

Does Antidumping Use Contribute to Trade Liberalization? An Empirical Analysis*

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Abstract

Some supporters of antidumping have argued that this procedure serves as a kind of “safety valve” for protectionist pressure. This paper examines whether there is any empirical evidence that the use of antidumping actions has contributed to tariff reductions in a sample of 30 developing and developed countries. We do find some evidence for antidumping may have helped liberalization efforts in the experience of 7 developed countries, most of which have been the traditional users of antidumping. The experience of 23 developing countries suggests the opposite: the use of antidumping may have lead to less trade liberalization.

Keywords: Antidumping, Trade Liberalization, Commercial Policy

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