

**NEWS FROM BRUSSELS 17/2023**

**EU Customs Reform: A data-driven vision for a simpler, smarter and safer Customs Union**

The European Commission has today put forward proposals for the most ambitious and comprehensive reform of the EU Customs Union since its establishment in 1968. The measures proposed today present a world-leading, data-driven vision for EU Customs, which will massively simplify customs processes for business, especially for the most trustworthy traders. Embracing the digital transformation, the reform will cut down on cumbersome customs procedures, replacing traditional declarations with a smarter, data-led approach to import supervision. At the same time, customs authorities will have the tools and resources they need to properly assess and stop imports which pose real risks to the EU, its citizens and its economy: [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_23\\_2643](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_2643)

**AI Act: A step closer to the first rules on Artificial Intelligence**

To ensure a human-centric and ethical development of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Europe, MEPs endorsed new transparency and risk-management rules for AI systems. The rules follow a risk-based approach and establish obligations for providers and users depending on the level of risk the AI can generate: <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20230505IPR84904/ai-act-a-step-closer-to-the-first-rules-on-artificial-intelligence>

**McKinsey & Company: Can the automotive industry scale fast enough?**

This recently published article by McKinsey & Company is dealing with the challenges and obstacles which the automotive industry is currently facing. “The rapidly increasing uptake of electric vehicles could transform the automotive ecosystem and promote even greater innovations. For that to happen, two imperatives need attention now”: <https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/automotive-and-assembly/our-insights/can-the-automotive-industry-scale-fast-enough#/>

*The Alliance of European Car Dealers and Repairers (AECDR) represents and promotes the interests of 57,500 franchised dealers and authorised repairers. In total these companies employ 1.175,000 people.*