

Germany & the EU: Strategic Resistance

Tariff Actions by the US:

- **25% tariffs on aluminium and steel** (effective March 12, 2025).
- **25% tariffs on EU cars and other goods** (announced February 2025, starting April 2025).

Economic Impact:

- **Steel/aluminium tariffs:** Minimal impact—EU GDP projected to shrink by only 0.03%.
- **Car tariffs:** Significant threat to EU and German employment and exports.

US Justifications vs. EU Response:

- Citing trade deficits and EU regulations against US tech firms, the US defends its actions.
- The EU counters that the alleged trade imbalance is minor (3% of total trade), and that laws apply equally to EU and US firms.

EU's Strategic Response:

- Coordinated through the Common Customs Tariff (CCT).
- **Retaliatory tariffs planned**, possibly up to 50%, targeting jeans, whiskey, motorcycles, and more.
- **Legal action at WTO** in response to what are seen as unlawful US measures.

Support for Businesses:

- EU's **Access2Markets platform** offers guidance for companies navigating the shifting trade landscape.

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