

# President Trump Withdraws US From TPP and Prompts Action on NAFTA Renegotiation

On Monday, January 23, President Donald Trump signed a memorandum formally withdrawing the US from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement, following up on one of his biggest campaign promises.

The [text of the memorandum](#) is available on the White House website. While the document is being described as an executive order (EO), it would appear to be, in fact, a memorandum directing the US Trade Representative to notify the other TPP parties and the Depository of the TPP that the US will be withdrawing its signature from the agreement and exiting from the broader negotiating process. President Trump also pledges that his administration will work with individual countries to negotiate bilateral trade deals in the future and he directs the US Trade Representative “to begin pursuing, wherever possible, bilateral trade negotiations to promote American industry, protect American workers, and raise American wages.”

Under the TPP’s own ratification provisions, the agreement as it currently stands cannot enter into force without the US. However, the Trump administration could use the final TPP text as a starting point for future bilateral trade negotiations or for its expected efforts to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Furthermore, the remaining TPP countries could pursue another plurilateral agreement that does not include the US – including one that does include China.

President Trump is expected to issue a separate document announcing the US’s intent to renegotiate NAFTA. We will be sure to update you on the potential NAFTA memorandum or EO as further information is released. For additional insights, please visit our [Latin America Legal](#) blog.

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