



EU Position Paper: Customs related matters needed for an orderly withdrawal of the UK from the Union

The EU-Position paper on customs related matters aims to ensure an orderly UK withdrawal from the EU on customs issues.

As with the [UK's Position Paper](#), it outlines forward looking approaches for creating a customs arrangement that facilitates an orderly withdrawal of the UK from the EU, which will in turn facilitate the freest and most frictionless trade possible in goods between UK and the EU.

General Principles

The starting point of the paper is that as of the withdrawal date, the United Kingdom will no longer be part of the customs and tax (VAT and excise) territory of the European Union. Consequently movements of goods between the UK and the EU 27 will constitute third country trade.

It is proposed that the Withdrawal Agreement should determine the customs status (Union and non-Union goods) of goods that enter, leave or transit the customs and tax territory of the Union, the United Kingdom or the EU27.

The appropriate treatment in relation to VAT, where businesses are seeking to use existing customs arrangements, will be a requirement to demonstrate that the relevant movement of goods or entry into the customs regime was initiated before the date of withdrawal.

All of the proposals are designed to sit within the Framework of Union Law as interpreted by the EU Court of Justice on the date of entry into force of the Withdrawal Agreement.

Specific Rules

The second part of the paper sets out proposed rules related to the movement of goods around the UK date of exit. These relate to scenarios where:

1. Goods from outside of the EU are loaded before the withdrawal date for entry into the UK or EU27 on or after the withdrawal date.
2. Goods under temporary storage or under a special customs procedure, in accordance with the Union Customs Code, in the United Kingdom or the EU27 or in a third country on the withdrawal date.
3. Goods which immediately prior to the withdrawal date are Union goods and which are being shipped between the United Kingdom and the EU27,
4. Goods which immediately prior to the withdrawal date are Union goods and which are being exported

In addition, the paper anticipates that administrative cooperation procedures in regard to customs related matters already in place before the withdrawal date should continue afterwards. This include areas such as exchange of information on VAT. It also sets out the potential for new collaborative arrangements to be established on customs matters and arrangements for dealing with any customs debts.

Full paper: [Position paper transmitted to EU27 on Customs related matters needed for an orderly withdrawal of the UK from the Union](#)