



ICS2 AND THE BULGARIA TRANSIT PROCESS

A NEW ERA IN EUROPEAN TRANSPORTATION

TOBBUND
BRIDGING BORDERS

As part of the digital transformation initiated by the European Union in logistics and customs processes, the implementation of ICS2 (Import Control System 2) marks the beginning of a new era in the international transportation sector. Especially for logistics companies operating on the Türkiye–Europe corridor, this system represents not only a new customs practice, but also a significant transformation involving data management, operational procedures, and the establishment of new standards at border crossings.

The ICS2 system aims to ensure that cargo entering the European Union is electronically analyzed before arriving at EU borders. Within this scope, information such as sender, consignee, HS Code, detailed goods description, transport details, and route information is submitted in advance to EU customs systems. In this way, EU authorities are able to identify potential security risks beforehand and manage border security more effectively. At the same time, the system enables earlier control of smuggling, illegal trade, incomplete declarations, and cargo posing security risks.

With the new system, more detailed data entries, particularly regarding the “goods description”, have become mandatory. Instead of general product descriptions, goods are now expected to be declared in a clear, accurate, and detailed manner. Therefore, for logistics companies, not only transportation operations but also data accuracy and system integration have become critically important.

One of the most significant aspects of the process for the Turkish logistics sector is the Bulgaria transit route. Since a large portion of road transportation to Europe is carried out through Bulgaria, the ICS2 process implemented there will directly affect operations.

With the transitional period recognized by the Bulgarian authorities coming to an end, the ICS2 system is expected to become fully operational as of 1 June 2026. Following this date, ENS (Entry Summary Declaration) information for transports entering or transiting through the European Union must be submitted via the ICS2 system.

As the former ICS1 infrastructure is phased out, data accuracy, technical integration, and operational preparedness will become much more critical. Incorrect HS Codes, incomplete goods descriptions, or inaccurate data entries may create significant risks such as vehicle delays, delivery disruptions, and additional operational costs. It is therefore of great importance for companies regularly transporting goods to Europe to update their processes in accordance with the new system and prepare their operational teams for this transformation.



As TOBBUND, we closely follow the European Union's digital transformation processes and meticulously carry out all necessary preparations to ensure the uninterrupted continuation of our customers' operations. Within the scope of the Bulgaria ICS2 transition process beginning on 1 June 2026, our technical infrastructure works, system integrations, and data flow processes have been completed, and our operational teams have been fully prepared for the relevant procedures. At the same time, we continue to actively provide operational information, technical support, and process management assistance to help our customers adapt to the new system.

As TOBBUND, we continue to offer our customers not only operational support but also solution-oriented services regarding regulatory compliance, data accuracy, and process management. In order to minimize delays and operational risks that may arise in European transportation, we have structured our processes in full compliance with ICS2 requirements.

With ICS2, not only fast transportation but also accurate data management and strong digital infrastructure are becoming among the most important elements of competitiveness in the logistics sector. For sustainable success in European transportation, it is of great importance for companies to adapt to this transformation quickly and correctly.

Sector representatives may contact the Bulgarian Customs Administration National Service Desk regarding technical issues and other matters related to data transmission processes carried out through Bulgaria via e-mail at **servicedesk@customs.bg**.

