

Electronic value added tax exemption certificate

2024/0152(CNS) - 14/11/2024 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 621 votes to 10, with 11 abstentions, following a special legislative procedure (consultation), a legislative resolution on the proposal for a Council directive amending Directive 2006/112/EC as regards the electronic value added tax exemption certificate.

Parliament **approved the Commission proposal** without amendments.

The purpose of this proposal is to amend Council Directive 2006/112/EC (the VAT Directive) in order to introduce an electronic exemption certificate confirming that a transaction qualifies for a specific exemption under the first subparagraph of Article 151(1) of that Directive.

The amended VAT Directive by enabling the Commission, in consultation with Member States, to adopt implementing measures providing for an electronic certificate confirming that the transaction qualifies for a specific exemption under the first subparagraph of Article 151(1) of the VAT Directive, to be issued by the eligible body or person to whom the exempt supply of goods or services is made and who, together with the host Member State, will sign that certificate by electronic means.

The necessary implementing acts will contain the technical details and specifications for the electronic format and processing of the certificate.

Due to the large number of ongoing IT projects, Member States may alternatively use the paper version of the certificate set out in Annex II of the VAT Implementing Regulation for transactions carried out until 30 June 2030.

Recognising that businesses do not normally have access to the relevant information, it is clarified that if the conditions for exemption are not met or cease to apply, it is the eligible body or individual issuing the electronic certificate who is liable to pay any VAT to the Member State where it is due.

In order to give Member States sufficient time to implement the new electronic procedure, they will have to apply the new rules from 1 July 2026.