

The background of the entire page is a photograph of numerous stacks of cut logs. The logs are piled high, showing their circular cross-sections and the texture of the wood. The lighting is natural, highlighting the grain and bark of the timber.

# Overview of Competent Authority EU Timber Regulation checks, June – November 2017

Statistics of checks performed by EU Member States  
and EEA countries to enforce the implementation of the  
EU Timber Regulation



# Introduction

This document provides an overview of the checks Competent Authorities have performed over the period June - November 2017 to verify compliance of the EU Timber Regulation<sup>1</sup> (EUTR), as well as any enforcement actions taken.

The EUTR works to ensure that illegal timber does not enter the EU market, by laying out the obligations of a) operators that place timber on the EU market (Article 4, 6), b) traders that buy and sell timber that has already been placed on the EU market (Article 5), and c) monitoring organisations that provide support to operators in fulfilling their obligations under the EUTR (Article 8). Competent Authorities are tasked with performing checks on operators, traders and monitoring organisations to ensure that they fulfil their obligations under the EUTR.

The statistics presented here are based on the information provided by Member States through an online survey and include the responses from 20 countries<sup>2</sup>. The EUTR is implemented by all 28 EU Member States, as well as Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein (European Economic Area), which are referred to as ‘countries’ throughout this document. All information, figures and overviews provided refer to the current reporting period, unless otherwise specified.

This overview allows countries to compare their enforcement efforts and to foster information exchange on particular issues of relevance. It also helps the European Commission to monitor and assess the implementation and enforcement of the EUTR across countries.

## Background

### Number of operators and monitoring organisations

The number, size and type of operators, traders and monitoring organisations as well as patterns of trade flows vary significantly across countries, which will influence the overall number of checks and the way checks are performed.

Competent Authorities carry out checks to ensure operators comply with Article 4 and 6 of the EUTR, which may include an assessment of the operator’s Due Diligence System, examination of

**Table 1:** Estimated number of operators placing domestic, imported, or both types of timber on the EU internal market, by country (based on national EUTR reports (grey italics) and updates or confirmation of estimates provided in response to the survey (black font); different methodologies were used by countries to estimate/establish these numbers.)

Country	Domestic	Imported	Domestic and imported
Austria	140 000	**4 100	not specified
Belgium	***2300	**1 800	unknown
<i>Bulgaria</i>	<i>4 013</i>	<i>unknown</i>	<i>unknown</i>
Croatia	2700	5 000	not specified
Cyprus	*62	*780	*2
<i>Czech Republic</i>	<i>300 000</i>	<i>2 500</i>	<i>not specified</i>
Denmark	***28 000	**3 800	not specified
<i>Estonia</i>	<i>10 000</i>	<i>450</i>	<i>3</i>
Finland	***350 000	**2 000	unknown
France	5 000	14 000	not specified
Germany	***2 000 000	**25 000	not specified
<i>Greece</i>	<i>1 559</i>	<i>233</i>	<i>371</i>
Hungary	***46 700	***2 674	***246
<i>Ireland</i>	<i>unknown</i>	<i>unknown</i>	<i>unknown</i>
<i>Italy</i>	<i>not specified</i>	<i>not specified</i>	<i>not specified</i>
Latvia	140 000	**330	unknown
<i>Lithuania</i>	<i>25 940</i>	<i>800</i>	<i>unknown</i>
Luxembourg	***200	**245	not specified
<i>Malta</i>	<i>unknown</i>	<i>750</i>	<i>not specified</i>
Netherlands	100	4 900	unknown
Norway	120 000	5 000	not specified
Poland	unknown	~6500	unknown
<i>Portugal</i>	<i>*2 525</i>	<i>*853</i>	<i>*1 411</i>
<i>Romania</i>	<i>4 372</i>	<i>162</i>	<i>not specified</i>
Slovakia	9 700	unknown	unknown
<i>Slovenia</i>	<i>***461 000</i>	<i>**1 030</i>	<i>not specified</i>
<i>Spain</i>	<i>1 000</i>	<i>11 000</i>	<i>not specified</i>
Sweden	***100	**4 500	10
United Kingdom	unknown	6000	unknown

\* CA maintains register of operators. Portugal noted improvements to their electronic database should enable better estimation of these figures.  
 \*\* Estimate based on customs data  
 \*\*\*Land/other registry data (Luxembourg: estimate also includes estimate of private operators)

<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) No 995/2010. <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32010R0995>

<sup>2</sup> No information was received from Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Iceland and Liechtenstein. Poland’s data covers the period July to December 2017.

documentation or spot checks such as field audits. Table 1 provides an overview of the estimated numbers of operators, by country. These estimates provide important information to be taken into consideration when preparing plans for checks on operators.

Monitoring organisations can establish Due Diligence Systems and allow operators to use it. They have to maintain their systems and assess proper implementation; they must also address any failure of operators in properly using the system and report any significant or repeated shortcomings to the Competent Authority. Monitoring organisations can be registered in one country but also offer services in others; Competent Authorities have to check those monitoring organisations which have main offices within their country at least every two years<sup>3</sup>. Table 2 provides an overview of the number of monitoring Organisations registered in the EU, by country.

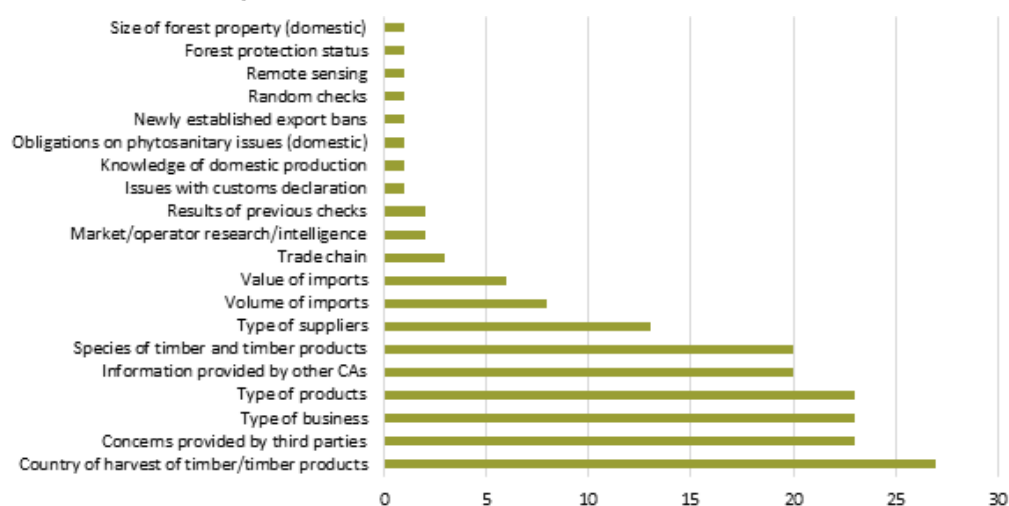
**Table 2: Main seats of monitoring organisations registered in the EU, by country**

Monitoring organisation	Denmark	Estonia	France	Germany	Italy	Latvia	Netherlands	Spain	United Kingdom
AENOR International								✓	
BM Trada						✓			
Bureau Veritas			✓						
Conlegno					✓				
Control Union Certification							✓		
DIN CERTCO				✓					
GD Holz Service				✓					
CSI S.p.A.*					✓				
Le Commerce du Bois			✓						
NEPCon	✓	✓							
SGS									✓
Soil Association									✓
Timber Checker							✓		

\*as of 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2015, previously ICILA S.R.L.

### National plans for checks

To ensure that the diversity of the situations in the different countries is taken into account, while ensuring the number and thoroughness of checks needed for an effective implementation of the EUTR, Competent Authorities are to conduct checks in accordance with a periodically reviewed plan following a risk-based approach. Countries therefore establish national plans for checks (Table 3), which take into consideration various risk factors (Figure 1); checks are performed accordingly. The distribution and focus of checks across the year may vary between countries and the number and type of checks performed may therefore fluctuate across the year.



**Figure 1: Risk criteria considered by countries when planning checks, by number of Member States (based on information submitted in EUTR national reports 2017).**

<sup>3</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/pdf/eutr\\_guidance.zip](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/pdf/eutr_guidance.zip)

**Table 3:** National plans for checks on the implementation of the EUTR (based on information submitted in EUTR national reports 2017<sup>4</sup>, for the period March 2015 – February 2017)

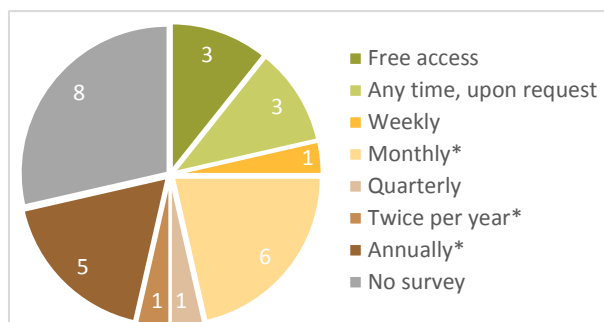
Country	Main criteria considered when planning checks	Time schedule for plan*	
		Domestic	Imported
Austria	Imported: assessment of customs data and high risk imports prioritised; Domestic: operators selected by ministry and checked during annual roundwood removal survey	annual	Annual check plan, checks on specific imports selected from weekly customs data
Belgium	Risk criteria	no schedule	no schedule
Bulgaria	Not specified	annual	not specified
Croatia	Risk criteria		annual
Cyprus	Assessment of customs data and high risk imports prioritised; 10% of operators per CN code checked except Chapters 47, 48 and 94 where 1% of are checked. Substantiated concerns are followed up on immediately	not specified	monthly
Czech Republic	Risk criteria	annual*	annual*
Denmark	Risk criteria and some operators are randomly selected	not specified	not specified
Estonia	Risk criteria, concerns received and aiming at cross-selection of different products, countries of origin, sizes of companies	annual	annual
Finland	Assessment of customs data and risk criteria. Also random checks.	annual	annual
France	Assessment of customs data and high risk imports prioritised. Regional CAs follow this plan and conduct checks July-January the following year	annual*	annual
Germany	150-200 checks annually based on risk criteria from 3 groups: high risk origin of timber, furniture businesses (only this period as found not to be implementing the EUTR well) and risk research/follow-up checks	not specified	quarterly
Greece	Planning on the basis of the circular 144548/4805 / 14-09-2016	annual*	annual*
Hungary	Risk criteria, random checks. Substantiated concerns are followed up on. Check plan defined in national legislation, including: (A) the definition of objectives and risks, (B) the timetable for inspections, (C) sales chains related to timber products concerned by the priority checks, (D) the measurement and follow-up methods of achieving the objectives, (E) in carrying out checks with other authorities, the implementation plans and conditions of cooperation and mutual assistance, (F) relevant performance indicators used in the evaluation of the audit plan	annual	annual
Ireland	Risk criteria; planning flexible to react to advice from Commission, other CAs and substantiated concerns	not specified	not specified
Italy	Risk criteria, assessment of customs data	annual	annual
Latvia	Imported: Assessment of customs data and high risk imports prioritised, planning flexible to react to new information. Domestic: 360 audited inspectors check ~70% of domestic felling areas. Desktop checks of all felling sites and ~800 audits yearly on sites	annual*	twice per year
Lithuania	Risk criteria, also operators that have not yet been checked or not for a longer period, or that were previously in breach of the EUTR	annual or quarterly plan	monthly
Luxembourg	Risk criteria, with 5% of operators from 4 groups selected: imported timber, selling domestic timber, buying timber and substantiated concerns*	annual	annual
Malta	Risk criteria, operator performance and enforcement record. Substantiated concerns are followed up on	not applicable*	twice per year
Netherlands	Risk criteria	not specified	not specified
Norway	Risk criteria	2 years	2 years
Poland	Risk criteria	annual	annual
Portugal	Risk criteria	annual	annual
Romania	All operators and traders of domestic timber planned to be checked	2 years	not specified
Slovakia	Domestic: based on legislation, and as required. Checks are due every 5-10 years; bigger operators checked every 2 years	annual	not specified
Slovenia	Risk criteria	annual	annual
Spain	Risk criteria; a national plan is the basis for the regional check plans	not specified	not specified
Sweden	Risk criteria	annual	annual
United Kingdom	Risk criteria	annual	annual

\*Due to limited levels of detail provided, this information was inferred

<sup>4</sup> Countries submit national reports biennially on the implementation and enforcement of the EUTR (Article 20, EUTR).

### Customs data and trade patterns

For imported timber, customs data is a crucial resource for Competent Authorities when they are planning checks on operators, since it contains information needed for a risk assessment (number of operators importing timber, type of business, type of product, value of imports, volume of imports, issues with customs declaration, country of harvest, species). However, countries have different levels of access to these datasets (Figure 2, Table 4). While the majority of reporting countries have access to all relevant customs data, one country only receives information covering certain product types.



**Figure 2: Frequency of data exchange between customs and Competent Authorities, by number of countries** (\*in addition, some countries indicated that customs data are also available upon request, see Table 4).

In addition to national customs data, Competent Authorities may also take into consideration changes in global trade patterns or may use information from traders' records on suppliers to identify products, producer countries or operator types for checks.

**Table 4: Frequency of data exchange between customs and Competent Authorities and extent of data on timber products shared, by country\*\***

Country	Frequency of data exchange	Data on EUTR products shared
Austria	Weekly	All customs data
Belgium	Monthly	All customs data
Croatia	Annually	All customs data
Denmark	Monthly	All customs data
Finland	Monthly*	All customs data
France	Annually	All customs data
Germany	Upon request	All customs data
Hungary	Monthly	All customs data
Ireland	Monthly	All customs data
Italy	Annually	All customs data
Latvia	Upon request	All customs data
Lithuania	Quarterly	All customs data
Luxembourg	Annually	Only certain product types
Netherlands	Upon request	All customs data
Norway	Annually*	All customs data
Poland	Free access	All customs data
Republic of Cyprus	Monthly	All customs data
Slovenia	Free access	All customs data
Sweden	Twice per year*	All customs data
United Kingdom	Free access	All customs data

\* Upon request any time

\*\* In addition, Portugal noted there was currently no data exchange between customs and their Competent Authority.

## Statistics of checks performed June-November 2017

Over the period June-November 2017, the reporting Competent Authorities conducted checks on more than 467 domestic operators and 388 importing operators, amounting to 499 and 406 individual checks, respectively. In addition, 300 checks on traders dealing with domestic timber and 177 on traders dealing with imported timber took place. Three monitoring organisations were checked and seven countries received a total of 105 substantiated concerns, all of which were followed up on with checks.

Nineteen countries confirmed having performed checks over this period, while Croatia reported not having performed any checks. Twelve countries reported checking domestic operators, with six of them identifying operators with unsatisfactory Due Diligence Systems (DDS) in place (Table 5). Nineteen

countries checked importing operators and 17 identified operators with unsatisfactory DDS in place (Tables 7 and 8).

Eleven countries reported having checked traders, and, other than Hungary and Poland, all countries were satisfied that appropriate traceability systems had been put in place by these traders (Table 10 and 11).

Poland was the only country reporting that they checked monitoring organisations. They performed 3 checks, with all monitoring organisations fulfilling the requirements of Article 8(1).

Seven countries reported having received substantiated concerns (Table 9), all of which confirmed that they subsequently informed those submitting the concerns about the steps that had been taken.

It is worth noting that some of the enforcement action taken in this reporting period may be in response to checks carried out prior to this period. Similarly, some enforcement action in response to the checks done during this period may only be reported on in the next overview document.

Ireland highlighted that a key element of the Competent Authority checks is to encourage a change of behaviour. Although difficult to quantify, they found that following checks, operators often discontinue problematic trade and switch to suitable alternatives.

Competent Authorities also performed joint checks through bilateral or regional cooperation, focussing on operators importing timber and timber products into more than one country.

The following tables (Tables 5-12) provide overviews of the checks performed by Competent Authorities over the period June–November 2017, the basis of these checks, substantiated concerns received and any enforcement steps taken following checks.

### Substantiated Concerns

Greenpeace Netherlands brought an **appeal against the decision of the Dutch CA**, for not initiating enforcement activities against a number of companies perceived to be importers of timber from the Brazilian Amazon<sup>5</sup>.

A Greenpeace report connected the Brazilian logging firm *Madeireira Cedroarana* with the torture and murder of nine people and other acts of intimidation of local stakeholders to facilitate illegal timber harvesting. The report connects the logging firm to **7 companies which continued importing into the EU after the alleged events took place**, suggesting they failed in their DDS obligation.<sup>9</sup>

### Public reports of checks or enforcement action

The Commission noted that **Belgium failed to carry out a significant number of verifications** since the EUTR entered into force in 2013<sup>6</sup>.

The **Swedish CA** issued a company with a prohibition in the context of teak from Myanmar<sup>7</sup>.

The **Danish CA** reported a company which continued to import teak from Myanmar despite having been issued with an injunction and for being in breach with Article 6 of the EUTR to the police<sup>6</sup>.

Work by the **British CA** led to a fine for Angora 2011 Limited, trading as Lombok, who failed to conduct the required due diligence for a product imported from India. The company was fined £5 000 [€5,602] plus costs. The company had previously been found to be in breach of the EUTR in 2015, subsequent to which a Notice of Remedial Action and then a warning letter had been issued<sup>6</sup>.

The **German CA** seized two shipments of wengé logs from the Democratic Republic of Congo in 2013<sup>8</sup>. The court recently ruled that the timber could be auctioned, with the proceeds going to the Federal Republic of Germany<sup>9</sup>.

The **Dutch CA** found two Dutch timber companies to be in breach of the EUTR due diligence obligations. The companies have been issued with a two-month “grace period”, after which they will be fined EUR20 000 per m<sup>3</sup> for any non-compliant Burmese teak traded<sup>7</sup>.

### Joint checks

The Finnish, Danish and Icelandic authorities conducted two joint checks in October and the Dutch authority was joined by Belgian colleagues for a number of joint checks. Latvia reported on joint checks under the Nordic-Baltic cooperating<sup>10</sup> and Ireland and the United Kingdom conducted checks on operators importing into the United Kingdom via Ireland.

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.greenpeace.nl/2017/Nieuwsberichten/Bossen/Greenpeace-wint-rechtszaak-tegen-NVWA/>

<sup>6</sup> [https://wcmc.io/EUTR\\_briefing\\_note\\_August17-October17](https://wcmc.io/EUTR_briefing_note_August17-October17)

<sup>7</sup> [https://wcmc.io/EUTR\\_briefing\\_note\\_June17-July17](https://wcmc.io/EUTR_briefing_note_June17-July17)

<sup>8</sup> [http://wcmc.io/EUTR\\_briefing\\_note\\_April17-May17](http://wcmc.io/EUTR_briefing_note_April17-May17)

<sup>9</sup> [wcmc.io/EUTR\\_briefing\\_note\\_November17-January18](https://wcmc.io/EUTR_briefing_note_November17-January18)

<sup>10</sup> Further information available here: [https://wcmc.io/EUTR\\_briefing\\_note\\_August17-October17](https://wcmc.io/EUTR_briefing_note_August17-October17)

**Table 5: Overview of domestic operator checks and results June-November 2017.**

<b>No survey:</b> Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain		<b>Operators not checked:</b> Belgium <sup>***</sup> , Croatia, Denmark <sup>****</sup> , Finland <sup>***</sup> , Netherlands <sup>*****</sup> , United Kingdom				<b>Operators checked:</b> Austria*, France, Germany**, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland, Republic of Cyprus, Slovenia, Sweden					
Country	No. operators checked	No. desk based reviews	No. document reviews on site	No. product inspections on site	No. document & product inspections on site	No. operators without appropriate DDS	No. notices of remedial action	No. notices of remedial action that led to penalties	No. financial penalties	Court cases	No. other action
France	14	14			14	4	4				
Hungary	25	25	0	2	0	13	12	13	4		36
Ireland <sup>+</sup>	8	7				0					
Italy <sup>**</sup>	40				40	1			1		
Latvia <sup>***</sup>						0					
Lithuania	161	3			161	1	2	0	52	1	
Luxembourg	9	8	1	0	0	1	1	0	0		
Norway	7		7			0					
Poland	10		6			0					
Republic of Cyprus	7				7	0					
Slovenia	181	129	35	31		17	15	2	2		
Sweden	5	3	2			0					

\* Austria noted that providing this data during the year would be disproportionate compared to the low risk of illegality for domestic timber

\*\* Germany noted that providing this data would require information from all forest authorities of the federal states which would be disproportionate compared to the low risk of illegality for domestic timber

\*\*\* Belgium and Finland noted the highly regulated national legality assurance system for domestic timber

\*\*\*\* Denmark noted that inspections are only carried out on domestic operators following a complaint

\*\*\*\*\* Netherlands noted limited domestic production

+ Italy noted that this data is provisional

\*\*Ireland noted that 8 of the largest sawmill companies were selected. More information was required from one operator before determining compliance of the company

+++ Latvia noted the highly regulated national legality assurance system for domestic timber, leading to the frequent imposition of administrative sanctions for minor offenses, while courts are rarely involved.

**Table 6: Basis of domestic operator checks June-November 2017.**

Country	Level of risk	Production/trade volumes	Value of products	Market share/ importance of these operators	Substantiated concerns	Other
France	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Hungary	✓				✓	
Ireland	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Italy	✓	✓			✓	
Latvia	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Lithuania						Check plan
Luxembourg		✓	✓			
Norway	✓	✓				
Poland	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Republic of Cyprus	✓	✓				
Slovenia	✓				✓	
Sweden	✓	✓		✓		

Table 7: Overview of **importing operator checks** and results June-November 2017.

**No survey:** Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain  
**Operators not checked:** Croatia  
**Operators checked:** Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Cyprus, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom

Country	No. operators checked	No. desk based reviews	No. document reviews on site	No. product inspections on site	No. document & product inspections on site	No. operators without appropriate DDS	No. notices of remedial action	No. notices of remedial action that led to penalties	No. financial penalties	No. court cases	No. no action	No. other penalties	Details on "other penalties"
Austria	4	4			1	3							Ongoing investigations - results to follow
Belgium	2	0	2	0	0	2	1						Ongoing investigations - results to follow
Croatia	0												
Denmark	3		3			3	3*						
Finland**	16	2	14			10	1	2					
France	14	14			14								
Germany	103	6	46		51	66	47		5				
Hungary	5	2	0	0	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	4	
Ireland***	28	25			3								
Italy****	42				42	9			14				
Latvia	10	4	7		2	3							Other action specified in Biennial Report
Lithuania	9	9	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Luxembourg	11	9	2			11	5	0	0	0	0		
Netherlands	20	0	0	0	20	5						5	4 written warnings and 1 injunction
Norway	10		2		8	9	9						
Poland	57		40		17	7	5	2	1				
Republic of Cyprus	11		5		6	1	1						
Slovenia	9	0	9	0	0	1	0	1		0	0		
Sweden	7	2	5			7	4					3	Request for corrective action
United Kingdom	27	6	13		8	13	10	0	0	1		7	Warning letters

\* Denmark noted that all received notices of remedial action and an injunction.

\*\* Finland noted that administrative processes were ongoing in all cases, with all operators that do not have appropriate DDS in place, as a first step required to take remedial actions within a given timeframe

\*\*\* Ireland noted all had a due diligence system but in 10 cases more information was being requested.

\*\*\*\* Italy noted that this data is provisional



**Table 8: Basis of importing operator checks June-November 2017.**

Country	Level of risk	Import volume	Market share/ importance of these operators to import market	Value of imported products	Country of origin	Product type	Species in trade	Substantiated concerns	Intelligence/ information on potential issues with DDS
Austria	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓
Belgium	✓				✓			✓	
Denmark	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		
Croatia									
Finland	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
France	✓	✓			✓			✓	
Germany	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	
Hungary	✓				✓				
Ireland	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Italy	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Latvia	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Lithuania		✓				✓			
Luxembourg				✓	✓				
Netherlands	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Norway	✓			✓	✓	✓			
Poland	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Republic of Cyprus	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
Slovenia	✓	✓		✓	✓				
Sweden	✓			✓	✓				
United Kingdom	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

**Table 9: Overview of substantiated concerns received June-November 2017.**

No survey: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain		No substantiated concerns: Austria, Croatia, Finland, France, Ireland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Republic of Cyprus, Sweden					Substantiated concerns: Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Slovenia, United Kingdom		
Country	No. concerns	No. concerns raised by individuals	No. concerns raised by organisations	No. concerns raised by police	No. concerns raised by customs	No. concerns raised by unspecified authority	No. of concerns raised by the media	No. resulting checks	Those submitting concerns were informed about steps taken
Belgium	1	0	1					1	Yes
Denmark	3	1	1				1	0	Yes
Germany	1		1					1	Yes
Hungary	90	5	0	35	49	1		90	Yes
Italy	2		2					5	Yes
Slovenia	7	2	5					7	Yes
United Kingdom	1	0	1					1	Yes

**Table 10: Overview of domestic timber trader checks and results June-November 2017.**

<b>No survey:</b> Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain		<b>Traders not checked:</b> Austria*, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg**, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom			<b>Traders checked:</b> Hungary, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Cyprus, Slovenia		
Country	No. checks	No. traders without appropriate traceability	No. notices of remedial action	No. notices of remedial action that led to penalties	No. financial penalties	No. court cases	No. other penalties
Hungary	92	64	89	38	13	1	209
Lithuania	143	3	1		2		
Netherlands	2						
Poland	5						
Republic of Cyprus	56						
Slovenia	2						

\* Austria noted that providing this data at this stage would be disproportionate considering to the low risk of illegality. There is no plan for trader checks, traders are only asked for information if required, for example in case of suspicion

\*\* Luxembourg noted traders are difficult to identify.

**Table 11: Overview of imported timber trader checks and results June-November 2017.**

<b>No survey:</b> Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain		<b>Traders not checked:</b> Austria*, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, France, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg**, Netherlands, Norway			<b>Traders checked:</b> Finland, Germany, Hungary, Lithuania, Ireland, Poland, Republic of Cyprus, Slovenia, Sweden, United Kingdom		
Country	No. checks	No. traders without appropriate traceability	No. notices of remedial action	No. financial penalties	No. no action	No. other penalties	
Finland	2						
Germany	8						
Hungary	1	1	3	1	0	3	
Ireland	1						
Lithuania	144						
Poland	2						
Republic of Cyprus	12						
Slovenia	3						
Sweden	1	0					
United Kingdom	3						

\* Austria noted that there is no plan for trader checks, traders are only asked for information if required, for example in case of suspicion

\*\* Luxembourg noted traders are difficult to identify

**Table 12: Overview of court cases and outcomes June–November 2017.**

Country	Defendant	Date at court	Basis of case	Outcome/verdict
Denmark	Operator	November 2017	CA check, import without DD	In favour of CA. Fined, court decision appealed.
France	Domestic timber operator	20 April 2017	Illegal logging	Closed on 11 January 2018 with no action taken
Germany	Operator	June 2017	CA check	In favour of CA
Hungary	Trader	02 December 2018	CA check	No verdict yet
Latvia	Domestic timber operators (13 cases)	Various June – November 2017	CA check	2 administrative cases in favour of CA, 8 criminal cases in favour of CA, 3 criminal cases in favour of defendant
Sweden	Operator	June 2017	CA check	No verdict yet
Sweden	Operator	August 2017	CA check	No verdict yet
United Kingdom	Angora 2011 Ltd, trading as Lombok	25 October 2017	CA check	In favour of CA - business fined

## Other Competent Authority actions

### Collaboration

Collaboration among Competent Authorities is essential to ensure a coherent implementation and enforcement of the EUTR across the EU, and over the reporting period, Authorities collaborated through the informal EUTR Expert Group meeting, as well as through other activities (countries reporting on activities provided in brackets):

- Regular exchange with other Competent Authorities (Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia and the Netherlands),
- The Nordic-Baltic EUTR collaboration (Denmark, Finland, Latvia and Sweden; other countries also participate), and the newly established Central European EUTR collaboration (Austria and Hungary reported on this; Slovakia, Slovenia and Czech Republic also participate),
- Collaboration with other authorities regarding teak imports from Myanmar (United Kingdom),
- The Netherlands hosted internships for new EUTR inspectors from Belgium, and
- Hungary and Romania discussed flows of illegal timber from Romania and the country's timber verification system; they also explored the possibility of future joint actions along the border.

### Awareness raising

Competent Authorities also engaged in awareness raising over this reporting period, through:

- Workshops and meetings (4 organised by Sweden, 2 each by Germany and Hungary; Latvia, Portugal and the Netherlands presented at a workshop hosted by NEPCo),
- Information campaigns (1 each by Finland and Luxembourg; information on EUTR was published in a timber industry magazine in Latvia; the Competent Authority of Ireland entered an information stand at a major agricultural event and sent targeted emails to 44 key importers),
- One-to-one awareness raising with operators and traders (Austria, Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Portugal and United Kingdom), and
- Provision of updates on Competent Authority websites (Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Sweden, United Kingdom).

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