



## CHARTER

# Customs Administrations of the European Union

WE PROTECT SOCIETY  
WE FACILITATE TRADE  
WE ACT AS ONE

THE CUSTOMS UNION  
SINCE 1968 – NOW AND IN THE FUTURE

The EU Customs administrations share the same values and implement a common set of rules enabling the functioning of the EU Customs Union and Single Market.

Our main goals are:

### PROTECTION

- Protecting the EU's and the Member States' financial interests and prosperity by collecting duties;
- Promoting the development of fair and legitimate trade and fighting unfair and illegal trade;
- Ensuring the safety and security of citizens against threats, including those from terrorism and against citizens' health;
- Safeguarding the environment, intellectual property rights, and cultural heritage.

### FACILITATION

- Enabling the free movement of goods within the EU;
- Implementing the Customs Union;
- Facilitating legitimate business by applying a modern legal framework;
- Aligning working methods supported by an easily accessible electronic customs environment;
- Supporting European business by strengthening competitiveness through fast and reliable processes;
- Providing equal treatment of EU companies no matter where the company is located;
- Simplifying international trade by applying Trade Agreements with the EU's partners worldwide.

### FUTURE ORIENTATION

- Embracing modern technologies and promoting innovations through e-services;
- Emphasising the importance of comprehensive approaches to information technology;
- Adapting procedures and processes to future challenges;
- Ensuring systems interoperability and information exchange;
- Recognising the evolving role of Customs and ensuring necessary competency building.

### SUPPORTING CO-OPERATION

- Pursuing common goals nationally and internationally;
- Ensuring common understanding and implementation of customs legislation;
- Co-operating closely with other authorities;
- Sharing resources where appropriate and possible;
- Operating with integrity and providing the highest possible level of service.