



# CBRA Monthly

CBRA Monthly 4/2017

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### Dear CBRA Monthly Reader,

Great April behind us, including three days at the WCO Permanent Technical Committee meetings, and four days in Workshops at the Headquarters of Belgian Customs – really enjoying learning on latest customs issues and trends on AEO-programs, single windows, big data, and customs risk management, to name but few of the interesting customs topics covered during those meetings.

Next to those, CBRA held a 12-day internal workshop during 13-24 April 2017, titled “CBRA Super-workshop”. Vladlen, Toni, Juha A, Matti and myself met in Thun, Switzerland, - Matti for 1 day, Juha A for all the 12 days, and Vladlen and Toni in between... The main focus of our work was on FP7-CORE work package 19.1, “supply chain security and trade facilitation education and training materials” – excellent progress was made in terms of defining the user groups, structuring the content, and selecting the tools and platforms.

We also made good progress across our total portfolio of projects, including ROADSEC truck driver security guidebook, and SYNCHRO-NET project. With the former, we managed to finalize the first full draft version on “Section B – Truck driver guidebook”, which is now ready for commenting across our 30 main stakeholder organizations. With the latter, we managed to finalize on time the deliverable D1.1 “Review of policies and standards impacting synchro-modality”.

Hope you enjoy reading this CBRA Monthly 4/2017, and glad to get feedback from our readers – particularly suggestions for future content in CBRA Monthlies! #CBRAMonthly #supplychainsecurity #tradefacilitation @handhausen1

In Lausanne, 30.4.2017

Dr. Juha Hintsa  
Executive Director  
Cross-border Research Association  
[www.cross-border.org](http://www.cross-border.org)

PS. Please register for #INTERPOLWorld Congress by 31.5.2017 for early bird rates, and visit CBRA’s booth there (Mr. Mike Ellis is joining from CBRA). Congress topics include cybercrime, safe cities, and identity management at <https://goo.gl/K6atR6>



# Blog: WCO Capacity Building Committee, 8th Session (Part 2/2)

Capacity Building has become one of the most important subjects in Trade Facilitation with the recent entry into force of the landmark WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, commonly known as the TFA. The 8th session of the World Customs Organization's Capacity Building Committee, WCO CBC, was held on the premises of the WCO from 7-9 March, 2017. Experts from international organisations, national governments, academia and the private sector attended this two-and-a-half-day meeting in Brussels to gain first-hand information on the Capacity Building initiatives of the WCO and its partners, national developments with regard to Trade Facilitation and other related topics. I was happy to take part in this annual event on behalf of Cross-border Research Association. This Blog (part 2 of 2) encapsulates the main discussion points and the key messages conveyed in the latter part of the meeting.

The second day of the event was opened with a hearty applause to commemorate the International Women's Day. The subject of gender equality and diversity figured prominently in the discussions during the second part of the meeting. Speakers emphasised the need to adopt a comprehensive approach to eliminate gender inequalities and to achieve balanced gender participation in political and economic decision-making spheres.

In the first session, the Director of the WCO CBC gave a briefing on the overall context and mission of the CBC and the key results in Capacity Building delivery. The contextual background hinges on three pillars: the entry into force of the WTO TFA; global counter-terrorism strategy; and digitalisation and data analysis. The CBC strives to be particularly attentive to members' needs and aims to provide high investments for project planning, structured organisational support, results-based implementation, and measurement tools for capacity performance. So far, the WCO has delivered 342 missions across 110 member countries. The most successful outcomes are observed when member states also demonstrate commitment to carry out these ambitious projects.

Insights on project management were provided in the next panel discussion. The representative from the Brazilian Revenue Office shed light on best practices in his administration. He presented a four-step methodology based on behavioural and technical elements as well as synergy and integration, placing a major focus on results and benefits. Today, the Revenue Office has around 60

strategic projects running with their individual portfolio management methodologies. He considers it important for each agency strategy to be linked to the entire government planning process and to draw lessons from both successful and unsuccessful cases. Qatar has developed novel approaches for the efficient functioning of the General Authority of Customs. To cite an example, the administration has produced intelligence reports called "Smart Reports" on specific areas like food safety and decision-making processes. Qatar Customs places importance on setting priorities in the project planning process based on the significance of these projects and in view of their impacts on society.

Some pitfalls have been observed that lead to project failures at customs offices. These can be directly attributed to several reasons that were spelled out by the WCO Deputy Director of Capacity Building. He views correct communication as the most fundamental challenge. Communication issues stem from differences in perception and cultural differences across people and organisations. Second, problems arise in defining priorities and setting the sequence for implementing the priorities. Third, the scope of the project often gets expanded along the way due to increased pressure, making it difficult to manage. Several mitigation tools for the anticipated problems are outlined in the WCO Capacity Building Development Compendium. Some commonalities have been observed in customs project management across the globe. It is public in nature and subject to domestic and international scrutiny. It is also a cross-sector discipline that links to wider strategies at the organisational, ministerial and national levels and encompasses a wide range of new processes. The WCO tools for project management are provided in the WCO Compendium with dedicated chapters on Capacity Building development, donor engagement and performance measurement. The WCO is developing a training package for project management that aims to disseminate and enhance participant knowledge of best practices and modern techniques in specific areas of customs. The package consists of a 40-minute block seminar divided over seven different modules that will be piloted under the framework of WCO's existing Capacity Building programmes in selected countries.

The International Women's Day was celebrated with cocktails, toasts and flowers over the midday break. Speeches were made in recognition of women in customs and the need to promote gender parity. The WCO actively upholds the principles of gender equality and is striving to



attain gender balance and to raise female representation at decision-making level in the global customs community.

Performance measurement and progress evaluation in the national context were discussed in the following sitting. The WCO customs expert presented the Maturity Model aimed at measuring members' progress towards implementation of the TFA. The Maturity Model provides the WCO and the national customs administrations with a methodology to review practices and processes against known standards. In this context, the representative from Liberia provided information on the Liberian Revenue Authority's ASYCUDA Performance Management Programme that was introduced in 2013. The WCO Maturity Model and the new project training package were endorsed by the CBC in the meeting.

As an integral part of the Capacity Building approach, the deployment of WCO experts was the next subject of debate. The WCO continues to expand its pool of experts, establish virtual working groups, conduct customs modernisation refresher events, and accredit experts. The HMRC - Her Majesty Revenue and Customs Service, UK - representative shared his experience on the Mercator activities pertaining to the mobilisation of experts. Three Mercator Programme Advisor, MPA, accreditation events have been delivered in the first year of the programme. However, a number of diagnostic challenges for MPAs arise in terms of strategic planning, time management, cultural awareness, and working knowledge of in-country TFA activity.

The CBC also discussed the challenges and opportunities of security and trade facilitation in fragile environments, with special reference to Nigeria, Tunisia, Jordan, Turkey and Syria. To assist members in tackling complex security issues, the WCO initiated its security initiative in 2010. The WCO findings from the seven research fieldworks on security clearly point to a need for inclusive approaches

embedding customs and trade activities in conflict-ridden areas. The current security–development nexus is not deemed sufficient and the local role of customs seems to be undervalued. Capacity Building should be tailored to the needs of fragile borderlands, but members are confronted with a paucity of knowledge on these areas. The WCO and the Nigerian Customs Agency have convened the first meeting of the Technical Committee on the security project entitled *Sécurité par Coopération*. Nigeria has now established a strong link between security and development and has raised the customs profile in the post-conflict situation. Tunisian Customs have assumed a social role and strive to support people make a living along the borders. Heavy investments have been made in Turkey, Syria and Jordan to reasonably strengthen their strategic direction and administrative infrastructure. Intelligence exchange and coordinated border management are playing increasingly important roles in facilitating commerce in fragile environments.

On the third and final day of the CBC meeting, presentations were made on how to achieve the best possible cooperation between customs and tax authorities, whether integrated or independently organised. The Hungarian representative provided insights on the organisation of the National Tax and Customs Administration that embarked on a gradual process of merging, and is now in its fifth phase of functional integration. The current structure and functions of the Spanish Customs and Excise Department were elaborated by the representative from Spain. Before 1992 customs and tax were separate directorates, but in due course merged into an integrated administration. The organisation is responsible for all national tax and customs systems. The WCO has developed guidelines to strengthen cooperation and information exchange between customs and tax departments in order to develop best practices and focus on business processes, both for merged and non-merged administrations. A briefing was provided on the main advantages and challenges of both joint and

merged tax and customs administrations. Integrated IT systems have proved to be very effective. By giving more comprehensive information, a single database is extremely useful for tackling tax evasion and fraud. However, one main challenge is the difference in work cultures between tax and customs. There is a clear need for a common understanding and a joint strategy to fight effectively against fraud.

Some updates were provided on the activities of the WCO Regional Office for Capacity Building, ROCB and Regional Training Centres, RTCs. Regional strategic plans are in progress and each region will pursue its own strategy covering 2-4 years and put forward an action plan. The WCO has come up with a methodology and tailor made best practice guidelines for ROCBs and RTCs that will be updated every year.

Fruitful discussions were exchanged around the topic of gender equality and diversity. The representative from the WCO Secretariat presented the results of the 2016 survey on gender issues in customs. Iceland is a perfect

example of gender balanced representation in all levels, including the upper echelons of the administrations. The speaker from Paraguay briefed up the CBC on the progress in mainstreaming gender perspectives in national policies and programmes. It was commonly agreed that a series of events must be conducted to address the question of gender egalitarianism within the broader customs community.

The discourse around the WCO Capacity Building approach show clear indications that the CBC is aiming to follow the maxim of "beginning with the end in mind". Deliberations of the panellists reflected the importance of results based delivery, structured planning, collective strategic development, and goal oriented team work that are the hallmarks of the WCO Capacity Building philosophy. National administrations should endeavour to fully exploit the synergies between international policy formulation on the one hand and WCO supported trade related assistance on the other hand to pursue the overarching objective of comprehensive and integrated economic development.

**Part 2 of 2 of the CBRA CBC-Blog by Dr. Sangeeta Mohanty.**

## Interesting video-links

( visit: <http://www.cross-border.org/weblinks/videos/>)



### CORE Project

<http://www.coreproject.eu>

### The real deal about the US Mexico Border by Francesca Fiorentini AJ News

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DDfj-DjeoT0>

### Brexit customs and trade impact assessment tool

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxfq3GCSz20>

### The new Union Customs Code

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x8nn880BMmw>

### Customs protects and serves

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l4njPC-FKis>

### What is the TIR System?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEHny1TYnM>

### World imports of fake goods worth nearly half a trillion USD a year

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Y\\_woFLFmGI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Y_woFLFmGI)

### A Day in the Life of Air Traffic Over the World

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1L4GUA8arY>

### Global ship traffic seen from space - FleetMon Satellite AIS and FleetMon Explorer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gtffmxJmehs>

### One minute in the life of the EU Customs Union

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hWWhAcztn06k>

### Customs Enforcement: Our Global Contribution to Securing Borders and Trade

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C1YO7bXIMdo>

### Rhenus Logistics - Schiphol SmartGate Cargo

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uaMGUN36Ao0>

### Cargo theft / TAPA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CBnu8yO8Bmc&feature=youtu.be>

### CISCO SCS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=97Tnjr72IoQ>

### Maritime Port Authority of Singapore

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcJGqBFeoxo>







## Blog: CBRA at WCO PTC meeting 4/2017

Next to our “full length CBRA Blogs” – some so long (over 2-3 pages) that we split them into two parts – we start publishing now “CBRA Mini-Blogs”, which can be just few paragraphs in length - still hopefully with some timely links or messages, in the broader context of supply chain security and trade facilitation.

Myself, Juha Hintsa, had the pleasure to **join the main part of the WCO Permanent Technical Committee (PTC) meetings some three weeks ago** (3-5.4.2017, to be exact). I made couple of interventions from the academia side during those days – and, following the suggestion of one of the PTC sub-group chairs, I also prepared this small “final suggestion”, which was read out by a kind colleague on the last day of the PTC (Friday 5.4) when I could not join any more at the WCO:

*“We heard several times during the week about the rich set of guidelines and other tools WCO has produced during the past decades. One example mentioned by GEA, Dietmar Jost, on Tuesday, is the single window guidelines. Dietmar also pointed that often these great tools may be underused by WCO members.*

*CBRA would like to propose an exercise where we first cooperate with WCO and few members to set up a*

*straight forward measurement system focusing on the actual level of usage, and potential benefits, members may experience, thanks to select WCO tools – particularly those with WTO TFA relevance. And after that, slowly but surely, we could start assessing the actual guidebook etc. usage among members, including collecting anecdotes of progress made and results achieved.*

*For the next 12 months, this could be carried out in the context of FP7-CORE project, the one discussed already this week by IBM and others. After April 2018, we plan to launch a new, global research network on trade facilitation, titled G-FAN, initially consisting of 10 to 12 state universities from all continents – and this type of continuous monitoring activity could fit very well into the scope of the new G-FAN network!*

*Finally, thanks to WCO for 15 consecutive years of customs-academia cooperation with us, as we first entered the building in April 2002; not quite the numerous years Mr. Jost has been around, with his integrated supply chain guidelines and stone-age-blockchain technologies, but almost...”*

**CBRA Blog on 27.4.2017, by Dr. Juha Hintsa**





# Interview with Mr. Vladlen Tsikolenko, Technical Manager of CBRA

**Hi Vladlen, can you please tell a bit about yourself: who you are and what you do?**

Hi Juha! Sure. I have a degree in electrical engineering and additional education in management and economics. Originally I worked as an IT expert, then as a private ERP consultant, and later as a logistics manager responsible for delivery and distribution of high value machinery parts from the EU to CIS regional markets. Currently my area of expertise includes information systems, processes, standards and data models; mathematical modeling; supply chain management; and technology management. As a researcher I have a long history with CBRA since year 2002, which includes activities in variety of research and consulting projects. While being a member of CBRA team I was involved in FP7-projects such as INTEGRITY, CASSANDRA and CORE.

**True, you have worked with CBRA since the very early days - already in 2002-2004, when CBRA wasn't even formally registered - but the supply chain security and trade facilitation research activities were running under the University of Lausanne, Professor Ari-Pekka Hameri being our gentle supervisor... By the way, do**

**you recall our first project in 2002-2004 with DHL Express global customs and trade automation systems?**

Yes, I remember it. Our first project was related with DHL's Worldwide Clearance System, WCS, our bosses at DHL being Jeff "Bad-ass" Bass and Greg "to-be-Congressman" Pilkington; in particular, it was about development of Country Configuration Template, CCT, for the WCS. The WCS was designed to improve service and enhance revenue by streamlining end-to-end customs clearance of DHL shipments. WCS functions boosted the DHL regional and local organizations ability to capture and store key customer and product information, automate commodity classification, control an inventory of customs and regulatory entries, communicate electronically with 3rd party brokers, and handle exceptions. The development of CCT was part of a business requirements gathering process. We collected user requirements for import/export operations from over 60 countries and put them into CCT for further analytical purposes. Ultimately, the CCT became storage for multiple shipment parameters describing calculation rules, categorization rules, clearance status, data cleansing, special treatment, movement details, exemptions and so forth.

**Yes, good old times....! Lately, you have made significant contributions in FP7-project CORE - particularly in the technical work packages of the project. Can you elaborate bit on the work you have been doing?**

Within FP7-CORE project my focus has been on development of several deliverables that belong to work packages from risk and IT clusters. In particular, regarding the CORE IT-cluster, I have contributed to the development of high level specifications for Supply Chain Security Reference Framework, SCSRF, model, which encodes all the data semantics required for information exchange activities between supply chain stakeholders. SCSRF consists of several building blocks providing necessary functionalities, including: common block developing a common supply chain process model for security, surveillance technologies, risk assessment, supply chain optimization, visibility as well as interoperability blocks. In CORE risk-cluster, I have played a role in the development of initial set of supply chain security controls and, later, in





the development of additional controls to apply system based approach to assess compliance of supply chains. In all cases I had to study deliverable concept, participate in preparation of methodology and resource allocation, and finally collect relevant data from CORE demonstrator work packages to elaborate on application of the concept in real supply chains. At present I continue my work with CORE partners to develop next version of formal SCSRF specification with demonstrator based refinements.

**For the last year of FP7-CORE, maybe the most important work for you - and multiple CBRA colleagues - is on the education and training materials, to be stored and shared in proper "educational content and process management platform". Where do you see the biggest challenges lying ahead, when producing a comprehensive learning package, by April 2018?**

The development of content for CORE educational and training package is a demanding task, requiring good knowledge of key CORE concepts, priority innovations as well as demos. I think that the main challenge in the overall CORE-project is the application of innovative developments in real-life demonstrations. At the same time, in CORE we need to show evidence of commercial benefits and effectiveness these innovations bring in global trade facilitation and supply chain management.



Regarding the CORE work package 19.1 in education and training, the first important aspect is identification of the intended audience. So far we have identified three main user groups: first group on any users who want to learn specific things about CORE project; second group with supply chain and government practitioners who are interested in CORE main approaches, findings and results, specifically tailored for their category of organizations; and third group consisting of academic organizations or individuals like under graduate and post graduate students, including at HEC University of Lausanne "Executive MBA program" <http://hec.unil.ch/hec/empa> and Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University "Executive Master in Customs and Supply Chain Compliance – Combining safety, security and sustainability with compliance and efficiency in international trade". <https://www.rsm.nl/master/executive-masters/executive-master-customs-and-supply-chain-compliance/overview/>

Second aspect is related with the choice of the learning platform. There should be a reasonable balance between learning management system and knowledge database containing general information about CORE ambition, stakeholders, concepts and progress that have been achieved by demonstrators.

Third aspect is about intended learning outcomes. The outcomes will typically vary between different groups of learners. Here we also have to define how the user performance on the learning module will be assessed.

Finally, besides the above-mentioned aspects, while developing learning packages, we need to take into account following characteristics of learning material for the learning process to be effective: the learning material must be purposeful, structured, paced and engaging.

**Thanks Vladlen for the interview – and thanks also for joining the CBRA Super-workshop in Thun, Switzerland, couple of weeks ago (note: we will publish soon a CBRA Blog on the Super-workshop, so please stay tuned...!).**









## CORE Information Observatory



### Supply chain security culture: measure development and validation, 2009 (CORE1200)

Researchers have stressed the importance of having an organizational culture that highlights proactivity and vigilance toward supply chain security breaches. In security-focused supply chain management environment workers are empowered to detect and handle supply chain security threats without seeking formal permission from supervisors and managers. Company security strategy gives specific attention how SCS concepts are embedded into firm processes and procedures. Alignment with organizational culture and business or corporate-level strategies is

believed to result in enhanced organizational performance. In addition, organization culture encompasses supply chain continuity management. The paper presents a scale for measuring supply chain security culture defined as the overall organizational philosophy that creates supply chain security as a priority among its employees through embracing and projecting norms and values to support secure activities and to be vigilant with security efforts.

The study makes possible to assess how implemented FP7-CORE security technologies, tools and practices influence on supply chain resilience based on the perception of company managers and employees. The article gives also guidelines how to develop survey forms and protocols in order to assess the influence of implemented security measures on other KPIs such as supply chain visibility and reliability. The survey tools based on perceived operational and organizational changes complete toolbox to measure impacts of introduced security interventions.

### The effect of supply chain security management on security performance in container shipping operations, 2012 (CORE1201)

Several authors have clustered supply chain security measures into different categories, but only few authors have provided statistical models to test how well these categories can be used to assess benefits of security measures. The study establishes four security categories/dimensions: facility and cargo management, accident prevention and processing, information management, and partner relationship management. The results imply that partner relationship management is positively related to customs clearance performance. Further, information management and partner relationship management are positively related to safety performance. However, facility and cargo management and accident prevention and processing were not found to have substantial positive impacts on security performance what is controversial to many safety studies. Improved access control, material handling, information processing and reporting of anomalies are clearly factors that are positively related to safety performance based on several work place safety studies. The difference is probably due to questions that defined safety performance: the study addressed accidents and property damages while safety studies measure often near misses and their reporting.

The FP7 CORE project utilizes key performance Indicators (KPIs) to assess and monitor organization's performance at the operational level. Two CORE KPI's measure address safety and customs clearance performance, consequently the supply chain security framework can well be adapted on the CORE context. Improved access control, cargo handling, shipping information processing and reporting of anomalies can be measured by using the construct for 'facility and cargo management'. CORE Training and education can be embedded into the factor 'accident prevention and processing' that captures documenting and disseminating of security information. 'Partner relationship management' can be tested as a mediating factor that controls how strongly implemented CORE interventions influence on organizational performance indicators in specific demonstrations. Customs agencies can consider using four dimensions of supply chain security as criteria for assessing security performance in container shipping firms. Finally the dimensions and attributes of the framework provide a tool to analyse qualitative data in the project where getting reliable quantitative data is challenging.



# External News Headlines

## March-April 2017

Read all the news at <http://www.cross-border.org/news/>

25.4.2017: 230 mill. EUR worth of fake food & beverages seized in OPSON operation targeting food fraud <https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/eur-230-million-worth-of-fake-food-and-beverages-seized-in-global-opson-operation-targeting-food-fraud>

23.4.2017: Alibaba's Jack Ma Expects the World to Experience Decades of 'Pain' <http://fortune.com/2017/04/24/alibaba-jack-ma-internet-economy/>

21.4.2017: Thousands of police officers across Europe join INTERPOL operation against illicit firearms <https://www.interpol.int/News-and-media/News/2017/N2017-050>

12.4.2017: Targeting the Weak Link in the Supply Chain: Amazon Third-Party Sellers Hacked <http://www.esecurityplanet.com/network-security/amazon-sellers-hacked-targeting-the-weak-link-in-the-supply-chain.html>

14.11.2016: Global Supply Chain Security Needs Improvement <http://inhomelandsecurity.com/global-supply-chain-security-improvement/>

14.4.2017: British Ports Association: Trade Facilitation should be prioritized in BREXIT <http://container-mag.com/2017/03/31/bpa-trade-facilitation-prioritised-brexit/>

13.4.2017: Kuwait becomes the 109th Contracting Party to the RKC and the 69th to the Istanbul Convention [http://www.wcoomd.org/en/media/newsroom/2017/april/kuwait\\_109th-contracting-party-to-the-rkc-and-the-69th-contracting-party-to-the-istanbul-convention.aspx](http://www.wcoomd.org/en/media/newsroom/2017/april/kuwait_109th-contracting-party-to-the-rkc-and-the-69th-contracting-party-to-the-istanbul-convention.aspx)

13.4.2017: Mammoth tusk haul seized by Chinese customs endange <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-39583877>



6.4.2017: The Extremely High Cost Of Counterfeit <http://www.pymnts.com/news/security-and-risk/2017/the-extremely-high-cost-of-counterfeit-security-and-fraud-transnational-crime-fraud-retail/>

6.4.2017: Trade Facilitation key to unlocking Southeast Asia's potential <http://news.abs-cbn.com/business/04/06/17/trade-facilitation-key-to-unlocking-southeast-asias-potential>

6.4.2017: To see how tarde may work after BREXIT, visit Dover's docks <http://www.economist.com/news/britain/21720274-while-goods-european-union-pass-through-seamlessly-those-elsewhere-face-long>

6.4.2017: Is China's counterfeit goods market tarnishing the reputation of its homegrown brands? <http://www.thedrum.com/news/2017/04/06/chinas-counterfeit-goods-market-tarnishing-the-reputation-its-homegrown-brands>

4.4.2017 Europol and Georgia sign agreement to tackle cross-border crime and terrorism <https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/europol-and-georgia-sign-agreement-to-tackle-cross-border-crime-and-terrorism>

April 2017: "E-commerce - challenges in VAT at EU Import" - 23.5.2017, Erasmus University Rotterdam <https://www.rsm.nl/master/executive-masters/executive-master-customs-and-supply-chain-compliance/e-commerce-challenges-in-vat-and-eu-import/>

31.03.2017: Counterfeit tobacco and cigarettes sold on Facebook <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-39374996>

27.3.2017: Italy taking giant steps forward in Customs clearance times thanks to digitalization <http://www.italy24.ilsole24ore.com/art/business-and-economy/2017-03-20/logistical-reforms-revolutionize-customs-170147.php?uuid=AEZxxop>

27.3.2017: Economic Report Predicts Rise in Global Counterfeiting, Piracy <http://www.voanews.com/a/global-trend-in-counterfeiting-and-piracy/3783360.html>

9.3.2017: TFA Implementation highlighted at High Level Roundtable, UK Parliament [http://www.wcoomd.org/en/media/newsroom/2017/march/tfa-implementation-highlighted-at-the-high-level-roundtable-held-at-the-uk-parliament.aspx?utm\\_source=social\\_media&utm\\_medium=linkedin&utm\\_term=tfa-implementation-highlighted-at-the-high-level-roundtable-held-at-the-uk-parliament](http://www.wcoomd.org/en/media/newsroom/2017/march/tfa-implementation-highlighted-at-the-high-level-roundtable-held-at-the-uk-parliament.aspx?utm_source=social_media&utm_medium=linkedin&utm_term=tfa-implementation-highlighted-at-the-high-level-roundtable-held-at-the-uk-parliament)





# 12th Annual WCO PICARD Conference CALL FOR PAPERS - Tunis, Tunisia, 26-28 September 2017



The World Customs Organization (WCO), in partnership with the Tunisian Customs Administration, is pleased to announce that the 12th annual WCO PICARD Conference will take place in Tunis, Tunisia, from 26 to 28 September 2017.

You are invited to submit your research for consideration. A Scientific Board will select approximately 15-20 submissions for presentation at the Conference.

Submissions could focus on one of the following topics (non-exhaustive list): Data Analysis; Trade Facilitation; Security; and Customs-Tax Cooperation.

Data Analysis was selected as the WCO's annual theme for 2017, in recognition of the crucial role it plays in the Customs context, underpinning virtually all functions of a Customs administration. Data analysis can improve risk management which supports enhanced detection of irregularities, illicit consignments, the suspicious movement of people and financial flows, and the facilitation of legitimate trade; it can provide a comprehensive analysis of historical activity to predict trader or passenger behaviour; assist in the collection of quantitative research for purposes of building knowledge; and enhance performance measurement to improve officer practices and integrity. Data analysis can provide a robust foundation for the core Customs' objectives of revenue collection, border security, collection of trade statistics, and trade facilitation.

The Trade Facilitation topic refers to methods for improving the efficiency of border procedures, including but not limited to, Risk Management, Single Window, Post-Clearance Audit (PCA), and advance rulings. Sub-themes include measuring the impact of trade facilitation measures (on average clearance times, trade costs, trade volumes, trade security, transparency, revenue, etc.); obstacles to implementing trade facilitation measures; and managing e-commerce.

The Security topic refers to the contribution of Customs to securing territories at the border and against threats accompanying trade and financial flows, in different frameworks and environments: from borderlands where trade is highly facilitated, to conflict and post-conflict zones where Customs and civilian enforcement agencies seek to restore the presence of the State.

The Customs-Tax Cooperation topic refers to all forms of interaction between Customs and tax agencies, including organizational interactions (e.g. Revenue Authorities) and the exchange of information between the two agencies, particularly relating to data exchange mechanisms - interoperable or integrated IT systems.

The Conference in particular welcomes and encourages attendance and submissions from Customs professionals as well as researchers from various academic disciplines, such as anthropology, criminology, economics, geography, history, international relations and international trade, law and political science. The WCO Research Unit is particularly interested in developing an interdisciplinary approach with different perspectives, approaches, and methodologies regarding contemporary systems of regulation and control at borders, and papers co-authored by Customs officials and academics. The WCO Research Unit adopted this approach at other research conferences with great success.

This year (and in contrast to the 2015 and 2016 PICARD Conferences), applicant submissions can include (1) Presentation Summaries of up to 1,000 words; (2) Papers of up to 9,000 words; or (3) Proposals for Panels.

Papers will not have any inherent advantage over Presentation Summaries. Submissions should be submitted in accordance with following requirements:

- Arial font size 11.
- Submissions should be in English or French (they can be translated from the original language).

Ample time will be allowed for discussion and simultaneous

interpretation will be provided at the Conference in the aforementioned two languages.

Proposals for Panels should consist of two or three speakers presenting research on one cohesive topic. The WCO would like to encourage Customs and academics to engage on comparative and policy relevant research on Customs issues: panel proposals are an ideal format for such discussions to take place.

To respond to this Call for Papers, please submit Presentation Summaries, Papers or Panel Proposals with the following details by email to [picard2017@wcoomd.org](mailto:picard2017@wcoomd.org) no later than 16 June 2017:

- Name, title, and biography (maximum 250 words) of researcher or researchers.
- Current position, organization, and country of researcher or researchers.
- Contact email and telephone.
- Proposed title of contribution.
- For papers of more than 1,000 words, an abstract of no more than 300 words is required.

Authors will be notified by 17 July 2017 of selection or non-selection of their paper for presentation at the Conference.

The WCO is particularly grateful for the support from:

- The Tunisian Customs Administration.

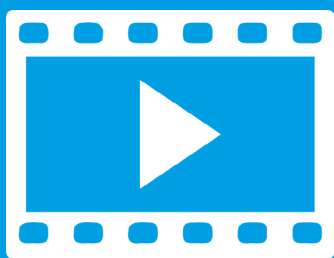
- The Korea Customs Service.
- The Scientific Board Members, including Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly, Jawher Hassayoun, Juha Hintsa, Alena Ledeneva, Larry Liza, Dennis Ndonga, Cedric Parizot, Gaël Raballand, Jeffrey Snyder, and David Widdowson.

If necessary, the WCO will seek to identify funding for reasonable travel and hotel expenses for a small number of presenters that lack institutional backing and have been selected following this Call for Papers.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email [picard2017@wcoomd.org](mailto:picard2017@wcoomd.org).

Information about the Conference including venue, accommodation, visa requirements, and registration will be made available in due course at the following website address: <http://www.wcoomd.org/en/events.aspx>

Issued February 2017



# Featured video clip!

## CORE project video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JkVOtM-q8jM>

For more information about the CORE project, please visit the following webpage:  
<http://www.coreproject.eu>

Upcoming

**EVENTS**

Read all Event entries at:

<http://www.cross-border.org/events/>

**WCO Global Origin Conference**  
3-4 May 2017, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**Security & Counter Terror Expo 2017**  
3-4 May 2017, London, England

**The 30th IAPH World Ports Conference**  
7-12 May 2017, Bali, Indonesia

**Transport Logistics Exhibition**  
9-12 May 2017, Munich, Germany

**The Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation**  
14-15 May 2017, Beijing, China

**IV International Youth Conference i-Customs**  
18-20 May 2017, Saint-Petersburg, Russia

**E-commerce - challenges in VAT at EU Import**  
23 May 2017, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

**EuroCACS 2017**  
20-31 May 2017, Munich, Germany

**Governance of Transport**  
31 May- 1 June 2017, Leipzig, Germany

**International Cargo Insurance Conference (ICIC)**  
5-7 June 2017, Oxfordshire, England

**2017 WCO IT Conference & Exhibition**  
7-9 June 2017, Tbilisi, Georgia

**Ports and Terminals Insurance Seminar**  
13-14 June 2017, London, the UK

**IFSEC International 2017**  
20-22 June 2017, London, England

**4th International Physical Internet Conference (IPIC) 2017**  
4-6 July 2017, Graz, Austria

**INTERPOL World**  
4-7 July 2017, Singapore

**International Law Enforcement IP Crime Conference**  
28-29 August 2017, New York City, USA

**European Intelligence and Security Informatics Conference (EISIC) 2017**  
11-13 September 2017, Dekelia Air Base, Attica, Greece

**The Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals (CSCMP) EDGE 2017**  
24-17 September 2017, Atlanta, USA

**12th Annual WCO PICARD Conference**  
26-28 September 2017, Tunis, Tunisia

**FIATA World Congress 2017**  
4-8 October 2017, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Homeland security week**  
23-25 October 2017, Washington D.C., USA

**8th Middle East Security Conference & Exhibition**  
5-7 November 2017, Bahrain

**19th ACM International Conference on Multimodal Interaction**  
13-17 November 2017, Glasgow, Scotland9

**ODASCE 2017**  
16-17 November 2017, France

**Milipol Paris 2017**  
21-24 November 2017, Paris, France

**UK Security Expo**  
29- 30 November 2017, London, England

**6th International Conference on Dynamics in Logistics, (LDIC) 2018**  
20-22 February 2018, Bremen, Germany

**10th IATA World Cargo Symposium**  
13-15 March 2018, Dallas, United States



**PLEASE CONTACT US WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS:**

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