

Recent Updates to Section 232 Fact Sheet

As of March 23, 2018

On March 22, 2018, President Trump issued two proclamations, authorizing modifications to the Section 232 tariffs on steel and aluminum imports. The key points and changes made by the two new proclamations are as follows:

- Australia, Argentina, South Korea, Brazil, and the Member States of the European Union are exempted from the tariffs until May 1, 2018 (note that Canada and Mexico were exempted in the original proclamations). These appear to be full exemptions, but will only remain in place after May 1, 2018 based on the status of discussions, and if the president finds that there are satisfactory alternative means to address the national security threat posed by imports of steel and aluminum from those particular countries.
- If a country ends up being excluded on a long-term basis, the president will consider whether to adjust the tariff rates with regard to other countries, but there is no change in the tariff rate at present.
- Other countries with a security relationship with the US are invited to discuss alternatives to the tariffs.
- The Section 232 tariffs may apply both to goods newly entered into a foreign trade zone (FTZ) and to goods already in the FTZ that are withdrawn from now on, depending on zone status, particularly “privileged foreign status.”
- Approved product exclusions to the tariffs will be retroactive to the date the request for exclusion was posted for public comment. The proclamations also clarify that exclusions will be considered on a party-by-party basis, with factors such as regional availability and the ability to transport articles within the United States relevant to the analysis.

Resources

[March 22 White House press release](#)

[Presidential Proclamation Authorizing Modifications to Steel 232 Tariffs](#)

[Presidential Proclamation Authorizing Modifications to Aluminum 232 Tariffs](#)

[CBP Implementing Instructions \(pursuant to the recent proclamations\)](#)