

Washington Tariff & Trade Letter

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[All Eyes on Phones](#)

Huawei's release of a phone called the Mate 60 Pro has the industrial security community atwitter, if we can still use that word. The device boasts a processor fabricated at seven nanometers, a threshold of precision the allied export controls of chipmaking equipment were meant to thwart. [READ MORE](#)

[Kerry Travels to Kenya, Romania](#)

Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry traveled to Kenya and Romania in early September "to advance shared objectives on climate and clean energy," per the State Department.

In Nairobi, Mr. Kerry participated in the Africa Climate Summit, promoting U.S. efforts responding to climate change, while in Bucharest, Mr. Kerry attended the Three Seas Summit, focused on relations between the Adriatic, Baltic and Black Seas. [READ MORE](#)

[VP Harris Participates in East Asian Summit](#)

Vice President Kamala Harris participated in the annual East Asia Summit in Jakarta, Indonesia on Sept. 7, making clear the United States' support of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific.

In Washington, The State Department announced that a US-Association of Southeast Asian Nations Center will be established in Washington through a "public-private partnership." [READ MORE](#)

[Yellen Speaks Before G-20](#)

In a press briefing ahead of the G20 summit, U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet L. Yellen emphasized the administrations efforts to promote development through multilateral development banks (MDBs),

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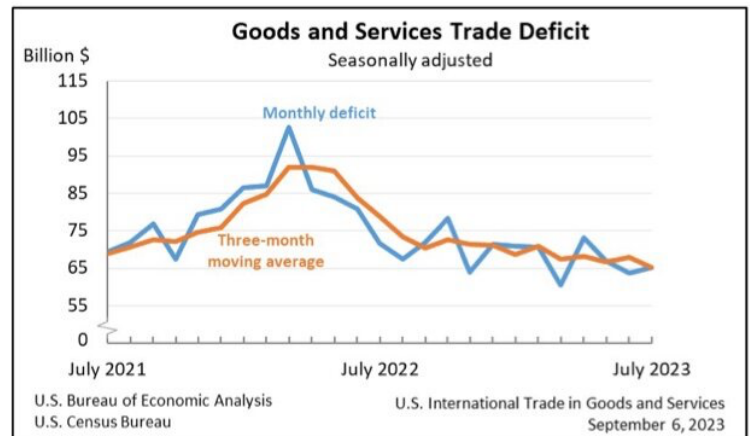
[EXIM: First Loan for Domestic Manufacturing](#)

The US Export-Import Bank Board of Directors has approved the first-ever direct loan to support domestic manufacturing.

The \$4.7 million to Aquatech, a small, minority-owned business based in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, is the first transaction authorized under Exim's Make More in America Initiative. [READ MORE](#)

[July Trade Report](#)

U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS AND SERVICES DEFICIT		
Deficit:	\$65.0 Billion	+2.0%°
Exports:	\$251.7 Billion	+1.6%°
Imports:	\$316.7 Billion	+1.7%°
Next release: Thursday, October 5, 2023		
(*) Statistical significance is not applicable or not measurable. Data adjusted for seasonality but not price changes.		
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis; U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services, September 6, 2023.		



The U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis announced that the goods and services deficit was \$65.0 billion in July, up \$1.3 billion from \$63.7 billion in June, revised.

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[Senate Back in Session, Little Room for Trade](#)

The Senate returned last week from the August Congressional break with a packed agenda that will leave little time for action on pending trade legislation like countering China's unfair trade practices or renewal of the expired Generalized System of Preferences program.

Both Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif) started the year with hopes of putting together a major China trade bill. [READ MORE](#)

[Commerce Mum on Gun Exports, Draws Hill's Fire](#)

A group of Congressional Democrats are raising questions with Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo over her department's failure to release data on its approvals of assault weapons exports.

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[GOP Lawmakers Slam OECD Tax Plan While on European Junket](#)

House Ways and Means Committee Republicans are making sure European officials understand their opposition to an international tax agreement negotiated through the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. At meetings in Paris and Berlin, the Republicans said they will not support the Pillar One and Pillar Two tax agreements. [READ MORE](#)

[India Tech Exports Bill Introduced](#)

Representatives Gregory Meeks, Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and Andy Barr (R-KY), Vice Chair of the House India Caucus, introduced legislation to loosen export restrictions of high-performance computing equipment to India. [READ MORE](#)

[WTO Developing Carbon Framework](#)

World Trade Organization Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala is developing a framework for carbon-pricing in order to further bolster the ongoing carbon border adjustment measures that are likely to be imposed by the European Union early next year while the United States appears to be developing a framework for imposing carbon duties, our correspondent has learned.

Several members are expressing concern that instead of focusing on the core mandated and unresolved issues from the previous ministerial meetings, including the Doha Development Agenda, the DG appears to be frittering away the limited resources of the Secretariat on developing the carbon-pricing framework, an issue that has not been formally mandated by members or by trade ministers at any previous meeting, said several Secretariat insiders who asked not to be identified. [READ MORE](#)

[WTO: US-India Spat Resolved](#)

The United States and India announced Friday they have agreed to settle their last outstanding dispute at the World Trade Organization, dealing with India's ban on US poultry due to concerns about Avian Influenza.

The announcement follows a meeting between President Biden and Indian Prime Minister Modi in New Delhi. [READ MORE](#)

[WTO: Chair Issues Draft Fisheries Text](#)

World Trade Organization Doha fisheries subsidies negotiations Chair Ambassador Einar Gunnarsson of Iceland has issued a draft text on the "disciplines on subsidies contributing to overcapacity and overfishing" pillar for upcoming negotiations in the fall, WTD has learned.

The five-page restricted room document (RD/TN/RL/174) issued on Monday and seen by our correspondent, appears to contain asymmetries in the provision of carveouts to big subsidizers who contributed to the problem of global depletion of fish stocks on the one side, and special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries on the other, said people familiar with the text. [READ MORE](#)

[WTO: New Zealand Joins Fisheries Deal](#)

New Zealand is the latest country to deposited its instrument of acceptance of the World Trade Organization Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, making it the first country from the Oceania region to join.

With New Zealand's acceptance, the WTO has received nearly 40 percent of the acceptances needed for the Fisheries Agreement to enter into force. Two-thirds of WTO members must accept the Agreement before it can come into effect. [READ MORE](#)

[Report: US EU Steel Talks Stuck](#)

U.S.-EU talks on a 'green steel' trade deal are stalling, with a critical October 31 deadline approaching, Reuters reports. Central to the dispute are differing strategies to address carbon emissions and excess production, largely targeting China's steel industry dominance.

Bloomberg reports The US and European Union continue work on an agreement that would introduce new tariffs aimed at excess steel production from China and other countries, as well as put behind them a Trump-era trade conflict. [READ MORE](#)

[USTR Significant Barriers \(NTE\) Report Call for Comments](#)

The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR), through the Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC), publishes the National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers (NTE Report) each year.

USTR invites comments to assist it and the TPSC in identifying significant foreign barriers to, or distortions of, U.S. exports of goods and services, U.S. foreign direct investment, and U.S. electronic commerce for inclusion in the NTE Report. [READ MORE](#)

[EU Trade Defense Report](#)

The 2022 report on the EU's trade defence activities, was published this week. It shows that the European Commission has continued to be active and assertive in defending EU producers against unfair ... [READ MORE](#)

[USTR: China Tariff Exclusions Stand](#)

The US Trade Representative's Office announced it is extending 352 reinstated exclusions and 77 Covid-related exclusions to the Section 301 tariffs on Chinese products while it continues its four-year review of the tariffs.

The tariff exclusions are being extended until December 31. They were previously set to expire September 30. [READ MORE](#)

[AD/CVD Investigations, Orders, or Reviews:](#)

Antidumping or Countervailing Duty Investigations, Orders, or Reviews:

Frozen Fish Fillets from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Passenger Vehicle and Light Truck Tires from the People's Republic of China

Softwood Lumber Products from Canada

Finished Carbon Steel Flanges from India

Large Diameter Welded Pipe from the Republic of Turkey

Magnesium Metal from the People's Republic of China

Seamless Carbon and Alloy Steel Standard, Line, and Pressure Pipe from Ukraine

Utility Scale Wind Towers from Indonesia

Metal Lockers and Parts Thereof from the People's Republic of China

Stainless Steel Bar from India [READ MORE](#)

[AD/CVD Investigations, Orders, or Reviews:](#)

Stainless Steel Bar from India

Ripe Olives from Spain

Polyethylene Retail Carrier Bags from Malaysia

Light-Walled Rectangular Pipe and Tube from Mexico

Pea Protein from the People's Republic of China

Metal Lockers and Parts Thereof from the People's Republic of China

Cut-to-Length Carbon-Quality Steel Plate from India, Indonesia, and the Republic of Korea

Crystalline Silicon Photovoltaic Products from the People's Republic of China [READ MORE](#)

[Justice: DEA review of Controlled Substance Trade Regs.](#)

The Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Agency, requests comments from the trade community impacted by the following regulations on Controlled Substance import and export: [READ MORE](#)

[Russian Elites, Proxies, and Oligarchs \(REPO\) Deputies Tackle Forfeitures](#)

Deputies of the REPO Task Force met in Washington to enhance sanctions enforcement efforts and bolster ongoing oligarch asset forfeiture initiatives.

Participants from Australia, Canada, ... [READ MORE](#)

[Strategy on Countering Corruption Unveiled](#)

The recently unveiled United States Strategy on Countering Corruption delineates an ambitious approach to address corruption through a series of well-defined measures. This initiative, detailed under five distinct pillars, seeks to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of existing government frameworks, both within and outside U.S. borders.

To curb corruption and its deleterious effects, the U.S. Government will organize its efforts around five mutually reinforcing pillars of work:

1. • Modernizing, coordinating, and resourcing U.S. Government efforts to fight corruption; •
2. Curbing illicit finance;
3. Holding corrupt actors accountable;
4. Preserving and strengthening the multilateral anti-corruption architecture; and,
5. Improving diplomatic engagement and leveraging foreign assistance resources to advance policy goals. [READ MORE](#)

[State, DoD & USAID Ukraine Anti-Corruption MOU](#)

On September 1, leaders from the Offices of Inspector General (OIGs) for the Department of State (State), U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and Department of Defense (DoD) met with key anti-corruption officials from the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine (NABU), the Specialized Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office (SAPO), and the High Anti-Corruption Court (HACC) of Ukraine. [READ MORE](#)

[FinCEN Report Finds Export Control Evasion](#)

The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) revealed a Financial Trend Analysis (FTA) concerning potential evasion of Russia-related export controls, based on Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) reports amounting to nearly \$1 billion in suspicious activity.

BIS utilizes data from BSA reports to instigate new investigations and support ongoing ones. [READ MORE](#)

[IMF Money Laundering Technical Assistance Pilot](#)

Money laundering takes a toll on society by eroding trust in the integrity of financial systems and curbing cross-border crime demands a united global effort and innovative approaches, IMF ... [READ MORE](#)

[Pratt & Whitney Parts Operation Cited in Antiboycott Case](#)

Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) imposed a civil penalty of \$48,750 against Pratt & Whitney's aftermarket parts division to resolve 13 violations of the antiboycott provisions of the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) (antiboycott regulations)

PWCS voluntarily disclosed the conduct to BIS, cooperated with the investigation by BIS's Office of Antiboycott Compliance (OAC), and took remedial measures after discovering the conduct at issue, all of which resulted in a significant reduction in penalty. [READ MORE](#)

[Clothing Accessories Companies Fined for False Made in USA Claims](#)

Massachusetts and New Hampshire-based clothing accessories company owner Thomas Bates was penalized by the FTC for making false claims about being made domestically. [READ MORE](#)

[OFAC SDN List Updates](#)

Treasury's Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) announced the removal of the motor yacht Flying Dragon from the list of Specially Designated Nationals and blocked Persons. [READ MORE](#)

[State: New Sanctions Chief Announced](#)

President Biden announced yesterday that he has tapped Erik Woodhouse as his nominee to head the State Department's Office of Sanctions Coordination.

Mr. Woodhouse currently serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Counter Threat Finance and Sanctions in the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs. [READ MORE](#)

[EU Sanctions under Global Sanctions Regime](#)

The European Council sanctioned six individuals responsible for serious human rights violations in the Russian Federation and in the territories of Ukraine that Russia has temporarily occupied, including violations of freedom of opinion and expression.

The individuals listed include prosecutors and judges active in courts established by Russia's occupying force in illegally annexed Crimea, as well as two members of the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation (FSB) that either took part in torturing journalist Vladyslav Yesypenko, or conducted the investigations in his case, and those of members of the Crimean Tatar community, and of the Jehovah's Witnesses in Crimea. [READ MORE](#)

[Sudan: Further Sanctions, Oil Firm Execs Finally Face Trial](#)

Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctioned a Sudanese Military Leader for his command of an entity whose members have engaged in acts of violence and human rights abuses, including the massacre of civilians, ethnic killings, and use of sexual violence. Meanwhile, in Stockholm, trial has begun for two senior executives of Lundin Oil, responsible for engaging the Sudanese Armed Forces to ensure security for their production interests in South Sudan in between 1997 and 2003. [READ MORE](#)