

EU Forced Labour Regulation



DG TRADE Unit C4 (*Multilateral Trade and Sustainable Development Policy, Green Deal, Conflict Minerals*)

DG GROW Unit G1 (*Responsible Business Conduct*)

Key elements



BANS ON THE EU MARKET FOR THE SALE, IMPORT AND EXPORT OF PRODUCTS MADE USING FORCED LABOUR



COMMISSION DEALS WITH CASES OF FORCED LABOUR OUTSIDE THE EU, NATIONAL COMPETENT AUTHORITIES WITH CASES WITHIN THE EU

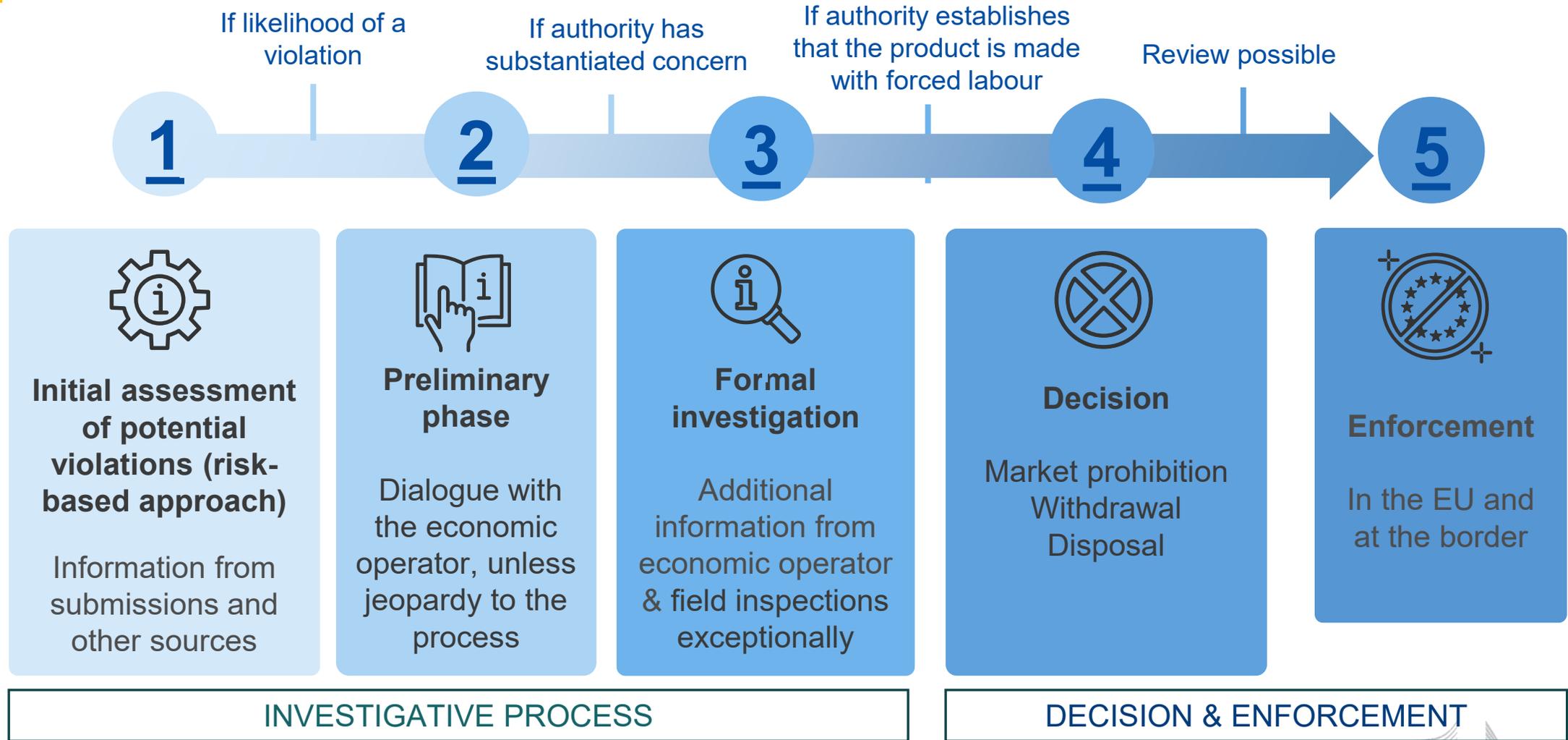


BANS ON SPECIFIC PRODUCTS BASED ON DEDICATED INVESTIGATIONS

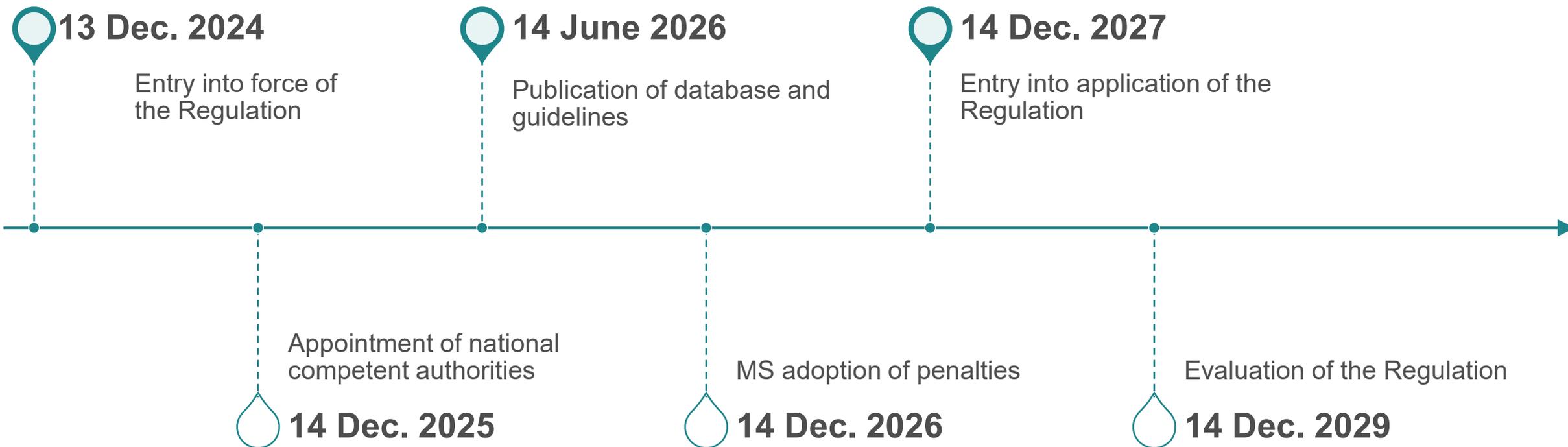


ALL PRODUCTS AND ALL TYPES OF FORCED LABOUR

How it works in practice



Timeline of implementation



Risk Database



Key elements

- Forced labour risks in specific:
 - Geographic areas
 - Products
- Indicative, non-exhaustive (no automatic bans)
- Focus on widespread and severe risks
- No information on economic operators



Sources

- Evidence-based, independent, verifiable information
- From:
 - International organisations (ILO, UN)
 - Institutional organisations
 - Research / academic organisations

Guidelines



For competent authorities

- Guidelines to facilitate the implementation by competent authorities
- Guidelines for customs authorities
- Guidelines for Member States on penalties



For stakeholders

- Guidelines on submissions of information



For economic operators

- Guidelines on due diligence in relation to forced labour
- Guidelines on engagement with competent authorities

Guidelines for economic operators

KEY SOURCES

- OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct, OECD, 2018
- Combating forced labour: A handbook for employers and businesses, ILO and OIE, 2025
- ILO Handbook: Hard to See, Harder to Count, ILO, 2024

OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Scope of the Regulation
- Legal framework (international instruments, due diligence guidelines and related EU instruments)
- Due diligence in relation to forced labour
 - Key concepts (due diligence actions, supply chain, leverage)
 - Process of due diligence

Guidelines - Provisional timeline



Targeted consultations of businesses

- Call for Evidence closed on Friday 6 March [link here](#).
- Targeted consultations to prepare and support key sectors. We are seeking to understand international supply chains.
- Are your businesses aware of the Regulation? Are they ready to apply it?
- Have you identified challenges? What support would be most helpful, especially for smaller companies?
- All input will feed into Commission's guidelines and supporting resources.

Union Network Against Forced Labour Products

- ❖ Established by **Article 6** of the Forced Labour Regulation:
 - To serve as a platform for **structured coordination and cooperation** between the competent authorities and the Commission, and
 - To **streamline the enforcement** of the Regulation
- ❖ **Membership:** national competent authorities (deadline for designation was 14 December 2025), representatives from the **Commission** and where appropriate, representatives from **customs authorities**
- ❖ **Two meetings** already held: 13 November 2025 & 22 January 2026
- ❖ Next meeting: 16 March 2026

Stakeholder expert group on forced labour

- ❖ Purpose: provide advice and assistance to the Commission and MS on the implementation of the FLR, including guidelines and secondary legislation.
- ❖ 35 members (out of >80 applications)
- ❖ Members from industry and business associations, civil society, academia, international organisations
- ❖ High level of expertise on forced labour and supply chains
- ❖ Two meetings already held: 8 December 2025 and 24-25 December 2026 ; next meeting towards 23 March 2026

Analytical in-house capacity building



DEVELOPING SUPPLY CHAIN TRACKING CAPABILITIES

Other implementation workstrands

Single information
submission point

Forced Labour **Single
Portal**

**SME support
measures** (including
national contact
points)