



# INFORMATION SHEET

## TIMBER AND FOREST PRODUCTS CONTAINING FIBRE FROM RUSSIA & BELARUS

### LEGALITY AND TARIFFS



#### **Is it illegal to import Russian or Belarusian fibre?**

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Provided that an importer can get to low risk in their illegal logging due diligence system (a feat that is not easy to achieve), it is not illegal to import fibre emanating from Russia. Australia has not followed other countries in making imports from Russia illegal.



#### **What are the increased tariffs?**

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The Australian Government implemented an additional 35% on imports as determined in accordance with section 159 of the Customs Act 1901 on fibre from Russia in certain circumstances.



#### **When do the increased tariffs apply?**

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The additional duty applies to goods that are the produce or manufacture of Russia or Belarus and left for shipment to Australia on or after 25 April 2022 and are entered for home consumption in Australia between 25 April 2022 and 24 October 2025 (inclusive). The additional duty on these goods is payable when goods are entered for home consumption.





### **What does 'produce or manufacture of' mean?**

The Australian Border Force has extensive information about this on their [website](#). Goods are the produce or manufacture of Russia or Belarus if:

- the goods are unmanufactured raw products of Russia or Belarus within the meaning of the Customs Act 1901; or
- the last process in the manufacture of the goods was performed in Russia or Belarus.

Goods will continue to be the produce or manufacture of Russia or Belarus if the goods are exported to another country and undergo the following, or similar, processes:

- operations to preserve goods in good condition for the purposes of transport or storage
- changing of packaging or the breaking up or assembly of packages
- disassembly of goods
- placing goods in bottles, cases or boxes, fixing on cars or other simple packaging operations
- affixing of marks, labels or other similar distinguishing signs on goods or their packaging
- simple processes of sifting, screening, sorting or classifying or other similar simple processes.

The above list is not an exhaustive list of the processes that will be disregarded for the purposes of determining if goods are the produce or manufacture of Russia or Belarus.

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