

Countries increasingly resort to discretionary and non-transparent measures instead of traditional, transparent and well-regulated trade barriers.



from National Board of Trade's report Protectionism in the 21st Century

3 areas where protectionism is growing

Subsidies in the form of state aid and bailouts have increased rapidly after the 2008 global financial crisis. At the end of 2015, the total number of protectionist measures introduced since 2008 were 35 times higher globally than the number of trade liberalizing measures.

- SUBSIDIES
- GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT
- LOCALIZATION REQUIREMENTS



The US Buy American Act requires **domestic content** at a level of 60–100 percent in **government procurement** that uses federal funds, primarily in the transport and infrastructure sectors. There is currently legislation pending in Congress with the purpose of increasing these requirements further.

In addition... surprisingly often **new trade barriers** target goods that are beneficial from a sustainability perspective, for instance solar panels, biodiesel and bicycles.

