

## Access conditions to the profession of freight forwarder in Europe

Country	Compulsory conditions	Registration requirements	Licence requirements	Complementary conditions	Legal basis
Belgium	<p>1- Experience In the last 6 years, at least:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➔ 5 uninterrupted years in a company holding a license, or</li> <li>➔ 3 years if 2-year training followed, or</li> <li>➔ 2 years if 3-year training followed or if University diploma held, or</li> <li>➔ 6 months if professional exam of FF passed, or if certificate of professional capacity in transport + complementary exam on specific FF activities</li> </ul> <p>2- Financial guarantee ➔ € 12.394,68 per licence (with a max of € 123.946,8)</p> <p>3- Respectability ➔ Proof of good moral conduct by public authority ➔ No criminal conviction</p> <p>4- Other ➔ Certificate of professional knowledge to be held by the person ensuring the daily management of the company</p>		Licence of “transport intermediary” or “freight forwarder”, granted to the company.		<p>- Law of 26/06/1967</p> <p>- Royal Decrees of 18/07/1975, 16/11/1990, 10/07/1992</p>
Bulgaria	Registration at the Bulgarian Commercial Register as required for any Bulgarian owned company.	Registration at the Bulgarian Commercial Register as required for any Bulgarian owned company.	None		
Denmark	In order to enter the Danish market for national road haulage, hauliers				

	<p>must be legally established as a legal entity in Denmark, and permits for national or international road haulage are issued only on the basis of compliance with General Agreements between the parties of the labour market, including contractual wage.</p>				
France	<p>In France the activity as a freight forwarder is regulated and subject to several conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Being listed in the commercial register.</li> <li>→ Being listed in the register of freight forwarders. The registration is conditional, requiring the qualification for the profession and respectability.</li> </ul>	<p>The professional qualification is being certified by the 'préfet de région'. The requirements are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Possession of a level III diploma 'diplôme de niveau III (bac +2)' i.e. the specialisation in transport, and at least 200 hours of management experience.</li> <li>→ Passing a specific written exam;</li> <li>→ Having worked in the management of a transport company for 5 consecutive years not more than 3 years prior to applying for the certificate.</li> </ul> <p>Respectability is defined as not having been sentenced in accordance to bulletin N° 2 of the criminal record. The requirement to prove one's financial capability has</p>	<p>Professional qualification is being certified to people who have either passed a written exam or possess an appropriate professional experience or can provide related diplomas.</p>	<p>Applicants younger than 25 years old must prove they have fulfilled their obligations with regard to the national service (conscription) [suspended in France in 1996].</p>	<p>Décret 90-200 du 5 mars 1990,</p> <p>Directive CEE 82/470 du 29 juin 1982,</p> <p>LOTI du 30 décembre 1982,</p> <p>Article L1411-1 of the Transport Code,</p> <p>Décret du 27 mai 2010 – in transposition of Directive 2006/123/EC,</p> <p>CERFA N° 11414*04.</p>

		been abolished by the 'décret n°2010-561 du 27 mai 2010'.			
Germany		No specific registration as freight forwarder.  For any newly-established company, announcement of foundation of a company to be made before the local authority		Specific conditions exist if freight forwarders act as road carriers or rail operators.	
Italy	<p>1. Respectability: Legal representative and, in case is different, technical expert must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Be in possession of civil rights</li> <li>→ Have moral requisites</li> </ul> <p>2. Competence/Experience Compliance with one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ High school diploma in business</li> <li>→ University degree or diploma in law or economics</li> <li>→ Professional experience in the transport sector: at least 2 of the last 5 years in a forwarding agent company</li> </ul> <p>3. Financial guarantee Capital "undersigned and paid" equal to € 100 000 and if less, provide guaranty for the difference (between capital and €100 000) through bank or insurance company.</p>	Bureau of the enterprise register verifies the compliance to the compulsory conditions, and gives the qualification of freight forwarding company (There is no longer an Official Directory)			<p>Law 14/11/1941, n. 1442 and following amendments;</p> <p>Decree of the Ministry for Development 26/10/2011</p> <p>Decree of Republic President 14/12/1999 n. 558</p>
Netherlands		No specific registration as a freight forwarder is	No specific licence as freight forwarder. Companies acting		

		necessary.  Registration as company or independent in the Registry of the Chamber of Commerce	as Customs agent by representation need a licence under the condition that the owner of the company has not been convicted for fiscal fraud in the last 3 years.		
Poland	Freight forwarding services may be rendered by entrepreneurs only.	One has to be registered as an entrepreneur in the National Court Register (private and public companies) or in the Central Registry and Information of Entrepreneurs (private individuals). Registration in the latter is free of charge.	It is mandatory to obtain a license for so called services of intermediary in road transport of goods. In order to obtain this, a freight forwarder has to prove that they are in possession of at least €50 000. The license may be granted for a period from 2 to 50 years upon a petition filed with the local authority by the entrepreneur who wants to render freight forwarding services.	The other mandatory requirements for freight forwarders are the same as for road carriers (as far as the certificate of competence is concerned and so on).	The proceedings and requirements are based on EU Regulation 1071 notwithstanding it is not applicable to freight forwarders who are not actual carriers at the same time.
Portugal	<p>1- Professional aptitude</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Obtained through specific examination under the jurisdiction of DGTT (national board for transports – authority for forwarders)</li> <li>→ The first examination is carried out through APAT (Portuguese Association of Freight Forwarders)</li> </ul> <p>2- Financial guarantee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ € 50.000 for capital</li> <li>→ Civil liability insurance of € 100.000</li> </ul>		License granted (if the aforementioned conditions are fulfilled) by the DGTT, under delegation of Transport Ministry, to the company and technical directors		

	<p>3- Respectability</p> <p>→ No criminal record for managers, board members and technical directors</p>				
Slovakia	<p>1- aptitude, proven in three ways:</p> <p>→ High school degree + at least 2-year experience in freight forwarding sector, or</p> <p>→ University degree + at least 1-year experience in freight-forwarding sector, or</p> <p>→ Action as freight-forwarding company's manager for at least 5 years</p> <p>2- Respectability</p> <p>→ No criminal record</p>	<p>Registration of small business (both personal and as a company) on a small business register in the small business office</p> <p>or</p> <p>Registration (both personal and as a company) on a company register in the administrative court</p>	<p>Licence (both personal and as a company), granted by the district office / small business department, covering warehousing and transport intermediation (can also be registered independently)</p>	<p>Specific regimes apply to:</p> <p>→ Customs debt insurance guarantees</p> <p>→ Customs clearance services</p> <p>→ Some forwarding activities (Act on postal services)</p> <p>→ Dangerous goods (national haulage)</p> <p>→ Transport of over-sized loads (Act on road transport)</p> <p>→ Transport of food-stuffs (Act on food-stuffs and food-stuffs code)</p> <p>→ Transport of living animals (Act on veterinary accuracy)</p>	<p>- Commercial Code</p> <p>- Act on small businesses</p> <p>- General freight-forwarding conditions of Slovakian freight-forwarding association</p>
Spain	<p>1- Professional aptitude</p> <p>→ Examination to be taken before the regional authority</p> <p>2- Respectability</p> <p>→ Declaration of respectability</p> <p>3- Other</p> <p>→ The company must be in line with social and fiscal taxes</p> <p>→ The company must show the local licence for its premises</p>	<p>Registration, as a company, on the Company Register held by Transport administration of the regional authority</p>			<p>- Law 16/1987 on the organisation of surface transport, Art. 126</p> <p>- Royal Decree 1211/1990, Art. 167-170</p>
Sweden		<p>No specific registration as freight forwarder</p>		<p>→ Information on environment and conditions to set up a business in Sweden can be found at: <a href="http://www.isa.se">http://www.isa.se</a></p> <p>→ Anyone engaged in commercial</p>	

				<p>activities will normally be under an obligation to keep accounts.</p> <p>→ If a commercial activity is carried out under a name, that name may be registered and thereby protected (on the relevant market).</p> <p>→ Certain forms of companies, particularly those with limited liability are subject to specific rules on decision making, responsibility and surveillance. They must be registered with the Swedish Patent &amp; Registration Office.</p>	
Switzerland				Application of common rules on transport of dangerous goods	Article 439 of Swiss Code of Obligations regulates contract freight forwarder-customer
Turkey	<p>1- Professional aptitude</p> <p>→ Receive professional qualification training</p> <p>→ Hold professional qualification certificate (after examination)</p> <p>2- Respectability</p> <p>→ No criminal record</p>	<p>→ Chamber of commerce (all companies)</p> <p>→ Chamber of shipping (sea freight)</p> <p>→ Ministry of transport (road transport)</p> <p>→ Civil aviation authority (air freight)</p>	<p>NB: several permits are required depending on the activities performed. They are all granted by the Ministry of transport</p> <p>1- Permit of “transport organiser” for forwarders acting as carriers</p> <p>→ Minimum capital of €170.000</p> <p>→ Valid 5 years against fee of €115.000</p> <p>2- Permit for “agents”</p> <p>→ Minimum capital of</p>		Law 25384 of 25/02/2004

			<p>€20.000</p> <p>→ Valid 5 years / fee of €3350</p> <p>3- Permit for “commissioners”</p> <p>→ Minimum capital of €23.000</p> <p>→ Valid 5 years / fee of €3350</p> <p>4- Permit for “logistics operators” (warehousing and distribution services)</p> <p>150 tonnes of fleet capacity / 2500 m<sup>2</sup> warehouse, 200 m<sup>2</sup> offices</p> <p>→ Minimum capital of €170.000</p> <p>→ Valid 5 years / fee of €115.000</p>		
UK	There are no compulsory conditions to set up as a freight forwarder operating in the UK beyond that required of any other business in the UK.	No specific registration as a freight forwarder is required. Those businesses defined as a company have to register with Companies House giving details of shareholders, business activities etc.	There are no specific licencing requirements for freight forwarders (truck operators have to apply for the appropriate authorisation to operate as a haulier and maintain a CPC)	Ability to undertake customs activities is usually linked to some form of guarantee or undertaking accompanied by evidence of commercial standing and the director’s good repute. There are specific conditions related to:	
Ukraine	There is no specific legal condition stipulated by normative act to operate as freight forwarder.	No specific registration as freight forwarder For any newly-established company, registration in the executive authority, State statistics and tax administration.	Licence for intermediate activity of customs broker is required	<p>→ Handling dangerous goods</p> <p>→ Transport related security</p>	Law 755-IV of 15/05/2003 for compulsory registration for any company and entrepreneur.

