Overview: The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia’s average implementation rate of trade facilitation measures (82%) is the highest among the non-developed countries in the UNECE region. It is not only higher than the South-Eastern Europe1

1 Southeastern European countries for calculation purposes: Albania, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia
average (58%), but than the UNECE average (69%) also. Furthermore, average performance of each category is higher than those of both the UNECE and the South-Eastern Europe. Transparency measures have been fully implemented (100%), while Cross-Border Paperless Trade measures have been implemented the least (44%).

Spotlight:

The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia fully implemented Transparency measures. It is worth noting that the implementation rates of Formalities (96%) and Institutional Arrangement (89%) are very high as well. This was due to the successful uptake of recent reforms, which helped the country to achieve high-implementation rates in these categories. For example, the government authorities implemented the Unique National Electronic Register of Laws and regulations for electronic transactions, the Risk management system, the Electronic Single Window for transactions, and the New Computerized Transit System (NCTS) which gives the business community access to, and opportunity to comment on all draft laws before they enter into force. Electronic Single Window for issuing import, export and transit licences and licences for quota allocation known as EXIM, the simplified customs procedures, the Risk management system, and the New Computerized Transit System (NCTS) are considered to be the most important measures implemented by the customs administration

Moving up the trade facilitation ladder:

As shown in the graph, the FYR Macedonia’s upward movement in terms of trade facilitation ladder is remarkable. The country’s systemic progress is evident as well. It has consistently based its reforms on strong Institutional Arrangement, Transparency and Formalities-related measures. While these reforms are dynamic and may need to adjust to the needs of the trading communities in the future, the progress is noteworthy. Based on these developments, the country is well-placed to focus on fuller implementation of the Paperless Trade and Cross-border Paperless Trade measures.

Disclaimer: The data presented here is for policy research and development purposes only and it should not be construed as statements of legal, or political, views or facts. For more information on the survey, please visit: http://www.unece.org/tradewelcome/outreach-and-support-for-trade-facilitation/global-survey-on-trade-facilitation-and-paperless-trade.html or please contact: khan.salehin@un.org

2 Toshevska-Trpchevska, Katerina, PhD. Implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement in the Republic of Macedonia. Faculty of Economics, Sts. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Skopje, November 2017