Basic information

2016/0328(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments	Procedure completed
EU/Switzerland 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** Switzerland	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
INTA International Trade	BEGHIN Tiziana (EFDD)	13/02/2018
	Shadow rapporteur PABRIKS Artis (PPE) DANTI Nicola (S&D) STARBATTY Joachim (ECR) SCHAAKE Marietje (ALDE) KOULOGLOU Stelios (GUE/NGL) HAUTALA Heidi (Verts/ALE)	

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Agriculture and Fisheries	3642	2018-10-15

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Taxation and Customs Union	MOSCOVICI Pierre

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary

21/10/2016	Preparatory document	COM(2016)0672	Summary
20/04/2017	Legislative proposal published	05882/2017	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	A8-0151/2018	Summary
29/05/2018	Decision by Parliament	T8-0207/2018	Summary
29/05/2018	Results of vote in Parliament		
15/10/2018	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
29/01/2019	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2016/0328(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p6 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 207
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	INTA/8/08244

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE616.703	13/03/2018	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A8-0151/2018	27/04/2018	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T8-0207/2018	29/05/2018	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	05803/2017	16/02/2017	
Legislative proposal	05882/2017	20/04/2017	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
	COM(2016)0671		

Document attached to the procedure		21/10/2016	
Preparatory document	COM(2016)0672	21/10/2016	Summary

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Decision 2019/0131 OJ L 025 29.01.2019, p. 0001	Summary

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

2016/0328(NLE) - 21/10/2016

PURPOSE: to conclude an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and Switzerland on the cumulation of origin between the European Union, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey in the framework of the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) of the European Union.

BACKGROUND: in accordance with Commission Delegated 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 products 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 (system of cumulation).

Pursuant to the same Regulation, the system of cumulation applies on condition that **Switzerland grants, by reciprocity, the same treatment** to products originating in beneficiary countries that incorporate materials originating in the Union.

In so far as Switzerland is concerned, this system of cumulation was initially put in place through an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the Union and Switzerland. That exchange of letters took place on 14 December 2000, after the Council had given its approval 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 Generalised System of Preferences ("GSP") of the Union, Switzerland has modified its GSP rules of origin. Therefore, it is necessary to revise the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the Union and Switzerland.

CONTENT: with this draft decision, the Council is called upon to approve an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and Switzerland on the cumulation of origin between the EU, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey in the framework of the GSP of the European Union.

The proposal takes place in the context of the reform of the GSP rules of origin of 2010 introduced with Regulation (EU) No 1063/2010.

As a result of this reform, Turkey is integrated, under certain conditions, into the system of cumulation of origin, which used to work until then between the Union, Switzerland and Norway.

The reform also introduced a new system of certification of origin by registered exporters, the application of which is deferred until 1 January 2017.

Accordingly, in the context of the reform, goods with content of Norwegian, Turkish or Swiss origin shall be treated on their arrival on the customs territory of the Community **as goods with content of Community origin.**

The measures should enter into force on 1st January 2017.

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

2016/0328(NLE) - 27/04/2018 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

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 Swiss Confederation 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 Switzerland 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, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey will allow GSP beneficiary countries to incorporate materials from any of the countries in the system (EU, Switzerland, Norway or 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 Switzerland will give preferential treatment and access to products originating in beneficiary countries when these countries use materials originating respectively in the EU or in Switzerland.

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 Switzerland and Norway.

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

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

2016/0328(NLE) - 29/05/2018 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 582 votes to 28, with 18 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 Swiss Confederation 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/Switzerland Agreement: cumulation of origin between the EU, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey in the framework of the generalised system of preferences

2016/0328(NLE) - 21/10/2016 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: to conclude an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and Switzerland on the cumulation of origin between the European Union, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey in the framework of the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) of the European Union.

BACKGROUND: in accordance with Commission Delegated 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 products 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 (system of cumulation).

Pursuant to the same Regulation, the system of cumulation applies on condition that **Switzerland grants, by reciprocity, the same treatment** to products originating in beneficiary countries that incorporate materials originating in the Union.

In so far as Switzerland is concerned, this system of cumulation was initially put in place through an Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the Union and Switzerland. That exchange of letters took place on 14 December 2000, after the Council had given its approval 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 Generalised System of Preferences ("GSP") of the Union, Switzerland has modified its GSP rules of origin. Therefore, it is necessary to revise the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the Union and Switzerland.

CONTENT: with this draft decision, the Council is called upon to approve an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and Switzerland on the cumulation of origin between the EU, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey in the framework of the GSP of the European Union.

The proposal takes place in the context of the reform of the GSP rules of origin of 2010 introduced with Regulation (EU) No 1063/2010.

As a result of this reform, Turkey is integrated, under certain conditions, into the system of cumulation of origin, which used to work until then between the Union, Switzerland and Norway.

The reform also introduced a new system of certification of origin by registered exporters, the application of which is deferred until 1 January 2017.

Accordingly, in the context of the reform, goods with content of Norwegian, Turkish or Swiss origin shall be treated on their arrival on the customs territory of the Community **as goods with content of Community origin.**

The measures should enter into force on 1st January 2017.

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

2016/0328(NLE) - 20/04/2017 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to approve the conclusion of an agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Union and Switzerland 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 Switzerland reciprocally grants the same treatment to products originating in the beneficiary countries which incorporate materials originating in the Union.

In the case of Switzerland, 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 Switzerland. That exchange of letters took place on 14 December 2000, 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 Union’s Generalised System of Preferences (GSP), Switzerland has amended its GSP rules of origin. Therefore, the agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the Union and Switzerland 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 Switzerland, 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 Switzerland 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 Switzerland** 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/Switzerland Agreement: cumulation of origin between the EU, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey in the framework of the generalised system of preferences

2016/0328(NLE) - 15/10/2018 - Final act

PURPOSE: to approve the conclusion of an agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Union and Switzerland 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) 2019/131 on the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Swiss Confederation 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 Union and Switzerland on the cumulation of origin between the European Union, Switzerland, Norway and Turkey within the framework of the 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 that new system and the rules relating thereto, the Council authorised the Commission to negotiate an agreement with Switzerland, in the form of an Exchange of Letters, on the mutual acceptance of replacement certificates of origin Form A or replacement statements of origin providing that 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.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 15.10.2018.