



Department for  
International Trade

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Angus Brendan MacNeil MP  
International Trade Committee  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

24 May 2021

Dear Angus,

**Consultation on rebalancing measures in response to US Section 232 tariffs on steel, aluminium, and derivatives**

As you may be aware, in response to US Section 232 tariffs on steel, aluminium and derivatives, the UK has continued to apply rebalancing measures we inherited from the EU on a variety of products since 1 January 2021.

When we announced the UK's intention to continue implementing these rebalancing measures from 1 January 2021, we also announced the UK's intention to consult on the measures to ensure they are in the best interests of the UK economy. I am writing to update you and your committee that the Department for International Trade is today launching this consultation, to ensure that the tariffs in place are tailored to the UK economy, based on evidence and input from affected stakeholders. We are defending our steel and aluminium industries against illegal and unfair tariffs – and will continue to do so – while ensuring that the tariffs we have in place are tailored to the UK economy. We have identified a broad range of products to consult upon and only a subset of the products listed in the consultation will ultimately be subject to rebalancing measures.

Our preference remains for the full removal of US tariffs, in which case there will no longer be a need to apply these rebalancing measures. We are pressing the US for an urgent resolution to these tariffs as part of our ongoing trade discussions, as they are harmful to industry on both sides of the Atlantic. In the meantime, it is imperative that the UK continues to implement these rebalancing measures to demonstrate that we will defend UK industry and uphold the rules-based system that is fundamental to supporting international trade.

I would like to reassure you that my key priority is to defend British interests across all sectors of the economy, and that my Department and I will be reaching out to relevant parts of industry following this announcement to ensure that they have the necessary information to contribute to the consultation in full.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Truss', is centered on the page.

**THE RT HON ELIZABETH TRUSS MP**  
Secretary of State for International Trade  
& President of the Board of Trade