



Report on the EU internal market enforcement of

intellectual property rights:

results of detentions in EU Member States, 2019





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1. FOREWORD

REPORT ON THE EU INTERNAL MARKET ENFORCEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: RESULTS OF DETENTIONS IN EU MEMBER STATES, 2019

The COVID-19 crisis, and the speed at which it was exploited by criminals to sell fake medical and protective equipment, has highlighted the need for close cooperation between enforcement authorities on tackling IPR infringements. The EUIPO has been coordinating with Europol, OLAF, customs, police and other stakeholders and has been gathering intelligence from rights holders, including through the IP Enforcement Portal, on fake or illicit COVID-19 products to support operations. The coordinated mobilisation in response to the health crisis serves as an encouraging example of enforcement authorities joining forces to keep counterfeit products off the EU internal market, to the benefit of the EU consumer. To build a strong cooperation between EU law enforcement authorities, it is important to have data on the reality of IPR enforcement in Member States.

This new study on the enforcement of IP rights (IPR) based on detentions in the EU internal market in 2019, extracted from the IP Enforcement Portal (1), represents another positive step towards providing IP stakeholders, researchers, and policymakers with a more comprehensive picture of this important area.

Combined with the study on 2019 detentions at the EU border, based on COPIS (2) database content and published by DG TAXUD, the data now being made available is a good start towards providing the overarching vision of detentions in the EU needed to support coordinated action.

This report on internal market detentions was prepared with the invaluable assistance of the EU national enforcement authorities. While progress is being made in gathering internal market data compared with previous reports, there remain gaps in the information received from Member State enforcement authorities partially due to the COVID-19 crisis. Despite these gaps, the results in 2019 confirm the downward trend in the number of items detained by EU internal market enforcement authorities.

The EUIPO is grateful for the efforts of the enforcement authorities to maintain and improve communication channels during the current difficult period. We would also point to the cooperation between EU internal market authorities and rights holders, through the IP Enforcement Portal's 'Alerts to Police', and the improved quality and usefulness of these exchanges.

In addition, the predominance of trade marks and designs among IP-infringing seizures suggests that more information and training on more technical IPR could help EU internal market enforcement authorities to have a more detailed picture of all potential infringements.

As always, the EUIPO is ready to cooperate with all stakeholders to improve the sharing of the knowledge, data and intelligence needed for a truly joined-up IP system. While more work needs to be done, the EUIPO is maintaining its commitment to gathering and publishing this data annually in order to assist in the analysis and understanding of this complex and important issue.

Christian Archambeau Executive Director EUIPO

⁽¹) The IP Enforcement Platform contains the former ACIST database, which was launched in 2013 when, following the mandate to its European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights, the EUIPO made the database available to the law enforcement authorities in all EU Member States.

⁽²) In accordance with the relevant EU customs legislation (and, in particular, Regulation (EU) No 608/2013 of 1 January 2014), COPIS is the EU-wide anti-counterfeit and anti-piracy information system containing all applications for action and all detentions.





2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

REPORT ON THE EU INTERNAL MARKET ENFORCEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: RESULTS OF DETENTIONS IN EU MEMBER STATES, 2019

This report was prepared by the European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights — Enforcement Team — at the EUIPO in Alicante.

This report has been produced thanks to the EU national enforcement authorities' commitment to develop and feed with data on detentions of goods infringing IPR within their national markets (3), the IP Enforcement Portal, thus launching the so-called 'IP Enforcement Portal community'.

The authors are grateful for the commitment to data reporting and the valuable support given by the EU internal market enforcers in the EU Member States, who collected and fed data into this source, more especially during a period in which communication and coordination have been very difficult due to the health crisis ongoing since March 2020, in which enforcement authorities' attention was focused on other priorities.

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⁽³⁾ To be succinct, the part of the EU internal market corresponding to a Member State will be referred to, throughout the report, as the Member State's national market.



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4. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

REPORT ON THE EU INTERNAL MARKET ENFORCEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: RESULTS OF DETENTIONS IN EU MEMBER STATES, 2019

In September 2019, the EUIPO published the 'Report on the EU enforcement of intellectual property rights: results at EU borders and in Member States 2013-2017', containing an analysis of detentions both at the EU border (as reported by DG TAXUD) and within the EU internal market, and providing information about trends in that matter for that period.

Following that report, the EUIPO is now publishing this 'Report on the EU internal market enforcement of intellectual property rights: results of detentions in EU Member States, 2019', produced from the analysis of the data on the detentions within national markets reported through the IP Enforcement Portal by 25 Member States' enforcement authorities (4) in 2019. Its objective is to provide useful information to support the analysis of IPR infringements in the EU and the development, by the relevant enforcement authorities, of appropriate countermeasures, since the figures allow for a better understanding of the scope and extent of the problem. On a broader scale, it should provide EU policymakers with data to develop an evidence base for priorities and policies.

The lack of complete data on detentions within some national markets during that period was due to different reasons. In some cases, none of the Member State's enforcement authorities had shared their data with the IP Enforcement Portal community, while others had not provided full data sets. Limitations in the availability of data on the EU internal market detentions, in some cases exceptional due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the consequent lockdown in many parts of the EU, may affect in part the results obtained.

- According to the figures reported by police, customs and market surveillance authorities in the EU internal market, the annual number of IPR-infringing items reported as detained in 2019 (40 million) decreased compared to 2018 (70 million). As mentioned above, the figures reported have been conditioned by the pandemic lockdown scenario that has impeded the provision of data by a number of authorities, but only partially: these conjunctural gaps in the provision of data were estimated to represent some 5 million unreported items out of the total reduction of 30 million items.
- Despite the large reduction in the number of items detained, the estimated value of the reported items detained in the EU internal market remained almost unchanged in 2019 (EUR 1.8 billion) compared to 2018. The reasons for this apparent contradiction are twofold: the shift in the composition of the 'basket' of products detained, from cheaper products in 2018 to more expensive ones in 2019 (e.g. more Clothing accessories and fewer Toys in 2019), and the increase in the estimated unitary value of these products. The first reason contributed by two thirds to the neutralisation of the otherwise expected decrease in the estimated value.
- For both the number of items and estimated value, the top 5 Member States accounted for about 92-96 % of the total detentions in the EU internal market in 2019. For both accounting criteria, Italy clearly led the way, with more than 66 % of the detentions in terms both of number of items and of estimated value. Spain, France and Greece appeared in both top 5 rankings of EU national markets detentions by number of items and estimated value.
- Of the top 4 product subcategories identified, *Clothing accessories* was the leader, both in terms of the number of items reported as detained within the EU and also in terms of their estimated value. The *Clothing* subcategory also appeared in the top 4 most detained products within the EU internal market in 2019 for both accounting criteria.
- Trade marks predominated as the most infringed IP right in detentions in the EU internal market (in over 96 % of the articles detained a trade mark was infringed). Other infringed rights, such as designs (in about 11.5 % of the items detained this type of IP right was infringed) and, to a lesser extent, patents and copyright, played a role in the EU internal market.

⁽⁴⁾ Records on EU internal market detentions are not available from the Austrian, Swedish and German enforcement authorities, the first because of the nature of its national regulations, the second because there are currently no statistics on national detentions in Sweden, and the third because they have not yet joined the data provision network.



5. INTRODUCTION

REPORT ON THE EU INTERNAL MARKET ENFORCEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: RESULTS OF DETENTIONS IN EU MEMBER STATES, 2019

Globalisation, the development of new technologies and their misuse have compounded the damaging global effect of counterfeiting. Clandestine markets and illegitimate channels have given way to sophisticated networks of counterfeiters with mass production capacities that operate internationally (5) and that pose as authorised legal distributors and even attempt to enter the legal supply chain. Moreover, counterfeiting is often committed by criminal organisations that also commit other crimes such as money laundering, document fraud, cybercrime, fraud, drug production and trafficking, and terrorism (6).

Anyone can now access, either physically or online, a wide range of products. Consequently, controlling and supervising existing distribution channels, both legal and, especially, illegal, are becoming more and more complicated and conflict with the objectives of trade facilitation and market liberalisation.

According to OECD estimates, in 2007 the trade in IPR-infringing products represented 1.95 % of world trade (7), while in 2013 it reached 2.5 % (or USD 461 billion) (8) and, in 2016, 3.3 % (USD 509 billion) (5).

The results provided by the recent OECD-EUIPO reports are truly alarming for the particular case of the European Union. In 2013, the OECD estimated that IPR-infringing products accounted for up to 5 % of EU imports from third countries (8) while, in 2016, the more recent estimation reached 6.8 % of EU imports from third countries (5). The above figures show the need for coordinated actions against intellectual property crime.

Enforcement remains the first line of defence in the fight against counterfeiting and piracy to protect European rights holders' creation/innovation, European firms' production and revenues, and, very importantly, European citizens' safety and security. Enforcing IP rights in the EU is entrusted to a wide range of national enforcers in the Member States. The detention of goods (at the EU border and in the EU internal market) on the basis of the infringement of IP rights is just one of a wide range of tasks that EU enforcers have.

The key factors to effectively combat and reduce this threatening evolution of the counterfeiting phenomenon are collaboration and the sharing of information and technical resources. In 2019 the EUIPO initiated a new line of action with the publication of a first serial trends report for the period 2013-2017. The present report represents a new step forward in this line of action and contains the analysis of the detentions in the EU internal market of items infringing IP rights during the year, a kind of annual summary of the work carried out by EU internal market enforcement authorities throughout 2019 (9). Together with the annual report on the detentions of goods infringing IP rights at the EU border published by DG TAXUD, it offers an overarching vision of this phenomenon in the EU.

The detentions in the EU internal market will be analysed from as many angles (by Member State detaining, by category of products detained, by IPR allegedly infringed, etc.) as the available data permit. The more angles are analysed, the more information will be available for the addressees of this report, the main stakeholders in the fight against the polyhedral, multifaceted problem of counterfeiting and piracy.

⁽⁵⁾ OECD/EUIPO: Trends in Trade in Counterfeit and Pirated Goods. 2019

^{(6) &}lt;u>Europol and EUIPO: IP crime and its link to other serious crimes – Focus on Poly-Criminality – IP Crime Case</u> Book. 2020

⁽⁷⁾ OECD: The economic impact of counterfeiting and piracy. Update 2009

⁽⁸⁾ OECD/EUIPO: Trade in Counterfeit and Pirated Goods Mapping the Economic Impact. 2016

⁽⁹⁾ As the report refers to the detentions made during 2019 and as Brexit took effect on 01/02/2020, the United Kingdom is still referred to, throughout this report, as an EU Member State.



6. COOPERATION BETWEEN EU INTERNAL MARKET AUTHORITIES AND IP RIGHTS HOLDERS

REPORT ON THE EU INTERNAL MARKET ENFORCEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: RESULTS OF DETENTIONS IN EU MEMBER STATES, 2019

Close cooperation between rights holders and enforcers and the quality of shared information are of key importance for the latter's work in the EU internal market. A constant, effective and fluent use of secure, bidirectional communication channels can aid the necessary sharing of information between the two sets of actors.

While collaboration between rights holders and customs is regulated under the Customs Regulation (10) and detentions are based on a request from rights holders to customs to detain goods infringing their IPR using a standard application for action (AFA), a similar regulation and tool do not exist at EU level for detentions in the EU internal market, which are regulated by national law.

Potential infringement notifications (11) are a way to steer the attention of enforcers, in particular of those acting in the EU internal market, to the problems of some rights holders. These notifications to EU internal market enforcers can specifically be made through the IP Enforcement Portal.

In 2018, a total of 20 rights holders sent 1 156 potential infringement notifications about fake products in the EU internal market, which were received by 44 EU internal market enforcement authorities with a mandate to detain counterfeit products at national level. In 2019, the EUIPO made an important effort to help rights holders acting in the EU internal market, in particular to prepare more relevant notifications. As a consequence, in 2019 the quality of the potential infringement notifications in the specific scenarios of the EU internal market significantly improved, while the numbers decreased. Indeed, in those scenarios,14 rights holders sent 680 potential infringement notifications which were received by 42 enforcement authorities in 2019.

Moreover, in 2019, 90 suspicious cases were communicated through the IP Enforcement Portal by 5 national market enforcement authorities to 5 IP rights holders, representing a large increase in its first year of de facto use.

⁽¹⁰⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1352/2013 establishing the forms provided for in Regulation (EU) No 608/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning customs enforcement of intellectual property rights, OJ L 341, 18/12/2013, p. 10-31.

⁽¹¹⁾ Named 'Alerts to Police' in the IP Enforcement Portal.



7. DATA RANGE AND LIMITATIONS

REPORT ON THE EU INTERNAL MARKET ENFORCEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: RESULTS OF DETENTIONS IN EU MEMBER STATES, 2019

- The analysis presented in this report, including the graphs, tables and rankings, has been produced on the basis of data published in the IP Enforcement Portal in 2019. Concerning these data, national IP offices, police forces, customs and market surveillance authorities reported the detentions made at national level in 25 Member State national markets (see Table A-1 in Annex A).
- All data published in the IP Enforcement Portal have been published online either directly by the data owners (the respective enforcement authority) or by the national offices in charge of coordinating the provision of the data at national level. In some cases, the data have been published indirectly by the EUIPO on their behalf and with their written approval.
- The quality of the results of the analysis, as well as of any data, graphs, tables and rankings presented
 in this report, is conditioned by the quality of the data published in the IP Enforcement Portal by or on
 behalf of the different reporting authorities.
- This report does not refer to infringements related to intangible goods, such as online piracy.
- For reasons of consistency with the detentions at the EU border, the reporting in the IP Enforcement
 Portal of the estimated value of items detained in the EU internal market is based on the estimated
 domestic retail value of the genuine product, as reported by the corresponding reporting authorities. The
 domestic retail value (DRV) is the retail price at which the goods would have been sold on the Member
 State's market, had they been genuine.

Consequently, the products' estimated DRV may vary from one Member State to another or from one moment in time to another. Therefore, the collected estimated DRV assigned to the detained products are influenced and conditioned by the characteristics of the equivalent genuine products.

Moreover, the DRV method, in particular in the subcategories of luxury products, may lead to inflated estimated values of the goods detained, compared to alternative methods for valuing them. Indeed, in these subcategories (e.g. luxury watches), the retail price of the genuine good is much higher than that of, for instance, the fake product in the secondary markets or than, alternatively, its cost. These two are alternative valuing methods that could have been chosen.

However, the estimated value per item is not a mandatory field to be recorded in the IP Enforcement Portal by EU internal market enforcement authorities. In cases where no estimated value per item is provided, figures on the economic value of the fake goods are estimated based on the so-called 'economic indicators'. These economic indicators are calculated on the basis of the 'value per item' of similar products contained in the DG TAXUD annual EU border detentions data. Assigning an estimated value to a detention on the basis of economic indicators introduces an additional limitation to the accuracy of the data concerning detentions in the EU internal market.

• The figures of detentions in Member States' national markets in section 8.2 of this report essentially coincide with those published by each Member State at national level in their own reported statistics, although they may vary slightly due to the harmonisation of statistics in the IP Enforcement Portal. Moreover, at national level, different criteria may be adopted by the national systems and institutions involved in those publications.

Besides the usual data availability issues, the exceptional situation of the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences throughout the first half of 2020 have conditioned the availability of data sets for the analysis of detentions in the EU internal market. Logically, some national market enforcement authorities have had to pay attention to priorities other than their duties in the field of intellectual property and have not been able to report their detentions carried out in 2019, while some customs authorities with jurisdiction in their national market were blocked by the lockdown with a similar result on their reporting tasks.

Moreover, only two common parameters used by all EU internal market reporting enforcement authorities can be exploited for analysis and comparison in the EU internal market: the number of



detained items and their estimated value. The number of cases and the number of procedures are not parameters that can be used in the analysis of this set of data since, in many cases, EU internal market reporting enforcement authorities aggregate the results of several procedures or cases into just one record in their reports.

Finally, due to the unavailability of values in some fields in the data of the detentions in Member States' national markets, the analysis from some angles, in particular those related to routes and transport, cannot be carried out for detentions in the EU internal market.

• Before entering into a proper analysis of the data, a prior analysis of its availability in terms of quantity and quality was conducted and is presented in Annex B. The underlying analysis of the data in section 8 is understood in the light of the limitations of the availability of data described in that Annex.



8. RESULTS

REPORT ON THE EU INTERNAL MARKET ENFORCEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: RESULTS OF DETENTIONS IN EU MEMBER STATES, 2019

At this point, the main constraints and limitations of the availability of detentions data reported by the EU internal market enforcement authorities explained in section 7 and in Annex B should be kept in mind.

8.1. QUANTITY AND ESTIMATED VALUE

As explained, the IP Enforcement Portal gives an overview of the detentions of fake products reported to the EUIPO by the EU internal market enforcement authorities of the EU Member States belonging to the IP Enforcement Portal community (see Table A-1 in Annex A for the composition of this community). According to the information reported and included in the database, the number of fake items detained in the EU internal market in 2019 amounted to some 40.3 million items, which means a decrease of around 42.5 % (30 million items) compared to 2018 (see Figure 8-1 below).

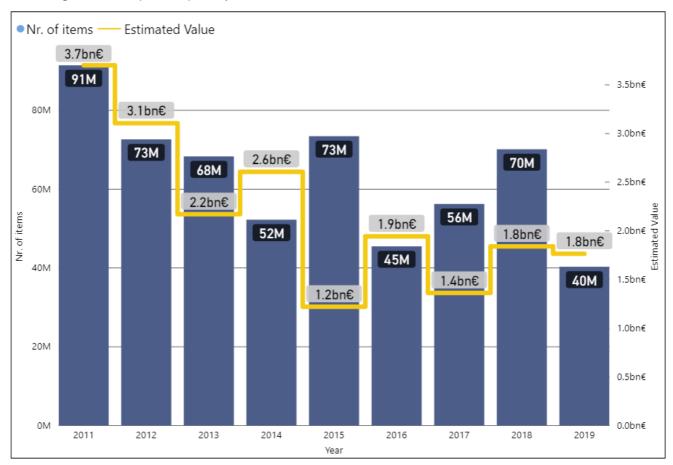


Figure 8-1: Reported quantity and estimated value of detained items in the EU internal market

In parallel, the estimated value of these detained fake items, that amounted to almost EUR 1.8 billion, remained almost constant when compared with the data from 2018 (see also Figure 8-1 above).

The graph confirms the pattern seen in the 'Report on the EU enforcement of intellectual property rights: results at EU borders and in Member States 2013-2017': the years in which the quantity of detained items is lower show a higher estimated value. Moreover, 2019 has been the year with the least detained items in the whole period 2011-2019 (12).

⁽¹²⁾ The IP Enforcement Portal collects data sets on the detentions carried out by EU internal market enforcement authorities since 2008.



The previously mentioned constraints on data availability would only partially justify the historical existence of peaks and troughs in both the quantity of detained items and the estimated value. The year 2019 has not been an exception with regard to these constraints. New Member States (Poland) and new enforcement authorities in Member States already in the IP Enforcement Portal community (Policía Foral de Navarra in Spain) have joined this community, whereas data sets from enforcement authorities that normally report are missing this year, partially explaining a new sequence in the historically irregular pattern. However, only 5 million of the reduction of 30 million items detained (in other words, 6.3 % of the 42.5 % reduction) are estimated to be the result of fewer enforcement authorities reporting in 2019 compared to those in 2018.

Therefore, despite the conjunctural gaps in data provision, the figures for 2019 confirm the general trend that, lately and despite exceptional years such as 2015 or 2018, the figure on detentions of IPR-infringing items in the EU internal market is falling, as reflected in the serial trend report 2013-2017. The explanation for the almost inexistent decrease in the estimated value of this smaller number of items in 2019 compared with 2018 is related to the characteristics of the categories of detained products, as will be seen in section 8.3 of this report.

Moreover, as will be shown in the next section, the overall figures for the two measuring dimensions, number of items and estimated value, are dominated by the weight of the top 5 reporting Member States.

Finally, on the basis of the number of items estimated to be left unreported in 2019 because of the gaps in data provision just mentioned, it can be concluded that the results would not have been too different even if the reporting had been completed with the data from the enforcement authorities that, exceptionally, did not report in 2019.

8.2. DATA PER MEMBER STATE

In the breakdown by Member State the figures reflect that, as regards the number of items detained, a small number of Member States (namely six: Italy, Spain, France, Greece, Portugal and the United Kingdom) accounted for almost 95 % of the total reported items detained in 2019 in the EU internal market. It is important to highlight that, in that particular year, not all the detention activities in Italy and France were reported.

A comparison with the figures from 2018 shows the abovementioned Member States as more or less the ones leading the top ranking, although not necessarily in the same positions. Between 2018 and 2019 the two main changes in the top 6 ranking were moves by Bulgaria (downwards), due to the partial lack of reporting by this country's enforcement authorities caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the United Kingdom (upwards), even though the number of this Member State's enforcement authorities reporting in the tool remained the same.

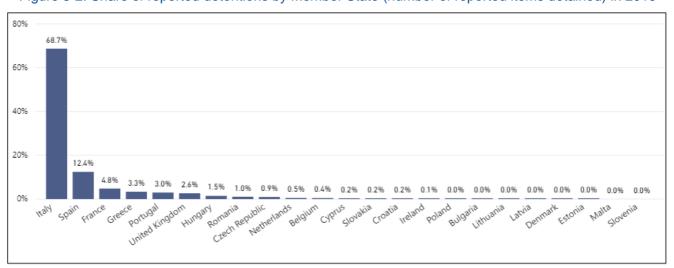


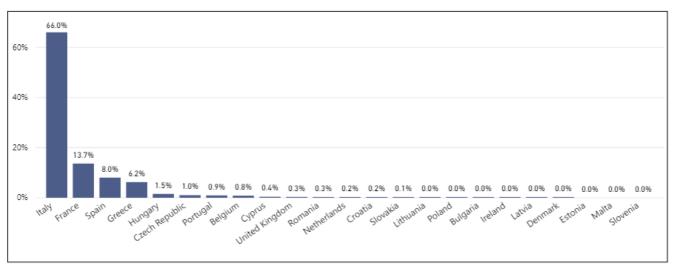
Figure 8-2: Share of reported detentions by Member State (number of reported items detained) in 2019

It is also important to remark that Italy has continued to lead the list despite only one of its enforcement authorities (Guardia di Finanza) being able to report their 2019 data in time to be included in this report. Conversely, the number of Spanish enforcement authorities reporting increased in 2019.



A very similar scenario is shown by the figures based on the reported estimated value of the goods detained (see Figure 8-3 below). These show that a small number of Member States (Italy, France, Spain, Greece and Hungary) represented 96 % of the total value of the detentions carried out in 2019.

Figure 8-3: Share of reported detentions by Member State (estimated value of reported items detained) in 2019



When comparing the top five Member States by, respectively, the number of detained items (Figure 8-2 above) and their estimated value (Figure 8-3 above), there are two Member States (Portugal, Hungary) appearing in one but not the other, due to the different unitary value of the mix of product subcategories most detained in each of them. However, the top four Member States (Italy, Spain, France and Greece) appear in both rankings. See Table C-1 in section C.1 of Annex C for more details.

8.3. DATA PER PRODUCT SUBCATEGORY

From the perspective of the identified subcategories of products detained in the EU internal market and in terms of the number of detained items, the products most detained in 2019 belonged to the subcategories *Clothing accessories, Toys, Other goods, Clothing* and *Other electronics* (see Figure 8-4 below).

From a comparison with the 2018 figures, not many changes appear in the top 14 subcategories: there are only moves up or down, but no different subcategories. However, these changes in the ranking of the types of products detained, combined with the changes in the estimated unitary value of the items detained, are behind the stability of the estimated value of items detained in the EU internal market in 2019 compared to that of 2018, mentioned in section 8.1.

Indeed, the cause of the apparently contradictory stability in the estimated value of the items detained in 2019, vis-à-vis a reduction of 42.5 % in the number of items detained is twofold:

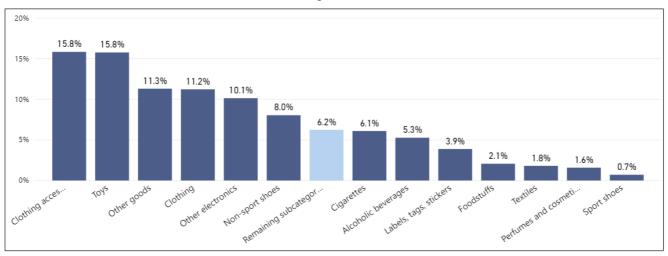
- the shift in the composition of the basket of products detained from cheaper products in 2018 to more
 expensive ones in 2019 (e.g. in 2019 more Clothing accessories estimated unit value ±80€/unit –
 and fewer Toys at ±7€/unit), and
- the increase of the estimated unitary value of some of the more abundantly detained products (e.g. *Clothing accessories*: unit value ↑19 %, *Toys*: ↑9 %, *Clothing*: ↑32 %) and of some of the more expensive products (e.g. *Watches*: unit value ↑18 %, *Jewellery*: ↑343 %).

Indeed, the shift in the composition of the basket of detained products from cheaper to more expensive categories contributed by two thirds to the neutralisation of the otherwise expected decrease in their estimated value.

Digging into the subcategories most detained, the presence in the top 10 of the subcategory *Labels, tags* and *stickers*, which historically shows a consistent share of the detentions, is (negatively) relevant because of its potential multiplier effect for the production of more fake products and, consequently, its capacity to cause additional harm.



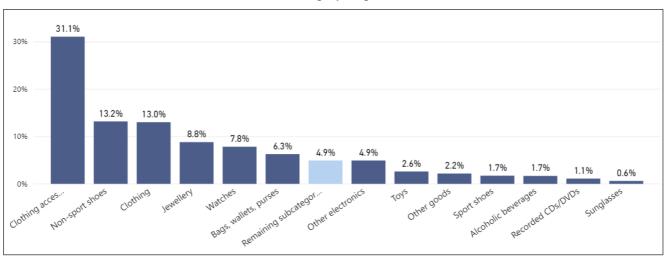
Figure 8-4: Share of the number of items detained in the EU internal market in 2019 by subcategory of goods



Regarding the share of estimated value of the detained items per subcategory (see Figure 8-5), the scenario did not change greatly in 2019. In fact, the data show that the top 14 subcategories were the same as in 2018, although ranked in a different relative order. The top subcategories in the list included, in 2019, many related to Luxury products and those related to Common Consumer products, whereas in 2018 Luxury products dominated the Top 5. See also Table C-2 in section C.2, Figure C-1 in section C.3 and Figure C-2 in section C.4 of Annex C for more details.

A very relevant change is the fall of the subcategory *Recorded CDs/DVDs* from its 10th position in 2018, to 13th position in 2019. The ongoing transformation process of the copyright-covered market products from physical to digital formats may be an explanation for this.

Figure 8-5: Share of the estimated value of items detained in the EU internal market in 2019 by subcategory of goods



Finally, it is worth noting the recurrent presence of the product subcategory *Other goods* (11.3 % of all items detained in the EU internal market during 2019), under which the enforcement authorities gathered a number of products not assignable to the subcategories already defined (see Table D-2 of Annex D and Table E-2 of Annex E). In terms of the quantity of items detained in the EU internal market, the share of *Other goods* has substantially decreased compared to the average of previous years. However, if this trend does not continue, digging into the composition of the goods classified by the EU internal market enforcers under *Other goods* might be justified to potentially expand the range of identified subcategories used.

8.4. DATA PER IP RIGHT

To analyse the data on detentions in the EU internal market from the perspective of the IPRs allegedly infringed, it is important to highlight, as an initial disclaimer, that the total number of IPRs infringed in those detentions reported in the IP Enforcement Portal exceeded the number of detained items for the EU internal market. The reason for this is that the IP Enforcement Portal allows multiple assignments of IPRs to the detention of an item.



The distribution of the allegedly infringed IP rights at the moment of detention in terms of the number of items shows that trade marks were by far the dominant right in 2019. It also should be noted that not all detentions provided details about the type of IPR enforced. As can be inferred from Figure 8-6 below, in 2019, in around 97 % of the items detained in the EU internal market, a trade mark was allegedly infringed, followed by designs (around 11.5 %) and patents (2 %).

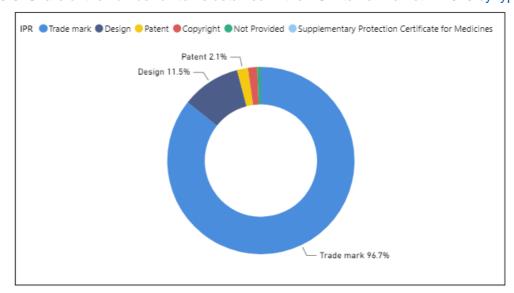


Figure 8-6: Share of the number of items detained in the EU internal market in 2019 by type of IPR

A comparison with the 2018 data shows that the weight of the trade mark, as an allegedly infringed IP right, has slightly increased in detentions in the EU internal market, as also occurred with designs. Contrarily, there was a step back in 2019 in the shares of patents and copyright as allegedly infringed IPR declared. The spike in the number of records where the IP right was 'Not provided' is also worthy of mention.

Beyond the overwhelming preponderance of the trade mark across subcategories, designs is mainly infringed by goods belonging to the subcategories Mobile phones (65% of the items detained in this subcategory) and Sport shoes (51%). Copyright appears to be infringed mostly in Recorded CDs/DVDs (94%), whereas patents are most declared as infringed IPR in the subcategories Memory card/sticks (87%), Mobile phones (14%) and Medicines (11%). However, in all these subcategories, with the exception of Recorded CDs/DVDs, trade marks are still the preponderant IPR infringed.

Similar conclusions can be reached after analysing the distribution of IPR allegedly infringed per estimated value (see Figure 8-7).

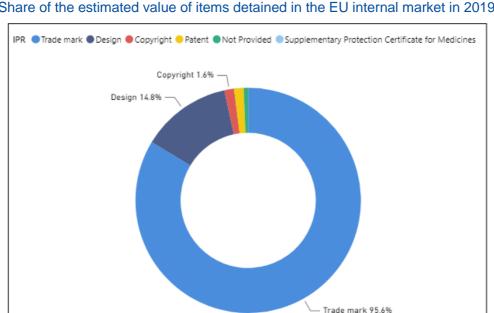


Figure 8-7: Share of the estimated value of items detained in the EU internal market in 2019 by type of IPR



It can in particular be seen that, in 2019, the 'weight' of designs as infringed IPR was higher in terms of estimated value (14.8%) than in terms of the number of items detained (11.5%). This would point to the conclusion that, despite the preponderance of trade marks, products with a higher unit value are those relatively more protected by designs. This would be the case of the subcategory *Sport shoes*, whose average unit price is more than twice that of an average detained item and in which the weight of the design as infringed IPR reaches, as mentioned, 51% of the items detained or *Bags, wallet, purses*, whose average unit price is ten times that of an average detained item and in which the weight of the design, as infringed IPR, goes up to 20%.



9. WAY FORWARD

REPORT ON THE EU INTERNAL MARKET ENFORCEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: RESULTS OF DETENTIONS IN EU MEMBER STATES, 2019

After six years of EU internal market enforcement authorities having joined the EU borders authorities' long-standing effort to deliver the information available on IPR-infringing goods detained in their respective sphere of competences, a new report covering the detentions carried out in 2019 has been published by the EUIPO.

Following the EUIPO's mandate to produce evidence-based materials to help IPR enforcement authorities in their efforts and to inform policymakers about the results of those efforts, the 'Report on the EU internal market enforcement of intellectual property rights: results of detentions in EU Member States, 2019' provides an overview of the detentions of goods infringing IP rights within the EU internal market, on the basis of the data collected during that year.

In order to continue advancing towards those objectives, efforts will be maintained to <u>facilitate a proper dialogue</u> between the two main sets of actors (enforcement authorities and rights holders), so as to increase their cooperation and sharing of information in the scenario of the EU internal market, systematising whenever possible the information shared through the existing IP Enforcement Portal tool.

The marginal appearance of infringed IP rights other than trade marks and designs could point towards a need for <u>more information and training on other more technical IP rights</u>. Training efforts could support enforcement authorities to get used to identify the remaining, not always so evident, infringed IP rights.

Moreover, the analysis of the 2019 data would point towards actions aimed at <u>improving the quantity of data reported</u> (be it by transferring to the Portal all data already available in other existing sources or by increasing the data collected at these sources) <u>and their quality</u> (be it by providing new training resources to the enforcers belonging to the IP Enforcement Portal community or by expanding the choice of values used by the enforcers for tracking the different aspects of a detention). While this report, based on IP Enforcement Portal data, already provides a good basis for analysis, more and better data would facilitate sharper conclusions and more focused actions.



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GLOSSARY

REPORT ON THE EU INTERNAL MARKET ENFORCEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: RESULTS OF DETENTIONS IN EU MEMBER STATES, 2019

ACIST The acronym of Anti-Counterfeiting Intelligence Support Tool, the name of

the former database on EU border and EU internal market detentions provided by the EUIPO, integrated now in the IP Enforcement portal, the single EU platform to deal with IPR enforcement matters. ACIST was the European Union database that gathered statistics on detentions of articles that were suspected of infringing intellectual property at the EU

border and in the EU internal market

AFA Application for Action in the EU border scenario

COPIS The EU-wide anti-counterfeit and anti-piracy information system

containing all applications for action and all detentions at the EU border

DG TAXUD European Commission's Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs

Union

DRV The Domestic Retail Value is the retail price at which the goods would

have been sold on the Member State's market, had they been genuine

EU European Union

EUIPO European Union Intellectual Property Office Fake A product allegedly infringing any kind of IPR

IP Intellectual property

IPR IP right(s)

MS European Union Member State(s)

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Types of products Common consumer Foodstuffs; Beverages; Clothing; Footwear, Other

products body care items; Tobacco products; Lighters;

Medicines

Luxury products Perfumes and cosmetics; Clothing accessories;

Sunglasses; Bags, wallets, purses; Watches; Jewellery and other accessories; Mobile phones including parts and accessories; Audio/video apparatus including technical accessories and parts; Toys; Games (including electronic games consoles); Sporting articles (including leisure

articles)



12. LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES

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13. ANNEXES

REPORT ON THE EU INTERNAL MARKET ENFORCEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: RESULTS OF DETENTIONS IN EU MEMBER STATES, 2019

Annex A. ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES

In the EU internal market scenario there are a number of enforcement authorities with the legal powers to detain IPR-infringing goods, which report about those detentions. These are included in Table A-1.

Table A-1: EU internal market reporting enforcement authorities

COUNTRY	ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES	DISCLAIMERS
Belgium	FSP Economy	
	Ministry of Interior. General- Directorate Combating Organised Crime	The Combating Organised Crime General-Directorate has been in charge of the collection of IPR-infringing goods since January 2016.
Bulgaria	Ministry of Interior. Directorate National Police	The National Police Directorate was in charge of the collection of IPR-infringing goods until December 2015.
	Customs Intelligence and Investigation Directorate. National Customs Agency	
Croatia	Criminal Police Directorate. High-tech Crime Department	The Croatian Police do not report item values. Therefore, the item value used for the total detention estimation (EUR) is the value used in the yearly publication of DG TAXUD reports.
	Ministry of Finance. Customs Directorate	
0.000	Cyprus Police. Department of Combating Crime	
Cyprus	Customs and Excise Department. IPR Unit	
Czech Republic	General Directorate of Customs. Customs Department	
Denmark	State Prosecutor for Serious Economic and International Crime	
Estonia	Estonian Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Centre	
Finland	Customs Enforcement Department. Analysis Unit	
	Gendarmerie Nationale	
France	Direction Générale des Douanes et Droits Indirects	
Greece	Ministry of Economy and Development Coordinating Centre for Market Supervision &	Greek enforcement authorities do not report item values. Therefore, the item value used for the total detention estimation (EUR) is the value used in the yearly publication of DG TAXUD reports.



	Confrontation of Illicit Trade. SYKEAAP	
Hungary	Hungarian National Police. Criminal Directorate. Criminal Division	The Hungarian National Police is in charge of inland detentions of only medical and pharmaceutical products.
Hungary	National Tax and Customs Administration. Department of Enforcement	
Ireland	An Garda Siochana. Intellectual Property Crime Unit / Irish Tax and Customs	Internal market data published by the Irish Tax and Customs authority resulted from the joint enforcement operations.
	An Garda Siochana. Intellectual Property Crime Unit	
Italy	Ministry of Economic Development. Italian Patent and Trade Mark Office	The Italian system to aggregate data does not match with the IP Enforcement Portal's system; as a consequence, data on internal detentions of foodstuffs and beverages, tobacco products and medicines are not loaded into the IP Enforcement Portal. The Italian system to define IPR type classifications does not match that of DG TAXUD. For this reason, with the exception of copyright, the Italian data 'IPR Type' are referred to in the IP Enforcement Portal as 'NOT PROVIDED'. The published figures on detained items from the Carabinieri refer to both counterfeit and pirated goods. The data provided by the Carabinieri do not indicate the ID numbers of specific cases. Therefore, each row has been taken as a unique case. The figures published on detained items from the Polizia di Stato refer to both counterfeit and pirated goods. The data provided by the Polizia di Stato do not indicate ID numbers of specific cases. Therefore, each row has been taken as a unique case. The figures published on detained items from the Polizia Municipale refer to both counterfeit and pirated goods. Although each Italian municipality has its own local police force, all the inland detentions carried out by them are available in the IP Enforcement Portal under the general heading 'POLIZIA MUNICIPALE'.
Latvia	Latvian State Police	The Latvian State Police does not report item values. Therefore, the item value used for the total detention estimation (EUR) is the value used in the yearly publication of DG TAXUD's reports.
Lithuania	State Patent Bureau	
Luxembourg	Public Prosecutor's office	The Public Prosecutor's office does not report item values. Therefore, the item value used for the total detention estimation (EUR) is the value used in the yearly publication of DG TAXUD reports.
Malta	Malta Police Force. Economic Crime Unit	
Netherlands	Ministry of Finance. FIOD CT Midden	According to the Dutch instruction for IPR fraud, in cases of danger to the public's health/safety, large-scale trading or indications of a criminal organisation recidivism, the investigative authorities in the Netherlands can start a criminal investigation (including inland seizures). The FIOD (the fiscal information and investigation service of



		the Dutch Tax and Customs Administration) and the police are the investigative authorities in the Netherlands.
Poland	National Police	The Polish National Police does not report item values. Therefore, the item value used for the total detention estimation (EUR) is the value used in the yearly publication of DG TAXUD's reports.
Portugal	National Industrial Property Institute	
Romania	Romanian Police	
Slovakia	Financial Directorate	
Slovenia	Criminal Police Directorate. Sector for Economic Crime	Since the number of IPR infringement cases is not considered problematic, the Slovenian Police does not collect separate data on inland cases for statistical purposes. However, this does not mean that the number of detentions in Slovenia is zero.
Spain	Spanish Patent and Trademark Office	
United	Police of Scotland	
Kingdom	Scotland Trading Standards	

As described in section 7, the data on detentions used for the present report were the ones validated and published online in the IP Enforcement Portal up to 2019.



Annex B. AVAILABILITY, QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF DATA

Data on reported detentions in the EU internal market are loaded into the IP Enforcement Portal on the basis of the data reported by different EU enforcement authorities. They are loaded yearly, but in different bulks of data depending on the enforcement authority.

The main constraints on the availability of detentions data reported, in particular by the EU internal market enforcement authorities, can be summarised as follows.

- Firstly, the historical unavailability of completed data sets from some Member States on the detention of IPR-infringing goods in their territories.
- Secondly, some enforcement authorities from some Member States do not report their detentions in the IP Enforcement Portal.
- Thirdly, as mentioned, the data on 2019 detentions from some Member States were totally or partially
 unavailable at the time this report was drafted. The data provision of those countries has been
 conditioned by the general circumstances caused by the lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic and
 data were not available in time for the drafting of the report.

As a consequence, different degrees of availability of records on the reported detentions for all EU Member States' national markets exist in the IP Enforcement Portal, as shown in Table B-1 below (13):

Table B-1: Availability of records for EU internal market detentions per reporting EU Member State and year

Country	2018	2019
Belgium	90%	90%
Bulgaria	100%	95%
Czech Republic	100%	100%
Denmark	100%	100%
Germany	0%	0%
Estonia	100%	100%
Ireland	92%	92%
Greece	100%	100%
Spain	100%	100%
France	98%	98%
Croatia	82%	82%
Italy	100%	86%
Cyprus	98%	98%
Latvia	100%	100%
Lithuania	100%	100%
Luxembourg	0%	0%
Hungary		100%
Malta	100%	100%
Netherlands	100%	100%
Austria	0%	0%
Poland	100%	100%
Portugal	100%	100%
Romania	100%	100%
Slovenia	100%	100%
Slovakia	100%	100%
Finland	100%	0%
Sweden	0%	0%
United Kingdom	13%	13%

25

⁽¹³⁾ The percentage of availability of data includes the estimate of the percentage of volume of detentions made in the national market by the enforcement authorities of those Member States participating in the reporting exercise. As an example, it is estimated that the number of detentions issued by the UK enforcement authorities that participated in the exercise in 2018 and 2019 (the Police of Scotland) covers 13 % of total detentions in the UK national market, the remaining 87 % of detentions being performed by national market enforcement authorities that are not participating in the reporting exercise (England and Wales Trading Standards, the Police of Northern Ireland and the PIPCU) or that did not provide data in these data collection exercises (Scotland Trading Standards).



Records on EU internal market detentions are systematically unavailable from the Austrian, Swedish and German enforcement authorities, the first because of the nature of its national regulations, the second because there are currently no statistics on national detentions by the Swedish police, and the third because they have not yet joined the data provision network.

After having ceased to send data in 2014, Estonia resumed it in 2018. At the moment of drafting this report, data for 2019 detentions are still missing from Finland and Luxembourg and, partially, from the United Kingdom.

Information provided by those enforcement authorities from the United Kingdom participating in the 2019 exercise is estimated at 13 % of the national market detentions for the whole country. Similarly, the information provided by those enforcement authorities of Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Ireland and Italy participating in the exercise, is estimated to cover between 82 % and 98 % of the national market detentions performed in the whole countries.

It should, however, be highlighted that, in most of the cases where the availability of data decreased between 2018 and 2019 or where the 2019 data were not available at the moment of drafting the report, the lockdown imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic seems to have been the main cause.

Moreover, despite the IP Enforcement Portal being ready to accommodate fields informing about the itinerary used (country of origin; country of shipment; country, city and type of place of detention and country of destination), the means of transport used, and whether the products detained were made in the EU or not, most of these fields were not completed by the EU internal market enforcement authorities in 2018 or 2019.

There are 44 subcategories used to describe the types of products detained in the EU internal market, 36 corresponding to the classification used by DG TAXUD for the goods detained at the EU border (see Table D-2 in Annex D) plus 8 additional ones (however, one of these is '16a – Not provided'). The subcategories are classified under the same 12 main categories existing for the classification of goods detained at the EU border (see Table D-1 in Annex D) plus another 4 main categories, defined to accommodate the 8 additional subcategories previously mentioned. The additional main categories and subcategories can be seen in Table E-1 and Table E-2 in Annex E.



Annex C. ADDITIONAL TABLES AND FIGURES

C.1 OVERVIEW OF NUMBER OF ARTICLES DETAINED AND ESTIMATED VALUE PER MEMBER STATE

Table C-1: Overview of number of articles detained and estimated value per Member State

Year		2018		2019
Country	No of items	Estimated value	No of items	Estimated value
Belgium	205,757	13,294,316 €	176,368	14,790,064 €
Bulgaria	4,650,000	7,347,000 €	12,553	411,500 €
Czech Republic	159,464	9,417,084 €	377,238	17,978,586 €
Denmark	318	265,355 €	15	12,000 €
Estonia	10	72 €	2	0 €
Ireland	15,499	326,758 €	37,496	232,165 €
Greece	2,013,342	85,622,363 €	1,350,034	110,204,558 €
Spain	4,696,028	191,667,188 €	5,005,220	141,822,652 €
France	2,799,372	176,906,395 €	1,930,893	240,925,397 €
Croatia	26,582	1,923,372 €	73,233	3,969,462 €
Italy	52,782,158	1,327,384,076 €	27,691,989	1,165,521,667 €
Cyprus	157,179	5,941,568 €	80,996	6,967,384 €
Latvia	15,380	216,221 €	126	27,609 €
Lithuania	4,896	0 €	8,016	764,967 €
Hungary	879,343	5,949,642 €	588,114	27,153,812 €
Malta	829	30,807 €	0	0 €
Netherlands	54,758	1,727,965 €	203,288	4,133,301 €
Poland	23,681	1,184,050 €	14,963	748,150 €
Portugal	1,061,900	6,445,532 €	1,194,366	16,515,126 €
Romania	446,180	2,048,695 €	421,289	4,669,632 €
Slovenia	0	0 €	0	0 €
Slovakia	48,264	2,934,657 €	76,348	2,107,035 €
Finland	70,600	338,242 €		
United Kingdom	753	125,929 €	1,067,922	5,879,417 €
Total	70,112,293	1,841,097,289 €	40,310,469	1,764,834,484 €



C.2 BREAKDOWN OF NUMBER OF ITEMS AND ESTIMATED VALUE PER PRODUCT SUBCATEGORY

Table C-2: Breakdown of number of items and estimated value per product subcategory

Year	2019	
Main category	Nr of items	Esimated value
01 Foodstuffs, alcoholic and other beverages	2,958,671	33,639,309 €
Alcoholic beverages	2,124,553	29,678,105 €
Foodstuffs	833,438	3,960,300 €
Other beverages	680	903 €
02 Body care items	681,242	15,461,567 €
Other body care items	42,608	880,588 €
Perfumes and cosmetics	638,634	14,580,979 €
03 Clothing and accessories	10,914,184	778,451,644 €
Clothing	4,526,956	229,883,015 €
Clothing accessories	6,387,228	548,568,629 €
04 Shoes including parts and accessories	3,526,892	263,170,095 €
Non-sport shoes	3,241,031	232,629,642 €
Sport shoes	285,861	30,540,453 €
05 Personal accessories	576,868	415,691,081 €
Bags, wallets, purses	274,304	110,958,079 €
Jewellery	100,658	155,499,091 €
Sunglasses	91,611	10,862,722 €
Watches	110,295	138,371,189 €
06 Mobile phones including parts and technical accessories	534,224	19,399,317 €
Mobile phone access.	469,010	14,973,025 €
Mobile phones	65,214	4,426,292 €
07 Electrical/electronic and computer equipment	4,217,623	94,763,680 €
Audio/video apparatus	69,289	6,145,010 €
Computer equipment	22,891	703,494 €
Ink cartridges	2,163	12,709 €
Memory cards/sticks	36,007	992,450 €
Other electronics	4,087,273	86,910,018 €
08 CD, DVD, cassette, game cartridges	286,378	19,539,410 €
Recorded CDs/DVDs	285,131	19,524,060 €
Unrecorded CDs/DVDs	1,247	15,350 €
09 Toys, games (including electronic game consoles) and sporting articles	6,378,955	46,161,523 €
Games	18,389	38,006 €
Sporting articles	2,670	88,651 €
Toys	6,357,896	46,034,866 €
10 Tobacco products	2,491,180	10,318,179 €
Cigarettes	2,459,394	10,246,035 €
Other tobacco	31,786	72,144 €

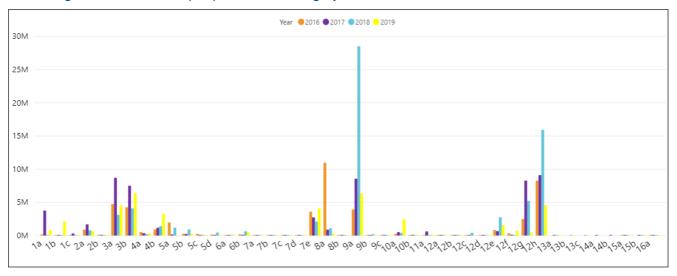


Year	2019	Friendsalvalva
Main category	Nr of Items	Esimated value
11 Medicines	172,910	1,255,712 €
Medicines	172,910	1,255,712 €
12 Other	7,485,490	59,607,738 €
Labels, tags, stickers	1,565,423	4,054,709 €
Lighters	1,945	78,613 €
Machines/tools	20,574	587,319 €
Office stationery	14,554	43,476 €
Other goods	4,559,749	38,444,272 €
Packaging material	465,006	146,391 €
Textiles	727,683	10,704,031 €
Vehicle accessories	130,556	5,548,927 €
13 Furniture	522	8,725 €
Home furniture	519	8,625 €
Office furniture	1	0 €
Other furniture	2	100 €
15 Online counterfeit and pirate products	43,672	5,017,355 €
Illegal streaming/downloading	426	23,430 €
Online sale/offer of counterfeit products	43,246	4,993,925 €
16 Not Provided	41,658	2,349,149 €
Not provided	41,658	2,349,149 €
Total	40,310,469	1,764,834,484 €



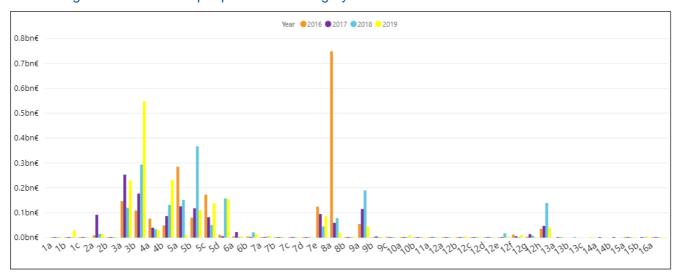
C.3 OVERVIEW PER PRODUCT SUBCATEGORY OF NUMBER OF ARTICLES BETWEEN 2016 AND 2019

Figure C-1: Overview per product subcategory of number of articles between 2016 and 2019



C.4 OVERVIEW PER PRODUCT SUBCATEGORY OF ESTIMATED VALUE BETWEEN 2016 AND 2019

Figure C-2: Overview per product subcategory of estimated value between 2016 and 2019





Annex D. DG TAXUD CLASSIFICATION OF PRODUCTS FOR DETENTIONS AT THE EU BORDER

Table D-1: Upper-level DG TAXUD products classification (main categories)

Upper_Category	¥
01 Foodstuffs, alcoholic and other beverages	
02 Body care items	
03 Clothing and accessories	
04 Shoes including parts and accessories	
05 Personal accessories	
06 Mobile phones including parts and technical accessories	
07 Electrical/electronic and computer equipment	
08 CD, DVD, cassette, game cartridges	
09 Toys, games (including electronic game consoles) and sporting articles	
10 Tobacco products	
11 Medicines	
12 Other	



Table D-2: Lower-level DG TAXUD products classification (subcategories) (14)

Category	▼ Category Short Nam(▼
1a - foodstuffs	Foodstuffs
1b - alcoholic beverages	Alcoholic beverages
1c - other beverages	Other beverages
2a - perfumes and cosmetics	Perfumes and cosmetics
2b - other body care items	Other body care items
3a - clothing (ready to wear)	Clothing
3b - clothing accessories	Clothing accessories
4a - sport shoes	Sport shoes
4b - other shoes	Non-sport shoes
5a - sunglasses and other eye-glasses	Sunglasses
5b - bags including wallets; purses; cigarette cases and other similar goods carried in the pocket/bag	Bags, wallets, purses
5c - watches	Watches
5d - jewellery and other accessories	Jewellery
6a - mobile phones	Mobile phones
6b - parts and technical accessories for mobile phones	Mobile phone access.
7a - audio/video apparatus including technical accessories and	Audio/video apparatus
parts	
7b - memory cards; memory sticks	Memory cards/sticks
7c - ink cartridges and toners	Ink cartridges
7d - computer equipment (hardware) including technical	Computer equipment
accessories and parts	
7e - other equipment including technical accessories and parts	Other electronics
8a - recorded (music; film; software; game software)	Recorded CDs/DVDs
8b - unrecorded	Unrecorded CDs/DVDs
9a - toys	Toys
9b - games (including electronic game consoles)	Games
9c - sporting articles (including leisure articles)	Sporting articles
10a - cigarettes	Cigarettes
10b - other tobacco products	Other tobacco
11a - Medicines	Medicines
12a - machines and tools	Machines/tools
12b - vehicles including accessories and parts	Vehicle accessories
12c - office stationery	Office stationery
12d - lighters	Lighters
12e - labels; tags; stickers	Labels, tags, stickers
12f - textiles	Textiles
12g - packaging materials	Packaging material
12h - other	Other goods

⁽¹⁴⁾ The category short name 'recorded CVs/DVDs' refers to any kind of support for recording, in particular to USB sticks.



Annex E. ADDITIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF PRODUCTS FOR DETENTIONS IN THE EU INTERNAL MARKET

Table E-1: Additional upper-level products classification (main categories)

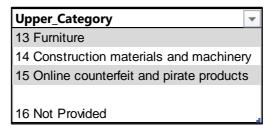


Table E-2: Additional lower-level products classification (subcategories)

Category	Category Short Name
13a - Private residence furniture	Home furniture
13b - Office furniture	Office furniture
13c - Other furniture	Other furniture
14a - Construction materials	Construction materials
14b - Construction machinery	Construction machinery
15a - illegal streaming/downloading	Illegal
15b - Online - sale/offer of counterfeit products	Online sale/offer of
	counterfeit products
16a - not provided	Not provided





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