

2026 EU DEFORESTATION REGULATORY CHANGES

OVERVIEW

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EUROPEAN UNION DEFORESTATION REGULATORY CHANGES OVERVIEW

On 29 June 2023, the **EU* Deforestation Regulation (EUDR)** entered into force. The main driver of deforestation is the expansion of agricultural land linked to the production of commodities like **cattle, wood, cocoa, soy, palm oil, coffee, rubber, and some of their derived products**, such as leather, chocolate, tyres, or furniture. As a major economy and consumer of these commodities linked to deforestation and forest degradation, the EU is partly responsible for this problem, and it wants to lead the way to solving it.



Under the EU Deforestation Regulation, any **operator** or **trader** who **places these commodities on the EU market, or exports from it**, must be able to **prove that the products do not originate from recently deforested land or have contributed to forest degradation**.

*EU Member States: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden

Full operational implementation and enforcement of the deforestation regulations will apply as follows:

- ✓ **30 December 2026:** Rules begin to apply for medium¹ and large¹ entities.
- ✓ **30 June 2027:** Rules begin to apply for micro¹ and small¹ entities.

1 Entity size classification Micro/Small/Medium/Large based on the EU criteria rules (Article 3 of Directive 2013/34), click [here](#)

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?

EUDR commodities and their derived products placed or made available to the EU market or exported must fulfill all of the following conditions:

- Products must be **Deforestation-free**.
- Products are **produced in accordance with the relevant legislation** of the country of production (which includes not only compliance with environmental regulations, but also those related to land-use rights, forest management, labour, tax and /or human rights laws).
- Products must be covered by a **Due Diligence Statement (DDS)/ Simplified Declaration Identifier (SDI)** to be submitted via the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) Information System in advance.

IMPORTANT



- To ensure a smooth import or export process of EUDR shipments, **it is vital that DHL receives the applicable EUDR data element (DDS reference number/Simplified Declaration Identifier/Conventional DDS reference number or TARIC* code) electronically via the DHL Electronic Shipping Solutions.**
- **Shipments will be stopped by Customs Authorities at point of entry in the EU** when the applicable EUDR data element on line-item level is not submitted to DHL Express.
- **Further guidance on how to submit the applicable EUDR data element** is disclosed in the EUDR Customer Presentation.

*TARIC codes are important identifiers used in international trade to ensure products comply with regulations when being imported or exported

HOW CAN YOU AVOID DELAYS?

Shippers shipping deforestation commodities and their derived products from/to the EU should:

- **Verify their legal obligations** with external specialist experts on this topic.
- Ensure that, where required, to **follow the EUDR requirements**, including the submission of the Due Diligence Statements/ Simplified Declaration Identifier to the EU Information System.
- Ensure that the relevant EUDR data element **is submitted to DHL electronically via the DHL Electronic Shipping Solutions.**



For additional information, please consult the Government website below:

- **EU Deforestation Regulation 2023/1115, including the full list of products impacted:** click [here](#)
- **EUDR implementation website:** click [here](#)

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