

Customs & Trade Updates

Week 50/2022 Period Covered: 5 - 11 December 2022 Published: December 12 2022

Topic Coverage	 Customs processes & procedures (including AEO) Trade Agreements 			
	Biosecurity & Veterinary Border Controls			
	 Indirect Taxes (Customs Duty, Excise, Import VAT) 			
	Export Controls, Sanctions			
	Green Customs and Global Trade			
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Country Coverage	European Union + selected Member States			
	United Kingdom (with an additional focus on Northern			
	Ireland)			
	Switzerland			
	United States of America			
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International	• WCO			
Institution Coverage	• WTO			
1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 - 1994 -	UN (Sanctions, CITES)			
	Other as appropriate			

This solution enables customs managers, import and export professionals of small and medium-sized enterprises and their advisers to ensure greater compliance with complicated customs and international trade legislation and access cost-saving options worldwide without paying a hefty fee. But, of course, large and complex business managers can also benefit.

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Law-Makers Give Us Lots of Pre-Christmas Presents!?!

Christmas 2022 and the New Year are fast approaching, and we are all ready for a long break! But lawmakers show no sign of wanting to slow down. One could speak of a barrage of new laws and proposals that rained down on EU, UK and US businesses last week: The EU made history by publishing a legally binding new **EU Single Window for Customs for all 27 EU Member States** to be rolled in the next 36 months. We dedicate a <u>free-for-all webinar on 5 January 2023</u> to it, and I encourage you to register at <u>www.customsmanager.org</u>. The EU went further and published a comprehensive range of **VAT proposals**, which will introduce mandatory **EU cross-border e-invoicing-based real-time digital reporting**. The EU was not done – not by a longshot: Russia is facing the **ninth round of sanctions** (see details in the update), and there are majority developments as regards the EU's Green Deal: The EU adopted **circular battery law** that will impact all companies importing, exporting, producing or using batteries. Still more, they published a **new rule to fight global deforestation**, which will forbid imports of commodities from countries which deforest uncontrolled. They also renewed the **trade deal with Chile**! My head is already spinning!

The UK was equally busy publishing their 2023 Tariff, autonomous suspensions, and the list of uses to which goods can be declared to benefit from free duty. In addition, the DIT is asking for input on the benefits of the UK-South Korea FTA. To get updated on the latest UK Customs developments, join our <u>2023 UK Customs Update</u> on International Customs Day 2023, **26 January 2023**. This is <u>a 4 hours of training</u> (a fee is payable), and you can register at www.customsmanager.org

The US has decided to extend the time for comments on their advanced computing & semiconductor manufacturing equipment rule." On the other hand, the authorities have been busy issuing sanctions on Evasion Network on Force Oil Sales, on companies associated with Illegal, unreported, unregulated fishing and designated 40 Corruption and Human Rights Abusers in Nine Countries in the context of the International Day of Human Rights on 10 December 2022.

So, you see, lot's to read about, all and much more you can find in this edition. Enjoy.



Wielken

Arne Mielken Customs Manager Ltd

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European Union

We looked through the following updates of the European Union as published in the Official Journal of the EU. We also subscribe to news updates from DG TAXUD (Customs matters), DG SANTE (Biosecurity and veterinary matters) and DG TRADE (EU trade matters, ADD-CVD and export controls) as well as receiving other newsletters and subscriptions to get a comprehensive picture.

OJ legislation we analysed for you this week:

09/12/2022	<u>L317</u>	<u>C469</u> <u>C470</u>
08/12/2022	<u>L316 L316</u>	<u>C467</u> <u>C467A</u> <u>C468</u>
07/12/2022	<u>L315</u>	<u>C466</u>
06/12/2022	<u>L314</u>	<u>C464</u> <u>C465</u>
05/12/2022	L312 L313	<u>C462</u> <u>C463</u>
03/12/2022	<u>L311I</u>	
02/12/2022	<u>L311</u>	<u>C459</u> <u>C460</u> <u>C461</u>

EU Customs

EU publishes European Union Single Window Environment Customs Law

The European Parliament and Council have adopted the first important step toward expediting customs processes and alleviating economic costs on individuals beginning November 23, 2022, by improving digital communication amongst EU border personnel. They enacted legislation that updated the UCC and established a simplified customs-clearing system for the European Union. This Regulation, being EU legislation, is immediately applicable in all Member States and must be obeyed. Health and safety, environmental, agricultural, fisheries, cultural heritage, market monitoring, and product conformity authorities are often involved in EU external border formalities. As a result, firms must provide data to many sources, each of which may have a different interface and set of criteria. This is cumbersome and time-consuming for merchants, making it difficult for authorities to react together. The Act creates a centralised digital platform for border agency collaboration. The EU Single Window enables firms and retailers to submit information across all Member States through a uniform medium, cutting administrative costs and increasing efficiency. Customs and other agencies will utilise this data to better coordinate goods clearance and understand EU imports and exports. <u>Access the law</u>

Subscribers to the full version and current clients receive

- Q&A Document
- Factsheet on Single Window
- A briefing on the EU Single Customs Window Environment of 8 pages answering the following:
 - Why is it necessary to enact a Single Window for Customs?
 - Efficiencies and reduction of overlaps
 - What elements comprise the EU Single Window?
 - So what does the new law say?
 - What will EU CSW-CERTEX do?
 - What documents and systems will be connected to EU CSW-CERTEX?
 - What does the new law say?
 - Background

Free-For-All Webinar on European Union Single Window on 5 January 2023

Register today at <u>www.customsmanager.org</u> or <u>click here</u>. Join expert Arne Mielken on 5 January 2023 at 2 PM BST / 3 PM CET / 9 AM EST to get a walk through the news REGULATION (EU) 2022/2399 establishing the European Union Single Window Environment for Customs and amending Regulation (EU) No 952/2013. We will discuss

 the critical articles of the Regulation and how they are likely to be implemented



- how the Single Window will work, and what the role of the single national windows is
- the deadlines,
- what systems/licences will be connected, and more.

YOUR QUESTIONS

We will also answer your questions, which you can send before the webinar to info@customsmanager.org.

ABOUT THE EVENT

The event is free of charge.

The event is broadcasted live using Zoom. Registration is required.

By signing up for the event, you agree that we can send you our free Trade Intelligence Customs and Global Trade Update (at no cost).

The event will be recorded and made available for on-demand viewing on our YouTube Channel after the event. By registering, you agree that you may be recorded.

<u>BENEFITS FOR PAID SUBSCRIBERS ("FULL VERSION") OF OUR TRADE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE</u> Additional perks, only available for FULL subscribers of our Trade Intelligence Service:

- Slide deck available after the event
- Certificate of Training to showcase your knowledge
- Other video content after the LIVE event with deeper analysis and discussion (not shared freely)
- Q&A Document on the EU Single Window Concept
- Factsheet on Single Window
- Our briefing on the EU Single Customs Window Environment of 8 pages.

For any questions, please get in touch with info@customsmanager.org

EU Sanctions

What does the oil ceiling mean in practice?

New restrictions apply from 5 December 2022 for crude oil from Russa and from 5 February 2023 for other refined petroleum products. EU governments capped Russian oil at \$60. The price cap covers Russian seaborne crude oil, petroleum, and bituminous mineral oils. The limit supplements the EU import restriction on Russian seaborne crude oil, petroleum products, and other G7 sanctions. This would prevent price rises caused by abnormal market circumstances and substantially cut Russia's oil income during its unlawful war of aggression against Ukraine. It will stabilise global energy prices and reduce third-country energy supply impacts. Since 5 December 2022, the cap has been set in collaboration with the Price Cap Coalition. The cap may be adjusted to reflect the market and technical changes. Read more

Russia is facing the ninth round of sanctions

As the EU Commission explained, the measures include:

- To penalise over 200 additional individuals and organisations. The Russian military forces, officers, defence companies, State Duma and Federation Council members, ministries, governors, and political parties are all covered. This list contains critical individuals in Russia's brutal and intentional missile strikes on civilians, kidnapping of Ukrainian children and plundering of Ukrainian agricultural goods.
- 2. To cripple Putin's cash machines, the EU proposes sanctions on three more Russian banks, including a total transaction embargo on the Russian Regional Development Bank.
- 3. Third, the EU wants more substantial export restrictions, particularly for dual-use goods. This is because the Russian war machine may utilise critical chemicals, nerve agents, electronics, and information technology components.
- 4. Fourth, the EU will disable Russia's drones and uncrewed aerial vehicles (UAVs). The EU advocate for a restriction on drone engine sales to Russia and other countries that may send drones to Russia, such as Iran.
- 5. The EU will shut down four additional channels and all distribution methods to counteract Russian propaganda.
- 6. The EU advocate for more economic sanctions on Russia's energy and mining industries, including an embargo on new mining investments.

This package comes on the heels of the EU's broad ban on Russian seaborne oil imposed. Read more

Latest EU Sanctions Lists

Please download the latest EU sanctions listings here.

EU Trade

EU-US Trade and Technology Council meets

The third Ministerial Meeting of the Trade and Technology Council (TTC) met. The EU and the United States have inked agreements to enhance the resilience of vital infrastructures, such as crucial overland and subsea cables. Additionally, both parties encourage resilient and secure digital connections in partner nations. They agreed on a path to build common artificial intelligence tools and standards. The European Union and the United States have announced a new project to assist the transition to a low-carbon economy and enhance trade and investment in "green" products and services. Both parties aim to investigate potential areas of collaboration for decarbonizing our energy-intensive sectors. Additionally, both sides will investigate how digitalization might facilitate transatlantic commerce. The EU and the US want to establish a Talent for Growth Task Force, similar to the Digital skills and jobs alliance. Link

EU takes China to WTO court on high-tech patents

China has applied discriminatory and coercive measures against exports from Lithuania and EU products containing Lithuanian content. China's actions reduced trade from Lithuania to China by 80% between January 2021 and October 2022. The EU has requested the establishment of panels at the World Trade Organization for two of its ongoing trade disputes with China. European companies hold several high-tech patents, which give the EU a technological edge. Chinese manufacturers requested anti-suit injunctions to pressure patent rights holders to grant them cheaper access to European technology. Through these measures, China unilaterally imposes rules for the benefit of its enterprises. Link

EU Export Control



Recording of the 2022 EU Export Control Forum online

The agenda is here.

The web streaming of the Dual Use Conference is now online for viewing. Click here.

EU VAT

Embracing digitalisation to fight VAT fraud and boost EU companies



The European Commission suggested reforms to modernise and make the EU's VAT system better for companies and more fraud-resistant by embracing and fostering digitalisation. Today's idea addresses platform economy VAT concerns. The 2020 VAT Gap shows Member States lost €93 billion in VAT income.

Conservative estimates place 25% of lost revenues on intra-EU VAT fraud. These losses are harmful to overall public finances when Member States modify budgets to cope with the social and economic repercussions of recent energy price spikes and Russia's actions against Ukraine. EU VAT rules may also impact SMEs and other cross-border firms.

The measures would increase VAT collections by €18 billion and assist SMEs in growing.

There are three fundamental changes:



1. EU cross-border e-invoicing-based real-time digital reporting

Modernising how companies account for VAT in cross-border business, removing cumbersome administrative procedures and streamlining processes for all. At a stroke, the new system makes sure that Member State authorities are fully informed of transactions in almost real time, allowing them to immediately address instances of VAT fraud.

Member States will recoup up to **€11 billion** in lost VAT revenues a year for the next 10 years. Businesses will save **€4.1 billion** a year over the next 10 years in compliance costs The new system uses e-invoicing to provide real-time VAT reporting, which will help Member States combat VAT fraud, notably carousel fraud. E-invoicing will cut VAT fraud by €11 billion and EU traders' administrative and compliance expenses by €4.1 billion over the next decade. It also ensures EU-wide convergence of national systems and prepares Member States to establish future domestic trade digital reporting systems.

2. New passenger transport and short-term accommodation VAT rules

Businesses in those industries will now collect and pay VAT to tax authorities when service providers do not, such as small businesses or individual providers. This and other clarifications will guarantee uniformity across Member States and level the playing field between online and conventional short-term accommodation and transit



providers. It will also assist SMEs with VAT compliance in all Member States.

3. EU VAT registration

Allowing businesses that want to sell to consumers in another Member State to register only once for VAT purposes for the entire EU and fulfil their VAT obligations in one language, via a single online portal.



The proposal would enable EU online shopping enterprises to register once for VAT and fulfil their VAT duties through a single website. Over ten years, this may save firms, particularly SMEs, €8.7bn in registration and administrative expenditures. Mandating the "Import One Stop Shop" for platforms selling to EU customers enhances the VAT collection.

Proceeding

The proposals update the VAT Directive (2006/112/EC), Council Implementing Regulation (EU 282/2011), and Council Regulation on Administrative Cooperation (EU 904/2010). The Council will approve and discuss the legislative measures with the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee.

Press Release

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 2006/112/EC as regards VAT rules in the Digital Age

Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 904/2010 as regards the VAT administrative cooperation arrangements needed for the digital age

Proposal for a Council implementing Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) No 282/2011 as regards information requirements for certain VAT schemes

Impact Assessment - Executive Summary - VAT in the Digital Age

Impact Assessment - VAT in the Digital Age

VAT in the Digital Age - Volume 1: Digital Reporting Requirements

VAT in the Digital Age - Volume 2: VAT Treatment of the Platform Economy

VAT in the Digital Age - Volume 3: Single Place of VAT Registration and Import One Stop Shop

VAT in the Digital Age - Volume 4: Consultation Activities

VAT in the Digital Age - Final Report Executive Summary

Questions and Answers: VAT in the Digital Age

Questions and Answers: VAT GAP 2022 report

Factsheet on VAT in the Digital Age proposals

Factsheet on the VAT Gap 2022 report

More information on the DG TAXUD website on the VAT in the Digital Age proposals (including legislative texts)

More information on the DG TAXUD website on the 2022 VAT Gap report

EU Trade Agreements

EU-Chile FTA renewed

The EU and Chile have agreed on the EU-Chile Advanced Framework Agreement. The pact would strengthen trade and investment links and open new doors for EU companies in Latin America's fifthbiggest economy. The Association Agreement will be replaced with a new Advanced Framework Agreement that strengthens and deepens their bilateral partnership. Moreover, it responds to new goals and global concerns that have evolved since the existing agreement was signed 20 years ago. Highlights:

- 99,9% of EU exports will be tariff-free, which is expected to increase EU exports to Chile by up to 4,5 billion euros.
- Greater access to raw materials and clean fuels is crucial for transition to a green economy, such as lithium, copper and hydrogen.

- Easier for EU companies to provide their services in Chile, including delivery, telecommunications, maritime transport and financial services.
- Same treatment for EU investors in Chile as for Chilean investors, including in the energy and raw material sector, and vice versa.
- Improved access for EU companies to Chilean government procurement contracts for goods, services, works and works concessions, and vice versa.
- A dedicated chapter on small and medium enterprises to help ensure that smaller businesses fully benefit from the agreement, including by cutting red tape.

What are the key provisions of rules of origin?

Products wholly obtained in either party (by agriculture, mining, fishing, etc.) qualify as originating, as well as products containing foreign inputs if they meet specific requirements for a local production called product-specific rules. Materials from Chile can be counted as originating in the EU and vice versa, as well as any processing done on non-originating materials in either party. This is called full bilateral cumulation. For products not meeting the product-specific rules, there is an additional tolerance of 10% in value for all products except for textiles and clothing, which have a special forbearance.

About the agreement

I. The modernised EU-Chile agreement will consist of two concurrent legal documents:

the Advanced Framework Agreement, which will include

a) the Political and Cooperation pillar and

b) the Trade and Investment pillar (including investment protection provisions), subject to ratification by all Member States; and

II. An Interim Free Trade Agreement (iFTA) covering only those parts of the trade and investment pillar of EU exclusive competence (i.e., not including the investment protection provisions) to be adopted b. iFTA expires with the Advanced Framework Agreement.

First, the EU and Chile will legalise the accord. The EU will finish and ratify the Advanced Framework Agreement and iFTA.

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- EU-Chile Joint Communique
- Factsheet EU-Chile external relations (EN) (ES)
- Factsheet EU-Chile Advanced Framework Agreement
- Factsheet Sustainability in the Trade Part of the EU-Chile Advanced Framework Agreement
- Infographic EU-Chile trade
- <u>EU-Chile Agreement Trade part webpage</u>
- <u>EU-Chile Agreement Trade part explained</u>
- Summary of the trade part of the agreement

EU-Chile trade relations

Joint Statement: CETA at five years - the cornerstone of CA/EU economic relations

The Joint Committee received a complete analysis of the Agreement's positive economic effects during the last five years. The Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) has increased job creation for both parties, strengthening collaboration, fostering innovation, and enhancing competitiveness. The Co-Chairs emphasised concerted efforts to ensure that its advantages are widely distributed. The Co-Chairs of the EU-Canada Strategic Partnership on Raw Materials emphasised the significance of the ongoing collaboration, which is creating new trade and investment possibilities and bolstering supply chain resiliency. The Co-chairs underlined their commitment to strengthening cooperation in integrating raw materials and value chains. <u>Read Join Statement</u>

EU-UKTCA - No progress unless the NI situation is resolved.

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and European Commission Chief Ursula von der Leyen have reportedly agreed to work together to overcome issues with the Northern Ireland Protocol, the post-Brexit trade arrangement. Even though Northern Ireland is still a part of the United Kingdom, it is also a member of the EU's economic community. Unionists rejected this idea because they felt it would reduce commerce with the rest of the United Kingdom, further isolating the territory. The United Kingdom and the European Union will handle the Northern Ireland Protocol. According to individuals in the know, the United Kingdom will adopt legislation to delay the next election in Northern Ireland so that more time can be spent discussing the region's future with the European Union after Brexit. As the United Kingdom negotiates with the European Union, the Northern Ireland vote will be postponed. The UK will legislate to extend the deadline for holding an election in Northern Ireland, people familiar with the matter said, to allow time to strike a deal on the region's Brexit status with the European Union.

Article: <u>UK, EU to work to find solutions on Northern Ireland Protocol</u> Report: UK to Delay Northern Ireland Vote, Hopes for EU Deal First

EU-UK TCA Rules of Origin Committee – Minutes of the second meeting

2nd EU-UK Trade Specialised Committee on Customs Cooperation and Rules of Origin under the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement 17 October 2022, Brussels. Link here

EU-UK TCA Trade Specialised Committee Meeting on Technical Barriers to Trade (Minutes) EU-UK TCA Trade Partnership Committee Meeting (Minutes) EU-UK TCA Trade Specialised Committee on Goods Meeting (Minutes) EU-UK TCA SPS meeting (Minutes) EU-UK TCA VAT meeting (Minutes)

EU to launch negotiations on a new agreement with Tajikistan

Negotiating an Enhanced Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with Tajikistan will provide a platform for improved political cooperation, trade and investment between the EU and Tajikistan, incentivising and supporting reforms. Progress in these negotiations will also depend on tangible

improvements in Tajikistan's human rights situation, including the freedom of expression, media and assembly. Link

EU Biosecurity / Veterinary Controls

Standards for the same number of identification and physical checks for EU-bound plants, plant products, and other exports

Regulation (EU) 2017/625 sets the rules for how goods entering the Union are checked by the governments of Member States. The law determining how often plants, plant products, and other things need to be checked for their identity and appearance will end on December 14 2022. Member states should be able to ask to change how often plants, plant products, and other shipments are checked for identification and physical damage. From December 14 2022, this new Regulation should take the place of Directive 2000/29/EC. Identity and physical checks of certain plants, products, and objects shall be done at the frequency rates listed in Annex I. According to paragraph 3, the frequency rates shall be set based on the criteria listed in Annex II. At least once a year, identity and physical checks for plants, plant products, and other objects, or groups of these things, will be reviewed. <u>Direct Link to law</u>

Canada, US and UK update on bird-flu

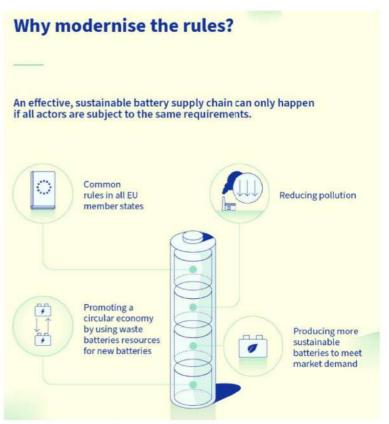
Canada told the EU Commission that between November 14 and November 19 2022, there were eight confirmed cases of highly infective avian influenza in chickens in Alberta (1), British Columbia (5), Ontario (1), and Saskatchewan (1). Lab tests confirmed these cases. (RT-PCR). Between November 20 and November 26 2022, the UK told the Commission that eight chickens in Derbyshire, Durham, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, North Yorkshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire, and Aberdeenshire had been infected with highly virulent avian flu. (RT-PCR). After the recent outbreaks of highly contagious bird flu, veterinary officials in Canada and the UK set up control zones of at least 10 miles around the affected areas and began eradication. Based on this evaluation and to protect the animal health status of the Union, shipments of poultry, germinal products, and fresh meat of poultry and game birds from areas where Canada and the UK have put restrictions in place because of new outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza should not be allowed into the Union. Between March 11 and June 9 2022, 17 cases of highly dangerous avian flu were found in chicken farms in Colorado (3), Kansas (2), Maine (1), New York (3), Pennsylvania (6), and Wisconsin (3). (2). HPAI prevention in the US. After epidemics, the US cleaned up chicken farms. The Commission found no more outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza in chicken farms and that chicken products from US zones where entry was banned no longer threatened the Union. Annexes V and XIV of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 should be changed to reflect what is known about highly pathogenic avian flu in Canada, the UK, and the US. Part 1 of Annex V and Annex XIV of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 must be changed often to match the spread of the disease. Simplifying these rules would speed up the procedure and make sure that Part 1 of these Annexes shows the epidemiology of the disease. Part 1 of Annexes V and XIV of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 should be reorganised and made more straightforward so that critical information can be added. This change to Annex V and Annex XIV of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 is about: the epidemiological situation in Canada and the UK and the great danger of its entrance into the Union. Link to legislation

EU Green Deal

Green Deal: EU adopts circular battery law

The Battery lifecycle regulation promotes a circular economy.

Thus, the rule mandates end-of-life collection, material recovery, and producer accountability. The agreement manufacturers to collect requires portable trash batteries (63% by 2027 and 73% by 2030) and waste batteries for light transport (51% by 2028 and 61% by 2031). The co-legislators established the lithium recovery objective for waste batteries at 50% by 2027 and 80% by 2031, which may be changed by delegated acts based on market and technical advancements and lithium supply. Industrial, SLI, and EV batteries must include recycled material under the agreement. Cobalt, lead, lithium, and nickel start at 16%, 85%, 6%, and 6%, respectively. Batteries must disclose recycled material by law. By 2025, nickel-cadmium batteries must be recycled at 80% and other waste



batteries at 50%. The agreement requires that portable batteries in appliances be user-replaceable, giving operators time to redesign their goods (42 months after entry into force of the regulation). Consumers need this. Professionals will replace light vehicle batteries.

<u>Equality for operators.</u> Safety, sustainability, and labelling standards will strengthen the internal battery market and promote fair competition. Performance, durability, safety, mercury, cadmium, lead limits, and battery carbon footprint disclosure will achieve this. The legislation requires marking and information on the battery's components, recycled content, and an electronic "battery passport" and QR code. The agreement also intends to clarify and unify the text and simplify its application with a

realistic implementation date by member states and market participants. Notably, labelling requirements will apply 36 months after the Regulation takes effect and 42 months for QR codes.

<u>Reducing environmental and social consequences:</u> The new legislation reduces battery lifecycle environmental and social impacts. The preliminary agreement requires operators to check battery raw material sources. The contract exempts SMEs from due diligence.

Council and Parliament strike a provisional deal to create a sustainable life cycle for batteries (press release, 9 December 2022) Sustainable batteries: member states ready to start negotiations with Parliament (press release, 17 March 2022) European Green Deal (background information) Read Press Release and access law Infographic



Green Deal: EU agrees on law fight global deforestation

The EU reached a preliminary political agreement achieved recently between the European Parliament and the Council on EU Regulation an on deforestation-free supply chains. Once passed and implemented. the new regulation would guarantee that several significant items sold on the EU market will no contribute longer to deforestation and forest degradation. Palm oil, cattle, soy, coffee, cocoa, lumber, and rubber are among the items available, as are derivative products (such as beef. furniture, or chocolate). The new regulations will cut greenhouse gas emissions and biodiversity loss and assist millions of people in securing their livelihoods. In addition, the FU will conduct а benchmarking system to analyse nations and their deforestation forest and degradation risk.

Proposal for a new Regulation to curb EU-driven deforestation and forest degradation Webpage on Deforestation Question and Answers on Commission's proposal on New rules for deforestation-free products

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EU Deforestation Guide with details

EU Standards

EU approves EU standards changes

European standards are crucial to everyday life and the internal market. They ensure safe, interoperable, EU-compliant toys and gadgets. Harmonised standards, developed by one ESO at the European Commission's request, ensure technical product compliance. EU manufacturers voluntarily follow the means to satisfy EU product requirements. European batteries and AI meet data privacy, cybersecurity, and environmental standards. On 2 February 2022, the Commission proposed an EU standards strategy and standardisation rule modification. The Council amended the European standards law on 13 May 2022. The Council and European Parliament temporarily accepted the updated standards regulation on 12 October 2022. The new EU standard law simplifies single-market product placement and promotes EU competitiveness. The amendment increases member states' involvement in European standardisation organisations' decision-making and guarantees European ideals and fundamental rights, especially in new digital technologies. ESOs must contact EU and EEA national standards organisations under the amendment. ESOs and member states' decision-making will benefit from enhancing national representatives' responsibilities. The amendment advances European standards-setting ideas. It will be published in the Official Journal of the European Union and take force 20 days after the European Parliament President and Council President sign it. Link

EU ADD & CVD

EU to review ADD for symclosene from China

The European Commission has received a review request for the intention to expire ADD measures for trichloroisocyanuric acid and its formulations, also known by the worldwide non-proprietary name "symclosene" (INN). The applicants described the subsidy schemes that favour the Chinese chemical industry, such as preferential loans, tax programmes, deductions and exemptions, land transfer, energy, and inputs at less than appropriate compensation and different awards. Additionally, they cited the US' Countervailing Duty Investigation of Chlorinated Isocyanurates from the People's Republic of China: Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Final Determination (C-570-991 Investigation POI 111/12 - 12/31/12). The petitioner asserts that the Union industry is incurring significant harm and that maintenance of the existing measures is required to prevent further deterioration. Dumping will be investigated between October 1 2021, and September 30 2022. All producers in the nation are required to participate in the inquiry conducted by the Commission. By sampling, the Commission may restrict the number of producers examined. All interested parties are encouraged to offer their views, information, and proof. Direct Link to legislation

CVD on rainbow trout imports from Türkiye

In 2015, the European Commission imposed definitive countervailing duties on imports of specific rainbow trout originating in Türkiye. Significant changes in the structure and terms of implementation of the subsidies granted by the EU to rainbow trout producers have taken place since 2016. These changes appeared to have led to a decrease in the direct donations received by Turkish producers. The European Commission has investigated the export of specific rainbow trout from Türkiye to the

European Union. The EU Commission recommended amending the anti-subsidy restrictions on rainbow trout imports from Türkiye to reflect the altered circumstances. CN codes considered: ex 0301 91 90, ex 0302 11 80, ex 0303 14 90, ex 0304 42 90, ex 0304 82 90, ex 0305 43 00 and ex 1604 19 10 (TARIC codes 0301919011, 0302118011, 0303149011, 0304429010, 0304829010, 0305430011 and 1604191011) and originating in Türkiye. Most companies pay an ADD/CVD duty rate of 4,4%. <u>Direct Link to Law</u>

China: imports of optical fibre cables investigation reopened

The anti-dumping inquiry into imports of optical fibre cables originating in the People's Republic of China has been reopened by the European Commission. An open version of the request, as well as an analysis of the degree of support the proposal has received from producers inside the Union, is included in the file and may be seen by anybody interested. Link to legislation

Commission initiates a review of EU steel safeguard

The Commission commenced on December 2nd a study of the steel safeguard measure to determine whether it should be terminated one year earlier than its current end date of 30 June 2024. The Commission had committed to undertaking this review when it extended its original safeguard measure in June 2021. Link

EU Due Diligence

EU Statement on International Anti-Corruption Day – December 9 2022

Fighting corruption requires perseverance and dedication. The EU delivers. Credibility begins at home. All EU Member States have a strict rule of law mechanism that emphasises anti-corruption. A new control of law conditionality mechanism prevents corrupt and lawbreakers from receiving EU funds. The EU will also strengthen its legal framework. We will update EU corruption laws in 2023. Beyond bribery, we raise standards on illicit enrichment, trafficking in influence, and abuse of power. To combat corruption, we will update our sanctions toolbox. Corruption undermines trust in our institutions, as President von der Leyen stated in the 2022 State of the Union Address. Finally, we are working with the UN Office for Drugs and Crime and other like-minded organisations to implement the UN Convention against corruption. Read Statement

Get the ADD-ON on Corporate Corruption. Unfortunately, this update does not thoroughly cover Cooperate Corruption, Anti-Money Laundering, KYC, Due Diligence, and Anti-bribery. However, we do offer an add-on subscription that can cover this. Please get in touch if you require additional monitoring. Plase e-mail info@customsmanager.org

EU Anti-Money Laundering

AMLD6

EU continues its fight to protect EU citizens and the EU's financial system against money laundering and terrorist financing. Council agrees on position on anti-money laundering (AML) regulation and

new directive (AMLD6) EU-wide maximum limit of €10,000 is set for cash payments. The European Council has decided to make beneficial ownership rules more transparent and to harmonise them more. Third countries listed by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) in anti-money laundering will also be included in the EU's "black and grey lists". Member states should ensure that any natural or legal person demonstrating a legitimate interest has access to information held in the beneficial ownership registers. Such persons should include journalists and civil society organisations connected with preventing and combating money laundering and terrorist financing (AML/CFT).

Get the ADD-ON on Corporate Corruption. Unfortunately, this update does not thoroughly cover Cooperate Corruption, Anti-Money Laundering, KYC, Due Diligence, and Anti-bribery. However, we do offer an add-on subscription that can cover this. Please get in touch if you require additional monitoring. Plase e-mail info@customsmanager.org

EU Sanctions

This section is sponsored by

sanctions-intelligence.com

Sanctions-intelligence.com offers information about global sanction lists and their characteristics, as well as information about relevant service providers in this field. This database is designed as a tool for practitioners in sanctions and embargoes, AML, KYC and other Anti-Financial Crime areas.

Congo: Reasons for listings extended

The EU changed the Congo sanctions regulation so that natural or legal people, organisations, or bodies can be put on the list if they do any of the following: preventing a peaceful and consensual DRC election settlement, primarily through violence, repression, or lawlessness; planning, leading, or committing DRC human rights atrocities; keeping DRC's war, instability, or insecurity going; supporting certain natural or legal people, organisations, or bodies; or inciting violence. Link to the Legislation

Congo: 8 new listings

In light of the seriousness of the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the EU added eight people to Annex Ia to Regulation (EC) No 1183/2005. Ruvugayimikore Protogène commands the Maccabé faction of the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda - Forces Combattantes Abacunguzi (FDLR-FOCA), a non-governmental armed force in Eastern DRC (CRAP). Inciting violence, Justin Bitakwira keeps the DRC in a state of war. Joseph Nganzo Olikwa Tipi is responsible for FARDC human rights abuses. The CODECO URDPC's defence officer and political wing co-leader are Désiré Londroma Ndjukpa. Willy Ngoma founded and led the Mai-Mai Yakutumba, one of the M23/central ARC's militias, and is the group's spokesman. The militia's violence and human rights violations fuel DRC's instability, conflict, and insecurity. <u>Direct Link</u>

Human Rights: 6 people + 2 entities added

The Council passed Regulation (EU) 2020/1998 on December 7, 2020. The Council has reviewed the list of natural or legal people, organisations, or bodies in Annex I of that Regulation subject to restrictive measures. Based on this review, the entries for six people and two organisations from Russia, North Korea, Libya, and other countries were changed.

EU Consolidated List of Sanctions updated to Week 50-2022

Download the list of all the individuals on EU Sanctions lists.

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Full Updated List of Sanctioned Individuals – updated as of Week 50-2022

Ireland

Ireland blocks: EU-Canada FTA

According to Reuters, the Irish coalition government must amend parliamentary rules to adopt the EU's free trade agreement with Canada. Over seven years, CETA cuts tariffs on 99 per cent of EU-Canada commerce. Germany has since September 2017 adopted it. After resolving legal difficulties, the Irish Government prepared for a parliamentary vote. A year ago, Ireland's Deputy Prime Minister Leo Varadkar said a delay would harm the country's trade promise. However, one member of the Irish governing coalition challenged it in court, alleging that the pact should be put to the vote since it may affect environmental regulations. After the Supreme Court deems Irish legislation invalid, the agreement must be ratified by amending arbitration procedures. Patrick Costello of the Green Party accepted the case, and the two bigger governing parties needed his assistance to enact ratification legislation. Varadkar, who will become prime minister the following month, said the pact would be ratified without a referendum using legislation. Irish voters have twice postponed European integration by rejecting referendums on significant EU legislation amendments, only to adopt them after receiving concessions. Read the article

France

Highlights of ODASCE Customs Conference

The key presentations and speeches of the ODASCE conference are attached and for download.

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ODASCE Power Point Presentation of Confernece

Switzerland

Passar is coming - Are you ready?

On June 1 2023, the Federal Office for Customs and Border Security (FOCBS) will put the first version of the new goods traffic system Passar into operation. Passar is gradually replacing the current freight applications NCTS and e-dec. Find out what improvements and innovations. Passar brings, and which companies can benefit from it.

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5 Page Briefing Note on Passar answering the following questions:

- For which companies is Passar 1.0 relevant and not relevant?
- What exactly changes with Passar 1.0, and what remains the same?
- Is the switch to Passar mandatory?
- What do companies have to do to use Passar?
- Timetable
- What does Passar cost?
- What do companies have to do to use Passar?
- How can companies prepare for Passar 1.0 now?

Swiss Sanctions against Russia: Measures concerning the situation in Ukraine

On February 28, 2022, the Federal Council decided to adopt the European Union (EU) sanctions against Russia and thus strengthen their effect. The existing ordinance was therefore subjected to a total revision on March 4, 2022. The rule of March 4, 2022, on measures in connection with the situation in Ukraine (SR 946.231.176.72) contains all Swiss actions and is legally authoritative. The measures include, among other things:

Goods measures

- Prohibitions on dual-use goods, particular military goods and goods for military and technological strengthening or the development of the defence and security sector
- Ban on the import of firearms, ammunition, explosives, pyrotechnics and gunpowder from Russia and Ukraine
- Import ban on iron and steel products
- Prohibitions on Aerospace Goods
- Bans on goods for the energy sector
- Prohibitions on luxury goods
- Export bans on kerosene and other goods, such as industrial robots and chemical products
- Import ban on coal and other goods such as cement, wood, fertiliser and caviar

Financial measures

- Freeze of Assets and Prohibitions on Provision
- Reporting requirements for frozen assets
- Prohibition on the issue and dealing in transferable securities and money market instruments
- Prohibition on granting loans

- Ban on accepting deposits over 100,000 francs from Russian citizens or natural and legal persons in Russia
- Obligation to report existing deposits of more than 100,000 francs
- · Bans related to transactions with the Central Bank of Russia
- Bans on the provision of specialised payment messaging services and rating services
- Prohibitions on Transactions with Certain State-Owned Entities
- Prohibitions Concerning Trusts
- Ban on the financial support of Russian public institutions

Measures concerning specified areas

- Import ban of goods originating in the designated areas without a certificate of origin issued by the Ukrainian authorities
- Ban on the export of certain goods and related services to the designated areas
- Ban on financing, equity investments and certain services
- Further measures
- Travel Sanctions
- Russian planes are banned from taking off and landings issuance and trading of transferable securities and money market instruments are prohibited.
- Loans are not permitted.
- Accepting deposits of more than 100,000 francs from Russian citizens or natural and legal persons in Russia is prohibited.
- Obligation to report existing deposits over 100,000 Swiss Francs
- Bans on transactions with the Russian Central Bank
- The provision of specialised payment messaging services and rating services is prohibited.
- Transactions with Certain State-Owned Entities are Prohibited
- Prohibitions Against Trusts
- Financial support for Russian public institutions is prohibited.

Other measures

- Import restrictions apply to goods originating in designated areas that do not have a certificate of origin issued by Ukrainian authorities.
- Export of specific goods and services to designated areas is prohibited.
- Financing, equity investments, and certain services are prohibited.
- Additional safeguards
- Sanctions on Travel
- Russian planes are not permitted to take off or land.

Overview and Legislation

United Kingdom

We looked through the updates on <u>www.legislation.co.uk</u> and the updates to the GOV.uk website and drew information from various websites and subscriptions. This brings all the critical updates for customs declarations, duties and tariffs (import and export), Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation, Export health certificates, Biosecurity, the Border and Trade, UK Cabinet Office Information, JCCC and DEFRA updates (as far as public), HM Revenue & Customs, Trade and investment updates published on gov.UK. and the updates from the UK Mission to the WTO. Are we missing something? Let us know.

Brexit (UK)

David Overton's "Stopped all commerce with Germany" due to LUCID

The BBC reports that David Overton runs SplashMaps, producing fabric maps, including OS and Michelin waterproof maps. They sell to consumers but also to the military. They target civilians and the military. Mr Overton said his firm has always sold abroad, especially to the US and Europe. Germany was their third-largest export market, but Mr Overton estimates that since Brexit, the firm has stopped interacting with Germany, resulting in a 2-5% revenue drop. He told the BBC that all his German exports were returning to the UK. He realised this was due to EU plastics and packaging waste laws, which Germany requires exporters to sign up for through LUCID registration. "We were unaware of the registration procedure," he stated. LUCID is Zentrale Stelle Verpackungsregister's (ZSVR) public producer register. The ZSVR publishes registered firms and the Verpackungsgesetz (Packaging Act)-mandated brand names and registration numbers. Transparency in the LUCID Packaging Register shows which parties fulfil producer duty and highlights infractions. All LUCID Packaging Registry-registered makers and first distributors of packaged products are in the public register. Consumers, corporations, and distributors may search for LUCID Packaging Registerregistered firms subject to packaging legislation responsibilities. No matter the packaging, the first German firm to sell packaged products must register with the LUCID Packaging Register. Unregistered items are automatically banned from distribution. Fines may be harsh. Because the registry is public, companies who break the law risk having their items delisted. View the product registration here. Read the article and find out more about LUCID

Northern Ireland

Did the NI Agreement spark new instability?

The Fifth Report of the Independent Reporting Commission on Northern Ireland is available here. It was founded by an international treaty between the UK and Irish governments to report on progress

toward eliminating paramilitary activity in Northern Ireland. Combating paramilitarism is central to the Executive Programme for Northern Ireland. Phase. In terms of ending paramilitarism, 2022 was another year with ups and downs. Reactions to political events, especially those related to the Protocol on Ireland and Northern Ireland of the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement, caused new political instability. This, in turn, led to rumours that paramilitary activity might start up again. Several paramilitary-related events made that speculation even stronger. Overall, the writers haven't changed their minds about the fact that paramilitary groups and structures still pose risks to society. This means paramilitarism is still a clear and present danger in and for Northern Ireland. <u>Read the report.</u>

HMRC statistics bolster Northern Ireland's trade restriction ambitions.

As the Guardian reports, early government estimates claimed that at least 85% of UK products carried into Northern Ireland stayed in factories or shops, giving the UK optimism that Brexit inspections on goods crossing the Irish Sea would be avoided. The UK provides data to EU authorities to monitor trade between the UK and Northern Ireland and convince them that rogue businesses cannot smuggle inferior goods over the border. EU Access System is HMRC's new customs data exchange system. In 2021, EU Access authorised approximately 1 million complete declarations for goods transit into Northern Ireland from the UK. Even though 85% of objects suspected of crossing the border remained in Northern Ireland, the EU may not be satisfied. British exporters to Northern Ireland must declare customs under the Northern Ireland convention to avoid a border with Ireland. Since November 7, the EU has tested a database with real-time customs and commercial data on ships transporting agricultural produce, tractor parts, and industrial components to Northern Ireland ports. After Brexit, British companies selling into Europe made 34.3 million files with HMRC in 2021, representing a modest share of EU commerce. The UK wants a "green lane and red lane" scheme to separate cars going to the Republic of Ireland from those going to Northern Ireland to resolve the protocol problem. It claims that green-lane suppliers should not report customs. Suppliers said creating commodity codes for consignment items takes time. The UK maintains that commercial manifests, which list the contents, origin, and destination of vehicles aboard a boat, are sufficient as long as the database is functional and that a robust, trusted trade system with hefty sanctions for dishonest operators is an option. Like the EU's "fast lane," producers must make customs declarations. Link to article

UK Trade Agreements

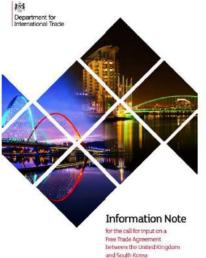
What does this section address?

The United Kingdom has trade agreements with several countries and regions. Typically, these agreements contain rules regarding the trade of goods, including preferential tariffs, tariff rate quotas, rules of origin, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, customs and trade facilitation, technical barriers to work, and trade remedies, among others. The agreement also stipulated that the United Kingdom and other nations may trade at advantageous tariff rates. To qualify for preferential tariffs, products must adhere to the FTA's preferred rules of origin. To be eligible for these favourable prices, exporters must demonstrate the basis of their products. Where there have been modifications to the agreements, we have noted them here.

UK-Korea FTA

The UK has launched a call for input asking businesses, organisations and individuals to help shape the UK's negotiating aims ahead of talks. The new deal will upgrade our trading agreement with South Korea, ensuring a more modern and fit-for-purpose value. It builds on our existing £14.3 billion trading relationship and meets the needs of the UK. This will include essential areas such as digital trade, enhanced climate provisions and support for small and medium-sized businesses. The UK and South Korea have launched a call for companies to directly input into a trade deal between the two countries in 2023. The aim is to ensure the smooth flow of essential supplies between our two countries, such as semiconductors, medical equipment and electric vehicles. The call for input will run between midnight on 9 December 2022 and 2 February 2023 and is available on gov. UK. Link

Trade with South Korea: call for input



The Department for International Trade is seeking input on which aspects of our current trading arrangements with South Korea we should look to improve or amend. They want to know the following:

- what do you think about our current trading arrangements with South Korea
- where we could make changes or improvements
- where you are facing challenges or constraints when attempting to trade or invest in South Korea

They will use this information to help inform our approach to starting negotiations on a free trade agreement (FTA) with South Korea in the future. All responses should be submitted via the online consultation platform. <u>See here</u>.

The Trade (Australia and New Zealand) Bill and popular misunderstandings.

The Trade (Australia and New Zealand) Bill authorises the UK's free trade agreements. In brief, the Australia FTA will enhance the UK economy by £2.3 billion, while the New Zealand FTA will add £800 million. The UK-Australia and UK-New Zealand Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) will decrease trade barriers and enable British goods and services to join those markets. FTA misperceptions are addressed here. The agreement restricts UK duty-free sheep and beef imports and has a robust safeguard regime for all items. The UK-New Zealand free trade agreement would abolish most tariffs on UK exports to New Zealand, including food and drink (FTAs). The agreements also prioritise helping more small enterprises sell to Australia and New Zealand for the first time. Our strict import processes and UK food standards will apply to food and beverage imports.



The pact commits to fighting wildlife trafficking, air pollution, marine litter, biodiversity, sustainable agriculture, and the circular economy. UK-Australia and UK-New Zealand FTAs exist. Compared to 2035 GDP levels, these FTAs will boost both economies by £2.3 billion and £800 million, respectively. The agreements will boost GVA, mainly in the services sector. After staging in year 6, Australia and New Zealand exports will be tariff-free. UK exports to Australia, including cars, whiskey, some medicines, motor vehicles, clothes, and Christmas decorations, will be tariff-free up to 5%. These FTAs supplement the UK's involvement in the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP). Myth: The UK government has ignored Parliamentary trade agreement scrutiny requests. The Australia FTA was delivered to Parliament six months before the regular Parliamentary review period. The treaty's full text, including economic effects and explanations, was released as soon as possible following signing. No trade agreement may alter our laws. Parliament must ratify trade agreement-related legal changes. The Lord's Constitution Committee recommended proper parliamentary structures for treaty assessment in its 2019 report. Read the report

UK-US: No End START In Sight

According to the BBC, a government source said that a trade deal with the United States was required to meet the targets, but the Biden administration did not prioritise it. A source in the DIT said that the UK has set big goals but recognises that to achieve them, "we need an agreement with the US,". And further that "It is clear that the Biden Administration places little priority on negotiating trade treaties with foreign nations. However, we're ready to move negotiations forward whenever the US is. In the meantime, we're working hard to secure trade victories for British firms, such as removing millions of dollars in barriers to American markets, resolving disputes such as the steel and whisky tariff issues, and pursuing agreements with individual US states" Read press article.

The United Kingdom and Ukraine: DTA

The UK and Ukraine agreed on a ground-breaking new Digital Trade Agreement (DTA) that will help Ukraine rebuild its economy and support livelihoods following Russia's illegal invasion. Trading digitally is fundamental in the current conflict, where damage to Ukrainian infrastructure and warfare makes it much harder to trade physically. Digital tools and technologies will help Ukrainians access vital goods and services during the war. Read the article: UK and Ukraine agree on a ground-breaking digital trade deal

UK-Australia FTA expected early 2023

Australia's Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese, said that a trade agreement with the United Kingdom would be finalised in the first quarter of the following year. Delays "on the UK side for obvious reasons," such as the Government submitting a second budget statement, had occurred. Albanese also said he had made progress in trade talks with the European Union. Former Environment Secretary George Eustice called the Australia pact "not a very good bargain for the United Kingdom." Read the press article.

UK-Taiwan: Let's make a deal

According to Reuters, President Tsai Ing-wen informed a British ambassador is visiting Taipei that Taiwan sought a trade pact with the United Kingdom. Taiwan views the United Kingdom as a democratic ally. It is encouraged by Britain's concern about recent Chinese military exercises near the island and support for Taiwan's participation in international organisations, which China often opposes. China claims Taiwan as its territory and regards official ties between the island and other states as support for Taiwan's independence. At the presidential office in Taipei, Tsai commended the United Kingdom for its support of Taiwan's international role and Taiwan Strait stability. Tsai complimented the United Kingdom for enhancing Taiwan-Britain trade. "We anticipate that Taiwan and the United Kingdom will strengthen bilateral investment and trade agreements to expand mutually beneficial economic and commercial ties." Taiwan, a key producer of computer chips, will "make the best allocations" to restructure the semiconductor supply chain and looks forward to working with democratic allies such as the United Kingdom to develop a more resilient global supply network, according to the official. Tsai hoped the United Kingdom would "smoothly" join the CPTPP and support Taiwan's involvement. The new Government will boost Taiwan-Britain relations. The Department of International Trade of the United Kingdom was "delighted to be on track" for CPTPP membership but could not comment on other potential members. In addition to commercial and informal ties, the United Kingdom has a de facto embassy in Taiwan. Hands informed Tsai that they became closer during trade negotiations. "As two island communities with vibrant democracies and institutions, we have a great deal in common and face many challenges as partners," he said by Hands' office. **Read the Press Article**

Our **Origin & Preferential Trade Support Services** include advice and interpretation of cumulation and application of all Rules of Origin, guidance and understanding of all Free Trade Agreements worldwide, and setting up an effective origin management service that permits you to save the maximum amount of customs duty. In addition, we offer support in obtaining certificates of origin, statements on origin, REX and verifying importers' knowledge for your business/customers.

UK Customs

2023 UK Customs Update - 26 January 2023

Register on www.customsmanager.org

Learn about the latest customs and global trade changes in a four-hour online training. Topics to discuss include

- UK Trade Tariff Changes 2023
- UK Customs & Trade Legislation after Brexit: Acts, Statutory Instruments, Notice etc.
- Navigating Gov.UK to find your way around customs laws and legislation
- CDS How to lodge customs declarations in the UK + workarounds
- The New Border Operating Model
- Single Trade Window and Ecosystem of Trust
- Update on UK Free Trade Agreements
- Trade with Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Protocol

This event is suitable for anyone importing into or exporting out of the UK, particularly customs managers, trade professionals, logistics and warehouse managers, freight forwarders, agents, consultants, advisors and lawyers who wish to understand UK customs law and legislation impact daily operations.

Please note that this is a chargeable event. The participation fee is 250 GBP per person + applicable VAT (if the business or person is in the UK). After registration, you will receive an invoice from us. Once paid, your registration is confirmed, and you will receive the dial-in details.

UK publishes 2023 Tariff

The Customs Tariff (Establishment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020: A Guide to the Regulations The reference document gives information about the UK Global Tariff, the UK's most favoured nation tariff rate. The reference document also sets up the UK's commodity code structure. This ensures that goods brought into the UK are put into the right category and pay the correct tariff rate. In setting these tariff rates, and as required by section 8(5) of the Taxation (Cross-border Trade) Act 2018, HM Treasury has taken into account the following:



- interests of consumers in the United Kingdom
- interests of producers in the United Kingdom of the goods concerned
- the desirability of maintaining and promoting the external trade of the United Kingdom
- · the desirability of preserving and boosting productivity in the United Kingdom
- the extent to which the goods concerned are subject to competition

The Tariff of the United Kingdom, version 1.12, dated 7th December 2022, added. Here.

UK Cabinet Border Bulletin December 9 2022

This bulletin provides the latest news from the Government relating to UK borders.

Subscribers to the full version and current clients receive

UK Cabinet Border Bulletin

UK Tariff Quotas for 2023 issued

The Tariff Quotas document lists the tariff rate quotas for each product, including the rates and volumes for each product. The Statutory Instrument aims to set tariff-rate quotas (TRQs) for some goods brought into the UK and to set up a system for allocating most of these TRQs on a "first come, first served" basis. The quotas in this document are put into effect by this rule. The authorised use document lists the things that can be done with goods subject to an approved use procedure. Check the documents that explain the tariff-rate quotas for each product, including the individual product volumes and rates, the list of eligible goods and the ways they can be used. Tariff Quotas, version 3.3, was added on December 7, 2022. Access here

2023 list of uses to which goods declared to an Authorised Use Procedure

This document lists what can be done with goods reported to an Authorised Use Procedure. Download here.

2023 list Reliefs from having to pay import duties and other changes

The relief document lists how a "good" may be exempt from the standard tariff rate. The authorised use document lists eligible goods and explains how they can be used to get lower import duty rates. This document is being updated by SI 2022/1301 Version 1.7, which will enter into force from 1 January 2023. Download here

2023 list of products benefiting from suspended duty

This document details all the goods to which a tariff suspension applies, the tariff that actually applies to these goods, and the expiry date of the tariff suspension. <u>Download here</u>

Guidance about customs debt notifications has been updated.

What happens if you underpay import or export duties and who is responsible for the debt? A C18 demand note will collect the underpayment. HMRC must inform you within three years of the customs debt. Entries before 31 December 2020 may be extended to 10 years. HMRC will issue a C18 demand note for further customs debt. HMRC will notify the C2001 form submitter if a higher number is

determined. Debts paid more than ten days after the C18 will incur interest. Customs agents are liable for commodities stolen from customs control. The agent or principal may pay HMRC. Link

UK CDS

Consolidated list of CDS changes this week

- The section 'Climate Change Levy Import/Export Additional Procedure Codes (APCs) 1CL, 2CL, 1FT and Appendix 16J' has been added to the Customs declaration competition requirements for GB and NI. <u>Here</u>
- <u>Data Element 5/21</u> as the place (airport) of loading (Appendix 15A and Appendix 15B). Great Britain airport codes added – only to be used where appropriate on import goods from Great Britain to Northern Ireland. Additionally, the Pittsburgh International Airport code has been corrected from PIT to PIT, and a duplicate entry for Las Palmas Airport has been removed. <u>Here</u>
- Data Element 2/3
 - Union Codes L139, L142, X839, Y846, Y847, Y848, Y849, Y850, Y851 and Y853 have been added to Data Element 2/3 Documents and Other Reference Codes (Union) (Appendix 5A).
 - National Codes 9027 and 9031 have been added. A correction has also been made for 9019. (Appendix 5B)
 - (Appendix 5C): Document types L139 and L142 have been added to 'Sanctions: Individual Import Licence'. Document Type 9031 and X839 have been added to 'Sanctions: Individual Export Licence'.
- The preference codes for Data Element 4/17 of the Customs Declaration Service have been updated to include notes in Appendix 12 to indicate that preference codes 215, 218, 250, 318, 350 and 500 are not currently in use. These preference codes must not be used on declarations.

Error code guidance: - Troubleshooting advice

If you get the CDS error number "CDS40011" while attempting to submit your declaration, it means that a required data value is missing for a relevant field or that a lot on the declaration was left blank. Check the area where the problem occurred, which the error notice should indicate.

CDS Support Services: Customs Manager Ltd. offers CDS Customs Declaration Training and files customs declarations using CDS to all ports in the UK with our cooperation partners. Please get in touch if you need support with CDS

We also provide a **free knowledge base resource** to help you start using CDS: CDS YouTube explainer videos, FAQ on CDS, Official CDS Guidance from HMRC, CDS Sample Declarations and know error walk around CDS Error Codes Guide. <u>https://www.customsmanager.org/cds-uk-customs-declaration-service</u>

UK VAT

An overview of the new VAT late submission, late payment penalties and interest charges In this webinar, we will explain HMRC's new VAT penalties and VAT interest changes. These will replace the VAT default surcharge for VAT accounting periods starting on or after 1 January 2023. <u>Register here</u>

Changes to the VAT652 – Error Correction Notice form

This webinar will provide the following:

- an introduction to the digital VAT652 Error Correction Notice form
- a walk-through of the online form
- · How to complete and submit the form

Register here

How to register for VAT using the VAT1 form

Please watch a <u>recording of this webinar</u>. It will explain how to register for VAT using the VAT1 form, focusing on the most common errors with completing the form and providing tips on avoiding mistakes.

Using the VAT484 form to report changes

Please watch a <u>recording of this webinar</u>. It will explain how to complete the form VAT484 to report any changes to your client's VAT-registered business. This will include changing business contact details, VAT return dates, and business partners and cancelling the registration.

The Indirect Taxes (Notifiable Arrangements) (Amendment) Regulations 2023

HMRC welcomes views on draft regulations for the Disclosure of Tax Avoidance Schemes for VAT and other indirect taxes (DASVOIT) regime, which amend existing DASVOIT regulations. Link

UK Standards

UK-Switzerland Mutual Recognition Agreement on Standard Testing

The UK and Switzerland have signed a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) to reduce non-tariff barriers related to conformity assessment in 5 sectors. The MRA covers the following:

- electrical equipment and electromagnetic compatibility
- measuring instruments
- radio equipment

- transportable pressure equipment
- noise emitting equipment for use outdoors

The MRA allows these goods to be tested in the UK against Swiss regulations. The goods can then be sold in Switzerland without additional testing.

The MRA sets out how relevant goods can be tested in Switzerland against UK regulations. The goods can then be sold in the UK without additional testing. The UK has updated to reflect that the treaty text and explanatory memorandum have been laid in parliament. Link

UK Sanctions

Russian Crude Oil Price Cap

In partnership with the G7 countries, Australia and the European Union, the UK has agreed to set the price cap on Russian crude oil traded by firms shipping oil to third countries at USD\$60. This price will be kept under review. The UK and its coalition partners will only provide services facilitating the maritime transport of Russian oil if firms trade at or below this cap. In line with this agreement, the Oil Price Cap on Russian crude oil comes into effect on December 5, and the Oil Price Cap on Russian refined oil products on February 5. General Licences to facilitate the Oil Price Cap can be found below. This includes a wind-down General Licence, which permits contracts to ship Russian oil traded at a point above the price cap where the Russian oil is loaded before December 5, 2022, and unloaded at the destination port by January 19 2023. Following extensive industry engagement, OFSI has released updated guidance on the Oil Price Cap, which can be found here. Bespoke forms for required reporting, suspected breaches, and specific licence application forms are here. Press release

30 entries added to the consolidated list

Thirty entries have been added to the consolidated list and are now subject to an asset freeze. On 9 December 2022, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office updated the <u>UK</u> <u>Sanctions List</u> on <u>GOV.UK</u>. This list provides details of those designated under regulations made under the Sanctions Act. Entries have been added to the consolidated list under the following financial sanctions regimes: <u>Global Anti-Corruption</u>; <u>Global Human Rights</u>; <u>Iran (Human Rights)</u>; <u>Mali</u>; <u>Myanmar</u>; <u>Russia</u>, and <u>South Sudan</u>. The relevant notices can be found on the respective <u>regime pages</u>. OFSI's consolidated list of asset freeze targets has been updated to reflect these changes. The above-mentioned <u>close list can be accessed here.</u>

Guidance on imports from Russia and Belarus requiring additional duties

On 1 January 2023, the UK will introduce a further package of additional duties for selected goods originating in Russia and Belarus. This is a limited package to ensure that Russia cannot benefit from the government's broader tariff measures. Check the current, complete list of Russian and Belarusian goods on which additional duties are planned or in force: <u>Additional duties on Russian and Belarusian imports product lists</u>

Link

Additional duties which apply to certain goods originating from Russia and Belarus Read the Reference documents for Customs (Additional Duty) (Russia and Belarus) Regulations 2022. Link

UK Sanctions Support Services: For your compliance with penalties, we can provide you with the most excellent support services possible. Our senior team members have extensive expertise in advising and interpreting UK sanctions, assisting with licence applications, conducting due diligence, and carrying out general compliance assessments for sanctions.

UK Export Controls

Fines & Settlements for export controls violations in 2022

Between May 2022 and October 2022, HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) issued compound settlement offers between £1,000 and £271,700.25 to 12 UK exporters totalling £510,670.13.

The 12 settlements were:

- In May 2022, £105,895.05 was paid relating to the unlicensed exports of military goods controlled by the Export Control Order 2008
- in July 2022, £271,700.25 was paid relating to the unlicensed exports of military goods controlled by the Export Control Order 2008
- in July 2022, £2,700.00 was settled for breaches of licence conditions to the export of dualuse goods owned by retained regulation (EC) No 428/2009, as amended
- in August 2022, £1,000.00 was paid relating to the unlicensed exports of dual-use goods controlled by retained regulation (EC) No 428/2009, as amended, without the appropriate licence
- in August 2022, £19,637.84 was paid relating to the unlicensed exports of dual-use goods controlled by retained regulation (EC) No 428/2009, as amended, without the appropriate licence
- in August 2022, £6,935.44 was paid relating to the unlicensed exports of dual-use goods controlled by retained regulation (EC) No 428/2009, as amended, without the appropriate licence
- in September 2022, £9,828.83 was paid relating to the unlicensed exports of dual-use goods controlled by retained regulation (EC) No 428/2009, as amended, without the appropriate licence
- in September 2022, £19,689.20 was paid relating to the unlicensed exports of dual-use goods controlled by retained regulation (EC) No 428/2009, as amended, without the appropriate licence
- in October 2022, £56,708.71 was paid relating to the unlicensed exports of dual-use goods controlled by retained regulation (EC) No 428/2009, as amended, without the appropriate licence
- in October 2022, £2,700.00 was paid relating to the unlicensed exports of military goods controlled by the Export Control Order 2008
- in October 2022, £8,664.81 was paid relating to the unlicensed exports of dual-use goods owned by retained regulation (EC) No 428/2009, as amended, without the appropriate licence
- in October 2022, £5,300.00 was paid for breaches of licence conditions concerning the export of military goods controlled by the Export Control Order 2008

These related to unlicensed exports of dual-use goods, military goods and related activity controlled by the Export Control Order 2008. Link

OFSI General Licences on the GL Oil Price Cap

Details of General Licences issued by OFSI. GL Oil Price Cap INT/2022/2469656, Oil Price Cap Winddown INT/2022/2470256, Correspondent banking and payment processing INT/2022/2470056 and Oil Price Cap: Exempt Projects and Countries INT/2022/2470156 added Link

United States

Customs

ACE Modernization

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is modernizing the Automated Commercial Environment Secure Data Portal (ACE Portal) over multiple phases in 2022 and 2023. The modernization effort will entail the transition of existing functionality to an upgraded platform, offering easier use and better performance. The ACE Portal gives users real-time access to trade data through features such as ACE Reports, ACE account management, and electronic communication with CBP and Partner Government Agencies (PGA).



Phase 2: Updates to the References tab and other ACE application access points, including a launch button to the migrated Arriving/Exporting In-bonds user interface

Phase 3:

- References Tab Updates
- Edit Functionality for Account Data for All Account Types
- In-bond Authorization
- User Provisioning/Access
- Cross-account Access
- Document upload/management functionality for Facilities/Foreign Trade Zones (FTZ)
- Blanket Declarations

Phase 4:

- Vessel Agent New Account Type
- Statements
- Conveyance Template Upload
- Change History
- Notifications

Link

Forced Labor

CBP defines forced labour as all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty for its nonperformance and for which the worker does not offer work or service voluntarily. Indentured labour is work or service performed according to a contract, the enforcement of which can be accomplished by process or penalties. This includes forced or indentured child labour. CBP implements Section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1307) through the issuance of Withhold Release Orders (WRO) and findings to prevent merchandise produced in whole or in part in a foreign country using forced labour from being imported into the United States. CBP is responsible for controlling the entry of products made with forced labour into the U.S. market by investigating and acting upon allegations of forced labour in supply chains. The Human Trafficking Legal Center's June 2020 guide, *Importing Freedom: Using the U.S. Tariff Act to Combat Forced Labor in Supply Chains*, may be used to help the trade community strengthen petitions to CBP and is one of several suggested tools to combat forced labour. Link

Conflict Diamonds and the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme

CBP implemented the Clean Diamond Trade Act, which codified U.S. Kimberley Process involvement. On July 29, 2003, the Clean Diamond Trade Act banned the "importation into, or exportation from, the US of any raw diamond, from whatever source, unless the rough diamond has been managed via the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS)." Conflict diamonds are rough diamonds used by rebel organisations to fund military action against legitimate and internationally recognised governments. The KPCS fights rough diamond imports globally. US import authority CBP frequently enforces diamond offences. The KPCS, a joint-government, globally recognised certification system, requires its members to meet strict conditions to certify raw diamond shipments as "conflict-free" and prevent conflict diamonds from entering lawful commerce. Link to page

Illegal Mining

Illicit mining is often directly related to transnational criminal activity and human rights violations. CBP uses its authorities to investigate and deter illegal mining. Some of the most common illegally mined materials are gold and diamonds. The U.S. Congress designates CBP as the "importing authority" for diamonds to ensure legitimacy and compliance with the Kimberley Process. Illicit mining is often linked to trade-based money laundering.



In response, CBP has developed expertise in combatting this dangerous practice. Money laundering allows transnational criminal organizations to fund their hazardous activities while they evade the

scrutiny of law enforcement. Illicit mining is often tied to some of the most violent criminal organizations worldwide, and CBP continues to work to end these violations. Link to page

Illegal Logging

Illegal logging is the most profitable natural resource crime on the planet and the third most profitable transnational crime behind counterfeiting and drug trafficking. Preventing illegal timber shipments from entering the U.S. protects American businesses from unfair competition. It cuts off a significant revenue stream for transnational criminal organizations and bad actors who use profits from illegal logging to finance violent conflict, drug trafficking, wildlife trafficking, money laundering, and illegal mining. Link

US Export Controls

Comment on "Advanced computing & semiconductor manufacturing equipment rule."

On October 13, 2022, the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) released the interim final rule Implementation of Additional Export Controls: Certain Advanced Computing and Semiconductor Manufacturing Items; Supercomputer and Semiconductor End Use; Entity List Modification. BIS amended the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) to regulate sophisticated computing integrated circuits (ICs), computer goods including them, and certain semiconductor-making materials. BIS also restricted supercomputer and semiconductor trading. In addition, the 28 China-based firms on the Entity List now require licences for more foreign-made items. BIS further said that "U.S. people" need a licence to "assist" the "development" or "manufacturing" of specific ICs in the PRC.

Finally, BIS issued a Temporary General License to enable limited manufacture in China for exports to mitigate the rule's short-term impact on the semiconductor supply chain. In addition, it created a model certificate for compliance programmes and due diligence. The October 7 advanced computing and semiconductor manufacturing equipment regulation solicits public feedback on its revisions. The comment deadline has been extended. The October 7 regulation on advanced computer and semiconductor manufacturing equipment has a December 12, 2022, comment deadline. The Department of Commerce believes the consultation period should be extended until January 31, 2023. This will provide extra time to review the interim final rule and leverage BIS's public outreach to prepare comments. This paper states that comments may be submitted at any time but must be received by January 31, 2023, to be considered.

With this document, the deadline for written comments has been moved to January 31, 2023. This extension is being done to give commenters more time to review the interim final rule and use the public outreach BIS is doing about the government to help them prepare their comments. Therefore, the comment period for the interim final rule published on October 13, 2022, at 87 FR 62186, has been extended until January 31, 2023.

Our **US Export Control Support Service**: We advise on all EAR and ITAR compliance matters. We carry out the supply chain and third-party risk assessments, examinations of licence applications and assistance with licence management, analysis of de minimis thresholds, audits of presumed export restrictions, and crisis management services about compliance. In addition, we support non-U.S. businesses trading U.S.-origin-controlled goods across all industries and locations. A variety of courses on US export controls are also available from us. We also design <u>ECP-compliant training programmes for companies and businesses</u>.

US Sanctions

US: Russia Oil Cap

The Department of the Treasury has published a <u>Determination according to Executive Order 14071</u> related to a price cap on Russian Federation-origin crude oil.

After the 27 EU Member States agreed, the G7 (US, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the UK) and Australia (the "Price Cap Coalition") joined the EU in imposing a \$60/barrel price ceiling on seaborne Russian Federation crude oil. The price cap limits Russia's earnings to fund its unlawful conflict in Ukraine while sustaining global oil supplies. This is how Russia's war-affected low- and middle-income nations must get oil.

The Price Cap Coalition will ban Russian oil from marine insurance and trade finance unless consumers pay \$60/barrel. Russian oil importers below the price limit will support Coalition-country energy trading services. Maritime transport of Russian-origin petroleum products will be limited unless sold below a pre-February 5, 2023 price limitation. Given Russia's war of choice-induced price hikes, the price cap approach tries to retain Russian oil on the global market while restricting its sales revenues. The EU and Price Limit Coalition set the price ceiling to keep Russian oil inexpensive. The price cap's price stabilisation benefits these economies for two reasons. First, Price Cap Coalition countries have prohibited or reduced Russian oil imports and will not benefit from a lower price. Russian oil is cheap, especially for poorer nations. Second, price shocks harm developing markets and low-income nations more than established ones. The price cap stabilises global oil prices, benefitting importers from these countries.

Price cap operation

Marine services, which offer insurance, trade finance, and other essential benefits for the complex global oil trade, underpin the price cap. These services protect and finance dealers, brokers, and importers, while insurance protects shipowners. Most ports and essential canals need protection and indemnity insurance. Marine insurance and reinsurance are 90% G7. Coalition-country suppliers can only offer these essential services for Russian oil purchased below the price restriction. The price cap prevents impending maritime service limits. We favour global energy market stability, but the present quo—where Russia may trade freely at levels nearing market pricing, which Russia's invasion has inflated—is intolerable. The price cap policy and June 2022 EU fines should secure the energy supply. The price limit permits Coalition enterprises to transport Russian oil by sea for \$60/barrel. G7 maritime services supremacy underlines this strategy. Any Russian oil importer who pays beyond the price cap will have to employ services from enterprises outside the Coalition, which represent just a part of the market and are often more expensive and unreliable.

Compliance

The price cap policy gives G7 service providers a "safe harbour" if they follow a simple recordkeeping and attestation procedure to prove that Russian oil delivered through marine transport was acquired at or below the price limit. On November 22, 2022, OFAC released instructions on the U.S. price limit policy for Russian crude oil. This guidance makes clear that this is a "safe harbour" for service providers through recordkeeping. The attestation process is designed to shield them from strict liability for breach of sanctions if they inadvertently purchase Russian oil sold above the price cap due to falsified or erroneous records provided by those who act in bad faith or make material misrepresentations. In addition, the U.S. will share information with Coalition members to enforce the price restriction.

Statement by Secretary of the Treasury Janet L. Yellen on the Announcement of the Price Cap FACT SHEET: Limiting Kremlin Revenues and Stabilizing Global Energy Supply with a Price Cap on Russian Oil

Sanctions on Evasion Network on Force Oil Sales

OFAC is designating a sanctions evasion network led by businessman Sitki Ayan that has facilitated the sale of hundreds of millions of dollars worth of oil for Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Qods Force (IRGC-QF) (IRGC-QF). Ayan's enterprises have negotiated international sales contracts for Iranian oil with foreign clients, coordinated oil shipments, and helped launder the revenues, hiding the product's Iranian provenance and the IRGC-QF's role in the sales. Today's action supplements OFAC's May 25, 2022 designations targeting an element of this network, which facilitated the sale of hundreds of millions of dollars worth of Iranian oil for both the IRGC-QF and Hizballah, with the backing of senior levels of the Russian Federation government and state-run entities. Together, these networks offered key money streams for Iran and the IRGC-QF. Link

OFAC acts on Illegal, unreported, unregulated fishing

OFAC sanctioned two persons, Li Zhenyu and Xinrong Zhuo, and their networks of organisations, including Dalian Ocean Fishing Co., Ltd. and Pingtan Marine Enterprise, Ltd. (Nasdaq: PME) and eight other related entities. This case also specifies 157 PRC-flagged fishing boats in which these corporations are interested. E.O. 13818 implements the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act and targets global human rights abusers and corrupt officials. Today's action shows the U.S. government's continuous endeavour to impose real and meaningful penalties on egregious human rights abuses, particularly IUU fishing boats. President Biden released the Memorandum on Combating Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing and Labor Abuses on June 27, 2022. The Memorandum states that unregulated IUU fishing and labour abuses jeopardise global fishers' livelihoods and human rights and damage U.S. economic competitiveness, national security, and fisheries sustainability. In addition, this will worsen climate change's environmental and social impacts. The first NASDAQ-listed firm recognised by Treasury. Individual Listed, Press release.

IUU fishing harms ocean ecosystems and fisheries worldwide. IUU fishing is fishing in uncontrolled regions or for unregulated species in methods that violate governments' conservation commitments.

To address rising seafood demand, boats engage in distant water fishing (DWF). China has the most extensive DWF fleet. IUU and DWF fleets are notorious for crew maltreatment. IUU fishing and forced labour on board are firmly linked, according to the International Labor Organization. Fishing is generally done in splendid seclusion, making labour hours, salaries, health care, and communication vulnerable. Migrants are especially susceptible to recruiting and job fraud. "Addressing forced labour is especially problematic inside the fish business," according to the NOAA. Vessels spend months or years at sea, making labour abuse escape or reporting difficult. Human trafficking victims in the fishing industry suffer from emotional and physical abuse, often leading to death; excessive overtime; inadequate housing circumstances; fraudulent or forceful recruitment; and non-payment or underpayment of salaries. These designations are the latest U.S. steps to prevent IUU fishing and human rights violations in the worldwide fishing sector.

Treasury Sanctions Over 40 Corruption and Human Rights Abusers in Nine Countries

In honour of International Anti-Corruption Day and Human Rights Day, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctioned over 40 persons and businesses from nine nations. OFAC sanctioned hundreds of people and companies in the Western Balkans, Belarus, Liberia, Guatemala, the Russian Federation, Burma, and Iran to hold human rights violators and corrupt actors accountable. Treasury used E.O. 13818, which implements the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, to show the U.S. government's commitment to human rights and anti-corruption. The US believes respect for human rights is essential for global peace, security, and prosperity. North Korea, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guinea, Iran, Mali, Philippines, Russia and China are on the list. The listing blocks and requires OFAC reporting of the designated people's property and interests in property in the United States or the custody or control of U.S. persons. Additionally, any companies held, directly or indirectly, 50% or more by one or more blocked individuals, individually or collectively, OFAC's rules prohibit any transactions by U.S. people or inside (or transiting) the US that involve designated or otherwise blocked individuals' property or interests in property, unless approved by a general or particular licence or exempt. Contributing or receiving monies, commodities, or services from or to a specified person is prohibited. Link

China

China gives zero tariffs on some African countries' commodities

China exempts 98% of taxed items for nine African nations. China exempted 98% of taxable goods from 10 of the world's least-developed countries, primarily Africa, to promote an open global economy. Beijing claimed the infrastructure would assist Afghanistan, Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Malawi, Sao Tome & Principe, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia. "The measure is favourable to opening up with win-win results, developing an open global economy, and aiding least-developed nations in expediting their development," stated the State Council of China Customs Tariff Commission. "Gradually extend to the least-developed nations having diplomatic links to China," said the State Council's Customs Tariff Commission. In 2016, Africa exported R1.7 trillion to China, up 43.7%. China imports more African agricultural and industrial goods in addition to oil, precious

minerals, and metals. China is Africa's most significant bilateral economic partner, with bilateral commerce increasing 20-fold over the previous two decades, according to China's General Administration of Customs. China agreed to buy R5.1 trillion of African commodities to decrease the trade imbalance by 2025. China now accepts more duty-free goods. In addition, ten countries joined the zero-tariff arrangement, allowing 33 of Africa's poorest nations to export 97% of their interests to China tax-free. Link

Our sanctions support service provides timely, comprehensive, and sector- and country-specific sanctions guidance. We perform impact assessments of OFAC regulator laws, audits of supply chains and third-party risk trade controls, and aid in administering sanctions licenses. In addition, we provide low-priced ongoing sanctions screening services to ensure you never break the rules, assistance in closing down operations in countries subject to sanctions and provide crisis management services associated with staying in compliance.

Blockchain Technology and Global Trade

Maersk and IBM to discontinue TradeLens

A.P. Moller-Maersk and IBM will discontinue TradeLens, a worldwide trading platform powered by blockchain technology. TradeLens was founded with the lofty objective of digitising global supply chains as a neutral, open platform for the industry. Even though a viable platform has been developed, international industrial collaboration has not been realised. TradeLens has not achieved sufficient commercial viability to continue operations and meet its financial objectives as an independent company. The TradeLens team will begin removing offers immediately and shut down the website by the first quarter of 2023. All parties will ensure that customers are supplied without affecting their businesses. <u>Press release</u>

UN

International Day on Human Rights on 10 December 2022

Statement from the United States: "On December 10, 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) affirming that "all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights." Tomorrow, we honour the UDHR and its proclamation that human rights are to be universally protected. All persons have these rights and should be free to exercise them without discrimination, no matter their beliefs, whom they love, or where they live. All means all. Today, we recognize that inherent dignity and the rights of all are the bedrock for justice and peace worldwide. Russia's brutal war against Ukraine puts into stark relief the imperative to stand up for these universal human rights. United with our allies, we will continue to support the people of Ukraine as they courageously defend their country and their freedom. Russia is far from the only government in the world that abuses human rights. As the world faces atrocities, racism, injustice, and crackdowns on freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, we salute the brave people-including journalists, environmental activists, and other members of civil society-who shine a light on abuses and strive for accountability. The United States champions a vision for our world grounded in respect for democracy and human rights. On its 74th anniversary, we celebrate this milestone document and urge implementation of its historic proclamation of universal human rights for everyone, everywhere". https://www.state.gov/human-rights-day/

CITES

CITES: Record the number of animal and plant species that are newly protected

Washington species protection agreement Since 1973, CITES has governed international wildlife commerce. Panama City hosted the two-week Washington Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species 19th Conference of the Parties. CITES improved species protection by adding 600 trade restrictions and prohibitions. At this year's CITES meeting in Panama City, with over 2,500 attendees, species conservationists and industry from the fisheries, tropical wood, ivory, pet, and fur trade clashed again. Over 50 applications for 600 endangered wild animal and plant species and their protection were filed. Conservationists and businesses negotiated several new trade restrictions and prohibitions. Ivory tusks threaten forest elephants. They are poached, and their habitat is lost. It is listed as critically endangered. 20,000 African elephants have been poached annually, according to WWF.

Four African nations wanted to safeguard all their elephants, while others wished to trade. Ivory and rhino horn trading remained illegal after the motion failed.

However, hippos are still hunted for their canine ivory. z. B. protected reptiles well. Through strict limitations and prohibitions on international commercial trade, 44 turtle species will be protected. The Washington Convention for the Protection of Species' 184 member nations determined this (CITES). Requiem sharks, hammerhead sharks, and guitarfish are endangered by extinction due to overfishing. The CITES meeting in Panama City protected sharks, regularly killed for their fins and flesh or caught in fishing nets. Alarming: during the 1970s, practically all deep-sea shark populations dropped by over 70%. The new protected status of three complete families of 97 shark and ray species was against the interests of the Spanish Fisheries Association. However, it was a tremendous achievement from the negotiations: their protection should be enlarged globally. "Before the summit, only roughly 20% of all shark and ray species traded and were under CITES protection," WWF stated. Now 90." CITES controls practically all globally traded shark species, and fisheries sustainability certifications are now required. Most species discussed and voted on are lesser-known birds, insects, and endangered plants. Some reptiles and fish that should be addressed and regulated are trafficked as exotic pets and shipped to Europe and Germany. Some of the plants on the list are medicinal, while others are harvested for their wood. Thirty-eight thousand species are controlled under CITES. The CITES conference (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) convenes every three years to discuss ways to stop the poaching of endangered animals and plants. Germany was one of the earliest signatories to the accord, which about 95% of nations have signed. The import and export licencing requirements are the fundamental instrument of the agreement, which has 183 contracting countries.

Professional & Management Competencies Development For Customs & Global Trade Specialists

The Customs Competence Institute sponsors this section.

The Customs Competence Institute is a lifelong learning institution dedicated to providing a world-class education focused on delivering holistic customs competence to import and export professionals and their trade partners. In addition, the Institute runs the Diploma in Customs Competence.



We think the operational skills learned in this update alone are insufficient for a customs and global trade professional to do their job. They should almost always be paired with other skills (such as professional or management skills) to help a Customs professional do their job well. That is why, in cooperation with **the Institute of Customs Competence**¹, we cover elements of professional competence in this section. We hope it will also help you with your work.

25 Leadership Behaviors That Create A Culture of Continuous Improvement

Learn how leaders can foster continual development. This document discusses engaging workers via respect, empowerment, and transparency. KaiNexus's article "25 Leadership Behaviors That Create A Culture Of Continuous Improvement" details what leaders should know while trying to change their company's culture. KaiNexus evaluated many effective improvement approaches and suggested some critical behaviours to bear in mind while engaging workers, stressing that leaders must model the behaviours they want others to follow. Leaders must then check the system for these behaviours. Attached for subscribers

¹ The Institute of Customs Competence teaches a holistic approach to develop customs competencies. To find out more about the Diploma in Customs Competence, please e-mail <u>info@customsmanager.org</u>

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An 8 Page Briefing on the EU Single Customs Window Environment EU Deforestation Guide with details Full Updated List of Sanctioned Individuals – updated as of Week 50-2022 5 Page Briefing Note on Passar France: Slides of the 2022 ODASCE Conference UK Cabinet Border Bulletin 25 Leadership Behaviors That Create A Culture of Continuous Improvement

Free Resources

Customs Warehousing

Duty reliefs like Customs warehousing can save companies millions of dollars/pounds/euros in business costs, but only if implemented correctly. Customs warehousing is a cost-effective way to store foreign products in your country destined for another. How can a business benefit from it? Could you read our blog entry? Then, watch our explainer video on customs duty reliefs and exclusive access support.

https://www.customsmanager.org/customs-warehousing

HS Codes & Customs Classification

Each of the millions of completed goods and components sold globally is given a unique HS code. Find out about what is Harmonized Systems Codes. Are they the same as HS codes? Hear from classification experts Mike Bing and Arne Mielken as they discuss customs classification. Access an FAQ on Harmonized System Codes. You asked us questions, and here are our answers. https://www.customsmanager.org/harmonized-system-code

US Export Controls: Training

What do US authorities expect when it comes to export control training? https://www.customsmanager.org/training-export-controls

Customs Declaration Support Centre

CDS YouTube explainer videos, FAQ on CDS, Official CDS Guidance from HMRC, CDS Sample Declarations and know error walk around, CDS Error Codes Guide. https://www.customsmanager.org/cds-uk-customs-declaration-service Read Only - Please Subscribe For Full Version For Less Than 1 GBP/EURO/USD per Day

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- Informations sur l'offre de services: https://www.customsmanager.org/expertiseendouane

Employment & Internships in Customs & Global Trade

Both current and aspiring customs professionals have our full support when it comes to their next professional step. Please get in touch with us if you are looking to change careers or if you have any openings. We will do everything in our power to connect you to the vast network of contacts to assist you in finding the next job or filling your open positions.

E-mail info@customsmanager.org with your CV or advertise a job. Free for all.

→ Global Trade Content Leader Ready For the Next Challenge

A qualified candidate would have more than five years of experience in global trade content and eight years of work experience overall. Additionally, they would be interested in finding a position in which they can continue to hone their skills while also making a positive contribution to the success of their employer and themselves. They have a wealth of expertise in Global Commerce Content research and HTS categorisation projects, both of which facilitate cross-border trade. You are an expert student in various subject areas, including those content data, de minimis information, import/export compliance requirements, VAT, GST, Excise, and other types of tax information. They were looking for someone who specialises in international trade. Then you should seek the services of this internationally renowned content superstar. E-mail info@customsmanager.org

→ Experienced Customs Professional Wants To Make A Contribution in Europe or the UK

A seasoned Customs expert is looking for a position in the European Union or the United Kingdom in import, export, international commerce, and freight forwarding. They have worked as a Customs Specialist for the African Customs Service before. For more than a decade, they oversaw the import/export procedures. They have a Bachelor of Commerce with Highest Honors in Economics, a Master of Commerce in Economics, and an Advanced Certificate in Taxes and Customs Procedures from a 2-year programme. Please contact info@customsmanager.org for the resume and more information if you are interested in this outstanding candidate.

→ Experienced Customs Lawyer is seeking Full Time UK employment

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→ Internships – Need a trainee in international trade?

Students who are nearing the end of their studies on international trade are looking for an internship to help them get their careers started in the global trade industry. We work with younger students to get them interested in and motivated by customs and international trade. Helping them find employment in a company that has an international focus and operates on a global scale is one of the most straightforward ways to achieve this goal. Will you join us? We assist students studying international trade and customs from Europe and other parts of the world in finding internship opportunities. Having completed coursework in global business, international trade, and marketing, They have a solid work ethic and would be an asset to any organisation. Please get in touch with us if you are open to the idea of hosting a student for a period of a few months. Email info@customsmanager.org

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About Customs Manager Ltd.

Working with us means having a <u>Customs Advisor</u>, <u>Global Trade Expert</u> and <u>Export Controls</u> <u>Consultant</u> on speed dial. So if you are looking for a <u>customs consultant UK and EU</u>, let us help you trade effectively, efficiently and, of course, compliantly wherever you want to go in the world.

Need to stay up-to-date with changing customs and global trade rules? We monitor legislation, so our clients don't have to. Learn about all changes in our new <u>expert blog, join exclusive briefings</u> and ask any questions 24/7 through the <u>VIP hotline</u>. Or sign up for our no-charge, insightful <u>newsletter</u>.

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To complete our support for global trading businesses, we are also a <u>UK Customs Broker</u>. We act as a <u>customs clearance agent</u> on behalf of many EU and UK businesses, assisting with customs documentation and all other formalities to ensure the customs clearance of our goods. So whether you're seeking a long-term partner to look after your <u>customs clearance</u> or require support for a one-off shipment, please don't hesitate to get in touch to discuss your requirements.

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