



**JOINT STATEMENT**  
**of the Heads of the State Fiscal service of Ukraine and**  
**Customs and Monopolies Agency of the Italian Republic**

The Heads of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine and the Customs and Monopolies Agency of the Italian Republic, hereinafter referred to as the "Parties", met in Odessa, Ukraine, on July 4, 2018, to discuss prospective areas of cooperation in the customs field. The meeting was held in accordance with the agreements reached by the Parties on May 17, 2018 in Rome, Italy.

The Parties are clearly aware of the goals and tasks faced by the customs administrations in connection with the current development of world and regional trade as well as the global integration processes taking place in the world.

The Parties emphasize the important role of customs administrations in facilitating trade and ensuring economic security of Ukraine and Italy, in particular regarding further simplification and speeding up customs procedures as well as strengthening efforts to counteract customs offenses and smuggling.

The Parties emphasize the importance of the steady fulfillment of international obligations in accordance with the Agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of the Italian Republic on Administrative Mutual Assistance in the Prevention, Investigation and Termination of Customs Offenses, signed in Rome on 13.03.2003 and the Protocol II on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters to the Association Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of one part, and Ukraine, of the other part, signed in Bruxelles on 21 March 2014.

The Parties specify the provision mentioned in the article 20, paragraph 2, of the above-mentioned Agreement between the Government of Ukraine and the Italian Republic, which states "The Customs Administrations shall agree detailed arrangements to facilitate the application of this Agreement".

The Parties are aware of their significant potential and decisive role to develop cooperation in the customs sphere on matters of mutual interest.

The Parties express interest in the exchange of information on national legislation and practices in the customs field and their alignment with international norms and standards, as well as on the connected best practices.

In addition to the information exchange ruled by the Governmental Agreement, the Parties are determined to intensify cooperation in the law-enforcement sphere in the following areas:

settlement of information exchange when moving excisable goods;

exchange of operational warning information on possible violations of customs legislation regarding goods, first of all, moved by air transport;

conducting, with the possible involvement of the EUBAM and the OLAF, joint special operations in the law-enforcement sphere, in particular, aimed at counteracting the smuggling of excisable goods, drugs and precursors, weapons.

The Parties will continue to exchange experience in simplifying and expediting customs procedures at seaports, in particular with the use of technical means of customs control, including scanning systems.

The Parties will study the possibility of exchanging experience on the application of automated analysis and risk management as well as IT services, that is an important component of ensuring the security of the international supply chain facilitating and speeding up trade procedures.

The Parties agree to cooperate in improving training and qualification of customs officers, aiming at fostering the effectiveness of customs controls.

The Parties agree to strengthen cooperation in the field of customs expertise in order to familiarize themselves with approaches to the identification and determination of falsification of alcoholic beverages during customs clearance, as well as the experience of researching certain groups of goods (tobacco products, furniture fabrics, footwear, fur and articles thereof, etc.).

The Parties will continue to actively interact within multilateral organizations, in particular the World Customs Organization, with a view to exchanging views and developing a common position on issues of mutual interest.

The contact details and any related amendment to this Statement will be exchanged and notified through the HQ of the Parties.

Done in Odessa on July 4, 2018, in two originals (English language), having equal legal force.

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**Acting Commissioner**  
**State Fiscal Service of Ukraine**

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**Director General**  
**Customs and Monopolies Agency of**  
**the Italian Republic**