

## Italian President Condemns U.S. tariffs, calls for strong EU response



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ROME, March 24 – Italian President Sergio Mattarella has strongly criticized proposed U.S. tariffs, calling them “unacceptable to all.” Speaking in Rome on the 68th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome, he emphasized the importance of open markets for global stability and economic growth.

“Open markets are vital for peace and our export interests. Tariffs create barriers, distort trade, and penalize quality products. This is unacceptable,” Mattarella stated, urging international opposition to protectionist measures.

The Treaty of Rome, which laid the foundation for the European Union, was commemorated amid growing concerns about European integration and global trade tensions. Expressing optimism, Mattarella said he hoped “common sense prevails” to prevent an escalation of tariffs.

He underscored the EU’s ability to counter such policies, stating, “The European Union has the strength to respond firmly yet calmly against unjustified tariffs.” He urged European leaders to maintain confidence while advocating reforms to enhance decision-making efficiency.

Highlighting the EU’s global influence, Mattarella noted that while the bloc remains a model for integration, it must address its shortcomings. “Europe needs faster and more effective responses. It must evolve to meet modern challenges,” he asserted.

His remarks come amid ongoing trade tensions, as European leaders weigh potential responses to U.S. tariff policies.