

Trade and Standards

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Standardisation is a form of self regulation

**Interested parties come together and agree
voluntarily on technical matters**

**Compete more efficiently by ensuring the
interoperability of their products**

**Level playing field, more competitiveness, more
efficient trade flows**

Standards are not Legislation

Standards :

1. Voluntary
2. Consensual
3. Developed by independent organisations
4. Revised every 5 years
5. Provide specifications and test methods (interoperability, safety, quality, etc.)

Legislation :

1. Mandatory
2. Imposed by Law
3. Established by public authorities
4. Revised when legislators decide
5. Sets requirements to protect public interests



The European Commission does not draft
European standards
CEN, CENELEC and ETSI do

CEN.....

(European Committee for Standardization)



CENELEC

(European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization)



ETSI

(European Telecommunications Standards Institute)





EU legislation makes reference to Standards

Direct reference: mandatory – mandatory for specific use

Indirect reference **"New Approach"**

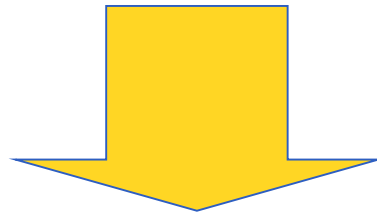
Mandatory Standards

The legislation imposes on the product
to meet the standard

- Exceptional
- Residual
- Requires revision of the legislation every time the standard is revised

The New Approach

Facilitate **free movement of goods**
in the Internal Market whilst ensuring a
high level of protection for consumers



**Elimination
of barriers to trade through technical
harmonisation**

Why a request for standards?

- Ensure level playing field in the internal market:
ONE product, ONE standard
(but alternatives are welcome, as standards are
VOLUNTARY)
- Predictability – stakeholders are informed and
involved well in advance, also via the
ANNUAL UNION WORK PROGRAMME
- Ensure coherence of standards in the internal market
and with the international (ISO-IEC) level

Why European standards are special?

European standards (ENs) support the functioning of the internal market

- **One EN replaces 34 different national standards:** one product-one standard, priority to international ones
- National Standards Bodies are obliged to **adopt ENs as national standards** and **withdraw any conflicting ones**
- The system is **transparent, stable and predictable**



EU and UNECE

- **UNECE** - important player
- The World Forum for the harmonization of vehicle regulations (WP.29)
- **EU** - transposition into its own legal framework - **Golden standard**

EU - EEU

In case of a cooperation business interests have to be taken into account: CE? ISO? UNECE? GOST?

Conformity assessment procedures

EU: self-declaration

EEU: third party certification

Regulatory cooperation ongoing- project on approximation of technical regulations (RF)



Economic integration - long term vision

Economic integration in the UNECE region - **two players** - the EU and the EEU

EEU - dynamic development in recent years - various **motivations** of various stakeholders

EU - takes note of the EEU developments, communicates with individual EEU members - Belarus, Armenia = **ENP members**

Economic integration - long term vision

Current **EU/ Russian Federation/ Ukraine** context

- **political** and **trade/economic**

CIS FTA unilateral suspension - **retribution for DCFTA with the EU?**

Economic integration - long term vision

Integration ambitions? Does not seem so for the time being

EEU- EAC marking for car parts

Belarus/Russian federation - certification of cement

Economic integration - long term vision

Russian Federation - dominant EEU member, i.e. important effects on EU-EEU relations

Russian Federation - import substitution, protectionism, embargoes, transit restrictions, SPS...

Economic integration-long term vision

Conclusions

- EU is supportive of worldwide trade integration
- EU-EEU - first cooperation - political decision - in the hands of EU Member States
- Political atmosphere EU-Russian Federation