



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Statement from WCIT President Lori Otto Punke, Against Steel and Aluminum Tariffs**

May 31, 2018

SEATTLE - “The Washington Council on International Trade strongly disagrees with the Administration’s decision to impose steel and aluminum tariffs on Canada, Mexico and the European Union, all of which are some of Washington state’s most important trading partners. Here at home, where 40 percent of all jobs are trade related, the Administration’s actions stand to inflict a disproportionate amount of harm on our workers, our businesses and our communities. More broadly, these tariffs will do little more than invite retribution from our rule-abiding allies and hinder the global cooperation required to stand up against unfair trade practices from other nations. As an upstanding member of the global trade community, we should be setting a better example. This is not the way to do business.”

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**About the Washington Council on International Trade**

WCIT is the only organization in Washington dedicated exclusively to advocating for public policies that increase our state’s international competitiveness. On behalf of its members — manufacturers, farmers, retailers and service providers – WCIT advocates for trade policies and investments that benefit Washington’s workers and employers.

- Evaluate and share objective data on the impact of trade policies on Washington’s economy.
- Educate our local, state and federal elected officials about the benefits of strong international trade policies and investments to Washington employers and residents.
- Engage diverse stakeholders from across the state – including manufacturers, retailers, farmers and service providers - to drive policy changes that help them succeed in the global marketplace Follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Facebook](#)!