



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
TAXATION AND CUSTOMS UNION
Customs
The Director

Brussels,

TAXUD.E/CP/CM/KO/SD/CP-jr
taxud.e.2(2023)12825936

Message from European Commission: Important changes in the procedure of entry of goods by maritime and inland waterways into the EU

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are contacting you to request your support in alerting members and/or clients of your organisation about **important changes in the EU entry procedure of goods as of 3 June 2024**.

Safety and security data requirements are already in force for air transportation of goods. With the third phase of the EU's new customs pre-arrival safety and security system – Import Control System 2 (ICS2), the EU continues to extend safety and security data reporting requirements.

In this third phase of deployment, **maritime and inland waterways carriers will need to provide data on goods sent to or through the EU prior to their arrival**, through a complete Entry Summary Declaration (ENS).

This obligation also concerns **postal and express carriers** who transport goods using these modes of transport as well as other stakeholders, such as **logistics providers**. In certain circumstances, **final consignees** established in the EU will also have to submit ENS data to ICS2.

Similar safety and security data requirements will be introduced for transportation of goods by rail and road at a later stage.

All affected companies must ensure:

- the collection of accurate and complete data from their clients;
- the establishment of appropriate contractual arrangements in the case of multiple filing to comply with the ICS2 reporting requirements;
- the necessary IT development activities as early as possible;
- the successful completion of the mandatory self-conformance testing of their systems to start filing to ICS2.

Furthermore, **affected companies need to take note of their dedicated deployment window** since the connection to ICS2 will take place gradually, depending on the transport mode, **from 3 June 2024 to 1 September 2025**.

The European Commission is conducting a wide communication and outreach campaign to inform all traders about these important changes. Your assistance in conveying the message to key economic and trade stakeholders in your countries would be greatly appreciated and would help avoid unnecessary disruptions for them at EU customs.

For your convenience, an information package including a video, explanatory factsheets, a news statement, and social media posts can be found at this [link](#). Should you require further information or material, please do not hesitate to let us know or visit the dedicated [website](#).

For additional information, please contact my team at TAXUD-ICS2-PROJECT-TEAM@ec.europa.eu.

Thank you for your assistance in this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

(e-Signed)
Matthias PETSCHKE