



E-flash 1-2026

FORWARD Belgium: focus points



Customs

Revision of the sanctions policy on Customs & Excise

Further steps are being taken within the **Commission for the revision of the sanctions policy on Customs & Excise**. The basic principle remains that criminal law should be reserved for fraud, while offences should be dealt with through administrative procedures as far as possible.

Ongoing MASP discussions

Several issues relating to the roll-out of the **MASP projects** are currently under discussion: the transfer of goods subject to inspection to GIP, the impact of new quota procedures on the use of IDMS – PN/TS and transparency in the use of public warehouses. These issues require further developments in customs and IT processes, but progress is slow despite intensive consultation with the administration.

Physical turnaround time for customs controls

In the run-up to a new consultation with the competent minister, we are once again collecting concrete input on the **turnaround time for physical customs controls**. We are asking members to report all cases where a physical control took more than three calendar days.

Structural data, such as average processing times from customs software, are particularly valuable for objectively identifying the problem. Individual files with operational or financial impact can also be included. All information will be treated as strictly confidential and used exclusively for policy purposes. Cases can be forwarded to the [FORWARD Belgium secretariat](#).

Sustainability

Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)

As part of the implementation of CBAM, FORWARD Belgium is making a series of standard contracts available. These will help you with the contractual and operational definition of CBAM obligations within your role as a customs representative:

- **Templates for indirect representation** (EU customer and non-EU customer)
- **Template for direct representation**
- **General information document about CBAM**.

All documents are intended as support and should always be applied within your own contractual agreements and internal procedures. You can find them on the [FORWARD Belgium website](#).



Update on the European Deforestation Regulation

The European Parliament has approved amendments to the **European Deforestation Regulation** (EUDR) and the postponement of its effective date. This allows more time to improve the European Union's IT system and eases the administrative burden on some companies. Large companies and intermediaries will only have to comply with the obligations from 30 December 2026. For a new category of micro and small enterprises, the date is postponed to 30 June 2027.

[More info](#)



Legal

Maritime Security Act

FORWARD Belgium is closely monitoring developments surrounding the **new Maritime Security Act**. The current draft legislation imposes additional obligations on freight forwarders and shipping agents, including safety plans for foreign workers. Together with BSV, we have conveyed our concerns about this to Minister Verlinden.

Book your personal appointment



If you are unsure which issues are handled by FORWARD Belgium and/or would like to know more about what FORWARD Belgium can do for your company, you are welcome to make a personal appointment.

We will be happy to visit you to explain everything in detail.

[Make your personal appointment here](#)

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