

《习近平：中国将进一步降低关税》

习近平在首届中国国际进口博览会上强调，中国将进一步降低关税，提升通关便利化水准，削减进口环节制度性成本，加快跨境电子商务等新业态新模式发展。



China has promised to further cut import tariffs and open its economy as it tries to address criticisms that its trade practices are "unfair".

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In a speech at a Shanghai trade expo, President Xi Jinping also made a robust defence of the global free trade system which he said was "under attack".

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The US and China have hit each other with huge import tariffs this year.

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Neither are showing any sign of backing down, and the US has threatened to escalate it further still.

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Speaking at the opening of the expo, Mr Xi said that "in a world of deepening economic globalisation, practices of the law of the jungle and winner takes all only represent a dead end".

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"An inclusive growth for all is surely the right way forward."

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The US has imposed taxes on about half of Chinese imports into the US so far this year - making it more expensive for American consumers to buy them - and has threatened to target all imports.

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The White House says the tariffs are a response to China's "unfair" trade policies, which Mr Trump blames for helping to create a huge trade deficit, and its alleged intellectual property theft.

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It also wants China to give American companies better access to its markets.

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Mr Xi promised to take steps to boost imports, by cutting tariffs, facilitating customs clearance and reducing "institutional costs".

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He did not make clear which countries' imports would benefit from the lower tariffs, and whether the US was on this list.

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China would also "continue to broaden market access", Mr Xi said, adding that openness had become a "trademark of China".

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"China's door will never be closed, it will only open still wider."

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Mr Xi also said China would speed up negotiations on both a China-EU investment agreement and a regional China-Japan-South Korea free trade deal.

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