



The European Serious & Organised Crime Conference 2015

**Customs and fight against
organised criminality**

Maria Manuela Cabral, DG TAXUD



All types of infringements hurt legitimate business and society.

Even the most insignificant one creates distortions of competition and hurts one or more EU lawfully established business.

Financial impact for MS and the EU exists

Terrorism threat is more perceived by citizens/ society but may impact business seriously.

Business accepts to reinforce measures to reduce this threat

Can law enforcement agencies improve synergies and focus resources: certainly

Role of customs

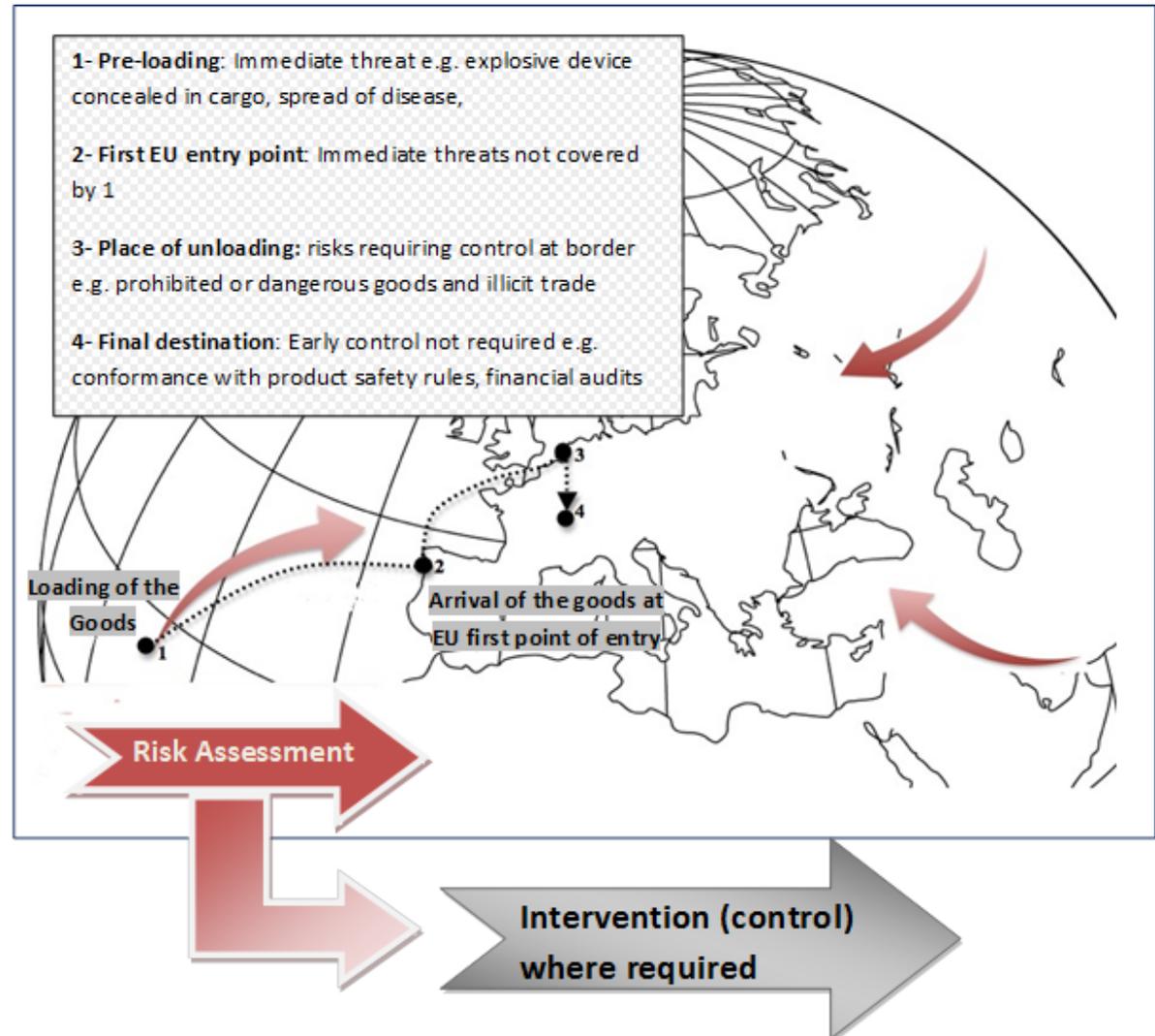
A) Control of goods entering leaving and transiting the EU

B) Tackling all types of risks associated: security, safety, prohibitions and restrictions, financial, independently of the reason (organised crime, fraud or simple mistake)

C) Main objective: facilitate the lawful trade while detection the risky consignments

How?

Example: Entry of goods



Where do customs fit in the global process?

1- Operational daily management of international trade flows (customs)

2- Detection (customs)

3- Investigation (investigation units: police or customs depending on type of infringements, the national competencies and on the serious cases coordinated at EU level: OLAF, EUROPOL)

4- Prosecution

5- Court decision

To improve: What would customs need? What could customs offer?

Customs would need:

- *information stemming from investigations to fine-tune the risk criteria or from any data mining done by investigation authorities (national, EU level)*

Custom could offer:

- *information on detection and or seizures and any data mining done at customs level*
- *information on detection of consignments matching the indicated risk criteria (e.g.: allowing for accompanied deliveries)*



Thank you for your attention

Additional sources of information:

Commission Communications:

- COM(2012) 793 of 8.1.2013
- COM(2014) 527 of 21.8.2014