Overview: In 2017, Serbia's average implementation rate of trade facilitation measures was calculated at 41%, which is slightly below its average rate in 2015 (43%), and significantly below the UNECE (69%) and South-Eastern Europe (58%) average rates. Among the six categories, Transparency related measures have been implemented the most (87%), while
Cross-Border Paperless Trade measures have not been implemented at all. It should also be noted that the implementation rates of the other categories are lower than those of South-Eastern Europe.

Spotlight:
When it comes to the Transparency related measures, Serbia has fully implemented three out of five measures, namely stakeholder consultation on new draft regulations, advance notification of new regulation before their implementation, and advance ruling on tariff classification. The country has taken a step forward in terms of Paperless Trade related measures by fully implementing electronic customs system and enabling electronic submission of customs declarations. Although not included in the survey results, the country is reported to have established the National Trade Facilitation Body at the end of November 2017 (after the data for this survey was collected).

Moving up the trade facilitation ladder:

Serbia is markedly away from the frontier of full implementation of the trade facilitation measures. A significant push up the trade facilitation ladder is required. The country needs to set up the necessary institutional foundations and then systematically implement the reforms across various categories. It should also focus its efforts on the implementation of the Formalities-related measures. This would lay the foundations for commencement of the more-advanced trade facilitation measures. The fact that Serbia established a National Trade Facilitation Body can be regarded as a promising starting point.

Disclaimer: The data presented here is for policy research and development purposes only and it should not be construed as 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

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1 Southeastern European countries for calculation purposes: Albania, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia
2 https://www.euprava.gov.rs/eusluge/opis_usluge?generatedServiceId=323&alphabet=lat