

E-flash 8-2025

FORWARD Belgium: focus points



Customs

Revision of the sanctions policy on Customs & Excise

The first concrete steps have been taken within the **Commission for the revision of the sanctions policy on Customs & Excise**: the first 55 articles of the AWDA have been discussed and rewritten.

We will soon be examining the concrete proposals of the interuniversity chair UA – ULiège regarding the new sanctions policy. The starting point is to reserve criminal law for fraud and to take a more administrative approach to offences.

Inbound Release Platform – Question and answer sessions

More than 10,000 shipments have already been processed via the new systems during the current pilot phase. Volumes are now being scaled up further, first for transshipment, **but from the beginning of December also for the local market**. This means that **every declarant in the maritime hinterland** will have to deal with the new cargo lists and the new write-off process.

The Inbound Release Platform facilitates the new process. For the vast majority of shipments, the IRP will become an indispensable tool.

In order to provide the best possible support to the forwarders, customs representatives and recipients of goods involved in the roll-out of PN/TS and the IRP, The Way Forward, in collaboration with FORWARD Belgium and KVBG, is organising **twice-weekly** question and answer sessions **on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 11:30 and 12:00 for all functional and practical questions relating to PN/TS and IRP**. Please send an email to ines@forwardbelgium.be if you are interested in participating.

Inbound Release Platform - FAQ

To support the further roll-out of the **Inbound Release Platform (IRP)**, we are pleased to provide the **FAQ – version 1.0.0 (23 October 2025)**. This document was created thanks to the collaboration between **Alfaport Voka, NxtPort** and the **Port of Antwerp-Bruges**. It provides clear answers to the most frequently asked questions from logistics service providers and freight forwarders about how the IRP works.

An important part of the FAQ is the explanation of how to establish a **handshake with the ship's agent**.

We invite you to read this FAQ thoroughly and share it within your organisation, especially with colleagues involved in the **operational and customs handling of import shipments**.

[IRP - FAQ](#)



Sustainability

FORWARD Goals for sustainable development

During the most recent meeting of the evaluation committee for the FORWARD Goals, it was decided to award the FORWARD Goals for sustainability GOLD label to [Polytra](#) and [Steelduxx](#).

Would your company also like to obtain this prestigious label? Be sure to visit our website: <https://forwardbelgium.be/FORWARD-Goals> or contact the FORWARD secretariat directly for more information.



Book your personal appointment

If you are unsure which cases are handled by FORWARD Belgium and/or would like to know more about what FORWARD Belgium can do for your company, you are always welcome to make a personal appointment.

We will be happy to visit you to explain everything in detail.

[Make your personal appointment here](#)

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