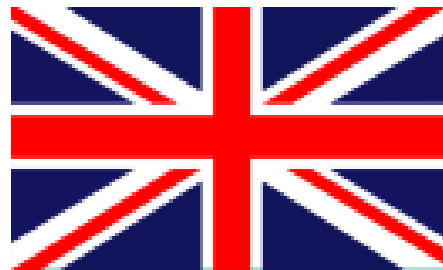




What does Brexit mean for EU & UK Companies

Timber Regulation Basics

- The EUTR is legally binding within EU Member States, which are responsible for implementation.
- Main objective: address the demand side driver of illegal logging by denying it access to the EU market.



The 27 EU Member States

EUTR landmarks



⇒ EU considers feasibility of introducing legislation to control imports of illegal timber

EU-FLEGT Action Plan

2003

EUTR enters into force

March 2013

⇒ EU Commission will continue working toward effective and uniform EUTR implementation in cooperation with Member States

FLEGT Work Plan 2018-2022

2018

UKTR has the same requirements as the EUTR.

UK leaves EU December 31st 2020

2020/2021

2010

EU Timber Regulation approved

⇒ EU Parliament + Council
Published In the Official journal 12
November 2010

2016

Review of the FLEGT Action Plan

⇒ Need to strengthen implementation and enforcement of the EUTR

2019

EC communication "Stepping up EU Action to Protect and Restore the World's Forests"

⇒ Re-affirms implementation of the 2018-2022 Work Plan by the EU Commission

Changes post Brexit transition



- EU Regulations are incorporated into member state law the legal requirements continue to be in place in the UK after the 31st December 2020 (end of the transition period).
- After this date ‘The Timber and Timber Products (Placing on the Market Regulations)’ (**UKTR**) **applies Great Britain** (England, Scotland & Wales).
- However, **it does not apply to Northern Ireland – the requirements of EUTR are still in place here.**
- **The requirements of the UKTR are equivalent to the requirements of the EUTR.**
- After 31st December 2020 Great Britain is treated as a third party and therefore **EU- based companies are required to do due diligence on timber imported from the UK.**

What does this mean for trade with Northern Ireland

If you are moving timber to or from Northern Ireland (NI), you should be aware of the following:

- There will be no new due diligence checks on timber flowing from NI to GB.
- Due diligence checks will take place on timber flowing from GB to NI.
- Due diligence checks will take place on timber entering NI directly from non-EU countries.
- Due diligence checks will not take place if entering directly from an EU or EEA country.



What does this mean for companies based in Great Britain



The requirements of the UKTR remain the same as the EUTR – but the scope of products and/or supply chains included changes.

For GB companies which import wood and wood products from EU countries into GB, from January 1st 2021, will be required to conduct due diligence to comply with UK regulation.

In other words...

...as of 1st January 2021, wood and wood products imported from EU countries will be treated no differently to imports from the rest of the world.



What does this mean for companies based in Great Britain



Companies in GB need to **update the scope of their due diligence system** to include their EU suppliers.

Companies will need to **ensure there is a low risk** of illegally harvested wood entering their supply chains by conducting robust due diligence.

GB companies exporting to EU should **expect to be asked to provide additional information by their customers in the EU** so they can meet their EUTR due diligence rules.



What does this mean for companies based in EU



For EU companies which import wood and wood products from GB, from January 1st 2021, will be required to conduct due diligence to comply with EUTR.

In other words...

...as of 1st January 2021, wood and wood products imported from Great Britain will be treated no differently to imports from the rest of the world.



What does this mean for companies based in the EU



Companies in EU need to **update the scope of their due diligence system** to include their UK suppliers.

Companies will need to **ensure there is a low risk** of illegally harvested wood entering their supply chains by conducting robust due diligence.

EU companies exporting to UK should **expect to be asked to provide additional information by their customers in the UK** so they can meet their UKTR due diligence rules.



Timber Legality Risk Profiles of UK & EU countries



LOW RISK
Austria
Belgium
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia,
Finland
France
Germany
Ireland
Luxembourg*
Netherlands*
Sweden
Norway
United Kingdom
Spain*
Portugal*

SPECIFIED RISK
Bulgaria
Croatia*
Hungary*
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Poland
Romania
Slovakia
Slovenia*

NOT ASSESSED
Cyprus
Greece
Malta

*For further information regarding the risk rating within each country and how to mitigate risks within the country of harvest refer to the [**Preferred by Nature Sourcing Hub**](#) or FSC Document Centre*

* Risk rating from FSC CNRA

Where to find more information



- UK Government [website](#)
- Preferred by Nature Article: [What Brexit means for the wood and wood product trade](#)
- European Commission: [Withdrawal of the UK from the EU rules in the field of fight against illegal logging and associated trade](#) and useful other resources.

