INSTITUTE
FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH
AND POLICY CONSULTING

Trade Facilitation Monitoring in Ukraine

Monitoring period:
June, 2026

Issue № 102
July 2026

Dear readers!

Here is the new issue of the Information Bulletin "Trade Facilitation in Ukraine Monitoring," a product of the Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting.

We strive to provide you with the latest and most up-to-date information on the state of customs reform implementation and the implementation of measures to facilitate international trade in Ukraine. Therefore, send your opinion, feedback, and wishes regarding communication links and methods of providing information to: customs@ier.kyiv.ua

Content

Government Approves Ukraine's Export Strategy until 2030

Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Resolution No. 552 of 4 June 2026 "On Approval of the Export Strategy of Ukraine until 2030 and the Operational Action Plan for Its Implementation in 2026–2028"

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine has approved the Export Strategy of Ukraine until 2030, which defines the priorities for the development of Ukrainian exports in the context of the ongoing war, post-war recovery, and European integration.

The Strategy is aimed at strengthening the resilience of the Ukrainian economy, promoting the production of goods with higher value added, enhancing the competitiveness of Ukrainian producers in international markets, and expanding the participation of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in international trade.

The document establishes three strategic objectives:

- increasing the production of competitive export -oriented goods and improving the structure of exports;
- creating favorable conditions for export activities;
- strengthening state institutions and export support instruments.
- To achieve these objectives, the Strategy provides for:
- development of medium- and high-technology manufacturing;
- support for the processing industry;
- stimulation of investment in export-oriented enterprises;
- elimination of trade barriers;
- expansion of export financing instruments;
- digitalization of public services;
- strengthening Ukraine's trade and economic presence abroad;
- promotion of Ukrainian goods and services in international markets.

Particular emphasis is placed on improving the national export support system, including the development of financial instruments, strengthening the activities of the Export Credit Agency, expanding information and advisory services for businesses, modernizing logistics infrastructure, enhancing economic diplomacy, and promoting the Made in Ukraine brand.

By 2030, the Strategy envisages: reducing the share of raw materials in exports to 59%; increasing the ratio of exports of goods and services to GDP to 33%; raising the share of services in total exports to 25%; increasing the total value of exports of goods and services to USD 85 billion.

Implementation of the Strategy will take place in two stages.

During 2026–2028, the primary focus will be on improving the regulatory framework, expanding financial instruments, removing trade barriers, and strengthening institutional capacity.

During 2029–2030, the reforms introduced during the first stage will be scaled up, and a comprehensive support system for Ukrainian exporters will be established.

The Ministry of Economy of Ukraine will be responsible for coordinating implementation and monitoring progress under the Strategy.

The Government expects that implementation of the Strategy will contribute to the diversification of Ukrainian exports, increase the share of high value-added products, and further integrate Ukraine into the European economic area.

Source: https://lnk.ua/z8HMS2sll

Draft Customs Code of Ukraine Submitted to Parliament

Draft Customs Code of Ukraine

Registration No.: 15295, dated 3 June 2026

Initiator: Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine

The Draft Customs Code of Ukraine (new version) has been developed to ensure its compliance with the provisions of European Union customs legislation, thereby fulfilling Ukraine's obligations as an EU candidate country.

The draft aims to harmonize Ukraine's customs legislation with EU law and to implement the country's commitments within the framework of the EU accession process, particularly under Chapter 29 – Customs Union. Its provisions are based on the key legal acts of the European Union governing customs matters.

The structure of the draft Code follows the logic of the EU customs acquis. Sections I–IX mirror the structure of the Union Customs Code at the level of titles and chapters. Sections X and XI implement the provisions of Regulation (EC) No. 1186/2009 and Regulation (EU) No. 608/2013, respectively. Sections XII–XV contain national provisions governing the movement of goods by individuals, customs statistics, liability for customs offences, and the organisation and operation of customs authorities. Sections XVI–XVII include transitional and final provisions necessary to ensure the functioning of certain customs procedures until Ukraine becomes a member of the European Union, while also taking into account the specific legal framework applicable under martial law.

The adoption of the new Customs Code represents one of the key milestones in Ukraine's fulfilment of its European integration commitments in the field of customs policy. It will establish the legal framework for the comprehensive implementation of the EU customs acquis.

At the same time, implementation of the new Code will require comprehensive amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine and other legislative acts related to interconnected negotiation chapters. Some of the relevant European integration laws have already been adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine but have not yet entered into force, while others remain at various stages of preparation.

Given the scale of the required legislative changes, implementation will be carried out in phases. The Final Provisions of the draft Code stipulate that, prior to its entry into force, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine must prepare and submit to the Verkhovna Rada draft laws amending the Tax Code of Ukraine and other legislative acts, as well as adopt the necessary secondary legislation to ensure the full implementation of the new Customs Code.

Source: https://clipr.cc/R0pM6

Amendments to the Current Customs Code of Ukraine Proposed

Draft Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to the Customs Code of Ukraine Regarding the Regulation of Certain Customs Procedures"

Registration No. 15316 of 11 June 2026

Initiated by: Member of Parliament of Ukraine

Unlike the new draft Customs Code, this draft law is not intended as a comprehensive reform of customs legislation. Instead, it introduces targeted amendments designed to eliminate practical gaps identified during the application of the current Customs Code of Ukraine, particularly in relation to:

- Authorised Economic Operators (AEOs);
- customs warehouses;
- temporary storage facilities;
- liability for safeguarding goods;
- common transit procedures;
- the activities of the central executive authority responsible for implementing the state customs policy.

Most of the proposed amendments are aimed at bringing Ukrainian customs procedures into line with European practice and eliminating existing legal uncertainties.

Analysis of the Main Provisions

1. Amendments concerning business authorizations (Article 19-5)

The draft provides that an enterprise undergoing termination solely through reorganization by transformation will not lose the right to obtain or retain a customs authorization.

2. Expansion of permitted operations in customs warehouses.

This is one of the most significant amendments proposed.

For alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and liquids for electronic cigarettes, the following operations would be permitted:

- packaging;
- repackaging;
- changing packaging;
- labelling;
- application of group identifiers;
- reapplication of group codes after regrouping goods.

These changes will enable imported products to be prepared for the market without releasing them for free circulation, facilitate compliance with electronic traceability requirements, and reduce costs for importers.

The amendments are particularly relevant in view of the introduction of digital marking systems for excisable goods.

3. Procedure for obtaining authorization for other warehouse operations

The draft establishes a three-day time limit for reviewing applications and requires customs authorities to issue a reasoned written refusal where authorization is denied.

This represents a significant improvement to administrative procedures.

Previously, the Customs Code did not clearly specify deadlines, decision-making procedures or requirements for substantiating refusals.

The proposed wording is consistent with the principles of good administration.

4. Amendments concerning liability for goods

The draft law clearly identifies the persons responsible for the loss of goods or the release of goods without customs authorization.

Liability will rest with:

- the holder of a customs warehouse;
- the holder of a temporary storage facility;
- the recipient of humanitarian aid;
- the holder of a facility covered by a customs authorization.

These amendments eliminate one of the shortcomings of the current Customs Code, under which it was not always clear who should be regarded as the debtor liable for customs duties and taxes.

5. Replacement of the term "customs authority"

Article 585 of the draft law replaces the term "customs authority" with the more precise wording:

"the central executive authority responsible for implementing the state customs policy and its territorial bodies."

This amendment reflects the current institutional structure of Ukraine's customs administration and ensures consistency of legal terminology throughout the Code.

6. Martial law and AEO eligibility criteria

The draft provides that transit delays occurring during the period of martial law will not be taken into account when assessing whether an enterprise complies with the criteria for obtaining or maintaining the status of an Authorised Economic Operator (AEO).

Accordingly, businesses will not suffer adverse consequences resulting from circumstances beyond their control, including:

- closure of border crossing points;
- military operations;
- force majeure events;
- delays caused by carriers.

In practical terms, the State recognises the impact of wartime risks on international transport operations and seeks to prevent businesses from being penalized for disruptions caused by the armed conflict.

Although the proposed amendments are expected to produce positive practical effects, the draft law does not take into account the fact that a new Customs Code of Ukraine has already been submitted to Parliament**.** Therefore, the proposed amendments will need to be coordinated with the future Customs Code to ensure legislative consistency.

Source: https://clipr.cc/cH9AL

Ukraine Successfully Transitions to NCTS Phase 6

On 22 June 2026 at 2:00 p.m., Ukraine successfully completed the transition to Phase 6 of the New Computerized Transit System (NCTS).

The implementation of NCTS Phase 6 marks another important milestone in aligning Ukraine's customs legislation and transit procedures with European Union requirements.

The updated system supports the use of safety and security data within the Common Transit Procedure, in line with the latest requirements of EU customs legislation, and contributes to Ukraine's further integration into the common customs area of the European Union.

The transition to NCTS Phase 6 is the result of Ukraine's consistent efforts to develop electronic customs services in accordance with European standards.

Following Ukraine's accession to the Convention on a Common Transit Procedure in October 2022, NCTS Phase 5 was successfully introduced in April 2024.

The implementation of NCTS Phase 6 represents the next logical step, ensuring that Ukraine's transit system remains fully compatible with the latest EU requirements.

The software development, testing and system modernization were carried out with the financial support of the EU4PFM – European Union Public Finance Management Support Programme for Ukraine.

The launch of NCTS Phase 6 confirms Ukraine's capacity to implement European customs standards in a timely manner and fulfil its international commitments under the Convention on a Common Transit Procedure, representing another important step towards membership of the European Union.

Source: https://clipr.cc/CAgP4

Expansion of Electronic Customs Services and Simplified Interaction with Citizens Continues

The State Customs Service of Ukraine continues to expand its digital services for citizens. Individuals can now submit applications online to reclaim unused balances from the Single Treasury Account (STA) through their Personal Account on the Single Window for International Trade portal.

The new electronic service enables users to request a refund remotely, eliminating the need to visit a customs office in person. Applications can be submitted in just a few simple steps at any convenient time, regardless of the applicant’s location.

The introduction of this new functionality is a logical continuation of the digitalization of customs services following the transition in 2026 to the use of the Single Treasury Account for customs payments during the customs clearance of vehicles, international postal items, and express consignments. The introduction of the STA estab-lished a unified approach to customs payments, enhanced transparency, and simplified financial transactions for citizens.

In addition to making customs payments through the STA, users can now quickly and conveniently reclaim unused balances using the new electronic service, which is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

For citizens who prefer traditional procedures, the option to submit a paper application for a refund remains available.

The development of digital services remains one of the State Customs Service's strategic priorities. The introduction of new electronic services is aimed at simplifying customs formalities, reducing the time required to obtain administrative services, and creating more convenient conditions for citizens and businesses interacting with customs authorities.

Source: https://clipr.cc/z95BA

“Trade Facilitation Monitoring in Ukraine" is a continuation of the issues of the Monthly Monitoring of Trade Facilitation in Ukraine, which has been prepared by the Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting since 2015 within the framework of the Trade Facilitation Dialogue project, with the financial support of the European Union and co-financing of the International Renaissance Foundation, as well as the project “Support to the Civil Society Initiative “For Fair and Transparent Customs”, which was implemented with the support of the European Union, the International Renaissance Foundation and the ATLAS Network.

The proposed newsletter is a continuation of the previous ones and is published within the framework of the activities of the Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting. The publication consists of three parts (if relevant materials are available):

· Regulations that have entered into force
· Draft regulations
· news.

We understand that small and medium-sized businesses do not have enough time to analyze new legislation or possible regulatory innovations. Also, a significant number of such acts are difficult for an average person to understand. "Monitoring of Trade Facilitation in Ukraine" is designed to draw attention to interesting events, innovations of Ukrainian legislation or planned changes related to the field of trade facilitation, in particular international trade, customs and customs issues, and can directly affect foreign economic entities. Also, in these publications, we will try to analyze draft regulations on this topic.

The Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting (IER) is an internationally recognized independent Ukrainian think tank founded in 1999.

The IER is engaged in the analysis of problems of economic development, international trade and business climate (in particular in the SME sector), participates in the development of policy documents at the national and regional levels.

The IER regularly issues its own macroeconomic forecast for Ukraine and participates in the development of the consensus forecast of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine.

The IER team of sociologists conducts regular surveys of enterprises and experts in order to assess the business climate and expectations of Ukrainian business. IER successfully combines its analytical activities with advocacy for change and participation in the public life of Ukraine. The IER cooperates with central and local authorities, domestic and foreign think tanks, and civil society organizations. The work of the IER is financed by grants, charitable contributions and technical assistance funds.

WWW.TFD.IER.COM.UA **REYTARSKA 8/5-A, 01054 KYIV, UKRAINE** **TEL.: +38 (044) 278-63-42** **FAX.: +38 (044) 278-63-36**