

KING & SPALDING

Trade & Manufacturing Alert



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Mexico and the United States Reach Agreement on Immigration Issues, Causing President Trump to Withdraw His Threat to Impose Escalating Tariffs on Imports from Mexico

Antoinette Bedros

Late on Friday, June 7, 2019, the United States and Mexico [announced](#) that they reached an agreement which will require Mexico to take steps to address the issue of illegal immigration at the US.-Mexico border. In a joint statement issued late Friday, the two countries explained that Mexico would take “unprecedented” enforcement steps to “curb irregular migration” at the border, including the deployment of Mexico’s national guard to stop migrants from reaching the United States. According to the joint statement, Mexico also agreed to require some migrants to wait in Mexico while their asylum claims are pending before U.S. immigration authorities. If Mexico’s actions “do not have the expected results,” however, the United States may take additional measures to address the illegal immigration issue. The two countries continue to discuss these issues. [More »](#)

President Trump Imposes Tighter Restrictions on Trade with Cuba, Including Limitations on Travel to Cuba

Seth Atkisson

On Tuesday, June 4, 2019, the Trump administration [announced tighter restrictions](#) on trade with Cuba, which affects, among other things, a popular category of travel to Cuba for U.S. citizens. In the action, the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (“OFAC”) modified its regulations to discontinue the license allowing group people-to-people travel to Cuba. Under the decision, only those U.S. travelers who had previously purchased a

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package for travel to Cuba by June 5, 2019 would be allowed to take advantage of the expired group people-to-people travel license. [More »](#)

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The European Union and the International Chamber of Commerce Work To Bring Blockchain Into The Global Trade Mainstream

Chris Hyner

Blockchain continues to take on an increasingly important role in the mainstream of the global trade community. Recent developments indicate that stakeholders around the world, including governmental and non-governmental bodies, are increasingly looking for ways to integrate the technology into various international trade applications. [More »](#)

The United States Agrees to Suspend National Security Duties on Imports of Steel and Aluminum from Mexico and Canada

Manuel Sanchez-Miranda

On May 17, 2019, the United States [agreed](#) to suspend the Section 232 tariffs that it had imposed on aluminum and steel imports from Mexico and Canada. As a result of the agreements, on May 19, 2019, President Trump issued two proclamations excluding Mexico and Canada from the scope of these tariffs (Presidential Proclamations 9704 ([steel](#)) and 9705 ([aluminum](#))). [More »](#)

NEWS OF NOTE

- [China Pushes Back On Trade As The Countdown To Trump-Xi Meeting Begins In Earnest](#) – *Pat Togni* – On June 2, 2019, the State Council Information Office of The People's Republic of China released a [White Paper](#) entitled China's Position on the China-U.S. Economic and Trade Consultations. The document states that "China does not want a trade war, but it is not afraid of one and it will fight one if necessary." [More »](#)
- [USTR Proposes that A Fourth Group of Chinese Imports Be Subject to Section 301 Tariffs](#) – *Neal J. Reynolds* – On May 15, 2019, the Office of the United States Trade Representative ("USTR") [announced](#) that it was proposing to take further action against imports of various products from China under section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974. Over the

past year, USTR has imposed tariffs under section 301 on three groups of imports from China; these tariffs have covered a wide variety of products. [More »](#)

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