EU Reference Training Programmes for Academic Customs Education

Master's and Bachelor's programmes

2019 sectional revision

Reference Documents

Ref.	Title	Version	Date
R01	EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Public Sector	N/A	2014
R02	EU Competency Framework for the Private Sector	N/A	2014
R03	EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Private Sector	N/A	2014
R04	EU Reference Training Programmes for Academic Customs Education	N/A	2016

Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronyms	Description
CustComp^{eu}	EU Customs Competency Framework
EU	European Union
IT	Information Technology
MC	Management Competency(ies)
OC	Operational Competency(ies)
PC	Professional Competency(ies)
PL	Proficiency Level(s)
RTP	Reference Training Programme(s)

Table of Contents

1   Introduction

This document constitutes a sectional revision of the **EU Reference Training Programmes (RTP) for academic Customs education (2016)** resulting from process feedback accumulated during the 2018-19 pilot cycle of the EU Customs Recognition process. It includes:

- The **revision** of the EU RTP for the **public sector** in terms of the suggested competency assortment along with the proficiency level (PL) recommendations.

- The EU RTP for the **private sector** specifically developed in response to 2019 EU Recognition pilot cycle feedback.

As such, the present document is intended to make the following substitutions:

Substituted section of original document	Substituted section of present
Annex 1: Proficiency Level Table	With section: 3 Revised PL descriptions and Annex 1: EU RTP PL Descriptions with examples (based on the CustComp^{eu})
4.1.5 Summary: Benchmark for EU Customs Certificate of Recognition (Master's, public sector)	With section: 4.1.1 Revised public sector EU RTP for a Customs Master's programme
4.4.5 Summary: Benchmark for EU Customs Certificate of Recognition (module within Master's, public sector)	With section: 4.1.2 Revised public sector EU RTP for a Customs module within a Master's programme
4.2.5 Summary: Benchmark for EU Customs Certificate of Recognition (Bachelor's, public sector)	With section: 4.1.3 Revised public sector EU RTP for a Bachelor's programme
4.3.5 Summary: Benchmark for EU Customs Certificate of Recognition (module within Bachelor's, public sector)	With section: 4.1.4 Revised public sector EU RTP for a Customs module within a Bachelor's programme

Moreover, this document presents the newly-developed RTP for the private sector in the following sections:

- Section 5.1.1, private sector EU RTP for a Customs Master's programme

- Section 5.1.2, private sector EU RTP for a Customs module within a Master's programme

- Section 5.1.3, private sector EU RTP for a Bachelor's programme

- Section 5.1.4, private sector EU RTP for a Customs module within a Bachelor's programme

Overall, this document provides a revision of selected sections of document - RTP for Academic Customs Education (2016). It should not be read as standalone

document, but rather in parallel to the original documents that provide the context and background of this EU initiative.

A full revision of the EU RTP for Academic Customs Education (2016) will follow the overall future revision of the CustComp[eu].

2 Background of the revision

The EU Certificate of Recognition ran a first pilot year in 2018-19, during which the process methodology and accompanying documentation were evaluated in terms of quality, clarity and usability. Feedback from the pilot cycle was gathered from all stakeholders (applicants, Assessment Board, the EC) and thoroughly evaluated. The decision to proceed in revising sections of the existing RTP document have been based on the following findings:

1. **The PL descriptions could not account for both Master's and Bachelor's qualifications, and the difference in the expected scope of each competency.**

The present revision of PL descriptions assigns a different interpretation to PL depending on whether they are addressed by a Bachelor's (emphasis on conceptual processing, procedures, operations) or a Master's programme (emphasis on strategic context and the intra- and inter-organisational relationships).

2. **In light of the extended PL descriptions (point above), the assignment of PL should be re-evaluated in all public sector RTPs.**

The present RTP revision incorporates all necessary amendments to PLs for both Bachelor's and Master's programmes, and modules within.

3. **The absence of an EU RTP for the private sector made it difficult for applying programmes that address private or public/private audiences to benchmark their academic programme content and understand and follow the application process. Moreover, it complicated the quantitative assessment process and made the application forms complex and loaded with instruction and information.**

The development of the RTP for the private sector will help remove the excess information from the application form, thus making the forms simpler and much easier to fill in. Moreover, it helps establish greater transparency in the quantitative assessment phase.

3 The revised PL descriptions

A PL summarises the required level of proficiency for someone within a certain role. In combination with the competencies required for a certain role, it mirrors both the importance of the competency and the frequency of when it is required in the role.

Based on the CustComp[eu] PL definitions, the following extended PL descriptions were devised to correspond to both the academic nature of the RTP, and the need for a different interpretation of levels as these correspond to Master's/Bachelor's degrees and the different nature of the competency areas (Operational competencies (OC), Professional competencies

(PC), Management competencies (MC)). As such, the revised PL descriptions (Annex 1: Revised Proficiency Level descriptions) summarise the following principles:

- For **OC** within a **Bachelor's** degree, emphasis is placed on conceptual processing, procedures and operations. Here, knowledge of the key Customs **concepts** the operational competency addresses is significant.

- For **OC** within a **Master's** degree, emphasis is placed on strategic context and the intra- and inter-organisational relationships. Here, knowledge of the Customs **context** the operational competency addresses is significant.

- For **PC** within both **Bachelor's** and **Master's** degrees, emphasis is placed on the existence of the key professional skills the competency addresses.

- For **MC** within both **Bachelor's** and **Master's** degrees, emphasis is placed on the existence of the key managerial ability the competency addresses.

4   The revised EU RTP for the public sector

The development of the public sector RTP for academic Customs education is intended to maximise the level of consistency in the coverage of the learning topics and learning outcomes of similar Customs-related training programmes. This includes Master's and Bachelor's programmes throughout Europe. It is specifically targeted at Customs-specific knowledge and skills.

The EU RTP explained below is developed to provide a suggested way of organising or delivering different types of study programmes. This implies that academic studies providers or developers can opt to deliver the Master's or Bachelor programme on different ways.

To aid the EU Customs Certificate of Recognition process, the following revisions were developed.

4.1.1   Revised public sector EU RTP for a Customs Master's programme

As a benchmark for all Customs Master's programmes that apply for an EC Certificate of Recognition, the following overview is provided. In the table below, reference is made to the competencies that are crucial for participants pursuing a Customs Master's programme. The benchmark is based on the competency profile of a mid to senior manager in a Customs Administration. Additionally, the required PC and MC that are most suited in an academic context are added, with a strong emphasis on the Management Competency Profile, since PC are expected to have developed during previous study and/or working experience. Based on the defined target audience, the PL per competencies are determined.

It is important to note that **PC and MC**, such as *Knowledge/Experience Sharing* and/or *Technological Ability* do not require training through dedicated courses. They can be trained via a group working paper, thesis or transfer project.

This reference table will be used as a benchmark for the assessment of Customs Master's Study programmes throughout the EU when seeking EC recognition. The competencies of the applying academic programme should be aligned with the competencies of the appropriate RTP. In addition, the learning outcomes should be in line with the learning outcomes related to these competencies in the EU Customs Training Curriculum. For more detail on the

learning outcomes associated with the competencies of the RTP, please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Public Sector* [R01]. If, based on the target audience, specific competencies are substituted with competencies from the *EU Competency Framework for the Private Sector* [R02], please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Private Sector* [R03] for their associated learning outcomes.

Overall, to meet Criterion 3 (in line with the RTP at least 75%) of the EU Customs Recognition process, Master's Academic programmes need to demonstrate they address a **minimum of 32 RTP competencies** (from either the public and/or private sector RTP) at the suggested PL indication, of which:

- 18 OC (out of a total of 21)

- 9 MC (out of a total of 11) and

- 5 PC (out of a total of 10)

EU RTP for a Customs Master's programme, public sector					
Public Sector RTP		**PL1**	**PL2**	**PL3**	**PL4**
A. Customs Operational Competencies					
1	Customs Legislation		X		
2-12	Customs Procedures		X		
13	Trade Facilitation			X	
14	Economic Operators Management	X			
15	Customs Declaration Processing	X			
16	Customs Business Understanding			X	
17	Tariff & Classification		X		
18	Valuation	X			
19	Origin of Goods	X			
20	Debt and Guarantee Management	X			
21	Customs Supervision	X			
22	Control of Goods	X			
23	Prohibitions and Restrictions		X		
24	Enforcement	X			
25	Customs Investigation	X			
26	Operational Analytics		X		
27	Risk Analysis		X		
28	Integrated Border Management		X		
29	Supply Chain Operations		X		
30	Support for Customs	X			
31	Audit	X			
B. Customs Professional Competencies					
2	Drive for Results		X		
3	Investigative Ability		X		

5	Professional Networking		X		
7	Knowledge/Experience Sharing		X		
11	Decision Making		X		
12	Analytical Thinking		X		
14	Problem Solving		X		
17	Processing Information		X		
23	Technological Ability		X		
25	Research		X		
C. Customs Management Competencies					
3	Strategic Agility		X		
4	Innovation		X		
5	Entrepreneurship		X		
8	Project Management		X		
10	Change management		X		
11	Financial Management		X		
13	Policy Design		X		
14	Political Awareness		X		
15	Customs Trends		X		
16	Strategic Supply Chain Management		X		
19	Process Management		X		
Total OC/PC/MC competencies		**42**			

4.1.2 Revised public sector EU RTP for a Customs module within a Master's programme

As a benchmark for all Customs modules within a Master's programme that apply for an EC Certificate of Recognition, the following overview is provided. In the table below, reference is made to the OC that are crucial for participants pursuing a Customs module within a Master's programme. The benchmark is based on the competency profile of a Team Leader in a Customs Administration. Based on the defined target audience, the PL per competencies are determined.

Since this RTP has been developed for Customs module(s) within wider Master's programmes, no PC and MC recommendations are provided, based on the understanding that such competency areas are mainly addressed by the remaining part of the degree.

This reference table will be used as a benchmark for the assessment of Customs modules within a Master's programme throughout the EU when seeking EC recognition. The competencies of the applying academic programme should be aligned with the competencies of the appropriate RTP. In addition, the learning outcomes should be in line with the learning outcomes related to these competencies in the EU Customs Training Curriculum. For more detail on the learning outcomes associated with the competencies of the RTP, please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Public Sector* [R01]. If, based on the target audience, specific competencies are substituted with competencies from the *EU Competency*

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Framework for the Private sector [R02], please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Private Sector* [R03] for their associated learning outcomes.

Overall, to meet Criterion 3 (in line with the RTP at least 75%) of the EU Customs Recognition process, modules within a Master's Academic programme need to demonstrate they address **a minimum of 16 RTP OC** (out of a total of 21) from either the public and/or private sector RTP, at the suggested PL indication, with an **additional requirement of at least 3 OC trained at level 2** (besides OC1, OC13 and OC16).

Benchmark for a Customs module within a Master's programme, public sector		PL1	PL2	PL3	PL4
Public Sector RTP		**PL1**	**PL2**	**PL3**	**PL4**
A. Customs Operational Competencies					
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT: At least three of the following OC (besides OC1, OC13 and OC16) must be trained up to PL2.					
1	Customs Legislation		X		
2-12	Customs Procedures	x			
13	Trade Facilitation		X		
14	Economic Operators Management	X			
15	Customs Declaration Processing	X			
16	Customs Business Understanding		X		
17	Tariff & Classification	X			
18	Valuation	X			
19	Origin of Goods	X			
20	Debt and Guarantee Management	X			
21	Customs Supervision	X			
22	Control of Goods	X			
23	Prohibitions and Restrictions	X			
24	Enforcement	X			
25	Customs Investigation	X			
26	Operational Analytics	X			
27	Risk Analysis	X			
28	Integrated Border Management	X			
29	Supply Chain Operations	X			
30	Support for Customs	X			
31	Audit	X			
Total OC competencies		**21**			

4.1.3   Revised public sector EU RTP for a Bachelor's programme

As a benchmark for all Customs Bachelor's programmes that apply for an EC Certificate of Recognition, the following overview is provided. In the table below, reference is made to the competencies that are crucial for participants pursuing a Customs Bachelor's programme. The benchmark is based on the required OC for general training in Customs, and additionally the PC most suited to an academic context are added. Based on the defined target audience, the PL per competencies are determined.

It is important to note that **PC and MC**, such as Time Management or Teamwork, do not require training through dedicated courses. They can be trained via a group working paper, thesis or transfer project.

This reference table will be used as a benchmark for the assessment of Customs Bachelor's Study programmes throughout the EU when seeking EC recognition. The competencies of the applying academic programme should be aligned with the competencies of the appropriate RTP. In addition, the learning outcomes should be in line with the learning outcomes related to these competencies in the EU Customs Training Curriculum. For more detail on the learning outcomes associated with the competencies of the RTP, please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Public Sector* [R01]. If, based on the target audience, specific competencies are substituted with competencies from the *EU Competency Framework for the Private Sector* [R02], please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Private Sector* [R03] for their associated learning outcomes.

Overall, to meet Criterion 3 (in line with the RTP at least 75%) of the EU Customs Recognition process, Bachelor's Academic programmes need to demonstrate they address a **minimum of 23 RTP competencies** (from either the public and/or private sector RTP) at the suggested PL indication, of which:

- 18 OC (out of a total of 21) and

- 5 PC (out of a total of 9)

Benchmark for a Customs Bachelor's programme, public sector					
Public Sector RTP		**PL1**	**PL2**	**PL3**	**PL4**
A. Customs Operational Competencies					
1	Customs Legislation		X		
2-12	Customs Procedures		X		
13	Trade Facilitation		X		
14	Economic Operators Management		X		
15	Customs Declaration Processing		X		
16	Customs Business Understanding			X	
17	Tariff & Classification		X		
18	Valuation		X		
19	Origin of Goods		X		
20	Debt and Guarantee Management		X		

21	Customs Supervision		X		
22	Control of Goods		X		
23	Prohibitions and Restrictions		X		
24	Enforcement		X		
25	Customs Investigation		X		
26	Operational Analytics	X			
27	Risk Analysis		X		
28	Integrated Border Management	X			
29	Supply Chain Operations		X		
30	Support for Customs	X			
31	Audit		X		
B. Customs Professional Competencies					
2	Drive for Results		X		
4	Teamwork		X		
11	Decision Making		X		
12	Analytical Thinking		X		
17	Processing Information		X		
18	Written Communication		X		
19	Oral Communication		X		
23	Technological Ability		X		
25	Research		X		
Total OC/PC competencies		**30**			

4.1.4 Revised public sector EU RTP for a Customs module within a Bachelor's programme

As a benchmark for all Customs modules within a Bachelor's programme that apply for an EC Certificate of Recognition, the following overview is provided. In the table below, reference is made to the OC that are crucial for participants pursuing a Customs module within a Bachelor's programme. The benchmark is based on the required OC for an initiation into Customs. Based on the defined target audience, the PL per competencies are determined.

Since this RTP has been developed for Customs module(s) within wider Bachelor's programmes, no PC recommendations are provided, based on the understanding that such competency areas are mainly addressed by the remaining part of the degree.

This reference table will be used as a benchmark for the assessment of Customs modules within a Bachelor's programme throughout the EU when seeking EC recognition. The competencies of the applying academic programme should be aligned with the competencies of the appropriate RTP. In addition, the learning outcomes should be in line with the learning outcomes related to these competencies in the EU Customs Training Curriculum. For more detail on the learning outcomes associated with the competencies of the RTP, please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Public Sector* [R01]. If, based on the target audience, specific competencies are substituted with competencies from the *EU Competency Framework for the Private sector* [R02], please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Private Sector* [R03] for their associated learning outcomes.

Overall, to meet Criterion 3 (in line with the RTP at least 75%) of the EU Customs Recognition process, modules within a Bachelor's Academic programme need to demonstrate they address a minimum of **16 RTP OC** (out of a total of 21) from either the public and/or private sector RTP, at the suggested PL indication, **with an additional requirement of at least 3 OC trained at level 2** (besides OC2-12, OC16, OC 22 and OC23).

Benchmark for a Customs module within a Bachelor's programme, public sector					
Public Sector RTP		**PL1**	**PL2**	**PL3**	**PL4**
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT: At least three of the following OC (besides OC2-12, OC16, OC 22 and OC23) must be trained up to PL2.					
A. Customs Operational Competencies					
1	Customs Legislation	X			
2-12	Customs Procedures		X		
13	Trade Facilitation	X			
14	Economic Operators Management	X			
15	Customs Declaration Processing	X			
16	Customs Business Understanding		X		
17	Tariff & Classification	X			
18	Valuation	X			
19	Origin of Goods	X			
20	Debt and Guarantee Management	X			
21	Customs Supervision	X			
22	Control of Goods		X		
23	Prohibitions and Restrictions		X		
24	Enforcement	X			
25	Customs Investigation	X			
26	Operational Analytics	X			
27	Risk Analysis	X			
28	Integrated Border Management	X			
29	Supply Chain Operations	X			
30	Support for Customs	X			
31	Audit	X			
Total OC competencies		**21**			

5   The newly-developed EU RTP for the private sector

The development of the private sector RTP for academic Customs education is intended to maximise the level of consistency in the coverage of the learning topics and learning outcomes of similar Customs-related training programmes. This includes Master's and Bachelor's programmes throughout Europe. It is specifically targeted at Customs-specific knowledge and skills.

It is important to note that the private and public RTP are different only in terms of the Operational Competency requirements for each academic degree and are identical in their requirements of PC and MC (where relevant).

The EU RTP explained below is developed to provide a suggested way of organising or delivering different types of study programmes. This implies that academic studies providers or developers can opt to deliver the Master's or Bachelor's programme in different ways.

To aid the EU Customs Certificate of Recognition process, the following RTP for the private sector were developed.

5.1.1   Private sector EU RTP for a Customs Master's programme

As a benchmark for all Customs Master's programmes that apply for an EC Certificate of Recognition, the following overview is provided. In the table below, reference is made to the competencies that are crucial for participants pursuing a Customs Master's programme. The benchmark is based on the competency profile of a mid to senior manager in a Trade organisation. Additionally, the required PC and MC that are most suited to an academic context are added, with a strong emphasis on the Management Competency Profile since PC are expected to have developed during previous study and/or working experience. Based on the defined target audience, the PL per competencies are determined.

Please note that **PC and MC**, such as *Knowledge/Experience Sharing* and/or *Technological Ability*, do not require training through dedicated courses. They can be trained via a group working paper, thesis or transfer project.

This reference table will be used as a benchmark for the assessment of Customs Master's Study programmes throughout the EU when seeking EC recognition. The competencies of the applying academic programme should be aligned with the competencies of the appropriate RTP. In addition, the learning outcomes should be in line with the learning outcomes related to these competencies in the EU Customs Training Curriculum. For more detail on the learning outcomes associated with the competencies of the RTP, please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Public Sector* [R01]. If, based on the target audience, specific competencies are substituted with competencies from the *EU Competency Framework for the Private Sector* [R02], please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Private Sector* [R03] for their associated learning outcomes.

Overall, to meet Criterion 3 (in line with the RTP at least 75%) of the EU Customs Recognition process, Master's Academic programmes need to demonstrate they address a **minimum of 32 RTP competencies** from either the public and/or private sector RTP, at the suggested PL indication, of which:

- 18 OC (out of a total of 21)

- 9 MC (out of a total of 11) and

- PC (out of a total of 10)

Benchmark for a Customs Master's programme, private sector				
Private Sector RTP	**PL1**	**PL2**	**PL3**	**PL4**
A. Customs Operational Competencies				
1 Customs Business Understanding			X	
2 Tariff & Classification	X			
3 Valuation	X			
4 Origin of Goods	X			
5 Prohibitions and Restrictions	X			
6 Risk Analysis		X		
7 Supply Chain Operations		X		
8 Customs Legislation & Regulation		X		
9 Authorisation Management	X			
10 Customs Compliance Assurance		X		
11 Customs IT Systems & Applications	x			
12 Entry of Goods Process	X			
13 Excise Related to Import and Export	X			
14 Export & Exit Process	X			
15 Financial Customs Payment Procedures	X			
16 Global Environment and Trends		X		
17 Release for Free Circulation Process	X			
18 Special Procedures Process (Excluding Transit)	X			
19 Storage Process	X			
20 Transit Process	X			
21 VAT Related to Import and Export	X			
B. Customs Professional Competencies				
2 Drive for Results		X		
3 Investigative Ability		X		
5 Professional Networking		X		
7 Knowledge/Experience Sharing		X		
11 Decision Making		X		
12 Analytical Thinking		X		
14 Problem Solving		X		
17 Processing Information		X		
23 Technological Ability		X		
25 Research		X		
c. Customs Management Competencies				
3 Strategic Agility		X		
4 Innovation		X		
5 Entrepreneurship		X		
8 Project Management		X		

10	Change management		X		
11	Financial Management		X		
13	Policy Design		X		
14	Political Awareness		X		
15	Customs Trends		X		
16	Strategic Supply Chain Management		X		
19	Process Management		X		
Total OC/PC/MC competencies			**42**		

5.1.2 Private sector EU RTP for a Customs module within a Master's programme

As a benchmark for all Customs modules within a Master's programme that apply for an EC Certificate of Recognition, the following overview is provided. In the table below, reference is made to the OC that are crucial for participants pursuing a Customs module within a Master's programme. The benchmark is based on the competency profile of a Team Leader in a Customs Trade organisation. Based on the defined target audience, the PL per competencies are determined.

Since this RTP has been developed for Customs module(s) within wider Master's programmes, no PC and MC recommendations are provided, based on the understanding that such competency areas are mainly addressed by the remaining part of the degree.

This reference table will be used as a benchmark for the assessment of Customs modules within a Master's programme throughout the EU when seeking EC recognition. The competencies of the applying academic programme should be aligned with the competencies of the appropriate RTP. In addition, the learning outcomes should be in line with the learning outcomes related to these competencies in the EU Customs Training Curriculum. For more detail on the learning outcomes associated with the competencies of the RTP, please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Public Sector* [R01]. If, based on the target audience, specific competencies are substituted with competencies from the *EU Competency Framework for the Private sector* [R02], please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Private Sector* [R03] for their associated learning outcomes.

Overall, to meet Criterion 3 (in line with the RTP at least 75%) of the EU Customs Recognition process, modules within a Master Academic programme need to demonstrate they address a **minimum of 16 RTP OC** (out of a total of 21) from either the public and/or private sector RTP, at the suggested PL indication, with an **additional requirement of at least 3 OC trained at level 2** (besides OC1, OC7 and OC10).

Benchmark for a Customs module within a Master's programme, private sector					
Private Sector RTP		**PL1**	**PL2**	**PL3**	**PL4**
A. Customs Operational Competencies					
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT: At least three of the following OC (besides OC1, OC7 and OC10) must be trained up to PL2.					
1	Customs Business Understanding		X		
2	Tariff & Classification	X			

3	Valuation	X			
4	Origin of Goods	X			
5	Prohibitions and Restrictions	X			
6	Risk Analysis	X			
7	Supply Chain Operations		X		
8	Customs Legislation & Regulation	X			
9	Authorisation Management	X			
10	Customs Compliance Assurance		X		
11	Customs IT Systems & Applications	X			
12	Entry of Goods Process	X			
13	Excise Related to Import and Export	X			
14	Export & Exit Process	X			
15	Financial Customs Payment Procedures	X			
16	Global Environment and Trends	X			
17	Release for Free Circulation Process	X			
18	Special Procedures Process (Excluding Transit)	X			
19	Storage Process	X			
20	Transit Process	X			
21	VAT Related to Import and Export	X			
Total OC competencies		**21**			

5.1.3   Private sector EU RTP for a Bachelor's programme

As a benchmark for all Customs Bachelor's programmes that apply for an EC Certificate of Recognition, the following overview is provided. In the table below, reference is made to the competencies that are crucial for participants pursuing a Customs Bachelor's programme. The benchmark is based on the required OC for general training in Customs, and additionally the PC most suited to an academic context are added. Based on the defined target audience, the PL per competencies are determined.

It is important to note that **PC and MC**, such as Time Management or Teamwork, do not require training through dedicated courses. They can be trained via a group working paper, thesis or transfer project.

This reference table will be used as a benchmark for the assessment of Customs Bachelor's Study programmes throughout the EU when seeking EC recognition. The competencies of the applying academic programme should be aligned with the competencies of the appropriate RTP. In addition, the learning outcomes should be in line with the learning outcomes related to these competencies in the EU Customs Training Curriculum. For more detail on the learning outcomes associated with the competencies of the RTP, please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Public Sector* [R01]. If, based on the target audience, specific competencies are substituted with competencies from the *EU Competency Framework for the Private Sector* [R02], please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Private Sector* [R03] for their associated learning outcomes.

Overall, to meet Criterion 3 (in line with the RTP at least 75%) of the EU Customs Recognition process, Bachelor's Academic programmes need to demonstrate they address a **minimum of 23 RTP competencies** (from either the public and/or private sector RTP) at the suggested PL indication, of which:

- 18 OC (out of a total of 21) and

- 5 PC (out of a total of 9)

Benchmark for a Customs Bachelor's programme, private sector					
Private Sector RTP		**PL1**	**PL2**	**PL3**	**PL4**
A. Customs Operational Competencies					
1	Customs Business Understanding		X		
2	Tariff & Classification		X		
3	Valuation		X		
4	Origin of Goods		X		
5	Prohibitions and Restrictions		X		
6	Risk Analysis		X		
7	Supply Chain Operations		X		
8	Customs Legislation & Regulation		X		
9	Authorisation Management		X		
10	Customs Compliance Assurance		X		
11	Customs IT Systems & Applications		X		
12	Entry of Goods Process		X		
13	Excise Related to Import and Export		X		
14	Export & Exit Process		X		
15	Financial Customs Payment Procedures		X		
16	Global Environment and Trends		X		
17	Release for Free Circulation Process		X		
18	Special Procedures Process (Excluding Transit)		X		
19	Storage Process		X		
20	Transit Process		X		
21	VAT Related to Import and Export		X		
B. Customs Professional Competencies					
2	Drive for Results		X		
4	Teamwork		X		
11	Decision Making		X		
12	Analytical Thinking		X		
17	Processing Information		X		
18	Written Communication		X		
19	Oral Communication		X		
23	Technological Ability		X		

25	Research		X		
Total OC/PC competencies			**30**		

5.1.4   Private sector EU RTP for a Customs module within a Bachelor's programme

As a benchmark for all Customs modules within a Bachelor's programme that apply for an EC Certificate of Recognition, the following overview is provided. In the table below, reference is made to the OC that are crucial for participants pursuing a Customs module within a Bachelor's programme. The benchmark is based on the required operational competencies for an initiation into Customs. Based on the defined target audience, the PL per competencies are determined.

Since this RTP has been developed for Customs module(s) within wider Bachelor's programmes, no PC recommendations are provided, based on the understanding that such competency areas are mainly addressed by the remaining part of the degree.

This reference table will be used as a benchmark for the assessment of Customs modules within a Bachelor's programme throughout the EU when seeking EC recognition. The competencies of the applying academic programme should be aligned with the competencies of the appropriate RTP. In addition, the learning outcomes should be in line with the learning outcomes related to these competencies in the EU Customs Training Curriculum. For more detail on the learning outcomes associated with the competencies of the RTP, please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Public Sector* [R01]. If, based on the target audience, specific competencies are substituted with competencies from the *EU Competency Framework for the Private sector* [R02], please consult the *EU Customs Training Curriculum for the Private Sector* [R03] for their associated learning outcomes.

Overall, to meet Criterion 3 (in line with the RTP at least 75%) of the EU Customs Recognition process, modules within a Bachelor's Academic programme need to demonstrate they address a **minimum of 16 RTP OC** (out of a total of 21) from either the public and/or private sector RTP, at the suggested PL indication, with an **additional requirement of at least 3 OC trained at level 2** (besides OC1, OC5, OC9 and OC18).

Benchmark for a module within a Customs Bachelor programme, private sector					
Private Sector RTP		**PL1**	**PL2**	**PL3**	**PL4**
A. Customs Operational Competencies					
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT: At least three of the following OC (besides OC1, OC5, OC9 and OC18) must be trained up to PL2.					
1	Customs Business Understanding		X		
2	Tariff & Classification	X			
3	Valuation	X			
4	Origin of Goods	X			
5	Prohibitions and Restrictions		X		
6	Risk Analysis	X			
7	Supply Chain Operations	X			

8	Customs Legislation & Regulation	X			
9	Authorisation Management		X		
10	Customs Compliance Assurance	X			
11	Customs IT Systems & Applications	X			
12	Entry of Goods Process	X			
13	Excise Related to Import and Export	X			
14	Export & Exit Process	X			
15	Financial Customs Payment Procedures	X			
16	Global Environment and Trends	X			
17	Release for Free Circulation Process	X			
18	Special Procedures Process (Excluding Transit)		X		
19	Storage Process	X			
20	Transit Process	X			
21	VAT Related to Import and Export	X			
Total OC competencies		**21**			

6   Annex 1: Revised PL descriptions

EU RTP PL descriptions with examples (based on the CustComp[eu])

Upon completion of the academic study programme, the student should be able to demonstrate with ease:		PL1 AWARENESS	PL2 TRAINED	PL3 EXPERIENCED	PL4 EXPERT
OPERATIONAL COMPETENCIES	**Academic Bachelor's programmes and modules within** (emphasis on conceptual processing, procedures, operations)	Awareness of the **most important** Customs-specific **concepts** within the competency area	Adequate knowledge of the **core** Customs **concepts** within each competency area	Full comprehension of Customs **concepts** for each competency area. Understanding of how these apply within the Customs **context** and **processes** (public and/or trade, respectively).	Seasoned understanding of how Customs concepts of the competency area apply within the **wider** Customs **context** and **processes** (public and/or trade, national and international). Full operational efficiency in performing the tasks of the role.
	Example line: Procedures - Export	*Understanding the concepts of export, exit, and exit summary declaration information.*	*Is able to validate and register the export declaration using the necessary means (manual or system).*	*Is able to deal with exceptions and special cases in the field of Export (e.g. controls requiring further investigation or when a decision is required, before the procedure can be continued).*	*Is able to compare, explain and highlight the advantages and disadvantages of each of the Export processes, and is able to link them to the bigger picture (e.g. impact on the individual, team and the wider organisation, the supply chain, etc.).*
	Academic Master's programmes and modules within (emphasis on strategic context and the intra- and inter-organisational relationships)	Awareness of the strategic Customs-specific **scope** of the competency.	Adequate understanding of the strategic **context** of the competency area and how it impacts Customs **processes**.	Full comprehension of the overall spectrum of the strategic Customs **concepts**, **processes** and **context** within each competency area.	Seasoned understanding of how Customs concepts within each competency area interlink with the **wider** Customs **context** and **processes** (public and/or trade, national and international) to formulate effective strategies that will impact the organisation.
	Example line: Supply chain operations	*The strategic scope of the supply chain model*	*Developing risk management techniques in supply chain contexts, in particular for compliance risk*	*Understanding and evaluating supply chain design in the context of international trade and tax regimes*	*Analysing the information needs of actors in a business process from a government regulatory perspective, as well as from a business and supply chain management perspective*
PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES		**Basic** professional skill	Fluency in **core** professional **skill** to aid **individual contribution**	Experience in professional **skill**, including the handling of **special cases**	Experience in professional **skill** that can further **aid group, team and/or organisational processes**
	Example line: Oral communication	*Conveying clear and coherent messages*	*Expressing oneself clearly and succinctly in standard communication settings*	*Presents thoughts and ideas in a concise, compelling and well-organised way*	*Rhetoric as well as grammatical excellence. Defends viewpoints with compelling arguments. Fluent public speaker*
MANAGEMENT COMPETENCIES		**Basic** managerial ability	Fluency in **core** managerial **ability** to aid **possible management responsibilities**	Experience in managerial **ability**, including the **handling of special cases**	Experience in managerial **ability** that can further **aid group, team and/or organisational processes**
	Example line: Strategic agility	*Develops workable roadmaps to translate strategy*	*Is well aware of organisational goals and strategic direction*	*Able to foresee how different parts of the organisation, operations, strategies and policies are interconnected, and how one impacts the other*	*Able to understand rapidly changing environment trends, market opportunities, competitive threats, strengths and weaknesses of his/her own organisations, in order to identify the optimum strategic response*

Please note: for professional and/or management competencies (e.g. Teamwork), training through dedicated courses is not required. Such competencies can as well be trained via a group working paper, thesis or transfer project.