

# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR LEGAL RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS



Open Access, Refereed Journal Multi Disciplinary  
Peer Reviewed

[www.ijlra.com](http://www.ijlra.com)

## **DISCLAIMER**

No part of this publication may be reproduced or copied in any form by any means without prior written permission of Managing Editor of IJLRA. The views expressed in this publication are purely personal opinions of the authors and do not reflect the views of the Editorial Team of IJLRA.

Though every effort has been made to ensure that the information in Volume II Issue 7 is accurate and appropriately cited/referenced, neither the Editorial Board nor IJLRA shall be held liable or responsible in any manner whatsoever for any consequences for any action taken by anyone on the basis of information in the Journal.

Copyright © International Journal for Legal Research & Analysis

## **EDITORIAL TEAM**

### **EDITORS**

#### **Dr. Samrat Datta**

*Dr. Samrat Datta Seedling School of Law and Governance, Jaipur National University, Jaipur. Dr. Samrat Datta is currently associated with Seedling School of Law and Governance, Jaipur National University, Jaipur. Dr. Datta has completed his graduation i.e., B.A.LL.B. from Law College Dehradun, Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Srinagar, Uttarakhand. He is an alumnus of KIIT University, Bhubaneswar where he pursued his post-graduation (LL.M.) in Criminal Law and subsequently completed his Ph.D. in Police Law and Information Technology from the Pacific Academy of Higher Education and Research University, Udaipur in 2020. His area of interest and research is Criminal and Police Law. Dr. Datta has a teaching experience of 7 years in various law schools across North India and has held administrative positions like Academic Coordinator, Centre Superintendent for Examinations, Deputy Controller of Examinations, Member of the Proctorial Board*



#### **Dr. Namita Jain**

*Head & Associate Professor*

*School of Law, JECRC University, Jaipur Ph.D. (Commercial Law) LL.M., UGC -NET Post Graduation Diploma in Taxation law and Practice, Bachelor of Commerce.*



*Teaching Experience: 12 years, AWARDS AND RECOGNITION of Dr. Namita Jain are - ICF Global Excellence Award 2020 in the category of educationalist by I Can Foundation, India. India Women Empowerment Award in the category of "Emerging Excellence in Academics by Prime Time & Utkrisht Bharat Foundation, New Delhi. (2020). Conferred in FL Book of Top 21 Record Holders in the category of education by Fashion Lifestyle Magazine, New Delhi. (2020). Certificate of Appreciation for organizing and managing the Professional Development Training Program on IPR in Collaboration with Trade Innovations Services, Jaipur on March 14th, 2019*

## Mrs.S.Kalpana

Assistant professor of Law

*Mrs.S.Kalpana, presently Assistant professor of Law, VelTech Rangarajan Dr.Sagunthala R & D Institute of Science and Technology, Avadi. Formerly Assistant professor of Law, Vels University in the year 2019 to 2020, Worked as Guest Faculty, Chennai Dr.Ambedkar Law College, Pudupakkam. Published one book. Published 8 Articles in various reputed Law Journals. Conducted 1 Moot court competition and participated in nearly 80 National and International seminars and webinars conducted on various subjects of Law. Did ML in Criminal Law and Criminal Justice Administration. 10 paper presentations in various National and International seminars. Attended more than 10 FDP programs. Ph.D. in Law pursuing.*



## Avinash Kumar



*Avinash Kumar has completed his Ph.D. in International Investment Law from the Dept. of Law & Governance, Central University of South Bihar. His research work is on "International Investment Agreement and State's right to regulate Foreign Investment." He qualified UGC-NET and has been selected for the prestigious ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship. He is an alumnus of the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi. Formerly he has been elected as Students Union President of Law Centre-1, University of Delhi. Moreover, he completed his LL.M. from the University of Delhi (2014-16), dissertation on "Cross-border Merger & Acquisition"; LL.B. from the University of Delhi (2011-14), and B.A. (Hons.) from Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi. He has also obtained P.G. Diploma in IPR from the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi. He has qualified UGC – NET examination and has been awarded ICSSR – Doctoral Fellowship. He has published six-plus articles and presented 9 plus papers in national and international seminars/conferences. He participated in several workshops on research methodology and teaching and learning.*

## **ABOUT US**

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR LEGAL RESEARCH & ANALYSIS  
ISSN

2582-6433 is an Online Journal is Monthly, Peer Review, Academic Journal, Published online, that seeks to provide an interactive platform for the publication of Short Articles, Long Articles, Book Review, Case Comments, Research Papers, Essay in the field of Law & Multidisciplinary issue. Our aim is to upgrade the level of interaction and discourse about contemporary issues of law. We are eager to become a highly cited academic publication, through quality contributions from students, academics, professionals from the industry, the bar and the bench. INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR LEGAL RESEARCH & ANALYSIS ISSN 2582-6433 welcomes contributions from all legal branches, as long as the work is original, unpublished and is in consonance with the submission guidelines.



# **THE SHIFTING TERRAIN: IMPACT OF TRADE WARS ON GLOBAL ECONOMIC LANDSCAPES AND MARKET DYNAMICS**

AUTHORED BY - HRIDHYA T.V

Designation- Assistant Professor

Soundarya College of Law, Bangalore

## **ABSTRACT**

This article delves into the urgent need to understand the complex interplay between trade wars, their ramifications on the global economy, and the consequent effects on international relations. Trade wars, characterized by escalating tariffs and protectionist measures between countries, have become a recurrent feature in contemporary global economic dynamics. The paper discusses the multifaceted consequences of such conflicts, focusing on their economic, political, and social implications.

Through a comprehensive review of the existing literature, this paper highlights the immediate and long-term negative impacts of trade wars on the global economy. It underscores the disruption of international trade patterns, the deceleration of global economic growth, and the escalation of consumer prices, ultimately leading to market volatility and reduced investor confidence. Moreover, it examines the adverse repercussions on specific industries, supply chains, and employment rates, elucidating the detrimental effects on both the developed and developing economies.

Furthermore, the paper scrutinizes the intricate nexus between trade wars and international relations. It delves into the geopolitical tensions and diplomatic strains that often arise as a consequence of protectionist policies and retaliatory measures. For instance, the US-China trade war has led to increased tensions in the South China Sea and strained diplomatic relations between the two countries. The study highlights how trade wars can exacerbate existing geopolitical rivalries and strain multilateral institutions, potentially fostering a climate of mistrust and hostility among nations.

Overall, this article provides a comprehensive analysis of the intricate relationship between

trade wars, the global economy, and international relations, shedding light on the multifaceted challenges and opportunities for the policymakers and the global leaders. It underscores the need for collaboration among nations in navigating the complexities of an increasingly interconnected world.

Keywords: Trade war, Global economy, Protectionism, International trade, Global Trade.

## INTRODUCTION

A trade war breaks out when one nation retaliates against another by imposing import restrictions or higher import tariffs. If a nation believes its rival is engaging in unfair trade practices, trade wars may break out. Politicians may be pressured by domestic trade unions or business lobbyists to reduce the appeal of imported goods to consumers, perhaps leading to a trade war. Furthermore, a lack of knowledge of the many advantages of free trade frequently leads to trade wars.

Trade wars are typically seen as a consequence of protectionist policies. Policies and acts of governments that impede international trade are referred to as protectionism. Protectionist measures are implemented by a nation to defend its workforce and enterprises from outside competition. One more strategy for balancing trade deficits is protectionism. When a nation's imports exceed its exports, a trade deficit results. A tariff is a charge or fee placed on commodities that are imported into a country. A trade war can have a devastating effect on the firms and consumers of both countries in a global economy, and its ripple effects can spread to many other areas of both economies. When a trade war starts in a particular sector, it may spread to others. Similarly, a trade war that breaks out between two nations might have an impact on nations that were not initially parties to the conflict. As previously said, a protectionist inclination may be the cause of an import "tit-for-tat" conflict.

A trade war is not the same as other measures, like sanctions, used to manage imports and exports. Instead, because the trade war's objectives are directly tied to trade, it negatively impacts the two countries' commercial relationship. Sanctions, for instance, may also serve charitable purposes. Protectionist measures might also include imposing strict product standards, capping import restrictions, or providing government subsidies for procedures that discourage outsourcing.

## **HISTORY OF TRADE WARS**

Trade wars are not a creation of contemporary culture. These kinds of conflicts have existed for as long as people have traded with one another. For instance, in the seventeenth century, disputes arose between colonial powers on the exclusive right to trade with colonies abroad. These trade conflicts have a lengthy history within the British Empire.

The EU also imposed tariffs on American agricultural imports and other products, including Harley-Davidson motorcycles.<sup>1</sup> By May 2019, tariffs on Chinese imports impacted nearly \$200 billion of imports.<sup>2</sup> As with all trade wars, China retaliated and imposed stiff duties on American imports. A study by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) shows that U.S. importers of goods have primarily shouldered the cost of the imposed tariffs on Chinese goods. These costs are eventually passed on to the American consumer in the form of higher prices, which is the exact opposite of what the trade war is intended to accomplish.

### **Examples of Trade Wars:**

**Opium War:** The First Opium War broke out between the British Empire and the Qing dynasty in 1839–1842, with the aim of stopping the British East India Company from smuggling the drug into China. China lost Hong Kong to Britain as a result of this. Between 1856 to 1860, during the Second Opium War, Britain and France coerced China into removing import restrictions and opening the country to international traders.

**The Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act, 1930:** Senators Reed Smoot and Willis C. Hawley had originally presented the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act to safeguard the US farm sector, but President Herbert Hoover approved it to protect the collapsing stock market and domestic industries. Nonetheless, President Hoover broadened the Act's application to cover over 20,000 goods from a variety of industries. Even though the US was able to significantly lessen its reliance on imports during the ensuing few years, retaliatory actions from other nations caused a 61% decline in US exports by 1933. The Great Depression was further exacerbated by the trade war.

**Chicken Wars:** As people began to prefer cheaper American chickens over European ones, demand for American chickens decreased in the early 1960s, leading to hefty levies on

---

<sup>1</sup>Harley Davidson Inc. "Harley-Davidson, Inc. to Vigorously Defend Its Position Following Aggressive EU Tariff Ruling accessed 24 october 2023.

<sup>2</sup> 'Tariff Tracker: Tracking the Economic Impact of Tariffs', 'Tariff Tracker: Tracking the Economic Impact of Tariffs' accessed 20 July 2024.



American chickens from France and Germany. Higher taxes on a number of goods, notably French wine and Volkswagen buses, were imposed by the US in retaliation. It even made the threat of halting NATO forces in Europe.

**The Pasta War:** In 1985, the US Regan administration increased duties on pasta imported from Europe after it was told that its claims of unfair treatment regarding its citrus products were unheeded. Europe increased its tariffs on American walnuts and lemons in retaliation. Both parties concluded an agreement in August 1986 to put an end to the citrus issue, and in October 1987 to the pasta conflict.

**The Banana wars:** In 1993, Europe placed high taxes on the import of bananas from Latin America in order to limit the supply of bananas to its colonies in Africa and the Caribbean. The US filed eight separate complaints with the WTO because US corporations own the majority of the banana crops in Latin America. In 2009, the EU decided to progressively lower its tariffs on Latin American bananas. The 20-year banana war came to an official end in 2012 when the EU and ten Latin American countries inked an agreement to halt all eight WTO disputes.

## CAUSES OF TRADE WAR

### To protect the domestic economy:

Initiating a trade war to protect domestic manufacturers is often rooted in the desire to shield local industries from intense international competition. This competitive pressure may arise due to several factors, including disparities in production costs, variations in labor standards, divergent regulatory frameworks, and discrepancies in currency valuation.

### Four Methods of Trade Protectionism

1. Imposing tariffs on imports is one method. The cost of imported goods increases right away as a result. Comparing them to locally produced items makes them less competitive. This approach is most effective in import-dependent nations like the United States.
2. Government subsidies to regional businesses constitute a second line of defense against trade. Even when the products are exported abroad, this lowers their cost. Tariffs are not as effective as subsidies. The countries that depend primarily on exports benefit most from this strategy.
3. Imposing quotas on imported goods is the third strategy. This approach works better than the previous two. An outside nation cannot ship more goods, no matter how low it sets the price through subsidies.

4. The fourth type of trade protectionism is subtle. It is a deliberate attempt by a country to lower its currency value. This would make its exports cheaper and more competitive. This method can result in retaliation and start a currency war.

**To create employment opportunities in the domestic country:**

Governments often implement measures to check imports as a strategy to create employment opportunities and improve living standards within their domestic countries. This approach is rooted in the understanding that a vibrant and robust domestic manufacturing sector can significantly contribute to job creation, income generation, and overall economic prosperity.

**To safeguard a Nation's Intellectual Property:**

When a nation's intellectual property rights, trade secrets, or other proprietary information are infringed upon, governments may resort to imposing restrictions on imports as a means of safeguarding their national interests. The protection of intellectual property is crucial for fostering innovation, promoting economic growth, and maintaining a competitive edge in the global marketplace.

**To Develop Unfavourable Conditions by Restricting Exports:**

During times of conflict or war, nations often resort to various strategies to weaken the economic stability and resilience of their adversaries. One such strategy involves imposing restrictions on exports and raising tariffs, with the aim of creating unfavorable conditions for the enemy country, particularly when the adversary heavily relies on imports to sustain its domestic industries and meet essential needs.

## **THE US-CHINA TRADE WAR**

In July 2018, a trade war broke out between President Xi Jinping of China and President Donald Trump of the United States. The world's two biggest economies are of the United States and China. Following its entry into the World Commerce Organisation in 2001, China's overseas commerce expanded quickly, with bilateral trade between the US and China reaching nearly US\$559 billion in 2019. But the US and China had a huge and widening trade gap, which became a contentious political topic during the 2016 US presidential campaign. Prior to the commencement of the trade war, the US trade deficit increased from US\$103.1 billion in 2002 to US\$375.6 billion in 2017.

In his 2016 presidential campaign, US President Donald Trump pledged to cut the significant trade deficit with China, citing unfair trade practises by Beijing, such as forced technology transfers, theft of intellectual property, denial of market access to US businesses in China, and unfair competition brought about by Beijing's subsidies for Chinese companies that it favours. China, meantime, feels that the US is attempting to impede its ascent to prominence in the world economy.

The US put a 25% tariff on US\$34 billion worth of Chinese goods on July 6, 2018, marking the beginning of the US-China trade war. This was the first of many tariffs imposed by the US in 2018 and 2019.

The US and China kept upping the ante, putting different import duties on each other's goods, until mid-December 2019, when they reached an agreement in principle on a phase one trade deal. The provisions of the phase one trade agreement went into effect on February 15, 2020, after it was formally signed on January 15, 2020.

According to Trump, China also promised to lift import duties on a wide range of US goods, including biotechnology, dairy products, fish, hog, chicken, cattle, and rice. A new 15% tariff on around US\$162 billion worth of Chinese goods was also suspended by the US as a result of the agreement, and the existing 15% charge on imports worth approximately US\$110 billion was half to 7.5%. Additionally, China canceled the day's worth of planned retaliation tariffs.

There were doubts about China's ability or willingness to abide by the requirements of the phase one trade agreement as the coronavirus outbreak began to spread quickly in January 2020. At different times in the past, former Chinese officials have stated that China would "definitely" fulfil its agreements to buy agricultural products. However, they acknowledged that China might have to employ a force majeure clause—a reference to an unforeseen act of God—with relation to additional scheduled purchases in light of the coronavirus outbreak.

China removed restrictions on a number of pet food products, baby formula, chipped potatoes, and cattle and poultry goods in February. It also announced a number of steps to ease tariffs, such as allowing importers to seek for exemptions, and it started purchasing US soybeans, sorghum, and pork again. China was able to resume buying US goods in 2020, possibly in an attempt to prevent the situation from completely collapsing because tensions over everything

from technology to Hong Kong are still escalating. In May of this year, the US trade deficit was US\$26.96 billion, down from US\$33.71 billion in June of last year.

However, China's trade surplus with the US was 46.5% greater in the month leading up to the 2020 US Presidential election than it was on the day Donald Trump took office in January 2017. China's trade surplus with the US reached US\$31.35 billion in October 2020, up 18.74% from the same month the previous year. From US\$30.75 billion in September, this was an increase. Furthermore, even if China increased its purchases of US agricultural products in the lead-up to the election, it is still well short of hitting its 2020 import targets. According to US customs data, as of the end of September, it was just 54% of the way towards meeting its purchasing targets. Even while it has increased imports of pork, soybeans, and maize over the summer, China is only expected to reach 65% of its targets for agricultural purchases this year.

### **TRADE WARS: A THREAT TO THE GLOBAL ECONOMY**

A cold war between two countries has the potential to significantly disrupt the global economy, particularly when supporting nations align themselves with one side and impose restrictions on imports from the common perceived enemy. The ramifications of such actions can be multifaceted, impacting not only the economies of the directly involved nations but also those of their trading partners and allies.

When supporting nations decide to restrict imports from the common adversary, it can trigger a chain reaction, leading to a substantial reduction in the flow of goods and services across international borders. The imposition of trade barriers, embargoes, and tariffs can impede the smooth functioning of global supply chains, affecting businesses and industries that rely on the seamless exchange of goods and services. This disruption can lead to a decline in global trade volumes, negatively impacting the interconnected web of international trade relations and causing a ripple effect that reverberates throughout the global economy.

The imposition of import restrictions can foster an environment of uncertainty and apprehension, prompting investors to adopt a cautious approach and leading to a decline in foreign direct investments. The resulting decrease in cross-border investments can stifle economic growth and impede the development of emerging markets, exacerbating the challenges faced by developing economies.

The broader geopolitical implications of a cold war can also contribute to an atmosphere of instability and unpredictability in international financial markets. The heightened political tensions can lead to increased volatility in global financial markets, causing fluctuations in exchange rates and commodity prices. This volatility can further erode investor confidence, leading to a reduction in capital flows and potential market sell-offs, ultimately affecting the stability of the global financial system. The strain on international relations caused by a Cold War can lead to the emergence of regional blocs and alliances, potentially fragmenting the global economy. This fragmentation can result in the formation of separate trading blocs, each with its own set of regulations and trade agreements, leading to a reduction in the overall efficiency of global trade and hindering the prospects of international economic cooperation.

### **Global price rise:**

When tariffs on imports surge, the repercussions often reverberate across the global economy, triggering a domino effect that can significantly impact international trade dynamics. The intricate relationship between tariffs and the cost of raw materials necessitates a comprehensive understanding of their far-reaching implications. One notable consequence of heightened tariffs on imports is the amplification of production costs, which subsequently leads to an increase in the prices of finished goods reliant on these raw materials. For many exporting countries, the sudden surge in tariffs can pose a formidable challenge, particularly for industries heavily dependent on imported raw materials. This dependence often translates into higher production costs, compelling exporters to pass on the burden to the consumers in the form of elevated prices. Consequently, the competitiveness of these products in the global market diminishes as they become comparatively more expensive than similar goods originating from countries with more favorable trade conditions.

Moreover, the intricate network of global trade relations amplifies the impact of tariff escalation, as it can trigger retaliatory measures from affected trading partners. In the wake of heightened tariffs, affected countries may resort to imposing their own tariffs, thereby exacerbating the situation and creating a ripple effect that can disturb the equilibrium of the global market. Such trade tensions can potentially lead to a reduction in the overall volume of international trade, causing a stagnation in the flow of goods and services, and ultimately impeding the growth prospects of economies reliant on robust global trade. In addition to the immediate economic ramifications, the amplification of trade barriers due to increased tariffs can foster an environment of uncertainty and unpredictability, deterring investments and



stifling innovation. Industries that rely heavily on global supply chains for their raw materials are compelled to reevaluate their operational strategies, often resulting in a shift towards more localized production, which can significantly impact the broader global trade landscape.

**Increase in inflation:**

An upsurge in prices, commonly referred to as inflation, can have far-reaching implications for the global economy, potentially precipitating a series of events that may lead to a recession. As the cost of goods and services escalates, consumers experience a decrease in their purchasing power, leading to a reduction in overall consumption. This decline in consumer spending can trigger a ripple effect, adversely impacting businesses and subsequently leading to a contraction in production and economic activity. The confluence of these factors can potentially set the stage for a recessionary phase, characterized by a significant downturn in economic growth and a rise in unemployment rates.

The effects of inflation go beyond the national economy since they can have a significant impact on global markets. The effects of inflation in one area can have cross-border ripple effects on trade relations and investor mood in an interconnected global economy. Increased inflation has the potential to undermine investor confidence, which might result in a sell-off in the financial markets and a drop in share prices. This may foster a generalised sense of unease and fear, leading investors to exercise caution and possibly reducing their expenditures across a range of industries.

**Slow economic growth:**

War between two nations can significantly impede the economic growth and development of the involved countries, largely due to the disruption in the supply of essential raw materials. While some countries heavily rely on imported raw materials to sustain their industries, the outbreak of war can lead to a scarcity of these crucial resources. This scarcity can be a result of multiple factors, including the destruction of supply routes, the disruption of trade networks, and the diversion of resources toward military efforts. Consequently, the limited availability and increased cost of raw materials can severely constrain the production capacities of vital industries, leading to an economic downturn.

In many cases, the unavailability of essential raw materials within the country's borders necessitates their importation from international markets. However, during times of war, trade embargoes and restrictions are often imposed, impeding the flow of goods and services across borders. This can

lead to a significant increase in the cost of raw materials, rendering them prohibitively expensive for industries heavily reliant on them. The resulting surge in production costs can lead to a decrease in output and a subsequent decline in economic growth, as businesses struggle to sustain their operations amidst the turmoil and scarcity.

**Fall in global stock market:**

The imposition of tariffs and trade barriers can significantly impede international trade, leading to a reduction in the volume of global trade transactions. This reduction directly impacts the revenues and profits of multinational corporations with extensive global supply chains, thereby dampening investor confidence and leading to a sell-off in the stock market. As a result, the profitability and growth prospects of companies heavily reliant on international trade are compromised, leading to a widespread decline in stock prices across various sectors and industries. The interconnected nature of the global financial system implies that a slump in the stock market in one major economy can trigger a chain reaction, impacting other international markets and economies. Market interdependence can amplify the impact of a trade war, as the repercussions of declining stock prices can extend beyond national borders, causing widespread panic among investors and triggering a sell-off in global markets. This interconnectedness underscores the vulnerability of the global financial system to external shocks, emphasizing the need for coordinated policy responses and international cooperation to mitigate the adverse effects of trade wars on the global economy.

Trade tensions have an effect on more than just how international trade flows are rearranged. Additionally, they obstruct collaborative efforts aimed at addressing global issues, ranging from enhancing the multilateral trading system to accomplishing the Sustainable Development Goals, which were endorsed by the international community in 2015. This will be the most detrimental consequence over time. There is no winner.

Trade wars have complex and uneven effects, much as trade has led to an uneven distribution of welfare gains and losses among nations, industries, producers, and consumers. Trade war starters will erect new trade barriers to shield or even boost employment in targeted industries, but other downstream sectors will suffer from higher import and intermediate goods costs. Trade wars will not only produce winners and losers on the home front, but they will also affect the other countries that are not directly involved.

Neoliberal economists generally think that trade wars are a bad policy choice because they

restrict rather than liberalize trade, despite Trump's assertion that "trade wars are good, and easy to win." Domestic businesses in a trade war's initiating and targeted nations will need to swiftly adapt to the new tariffs and other trade restrictions. Some businesses will benefit while others will struggle to make the necessary changes to their supply chains. Those with alternative export destinations that are less dependent on intermediate inputs or raw materials from the targeted market typically find it easier to do so.

Following the significant disruptions to their supply chains caused by the global pandemic and the US-China trade war, multinational corporations (MNCs) have begun to reexamine their long-standing position of "efficiency-driven" supply chains in order to ensure resilience and security. Trade wars, however, will always increase the transaction and adjustment costs for businesses and lower the aggregate welfare of the world community. A trade war will likely cause disruption to the global economy and supply chains in addition to its effects on the two countries involved, particularly if they are major players in the global economy.

For example, Ms. Christine Lagarde, the former manager director of the International Monetary Fund, once proposed that the trade war between the United States and China may cause the global GDP to decline by US\$455 billion by 2020. In addition, a small group of nations—like Vietnam and the European Union in the current US China trade war—may profit from trade wars as bystanders by emerging as substitute suppliers or investment destinations for the targeted nation.

### **How does the US-China Trade War affect the rest of the world?**

The researchers compare the tariff moves with data on global bilateral commerce for the top 50 exporting nations—oil exporters excluded—from the International Commerce Centre in order to assess the effects of these tariff adjustments on trade worldwide. The export growth of several products that were exposed to varied tariff increases by the US or China is compared in their analysis.

China and the US lowered their exports of goods that were subject to higher taxes. While US exports to the rest of the world rose somewhat, by 2.2 percent, US exports to China decreased by 26.3 percent. China's exports to the rest of the world increased by a statistically insignificant 5.5 percent, while its exports to the US decreased by 8.5 percent. The researchers also discover that bystander countries' commerce in the goods targeted by the tariffs grew. These countries

achieved more than just redistributing global trade flows among different destinations; their total exports to the world rose. Global trade increased by 3 percent overall, according to calculations, as a result of the rest of the world's reaction.

The researchers discover that, rather than specialisation patterns, the trade war winners and losers are mostly explained by heterogeneity in exporters' responses to trade-war-induced price shifts. Numerous nations experiencing robust development in exports were following supply curves that sloped downward, offering products as replacements for those formerly supplied by China or the US. As indicated by their involvement in trade agreements and foreign direct investment, the nations with the highest levels of international integration reaped the greatest benefits. For instance, in reaction to the tariffs, France increased its exports to the US and the rest of the globe. Spain's exports to the US grew, but its exports to other countries decreased. The tariff rises decreased exports to the US and the rest of the globe from South Africa and the Philippines. Out of the 48 nations in the data sample, 19 saw statistically significant increases in the exports of bystander countries in reaction to the levies. There was a statistically significant drop reported in one nation, but no statistically significant effects were observed in the remaining 28 countries.

### **TRADE WAR - JUDICIAL PERSPECTIVE**

One of the primary roles of the judiciary in the context of trade wars is to interpret and enforce the provisions of international trade agreements, including those established by the World Trade Organization (WTO) and other regional trade blocs. Adjudicating disputes and resolving conflicts between nations necessitates a judicious application of legal principles and an impartial assessment of trade-related claims and counterclaims.

Moreover, the judiciary serves as a crucial mechanism for upholding the rule of law and safeguarding the rights and interests of all parties involved in trade wars. Judicial institutions provide a forum for the adjudication of disputes, the protection of intellectual property rights, and the enforcement of trade regulations, thereby fostering a climate of legal certainty and predictability in the global trade landscape. By upholding the principles of transparency, non-discrimination, and the rule of law, the judiciary contributes to the maintenance of a rules-based international trading system that is conducive to fostering stability, promoting economic development, and resolving trade disputes amicably.

Furthermore, the judicial perspective of trade wars underscores the significance of promoting the use of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, such as mediation and arbitration, to facilitate the timely and efficient resolution of trade disputes. Emphasizing the importance of dialogue, negotiation, and consensus-building can help mitigate the adverse effects of trade wars and foster an environment of cooperation and mutual understanding among nations.

### **FURTHER ANALYSIS**

Trade wars, characterized by the imposition of tariffs, trade barriers, and retaliatory measures between nations, have significant implications for the global economy and international relations. These conflicts often arise from disputes over trade imbalances, intellectual property rights, and market access, among other contentious issues. As the world becomes increasingly interconnected, the repercussions of trade wars extend far beyond the involved parties, creating a ripple effect that can disrupt global supply chains, dampen investor confidence, and foster an atmosphere of uncertainty in international markets.

At the heart of trade wars lie the adverse effects on the global economy. The imposition of tariffs and trade barriers can lead to a reduction in the volume of international trade, impacting the revenues and profitability of multinational corporations and leading to a decline in global economic growth. The resulting market volatility and fluctuations in exchange rates can further undermine investor confidence, leading to a reduction in capital flows and potentially triggering a worldwide economic downturn. Moreover, the escalation of trade tensions can precipitate a decline in consumer spending, investment, and industrial production, amplifying the adverse impact on the global economy and posing challenges for sustainable development.

Beyond their economic ramifications, trade wars can also strain international relations, leading to heightened geopolitical tensions and a deterioration of diplomatic ties. The retaliatory measures undertaken by affected nations can exacerbate existing conflicts, fostering an environment of mistrust and animosity that hinders the prospects for effective international cooperation and diplomacy. Moreover, the emergence of protectionist sentiments and nationalist policies can fuel a climate of isolationism, potentially fragmenting the global community and impeding efforts to address shared challenges, such as climate change, security threats, and humanitarian crises.



## CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

In conclusion, the study underscores the profound impact of trade wars on the global economy and international relations, highlighting the interconnectedness of the modern global marketplace and the far-reaching consequences of protectionist measures. The analysis demonstrates that trade wars not only disrupt global supply chains and impede international trade but also foster an environment of uncertainty and volatility, dampening investor confidence and hindering the prospects for sustainable economic growth. Moreover, the escalation of trade tensions can strain diplomatic relations, fuel geopolitical rivalries, and undermine efforts to foster international cooperation, thereby posing significant challenges to global stability and peace.

Furthermore, it is essential for policymakers and stakeholders to recognize the interconnected nature of the global economy and the significance of fostering a rules-based international trading system. Emphasizing the importance of adhering to international trade norms and principles, while also addressing the legitimate concerns of nations, can lay the foundation for a more stable and predictable trade environment. Implementing measures aimed at enhancing transparency, mitigating trade imbalances, and promoting the equitable distribution of benefits can foster a more inclusive and sustainable global economic order that prioritizes cooperation and mutual prosperity. By embracing a collaborative approach and upholding the values of fairness and reciprocity, nations can mitigate the adverse effects of trade wars, foster a climate of trust and cooperation, and build a more resilient and prosperous global community.

## REFERENCES

1. 'U.S. Senate: The Senate Passes the Smoot-Hawley Tariff', 'U.S. Senate: The Senate Passes the Smoot-Hawley Tariff' accessed 24 October 2023
2. 'Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act', 'Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act' accessed 24 October 2023
3. Harley Davidson Inc. "Harley-Davidson, Inc. to Vigorously Defend Its Position Following Aggressive EU Tariff Ruling accessed 24 October 2023.
4. 'Tariff Tracker: Tracking the Economic Impact of Tariffs', 'Tariff Tracker: Tracking the Economic Impact of Tariffs' accessed 20 July 2024.
5. 'The Impact of US-China Trade Tensions', 'The Impact of US-China Trade Tensions' (IMF Blog 23 May 2019) accessed 24 October 2023

6. RE Baldwin and JH Power, 'Foreign Trade Regimes and Economic Development: The Philippines' (1976) 6.
7. Zeng K, Liang W and Paradise JF, 'Ka Zeng, Wei Liang (eds): China and Global Trade Governance: China's First Decade in the World Trade Organization' (2015) 20
8. TJ Schoenbaum, JN Bhagwati and RE Hudec, 'Fair Trade and Harmonization. Prerequisite for Free Trade?' (1996) 90.
9. GG Das, 'Trade War, Global Restructuring and Global Production Network: Beating the Odds' (2020) 55.

