

Foreign retaliation could devastate Hollywood: expert

Trump's tariff plan on non-US movies draws wide opposition

By Feng Fan and Zhang Changyue

US President Donald Trump has made another new tariff move, this time announcing on Sunday on his Truth Social platform that he has authorized the Commerce Department and US Trade Representative to begin the process of instituting a 100 percent tariff on films that are produced in foreign lands and imported into America.

The proposed tariff on movie prompted disagreement from a former US government official and left Hollywood studio executives scrambling to determine what the announcement will mean for their business.

The new tariff plan has also reportedly drawn responses from Australia and New Zealand, which vowed to defend the rights of their domestic film industry.

Former US Commerce Department official William Reinsch, now a senior

fellow with the Center for Strategic and International Studies, warned that retaliation against the move could be devastating for America's film sector, saying, "The retaliation will kill our industry. We have a lot more to lose than to gain," Reuters reported.

Hollywood studio executives said they received no prior warning about the tariff plan and no information about how it might work, the Wall Street Journal reported.

The policy also drew responses from the governments of Australia and New Zealand. Australian Home Affairs Minister Tony Burke said he had spoken with the head of Screen Australia about the potential impact, stressing, "Nobody should be under any doubt that we will be standing up unequivocally for the rights of the Australian screen industry," Reuters reported.

New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon said his government was

awaiting more information on the proposed measures. "

We'll have to see the detail of what actually ultimately emerges. But we'll be obviously a great advocate, great champion of that sector and that industry," he said, per Reuters.

In addition, Caroline Dinenege, Conservative member of parliament and chair of the UK parliament's cross-party culture media and sport committee, was quoted by the Screen Daily, a London-based film industry media outlet, on Monday, that "making it more difficult to make films in the UK is not in the interests of American businesses."

Many Hollywood films are produced abroad and involve global collaboration, with a large share of their box office revenue coming from overseas. If foreign markets retaliate, the consequences for Hollywood could be disastrous, Tan Fei, a renowned film producer and movie critic, told the Global Times on Monday.

China, Japan, S.Korea, and ASEAN call for enhanced unity and co-op amid protectionism

During the 28th ASEAN Plus Three Finance Ministers' and Central Bank Governors' Meeting which took place on May 4 in Milan, Italy, ASEAN members along with China, Japan, and South Korea, called for enhanced regional unity and cooperation to address heightened uncertainties, including rising protectionism and volatile global financial conditions in a joint statement issued after the meeting.

The joint statement, which did not mention the US by name, came as sweeping new US tariffs threaten to hit Southeast Asia hard, Nikkei Asia reported.

Chinese Finance Minister Lan Fo'an attended the meeting and co-chaired some sessions.

Lan emphasized that the global economy is undergoing profound adjustments, with globalization encountering headwinds and rising unilateralism and protectionism. Instability and uncertainties have notably increased. The 10+3 regional economies demonstrate strong resilience and have significant growth potential, but they also face complex and severe internal and external challenges. China is willing to work with all parties in the 10+3 framework to uphold openness and inclusivity, promote solidarity and cooperation, and continuously deepen regional financial collaboration, in order to address global instability and uncertainty with the stability and certainty of this region, Lan said.

ASEAN members Cambodia and Vietnam are facing hefty US levies of 49 percent and 46 percent, respectively, although the US later announced a 90-day pause for most countries, per Kyodo News.

The US imposed tariffs of 24 percent on imports from Japan, including a baseline levy of 10 percent that remains in effect as negotiations continue, the report said.

During the gathering, the finance chiefs also agreed to update the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralization, which was launched in 2010, expanding its scope to cover pandemics and natural disasters.

Global Times

Spain train delays

Travelers wait for news about their delayed trains at the Madrid train station, Spain, on May 5, 2025. Spain's transport minister has said the country's rail network suffered "an act of serious sabotage" after vital signaling cable was stolen over the busy bank holiday weekend, bringing severe delays to high-speed services between Madrid and Seville that affected more than 10,000 travelers.

Photo: VCG



Iran rejects accusations of involvement in Houthi attacks after Israel vows to retaliate: report

By Li Yawei

Iran on Monday rejected accusations by US and Israeli officials of its involvement in attacks on Israel by the Houthis in Yemen, after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed on Sunday to retaliate against Houthi forces in Yemen and their ally, Iran, after a missile launched by the group struck Israel's international airport.

Earlier in the day, the group claimed responsibility for a missile attack that hit a drive-

way leading to the main terminal of Ben Gurion Airport, Israel's main international airport, according to Xinhua News Agency on Monday.

Following the airport attack, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed on Sunday to retaliate against Houthi forces in Yemen and their ally, Iran, said Xinhua.

In a statement released early Monday, the Iranian Foreign Ministry described the repetition of such "baseless" claims as an "affront to the powerful but oppressed" Yemeni nation.

The statement highlighted Iran's position on the necessity to respect countries' territorial integrity and national sovereignty, and condemned the US military attacks on Yemen as a "flagrant violation" of the UN Charter and international law, per Xinhua.

The statement was released after the Houthi group announced a comprehensive air blockade on Israel "in response to its decision to expand its aggression against Gaza."

The Israeli military said initial findings indicated the likely

reason why the missile was not stopped was a technical issue with the interceptor, the Associated Press reported.

Israel may believe that Tehran's support to the Houthis has substantially enhanced their capacity to strike, thereby perceiving stronger threat to its security. Liu Zhongmin, a professor from the Middle East Studies Institute of Shanghai International Studies University, told the Global Times on Monday, adding that it is one of the motivators for Israel's vows to retaliate against both the

Houthis and Iran.

Israel's defense minister, Israel Katz, responded to the attack by saying: "Anyone who hits us, we will hit them seven times stronger," the BBC reported on Sunday.

From a strategic deterrence perspective, Israel's latest threat of revenge reflected its effort to demonstrate superiority over the Iran-aligned resistance factions, according to Liu.

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