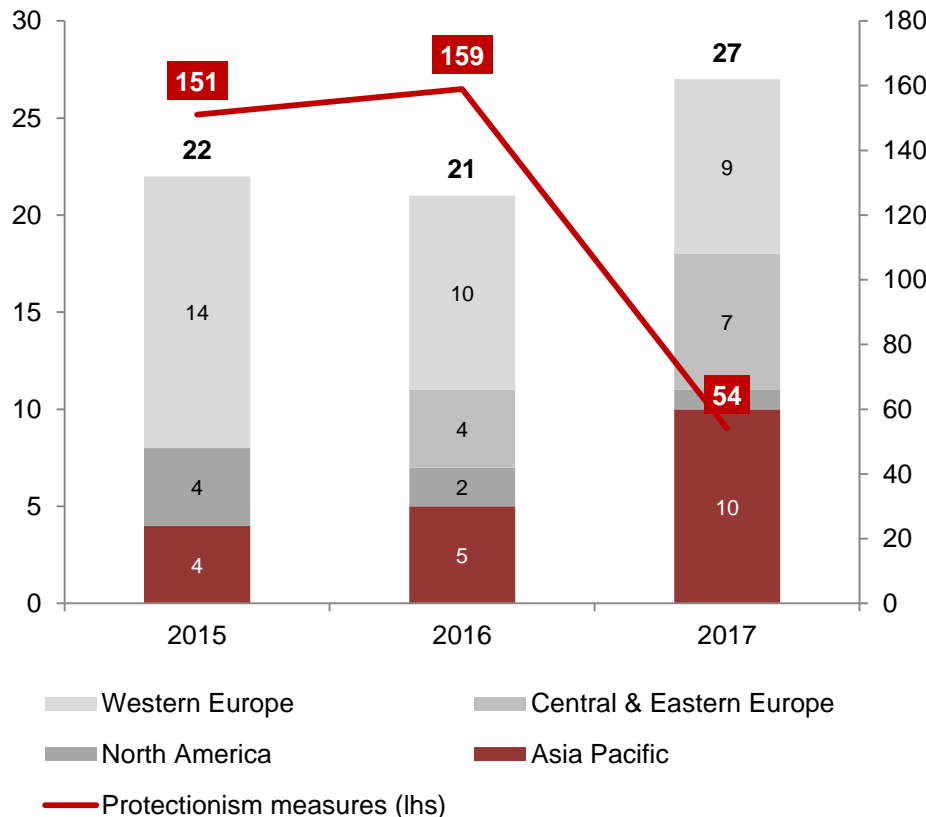


# Protectionism in the Metal Sector: My Cure is Your Pain

Number of major insolvencies\* (bars) and protectionist measures (red line) on a yearly basis



Metal was the second-most affected sector with **54 new protectionist measures targeting the industry**, albeit the number of new trade barriers declined in 2017.

Trade protection and excess capacity led to a **+29%y/y increase** in the number of **major\* metal companies declaring bankruptcy**. **Asia**, the prime target of punitive measures and hotspot of overcapacity, will likely see more insolvencies. **China**, where the government aims to cut production capacity, accounted for 6 out of the 10 biggest insolvencies.

(\*) Companies with a turnover exceeding EUR50mn  
Sources: GTA, Euler Hermes, Allianz Research  
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