

https://www.wto.org/spanish/news_s/news17_s/good_10jul17_s.htm

Estados Unidos afirmó que estaba investigando los efectos de las importaciones de acero y aluminio para la seguridad nacional

The Russian Federation initiated the discussion regarding the US investigations under Section 232 of the US Trade Expansion Act of 1962. The Russian Federation said the United States should refrain from applying trade-restrictive measures as a result of its investigations on steel and aluminium imports for the sake of the stability of world markets. It added that concerted action in the international community against excess production capacity was needed instead.

The European Union said no exception in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) is capable of justifying an import restriction taken outside of the framework of trade remedies for the purpose of protecting a domestic industry against foreign competition. The EU added it will be firm in taking all necessary actions if import restrictions were applied to EU exports. It said that a proliferation of actions from the US Section 232 investigations would pose "systemic risks".

China said the US Section 232 investigations were inconsistent with the GATT and that imports of steel and aluminium were not a threat to national security.

[Article XXI](#) of the GATT describes specific circumstances for when WTO members can use security interests to justify deviations from WTO commitments.

Brazil, Australia and Chinese Taipei expressed their concerns over implications this issue would have on the global trading system. Japan said it was closely following the US government's actions.

The United States, in response, said its Secretary of Commerce had initiated these investigations in light of the critical role steel and aluminium serve in the US national security industrial base and the continued increase in steel and aluminium imports. The United States added that if the Commerce Secretary finds that steel or aluminium is being imported into the United States "in such quantities or in such circumstances as to threaten to impair national security", the Secretary shall recommend actions to be taken to adjust the imports of steel and aluminium.