

Official Journal

of the European Union

L 83



English edition

Legislation

Volume 58

27 March 2015

Contents

I *Legislative acts*

REGULATIONS

- ★ **Regulation (EU) 2015/475 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2015 on the safeguard measures provided for in the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Iceland** 1
- ★ **Regulation (EU) 2015/476 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2015 on the measures that the Union may take following a report adopted by the WTO Dispute Settlement Body concerning anti-dumping and anti-subsidy matters** 6
- ★ **Regulation (EU) 2015/477 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2015 on measures that the Union may take in relation to the combined effect of anti-dumping or anti-subsidy measures with safeguard measures** 11
- ★ **Regulation (EU) 2015/478 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2015 on common rules for imports** 16
- ★ **Regulation (EU) 2015/479 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2015 on common rules for exports** 34

EN

Acts whose titles are printed in light type are those relating to day-to-day management of agricultural matters, and are generally valid for a limited period.

The titles of all other acts are printed in bold type and preceded by an asterisk.

I

(Legislative acts)

REGULATIONS

REGULATION (EU) 2015/475 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL**of 11 March 2015****on the safeguard measures provided for in the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Iceland****(codification)**

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 207(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee ⁽¹⁾,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure ⁽²⁾,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EEC) No 2843/72 of the Council ⁽³⁾ has been substantially amended several times ⁽⁴⁾. In the interests of clarity and rationality, that Regulation should be codified.
- (2) An Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Iceland ('the Agreement') was signed in Brussels on 22 July 1972.
- (3) Detailed rules are necessary for implementing the safeguard clauses and precautionary measures provided for in Articles 23 to 28 of the Agreement.
- (4) The implementation of the bilateral safeguard clauses of the Agreement requires uniform conditions for the adoption of safeguard measures. Those measures should be adopted in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽⁵⁾.
- (5) The Commission should adopt immediately applicable implementing acts where, in duly justified cases relating to situations referred to in Articles 25, 25a and 27 of the Agreement or in the case of export aids that have a direct and immediate effect on trade, imperative grounds of urgency so require,

⁽¹⁾ Opinion of 10 December 2014 (not yet published in the Official Journal).

⁽²⁾ Position of the European Parliament of 11 February 2015 (not yet published in the Official Journal) and decision of the Council of 2 March 2015.

⁽³⁾ Regulation (EEC) No 2843/72 of the Council of 19 December 1972 on the safeguard measures provided for in the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Iceland (OJ L 301, 31.12.1972, p. 162).

⁽⁴⁾ See Annex I.

⁽⁵⁾ Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers (OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13).

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The Commission may decide to refer to the Joint Committee established by the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Iceland ('the Agreement'), for the purpose of taking the measures provided for in Articles 23, 25, 25a and 27 of the Agreement. Where necessary, the Commission shall adopt those measures in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 6(2) of this Regulation.

The Commission shall inform the Member States should it decide to refer an issue to the Joint Committee.

Article 2

1. In the case of a practice that may justify application by the Union of the measures provided for in Article 24 of the Agreement, the Commission, after examining the case on its own initiative or at the request of a Member State, shall decide whether such practice is compatible with the Agreement. Where necessary, the Commission shall adopt safeguard measures in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 6(2) of this Regulation.

2. In the case of a practice that may cause safeguard measures to be applied to the Union on the basis of Article 24 of the Agreement, the Commission, after examining the case, shall decide whether the practice is compatible with the principles set out in the Agreement. Where necessary, it shall formulate appropriate recommendations.

Article 3

In the case of a practice that may justify application by the Union of the measures provided for in Article 26 of the Agreement, the procedures established by Council Regulation (EC) No 597/2009 ⁽¹⁾ and Council Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 ⁽²⁾ shall be applicable.

Article 4

1. Where exceptional circumstances require immediate action in the situations referred to in Articles 25, 25a and 27 of the Agreement or in the case of export aids that have a direct and immediate effect on trade, the precautionary measures provided for in point (e) of Article 28(3) of the Agreement may be adopted by the Commission in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 6(2) of this Regulation, or in cases of urgency, in accordance with Article 6(3) of this Regulation.

2. Where the Commission is requested to take action by a Member State, it shall take a decision on that request within a maximum period of five working days of its receipt.

Article 5

Notification to the Joint Committee by the Union as required by Article 28(2) of the Agreement shall be the responsibility of the Commission.

Article 6

1. The Commission shall be assisted by the Committee on Safeguards established by Article 4(1) of Council Regulation (EC) No 260/2009 ⁽³⁾. That Committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.

⁽¹⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 597/2009 of 11 June 2009 on protection against subsidised imports from countries not members of the European Community (OJ L 188, 18.7.2009, p. 93).

⁽²⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 of 30 November 2009 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the European Community (OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 51).

⁽³⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 260/2009 of 26 February 2009 on the common rules for imports (OJ L 84, 31.3.2009, p. 1).

2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.
3. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011, in conjunction with Article 5 thereof, shall apply.

Article 7

The Commission shall include information on the implementation of this Regulation in its annual report on the application and implementation of trade defence measures presented to the European Parliament and to the Council pursuant to Article 22a of Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009.

Article 8

Regulation (EEC) No 2843/72 is repealed.

References to the repealed Regulation shall be construed as references to this Regulation and shall be read in accordance with the correlation table in Annex II.

Article 9

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Strasbourg, 11 March 2015.

For the European Parliament
The President
M. SCHULZ

For the Council
The President
Z. KALNIŅA-LUKAŠEVICA

ANNEX I

Repealed Regulation with list of the successive amendments thereto

Regulation (EEC) No 2843/72 of the Council

(OJ L 301, 31.12.1972, p. 162)

Council Regulation (EEC) No 640/90

(OJ L 74, 20.3.1990, p. 4)

Regulation (EU) No 37/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

(OJ L 18, 21.1.2014, p. 1)

Only point 2 of the Annex

ANNEX II

Correlation Table

Regulation (EEC) No 2843/72	This Regulation
Articles 1 to 4	Articles 1 to 4
Article 6	Article 5
Article 7	Article 6
Article 8	Article 7
—	Article 8
—	Article 9
—	Annex I
—	Annex II

REGULATION (EU) 2015/476 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 11 March 2015

on the measures that the Union may take following a report adopted by the WTO Dispute Settlement Body concerning anti-dumping and anti-subsidy matters
(codification)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 207(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee ⁽¹⁾,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure ⁽²⁾,

Whereas:

- (1) Council Regulation (EC) No 1515/2001 ⁽³⁾ has been substantially amended ⁽⁴⁾. In the interests of clarity and rationality, that Regulation should be codified.
- (2) By Council Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 ⁽⁵⁾, common rules were laid down for protection against dumped imports from countries which are not members of the European Union.
- (3) By Council Regulation (EC) No 597/2009 ⁽⁶⁾, common rules were laid down for protection against subsidised imports from countries which are not members of the European Union.
- (4) Under the Marrakesh Agreement establishing the World Trade Organisation ('WTO'), an Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes ('DSU') was reached. Pursuant to the DSU, the Dispute Settlement Body ('DSB') was established.
- (5) With a view to permitting the Union, where it considers this appropriate, to bring a measure taken under Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 or Regulation (EC) No 597/2009 into conformity with the recommendations and rulings contained in a report adopted by the DSB, specific provisions should be laid down.
- (6) The Commission may consider it appropriate to repeal, amend or adopt any other special measures with respect to measures taken under Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 or Regulation (EC) No 597/2009, including measures which have not been the subject of dispute settlement under the DSU, in order to take account of the legal interpretations made in a report adopted by the DSB. In addition, the Commission should be able, where appropriate, to suspend or review such measures.
- (7) Recourse to the DSU is not subject to time limits. The recommendations in reports adopted by the DSB only have prospective effect. Consequently, it is appropriate to specify that any measures taken under this Regulation will take effect from the date of their entry into force, unless otherwise specified, and, therefore, do not provide any basis for the reimbursement of the duties collected prior to that date.

⁽¹⁾ Opinion of 10 December 2014 (not yet published in the Official Journal).

⁽²⁾ Position of the European Parliament of 11 February 2015 (not yet published in the Official Journal) and decision of the Council of 2 March 2015.

⁽³⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 1515/2001 of 23 July 2001 on the measures that may be taken by the Community following a report adopted by the WTO Dispute Settlement Body concerning anti-dumping and anti-subsidy matters (OJ L 201, 26.7.2001, p. 10).

⁽⁴⁾ See Annex I.

⁽⁵⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 of 30 November 2009 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the European Community (OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 51).

⁽⁶⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 597/2009 of 11 June 2009 on protection against subsidised imports from countries not members of the European Community (OJ L 188, 18.7.2009, p. 93).

- (8) The implementation of this Regulation requires uniform conditions for adopting measures following a report adopted by the DSB concerning anti-dumping and anti-subsidy matters. Those measures should be adopted in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾.
- (9) The advisory procedure should be used for the suspension of measures for a limited period of time given the effects of such measures,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. Whenever the DSB adopts a report concerning a Union measure taken pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009, to Regulation (EC) No 597/2009 or to this Regulation ('disputed measure'), the Commission may take one or more of the following measures, whichever it considers appropriate, in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 4(3):

- (a) repeal or amend the disputed measure; or
- (b) adopt any other special implementing measure deemed to be appropriate in the circumstances in order to bring the Union into conformity with the recommendations and rulings contained in the report.

2. For the purpose of taking a measure under paragraph 1, the Commission may request interested parties to provide all necessary information in order to complete the information obtained during the investigation that resulted in the adoption of the disputed measure.

3. Insofar as it is appropriate to conduct a review before or at the same time as taking any measure under paragraph 1, that review shall be initiated by the Commission. The Commission shall provide information to the Member States once it decides to initiate a review.

4. Insofar as it is appropriate to suspend the disputed or amended measure, such suspension shall be granted for a limited period of time by the Commission, acting in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 4(2).

Article 2

1. The Commission may also take any of the measures mentioned in Article 1(1) in order to take into account the legal interpretations made in a report adopted by the DSB with regard to a non-disputed measure, if it considers this appropriate.

2. For the purpose of taking a measure under paragraph 1, the Commission may request interested parties to provide all necessary information in order to complete the information obtained during the investigation that resulted in the adoption of the non-disputed measure.

3. Insofar as it is appropriate to conduct a review before or at the same time as taking any measure under paragraph 1, that review shall be initiated by the Commission. The Commission shall provide information to the Member States once it decides to initiate a review.

4. Insofar as it is appropriate to suspend the non-disputed or amended measure, that suspension shall be granted for a limited period of time by the Commission, acting in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 4(2).

Article 3

Any measures adopted pursuant to this Regulation shall take effect from the date of their entry into force and shall not serve as a basis for the reimbursement of the duties collected prior to that date, unless otherwise provided for.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers (OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13).

Article 4

1. The Commission shall be assisted by the Committee established by Article 15(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009. That Committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.
2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.
3. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.

Article 5

The Commission shall include information on the implementation of this Regulation in its annual report on the application and implementation of trade defence measures presented to the European Parliament and to the Council pursuant to Article 22a of Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009.

Article 6

Regulation (EC) No 1515/2001 is repealed.

References to the repealed Regulation shall be construed as references to this Regulation and shall be read in accordance with the correlation table in Annex II.

Article 7

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Strasbourg, 11 March 2015.

For the European Parliament

The President

M. SCHULZ

For the Council

The President

Z. KALNIŅA-LUKAŠEVICA

ANNEX I

Repealed Regulation with the amendment thereto

Council Regulation (EC) No 1515/2001

(OJ L 201, 26.7.2001, p. 10).

Regulation (EU) No 37/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

(OJ L 18, 21.1.2014, p. 1).

Only point 7 of the Annex

ANNEX II

Correlation Table

Regulation (EC) No 1515/2001	This Regulation
Articles 1, 2 and 3	Articles 1, 2 and 3
Article 3a	Article 4
Article 3b	Article 5
—	Article 6
Article 4	Article 7
—	Annex I
—	Annex II

REGULATION (EU) 2015/477 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL**of 11 March 2015****on measures that the Union may take in relation to the combined effect of anti-dumping or anti-subsidy measures with safeguard measures****(codification)**

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 207(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

After consulting the European Economic and Social Committee,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure ⁽¹⁾,

Whereas:

- (1) Council Regulation (EC) No 452/2003 ⁽²⁾ has been substantially amended ⁽³⁾. In the interests of clarity and rationality, that Regulation should be codified.
- (2) By Council Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 ⁽⁴⁾, common rules were laid down for protection against dumped imports from countries which are not members of the Union.
- (3) By Council Regulation (EC) No 597/2009 ⁽⁵⁾, common rules were laid down for protection against subsidised imports from countries which are not members of the Union.
- (4) By Council Regulation (EC) No 260/2009 ⁽⁶⁾ and Council Regulation (EC) No 625/2009 ⁽⁷⁾, common rules were laid down for the adoption of safeguard measures against imports from certain countries which are not members of the Union. Safeguard measures may take the form of tariff measures applicable either to all imports or to those imports in excess of a pre-determined quantity. Such safeguard measures imply that the goods are eligible to enter the Union market upon payment of the relevant duties.
- (5) The importation of certain goods may be subject to both anti-dumping or anti-subsidy measures on the one hand and safeguard tariff measures on the other. The objectives of the former are to remedy market distortions created by unfair trading practices, whilst the objectives of the latter are to grant relief against greatly increased imports.
- (6) However, the combination of anti-dumping or anti-subsidy measures with safeguard tariff measures on one and the same product could have an effect greater than that intended or desirable in terms of the Union's trade defence policy and objectives. In particular, such a combination of measures could place an undesirably onerous burden on certain exporting producers seeking to export to the Union, which may have the effect of denying them access to the Union market.
- (7) Consequently, exporting producers seeking to export to the Union should not be subject to undesirably onerous burdens and should continue to have access to the Union market.

⁽¹⁾ Position of the European Parliament of 11 February 2015 (not yet published in the Official Journal) and decision of the Council of 2 March 2015.

⁽²⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 452/2003 of 6 March 2003 on measures that the Community may take in relation to the combined effect of anti-dumping or anti-subsidy measures with safeguard measures (OJ L 69, 13.3.2003, p. 8).

⁽³⁾ See Annex I.

⁽⁴⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 of 30 November 2009 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the European Community (OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 51).

⁽⁵⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 597/2009 of 11 June 2009 on protection against subsidised imports from countries not members of the European Community (OJ L 188, 18.7.2009, p. 93).

⁽⁶⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 260/2009 of 26 February 2009 on the common rules for imports (OJ L 84, 31.3.2009, p. 1).

⁽⁷⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 625/2009 of 7 July 2009 on common rules for imports from certain third countries (OJ L 185, 17.7.2009, p. 1).

- (8) It is therefore desirable to ensure that the objectives of the safeguard tariff measures and anti-dumping and/or anti-subsidy measures can be met without denying those exporting producers access to the Union market. Therefore, specific provisions should be laid down to enable the Commission, where it considers it appropriate, to take action with a view to ensuring that a combination of anti-dumping or anti-subsidy measures with safeguard tariff measures on the same product does not have such an effect.
- (9) While it may be foreseeable that both the safeguard duty and the anti-dumping or anti-subsidy measures may become simultaneously applicable to the same product, it is not always possible to determine in advance at which precise point in time this may occur. Therefore, the Commission should be in a position to provide for such a situation in a manner ensuring sufficient predictability and legal certainty for all operators concerned.
- (10) The Commission may consider it appropriate to amend, suspend or repeal anti-dumping and/or anti-subsidy measures or to provide for exemptions in whole or in part from any anti-dumping or countervailing duties which would otherwise be payable, or to adopt any other special measures. Any suspension or amendment of, or exemption from, anti-dumping or anti-subsidy measures should be granted only for a limited period of time.
- (11) Any measures taken under this Regulation should be applicable from the date of their entry into force, unless otherwise specified therein, and should therefore not provide a basis for the reimbursement of duties collected prior to that date.
- (12) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation, implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. Where the Commission considers that a combination of anti-dumping or anti-subsidy measures with safeguard tariff measures on the same imports could lead to effects greater than is desirable in terms of the Union's trade defence policy, it may adopt such of the following measures as it deems appropriate, in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 3(2):

- (a) measures to amend, suspend or repeal existing anti-dumping and/or anti-subsidy measures;
- (b) measures to exempt imports in whole or in part from anti-dumping or countervailing duties which would otherwise be payable;
- (c) any other special measures considered appropriate in the circumstances.

2. Any amendment, suspension or exemption pursuant to paragraph 1 shall be limited in time and shall apply only when the relevant safeguard measures are in force.

Article 2

Any measure adopted pursuant to this Regulation shall apply from its date of entry into force. It shall not serve as a basis for the reimbursement of duties collected prior to that date unless otherwise provided in that measure.

Article 3

1. The Commission shall be assisted by the Committee established by Article 15(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009. That Committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.

2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers (OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13).

Article 4

Regulation (EC) No 452/2003 is repealed.

References to the repealed Regulation shall be construed as references to this Regulation and shall be read in accordance with the correlation table in Annex II.

Article 5

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Strasbourg, 11 March 2015.

For the European Parliament

The President

M. SCHULZ

For the Council

The President

Z. KALNIŅA-LUKAŠEVICA

ANNEX I

Repealed Regulation with the amendment thereto

Council Regulation (EC) No 452/2003

(OJ L 69, 13.3.2003, p. 8)

Regulation (EU) No 37/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

(OJ L 18, 21.1.2014, p. 1)

Only point 10 of the Annex

ANNEX II

Correlation table

Regulation (EC) No 452/2003	This Regulation
Article 1	Article 1
Article 2	Article 2
Article 2a	Article 3
—	Article 4
Article 3	Article 5
—	Annex I
—	Annex II

REGULATION (EU) 2015/478 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 11 March 2015
on common rules for imports
(codification)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 207(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee ⁽¹⁾,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure ⁽²⁾,

Whereas:

- (1) Council Regulation (EC) No 260/2009 ⁽³⁾ has been substantially amended ⁽⁴⁾. In the interests of clarity and rationality, that Regulation should be codified.
- (2) The common commercial policy should be based on uniform principles.
- (3) The European Community concluded the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization ('WTO'). Annex 1A to that Agreement contains, inter alia, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 ('GATT 1994') and an Agreement on Safeguards.
- (4) The Agreement on Safeguards meets the need to clarify and reinforce the disciplines of GATT 1994, and specifically those of Article XIX. That Agreement requires the elimination of safeguard measures which escape those rules, such as voluntary export restraints, orderly marketing arrangements and any other similar import or export arrangements.
- (5) The Agreement on Safeguards also covers coal and steel products. The common rules for imports, especially as regards safeguard measures, therefore also apply to those products without prejudice to any possible measures to apply an agreement specifically concerning coal and steel products.
- (6) The textile products covered by Council Regulation (EC) No 517/94 ⁽⁵⁾ are subject to special treatment at Union and international level. They should therefore be excluded from the scope of this Regulation.
- (7) The Commission should be informed by the Member States of any danger created by trends in imports which might call for Union surveillance or the application of safeguard measures.
- (8) In such instances the Commission should examine the terms and conditions under which imports occur, the trend in imports, the various aspects of the economic and trade situations and, where appropriate, the measures to be applied.
- (9) If prior Union surveillance is applied, release for free circulation of the products concerned should be made subject to presentation of a surveillance document meeting uniform criteria. That document should, on simple application by the importer, be issued by the authorities of the Member States within a certain period but without the importer thereby acquiring any right to import. The surveillance document should therefore be valid only during such period as the import rules remain unchanged.

⁽¹⁾ Opinion of 10 December 2014 (not yet published in the Official Journal).

⁽²⁾ Position of the European Parliament of 11 February 2015 (not yet published in the Official Journal) and decision of the Council of 2 March 2015.

⁽³⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 260/2009 of 26 February 2009 on the common rules for imports (OJ L 84, 31.3.2009, p. 1).

⁽⁴⁾ See Annex II.

⁽⁵⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 517/94 of 7 March 1994 on common rules for imports of textile products from certain third countries not covered by bilateral agreements, protocols or other arrangements, or by other specific Community import rules (OJ L 67, 10.3.1994, p. 1).

- (10) The Member States and the Commission should exchange the information resulting from Union surveillance as fully as possible.
- (11) It falls to the Commission to adopt the safeguard measures required by the interests of the Union. Those interests should be considered as a whole and should in particular encompass the interests of Union producers, users and consumers.
- (12) Safeguard measures against a member of the WTO may be considered only if the product in question is imported into the Union in such greatly increased quantities and on such terms or conditions as to cause, or threaten to cause, serious injury to Union producers of like or directly competing products, unless international obligations permit derogation from this rule.
- (13) The terms 'serious injury', 'threat of serious injury' and 'Union producers' should be defined and precise criteria for determining injury should be laid down.
- (14) An investigation should precede the application of any safeguard measure, subject to the reservation that the Commission be allowed in urgent cases to apply provisional measures.
- (15) There should be detailed provisions on the opening of investigations, the checks and inspections required, access by exporter countries and interested parties to the information gathered, hearings for the parties involved and the opportunities for those parties to submit their views.
- (16) The provisions on investigations laid down in this Regulation are without prejudice to Union or national rules concerning professional secrecy.
- (17) It is also necessary to set time limits for the initiation of investigations and for determinations as to whether or not measures are appropriate, with a view to ensuring that such determinations are made quickly, in order to increase legal certainty for the economic operators concerned.
- (18) In cases in which safeguard measures take the form of a quota the level of the latter should be set in principle no lower than the average level of imports over a representative period of at least 3 years.
- (19) In cases in which a quota is allocated among supplier countries each country's quota may be determined by agreement with the countries themselves or by taking as a reference the level of imports over a representative period. Derogations from these rules should nevertheless be possible where there is serious injury and a disproportionate increase in imports, provided that due consultation under the auspices of the WTO Committee on Safeguards takes place.
- (20) The maximum duration of safeguard measures should be determined and specific provisions regarding extension, progressive liberalisation and reviews of such measures should be laid down.
- (21) The circumstances in which products originating in a developing country which is a member of the WTO are to be exempt from safeguard measures should be established.
- (22) Surveillance or safeguard measures confined to one or more regions of the Union may prove more suitable than measures applying to the whole Union. However, such measures should be authorised only exceptionally and where no alternative exists. It is necessary to ensure that such measures are temporary and cause the minimum of disruption to the operation of the internal market.
- (23) In the interests of uniformity in rules for imports, the formalities to be carried out by importers should be simple and identical regardless of the place where the goods clear customs. It is therefore desirable to provide that any formalities should be carried out using forms corresponding to the specimen annexed to this Regulation.
- (24) Surveillance documents issued in connection with Union surveillance measures should be valid throughout the Union irrespective of the Member State of issue.
- (25) The implementation of this Regulation requires uniform conditions for adopting provisional and definitive safeguard measures, and for the imposition of prior surveillance measures. Those measures should be adopted by the Commission in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers (OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13).

- (26) The advisory procedure should be used for the adoption of surveillance and provisional measures given the effects of such measures and their sequential logic in relation to the adoption of definitive safeguard measures. Where a delay in the imposition of measures would cause damage which would be difficult to repair, it is necessary to allow the Commission to adopt immediately applicable provisional measures,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

CHAPTER I

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Article 1

1. This Regulation applies to imports of products originating in third countries, except for:
 - (a) textile products subject to specific import rules under Regulation (EC) No 517/94;
 - (b) products originating in certain third countries listed in Council Regulation (EC) No 625/2009 ⁽¹⁾.
2. The products referred to in paragraph 1 shall be freely imported into the Union and accordingly, without prejudice to the safeguard measures which may be taken under Chapter V, shall not be subject to any quantitative restrictions.

CHAPTER II

UNION INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION PROCEDURE

Article 2

Member States shall inform the Commission if trends in imports appear to call for surveillance or safeguard measures. This information shall contain the evidence available, as determined on the basis of the criteria laid down in Article 9. The Commission shall immediately pass this information on to all the Member States.

Article 3

1. The Commission shall be assisted by a Committee on Safeguards. That Committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.
2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.
3. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.
4. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011, in conjunction with Article 5 thereof, shall apply.
5. Pursuant to Article 3(5) of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011, where recourse is made to the written procedure for adopting definitive measures pursuant to Article 16 of this Regulation, such procedure shall be terminated without result where, within the time-limit set down by the chair, the chair so decides or a majority of committee members as defined in Article 5(1) of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 so request. Where recourse is made to the written procedure in other instances where there has been a discussion of the draft measure in the Committee, that procedure shall be terminated without result where, within the time-limit set down by the chair, the chair so decides or a simple majority of committee members so request. Where recourse is made to the written procedure in other instances where there has not been a discussion of the draft measure in the Committee, that procedure shall be terminated without result where, within the time-limit set down by the chair, the chair so decides or at least a quarter of committee members so request.

⁽¹⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 625/2009 of 7 July 2009 on common rules for imports from certain third countries (OJ L 185, 17.7.2009, p. 1).

CHAPTER III

UNION INVESTIGATION PROCEDURE

Article 4

1. Without prejudice to Article 7, the Union investigation procedure shall be implemented before any safeguard measure is applied.
2. Using as a basis the factors referred to in Article 9, the investigation shall seek to determine whether imports of the product in question are causing or threatening to cause serious injury to the Union producers concerned.
3. The following definitions shall apply:
 - (a) 'serious injury' means a significant overall impairment in the position of Union producers;
 - (b) 'threat of serious injury' means serious injury that is clearly imminent;
 - (c) 'Union producers' means the producers as a whole of like or directly competing products operating within the territory of the Union, or those whose collective output of like or directly competing products constitutes a major proportion of the total Union production of those products.

Article 5

1. Where it is apparent to the Commission that there is sufficient evidence to justify the initiation of an investigation, the Commission shall initiate an investigation within 1 month of the date of receipt of information from a Member State and publish a notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union*. That notice shall:
 - (a) give a summary of the information received, and require that all relevant information is to be communicated to the Commission;
 - (b) state the period within which interested parties may make known their views in writing and submit information, if such views and information are to be taken into account during the investigation;
 - (c) state the period within which interested parties may apply to be heard orally by the Commission in accordance with paragraph 4.

The Commission shall commence the investigation, acting in cooperation with the Member States.

The Commission shall provide information to the Member States concerning its analysis of the information normally within 21 days of the date on which the information is provided to the Commission.

2. The Commission shall seek all information it deems necessary and, where it considers it appropriate, after having informed the Member States, endeavour to check that information with importers, traders, agents, producers, trade associations and organisations.

The Commission shall be assisted in this task by staff of the Member State on whose territory those checks are being carried out, provided that that Member State so wishes.

3. The Member States shall supply the Commission, at its request and following procedures laid down by it, with the information at their disposal on developments in the market of the product being investigated.
4. Interested parties which have come forward pursuant to the first subparagraph of paragraph 1 and representatives of the exporting country may, upon written request, inspect all information made available to the Commission in connection with the investigation other than internal documents prepared by the authorities of the Union or its Member States, provided that that information is relevant to the presentation of their case and not confidential within the meaning of Article 8 and that it is used by the Commission in the investigation.

Interested parties which have come forward may communicate their views on the information in question to the Commission. Those views may be taken into consideration where they are backed by sufficient evidence.

5. The Commission may hear the interested parties. Such parties must be heard where they have made a written application within the period laid down in the notice published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*, showing that they are actually likely to be affected by the outcome of the investigation and that there are special reasons for them to be heard orally.
6. When information is not supplied within the time limits set by this Regulation or by the Commission pursuant to this Regulation, or the investigation is significantly impeded, findings may be made on the basis of the facts available. Where the Commission finds that any interested party or third party has supplied it with false or misleading information, it shall disregard that information and may make use of facts available.
7. Where it appears to the Commission that there is insufficient evidence to justify an investigation, it shall inform the Member States of its decision within 1 month of the date of receipt of the information from the Member States.

Article 6

1. At the end of the investigation, the Commission shall submit a report on the results to the Committee.
2. Where the Commission considers, within 9 months of the initiation of the investigation, that no Union surveillance or safeguard measures are necessary, the investigation shall be terminated within a month. The Commission shall terminate the investigation in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 3(2).
3. If the Commission considers that Union surveillance or safeguard measures are necessary, it shall take the necessary decisions in accordance with Chapters IV and V, no later than 9 months from the initiation of the investigation. In exceptional circumstances, this time limit may be extended by a further maximum period of 2 months; the Commission shall then publish a notice in the *Official Journal of the European Union* setting forth the duration of the extension and a summary of the reasons therefor.

Article 7

1. The provisions of this Chapter shall not preclude the use, at any time, of surveillance measures in accordance with Articles 10 to 14 or provisional safeguard measures in accordance with Articles 15, 16 and 17.

Provisional safeguard measures shall be applied:

- (a) in critical circumstances where delay would cause damage which would be difficult to repair, making immediate action necessary; and
- (b) where a preliminary determination provides clear evidence that increased imports have caused or are threatening to cause serious injury.

The duration of such measures shall not exceed 200 days.

2. Provisional safeguard measures shall take the form of an increase in the existing level of customs duty, whether the latter is zero or higher, if such action is likely to prevent or repair the serious injury.
3. The Commission shall immediately conduct whatever investigation measures are still necessary.
4. Should the provisional safeguard measures be repealed because no serious injury or threat of serious injury exists, the customs duties collected as a result of the provisional measures shall be automatically refunded as soon as possible. The procedure laid down in Article 235 et seq. of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 ⁽¹⁾ shall apply.

Article 8

1. Information received pursuant to this Regulation shall be used only for the purpose for which it was requested.

⁽¹⁾ Council Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 of 12 October 1992 establishing the Community Customs Code (OJ L 302, 19.10.1992, p. 1).

2. The Commission and the Member States, including the officials of either, shall not reveal any information of a confidential nature received pursuant to this Regulation, or any information provided on a confidential basis, without specific permission from the supplier of such information.

3. Each request for confidentiality shall state the reasons why the information is confidential.

However, if it appears that a request for confidentiality is unjustified and if the supplier of the information wishes neither to make it public nor to authorise its disclosure in general terms or in the form of a summary, the information concerned may be disregarded.

4. Information shall in any case be considered to be confidential if its disclosure is likely to have a significantly adverse effect upon the supplier or the source of such information.

5. Paragraphs 1 to 4 shall not preclude reference by the Union authorities to general information and in particular to reasons on which decisions taken pursuant to this Regulation are based. Those authorities shall, however, take into account the legitimate interest of legal and natural persons concerned that their business secrets should not be divulged.

Article 9

1. Examination of the trend in imports, of the conditions in which they take place and of serious injury or threat of serious injury to Union producers resulting from such imports shall cover in particular the following factors:

- (a) the volume of imports, in particular where there has been a significant increase, either in absolute terms or relative to production or consumption in the Union;
- (b) the price of imports, in particular where there has been a significant price undercutting as compared with the price of a like product in the Union;
- (c) the consequent impact on Union producers as indicated by trends in certain economic factors such as:
 - production,
 - capacity utilisation,
 - stocks,
 - sales,
 - market share,
 - prices (i.e. depression of prices or prevention of price increases which would normally have occurred),
 - profits,
 - return on capital employed,
 - cash flow,
 - employment;
- (d) factors other than trends in imports which are causing or may have caused injury to the Union producers concerned.

2. Where a threat of serious injury is alleged, the Commission shall also examine whether it is clearly foreseeable that a particular situation is likely to develop into actual injury.

In this regard account may be taken of factors such as:

- (a) the rate of increase of the exports to the Union;
- (b) the export capacity in the country of origin or export, as it stands or is likely to be in the foreseeable future, and the likelihood that that capacity will be used to export to the Union.

CHAPTER IV

SURVEILLANCE*Article 10*

1. Where the trend in imports of a product originating in a third country covered by this Regulation threatens to cause injury to Union producers, and where the interests of the Union so require, import of that product may be subject, as appropriate, to:
 - (a) retrospective Union surveillance carried out in accordance with the provisions laid down in the decision referred to in paragraph 2;
 - (b) prior Union surveillance carried out in accordance with Article 11.
2. The decision to impose surveillance shall be taken by the Commission by means of implementing acts in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 3(2).
3. The surveillance measures shall have a limited period of validity. Unless otherwise provided, they shall cease to be valid at the end of the second 6-month period following the 6 months in which the measures were introduced.

Article 11

1. Products under prior Union surveillance may be put into free circulation only on production of a surveillance document. Such document shall be issued by the competent authority designated by Member States, free of charge, for any quantity requested and within a maximum of 5 working days of receipt by the national competent authority of an application by any Union importer, regardless of his place of business in the Union. This application shall be deemed to have been received by the national competent authority no later than 3 working days after submission, unless it is proved otherwise.
2. The surveillance document shall be made out on a form corresponding to the model in Annex I.

Except where the decision to impose surveillance provides otherwise, the importer's application for surveillance documents shall contain only the following:

- (a) the full name and address of the applicant (including telephone and fax numbers and any number identifying the applicant to the competent national authority), plus the applicant's VAT registration number if he is liable for VAT;
- (b) where appropriate, the full name and address of the declarant or of any representative appointed by the applicant (including telephone and fax numbers);
- (c) a description of the goods giving their:
 - trade name,
 - combined nomenclature code,
 - place of origin and place of consignment;
- (d) the quantity declared, in kilograms and, where appropriate, any other additional unit (pairs, items, etc.);
- (e) the value of the goods, cif at Union frontier, in euro;
- (f) the following statement, dated and signed by the applicant, with the applicant's name spelt out in capital letters:

'I, the undersigned, certify that the information provided in this application is true and given in good faith, and that I am established in the Union.'

3. The surveillance document shall be valid throughout the Union, regardless of the Member State of issue.
4. A finding that the unit price at which the transaction is effected exceeds that indicated in the surveillance document by less than 5 % or that the total value or quantity of the products presented for import exceeds the value or quantity given in the surveillance document by less than 5 % shall not preclude the release for free circulation of the product in question. The Commission, having heard the opinions expressed in the Committee and taking account of the nature of the products and other special features of the transactions concerned, may fix a different percentage, which, however, should not normally exceed 10 %.

5. Surveillance documents may be used only for such time as arrangements for liberalisation of imports remain in force in respect of the transactions concerned. Such surveillance documents may not in any event be used beyond the expiry of a period which shall be laid down at the same time and by means of the same procedure as the imposition of surveillance, and shall take account of the nature of the products and other special features of the transactions.
6. Where the decision taken pursuant to Article 10 so requires, the origin of products under Union surveillance must be proved by a certificate of origin. This paragraph shall not affect other provisions concerning the production of any such certificate.
7. Where the product under prior Union surveillance is subject to regional safeguard measures in a Member State, the import authorisation granted by that Member State may replace the surveillance document.
8. Surveillance document forms and extracts thereof shall be drawn up in duplicate, one copy, marked 'Holder's copy' and bearing the number 1, to be issued to the applicant, and the other, marked 'Copy for the competent authority' and bearing the number 2, to be kept by the authority issuing the document. For administrative purposes the competent authority may add supplementary copies to form 2.
9. Forms shall be printed on white paper free of mechanical pulp, dressed for writing and weighing between 55 g and 65 g per square metre. Their size shall be 210 mm × 297 mm; the type space between the lines shall be 4,24 mm (one sixth of an inch); the layout of the forms shall be followed precisely. Both sides of copy No 1, which is the surveillance document itself, shall in addition have a yellow printed guilloche pattern background so as to reveal any falsification by mechanical or chemical means.
10. Member States shall be responsible for having the forms printed. The forms may also be printed by printers appointed by the Member State in which they are established. In the latter case, reference to the appointment by the Member State must appear on each form. Each form shall bear an indication of the printer's name and address or a mark enabling the printer to be identified.

Article 12

Where the import of a product has not been made subject to prior Union surveillance, the Commission, in accordance with Article 17, may introduce surveillance confined to imports into one or more regions of the Union. The Commission shall provide information to the Member States once it decides to introduce surveillance.

Article 13

1. Products under regional surveillance may be put into free circulation in the region concerned only on production of a surveillance document. Such document shall be issued by the competent authority designated by the Member State (s) concerned, free of charge, for any quantity requested and within a maximum of 5 working days of receipt by the national competent authority of an application by any Union importer, regardless of his place of business in the Union. This application shall be deemed to have been received by the national competent authority no later than 3 working days after submission, unless it is proved otherwise. Surveillance documents may be used only for such time as arrangements for imports remain liberalised in respect of the transactions concerned.
2. Article 11(2) shall apply.

Article 14

1. Member States shall communicate to the Commission within the first 10 days of each month in the case of Union or regional surveillance:
 - (a) in the case of prior surveillance, details of the sums of money (calculated on the basis of cif prices) and quantities of goods in respect of which surveillance documents were issued during the preceding period;
 - (b) in every case, details of imports during the period preceding the period referred to in point (a).

The information supplied by Member States shall be broken down by product and by country.

Different provisions may be laid down at the same time and by the same procedure as the surveillance arrangements.

2. Where the nature of the products or special circumstances so require, the Commission may, at the request of a Member State or on its own initiative, amend the timetables for submitting this information.
3. The Commission shall inform the Member States accordingly.

CHAPTER V

SAFEGUARD MEASURES

Article 15

1. Where a product is imported into the Union in such greatly increased quantities and/or on such terms or conditions as to cause, or threaten to cause, serious injury to Union producers, the Commission, in order to safeguard the interests of the Union, may, acting at the request of a Member State or on its own initiative:

- (a) limit the period of validity of surveillance documents within the meaning of Article 11 to be issued after the entry into force of this measure;
- (b) alter the import rules for the product in question by making its release for free circulation conditional on production of an import authorisation, the granting of which shall be governed by such provisions and subject to such limits as the Commission shall lay down.

The measures referred to in points (a) and (b) shall take effect immediately.

2. As regards members of the WTO, the measures referred to in paragraph 1 shall be taken only when the two conditions indicated in the first subparagraph of that paragraph are met.

3. If establishing a quota, account shall be taken in particular of:

- (a) the desirability of maintaining, as far as possible, traditional trade flows;
- (b) the volume of goods exported under contracts concluded on normal terms and conditions before the entry into force of a safeguard measure within the meaning of this Chapter, where such contracts have been notified to the Commission by the Member State concerned;
- (c) the need to avoid jeopardising the achievement of the aim pursued in establishing the quota.

Any quota shall not be set lower than the average level of imports over the last 3 representative years for which statistics are available unless a different level is necessary to prevent or remedy serious injury.

4. In cases in which a quota is allocated among supplier countries, allocation may be agreed with those of them having a substantial interest in supplying the product concerned for import into the Union.

Failing this, the quota shall be allocated among the supplier countries in proportion to their share of imports into the Union of the product concerned during a previous representative period, due account being taken of any specific factors which may have affected or may be affecting the trade in the product.

Provided that its obligation to see that consultations are conducted under the auspices of the WTO Committee on Safeguards is not disregarded, the Union may nevertheless depart from this method of allocation in the case of serious injury if imports originating in one or more supplier countries have increased in disproportionate percentage in relation to the total increase of imports of the product concerned over a previous representative period.

5. The measures referred to in this Article shall apply to every product which is put into free circulation after their entry into force. In accordance with Article 17 they may be confined to one or more regions of the Union.

However, such measures shall not prevent the release for free circulation of products already on their way to the Union provided that the destination of such products cannot be changed and that those products which, pursuant to Articles 10 and 11, may be put into free circulation only on production of a surveillance document are in fact accompanied by such a document.

6. Where intervention by the Commission has been requested by a Member State, the Commission, acting in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 3(3), or, in cases of urgency, in accordance with Article 3(4), shall take a decision within a maximum of 5 working days of the date of receipt of such a request.

Article 16

Where the interests of the Union so require, the Commission, acting in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 3(3) and the terms of Chapter III, may adopt appropriate measures to prevent a product being imported into the Union in such greatly increased quantities and/or on such terms or conditions as to cause, or threaten to cause, serious injury to Union producers of like or directly competing products.

Article 15(2) to (5) shall apply.

Article 17

Where it emerges, primarily on the basis of the factors referred to in Article 9, that the conditions laid down for the adoption of measures pursuant to Articles 10 and 15 are met in one or more regions of the Union, the Commission, after having examined alternative solutions, may exceptionally authorise the application of surveillance or safeguard measures limited to the region(s) concerned if it considers that such measures applied at that level are more appropriate than measures applied throughout the Union.

These measures must be temporary and must disrupt the operation of the internal market as little as possible.

The measures shall be adopted in accordance with the provisions laid down in Articles 10 and 15.

Article 18

No safeguard measure may be applied to a product originating in a developing country member of the WTO as long as that country's share of Union imports of the product concerned does not exceed 3 %, provided that developing country members of the WTO with less than a 3 % import share collectively account for not more than 9 % of total Union imports of the product concerned.

Article 19

1. The duration of safeguard measures must be limited to the period of time necessary to prevent or remedy serious injury and to facilitate adjustment on the part of Union producers. The period must not exceed 4 years, including the duration of any provisional measure.
2. Such initial period may be extended, except in the case of the measures referred to in the third subparagraph of Article 15(4) provided it is determined that:
 - (a) the safeguard measure continues to be necessary to prevent or remedy serious injury;
 - (b) there is evidence that Union producers are adjusting.
3. Extensions shall be adopted in accordance with the terms of Chapter III and using the same procedures as the initial measures. A measure so extended shall not be more restrictive than it was at the end of the initial period.
4. If the duration of the measure exceeds 1 year, the measure must be progressively liberalised at regular intervals during the period of application, including the period of extension.
5. The total period of application of a safeguard measure, including the period of application of any provisional measures, the initial period of application and any prorogation thereof, may not exceed 8 years.

Article 20

1. While any surveillance or safeguard measure applied in accordance with Chapters IV and V is in operation, the Commission may, either at the request of a Member State or on its own initiative, and no later than the mid-point of the period of application of measures of a duration exceeding 3 years:
 - (a) examine the effects of the measure;
 - (b) determine whether and in what manner it is appropriate to accelerate the pace of liberalisation;
 - (c) ascertain whether application of the measure is still necessary.

Where the Commission considers that the application of the measure is still necessary, it shall inform the Member States accordingly.

2. Where the Commission considers that any surveillance or safeguard measure referred to in Articles 10, 12, 15, 16 and 17 should be revoked or amended, it shall, acting in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 3(3), revoke or amend the measure.

Where the decision relates to regional surveillance measures, it shall apply from the sixth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Article 21

1. Where imports of a product have already been subject to a safeguard measure, no further measure shall be applied to that product until a period equal to the duration of the previous measure has elapsed. Such period shall not be less than 2 years.

2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, a safeguard measure of 180 days or less may be re-imposed for a product if:

- (a) at least 1 year has elapsed since the date of introduction of a safeguard measure on the import of that product; and
- (b) such a safeguard measure has not been applied to the same product more than twice in the 5-year period immediately preceding the date of introduction of the measure.

CHAPTER VI

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 22

Where the interests of the Union so require, the Commission, acting in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 3(3), may adopt appropriate measures implementing legislative acts to allow the rights and obligations of the Union or of all the Member States, in particular those relating to trade in commodities, to be exercised and fulfilled at international level.

Article 23

The Commission shall include information on the implementation of this Regulation in its annual report on the application and implementation of trade defence measures presented to the European Parliament and to the Council pursuant to Article 22a of Council Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 ⁽¹⁾.

Article 24

1. This Regulation shall not preclude the fulfilment of obligations arising from special rules contained in agreements concluded between the Union and third countries.

2. Without prejudice to other Union provisions, this Regulation shall not preclude the adoption or application by Member States of:

- (a) prohibitions, quantitative restrictions or surveillance measures on grounds of public morality, public policy or public security, the protection of health and life of humans, animals or plants, the protection of national treasures possessing artistic, historic or archaeological value, or the protection of industrial and commercial property;
- (b) special formalities concerning foreign exchange;
- (c) formalities introduced pursuant to international agreements in accordance with the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

The Member States shall inform the Commission of the measures or formalities they intend to introduce or amend in accordance with the first subparagraph.

In the event of extreme urgency, the national measures or formalities in question shall be communicated to the Commission immediately upon their adoption.

⁽¹⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 of 30 November 2009 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the European Community (OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 51).

Article 25

1. This Regulation shall be without prejudice to the operation of the instruments establishing the common organisation of agricultural markets or of Union or national administrative provisions derived therefrom or of the specific instruments applicable to goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products. It shall operate by way of complement to those instruments.

2. In the case of products covered by the instruments referred to in paragraph 1, Articles 10 to 14 and Article 21 shall not apply to those in respect of which the Union rules on trade with third countries require the production of a licence or other import document.

Articles 15, 17 and 20 to 24 shall not apply to those products in respect of which such rules provide for the application of quantitative import restrictions.

Article 26

Regulation (EC) No 260/2009 is repealed.

References to the repealed Regulation shall be construed as references to this Regulation and shall be read in accordance with the correlation table in Annex III.

Article 27

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Strasbourg, 11 March 2015.

For the European Parliament

The President

M. SCHULZ

For the Council

The President

Z. KALNIŅA-LUKAŠEVICA

ANNEX I

EUROPEAN UNION		SURVEILLANCE DOCUMENT		
Holder's copy	1	1. Consignee <i>(name, full address, country, VAT number)</i>	2. Issue number	
			3. Proposed place and date of import	
			4. Authority responsible for issue <i>(name, address and telephone No)</i>	
		5. Declarant/representative as applicable <i>(name and full address)</i>	6. Country of origin <i>(and geonomenclature code)</i>	
			7. Country of consignment <i>(and geonomenclature code)</i>	
			8. Last day of validity	
	1			
		9. Description of goods	10. CN code and category	
		11. Quantity in kilograms (net mass) or in additional sets		
		12. Value in euro, cif at Union frontier		
	13. Additional remarks			
	14. Competent authority's endorsement			
	Date:			
	Signature: (Stamp)			

15. ATTRIBUTIONS			
Indicate the quantity available in part 1 of column 17 and the quantity attributed in part 2 thereof			
16. Net quantity (net mass or other unit of measure stating the unit)		19. Customs document (form and number) or extract No and date of attribution	20. Name, Member State, stamp and signature of the attributing authority
17. In figures	18. In words for the quantity attributed		
1.			
2.			
1.			
2.			
1.			
2.			
1.			
2.			
1.			
2.			
1.			
2.			
1.			
2.			

Extension pages to be attached hereto.

EUROPEAN UNION		SURVEILLANCE DOCUMENT	
Copy for the competent authority	2	1. Consignee (name, full address, country, VAT number)	2. Issue number
			3. Proposed place and date of import
			4. Authority responsible for issue (name, address and telephone No)
		5. Declarant/representative as applicable (name and full address)	6. Country of origin (and geonomenclature code)
			7. Country of consignment (and geonomenclature code)
			8. Last day of validity
2	9. Description of goods		10. CN code and category
			11. Quantity in kilograms (net mass) or in additional sets
			12. Value in euro, cif at Union frontier
13. Additional remarks			
14. Competent authority's endorsement			
Date:			
Signature: (Stamp)			

15. ATTRIBUTIONS			
Indicate the quantity available in part 1 of column 17 and the quantity attributed in part 2 thereof			
16. Net quantity (net mass or other unit of measure stating the unit)		19. Customs document (form and number) or extract No and date of attribution	20. Name, Member State, stamp and signature of the attributing authority
17. In figures	18. In words for the quantity attributed		
1.			
2.			
1.			
2.			
1.			
2.			
1.			
2.			
1.			
2.			
1.			
2.			
1.			
2.			

Extension pages to be attached hereto.

ANNEX II

REPEALED REGULATION WITH THE AMENDMENT THERETO

Council Regulation (EC) No 260/2009

(OJ L 84, 31.3.2009, p. 1).

Regulation (EU) No 37/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

(OJ L 18, 21.1.2014, p. 1).

Only point 19 of the Annex

ANNEX III

CORRELATION TABLE

Regulation (EC) No 260/2009	This Regulation
Article 1	Article 1
Article 2	Article 2
Article 4	Article 3
Article 5	Article 4
Article 6	Article 5
Article 7	Article 6
Article 8	Article 7
Article 9	Article 8
Article 10	Article 9
Article 11	Article 10
Article 12	Article 11
Article 13	Article 12
Article 14	Article 13
Article 15	Article 14
Article 16	Article 15
Article 17	Article 16
Article 18	Article 17
Article 19	Article 18
Article 20	Article 19
Article 21	Article 20
Article 22	Article 21
Article 23	Article 22
Article 23a	Article 23
Articles 24 to 27	Articles 24 to 27
Annex I	Annex I
Annex II	Annex II
Annex III	Annex III

REGULATION (EU) 2015/479 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 11 March 2015
on common rules for exports
(codification)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 207(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee ⁽¹⁾,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure ⁽²⁾,

Whereas:

- (1) Council Regulation (EC) No 1061/2009 ⁽³⁾ has been substantially amended ⁽⁴⁾. In the interests of clarity and rationality, that Regulation should be codified.
- (2) The common commercial policy should be based on uniform principles.
- (3) Common rules should be laid down for exports from the Union.
- (4) Exports are almost completely liberalised in all the Member States. It is therefore possible to accept as a Union principle that exports to third countries are not subject to any quantitative restriction, subject to the exceptions provided for in this Regulation and without prejudice to such measures as Member States may take in conformity with the Treaty.
- (5) The Commission should be informed if, as a result of unusual developments on the market, a Member State considers that protective measures might be necessary.
- (6) It is essential that examination should take place at Union level, in particular on the basis of any such information, of export terms and conditions, of export trends, of the various aspects of the economic and commercial situation, and of the measures, if any, to be taken.
- (7) It may become apparent from this examination that the Union should exercise surveillance over certain exports, or that interim protective measures should be introduced as a safeguard against unforeseen practices.
- (8) Any protective measures necessitated by the interests of the Union should be adopted with due regard for existing international obligations.
- (9) It is necessary to authorise Member States which are bound by international commitments setting up, in cases of actual or potential supply difficulties, a system for the allocation of oil products between contracting parties to comply with the resulting obligations vis-à-vis third countries, without prejudice to Union provisions adopted to the same end. This authorisation should apply until the adoption by the European Parliament and the Council of appropriate measures pursuant to commitments entered into by the Union or all the Member States.
- (10) This Regulation should apply to all products, whether industrial or agricultural. Its operation should be complementary to that of the instruments establishing the common organisation of agricultural markets, and to that of the special instruments adopted under Article 352 of the Treaty for processed agricultural products. Any overlap between the provisions of this Regulation and the provisions of those instruments, particularly the protective clauses thereof, must however be avoided.

⁽¹⁾ Opinion of 10 December 2014 (not yet published in the Official Journal).

⁽²⁾ Position of the European Parliament of 11 February 2015 (not yet published in the Official Journal) and decision of the Council of 2 March 2015.

⁽³⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 1061/2009 of 19 October 2009 establishing common rules for exports (OJ L 291, 7.11.2009, p. 1).

⁽⁴⁾ See Annex II.

- (11) The implementation of this Regulation requires uniform conditions for the adoption of protective measures. Those measures should be adopted by the Commission in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁾,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

CHAPTER I

BASIC PRINCIPLE

Article 1

The exportation of products from the Union to third countries shall be free, that is to say, they shall not be subject to any quantitative restriction, with the exception of those restrictions which are applied in conformity with this Regulation.

CHAPTER II

UNION INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION PROCEDURE

Article 2

If, as a result of any unusual developments on the market, a Member State considers that protective measures within the meaning of Chapter III might be necessary, it shall so notify the Commission, which shall advise the other Member States.

Article 3

1. The Commission shall be assisted by the Committee on Safeguards, established by Regulation (EU) 2015/478 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽²⁾. That Committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.
2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.
3. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011, in conjunction with Article 5 thereof, shall apply.

Article 4

For the purpose of assessing the economic and commercial situation as regards a particular product, the Commission may request Member States to supply statistical data on market trends in that product and, to this end, acting in accordance with their national legislation and with a procedure to be specified by the Commission, to exercise surveillance over exports of such product. Member States shall take whatever steps are necessary in order to give effect to requests from the Commission and shall forward to the Commission the data requested. The Commission shall inform the other Member States.

CHAPTER III

PROTECTIVE MEASURES

Article 5

1. In order to prevent a critical situation from arising on account of a shortage of essential products, or to remedy such a situation, and where Union interests call for immediate intervention, the Commission, acting at the request of a Member State or on its own initiative, and taking account of the nature of the products and of the other particular features of the transactions in question, may make the export of a product subject to the production of an export authorisation, the granting of which shall be governed by such provisions and subject to such limits as the Commission shall lay down in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 3(2), or, in cases of urgency, in accordance with Article 3(3).

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers (OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13).

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) 2015/478 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2015 on common rules for imports (see page 16 of this Official Journal).

2. The European Parliament, the Council and the Member States shall be notified of the measures taken. Such measures shall take effect immediately.
3. The measures may be limited to exports to certain countries or to exports from certain regions of the Union. They shall not affect products already on their way to the Union frontier.
4. Where intervention by the Commission has been requested by a Member State, the Commission shall take a decision pursuant to paragraph 1 within a maximum of five working days of the date of receipt of such request.
5. Where the Commission has acted pursuant to paragraph 1 of this Article, it shall, not later than 12 working days following the date of entry into force of the measure which it has taken, decide whether to adopt appropriate measures as provided for in Article 6. If, at the end of six weeks following the date of entry into force of the measure, no measures have been adopted, the measure in question shall be deemed revoked.

Article 6

1. Where the interests of the Union so require, the Commission may, acting in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 3(2), adopt appropriate measures:
 - (a) to prevent a critical situation from arising owing to a shortage of essential products, or to remedy such a situation;
 - (b) to allow international undertakings entered into by the Union or all the Member States to be fulfilled, in particular those relating to trade in primary products.
2. The measures referred to in paragraph 1 may be limited to exports to certain countries or to exports from certain regions of the Union. They shall not affect products already on their way to the Union frontier.
3. When quantitative restrictions on exports are introduced, account shall be taken in particular of:
 - (a) the volume of goods exported under contracts concluded on normal terms and conditions before the entry into force of a protective measure within the meaning of this Chapter and notified by the Member State concerned to the Commission in conformity with its national laws; and
 - (b) the need to avoid jeopardising the achievement of the aim pursued in introducing quantitative restrictions.

Article 7

1. While any measure referred to in Articles 5 and 6 is in operation, the Commission may, either at the request of a Member State or on its own initiative:
 - (a) examine the effects of the measure;
 - (b) ascertain whether the application of the measure is still necessary.

Where the Commission considers that the application of the measure is still necessary, it shall inform the Member States accordingly.

2. Where the Commission considers that any measure provided for in Article 5 or 6 should be revoked or amended, it shall act in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 3(2).

CHAPTER IV

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 8

In respect of products listed in Annex I, until the European Parliament and the Council adopt appropriate measures pursuant to international commitments entered into by the Union or all the Member States, Member States shall, without prejudice to rules adopted by the Union in this field, be authorised to implement the emergency sharing system introducing an allocation obligation vis-à-vis third countries provided for in international commitments entered into before the entry into force of this Regulation.

Member States shall inform the Commission of measures they intend to adopt. The measures adopted shall be communicated by the Commission to the Council and other Member States.

Article 9

The Commission shall include information on the implementation of this Regulation in its annual report on the application and implementation of trade defence measures presented to the European Parliament and to the Council pursuant to Article 22a of Council Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 ⁽¹⁾.

Article 10

Without prejudice to other Union provisions, this Regulation shall not preclude the adoption or application by a Member State of quantitative restrictions on exports on grounds of public morality, public policy or public security, or of protection of health and life of humans, animals and plants, of national treasures possessing artistic, historic or archaeological value, or of industrial and commercial property.

Article 11

This Regulation shall be without prejudice to the operation of the instruments establishing the common organisation of agricultural markets, or of the special instruments adopted under Article 352 of the Treaty for processed agricultural products. It shall operate by way of complement to those instruments.

However, in the case of products covered by such instruments, Article 5 of this Regulation shall not apply to those in respect of which the Union rules on trade with third countries make provision for the application of quantitative export restrictions. Article 4 shall not apply to those products in respect of which such rules require the production of a licence or other export document.

Article 12

Regulation (EC) No 1061/2009 is repealed.

References to the repealed Regulation shall be construed as references to this Regulation and shall be read in accordance with the correlation table in Annex III.

Article 13

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Strasbourg, 11 March 2015.

For the European Parliament

The President

M. SCHULZ

For the Council

The President

Z. KALNIŅA-LUKAŠEVICA

⁽¹⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 of 30 November 2009 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the European Community (OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 51).

ANNEX I

Products referred to in Article 8

CN code	Description
2709 00	Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, crude
2710	Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, other than crude; preparations not elsewhere specified or included, containing by weight 70 % or more of petroleum oils or of oils obtained from bituminous minerals, these oils being the basic constituents of the preparations; waste oils:
2710 11 11 to 2710 11 90	Light oils
2710 19 11 to 2710 19 29	Medium oils
2710 19 31 to 2710 19 99	Heavy oils, except lubricating oils, used in clocks and watches and the like, presented in small receptacles containing not more than 250 g net of oil
2711	Petroleum gases and other gaseous hydrocarbons:
	– Liquefied:
2711 12	– – Propane:
	– – – Propane of a purity not less than 99 %
	– – – Other
2711 13	– – Butanes
	– In gaseous state:
ex 2711 29 00	– – Other:
	– – – Propane
	– – – Butanes

ANNEX II

Repealed Regulation with the amendment thereto

Council Regulation (EC) No 1061/2009
(OJ L 291, 7.11.2009, p. 1).

Regulation (EU) No 37/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council
(OJ L 18, 21.1.2014, p. 1).

Only point 21 of the Annex

ANNEX III

Correlation table

Regulation (EC) No 1061/2009	This Regulation
Article 1	Article 1
Article 2	Article 2
Article 4	Article 3
Article 5	Article 4
Article 6	Article 5
Article 7	Article 6
Article 8	Article 7
Article 9	Article 8
Article 9a	Article 9
Article 10	Article 10
Article 11	Article 11
Article 12	Article 12
Article 13	Article 13
Annex I	Annex I
Annex II	Annex II
Annex III	Annex III

ISSN 1977-0677 (electronic edition)
ISSN 1725-2555 (paper edition)



Publications Office of the European Union
2985 Luxembourg
LUXEMBOURG

EN