



Brussels, 2.7.2014  
COM(2014) 443 final

2014/0206 (COD)

Proposal for a

**REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL**

**on certain procedures for applying the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part, and for applying the Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Community, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part (codification)**

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. In the context of a people's Europe, the Commission attaches great importance to simplifying and clarifying the law of the Union so as to make it clearer and more accessible to citizens, thus giving them new opportunities and the chance to make use of the specific rights it gives them.

This aim cannot be achieved so long as numerous provisions that have been amended several times, often quite substantially, remain scattered, so that they must be sought partly in the original instrument and partly in later amending ones. Considerable research work, comparing many different instruments, is thus needed to identify the current rules.

For this reason a codification of rules that have frequently been amended is also essential if the law is to be clear and transparent.

2. On 1 April 1987 the Commission decided<sup>1</sup> to instruct its staff that all acts should be codified after no more than ten amendments, stressing that this is a minimum requirement and that departments should endeavour to codify at even shorter intervals the texts for which they are responsible, to ensure that their provisions are clear and readily understandable.
3. The Conclusions of the Presidency of the Edinburgh European Council (December 1992) confirmed this<sup>2</sup>, stressing the importance of codification as it offers certainty as to the law applicable to a given matter at a given time.

Codification must be undertaken in full compliance with the normal procedure for the adoption of acts of the Union.

Given that no changes of substance may be made to the instruments affected by codification, the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission have agreed, by an interinstitutional agreement dated 20 December 1994, that an accelerated procedure may be used for the fast-track adoption of codification instruments.

4. The purpose of this proposal is to undertake a codification of Council Regulation (EC) No 594/2008 of 16 June 2008 on certain procedures for applying the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part, and for applying the Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Community, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part<sup>3</sup>. The new Regulation will supersede the various acts incorporated in it<sup>4</sup>; this proposal fully preserves the content of the acts being codified and hence does no more than bring them together with only such formal amendments as are required by the codification exercise itself.

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<sup>1</sup> COM(87) 868 PV.

<sup>2</sup> See Annex 3 to Part A of the Conclusions.

<sup>3</sup> Entered in the legislative programme for 2014.

<sup>4</sup> See Annex I to this proposal.

5. The codification proposal was drawn up on the basis of a preliminary consolidation, in 22 official languages, of Regulation (EC) No 594/2008 and the instrument amending it, carried out by the Publications Office of the European Union, by means of a data-processing system. Where the Articles have been given new numbers, the correlation between the old and the new numbers is shown in a table set out in Annex II to the codified Regulation.

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**on certain procedures for applying the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part, and for applying the Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Community, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part (codification)**

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty  on the Functioning of the European Union  , and in particular Article  207(2)  thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national Parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee<sup>5</sup>,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,

Whereas:



- (1) Council Regulation (EC) No 594/2008<sup>6</sup> has been substantially amended<sup>7</sup>. In the interests of clarity and rationality, that Regulation should be codified.

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<sup>5</sup> OJ C [...], [...], p. [...].

<sup>6</sup> Council Regulation (EC) No 594/2008 of 16 June 2008 on certain procedures for applying the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part, and for applying the Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Community, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part (OJ L 169, 30.6.2008, p. 1).

<sup>7</sup> See Annex I.

- (2) A Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part ('SAA'), was signed in Luxembourg on 16 June 2008.
- (3) On 16 June 2008 the Council concluded an Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Community, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part<sup>8</sup> ('Interim Agreement') which ☒ provided ☒ for the early entry into force of the trade and trade-related provisions of the SAA. The Interim Agreement ☒ entered ☒ into force on ☒ 1 July 2008 ☒ .
- (4) It is necessary to lay down the procedures for applying certain provisions of the Interim Agreement. Since the trade and trade-related provisions of ☒ those ☒ instruments are to a very large extent identical, this Regulation should also apply to the implementation of the SAA after its entry into force.
- (5) The SAA and the Interim Agreement stipulate that fishery products originating in Bosnia and Herzegovina may be imported into the ☒ Union ☒ at a reduced customs duty, within the limits of tariff quotas. It is therefore necessary to lay down provisions regulating the management of ☒ those ☒ tariff quotas.
- (6) Where trade defence measures become necessary, they should be adopted in accordance with the general provisions laid down in Council Regulation (EC) No 260/2009<sup>9</sup>, Council Regulation (EC) No 1061/2009<sup>10</sup>, Council Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009<sup>11</sup> or, as the case may be, Council Regulation (EC) No 597/2009<sup>12</sup>.
- (7) Where a Member State provides the Commission with information on a possible fraud or failure to provide administrative cooperation, the relevant ☒ Union ☒ legislation shall apply, in particular Council Regulation (EC) No 515/97<sup>13</sup>.
- (8) For the purposes of implementing the relevant provisions of this Regulation the Commission should be assisted by the Customs Code Committee established by Article 285 of Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>14</sup>.

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<sup>8</sup> OJ L 169, 30.6.2008, p. 1.

<sup>9</sup> Council Regulation (EC) No 260/2009 of 26 February 2009 on the common rules for imports (OJ L 84, 31.3.2009, p. 1).

<sup>10</sup> Council Regulation (EC) No 1061/2009 of 19 October 2009 establishing common rules for exports (OJ L 291, 7.11.2009, p. 1).

<sup>11</sup> Council Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 of 30 November 2009 on protection against dumped imports from countries not members of the European Community (OJ L 343, 22.12.2009, p. 51).

<sup>12</sup> Council Regulation (EC) No 597/2009 of 11 June 2009 on protection against subsidised imports from countries not members of the European Community (OJ L 188, 18.7.2009, p. 93).

<sup>13</sup> Council Regulation (EC) No 515/97 of 13 March 1997 on mutual assistance between the administrative authorities of the Member States and cooperation between the latter and the Commission to ensure the correct application of the law on customs and agricultural matters (OJ L 82, 22.3.1997, p. 1).

<sup>14</sup> Regulation (EU) No 952/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 October 2013 laying down the Union Customs Code (OJ L 269, 10.10.2013, p. 1).

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↓ 37/2014 Art. 1 and Annex .17  
(adapted)

- (9) The implementation of the bilateral safeguard clauses of the Interim Agreement and of the ☒ SAA ☒ requires uniform conditions for the adoption of safeguard and other measures. Those measures should be adopted in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>15</sup>.
- (10) The Commission should adopt immediately applicable implementing acts where, in duly justified cases relating to exceptional and critical circumstances arising within the meaning of Article 24(5)(b) and Article 25(4) of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 39(5)(b) and Article 40(4) of the ☒ SAA ☒, imperative grounds of urgency so require,
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↓ Corrigendum, OJ L 233,  
30.8.2008, p. 1 (adapted)

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

**Subject matter**

This Regulation lays down certain procedures for the adoption of detailed rules for the implementation of certain provisions of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part ('SAA'), and of the Interim Agreement on trade and trade-related matters between the European Community, of the one part, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, of the other part ('Interim Agreement').

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↓ 37/2014 Art. 1 and Annex  
.17(1)

*Article 2*

**Concessions for fish and fishery products**

Detailed rules on the implementation of Article 13 of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 28 of the SAA, concerning the tariff quotas for fish and fishery products, shall be adopted by the Commission in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 9(3) of this Regulation.

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<sup>15</sup> Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers (OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13).

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↓ Corrigendum, OJ L 233, 30.8.2008, p. 1 (adapted)
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### Article 3

#### Tariff reductions

1. Subject to paragraph 2, rates of preferential duty shall be rounded down to the first decimal place.
  2. Where the result of calculating the rate of preferential duty pursuant to paragraph 1 is one of the following, the preferential rate shall be considered a full exemption:
    - (a) 1 % or less in the case of *ad valorem* duties; or
    - (b) EUR 1 or less per individual amount in the ☒ case of ☒ specific duties.
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↓ 37/2014 Art. 1 and Annex .17(2) (adapted)
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### Article 4

#### Technical adaptations

Amendments and technical adaptations to the provisions adopted pursuant to this Regulation which are necessary following changes to the Combined Nomenclature codes and to the TARIC subdivisions, or arising from the conclusion of new or modified agreements, protocols, exchanges of letters or other acts between the Union and Bosnia and Herzegovina, shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 9(3).

### Article 5

#### General safeguard clause

Where the Union needs to take a measure as provided for in Article 24 of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 39 of the SAA, that measure shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 9(3) of this Regulation, unless otherwise specified in Article 24 of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 39 of the SAA.

### Article 6

#### Shortage clause

Where the Union needs to take a measure as provided for in Article 25 of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 40 of the SAA, that measure shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 9(3) of this Regulation.

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↓ Corrigendum, OJ L 233,  
30.8.2008, p. 1

## Article 7

### Exceptional and critical circumstances

Where exceptional and critical circumstances arise within the meaning of Article 24(5)(b) and Article 25(4) of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 39(5)(b) and Article 40(4) of the SAA, the Commission may take immediate measures as provided for in Articles 24 and 25 of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Articles 39 and 40 of the SAA.

If the Commission receives a request from a Member State, it shall take a decision thereon within five working days of receipt of the request.

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↓ 37/2014 Art. 1 and Annex  
.17(3) (adapted)

The Commission shall  take  such measures in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 9(3)  of this Regulation , or in cases of urgency, in accordance with Article 9(4)  of this Regulation .

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↓ Corrigendum, OJ L 233,  
30.8.2008, p. 1 (adapted)

## Article 8

### Safeguard clause for agricultural and fishery products

1. Notwithstanding the procedures provided for in Articles 5 and 6 of this Regulation, where the  Union  needs to take a safeguard measure as provided for in Article 24 of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 39 of the SAA, concerning agricultural and fishery products, the Commission shall, at the request of a Member State or on its own initiative, decide upon the necessary measures after, where applicable, having had recourse to the referral procedure provided for in Article 24 of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 39 of the SAA.

If the Commission receives a request from a Member State, it shall take a decision thereon:

- (a) within three working days following the receipt of a request, where the referral procedure provided for in Article 24 of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 39 of the SAA, does not apply; or
- (b) within three days of the end of the 30 days period referred to in Article 24(5)(a) of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 39(5)(a) of the SAA, where the referral procedure provided for in Article 24 of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 39 of the SAA, applies.



The Commission shall notify the Council of the measures  upon which  it  has  decided.

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↓ 37/2014 Art. 1 and Annex  
.17(4) (adapted)

2. The Commission shall  take  such measures in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 9(3), or in cases of urgency, in accordance with Article 9(4).

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↓ 37/2014 Art. 1 and Annex  
.17(5) (adapted)

## *Article 9*

### **Committee procedure**

1. For the purpose of Articles 2, 4 and 11, the Commission shall be assisted by the Customs Code Committee established by Article 285 of Regulation (EU) No 952/2013. That Committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.

2. For the purpose of Articles 5  to  8, the Commission shall be assisted by the Committee on Safeguards established by Article 4(1) of Regulation (EC) No 260/2009. That Committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.

3. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.

4. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011, in conjunction with Article 5 thereof, shall apply.

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↓ Corrigendum, OJ L 233,  
30.8.2008, p. 1 (adapted)

## *Article 10*

### **Dumping and subsidy**

In the event of a practice which is liable to warrant application by the  Union  of the measures provided for in Article 23(2) of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 38(2) of the SAA, the introduction of anti-dumping and/or countervailing measures shall be decided upon in accordance with the provisions laid down in Regulation (EC) No 1225/2009 and/or Regulation (EC) No 597/2009,  respectively .

## *Article 11*

### **Competition**

1. In the event of a practice that may justify application by the  Union  of the measures provided for in Article 36 of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 71 of the SAA, the

Commission shall, after examining the case, on its own initiative or on the request of a Member State, decide whether such practice is compatible with ~~the~~ those ~~of the~~ Agreements.

The measures provided for in Article 36(10) of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 71(10) of the SAA, shall be adopted in the cases of aid in accordance with the procedures laid down in Regulation (EC) No 597/2009 and, in the other cases, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article ~~of~~ 207 ~~of~~ of the Treaty.

2. In the event of a practice that may cause measures to be applied to the ~~the~~ Union ~~of~~ by Bosnia and Herzegovina on the basis of Article 36 of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 71 of the SAA, the Commission shall, after examining the case, decide whether the practice is compatible with the principles set out in the Interim Agreement, and thereafter the SAA. Where necessary, ~~the~~ the Commission ~~shall~~ shall take appropriate decisions on the basis of criteria which result from the application of Articles 101, 102 and 107 of the Treaty.

## Article 12

### **Fraud or failure to provide administrative cooperation**

Where the Commission, on the basis of information provided by a Member State or on its own initiative, finds that the conditions laid down in Article 29 of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter in Article 44 of the SAA, are fulfilled, it shall, without undue delay:

- (a) inform the Council; and
- (b) notify the Interim Committee, and thereafter the Stabilisation and Association Committee, of its finding together with the objective information, and enter into consultations within the Interim Committee, and thereafter the Stabilisation and Association Committee.

Any publication under Article 29(5) of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter in Article 44(5) of the SAA, shall be effected by the Commission in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

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↓ 37/2014 Art. 1 and Annex  
.17(6)

The Commission may decide, in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 9(3) of this Regulation, to suspend temporarily the relevant preferential treatment of the products as provided for in Article 29(4) of the Interim Agreement, and thereafter Article 44(4) of the SAA.

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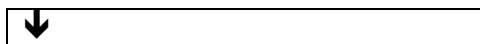
↓ Corrigendum, OJ L 233,  
30.8.2008, p. 1 (adapted)

## Article 13

### **Notification**

The Commission, acting on behalf of the ☒ Union ☒ , shall be responsible for notification to the Interim Committee, and thereafter the Stabilisation and Association Council and the Stabilisation and Association Committee, respectively, as required by the Interim Agreement or the SAA.

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#### *Article 14*

#### **Repeal**

Regulation (EC) No 594/2008 is repealed.

References to the repealed Regulation shall be construed as references to this Regulation and shall be read in accordance with the correlation table in Annex II.

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↓ Corrigendum, OJ L 233,  
30.8.2008, p. 1 (adapted)

#### *Article 15*

#### **Entry into force**

This Regulation shall enter into force on the ☒ twentieth ☒ day ☒ following that ☒ of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

*For the European Parliament*  
*The President*

*For the Council*  
*The President*