



# *De Minimis* trends and their implications for the postal network

Special Meeting



MODERATION

# Mr Abdel I. Bousseta

**Director of Postal Operations**

UPU International Bureau

P R E S E N T A T I O N

*De minimis* trends

# Implementation of the de minimis suspension as per United States Executive Order No. 14324 of 30 July 2025



S P E A K E R S

# United States of America

# Global De Minimis Suspension (Executive Order 14324)

**The Executive Order, announced on July 30th and effective August 29th, requires international transportation carriers or qualified parties to collect and remit duties, provide shipment data, and secure customs bonds.**

## WHAT IT MEANS FOR POSTAL OPERATORS

### **Duty Collection**

- Carriers transporting mail into the U.S., or other qualified parties in lieu of the transportation carriers, must collect and remit duties to CBP for all qualifying shipments (i.e., goods).

### **Customs Bonds**

- Required for international mail, guaranteeing payment of duties, taxes, and compliance.

### **Enhanced Data & Compliance**

- Transportation carriers or qualified parties must provide detailed shipment data to CBP for every package.
- Penalties apply for non-compliance with de minimis (and other) customs regulations.

# Global De Minimis Suspension (Executive Order 14324)

## REFERENCE MATERIALS & LINKS

Please review the July 30<sup>th</sup> Executive Order Suspending De Minimis for all Countries found here:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/07/suspending-duty-free-de-minimis-treatment-for-all-countries/>

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has provided several guidance documents, which are found here:

[CSMS # 65934463 - GUIDANCE: Payment of Duty on International Mail Shipments pursuant to Executive Order 14324 "Suspending Duty-Free De Minimis Treatment for All Countries"](#)

[https://content.govdelivery.com/bulletins/gd/USDHSCBP-3ee147f?wgt\\_ref=USDHSCBP\\_WIDGET\\_2](https://content.govdelivery.com/bulletins/gd/USDHSCBP-3ee147f?wgt_ref=USDHSCBP_WIDGET_2)

[CSMS # 66062800 - UPDATE: Additional Parties Qualified for the Payment of Duty on International Mail Shipments pursuant to Executive Order 14324 "Suspending Duty-Free De Minimis Treatment for All Countries"](#)

[https://content.govdelivery.com/bulletins/gd/USDHSCBP-3f009d0?wgt\\_ref=USDHSCBP\\_WIDGET\\_2](https://content.govdelivery.com/bulletins/gd/USDHSCBP-3f009d0?wgt_ref=USDHSCBP_WIDGET_2)

[CSMS # 66002708 - Updated De Minimis Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)

[https://content.govdelivery.com/bulletins/gd/USDHSCBP-3ef1f14?wgt\\_ref=USDHSCBP\\_WIDGET\\_2](https://content.govdelivery.com/bulletins/gd/USDHSCBP-3ef1f14?wgt_ref=USDHSCBP_WIDGET_2)

[CSMS # 66065494 - GUIDANCE: Suspension of Duty-Free De Minimis Treatment for All Countries](#)

[https://content.govdelivery.com/bulletins/gd/USDHSCBP-3f01456?wgt\\_ref=USDHSCBP\\_WIDGET\\_2](https://content.govdelivery.com/bulletins/gd/USDHSCBP-3f01456?wgt_ref=USDHSCBP_WIDGET_2)

# Global De Minimis Suspension (Executive Order 14324)

## REFERENCE MATERIALS & LINKS

Everyone can also track CBP updates through the CBP website, including for approved qualified parties, at – <https://www.cbp.gov/trade/basic-import-export/e-commerce>

Everyone can find new CBP Cargo Systems Messaging Service (CSMS) messages at – <https://www.cbp.gov/trade/automated/cargo-systems-messaging-service>



P R E S E N T A T I O N

## *De minimis* trends

# Update on UPU activities relating to the United States Executive Order No. 14324 of 30 July 2025





S P E A K E R

# Mr Jan Bojnansky

**Supply Chain Coordinator**  
UPU International Bureau

# Global *de minimis* trends

## Threshold Reviews

Countries worldwide are reassessing their duty-free thresholds for imported goods

## Threshold Reductions

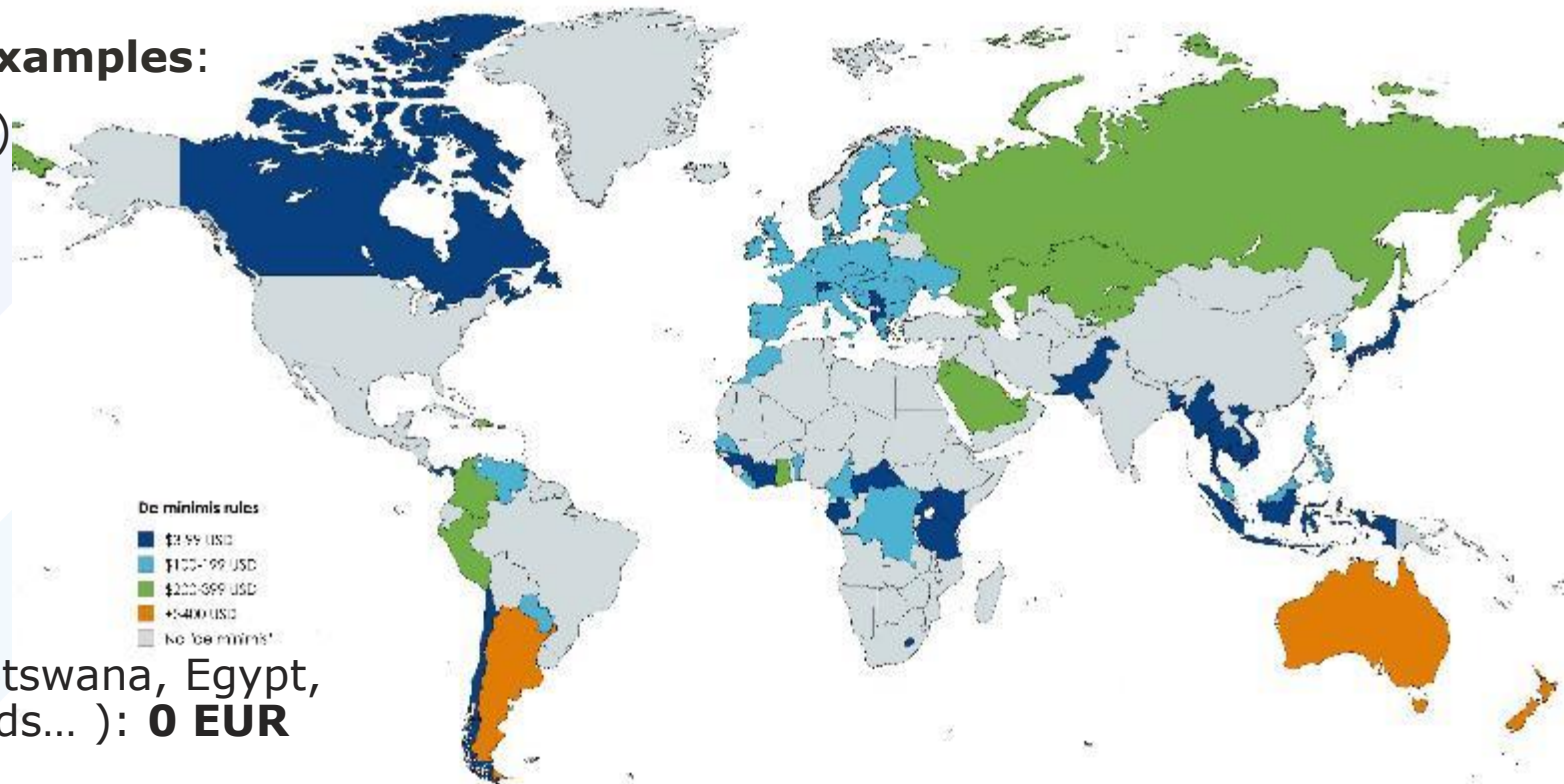
Many jurisdictions lowering previous limits to capture more revenue

## Complete Removals

Some regions eliminating duty-free thresholds entirely (e.g., US Executive Order)

## Current Customs Duty *de minimis* Examples:

- European Union: 150 EUR (0 for VAT)
- United States: 800→0 USD
- Russian Federation: 200 EUR
- Saudi Arabia: 1,000 SAR
- Australia: 1,000 AUD
- Ecuador: 2 USD
- Thailand: 1,500 THB
- UK: 135 GBP
- Serbia: 50 EUR
- Türkiye: 30 EUR
- **40+** (China, India, Brazil, Bolivia, Botswana, Egypt, Montenegro, most of Caribbean islands... ): **0 EUR**



# Key challenges for Mail Operations

**1. Elimination of \$800 De Minimis for all postal items to US containing goods**

**2. Mandates collecting duties at Origin for postal shipments**

**3. Country of Origin of the article must be declared**

**These new EO requirements are changing dramatically current Supply chain (SC) rules and impact all SC stakeholders (DOs, customers, carriers, customs, ...)**



# Key pillars to keep mail to US moving



## Clarification of Requirements

Close coordination with US authorities (DoS, CBP, USPS) on new US customs rules to ensure complete understanding of EO requirements and processes.



## IT Tools for Duty Management

Development of systems to calculate, collect, and remit duties to CBP. More market solutions available (UPU tool forthcoming to facilitate compliance presented soon).



## Carrier Coordination

Permanent discussions with IATA/carriers on their readiness to meet EO requirements, solutions for DOs, and liability waivers to keep mail moving



# IB Communication with stakeholders (1)

1. Close coordination with US authorities, carriers, and DOs on new US customs rules. Analysis and distribution of US CBP guidance;
2. [UPU Circular issued](#) on 7 and 21 Aug, including information on exemptions for documents and gifts up to 100 USD;
3. UPU Director General letter to US Secretary of State reaffirmed UPU's readiness to collaborate with US through consultations to minimize disruptions and ensure smooth implementation.
4. Global [UPU and US webinar](#) with Q&A session held on 27 Aug with 1,000+ participants;
5. [EmIS updates](#) published on 29 Aug with detailed processes & [FAQ clarifications](#);



# IB Communication with stakeholders (2)

6. [UPU Delivered Duty Paid solution](#) designed to simplify collection/remittance and reduce carrier liability; [EmIS 2025.200](#)
7. Initial DDP implementations started with CBP "qualified parties";
8. Ongoing discussions with IATA/carriers on their readiness to meet EO's requirements, solutions for DOs and liability waivers;
9. Extraordinary IATA-UPU CC calls on 23 Aug & 3 Sep
10. Continuous monitoring and collection of lessons learned in cooperation with all mail SC stakeholders (US, IATA, carriers, RUs, IT suppliers)



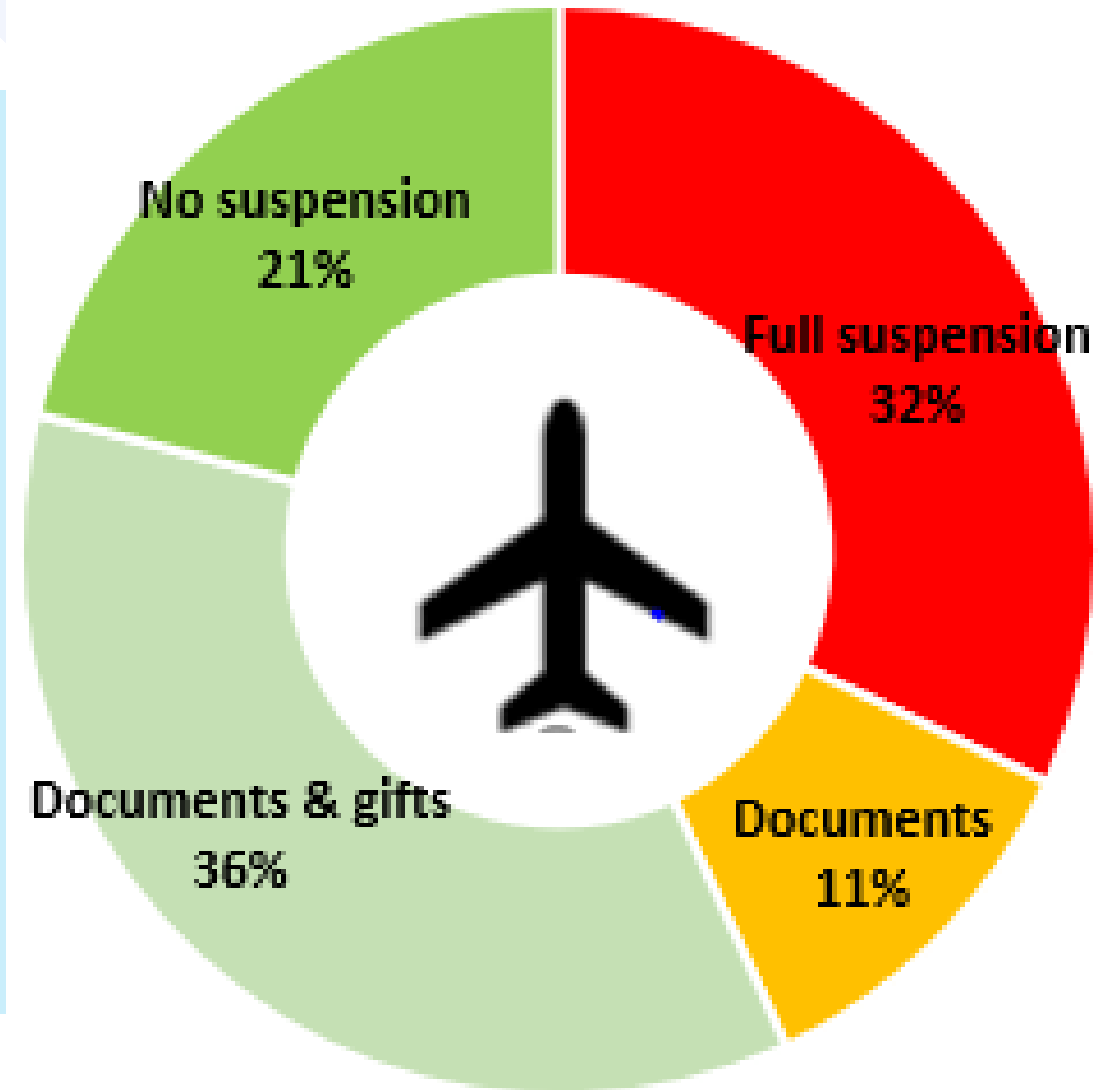
# Status of carriers' mail transport to the US

Information as at 9 September

**Extra-ordinary IATA-UPU CC calls and UPU survey** on carriers' position on transport of mail to US after 29 August

## Key outcomes

- The third of the carriers applied a full temporary suspension due to lack of clarity on carriers' liability (2 weeks before nearly 100% wanted to apply a full mail embargo)
- Majority of carriers continues only with specific mail sub-classes (docs and gifts)
- Some carriers already transport also items containing goods based on a liability waiver
- The situation remains fluid with ongoing improvements and carriers' readiness as processes are clarified and tested





# UPU and US Customs and Border Protection's FAQs

**The key issue for carriers is confirmed by CBP:**

**[www.cbp.gov/trade/basic-import-export/e-commerce/faqs](https://www.cbp.gov/trade/basic-import-export/e-commerce/faqs)**

**If a qualified party has assumed liability for the proper remittance of duties on an international postal shipment, will the carrier — still be liable if the qualified party fails to pay any of such duties?**

No, if a qualified party assumes liability for proper remittance of the duties owed for shipments identified on the monthly worksheet submitted to CBP, it is the qualified party, not the carrier, who will be liable for any underpayment under the terms of their basic importation bond (along with the surety on the bond).



# UPU IB support to members *on de minimis* trends

**Cooperation with all SC stakeholders (Posts, Customs, Carriers, IATA, WCO, UNCTAD, ...)** to tune all details on roles and responsibilities in relation to advance duty collection and remittance

**Minimize the disruption to international mail** by identifying potential transitional arrangements or phased approaches to implementation of the EO (including pilot testing with Customs, DOs, partners)



**Exploring the role of existing UPU publications, technology (incl AI...), standards & settlement systems** in supporting compliance with specific customs frameworks adopted by the US and other Union member countries





P R E S E N T A T I O N

*De minimis* trends

# UPU Delivered Duty Paid Solution



S P E A K E R

# Mr Lati Matata

**Director of the UPU Postal  
Technology Centre**

UPU International Bureau

# UPU Delivered Duty Paid (DDP) solution

## Shipping goods by all Posts

A global solution for all  
192 UPU member countries  
and their designated postal operators

## Collecting Duties and Taxes at Origin

Retail, counter, online  
and app payment channels

**UPU Customs  
Declaration System  
(CDS) and APIs**

*facilitating DDP  
and EAD*

## Settlement with customs authority at destination

Bilateral or multilateral settlement  
channels (customs, posts, supplier)

## Transport and delivery to recipient

Electronic Advance Data (EAD)  
compliance and customer visibility

# Launching the service – 4 steps

**The postal operator must carry out important steps to launch the service**

## **1) Contact the PTC**

to begin upgrade procedures for CDS software

<https://support.upu.int>

*(not required if the postal operator users of CDS cloud or CDS.post)*

## **2) Visit**

**[www.upu.int/DDP](http://www.upu.int/DDP)**

- Updates on the release plan of the technology
- User guides and documentation on the service

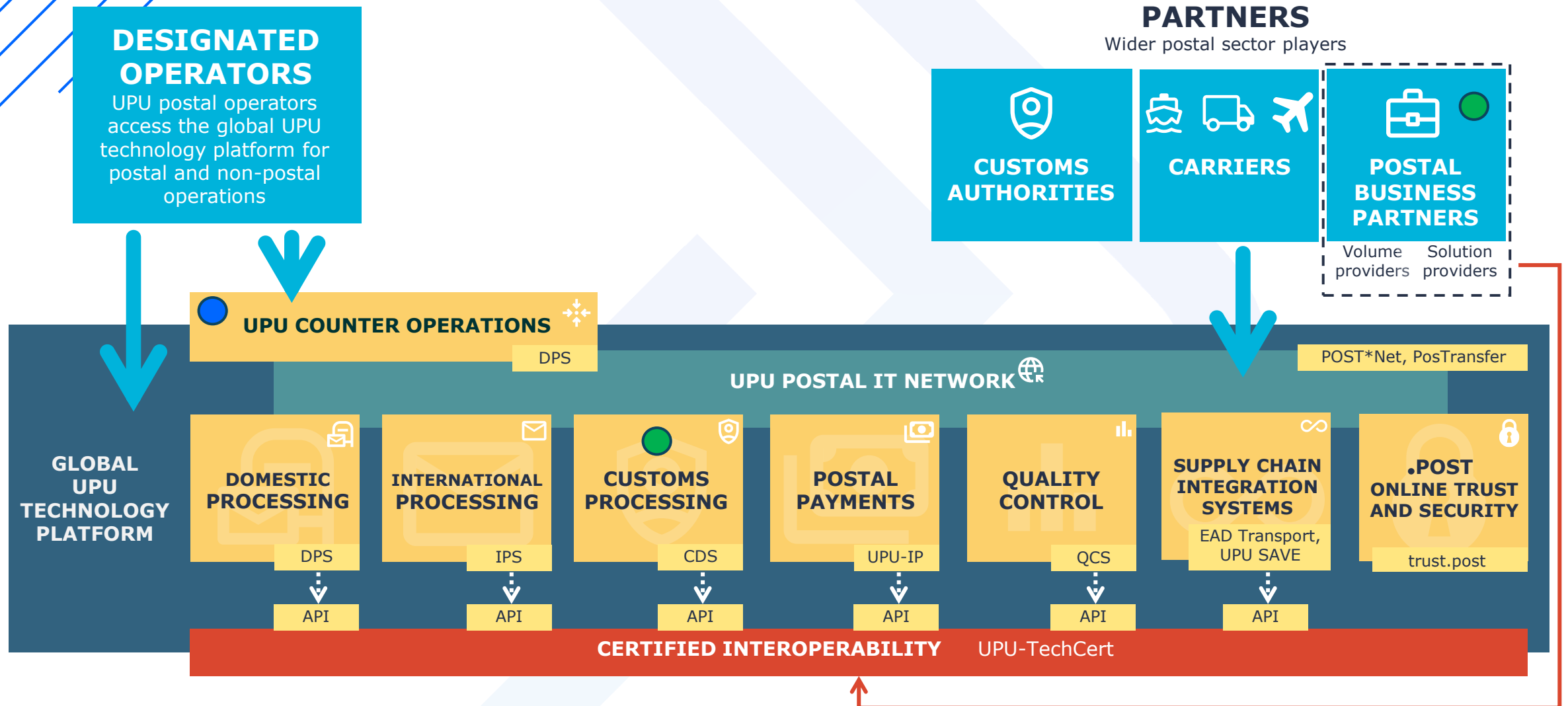
## **3) Internal procedures**

- Prepare for changes in your retail and counter procedures to collect the duties and taxes from your customers
- Reconciliation of accounts, payments, settlement procedures (bilateral or multilateral)

## **4) Customer awareness and marketing campaigns**

- To retain your current customers
- To offer the service to new customers

# Technology Strategy 2026-2029





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# Implications for the global postal network



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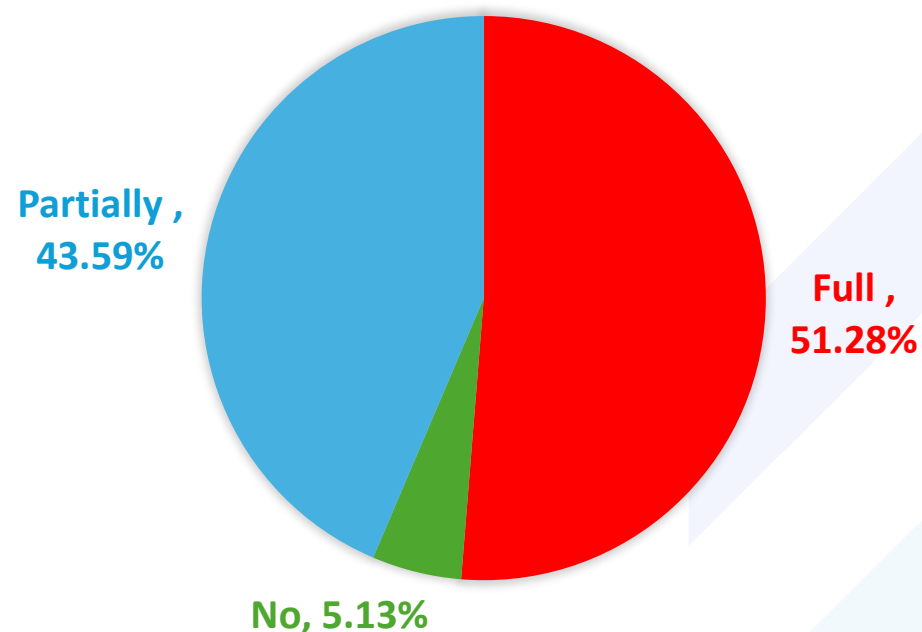
# Mr Chokri Ellili

**Physical Services Implementation  
and Capacity Building Programme  
Manager**

UPU International Bureau

# Summary of Postal Service Disruption Analysis (1 of 3)

## Suspension of postal services to the United States

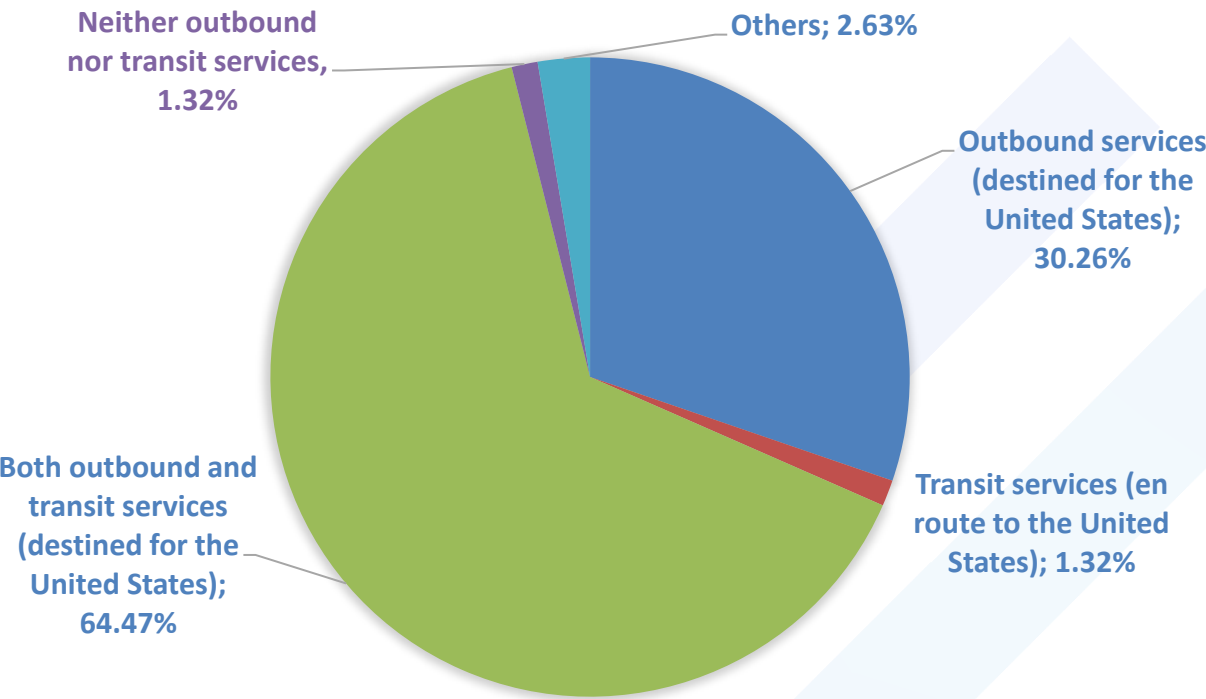


## Categories of postal items affected by suspension

Category	% Affected
• Only items containing goods	60.27%
• Goods valued up to 800 USD	45.21%
• Goods valued from 800 to 2,500 USD	42.47%
• Goods valued over 2,500 USD	41.10%
• All postal items	31.51%
• Gifts valued at 100 USD or less	27.40%

# Summary of Postal Service Disruption Analysis (2 of 3)

Distribution of service types affected by postal suspension

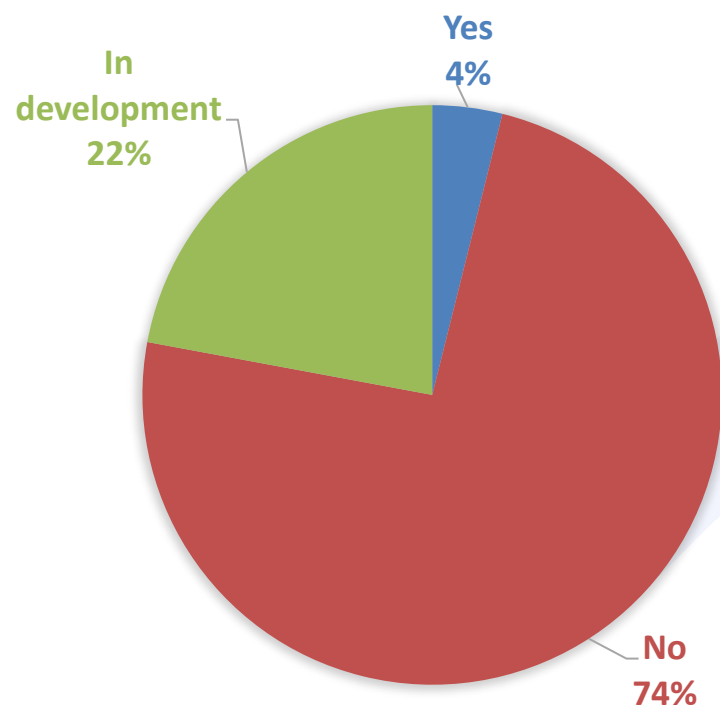


Primary Reasons for Suspension of Postal Services

Reason	% of Responses
Both postal and airline non-compliance	58.11%
Non-compliance with U.S. executive order	16.22%
Airline refusal or inability to transport items	13.51%
Other	12.16%

# Summary of Postal Service Disruption Analysis (3 of 3)

## Availability of a delivered duty paid (DDP) solution for items to the United States



## Interest in Adopting the UPU's DDP Solution (with CDS Integration)

### Response Category

- Interested
- Undecided
- Already in discussion with UPU
- Not interested

### % of Responses

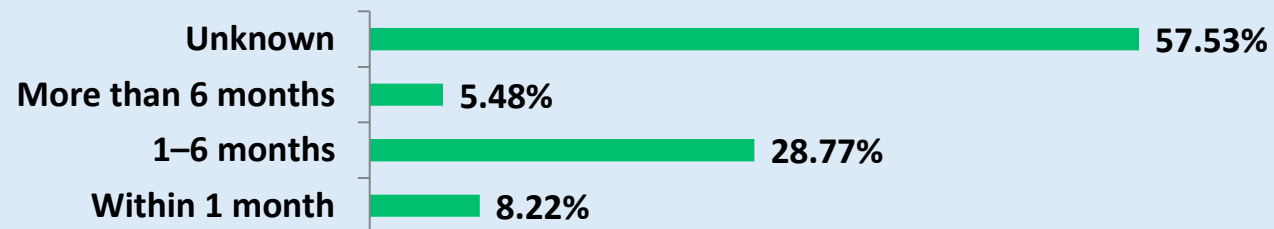
48.00%

38.67%

9.33%

4.00%

### Estimated timeline for resumption

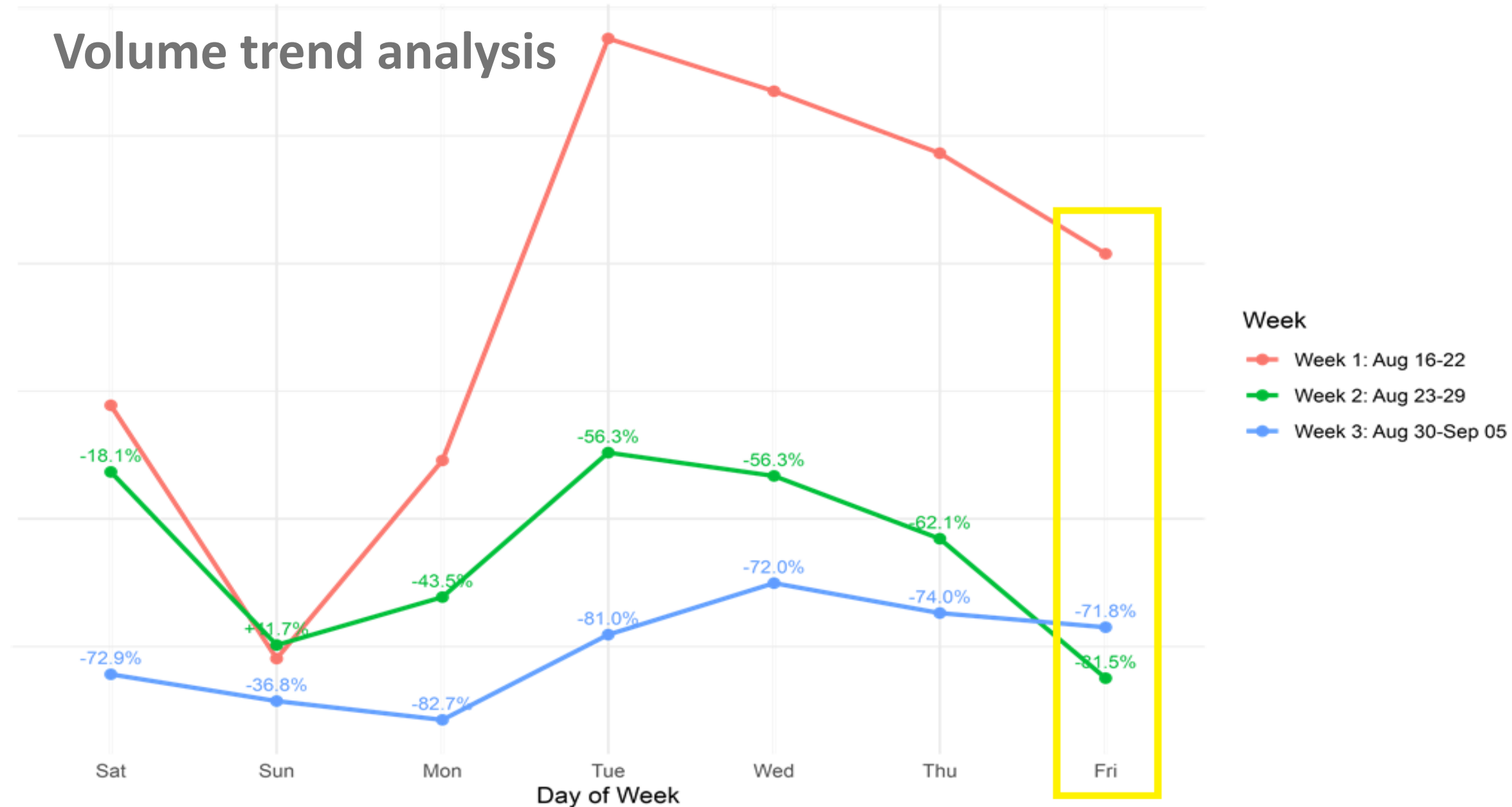


# US inbound items: Week 1 vs Week 2 vs Week 3 (daily)

Labels on Weeks 2 & 3 show % change vs the same weekday in Week 1

## Volume trend analysis

Items



P R E S E N T A T I O N

# Regional perspectives from UPU Restricted Unions



## STATEMENT

# Special Meeting on De Minimis Trends and Their Implications for the Postal Network

28th Universal Postal Congress, Dubai  
10 September 2025

**Dr. Botond Szebeny**  
**Secretary General, PostEurop**

# Status - PostEurop Members

- PostEurop: representing 53 European DOs, all impacted in principle by the 30 July U.S. Executive Order on De Minimis
- Almost all PostEurop Members have been forced to temporarily suspend (at least partially) their services to the U.S.
- Working hard on finding solutions with our partners to resume the traffic as soon as possible

# Key messages

- We respect the sovereign right of Member States to decide on tariffs and customs procedures
- Challenges posed by the decision:
  - Extremely short implementation period with unclarity in the implementation rules (especially at the beginning)
  - Heavy operational and technical impact due to the different model applied (e.g. collection of duties in advance, additional data requirements)
  - Increased risk exposure created by the modified liability conditions
  - Critical role of the carriers (i.e. airlines) and of the qualified parties

# Summary

- If we do not preserve the **unique global postal model** or prevent fragmentation of the international postal network, we risk losing our customers
- Beyond that, the society as a whole could face reduced access to reliable, affordable, and inclusive cross border postal services which has been proven for years are essential for social cohesion and economic development

# THANK YOU

**PostEurop**•

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OPEN DISCUSSION

# Questions and Answers



# Thank you