

Brussels, 9 March 2020

Call for postponement of lifting the Low Value Consignments threshold

PostEurop has on numerous occasions expressed concern regarding the abolition of the threshold on Low Value Consignments. This was articulated in our position paper published on 4 December 2019.

In view of the short time remaining for the introduction of the new customs and VAT system, we herewith want to reiterate that it is essential to postpone the abolishment of this threshold to a later date. We suggest postponing it to 1 July 2021.

PostEurop doubts that the IT required for implementation will be available in good time in all EU member states by 31 December, 2020. So far, almost all postal operators do not have the technical specifications for developing the required systems and the time window for an operative adjustment is getting shorter each day. In addition, the implementation at the year-end copes with heavy postal traffic, in which the volume of shipments in cross-border traffic increases dramatically. We therefore consider it absolutely necessary to postpone the timing of when the threshold is to be lifted beyond this year-end period.

PostEurop represents 52 Universal Postal Service Providers across Europe and is a restricted (i.e. regional) Union of the Universal Postal Union (UPU). The postal sector is a major contributor to, and facilitator of trade within the EU and globally. The postal network is an open access channel and a vital facilitator of trade linking public administrations, businesses and consumers as well as enabling small business enterprises and social customers to access efficient communications and e-commerce services on a global scale.

The postal sector is one of the largest employers with over 2 million employees across wider Europe, reaching over 800 million people daily.

Efficient and effective postal services are essential to the social fabric and economic life of the EU, and as a Service of General Economic Interest (SGEI), it plays an important social function: postal operators are there to provide a quality, accessible and affordable universal postal service to all, as defined not only in the European Postal Services Directive, but also as signatories to the UPU Treaty to which all countries, including EU Member States, are a part of.

See also:

- [PostEurop Position Paper on the "VAT e-commerce package", 4 December 2019](#)
- [PostEurop Position Paper on EC Public Consultation on Modernising VAT for cross-border e-commerce, 16 December 2015](#)
- [PostEurop's position on the Union Customs Code legislation, 23 June 2014](#)

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Association of European Public Postal Operators AISBL
Association des Opérateurs Postaux Publics Européens AISBL

POSTEUROP is the association which represents European public postal operators. It is committed to supporting and developing a sustainable and competitive European postal communication market accessible to all customers and ensuring a modern and affordable universal service. Our Members represent 2.1 million employees across Europe and deliver to 800 million customers daily through over 175,000 counters.