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ECOSOC

United Nations Economic and Social Council

AGENDA: A Discussion to enhance Global Social and Economic Resilience in the Face of Tariff-Related Disruptions to Essential Commodities, including Food, Energy, and Medical Supplies

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Letter From the Executive Board

Greetings Delegates,

On behalf of the Secretariat and the Organising Committee, it gives us immense pleasure to Welcome you to this simulation of the ECOSOC Committee at SMUN'25. We hope that this background guide serves as a key instrument in aiding your preparation for the 3 days of invigorating debate that lie ahead.

At the conference, you are expected to have sufficient knowledge of the proceedings in your allotted country with respect to its foreign affairs. The agenda ***"A Discussion to Enhance Global Social and Economic Resilience in the Face of Tariff-Related Disruptions to Essential Commodities, including Food, Energy, and Medical Supplies"*** was picked keeping in mind its relevance and its implications with respect to major historical geopolitical events and more specifically their aftermath.

We cannot wait to see what you have in store for us. Also, please be advised that this guide is simply a means of kick-starting your research and will in no way hold as a viable source in committee, on its own. We are really looking forward to meeting you at SMUN'25.

Until then, happy researching and all the best for the committee.

Regards,

Akash Koti Chairperson	Vidya N. Vice Chairperson	Jiteesh Reddy Rapporteur

What is a MUN?

Model United Nations (MUN) is an engaging educational simulation that allows students to step into the roles of delegates representing various countries in the United Nations. Participants engage in discussions and negotiations on pressing global issues, such as climate change, human rights, and international security. Each delegate researches their assigned country's policies and positions, preparing them to advocate effectively during debates. The MUN experience typically begins with delegates researching their country's stance on the topics at hand. They analyze historical context, current events, and international law to understand their nation's perspective fully. During the conference, delegates participate in committee sessions where they engage in formal debates, deliver speeches, and collaborate with others to draft resolutions. The format often includes a mix of moderated and unmoderated caucuses, allowing for both structured discussion and informal negotiation. The goal is to find common ground among diverse perspectives and work toward solutions that address global challenges. Beyond the immediate objectives of debate and resolution writing, MUN helps students develop crucial skills. Public speaking, critical thinking, and negotiation abilities are honed through practice and participation. Additionally, MUN fosters a sense of global citizenship, as participants gain a deeper understanding of international relations and the complexities of diplomacy.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

This committee will be using UNA-USA Rules Of Procedure and Crisis Rules Of Procedure. Firstly, the committee will be setting the agenda and moving into formal debate. The verbatims mentioned below must be used to raise the motion.

Motions Setting the agenda:

- *Setting the agenda:* Delegate of ___ would like to raise a motion to set the agenda as ___.
- *Establishing a GSL:* Delegate of ___ would like to raise a motion to establish the general speakers' list with an individual speaker's time of __.
- *Moderated caucuses:* Delegate of ___ would like to raise a motion to suspend formal debate and move into a moderated caucus on the topic ___ for a total time period of __ minutes with individual speaker's time being __.
- *Unmoderated caucuses:* Delegate of ___ would like to raise a motion to suspend formaldebate and move into an unmoderated caucus for a total time period of __ minutes.

- E*xtension to informal debate:* Delegate of ___ would like to raise a motion to extend the current moderated/unmoderated caucus by ___ minutes.

- I*ntroduction of documentation:* Delegate of ___ would like to raise a motion to introduce draft resolution/press statement/Presidential statement[number].

- *Voting on introduced document(s):* Delegate of ___ would like to raise a motion to table formal debate and move into voting on [document name].

Points

Point of personal privilege
• Personal inconvenience e.g. inaudibility of some part of the speech of another delegate
• CAN interrupt an active speaker

Point of parliamentary inquiry
• Used to clarify doubts on the rules of procedure
• CANNOT interrupt a speaker

Point of Order
• Can be raised to point out a factual inaccuracy in a delegate's speech
• CANNOT interrupt a speaker
• Format of raising: "The delegate of ___ said in their speech and i quote "___", this is factually
incorrect due to 'reason'
• Logical fallacies are not accepted

Point of information
• Used to ask questions to other delegates on their speeches
• CANNOT interrupt an active speaker

Yields

Yield to points of information
Yielding the remaining time to other delegates so that they can question you on the speech you made.

Yield to another delegate
Yielding remaining time to some specific delegate to let her/him make her/his speech. Delegates should be informed prior to this type of yield.

Yield to the executive board
Yielding the remaining time to the EB. Such yielded time is deemed elapsed by the EB but not always. Such time's usage is up to the discretion of the EB.

Hierarchy of evidence

Evidence can be presented from a wide variety of sources but not all sources are treated as equal. Here's the hierarchy in which evidence is categorized:

Tier 1:
Includes: any publication, statement, resolution, or document released by any of the United Nations' official organs or committees; any publication, statement, or document released by a UN member state in its own capacity. The evidence falling in this tier is considered most reliable during the simulation.

Tier 2:
Includes: any news article published by any official media source that is owned and controlled by a UN member state. E.g.: Xinhua News (China), Prasar Bharti (India), BBC (United Kingdom) etcetera. The evidence falling in this tier is considered sufficiently reliable in case no other evidence from any Tier 1 source is available on that particular fact, event, or situation.

Tier 3:
Includes: any publication from news sources of international repute such as Reuters, The New York Times, Agence-France Presse, etcetera. The evidence falling under this tier is considered the least reliable for the purposes of this simulation. Yet, if no better source is available in a certain scenario, it may be considered.

Personal pronouns

This particular Executive Board would encourage delegates not to use Personal Pronouns. Instead, we encourage delegates to refer to themselves as the "Delegate of (country)".

Specific contentious rules

This section covers the Executive Board's views on some of the contentious rules that usually create confusion, conflict, and consternation when not explicitly stated in advance. The judgment and scoring during the MUN will be based on the views expressed here. Regarding this guide and evidence Just because a resource has been mentioned in the background guide, does not mean that it can surely be used as evidence to your argument in the Council. Why? Because: Eclectic nature of the resources: The guide has resources of wide variety. Some of the resources could be opinion based articles, some may be from sources sympathetic to one party in the conflict, some could be outdated (we will try our best to not share such resources but we cannot control for things such as emergence of new facts post guide publication).

Foreign policy commitments:

To explain this point, we'll be using an example. Pakistan claims Kashmir is legally theirs. India claims, contrary to Pakistan, that Kashmir is theirs. Both sides, many-a-times, use the same evidence to argue their case but still derive completely different conclusions. In such cases, the Executive Board cannot accept the claims of one country while rejecting the claims of the other when both of those claims are backed by acceptable and equivalent evidence.

What is ECOSOC?

The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations, responsible for coordinating the economic and social fields of the organization, specifically in regards to the fifteen specialized agencies, the eight functional commissions, and the five regional commissions under its jurisdiction.

MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE

The Economic and Social Council works with the General Assembly regarding matters falling within its competence and on the issues related to human rights and fundamental freedom. It submits reports and drafts to the General Assembly which contain recommendations from the Council on which the General Assembly would take further action. It also works with specialised agencies and non-governmental organisations in a few cases which involve their help as well and would also discuss this within the General Assembly. The Council essentially works on matters related to economic, social and promotion of human rights. It also establishes separate commissions regarding them if required. The main goal is to create high standards of living, increase employment opportunities, ensure progress in the economic and social field, find long-term solutions for the international economic, social and health issues, and ensure that no violations are done with respect to human rights and fundamental freedom without distinction to race, sex, language or religion. Each member state has a right to vote once in the sessions. It can also invite other member states of the United Nations to participate during its meetings or specialised agencies as well, but they are not given a right to vote during the council's meetings. They can only be invited if the matters are of particular concern to them. After being reaffirmed, its functions mainly include serving as a convener, acting as a platform on the matters regarding the economic, social or its related issues, supervising and coordinating the activities of the United Nations Development System and monitoring on the implementation of internationally agreed development goals.

CRISIS ROP

We will be having an ECOSOC committee inclining towards a Crisis, hence Crisis proceedings will be followed alongside basic UNA-USA ROP's. Refer to the timeline attached below to understand how the flow of events has taken place till the Freeze date. The Executive Board will be providing regular updates to the Committee regarding events as they would take place post the commencement of this timeline, hence the committee would function as a crisis committee.

IMPORTANT

The timeline of the updates would begin from the last event in this Guide's timeline. In order to participate in the crisis simulation this committee offers you, delegates will need to understand the skeleton of the following tools, each of which serves a different purpose. On a cursory glance, these "tools" might look similar, but the subtle difference in their objective and prospective outcomes are crucial for their effective utilisation. The correct approach to this committee would be to take cognizance of all events that have preceded the start of the committee and understand if there was a relation between various events or if one event was the cause/effect of another.

LINES OF COMMUNICATION

The Executive Board expects you to discuss updates in the committee in order to specify your position on the various updates that have preceded the committee. In light of this, delegates will have seven tools for expressing themselves in committee if needed, barring Moderated Caucus, Round Robins, Consultations and general/special speakers Lists.

They are:

Directive: As the representative of a state, you can send in a directive to the EB, highlighting what you want your nation to do next in light of the crisis and recent updates. This can be sent via chit. Two or more countries or representatives can also send in a Joint Directive. This is generally used to show support for a delegate's plan of action. The EB will have complete discretion over whether or not to pass the directive. The EB can also decide if the committee will be voting on it. This will be decided based on the nature of the directive. The best directives are those that are not just approved by a large majority of the committee, but those that also prove that a representative (or a bloc) has in-depth knowledge of the situation.

Covert Directive: It is of the same nature as a directive except that the content of the directive is not communicated to the committee. The outcome of the directive is, however, communicated to the committee.

Communiqués: Communiqués are messages from the entire committee/delegate to another country, organisation, person, or group of people. These facilitate dialogue with relevant actors in a crisis. Communiqués often include negotiations, threats, and requests for aid or support but are not limited to the above stated. They are usually used when a country whose consent, opinion, or stance on a particular issue is required, but whose representation does not exist in committee.

Covert Communiqués: It is of the same nature as a communiqué except that all communication is kept private between the delegate(s) and the recipient(s) involved.

Press Releases: This is a statement issued by the delegate, generally, after providing reasons for certain actions via directives. Press releases are similar to communiqués in the fact that they are sent from the committee as a whole; the difference lies in the fact that a press release is addressed to the public. A Press Release cannot be used to make a statement unless a related directive/update contextually precedes it. Specific to those deemed to have been passed by the Executive Board.

Portfolio Requests: Portfolio requests are requests given unilaterally by members of the committee. This could range anywhere between the status of their military capabilities to action taken by the delegate in accordance with their portfolio in previous conflicts/events Specific to those mentioned in the timeline and which have not been expanded upon.

Intel Requests: Intel Requests are requests given unilaterally by members of the committee specific to previous actions or operations undertaken by a delegate.

SAMPLE DIRECTIVE:

Covert/Overt Directive/Communique/Press Release: Name/Number
From: The representative of Republic/Portfolio
To: The Steering Committee/ The Executive Board
Primary Objective:
Secondary Objectives:
Ministries/Personnel Involved:
Expected Outcome:
Mission Brief: (Rough Outline)
Plan of Action: As intricate and crisp as possible.
Additional Information: Any additional information if needed. (Maps, Brief on technology/Personnel)

NOTE

1. All lines of communication must be written only. We will not be accepting any Lines of communication via any Electronic Media, printed directives or any other form of communication that is not written. Additionally, any attachments, such as maps, must be hand- drawn.

2. For Joint Directives or Communiqués signatures of all parties involved are compulsory.

What is a tariff:
A tariff is a tax imposed by a government on goods and services imported from another country. It is used to influence trade, raise revenue, or protect domestic industries. Tariffs can affect the cost of goods, how they are sourced, and their movement across borders. They may also be referred to as customs duties.

Timeline of Events

(Note that this timeline includes major events and further research is beneficial to comprehend other small details that hence aren't further explored/ mentioned in this timeline)

The Executive Board decided to keep the debates relevant to the present (as to from US President Donald Trump's term which started in January 2025 till October 31, 2025–meaning, it is the 'freeze date') This Background guide only covers events upto October 19, 2025 . Hence, further research is expected from the delegates.

January 20, 2025 : Donald Trump takes office as US President.

February 1, 2025: Trump imposed a 25% tariff on goods from Canada and Mexico and a 10% tariff on goods from China.

February 3, 2025: As Canada and Mexico were preparing retaliatory measures, Trump agreed to postpone implementation of the tariffs on both countries for at least 30 days.

February 4, 2025: The 10% tariff on China went into effect and China announced a series of retaliatory tariffs.

February 11, 2025: Trump ordered a 25% tariff on steel and aluminum imports from all countries, with date of application March 12.

February 13, 2025: President Trump issued a memorandum directing a review of trading partners' non-reciprocal trading practices, noting the relationship between such practices and the U.S. trade deficit.

March 3, 2025: Trump doubled the new tariff on China from 10% to 20%.

March 4, 2025: The US blanket tariff of 25% on Mexico and Canada took effect . Canada responded by imposing a 25% tariff on various US products . The same day, China announced its own retaliatory measures, including an additional 10% tariff on most US agricultural products.

March 5, 2025: Backtracking partially, Trump granted a one-month reprieve on automotive tariffs on Canada and Mexico.

March 6, 2025: Trump said he would suspend the 25% tariff on products traded under the US–Mexico–Canada Agreement, but implied that other tariffs on Mexican and Canadian products would be coming in April.

March 12, 2025: The EU announced countermeasures in response to Trump's 25% tariff on European steel and aluminum, which had come into effect that same day. This consisted of two parts:

1. The suspension of existing countermeasures against the US from 2018 and 2020 would be allowed to lapse on April 1, whereupon 25% duties would come into effect on US peanut butter and dried cranberries.
2. The EU put forward a package of new countermeasures on US goods, which were expected to come into force by mid-April, after a public consultation as well as consultation with EU Member States.

March 20, 2025: The EU Trade Commissioner announced that the application of the measures affecting the US would be pushed back from April 1 to mid-April, allowing time for negotiations. This move was meant to align the timing of the two tranches of EU countermeasures.

April 2, 2025: Trump announced expansive new tariffs . A baseline 10% tariff was announced for all imports into the US, with higher rates being applied to around 60 countries , including 34% for China, 20% for the European Union, 27% for India, 24% for Japan, 26% for South Korea, and 46% for Vietnam. The baseline 10% tariff was set to come into effect on April 5, while the higher tariffs were set to apply from April 9.

April 3, 2025: The European Commission President announced that the EU hoped to negotiate a solution with the US, but added that the Union was preparing for further countermeasures in case the negotiations fail. The same day, the UK announced a public consultation on potential countermeasures that could affect various nuts and dried fruits.

April 4, 2025: China announced that a 34% tariff would apply to all imports from the United States as of April 10.

April 5, 2025: The baseline 10% tariff announced by Trump on April 2 came into effect.

April 8, 2025: Trump imposed an additional 50% tariff on Chinese imports, bringing the total tariffs on Chinese goods to 104%

April 9, 2025: The higher, country-specific tariffs announced by Trump on April 2 briefly came into effect. The same day, China raised its own tariff on US goods, bringing the total rate to 84%. Trump then announced in a social media post that the US tariff on Chinese goods would be raised to 125%, effective immediately (although the White House later clarified that the rate was actually 145%). In the same social media post, Trump announced a 90-day pause on the country-specific tariffs that had been announced on April 2, bringing the rate charged on the affected countries down to the baseline rate of 10%. Also on April 9, the EU Member States voted on the countermeasures against the US.

April 10, 2025: The European Commission President took note of Trump's announced 90-day pause, expressed readiness to negotiate, and said the countermeasures would be adopted but put on hold for 90 days.

April 11, 2025: China again raised its tariff on US goods, bringing the total rate to 125%.

April 14, 2025: The EU published two implementing acts, one that adopts the EU countermeasures , and another that immediately suspends them for 90 days . The EU prepared to reimpose tariffs on steel, aluminum, and consumer goods if the U.S. measures persisted.

May 2, 2025: The U.S. eliminated the "de minimis" exemption for low-value shipments from China and Hong Kong. This change removed duty-free access for e-commerce shipments valued under $800, impacting companies like Shein and Temu.

May 8, 2025: The EU announced a public consultation on a list of US imports that could become subject to EU countermeasures if ongoing EU-US negotiations do not result in a mutually beneficial outcome and the removal of the US tariffs. The list of potentially affected products includes a broad range. The consultation will run until June 10, 2025.

May 14, 2025: The United States and China agreed to substantially reduce tariffs on each other's goods for an initial period of 90 days, bringing US tariffs on Chinese goods down from 145% to 30% and lowering Chinese tariffs on American goods from 125% to 10%.

May 23, 2025: Trump threatens to impose a 50% tariff on EU goods as of June 1, claiming that trade talks with the Union were "going nowhere."

May 25, 2025: Trump drops the threat of a 50% tariff on EU goods after a phone call with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen.

May 28, 2025: U.S. Court of International Trade ruled that federal law did not allow Trump "unbounded authority" to place tariffs on imports from countries around the world. The Trump administration was given 10 days to remove the tariffs, but was expected to appeal the decision. If upheld, this decision would affect the tariffs on goods from China, Mexico, and Canada, as well as the baseline 10% tariff on all imports from all origins.

May 29, 2025: U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit ordered an administrative stay , allowing tariffs on goods from China, Mexico, and Canada, as well as the baseline 10% tariff on all imports from all origins, to remain in place during the appeals process. Oral arguments are scheduled for July 31 .

June 3, 2025: Indonesia committed to submit preferred tariffs on U.S. goods ahead of June talks; although this is more of a negotiation step than a concrete new tariff, it signals change.

June 4, 2025: The U.S. doubled its tariff rate on steel & aluminium imports from 25% to 50 % (for most countries, excluding the UK) effective June 4. June 20, 2025: U.S. Supreme Court declined to expedite review of a legal challenge alleging that Trump lacks the authority to authorize tariffs under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA). The case will move forward on the usual schedule and a ruling is expected later in the summer.

June 27, 2025: Canada implemented tariff-rate quotas on certain steel mill products (flat, long, pipe/tube, stainless, etc.) from non-FTA partners, with a 50 % surtax on those without import permits.

July 2, 2025: Trump announced a trade deal with Vietnam, under which the US will apply a 20% tariff on Vietnamese goods (substantially lower than the suspended 46% rate that had been set to come into effect a week later), a 40% tariff will apply to trans-shipments to the US from third countries via Viet Nam, and Viet Nam will apply zero tariffs on imports of US goods

July 7, 2025: Trump issued an executive order extending the suspension of the country-specific tariffs until August 1. On the same day, Trump posted on social media letters addressed to the leaders of 14 countries, detailing his intention to apply tariffs ranging from 25% to 40% on goods from the affected countries as of August 1.

July 9, 2025: Trump posted a similar letter to the leader of Brazil, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, vowing to impose a 50% tariff on Brazilian goods on August 1 unless Brazil stops the prosecution of former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, as reported by the BBC. Lula replied by saying that Brazil would respond reciprocally to any increase in tariffs.

July 11, 2025: Trump announced 35% tariff on imports from Canada, effective August 1.

July 12, 2025: Trump announced 30% tariffs on imports from Mexico and the European Union, effective August 1.

July 14, 2025: EU delayed 25% tariff on US products, until August 6 to give more time for negotiations.

July 20, 2025: In an interview with CBS News , US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick appeared to confirm that Canadian and Mexican goods that comply with the US–Mexico–Canada Agreement (USMCA) would continue to be exempt from the tariffs for now.

July 22, 2025: Trump announced trade deals with Indonesia , the Philippines , and Japan, under which the US will charge tariffs of 19%, 19%, and 15%, respectively, on goods from these countries.

July 24, 2025: The EU published countermeasures that will come into effect if no deal is reached with the US. The US products (25%, from August 7); almonds (25%, from December 1); Brazil nuts, cashews, hazelnuts, macadamias, pecans, pine nuts, peanuts, dates, dried apricots, dried figs, currants, sultanas, and prunes (30%, from September 7); pistachios, walnuts, and other dried grapes (30%, from February 7, 2026). The regulation makes no provisions for goods in transit.

July 27, 2025: The US and the EU announced a trade deal under which a 15% tariff will be charged on most EU goods entering the US. Additionally, zero-for-zero tariffs were agreed for various strategic products, including certain agricultural products. Further details were unavailable at the time of this report

July 30, 2025: The US announced a 40% tariff on goods from Brazil, effective August 6, with some exceptions. Goods in transit arriving in the US by October 5 are also exempted. The same day, Trump announced that the US would charge a 15% tariff on South Korean imports.

July 31/ August 1, 2025: Trump placed sweeping new tariffs on 70 different countries and territories, with rates ranging from 10% to 41%, effective August 7. Separately, Trump raised the tariff on Canadian goods from 25% to 35%, effective immediately, with an exception for goods that qualify for duty-free entry under the United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement (USMCA).

August 5, 2025: The EU published Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/1727 , which immediately suspends the countermeasures published on July 24, including hefty tariffs, for a period of six months.

August 6, 2025: Trump signed an executive order that introduced an additional 25% duty on Indian goods entering the US, in retaliation for India's purchases of Russian oil. This new duty, combined with an earlier 25% tariff announced by the US in late July , will bring the total US tariff rate on Indian goods to 50% as of August 27.

August 7, 2025: In response to the US imposing a 39% tariff on Swiss goods, Switzerland said that it would continue negotiations with the US and was not currently considering any retaliatory measures.

August 11, 2025: The US and China agreed to extend their tariff truce until November 10, maintaining the current US rate of 30% on Chinese goods and the Chinese rate of 10% on US goods and preventing both rates from spiking into the triple digits.

Aug 18, 2025: A penalty tariff took effect on goods from India: 25% under the "foreign threats" tariff (for oil/trading concerns) – which stacked with other reciprocal tariffs to bring some goods up to ~50%.

August 21, 2025: The EU and the US published a joint statement fleshing out further details of the framework agreement between the two economies.

August 28, 2025: The European Commission published a legislative proposal that would eliminate tariffs on certain foods and introduce a tariff rate quota (TRQs). The European Parliament and Council will have to approve the proposals under the ordinary legislative procedure before these measures can enter into force.

August 29, 2025: The US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit ruled that Trump's so-called reciprocal tariffs, imposed on dozens of countries around the world, as well as additional tariffs on China, Mexico, and Canada, are illegal. The tariffs will remain in place until October 14 and the Trump administration is expected to file an appeal with the US Supreme Court. The U.S. suspended the de-minimis "duty-free" treatment globally for low-value imports (valued ≤ US$800) — meaning many small parcel imports would now face duties.

September 1, 2025: Canada removed most of its retaliatory tariffs against goods from the United States, However Canada's tariffs on steel, aluminium and automobiles from the U.S. remain in place. The U.S. and EU agreed to apply only the Most Favored Nation (MFN) tariff to certain EU products, effective immediately.

September 4, 2025: President Trump issued Executive Order 14345, implementing the U.S. –Japan Framework Agreement, which capped U.S. tariffs on Japanese automobiles at 15%. Japan's finance ministry announced the establishment of a new investment facility to support a $550 billion investment package under the U.S. –Japan trade agreement, targeting strategic sectors such as semiconductors, metals, pharmaceuticals, energy, and shipbuilding.

September 25, 2025: President Trump issued Executive Order 14345, implementing the U.S.–Japan Framework Agreement, which capped U.S. tariffs on Japanese automobiles at 15%.

September 26, 2025: President Trump announced new tariffs effective October 1: 25% on heavy trucks, 30% on upholstered furniture, 50% on kitchen and bathroom cabinetry, and 100% on branded pharmaceuticals unless manufacturers have U.S. facilities.

October 10, 2025: President Trump threatened to impose 100% tariffs on Chinese imports starting Nov 1, 2025, if Beijing did not rescind new export restrictions on rare earth elements and other critical minerals.

October 12-17, 2025: Treasury Secretary Bessent Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent held talks with Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng to address concerns over China's export controls on rare earths and critical minerals and warned China's export controls on rare earths and critical minerals risk global decoupling.

October 17, 2025: President Trump signed a Proclamation invoking Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 to impose tariffs on imports of medium- and heavy-duty vehicles and parts, and buses, citing national security concerns. World Trade Organization (WTO) Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala urged the United States and China to de-escalate their ongoing trade tensions, warning that a full economic decoupling between the two could reduce global GDP by up to 7% in the long term and cause severe welfare losses for developing countries. Canada announced relief measures to support businesses affected by U.S. tariffs. These measures include extending exemptions for U.S. goods used in manufacturing, processing, or food and beverage packaging, and introducing further relief for companies meeting specific conditions such as demonstrating short supply or existing contractual obligations.

October 19, 2025: India confirms it will not immediately provide bailouts to exporters affected by U.S. tariffs; observes decline in U.S. shipments but growth in other markets. Trump warns the Supreme Court ruling against tariffs under IEEPA could harm the U.S. economy; ongoing negotiations with China continue.

QUESTIONS A RESOLUTION MUST ANSWER (QARMA)

A resolution must address key questions such as the "who, what, when, where, why, and how" to effectively propose solutions to the issues at hand.

1. What specific problems caused by tariffs on essential commodities need to be addressed?
2. Where should resources, stockpiles, or infrastructure investments be concentrated to maximize resilience?
3. Where are the most vulnerable populations or supply chains that need protection?
4. Why is addressing tariff-related disruptions critical for social and economic resilience?
5. How will international collaboration and resource-sharing be facilitated?
6. What policy measures (tariff reductions, trade facilitation, emergency stockpiles, alternative supply chains) should be prioritized?
7. How can countries coordinate policies, logistics, and resources to minimize disruptions while respecting national trade sovereignty?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO HELP YOU GET STARTED

These are a few helpful resources to help you get started on research. These are NOT all the resources that are there but are rather complementary/ introductory to individual research.

https://www.congress.gov/crs_external_products/R/PDF/R48549/R48549.7.pdf

https://ttd.wto.org/en

https://ttd.wto.org/en/analysis/tariff-actions?

https://ttd.wto.org/en/analysis/tariff-actions?reporter=C124=

https://unctad.org/topic/trade-analysis/tariffs

https://worldscorecard.com/world-facts-and-figures/us-tariffs-and-the-world/

https://unctad.org/publication/global-trade-update-april-2025-escalating-tariffs-impact-small-and-vulnerable-economies

https://www.weforum.org/stories/2025/09/us-adjusts-tariffs-certain-commodities-finance-news-to-know/