

PRESS STATEMENT

embargoed until 3pm on 7 December 2023



The clock is ticking. Time to permanently remove tariffs on sectors unrelated to the steel and aluminium and large civil aircraft disputes!

Brussels/Washington – 7 December 2023

With less than a month before the reimposition of tariffs in the U.S.-EU steel and aluminium dispute on 1 January 2024, 87 sectors unrelated to the EU-U.S. steel and aluminium and the large aircraft disputes urge U.S. and EU leaders to reach an agreement to permanently remove all retaliatory tariffs on products unrelated to these disputes. The prospect of the return and increase of retaliatory tariffs in the steel and aluminium dispute, barely a month away, is causing unbearable uncertainty and instability for unrelated sectors.

Between 2018 and 2021, our industries and supply chains were severely impacted by the imposition of tariffs in disputes wholly unrelated to our sectors. We applauded the crucial agreements EU and U.S. leaders reached to suspend tariffs in 2021. These agreements provided important relief for our sectors, supported economic recovery after the difficult COVID period, and removed barriers to trade.

We hoped that a resolution of the steel and aluminium dispute would have been reached at the EU-U.S. Presidential Summit on 20 October. We now face the prospect of the reimposition of duties on our products, ingredients, and raw materials in the steel and aluminium dispute to the amount of more than €1.3 billion (\$1.43 billion)¹ as of 1 January 2024. In the large civil aircraft dispute, tariffs would return in June 2026 without an agreement.

Therefore, we urge U.S. and EU leaders to prioritize securing the permanent removal of these debilitating tariffs on sectors unrelated to the steel and aluminium and large civil aircraft disputes. This would allow our members to strengthen the transatlantic trading relationship, which is critical to our industries, and to tackle pressing common challenges together in a spirit of unity.

If the permanent removal of tariffs on sectors unrelated to the disputes is not possible at this time, a further suspension of duties in the steel and aluminium dispute is necessary and should be announced without delay. The suspension should be long enough to provide affected sectors with long-term predictability.

¹ Calculation based on Eurostat data. It represents the duties that would have been paid in 2022 pursuant to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/886 on certain commercial policy measures concerning certain products originating in the United States of America and amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/724.

List of signatories:

[American Apparel & Footwear Association](#)
[American Beverage Licensees](#)
[American Chemistry Council](#)
[American Craft Spirits Association](#)
[American Cranberry Growers Association](#)
[American Distilled Spirits Alliance](#)
[American Distilling Institute](#)
[American Single Malt Commission](#)
[Arizona Craft Distillers Guild](#)
[Associated Equipment Distributors](#)
[Association des Constructeurs Européens de Motocycles \(ACEM\)](#)
[Association of Chocolate, Biscuit and Confectionery Industries of Europe \(CAOBISCO\)](#)
[Atlantic Seaboard Wine Association](#)
[California Artisanal Distillers Guild](#)
[Cape Cod Cranberry Growers' Association](#)
[Colorado Distillers Guild](#)
[Comité Européen des Entreprises Vins \(CEEV\)](#)
[Committee for European Construction Equipment](#)
[Connecticut Spirits Trail](#)
[Distilled Spirits Council of the United States](#)
[Distillers Association of North Carolina](#)
[EU Grouping of manufacturers and distributors of Semi-Luxury Lighters](#)
[EuroCommerce](#)
[European Agricultural Machinery Industry Association \(CEMA\)](#)
[European Apparel and Textile Confederation \(EURATEX\)](#)
[European Association of Cereals, Rice, Feedstuffs, Oilseeds, Olive oil, Oils and fats and Agrosupply trade \(COCERAL\)](#)
[European Association of Dairy Trade \(EUCOLAIT\)](#)
[European Association of Fruit and Vegetable Processors \(PROFEL\)](#)
[European Association of Manufacturing Technologies \(CECIMO\)](#)
[European Boating Industry \(EBI\)](#)
[European Dairy Association](#)
[European Federation for Print and Digital Communication \(INTERGRAF\)](#)
[European Federation of the Trade in Dried Fruit, Edible Nuts, Processed Fruit & Vegetables and Processed Fishery Products \(FRUCOM\)](#)
[European Feed Manufacturers' Federation \(FEFAC\)](#)
[European Gaming & Amusement Federation](#)
[European Power Tool Association](#)
[European Snacks Association](#)
[Farmers for Free Trade](#)
[Federation of the European Cookware, Cutlery and Houseware Industries](#)
[Florida Craft Spirits Association](#)
[French Federation of Wines and Spirits Exporters](#)
[Home Appliance Europe \(APPLiA\)](#)
[Idaho Distillers Association](#)

[Illinois Craft Distillers Association](#)
[Independent Restaurant Coalition](#)
[Iowa Distillers Alliance](#)
[Kentucky Distillers' Association](#)
[Louisiana Distillers Guild](#)
[Maryland Distillers Guild](#)
[Maryland Wineries Association](#)
[Michigan Craft Distillers Association](#)
[Midwest Food Processors Association](#)
[Montana Distillers Guild](#)
[Napa Valley Vintners](#)
[National Association of Beverage Importers](#)
[National Association of Wine Retailers](#)
[National Confectioners Association](#)
[National Council of Chain Restaurants](#)
[National Marine Manufacturers Association \(NMMA\)](#)
[National Restaurant Association](#)
[National Retail Federation](#)
[New Hampshire Distillers Guild](#)
[New Jersey Craft Distillers Guild](#)
[New York State Distillers Guild](#)
[North American Shippers Association](#)
[NY Wine Industry Association](#)
[Ohio Distillers Guild](#)
[Oregon Distillers Guild](#)
[Oregon Wine Council](#)
[Pennsylvania Distillers Guild](#)
[South Carolina Distillers Guild](#)
[spiritsEUROPE](#)
[Tennessee Distillers Guild](#)
[Texas Distilled Spirits Association](#)
[U.S. Lighter Association](#)
[U.S. Wine Trade Alliance](#)
[United States Bartenders' Guild](#)
United States Motorcycle Manufacturers Association
[USA Rice](#)
[Vinyl Institute](#)
[Virginia Distillers Association](#)
[Washington Wine Institute](#)
[Willamette Valley Wineries Association](#)
[Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America](#)
[Wine and Spirits Shippers Association](#)
[Wine Institute](#)
[WineAmerica](#)