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Trump warns China of 50% tariff hike amid escalating trade tensions



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ISTANBUL – US President Donald Trump has threatened to impose an additional 50% tariff on Chinese goods if Beijing does not reverse its recent retaliatory tax hike by April 8. The move follows China’s decision to levy a 34% additional tariff on US imports, prompting Trump to escalate his trade offensive.

“China issued retaliatory tariffs of 34%—on top of their record-setting tariffs, illegal subsidies, and long-term currency manipulation—despite my warning,” Trump posted on social media. “Any country that retaliates against the US will be met with substantially higher tariffs, over and above those initially set.”

The president confirmed the additional 50% tariffs would take effect Wednesday if China fails to reverse course.

In a dramatic move, Trump also announced the immediate suspension of trade talks with China, declaring that Beijing’s request for further negotiations had been terminated. He indicated that discussions with other countries seeking trade agreements with the US would now move forward instead.

Trump had previously unveiled sweeping reciprocal tariffs on over 180 countries last week, ranging from 10% to 50%. China was initially targeted with a 34% tariff, prompting the tit-for-tat

response from Beijing.