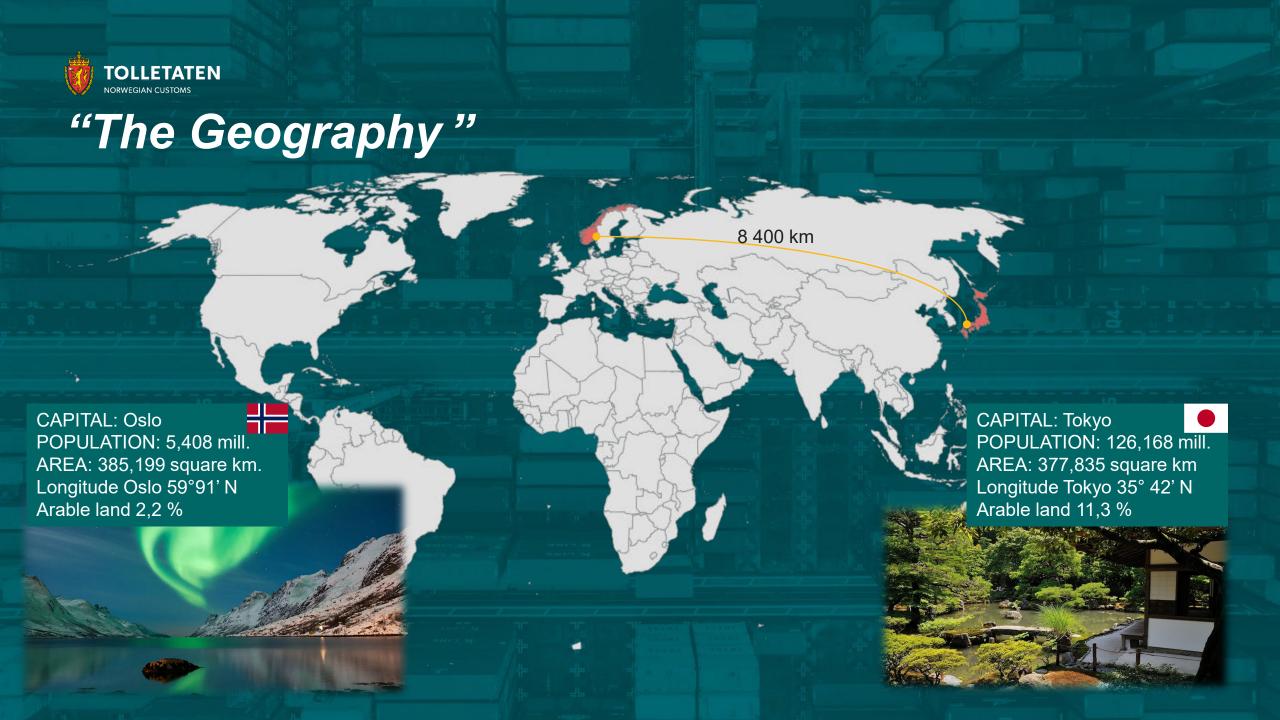


WCO-UPU Global Conference 2023 Norwegian perspective on information management for small consignments

Norwegian Customs

Viggo Elster





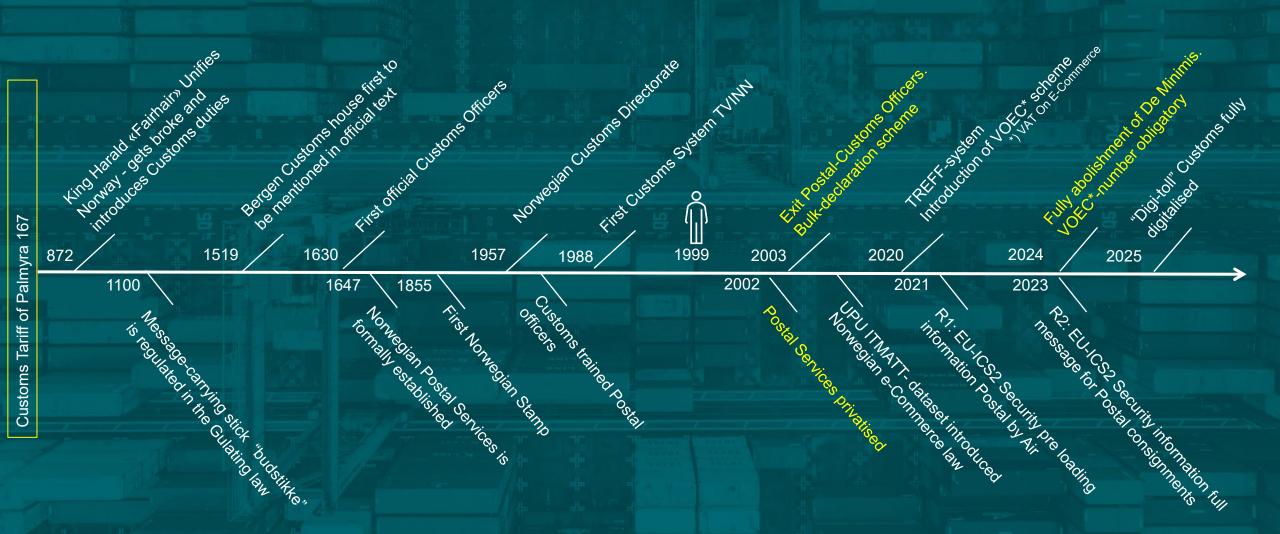
Norway from a Customs Perspective

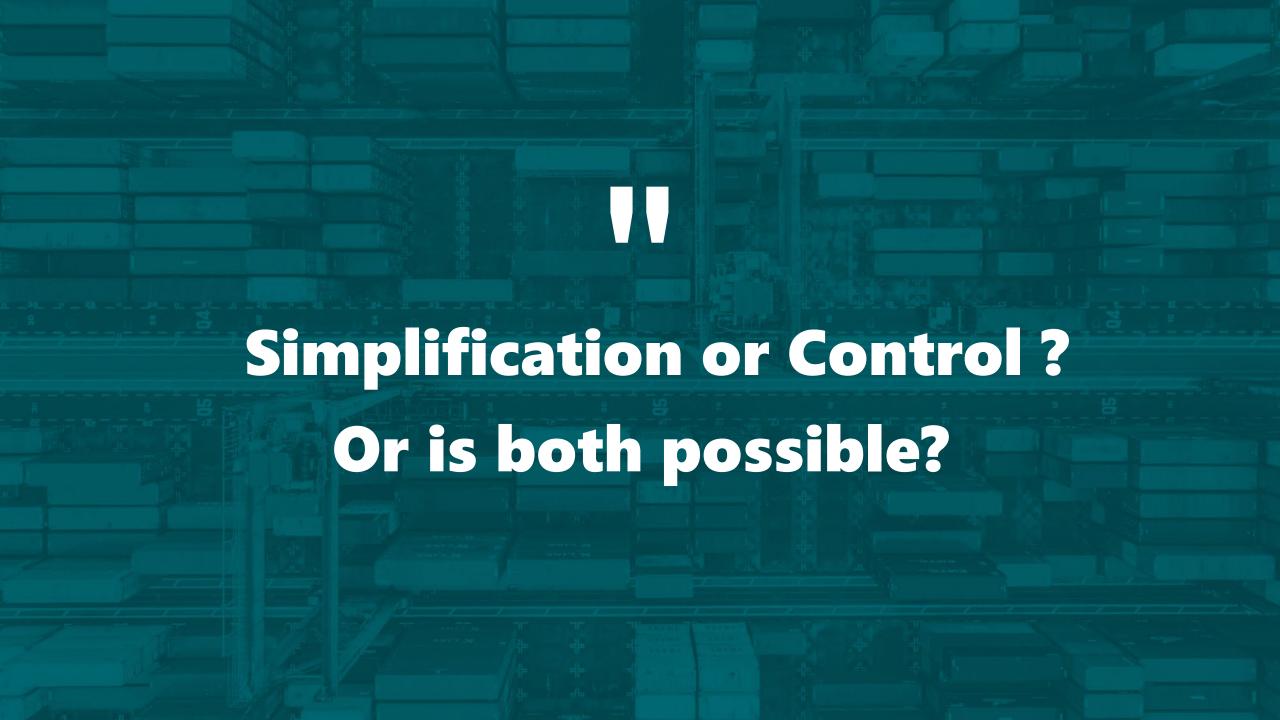
- 2562 km land border with Sweden, Finland and Russia
 - 32 border stations 10 with shared responsibilities with Sweden and Finland (80 unmanned border crossings)
- 2532 km sea border
 - 640 ISPS ports
- 8 int. airports (+ 21 ad hoc manned)
- Incoming volumes:
 - 1,2+ million lorries
 - 260 000+ containers
 - 8 million import declarations
 - 45 million postal consignments
- Organizational preconditions:
 - ~1500 Employees
- Member of EEA (European Economic Area), EU security area, but not member of EU Customs Union.





Time line of Customs and the Norwegian Postal service







e-Commerce a new era of Customs handling of small consignments - from letters to millions of small packages

- Postal privatisation meant no special customs-trained postal officers
 - Less boots on the ground, risk of overload in the postal stream
- New schemes and regulation after 2003 that helped mitigate the small consignment challenge
 - Bulk declaration (2003)
 - VOEC VAT On E-Commerce (2020)
 - Pre arrival warning safety and security (2021→)
- New division into value segments:
 - \$ 0-35 (NOK 0-350) De minimis segment no custom duties, tax or excise no declaration (Sunset 2024)
 - New \$ 35-300 (NOK 350-3000) low value segment not part of trade statistics- possibility to have simplified procedures
 - \$ 300 → (NOK 3000 →) normal Customs declaration, all duties and excises due, part of trade statistics



"Bulk"- declaration scheme

Scope:

- Goods to private persons
- No restrictions or excise duty goods (i.e tobacco, alcohol and foodstuff)
- Value 350-3000 NOK (\$35-300)
- One or two declaration a day, just stating numbers of consignments, values and VAT & Customs Duties
- Given to big & trustworthy transport companies/forwarders handling customs clearance of small consignments

Audit list – post declaration control

- Deliver list with detailed information on the declared goods corresponding to CN 23, at agreed time.
- Previously sent by email with pdf, now delivered by API to risk analysis module (TREFF) in Customs

Future:

Accessible for more transport/forwarders

Turning towards more information arriving preloading/prearrival



VOEC – VAT On E-Commerce – abolishment of the De Minimis rule

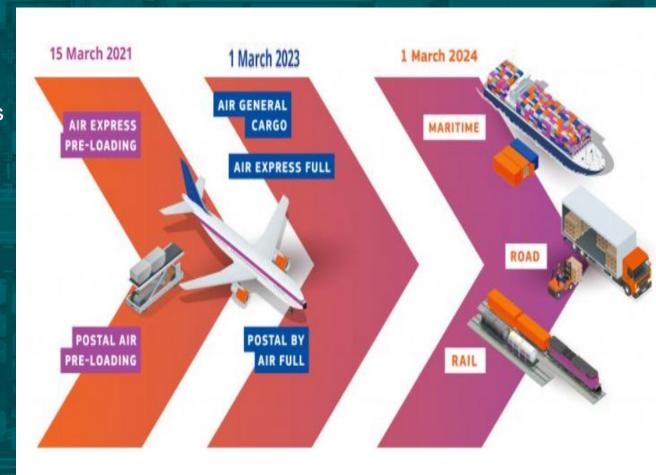
- OECD Model: "The Destination Principle",
 - The «sales platform» is responsible for calculation at the time of sales and collection of VAT(GST) on behalf of Norwegian Tax authorities
 - VAT due quarterly returns may be subtracted from collected VAT
- Scope:
 - Goods with value 0- 3000 NOK (\$ 0-300) shall replace De Minimis
 - Value per item not per consignment (favoured by the sales platforms)
 - To private consumers in Norway
 - Exception: foodstuffs, goods subject to excise duties or restricted goods
 - No customs duties no declaration no administrative handling fees
- Simplified Customs procedures released at the border
 - only pre/arrival notice based on ENS data set with some additions notably:
- The VOEC number which must accompany the consignment
 - Digitally from 1/1 2024
- Pre release digital risk management in TREFF





EU-Pre Arrival Warning – ICS- 1&2&3

- The EU Import Control System Security controls
- Applicable to all consignments entering EU, Norway and Switzerland from other countries
 - Release1: Express and post in air cargo
 - Data: PLACI +1 (Pre-loading advance cargo information)
 - R2: All air consignments in postal, express and general cargo consignments
 - Data: pre-arrival ENS* data requirements.
 - R3: All transport modes
 - Data: pre-arrival ENS* data requirements.
- Data to be assessed in the CRMS
 - (EU Customs Risk Management System)
- Accelerated digitalisation in transport sector





At the end of the day- challenges

- Information in various systems and channels
 - Coordination challenges both in information handling and development, and
 - Burdensome for Economic Operators
- Information both quality and quantity
 - A handwritten CN 22 is not enough in reality CN 23 is a minimum from commercial sellers → ITMATT essential
- Professional and reliable partners in the logistics chain like the Postal Services
 - Establish contacts and give information as often as possible
 - The transporters can help bringing the Customs message up-stream
 - Will supply ideas and help map the logistics chain
- Special challenges with the VOEC scheme:
 - Challenging audits of the sellers platforms due to poor data quality at the border
 - No reliable import data to compare with VAT submission from the sales platforms
 - Risk of double taxation if VOEC-number is missing in the EAD, a normal declaration must be filed
 - Consumer gets charged twice the sales platform must repay the VAT which may seem arbitrarily



