

**CHRONOLOGY OF TRADE CONFLICT BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES – REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

	DATE	EVENT
1.	20 April 2017	United States (US) Department of Commerce launched investigation into steel imports.
2.	27 April 2017	US Department of Commerce launched investigation into aluminium imports.
3.	14 August 2017	US Department of Commerce launched investigation into intellectual property theft by Republic of China (China).
4.	22 January 2018	Trump administration announced tariffs on imports of solar panels and large residential washing machines (effective 7 February 2018).
5.	7 February 2018	Safeguard duties on solar imports to the US for imported solar cells and solar modules, as well as large residential washing machines took effect.
6.	8 March 2018	The US announced additional import tariffs of 25% on steel and 10% on aluminium effective 23 March 2018. Exemptions were given to Canada and Mexico.
7.	22 March 2018	In addition to Canada and Mexico, President Trump announced temporary exemptions from additional tariffs on steel and aluminium for Argentina, Brazil, Republic of Korea (ROK) and EU until 30 April 2018 subject to further discussions.
8.	22 March 2018	The US' Section 301 investigation found that China is engaging in discriminatory trade practices related to technology transfer, intellectual property (IP) and innovation. Following the findings, President Trump directed USTR to level tariffs on about USD50 billion worth of Chinese imports.
9.	23 March 2018	Additional tariff on imports of steel (25%) and aluminium

As at 15 August 2019

	DATE	EVENT
		(10%) into the US took effect.
10.	23 March 2018	China announced reciprocal tariffs on 128 US products that include pork, wine, fruit and steel worth USD3 billion.
11.	2 April 2018	China's Ministry of Commerce announced the suspension of its obligations to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) to reduce tariffs on 128 US goods, including fruit and ethanol worth USD3 billion effective on 2 April 2018: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - tariffs on those products were raised by an extra 15%; and - 8 other products, including pork and scrap aluminium, were imposed with additional tariffs of 25%.
12.	3 April 2018	US announced initial list of USD50 billion in about 1,300 Chinese electronics, aerospace and machinery products that could be subject to additional 25% as alleged for IP theft.
13.	4 April 2018	China retaliated against the US, proposed 25% tariffs on critical US goods worth USD50 billion, including soya beans, aeroplanes and car but effective date was not determined.
14.	5 April 2018	President Trump instructed USTR to consider USD100 billion in additional tariffs against China.
15.	6 April 2018	USTR published a proposed list of 1,333 products to target.
16.	18 April 2018	China imposed provisional anti-dumping duties at 176.8% on sorghum, an American-made cereal grain that is used as a cattle feed and sweetener for baijiu (Chinese liquor).
17.	30 April 2018	Trump signed 2 Presidential Proclamations on imports of steel & aluminium: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Argentina, Brazil & Australia exempted indefinitely; - Republic of Korea (ROK) exempted from steel tariffs (with quota restrictions); and - Temporary exemptions for EU, Canada & Mexico

As at 15 August 2019

	DATE	EVENT
		extended until 31 May 2018.
18.	16 May 2018	ROK requested WTO dispute consultations with the US regarding US safeguard duties imposed on imports of large residential washers and crystalline silicon photovoltaic products.
19.	23 May 2018	US opened investigation into automobile and automotive parts.
20.	29 May 2018	The White House will proceed with 25% tariffs on USD50 billion worth of goods from China, and place new limits on Chinese investments in US high-tech industries. The final list of covered imports subject to tariffs was scheduled to be announced by 15 June 2018.
21.	31 May 2018	The US ended temporary exemptions for EU, Canada and Mexico.
22.	31 May 2018	Canada announced it will hit the US steel items with a 25% tariff, while consumer goods at 10% tariff by 1 July 2018.
23.	31 May 2018	Mexico vowed to retaliate with comparable penalties on US lamps, pork, fruit, cheese and flat steel.
24.	31 May 2018	EU said it would start the process for enacting retaliatory tariffs on US imports.
25.	1 June 2018	US imposed tariffs on steel and aluminium from Canada, Mexico and the EU.
26.	5 June 2018	Mexico imposed tariffs, ranging between 15-25% in the 1st round. This is as part of its measures to impose additional tariff on a total of USD3 billion worth of US goods (pork, fruits, bourbon, steel, cheese).
27.	6 June 2018	The European Commission approved a decision to impose additional 25-50% tariff on USD3.4 billion US imports (steel, aluminium, motorcycles, agriculture, bourbon, consumer goods).

As at 15 August 2019

	DATE	EVENT
28.	15 June 2018	USTR released a list of 1,102 Chinese imports (valued at USD50 billion). 25% tariff on 818 of the items (USD34 billion) will take effect on 6 July 2018. The other 284 products (USD16 billion) will undergo a public comment process before a final decision on implementation. The list includes engines and motors; construction, drilling, agricultural machinery; motor vehicles and motorcycles; helicopters and airplanes; glass, rubber, or plastic; aerospace and robotic products.
29.	15 June 2018	China announced that 25% tariff will take effect 6 July 2018 on USD34 billion of US goods, which includes soybeans, electric vehicles, hybrid electric vehicles, seafood and pork.
30.	18 June 2018	Trump directed USTR to identify USD200 billion worth of Chinese goods for an additional 10% tariff, if China retaliates again. This was on top of USD50 billion announced previously on 22 March 2018.
31.	21 June 2018	India announced it will impose retaliatory tariffs on US goods including apples, walnuts and some chemical and metal products. The tariffs will go into effect on 4 August 2018.
32.	21 June 2018	Turkey imposed additional tariffs 5-40% on 22 US including coal, cosmetics, automobiles, food products, machines and equipment worth USD267 million, following the US' tariff imposition on steel and aluminium.
33.	22 June 2018	President Trump threatened additional 20% tariffs on car imports from the EU.
34.	22 June 2018	The EU imposed an additional 25% tariff on US products worth USD3.3 billion. Affected products included textile, apparel, and footwear items, rice, orange juice, bourbon whiskey, tobacco products, cosmetic products, steel and aluminium products, playing cards, sailboats, and

	DATE	EVENT
		motorcycles.
35.	29 June 2018	EU warned US car tariffs could result in global retaliation against USD300 billion worth of US exports.
36.	1 July 2018	Canada imposed additional tariffs ranging 10-25% on USD12.5 billion of US goods, ranging from unfinished iron, aluminium and steel products, whiskey, appliances, food products to household products.
37.	1 July 2018	China cut import duties on passenger vehicles from 25% to 15%.
38.	5 July 2018	Mexico imposed its 2nd round of additional tariffs from 15-25% on US products ranging from potatoes, whiskey, apples and cranberries to a variety of cheeses. This brings the total value of US products imposed with additional tariffs by Mexico to USD3 billion.
39.	6 July 2018	<p>US imposed additional 25% tariff on 818 of 1,102 Chinese items (valued at USD34 billion), including motor vehicles, computer disk drives, parts of pumps, valves and printers as well as other industrial components.</p> <p>China retaliated by imposing additional 25% tariff on 545 US goods worth USD34 billion including agricultural products, sport utility vehicles (SUVs) and electric vehicles.</p>
40.	19 July 2018	<p>The European Commission imposed provisional safeguard measures on imports of a number of steel products in an effort to prevent the diversion of steel from other countries to the EU market as a result of the US' Section 232 tariffs on steel.</p> <p>The provisional measures concern 23 steel product categories and will take the form of a Tariff Rate Quota</p>

	DATE	EVENT
		(TRQ). For each of the 23 categories, tariffs of 25% will only be imposed once imports exceed the average of imports over the last three years. The quota is allocated on a first come first serve basis, thus at this stage not allocated by individual exporting country. These measures are imposed against all countries, with the exception of some developing countries with limited exports to the EU and the European Economic Area countries (Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein).
41.	25 July 2018	President Trump and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker agreed to suspend new tariffs while negotiating US-EU trade deal. The leaders pledged to expand European imports of US liquefied natural gas and soybeans, and work together towards zero tariffs, zero non-tariff barriers, and zero subsidies on non-auto industrial goods.
42.	3 August 2018	Beijing announced plans to increase tariffs up to 25% on US products worth USD60 billion if the Trump administration follows through with threats to tax USD200 billion of Chinese goods. On 1 August 2018, Trump administration said it is increasing its additional tariff from 10% to 25% on Chinese goods valued at USD200 billion.
43.	4 August 2018	India imposed additional tariffs from 10-50% on 30 US imports, including chocolate products, nuts, wheat, apples and automobiles worth USD241 million.
44.	10 August 2018	US doubled tariffs on steel and aluminum from Turkey to 50% and 20%.
45.	15 August 2018	Turkey doubled tariffs on American cars to 120%, alcoholic drinks to 140%, tobacco to 60%, as well as imposing additional taxes on American fruits, coals and rice with a

	DATE	EVENT
		total value of USD533 million. This is the 2nd retaliatory move from Turkey towards the US since 21 June 2018.
46.	23 August 2018	<p>US imposed additional 25% tariffs on another \$16 billion of Chinese goods. The tax affected 279 Chinese products, including chemical products, motorcycles, speedometers and antennas.</p> <p>The 2nd round of tariffs completed US' threat to impose USD50 billion of import taxes on Chinese goods. The 1st USD34 billion-worth went into effect on 6 July 2018.</p> <p>China responded to new US taxes with additional 25% tariffs on USD16 billion worth of American goods, including chemical products and diesel fuel.</p>
47.	24 September 2018	<p>The US imposed additional tariff 10% on USD200 billion of Chinese imports effective 24 September 2018 until year end. Starting 1 January 2019, the level of the additional tariffs will increase to 25%. The list contains 5,745 from fish such as salmon and halibut, vegetables, nuts, grains, orange juice and metals including titanium and uranium.</p> <p>China responded by imposing tariffs ranging from 5-10% on USD60 billion American goods. This included an additional 5% tariff on 1,600 kinds of US products such as smaller aircraft, computers and textiles and an additional 10% tariff on more than 3,500 items including chemicals, meat, wheat, wine and LNG.</p>
48.	1 December 2018	President Trump and President Xi agreed to delay an increase on the 3 rd , USD200 billion tranche of 25% tariff set to take place on 1 January 2019. According to White House:

	DATE	EVENT
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a 90-day period of talks have started to resolve structural issues around IP theft, non-tariff barriers, and forced technology transfer. - tariff increase would be implemented at the end of the 90-day period if no agreement is reached.
49.	7-9 January 2019	US and China engaged in 3-day trade talks in Beijing. Discussions extended a day further after many issues remained unresolved. Discussions were divided into 2 areas – ‘trade issues’, which included trade imbalances in certain sectors and ‘structural issues’, such as forced technology transfers, intellectual property protection, and non-tariff barriers.
50.	30-31 January 2019	US and China held 2-day trade talks in Washington DC. During the negotiations, China offered to buy 5 million tons of US soybeans. Trump announced that he will meet with Xi in-person in February 2019 (However, Trump on 7 February 2019 said that he will not meet with President Xi Jinping in-person before the tariff ceasefire expires on 1 March 2019).
51.	11-15 February 2019	US and China resumed trade talks in Beijing. US and China continue to have differences.
52.	21-24 February 2019	US and China held trade talks in Washington. Trump extended tariff deadline, expressing optimism about a trade deal.
53.	24 February 2019	Trump announced that he will extend the 1 March trade deal truce deadline, citing progress in trade talks. Trump administration had been pushing toward a signing summit meeting with President Xi Jinping to resolve the trade conflict at the end of March 2019. Trump did not give a concrete date for a new deadline.

	DATE	EVENT
54.	8 May 2019	<p>The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative announced a list of approximately \$300 billion in goods imported from China on which USTR is proposing to impose Section 301 additional tariffs of up to 25 percent.</p> <p>USTR states that this extensive list of 3,805 full and partial HTSUS subheadings, which covers essentially all products not already subject to Section 301 additional tariffs. It includes all apparel, footwear, and manufactured textile products, among others, but excludes pharmaceuticals, certain pharmaceutical inputs, select medical goods, rare earth materials, and critical minerals. The tariff hike could be implemented any time after 24 June 2019 in any amount up to 25 percent, on top of the regular rate of duty.</p>
55.	13 May 2019	<p>China will increase retaliatory tariffs on \$60 billion worth of U.S. goods as of 1 June 2019 after the Trump administration raised additional tariffs on \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods on 10 May 2019. China has also announced that it will accept requests for exclusions from its tariffs.</p>
56.	29 June 2019	<p>Trump issued a press statement to allow US technologies company to send and sell their product to Huawei. However, reiterated that the issue on Huawei will be discussed further in the re-negotiation of trade conflict between US and China.</p>
57.	9 July 2019	<p>The Trump Administration announces that it will exempt 110 Chinese products, including medical equipment for cancer, from the 25 percent tariffs that were added on 6 July 2018. The exemption will be valid for a year from 9 July 2019.</p>
58.	1 August 2019	<p>Trump tweeted that U.S. will add 10% tariff on USD300billion of Chinese made products on 1 September 2019.</p>
59.	6 August 2019	<p>According to a statement issued by the Ministry of</p>

As at 15 August 2019

	DATE	EVENT
		Commerce on 6 August 2019, certain Chinese companies have suspended purchasing US agricultural products. The statement also makes clear that the Customs Tariff Commission of the State Council will not rule out import tariffs on newly purchased US agricultural products after 3 August 2019. As a result, some Chinese companies have decided to suspend such imports.
60.	13 August 2019	<p>The USTR announced it is delaying the imposition of additional tariffs on certain Chinese imports to 15 December 2019. A 10 percent tariff on a host of Chinese products is still to come into effect on 1 September 2019.</p> <p>The delayed tariffs would have affected the cost of items of mass consumption, including cell phones, laptops, video game consoles, computer monitors, certain items of footwear and clothing, and certain toys.</p>

Source: Various open sources