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U.S. Plans New Tariffs on China, the EU, 14 Other Economies

Officials have not disclosed rates or products, leaving businesses bracing for trade penalties tied to alleged subsidized production

Wednesday, November 25, 2026

The United States was preparing on Wednesday, Nov. 25, to impose a new round of tariffs on goods from China, the European Union and 14 other economies over concerns about subsidized production, according to people familiar with the plans cited by The Associated Press.

The measures had not been formally announced as of Wednesday, and key details remained unsettled. The tariff rates were not yet public, and neither the final list of affected products nor the full list of economies had been released. That left businesses, importers and foreign governments waiting for more information about the scope of the action and how quickly it could take effect.

The planned move would open another trade front for Washington at a time when tariffs remain a central tool in U.S. economic policy. The focus, according to the AP report, is production that the United States believes has been supported by government subsidies in ways that distort competition. That approach would place close U.S. partners such as the EU alongside strategic rivals such as China in the same tariff action.

Because the plan had not been officially unveiled, it was not clear what legal mechanism the administration intended to use, how broad the product categories would be, or whether the tariffs would be targeted at specific industries or spread across a wider range of imports. Those unanswered questions matter because U.S.

tariff actions often reach well beyond the sectors at the center of the dispute, affecting supply chains, wholesalers and retailers that were not part of the original policy debate.

The uncertainty is likely to draw close attention from manufacturers and trade groups on both sides of the Atlantic and in Asia. Tariffs can raise the cost of imported goods for U.S. buyers and can also prompt retaliation from trading partners, depending on how the measures are structured and how foreign governments respond. Even before any official rollout, the prospect of new duties can disrupt pricing decisions, shipping plans and contract negotiations.

The planned action could also matter for the beverage industry, even though no public product list had been released by Wednesday. European wine exporters in particular could face renewed trade risk in the U.S. market if wine were included in any final tariff package. Importers of beer, spirits or related products would be watching for the same reason: past trade disputes have sometimes pulled consumer goods into broader tariff fights that began in unrelated industrial sectors.

For companies that sell into the United States, the main issue now is whether the administration is preparing a narrow action aimed at a defined set of subsidized products or a wider package with spillover effects across multiple categories. For U.S. businesses that rely on imported components or finished goods, the concern is that even a limited tariff can increase costs if it lands on products that are hard to replace quickly.

The AP report did not indicate when the administration would make a public announcement. Until that happens, the proposal remains a developing trade policy move with major unknowns, but one that already signals Washington is prepared to use tariffs again against both allies and competitors over industrial subsidies.