

What is PIC?



Prior Informed Consent Regulation.

Regulates import and export of hazardous chemicals from the EU.

Implements at EU level the Rotterdam Convention, but has some additional provisions.

Deals with chemicals that are by definition either banned or severely restricted in the EU.

What does PIC apply to?



List of chemicals in Annex I.

Two high level categories:

- Industrial use (professional and public)
- Pesticides (plant protection products, biocides)

List of chemicals in Annex V (subject to an export ban).

What is in Annex I?

Currently, 977 chemicals all subject to an export notification: export cannot take place before the receiving country has been notified.



Is divided into three parts.

PART 1 chemicals

Subject to an export notification

161 entries covering 136 substances and 26 groups

PART 2 chemicals

Subject to an export notification AND and explicit consent from the importing country.

79 entries, e.g. nicotine

PART 3 chemicals

Subject to an export notification AND the rules of the Rotterdam convention.

Chemicals formally listed in the Rotterdam Convention

43 entries, e.g. ethylene oxide

What changes with the recast?



New regulation is adapted to the CLP Regulation.

Operational responsibility shifts from the European Commission to ECHA.

Fixed timelines for different actors.

REACH Enforcement Forum to coordinate enforcement.

What are the timelines?



35 days before export is due to take place: Exporters must notify the designated national authority in which they are established.

25 days: Designated national authorities have to finalise the compliance check and send the notification to ECHA.

15 days: ECHA sends the notification to the national authority in the receiving country.

What are the main differences between the Rotterdam Convention and PIC?

Rotterdam Convention



International convention. Exchange of information only between countries that have ratified.

Lists a limited number of chemicals (43) many of which are no longer actively traded.

Chemicals are associated with a specific use, which restricts the number of exports falling under the rules of the Convention.

PIC



Exports from the EU are notified to all countries in the world regardless of whether the country has ratified the Convention.

Expands the list of chemicals subject to regulatory obligations to include substances that are traded on a daily basis.

Focuses on the exported chemical, not on its intended use.