

## Trump Raises Tariffs to Highest Level in Nearly 100 Years and Plans Meeting with Putin

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President Donald Trump raises U.S. import tariffs to levels not seen in almost a century and announces plans to meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin. The new tariffs apply to goods from more than 60 countries, with duties ranging from 10 to over 40 percent. This move aims to boost domestic manufacturing and increase federal revenue.

The average U.S. tariff rate now approaches levels last seen in the 1930s. Key trading partners such as Brazil and Switzerland face the steepest increases, while countries including India, the European Union, and Japan negotiate for partial exemptions or lower rates to mitigate economic impact.

Businesses warn that these tariffs could lead to higher costs for consumers, particularly affecting groceries, electronics, and apparel. Market reactions have been mixed, with some indices showing resilience amid signs of domestic investment, while others respond cautiously.

In a notable diplomatic development, the Kremlin confirms that a meeting between Trump and Putin is planned in the coming days. The administration frames the summit as an opportunity to discuss resolving the conflict in Ukraine, though details remain unofficial. No date or location has been announced, but the meeting underscores the administration's intent to engage directly with Moscow.

Critics argue that the tariffs may increase economic strain on American households, especially amid ongoing inflation concerns. Economists caution that higher import costs could reduce purchasing power and disrupt supply chains. Supporters counter that the measures are necessary to strengthen U.S. manufacturing and re-balance trade relations in the country's favor.

The planned summit with Putin raises concerns among national security experts who question whether direct talks might weaken the United States' position in Ukraine negotiations. Some observers call for Ukraine's President Zelensky to be included in discussions to ensure meaningful progress.

These developments signal significant shifts in trade and foreign policy. As the administration pursues aggressive economic measures and diplomatic engagement, the global community watches closely for the long-term effects on international stability and American interests.