



European
Commission

CUSTOMS ACTION PLAN

September 2020

THE CUSTOMS UNION SUPPORTS THE EU'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY & FUTURE GROWTH.

Customs duties on goods entering the EU are **important contributors to the overall EU budget**.

EU customs authorities and officials are playing a vital role in our recovery from an unprecedented health crisis.

Customs helps to **keep our EU borders and environment safe**, protecting our citizens from prohibited and dangerous goods such as weapons, drugs and fake goods, and goods that could be used in terrorist actions.

THAT'S WHY THE COMMISSION HAS ANNOUNCED A SERIES OF MEASURES TO HELP CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES PLAN FOR THE FUTURE, MAKING THE CUSTOMS UNION:



MORE INNOVATIVE



MORE EFFICIENT



SMARTER



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“The EU Customs Union was one of the first concrete achievements of European integration and for more than five decades it has helped to protect Europeans and keep trade flowing across our borders – which are only as strong as their weakest link. Today, new challenges mean that we need to make our customs rules smarter and ensure they work better for Member States, citizens and legitimate businesses. This calls for improved use of data, better tools and equipment, and more cooperation within the EU and with customs authorities of partner countries. It also requires better foresight, so that EU customs can face the future with confidence. Today, we set out how we will take our Customs Union to the next level.”

Paolo Gentiloni, Commissioner for Economy

Taxation and
Customs Union

KEY INITIATIVES:

JOINT ANALYTICS CAPABILITIES

A new analytics hub within the European Commission for collecting, analysing and sharing key customs data

Ongoing

INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMS COOPERATION

Stepping up international customs cooperation with trade partners and the monitoring of the origin of products eligible to preferential trade arrangements.

From end 2020

REFLECTION GROUP

Reflection group of Member States and stakeholders under the customs programme to consider how to make the Customs Union smarter, more agile, more technologically advanced and more crisis-proof

Launch in early 2021

SINGLE WINDOW INITIATIVE

'Single Window' initiative, allowing businesses to complete border formalities in one single portal

Legislative proposal: October 2020

MODERN CUSTOMS EQUIPMENT

Roll-out of modern and reliable customs equipment under the next EU budget

As of 2021

FIGHT CUSTOMS FRAUD

Further obligations on payment service providers and online sales platforms to help fight customs duty and tax fraud in e-commerce

Legislative proposal: Q1 2023

THESE ACTIONS SHOULD HELP OUR EU CUSTOMS UNION FACE CHALLENGES SUCH AS:



Unprecedented global developments



The UK's exit from the EU's Single Market and Customs Union



The rise of digitalisation and e-commerce





KEY FACTS:

TRADE

In 2019, the **EU's share of world trade was 15.3% with over 850,000 customs declarations** being made per day. Every month the 27 Member States export and import goods from and to the rest of the world with a value of around **€330 billion**.

FRAUD

OLAF recommended the recovery of over **€2.7 billion in unpaid customs duties** for undervalued goods and **€300 million for anti-dumping duty cases** in the solar panel, bio-diesel and other sectors between 2017 and 2019.

FAKE GOODS

Almost **27 million articles** that infringed on intellectual property rights (IPR) were detained in 2018 with a street value of nearly **€740 million**.

