mark the first time trade officials have met since the two countries agreed to a temporary “truce” in the trade war between the countries in December 2018. [More »](#)

NEWS OF NOTE

- [The European Union Decides to Impose Definitive Safeguard Measures on Steel Imports](#) – *Manuel Sanchez Miranda* – On January 4, 2018, the EU notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) that it intends to impose definitive safeguard measures on a wide variety of imported steel products. [More »](#)
 - [Congressmen Pascrell, Blumenauer, and Kind Seek Chairmanship of House Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee](#) – *Pat Togni* – As a result of the Democratic takeover of the House of Representatives, several Democratic Congressmen are pursuing the influential post of Chairman of the Trade Subcommittee of the House Ways and Means Committee. [More »](#)
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