

Turkish requirement of a certificate of origin

Further to numerous exchanges at MAAC on the Turkish requirement of a certificate of origin, an amendment to the customs regulation was published in the Official Gazette yesterday 10 December. This can be found at <https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2020/12/20201210-14.htm>, a translation by the EU Delegation in Ankara is attached.

The Article 205 (4) ç (regarding exceptions to the requirement of a certificate of origin) was amended to more explicitly exclude cases of goods arriving from EU Member States accompanied by an A.TR movement certificate (without prejudice to Article 47 of the Decision 1/95 regarding trade policy measures, which refers to trade defence cases). This replaces the risk assessment exception as previously formulated in that sub-paragraph, which resulted in the current situation that operators de facto requested certificates for all shipments in order to avoid potential problems. This amendment will enter into force 1 January 2021.

This amendment follows our persistent raising this practical issue ever since the May 2019 change in the Turkish customs regulation, and particularly most recent discussions with Turkish counterparts at the Customs Cooperation Committee on 4 December and a video meeting between EVP Dombrovskis and Trade Minister Pekcan on 7 December. While the underlying issue of additional duties Turkey levies remains, we hope this will effectively address the massive increase over the last 18 months this amendment clearly aims at curbing. To that end, we would be grateful if you could transmit this information to all relevant stakeholders.

Please also continue to feedback relevant information to us, in particular with regard to the practical effect in the implementation of this regulation.