

PARTNERING COMPLIANCE AND COMPETITIVENESS IN THE EU – IS IT POSSIBLE?

16 NOVEMBER 2023, *STANHOPE BRUSSELS*

The 'Logistics for Europe' event brings logistics industry representatives, including shippers, freight forwarders, and logistics experts, and European lawmakers together in a constructive dialogue on the future of freight transport. This year's joint event will address new and outstanding questions:

- Customs reform in the EU – simplification for trade and authorities or a dream too far?
- Are changes in representation realistic for SME importers and customs representatives?
- CSRD and reporting requirements for business – where are the limits?
- How do the emission reporting requirements such as CBAM fit European supply chains?

13:30 **REGISTRATION & COFFEE**

14:00 - 14:10 **WELCOME**

Roman Stiftner, President European Shippers Council

Willem van der Schalk, President CLECAT

14:10 - 14:45 **SETTING THE SCENE: EUROPE IN THE WORLD**

With a war at its borders and ongoing geopolitical tensions, the EU is implementing a strategy on economic security. At the same time European policymakers are set to support global sustainable economic growth and impose legislation requiring companies to report on social and environmental information when sourcing globally. How does this impact the EU's external relations and the competitiveness of the European economy in a global context? How can business be supported in resilience building against future supply chain shocks.

Rem Korteweg, Senior Research Fellow, Head Initiatives & Outreach, Clingendael Institute

Thomas Larrieu, CEO, UPPLY

SESSION 1 - EU CUSTOMS REFORM: SIMPLIFICATION OR A DREAM TOO FAR?

Policymakers and business representatives will discuss in this session proposals of the European Commission to reform EU Customs. Increasingly, the role of customs in protecting the EU goes beyond tariffs, by enforcing, together with other authorities, standards e.g., on health, environment, security, and safety as a growing amount of EU legislation requires closer

scrutiny of supply chains and enforcing climate-related instruments like Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). Indirect representatives would under new rules have to ensure compliance with non-fiscal rules applied by the customs authorities due to the new definition of the 'importer'.

- How does this impact on SME importers and exporters and their customs representatives?
- How to facilitate their business with less investment and administrative burden?
- How to avoid that the intended reduction of administrative burdens fails, and trade will be suffering from a lack of know-how on customs and trade issues and become exposed to new risks?

Moderator: **Dr Anna Jerzewska**, CEO Trade & Borders

- **Vanesa Hernández Guerrero**, Head of unit A2, customs legislation, DG TAXUD, European Commission
- **Maria Grapini**, Member of the European Parliament (invited)
- **Javier Campillo**, Financial Counsellor Customs, Spanish Permanent Representation
- **Werner Rens**, Advisor-General, Head of Department, Belgian Customs
- **Dimitri Sérafimoff**, Chair CLECAT Customs institute, Director Customs Support
- **Nancy Lindenhovius**, Compliance Officer, WILMAR EUROPE HOLDINGS B.V

16:00 - 16:30 coffee break

SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS – RISKS AND LIMITS FOR BUSINESS

The session will debate new reporting standards for EU and non-EU businesses introduced by new legislation such as the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive [CSRD] and due diligence. Large companies, and over time also smaller, will be subject to an overhaul of existing systems to produce data which will be required to become compliant. These new reporting obligations require tighter collaboration of the different partners in the supply-chain.

- How is business preparing to meet the new stringent standards?
- How can business facilitation and market liberalisation go hand and hand with the plethora of reporting requirements creating an enormous administrative burden?
- How does this impact the competitiveness of European companies, including many SME's at very uncertain times?

Moderator: **Famke Schaap**, Partner, Hyacint Consult

- **Thomas Dodd**, Team Leader Sustainability Reporting. DG FISMA
- **Klaus Hufschlag**, Senior Vice President at DHL Group, responsible for 'ESG Reporting and Controlling
- **Chiara Del Prete**, Chair of the Sustainability Reporting Technical Expert Group, EFRAG
- **David de Picciotto**, CEO & Co-Founder, Pledge
- **Ahold** (tbc)

17:30 COCKTAIL RECEPTION