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Answer given by Mr Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
(29.6.2026)

The Council adopted the elimination of the EUR 150 customs duty exemption in January 2026. The Commission and the Member States must ensure that the temporary EUR 3 customs duty is effectively collected from 1 July 2026, including in postal flow. The new rules will make e-commerce platforms and sellers primarily responsible for payment and make use of the existing customs legislation and IT systems. The Commission recognises the Universal Postal Union (UPU) legal framework and acknowledges the challenges expressed by EU postal operators.

EU secondary legislation lays down common rules and definitions to avoid diverging data requirements across the EU and to ensure that all flows are treated similarly, without creating loopholes. The Commission published a guidance document for customs authorities and stakeholders on 3 June 2026¹. This guidance highlights specific options for postal operators.

During the legislative process, the Commission has consulted postal operators operating under the UPU legal framework and will continue this dialogue. The Commission will closely monitor the implementation of the temporary EUR 3 customs duty and address relevant issues in the review of Council Regulation (EU) 2026/382².

¹ https://taxation-customs.ec.europa.eu/customs/eu-customs-reform_en.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2026/382/oj/eng>.