

## **Taxation and Customs Union**

## Information for business on Russian measures affecting TIR movements as of 1 December 2013

The Russian Federal customs service (FCS) announced on 2 December that the application of the TIR procedure in Russia will continue.

The announcement revises an earlier FCS statement according to which TIR would no longer be accepted anywhere in the Russian Federation as of 1 December due to the termination of the agreement between FCS and its national guaranteeing association ASMAP. According to the <u>statement issued on 2 December</u>, the termination of the agreement has been postponed until 1 July 2014.

FCS announced that it continues to accept the TIR Carnets in the customs districts of Vyborg, Karelia and Murmansk as a customs transit procedure. In other customs districts, the TIR Carnet could continue to be accepted as a transit procedure, but an additional guarantee, not provided for in the rules of the TIR Convention, is still required in these other regions.

The European Commission will continue demanding that the Russian authorities accept that the TIR procedure be applied by operators as provided for in the UNECE TIR Convention, while a clear, sustainable solution has to be found well before 1 July 2014. The European Commission recently also published <u>detailed information on Russian national transit procedures</u> that can alternatively be used for transit in Russia.