

Customs Flash

News you can count on



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European Commission proposes reduction or elimination of customs duties for products originating in Ukraine

At the end of 2011, the European Union (EU) and Ukraine had already concluded their negotiations for a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA). Due to the recent developments in Ukraine however, the DCFTA is yet to be signed.

As an alternative and in supporting Ukraine's economic stabilisation, the European Commission adopted a proposal for a regulation unilaterally granting Ukrainian products preferential EU market access. EU customs duties on (mainly agricultural and food) products originating in Ukraine will be reduced or fully eliminated. The proposal and the relevant Annexes with the products concerned can be found here: **Proposal COM 2014 0166**. For the time being, Ukraine no longer depends on the DCFTA's entry into force, which is now expected to take more time. If Ukraine fails to comply with the conditions of this regulation however, the European Commission can suspend its granted autonomous preferences.

What does it mean for you?

If companies import products originating in Ukraine that are included in the Annexes to the proposed regulation, this may possibly lower their EU customs duty burden when the proposal is accepted and the regulation is in force.

What to do?

Companies may already want to check the products included in the Annexes to this proposal to see if it includes products imported from Ukraine and as such may become eligible for customs duty reductions or eliminations when the regulation enters into force. Deloitte's Customs and Global Trade team will of course provide updates on any news regarding this subject.

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