



RESOLUTION:

The Removal of Extra Tariffs on Cross Border Parcel Delivery

Adopted at the YEPP Council Meeting, Rome, Italy on the 10th of February 2017

Recognizing that:

- EU consumers and e-retailers do not make full use of the advantages of the single market.
- In 2014, only 15% of EU consumers bought items online from another EU country while 44% of EU consumers had bought items online from e-retailers within their own country.¹
- In 2015, the Commission published their strategy for a digital single market, it set out to improve access to the digital single market, and this sets out to tackle unjustified geography based tariff discrimination and associated discriminations based on location.
- Improving the system of the delivery of goods purchased online has been identified as one of the key elements to increase online cross border trading.
- Small business owners and consumers alike have identified the high cost of cross border parcel delivery as a disincentive to the purchase of goods online from another jurisdiction within the single market.
- Cross-border prices are often three to five times higher than the domestic equivalent, this is without explanation by reference to labour or other costs in the destination jurisdiction.
- The tariffs applicable to low volume senders of cross border items are particularly high, it has a direct negative impact on users seeking such cross-border services.
- The existence of these tariffs on parcel delivery are directly affecting the ability of the ecommerce market to reach its full potential.

Acknowledging that:

- In a similar context, the EU is in the process of removing tariffs charged to mobile phone users for roaming, this process is to be completed by 15th June 2017. At that point, mobile phone users when travelling abroad will only be subject to domestic charges.

¹ http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-6264_en.htm

- Currently, postal services are regulated by Directive 97/67/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council². This Directive establishes common rules governing the provision of postal services and the universal postal service in the Union.
- The European Commission has put forward a proposal on Cross Border Parcel Delivery to make markets work more effectively by making the regulatory oversight of the parcels markets more effective and consistent thus encouraging competition; and increase the transparency of tariffs in order to reduce unjustifiable tariff differences and also lower the tariffs paid by individuals and small businesses, especially in remote areas.³

YEPP calls on:

- The European Commission to remove all extra tariffs on cross border parcel delivery above the domestic rate in order to support the objective of the Digital Single Market in increasing cross border e-commerce.

² Directive 97/67/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 1997 on common rules for the development of the internal market of Community postal services and the improvement of quality of service (OJ L 1, 21.1.1998, p 14 - 25).

³ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2016:0285:FIN> Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on cross-border parcel delivery services COM/2016/0285 final - 2016/0149 (COD)