

July 24, 2019

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## CANADA Daily News and Updates

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### U.S. Business/Government

#### **Advance Data Requirements for E-Commerce Shipments to be Tested**

U.S. Customs and Border Protection has announced that, starting August 22, it will conduct a test for approximately a year, under which additional data elements for Section 321 goods will be transmitted in advance of their arrival. CBP states that it is conducting this voluntary test to determine the feasibility of requiring advance data from different types of parties and requiring additional data that is generally not required under current regulations in order to effectively identify and target high-risk shipments in the e-commerce environment.

Section 321 of the Tariff Act of 1930 provides for an administrative exemption from duty and taxes for shipments of goods (other than bona-fide gifts and certain personal and household goods) imported by one person on one day having an aggregate fair retail value in the country of shipment of not more than \$800.

CBP states that about 1.8 million shipments qualifying for the Section 321 exemption are currently arriving each day, primarily by air and truck, but that the agency is not receiving adequate advance information to assess the security risk of these shipments while still maintaining the clearance speeds the private sector has come to expect. This is particularly true in the e-commerce environment, where traditionally regulated entities such as carriers are increasingly unlikely to possess all the information on a shipment's supply chain.

Read more in the [Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg Trade Report](#).

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### International Business/Government

#### **French Parliament Narrowly Ratifies CETA Trade Deal with Canada**

The French National Assembly yesterday narrowly ratified the CETA trade agreement with Canada in a 266 to 213 vote.

Canada's Parliament has already ratified the pact, with the support of the Liberals and the Conservatives.

Almost all of CETA went into force in September 2017, but individual ratifications by EU member countries will bring it fully into effect.

The French government hopes the vote will lead to full ratification by the end of 2019.

Read more in an [article from CBC News](#).

### **IMF Cuts Growth Forecast, Warning that Tariff Wars and Brexit Could Do Even More Damage**

The International Monetary Fund on Tuesday lowered its forecast for global growth this year and next, warning that more U.S.-China tariffs, auto tariffs and a disorderly Brexit could further slow growth, weaken investment and disrupt supply chains.

The IMF said downside risks have intensified and it now expects global economic growth of 3.2 percent in 2019 and 3.5 percent in 2020, a drop of 0.1 percentage point for both years from its April forecast, and its fourth downgrade since October.

Read more in an [article from the Financial Post](#).

### **U.S. Negotiators to Head to China Monday for Face-to-Face Talks**

U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and senior U.S. officials are set to travel to China next Monday for the first high-level, face-to-face trade negotiations between the world's two biggest economies since talks broke down in May.

Lighthizer and a small team will be in Shanghai through Wednesday, according to people familiar with the plans who asked not to be identified. The meeting will involve a broad discussion of the issues outstanding and isn't expected to yield major breakthroughs, a senior administration official said.

Read more in an [article from BNN Bloomberg](#).

### **Brussels Greet Boris Johnson Victory by Rejecting His Brexit Plans**

Boris Johnson's election as Conservative leader has been greeted in Brussels with a rejection of the incoming British prime minister's Brexit demands and an ominous warning by the newly appointed European commission president about the "challenging times ahead."

Ursula von der Leyen, who will replace Jean-Claude Juncker on November 1, said both sides had a "duty" to deliver a deal as she offered her congratulations to Johnson on his victory.

Read more in an [article from The Guardian](#).

