



European
Commission

PROTOCOL ON IRELAND/ NORTHERN IRELAND

8 CONCRETE EXAMPLES OF THE BENEFITS OF TODAY'S PROPOSALS

13 October 2021

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A truck **transporting different food products** (e.g. dairy, meat, fish, confectionary, fruit and vegetables, etc.) from Great Britain to Northern Ireland will now just need one certificate stating that all goods of different types, class or description meet the requirements of EU legislation. For example, if a lorry transports 100 different food products, only one certificate will be needed instead of 100 certificates.


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A business **importing products of animal origin** (e.g. yoghurt, cheese, chicken or turkey) into Northern Ireland from Great Britain will no longer be subject to the same level of checks and controls. More than **80% of the identity and physical checks previously required will now be removed**. This will significantly ease the process for bringing food supplies from Great Britain to Northern Ireland.


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Certain **products that are generally prohibited for import into the EU – e.g. sausages** – will now be allowed to be imported into Northern Ireland from Great Britain, subject to them carrying individual certificates, for which specific models will be provided. Conditions and safeguards, such as a rapid reaction mechanism, will help protect the Single Market


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A Northern Ireland business buying goods from Great Britain – for example, a car dealer ordering car parts – will only need to provide basic information, e.g. the invoice value of the car parts and the parties to the transaction for **customs clearance purposes**. Over half of the required formalities will be removed. This is subject to safeguards, such as the UK committing to providing full and real-time access to IT systems.

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A small Northern Ireland business in furnishing, **importing** wood and other raw materials **from Great Britain to manufacture** office and home furniture, will now be able to consider these goods as 'not at risk' and **benefit from simpler customs formalities** under certain conditions.



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A wholesaler of food products, established only in Great Britain and not in Northern Ireland, will now be eligible for the UK Trader Scheme and be able to benefit from the scheme to regularly supply retailers in Northern Ireland. Its customers, local retailers and stores, will have no customs reporting obligations.



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Northern Ireland supermarkets, and grocery stores of large national retailers, that depend on supply chains and distribution centres established in Great Britain will see their **customs formalities reduced to a minimum**. They will mainly rely on the internal records of the companies. These companies will file customs declarations only once a month as opposed to filing one declaration per transaction.



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British wholesalers of medicines will be able to continue supplying Northern Ireland from their current location in Great Britain. They will therefore not need to relocate infrastructure (including testing facilities) or regulatory functions to Northern Ireland or the EU. This means, for instance, that Great Britain can continue acting as a hub for the supply of generic medicines for Northern Ireland, even though it is now a third country. In this way, the long-term supply of medicines from Great Britain to Northern Ireland can be ensured.

Today's proposed bespoke arrangements will further facilitate the movement of goods from Great Britain to Northern Ireland. This new model for the implementation of the Protocol, which allows for a significant reduction in checks, is enabled by a series of safeguards, robust monitoring and enforcement mechanisms in order to protect the integrity of the Single Market. This includes the UK delivering on its commitment to complete the construction of permanent Border Control Posts, specific packaging and labelling (indicating that the goods are for sale only in the UK), and reinforced monitoring of supply chains and increased market surveillance. In addition, safeguards would include a rapid reaction mechanism to any identified problem, and unilateral measures by the EU to react to, or remedy, an identified problem. Today's package also includes proposals on medicines and engagement with Northern Irish stakeholders.