

# Procedure file

Basic information	
NLE - Non-legislative enactments	2016/0329(NLE)
EU/Norway Agreement: cumulation of origin between the EU, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey in the framework of the generalised system of preferences	
Subject 6.20.03 Bilateral economic and trade agreements and relations 6.30.01 Generalised scheme of tariff preferences (GSP), rules of origin	
Geographical area Norway	
Procedure completed	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 International Trade	 <a href="#">BEGHIN Tiziana</a>	13/02/2018
		Shadow rapporteur	
		 <a href="#">PABRIKS Artis</a>	
		 <a href="#">DANTI Nicola</a>	
		 <a href="#">STARBATTY Joachim</a>	
		 <a href="#">SCHAAKE Marietje</a>	
	 <a href="#">HAUTALA Heidi</a>		
Council of the European Union	Council configuration <a href="#">Agriculture and Fisheries</a>	Meeting <a href="#">3642</a>	Date 15/10/2018
European Commission	Commission DG <a href="#">Taxation and Customs Union</a>	Commissioner MOSCOVICI Pierre	

Key events			
21/10/2016	Preparatory document	<a href="#">COM(2016)0668</a>	
20/04/2017	Legislative proposal published	<a href="#">05883/2017</a>	Summary
11/09/2017	Committee referral announced in		

	Parliament		
24/04/2018	Vote in committee		
27/04/2018	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A8-0152/2018</a>	Summary
29/05/2018	Results of vote in Parliament		
29/05/2018	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T8-0208/2018</a>	Summary
15/10/2018	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
28/01/2019	Final act published in Official Journal		

### Technical information

Procedure reference	2016/0329(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 207; Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 218-p6a
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	INTA/8/08237

### Documentation gateway

Document attached to the procedure	<a href="#">COM(2016)0669</a>	21/10/2016	EC	
Preparatory document	<a href="#">COM(2016)0668</a>	21/10/2016	EC	
Document attached to the procedure	<a href="#">05814/2017</a>	16/02/2017	CSL	
Legislative proposal	<a href="#">05883/2017</a>	20/04/2017	CSL	Summary
Committee draft report	<a href="#">PE616.700</a>	28/02/2018	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A8-0152/2018</a>	27/04/2018	EP	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">T8-0208/2018</a>	29/05/2018	EP	Summary

### Final act

[Decision 2019/116](#)  
[OJ L 024 28.01.2019, p. 0001](#) Summary

## EU/Norway Agreement: cumulation of origin between the EU, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey in the framework of the generalised system of preferences

**PURPOSE:** to approve the conclusion of an agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Union and Norway on cumulation of origin between the European Union, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey in the framework of the Generalised Preferences of the European Union (GSP).

**PROPOSED ACT:** Council Decision.

**ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT:** Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

**BACKGROUND:** under [Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2015/2446](#), products obtained in Norway, Switzerland or Turkey incorporating materials which have not been wholly obtained there are to be considered as originating in a beneficiary country, provided that such materials have undergone sufficient working or processing within the meaning of Article 45 of that Delegated Regulation (so-called 'cumulation' system).

The cumulation system shall apply provided that Norway reciprocally grants the same treatment to products originating in the beneficiary countries which incorporate materials originating in the Union.

In the case of Norway, the cumulation system was originally put in place by means of an agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the Union and Norway. That exchange of letters took place on 29 January 2001, following the approval of the Council by Decision 2001/101/EC.

In order to ensure the application of a concept of origin corresponding to that set out in the rules of origin in the Unions Generalised System of Preferences (GSP), Norway amended its GSP rules of origin. Therefore, the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the Union and Norway must be revised.

The rules of origin in the GSP were reformed in 2010. They provide for the implementation of a new system for the establishment of proofs of origin by registered exporters, which will apply from 1 January 2017.

In order to anticipate the application of that new system and the rules, on 8 March 2012 the Council authorised the Commission to negotiate an agreement with Norway, in the form of an exchange of letters, on the mutual acceptance of replacement certificates of origin Form A or replacement statements of origin.

The negotiations resulted in an agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Union and Norway which should be approved.

**CONTENT:** the draft decision seeks the approval, on behalf of the Union, of the agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Union and Norway on the cumulation of origin between the European Union, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey in the framework of the Generalised System of Preferences of the European Union.

Under the agreement, certain products with content of Norwegian, Swiss or Turkish origin are to be treated on their arrival on the customs territory of the Union as products with content of Union origin.

## EU/Norway Agreement: cumulation of origin between the EU, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey in the framework of the generalised system of preferences

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The Committee on International Trade adopted the report by Tiziana BEGHIN (EFD, IT) on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Kingdom of Norway on the cumulation of origin between the European Union, the Swiss Confederation, the Kingdom of Norway and the Republic of Turkey in the framework of the Generalised System of Preferences.

The committee recommended that the European Parliament give its consent to the conclusion of the agreement.

As set out in the explanatory memorandum accompanying the recommendation, the present agreement between the EU and Norway was negotiated in order to enact the changes brought by the reform of the General System of Preferences (GSP) rules of origin in 2010. The reform introduced a new system of cumulation of origin by registered exporters and provided for inclusion of Turkey in the system of cumulation which so far worked between the Union, Switzerland and Norway.

The new legislation also provided for replacing of the former Certificates of origin of Form A by a new system of establishment of proofs of origin by registered exporters (Registered Exporter (REX) system).

The new system of cumulation entails that the EU, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey will allow GSP beneficiary countries to incorporate materials from any of the countries in the system (EU, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey) in their production processes, and export the final product to the EU, Switzerland, Norway or Turkey under the GSP preferential terms provided that the final product has been sufficiently worked or processed.

Under the present agreement, the EU and Norway will give preferential treatment and access to products originating in beneficiary countries when these countries use materials originating respectively in the EU or in Norway.

As regards the new system of proofs (REX), the GSP reform states that the former Certificates of origin of Form A were to be replaced by 1 January 2017. The new REX system has started to apply on 1 January 2017 in a certain number of GSP beneficiary countries constituting a first wave. The REX system already works in the framework of the GSP scheme granted by the EU, and the GSP schemes of Norway and Switzerland.

The present agreement is necessary to ensure smooth running of trade between the European Union and Norway. It will enable the EU and Norway to use the new replacement proofs of origin provided for by the new REX system.

## EU/Norway Agreement: cumulation of origin between the EU, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey in the framework of the generalised system of preferences

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The European Parliament adopted by 590 votes to 32, with 17 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Kingdom of Norway on the cumulation of origin between the European Union, the Swiss Confederation, the Kingdom of Norway and the Republic of Turkey in the framework of the Generalised System of Preferences.

The European Parliament gave its consent to the conclusion of the agreement.

## EU/Norway Agreement: cumulation of origin between the EU, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey in the framework of the generalised system of preferences

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**PURPOSE:** to approve the conclusion of an agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Union and Norway on the cumulation of origin between the European Union, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey under the European Union's Generalised System of Preferences (GSP).

**NON-LEGISLATIVE ACT:** Council Decision (EU) 2019/116 on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Kingdom of Norway on the cumulation of origin between the European Union, the Swiss Confederation, the Kingdom of Norway and the Republic of Turkey in the framework of the Generalised System of Preferences.

**CONTENT:** the Council approved, on behalf of the European Union, the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and Norway on the cumulation of origin between the European Union, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey under the European Union's Generalised System of Preferences (GSP).

With this agreement, certain products with content of Norwegian, Swiss or Turkish origin are to be treated on their arrival on the customs territory of the Union as products with content of Union origin.

The rules of origin in the GSP of the Union, as reformed in 2010, provide for the implementation of a new system for the establishment of proofs of origin by registered exporters, which is to be applied from 1 January 2017.

In order to anticipate the application of this new system and the rules relating to it, the Council authorised the Commission, on 8 March 2012, to negotiate with Norway an agreement in the form of an exchange of letters on the mutual acceptance of alternative certificates of origin Form A or alternative declarations of origin, providing that products with a content of Norwegian, Swiss or Turkish origin shall be treated on arrival in the customs territory of the Union as products incorporating an element of Union origin.

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 15.10.2018.