

Strengthening Sustainable and Digital Trade Routes and Logistics Concepts Between Eastern Partnership Countries and with the EU



The Role of Umbrella Organisations and Associations in Driving the Ecosystem Towards Digitalisation of Logistics

2025 03 12

TIME		PROGRAM
Lithuania, Moldova, Ukraine	Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan	
09:00 – 10:30	11:00 – 12:30	Welcome
		Overview of Drivers Towards Change Within the Logistics Sector: • Requirements for the logistics sector regarding digitalisation and sustainability • How private organisations are adapting to change <i>Speaker: Rugilė Andziukevičiūtė – Buzė</i>
		Building a Transport Digitalisation and Innovation Ecosystem in Lithuania: The Role of the Transport Innovation Association <i>Speakers: Rugilė Andziukevičiūtė – Buzė and Asta Kazlauskienė</i>
10:30 – 10:45	12:30 – 12:45	Break
10:45 – 11:50	12:45 – 13:50	Customs Digitalisation: The Role of the Customs Practitioners Association <i>Speaker: Enrika Naujokė</i>
		Driving the Ecosystem Towards Digitalisation of Logistics: Identifying the Most Important Steps <i>Speaker: Rugilė Andziukevičiūtė – Buzė</i>
11:50 – 12:00	13:50 – 14:00	Wrap-up of the Webinar

Overview of Drivers Towards Change Within the Logistics Sector

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Rugilė Andziukevičiūtė – Buzė

New reality for transport and logistics

The trend toward paperless, real-time data exchange is **rapidly transforming global logistics**.

At the same time, **strict environmental regulations and the push for carbon neutrality** demand greener supply chain solutions.

To remain **competitive and resilient** in the future, the transport and logistics sector must embrace **innovation, sustainability and digital progress**.



Push for sustainability in transport and logistics:

Transportation is now the second-largest source of global greenhouse gas emissions, accounting for about 15% of total emissions. Nearly 30% of these emissions are related to road freight transport.

New EU Carbon Emission Regulations & Reporting requirements:

- **EU Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)** – requires companies to disclose environmental impact data.
- **Scope 3 Emissions Reporting** – requires businesses to track indirect emissions, including those from logistics and supply chain partners.

*Source: statista.com

EU Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)

2024	2025	2026	2028
The first reports should be published in 2025 for the year 2024	The first reports should be published in 2026 for the year 2025	The first reports should be published in 2027 for the year 2026	The first reports should be published in 2029 for the year 2028
Applicable from January 1, 2024	Applicable from January 1, 2025	Applicable from January 1, 2026	Applicable from January 1, 2028
Large public-interest companies that were already subject to the NFRD - (listed companies, banks, and insurance companies) meeting at least two of the three criteria: • ≥ 500 employees • €40M turnover, • €20M assets)	All large companies meeting at least two of the three criteria: • ≥250 employees, • €40M turnover, • €20M assets)	Listed SMEs (except micro-enterprises) Other companies meeting certain criteria • Possibility of postponement for two years	For third-country companies with a subsidiary or branch in the EU and meeting certain requirements EU turnover > 150 million € for two consecutive financial years
Under revision from March 2025			

The reports must follow the **European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS)** and cover **environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors**, including **Scope 3 emissions** related to supply chains.

Push for digitalisation in logistics sector:



The logistics industry is undergoing a digital transformation to improve **efficiency, transparency, and compliance**.



Key enablers: **Regulations** (legal drivers), **technology adoption** (business drivers), and **industry initiatives**.



Focus areas: **Paperless transport, interoperability, data standardization**.

Legal Drivers of Digitalisation

1. eCMR (Electronic Consignment Note)

- Digital alternative to paper-based CMR (Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road).
- Legal status strengthened by UN Protocol (2008) and growing EU adoption.
- Benefits: Faster processing, reduced errors, real-time tracking.

2. eFTI (Electronic Freight Transport Information) Regulation (EU 2020/1056)

- Aims for harmonized digital information exchange in freight transport across the EU.
- Mandatory acceptance of digital documents by authorities by 2025.
- Ensures standardization, legal certainty, and compliance.

3. Data Privacy & Cybersecurity Regulations

- GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) impacts data sharing in logistics.
- National and international regulations require secure and compliant data management.

Legal Drivers of Digitalisation

EU Mobility Data Space Initiative

- Part of the **European Data Strategy** to create a shared digital ecosystem for mobility and logistics.
- Goals: **Interoperability, real-time data exchange, and AI-driven logistics optimization.**
- Supports eFTI, eCMR, and **multi-modal transport digitalization.**

Goods Passport ID Initiative

- Digital identity for goods to **track lifecycle, origin, and compliance.**
- Benefits: **Transparency, anti-counterfeiting, and circular economy support.**
- Supports sustainability reporting and **ESG compliance.**

Monitoring of sanctions and trade barrier implementation

Digitalisation of Customs (1)

Paperless Customs Clearance

- Shift from manual documentation to electronic declarations.
- Examples: Automated Customs Systems (e.g., EU's ICS2, U.S. ACE, UK's CDS).

Single Window Systems

- One-stop platforms for customs authorities, trade, and logistics stakeholders.
- Examples: EU's Customs Single Window, WCO SAFE Framework.

Blockchain & AI in Customs

- Blockchain: Secure, tamper-proof trade documents (e.g., electronic Bills of Lading).
- AI & Machine Learning: Automated risk assessment and fraud detection.

Digitalisation of Customs (2)

eFTI & eCMR Integration with Customs

- Digital freight documentation supports seamless customs processes.

Benefits of Customs Digitalization:

-  Faster clearance times
-  Reduced fraud & smuggling
-  Enhanced trade facilitation

Business Drivers of Digitalisation

1. Cost Reduction & Efficiency

- Digital processes reduce paperwork, manual errors, and delays.
- Faster customs clearance and compliance reporting.

2. Supply Chain Visibility & Transparency

- Real-time tracking & predictive analytics optimize routes and reduce risks.
- Enhanced data sharing among shippers, carriers, and authorities.

3. Sustainability & ESG Compliance

- Paperless operations reduce environmental impact.
- Digital documentation supports green logistics and carbon footprint tracking.

4. Customer Expectations & Competitiveness

- B2B and B2C demand faster, digital-first logistics services.
- Digitalization enhances trust, efficiency, and market leadership.

Which European regulations will have an impact on EaP countries

- Harmonization with EU Standards: EaP countries must comply with EU digital logistics and customs regulations (e.g., eFTI, Mobility Data Space).
- Integration into EU Supply Chains: Digital documentation like eCMR and Goods Passport ID helps EaP countries seamlessly trade with EU businesses.
- Need to revise or design legal acts which enable data security and data sharing among institutions and private sector.

Digital Infrastructure & Investment Needs

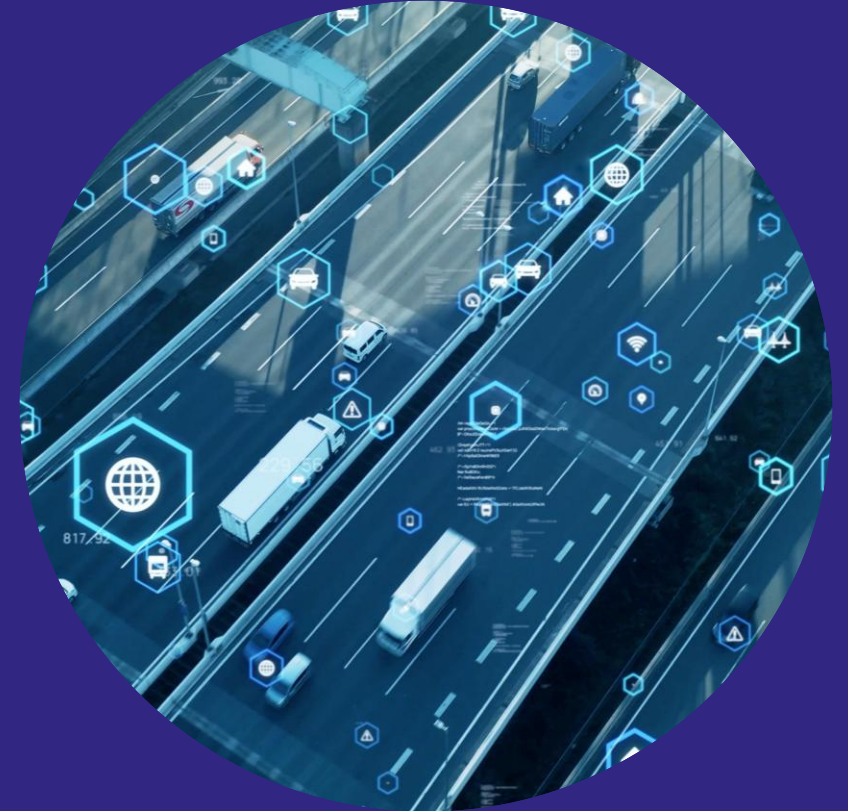


Technology Gaps: Many EPCs **lack the necessary IT infrastructure** for full digital adoption. Investments in **customs IT systems, e-document platforms, and cybersecurity** are needed.



EU Funding & Technical Assistance: Programs like the **Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)** and **EU4Digital** support EPCs in aligning with EU digital logistics standards.

Collaboration between **businesses, governments, and industry associations** is crucial to building a seamless, sustainable, and digitally connected logistics ecosystem.



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