



WHAT IS TIR?

‘TIR’ (**Transports Internationaux Routiers or International Road Transport**) is an international transit system based on a UN Convention implemented at global level in Public-Private Partnership. The TIR System has been **facilitating and securing trade and international road transport** for over 60 years, by allowing customs-sealed vehicles and freight containers to transit countries without border checks.

JOIN THE TIR SYSTEM TO:

- ✓ Streamline border crossing procedures;
- ✓ Have Customs formalities done at origin and destination rather than at each frontier;
- ✓ Guarantee payment of Customs duties and taxes;
- ✓ Expedite international trade and reduce costs;
- ✓ Use free of charge, web-based, pre-declaration and risk management tools.

TIR

IRU

TIR SYSTEM ACTORS

The International Road Transport Union (IRU): implements the TIR System under UN mandate.

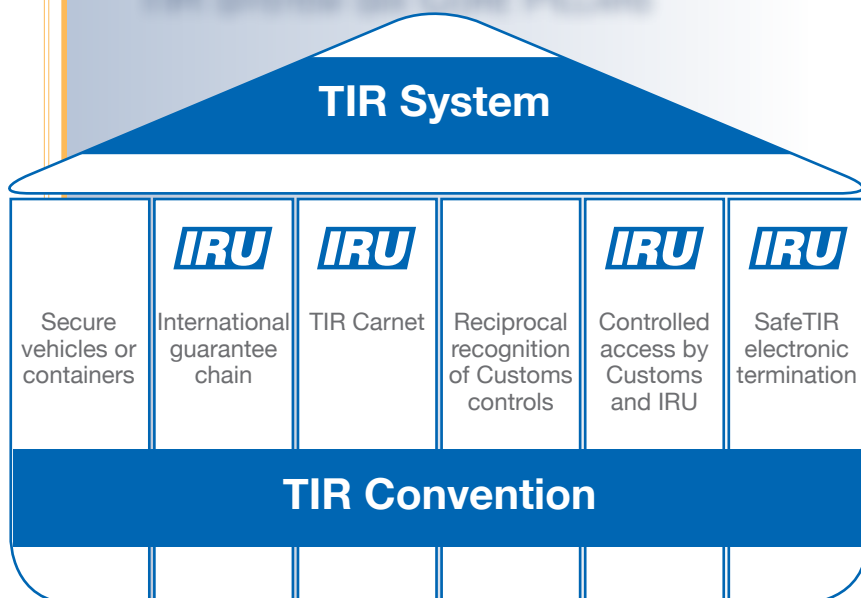
IRU Member Associations: issue TIR Carnets, guarantee transport operations under TIR, grant access to the TIR System to transport operators in collaboration with national authorities.

TIR Carnet Holders: transport operators who perform TIR transport operations.

National Authorities: usually Customs administrations, grant access to the TIR System to IRU Member Associations and transport operators.

United Nations bodies: oversee the TIR System and multilateral transport legislation at global level.

TIR SYSTEM SIX CORE PILLARS



TIR

IRU

TIR IT FACILITATION & SECURITY APPLICATIONS

The TIR System is highly computerised with various IRU IT applications that permit electronic pre-declarations to Customs, real-time traceability of the TIR Carnet and efficient risk management, while making TIR operations faster, more secure and user-friendly, notably:

CUTE-Wise provides Customs authorities and IRU Member Associations with online information about TIR Carnet Holders and TIR operations (identification, issue and return date, termination, invalidation) for increased security.

Real Time SafeTIR provides Customs officers with real-time information on the status and validity of each TIR Carnet to allow the prompt detection of potential irregularities for increased security and faster border-crossing.

TIR-EPD allows transport operators to submit, free of charge, TIR Electronic Pre-Declarations in a simple and standardised way, in compliance with the World Customs Organization's (WCO) SAFE Framework of Standards for advanced cargo information.

AskTIR allows IRU Member Associations to manage the entire life-cycle of TIR Carnets.

TIR TRAINING

In order to ensure the smooth and efficient operation of the TIR System, a TIR distance learning package has been developed by the IRU, in collaboration with the World Customs Organization (WCO), for all actors involved in TIR transport operations.

Customs authorities can access the modules via the WCO website.

IRU Member Associations have access to a Learning Management System which provides distance learning courses and access to different learning resources.

TIR Carnet Holders have access to basic guidelines, such as "How to fill in a TIR Carnet" and can contact their national IRU Member Association for all TIR training needs.

TIR PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Since the adoption of the first TIR Agreement in 1949 to expedite the reconstruction of war-torn Europe, which led to the adoption of a TIR Convention in 1959 under the auspices of the United Nations (upgraded in 1975 to cover multimodal transport operations), the TIR System's capacity to flexibly adapt to an ever changing economic and geopolitical environment has made it **one of the most successful multilateral trade and transport facilitation and security instruments in force.**

Currently, the TIR Convention has **68 Contracting Parties.** Countries such as Argentina, Brazil, China, India or Pakistan, have also expressed a keen interest in joining the TIR System.

The number of TIR Carnets issued every year has grown steadily over the years. With the foreseen growth of international trade volumes, the TIR System is expected to play an ever more pivotal role in promoting, further securing and facilitating trade and international road transport.

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TIR Contracting Parties in 2011

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