



INSTITUTE
FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH
AND POLICY CONSULTING

TRADE FACILITATION MONITORING IN UKRAINE

*Monitoring period:
August 2025*

*Issue № 93
September 2025*



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

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REGULATORY LEGAL ACTS THAT ENTERED INTO FORCE



Government Introduces Technical Amendments to the Lists of Goods Subject to Export and Import Licensing and to 2025 Quotas

Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 997 of August 13, 2025 On Amendments to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 1481 of December 24, 2024

The Government has amended Resolution No. 1481 of December 24, 2024, which defines the lists of goods subject to export and import licensing as well as the corresponding quotas.

The main changes are primarily related to the reorganization of central executive bodies. In all provisions of the resolution, the Ministry of Economy has been replaced with the Ministry of Economy, Environment and Agriculture. This new ministry, which merged three agencies, is now authorized to issue licenses for controlled goods, while references to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources have been removed.

The second block of amendments concerns clarifications regarding the licensing of ozone-depleting substances and fluorinated greenhouse gases. The notes to the annexes specify that:

- licenses are issued in accordance with the Montreal Protocol and the relevant Ukrainian law;
- grounds for refusal include not only violations of national legislation but also inconsistency with international obligations;
- if goods or equipment do not contain controlled substances, their customs clearance does not require a license.

The third important point is the clarification of terms and procedures for consultations with international partners. For certain categories of goods, licenses must now be issued within 15 days following bilateral consultations with countries willing to engage in such negotiations. This approach helps balance Ukraine's domestic market interests with its external obligations.

In addition, several outdated provisions have been repealed, including subparagraph 3 of paragraph 3 and the second paragraph of the note to Annex 6.

Source: <https://surl.li/zoqdbbe>

Government Approves the Composition of the Commission to Conduct the Competition for the Position of Head of the State Customs Service

Order of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 816 of August 4, 2025 On Approval of the Composition of the Commission for the Competition for the Position of Head of the State Customs Service

Pursuant to Article 570² of the Customs Code of Ukraine, the Government approved the composition of the commission to conduct the competition for the position of Head of the State Customs Service. The commission was formed by the Government based on proposals from the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine and from international and foreign organizations that, under

REGULATORY LEGAL ACTS THAT ENTERED INTO FORCE

international or intergovernmental agreements, have provided Ukraine with technical assistance in structural reforms, financial and technical support, and anti-corruption measures, as specified in Article 570² of the Customs Code of Ukraine.

Appointed members based on Ministry of Finance proposals:

- **Andriy Yerashov** – Head of the Analytical Center of the Union of Ukrainian Entrepreneurs;
- **Dmytro Oliynyk** – Chairman of the Council of the Federation of Employers of Ukraine;
- **Oleh Tymkiv** – Business Development Director at Moore Stephens auditing firm.

Appointed members based on international and foreign organization proposals:

- **Arūnas Adomenas** – Customs Attaché at the Lithuanian Representation to the EU, expert on customs policy, integrated border management, and international cooperation;
- **David Bernstein** – Expert on governance and institutional reform;
- **Kunio Mikuriya** – Expert on international customs policy, trade facilitation, and organizational leadership.

It should be recalled that the relevant provisions establishing the procedure and timeline for forming this commission were introduced by the Law of Ukraine No. 3977 of September 17, 2024 *On Amendments to the Customs Code of Ukraine Regarding the Specifics of Service in Customs Authorities and Certification of Customs Officers*, which entered into force on October 31, 2024. The commission was to be formed within two months of its entry into force, i.e., at the beginning of 2025.

This commission will be responsible for selecting the Head of the State Customs Service of Ukraine through an open competition.

Source: <https://surl.li/qxgwij>



Government Submits Draft Law to Parliament on Denunciation of the CIS Agreement on Indirect Taxes in Export and Import Operations

Order of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 882 of August 20, 2025 On Submission to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the Draft Law of Ukraine “On Withdrawal from the Agreement on the Principles of Indirect Taxation during the Export and Import of Goods (Works, Services) between CIS Member States”

The draft law aims to terminate Ukraine’s participation in the multilateral agreement signed within the framework of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), which regulates the principles of levying indirect taxes (VAT and excise) in export-import operations.

Ukraine has been a party to this agreement since the early 1990s, but its relevance has diminished due to:

- a decrease in trade volumes with CIS countries;
- Ukraine’s alignment with EU customs and tax law;
- Russia’s military aggression, given that it is a key CIS member.

SREGULATORY LEGAL ACTS THAT ENTERED INTO FORCE

The Agreement on the Principles of Indirect Taxation between CIS Member States established uniform rules for applying VAT and excises in export and import operations, introduced the “destination country” principle (i.e., taxes are levied where the goods are consumed), and regulated the exchange of tax information among CIS tax authorities.

Loss of relevance: In current conditions, the bulk of Ukraine’s foreign trade is with the EU rather than the CIS, making the agreement obsolete. Withdrawal from CIS multilateral agreements is a consistent step by Ukraine to distance itself from Russian influence. Thus, the draft law is primarily of political and harmonization significance, while its economic impact will be minimal — and for some, even positive.

Source: <https://surl.li/guxdrh>

DRAFT LEGISLATIVE ACT



Free Trade Agreement between Ukraine and Turkey Submitted for Ratification

Draft Law of Ukraine, Reg. No. 0340 of August 18, 2025
“On Ratification of the Free Trade Agreement between the Government of Ukraine and the Government of the Republic of Turkey”

Date of registration: August 14, 2025

Initiator: Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine

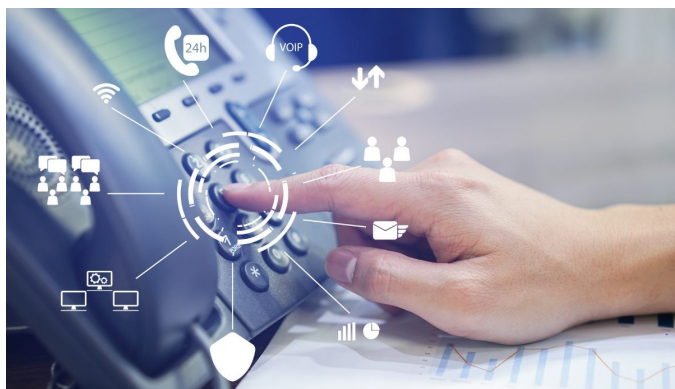
The Draft Law of Ukraine “On Ratification of the Free Trade Agreement between the Government of Ukraine

and the Government of the Republic of Turkey” was developed with the aim of ratifying the Free Trade Agreement signed on February 3, 2022, in Kyiv. Ratification is a necessary prerequisite for the Agreement to enter into force.

Implementation of the Law will complete all domestic procedures required for the Agreement’s entry into force. The Agreement is expected to promote further development of bilateral trade and economic cooperation between the two countries, enable Ukrainian producers to benefit from the liberalization of Turkey’s goods and services markets, and open up opportunities for Ukrainian businesses to both expand export markets and enhance and modernize domestic production.

In 2020, the Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting (IER) presented a report assessing the potential economic impact of the Free Trade Agreement between Ukraine and Turkey. The materials are available at: <http://www.ier.com.ua/ua/publications/reports?pid=6589>

Source: <https://surl.li/cppctg>



State Customs Service of Ukraine Reorganizes a Number of Regional Offices

To improve efficiency and ensure rational use of resources, the State Customs Service of Ukraine has reorganized several regional offices.

Accordingly, Dnipro Customs has been renamed **South-Eastern Customs**, and Mykolaiv Customs has been renamed **Southern Customs**. Luhansk and Donetsk Customs offices were merged into South-Eastern Customs, while Kherson Region, Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and Sevastopol Customs offices were merged into Southern Customs.

These changes take into account circumstances that make the full operation of certain customs offices impossible and are aimed at strengthening the institutional capacity of functioning units.

The updated structure and contact information of regional offices can be found on the official website of the State Customs Service:

<https://customs.gov.ua/contacts>.

Source: <https://surl.li/vcinng>

Government Endorses Draft of the New Customs Code of Ukraine

On August 26, the Government endorsed the draft of the new Customs Code of Ukraine, which is based on EU customs legislation and represents an important milestone on Ukraine's path to EU membership. The development and adoption of the new Customs Code is one of the key requirements for aligning Ukraine's customs system with European standards.

The Government instructed the Office for European Integration to submit the draft Customs Code to the European Commission (EC) for review. At the same time, the Ministry of Finance is creating a working group of up to 15 civil society representatives to join discussions on the document. Following the EC's assessment, the draft will be finalized jointly with experts and the business community.

Expected benefits:

- Alignment of customs procedures with EU practices;
- Reduced business costs and accelerated trade;
- Simplified production and logistics processes for companies.

Source: <https://surl.lu/qgehww>

Contract Signed to Establish a Contact Center to Improve Communication with Businesses

The Contact Center will serve as a key communication mechanism between businesses and the State Customs Service. Its functionality will go beyond customs IT systems, covering all aspects of interaction between economic operators and customs authorities.

A robust Help Desk system for NCTS was one of the key conditions for Ukraine's accession to the Common Transit Convention. In line with European practice, the

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next step to improve communication between customs authorities and businesses is the creation of a comprehensive Help Desk system for all customs IT systems (IT Service Management – ITSM).

The State Customs Service has already signed a contract to develop the Contact Center with the support of the EU Public Finance Management Support Program (EU4PFM).

According to the Service, the system will be built on a modern platform capable of simultaneously handling a large number of requests, optimizing response times, and processing significant volumes of data. The new

system will accelerate business processes and minimize the human factor. Additionally, it will allow tracking of the full history of requests: for businesses – their own submissions, and for the Customs Service – all submissions from all applicants as well as individual applicant histories.

The creation of a single Contact Center will be an important step toward implementing a modern, customer-oriented model of interaction between customs authorities and businesses.

Source: <https://surli.cc/rfmjsw>

"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.

Warning

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