



Mr. Craig Mealey
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11th February 2026

Our Ref: CHG-MO-01303-2025

Dear Mr. Mealey,

I am writing to you on behalf of Patrick O' Donovan T.D., Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport. I refer to your correspondence of 24th June 2025 and 15th August 2025 regarding US tariffs in the Film Industry, and I apologise for the delay in replying.

Ireland is a small open economy, supportive of free trade in goods and services. There is a symbiotic relationship between incoming productions and the indigenous sector that affords significant benefits to the home-grown screen industry. As a result of the number of incoming productions, the demand for highly skilled crew at all levels has grown substantially over the past few years.

U.S. President Donald Trump's statement at the end of September 2025 of his intention to impose a 100% tariff on movies made outside the U.S. mirrors a similar statement made on 4th May 2025. Following the May 2025 statement, there were no details of how and when the tariff would be imposed. This seems to continue to be the case. Most films today are created, developed and filmed across two or more jurisdictions, including the U.S. While there is no doubt that tariffs are bad for trade and for growth, it is not possible to assess the impact of any action by the U.S. without further detail.

The recent British-Irish Council (BIC) held its 44th Summit meeting on 5th December 2025, hosted by the Welsh Government in the Vale of Glamorgan, Wales. Leaders discussed the importance of the sector to the Creative Industries, both culturally and economically, as well as the opportunities and challenges facing the sector, and efforts by administrations to support the industry and those working within it.

Engagement with the Irish screen sector will continue as further details emerge.

Yours sincerely,

Darren Clarke
Private Secretary