

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**BETWEEN**  
**MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (FINLAND)**  
**AND**  
**MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (ESTONIA)**  
**ON FACILITATING COOPERATION, EXCHANGING INFORMATION AND**  
**DISCUSSING DIGITALISATION AND DATA RELATED INITIATIVES IN THE**  
**LOGISTICS SECTOR**

Ministry of Transport and Communications in Finland represented by Minister of Transport and Communication Timo Harakka and Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications in Estonia represented by Minister of Entrepreneurship and Information Technology Kristjan Järvan, hereafter referred to as "the Participants",

RECOGNIZING that the green transition affects societies as a whole, while digitalisation has a key role in enabling innovation and enhancing resilience, sustainability and security.

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that this twin transition calls for new skills, investments and operational flexibility.

RECOGNIZING the need of cooperation and common dialogue to jointly overcome the challenges in order to increase the efficiency and competitiveness of our societies and businesses, and to improve the wellbeing of our citizens.

DESIRING to facilitate a joint understanding on sharing their resources, experience and expertise with regard to facilitating the cooperation, exchange of information and to discuss digitalisation and data related initiatives;

RECALLING the joint position paper of 3 June 2021 on achieving an interoperable electronic freight information exchange system in Europe, supported by Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland Malta, Denmark and Romania.

RECOGNISING that the digitalisation of transport and logistics directly contributes to the efficient functioning of logistics and more widely to society, and supports the objectives of

Real-Time Economy and the existing co-operation in the North Sea – Baltic Sea Core Network Corridor, both within and outside the Trans-European Transport Network,

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE EU's strategies for digitalisation and data, regulation such as the Data Governance Act and the Data Act that aim to build Europe-wide data spaces also in the mobility sector, the reformed requirements for cargo information systems (ICS2), and Directive 2010/40/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2010 on the framework for the deployment of Intelligent Transport Systems in the field of road transport and for interfaces with other modes of transport<sup>1</sup> (ITS Directive), Regulation (EU) 2020/1056 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 July 2020 on electronic freight transport information<sup>2</sup> (eFTI) and its common elements, and the implementation of the Regulation on a European Maritime Single Window environment (EMSW)<sup>3</sup>,

NOTING the ongoing and planned cooperation and common projects between the public and the private sector, and relevant stakeholders such as associations and organisations.

RESPECTING the Participants' national planning, permission and decision-making procedures.

Have reached the following understanding:

## **SECTION 1**

### **Objective**

1. The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding is to initiate and facilitate co-operation and the exchange of information, and to discuss digitalisation and data related initiatives in the logistics sector.
2. Within the context of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Participants will share their resources, experience and expertise with regard the following matters, namely to:
  - a) establish a forum for collaboration at the level of the Participants' ministries;
  - b) emphasise public-private collaboration on the digitalisation of logistics;

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<sup>1</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32010L0040&from=EN>

<sup>2</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32020R1056&from=en>

<sup>3</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32019R1239&from=en>

- c) communicate topical questions and exchange information, especially regarding green and digital logistics and the practical implementation of the relevant EU-regulations;
- d) seek funding opportunities for interoperable cross-border data exchange projects, pilots and system and service development.

## **SECTION 2**

### **Areas of co-operation**

The Participants cooperate, exchange information and discuss common digitalisation initiatives related to fostering the green transition of the logistics sector. The key objective is to have safer societies, including, reliable and sustainable transport systems. The aim is to ensure the Participants' frontrunner position in implementing eFTI, and to showcase for cross-border solutions. Interoperable cross-border solutions are recognised as a fundamental part of advancing the digital transformation and scalability. The Participants will elaborate their approach based on common values, and find means to lead a digital transition that stems from trust, the wellbeing of citizens and a desire to facilitate the business environment.

## **SECTION 3**

### **Stakeholder involvement**

Stakeholders, ecosystems and groups of organisations have a key role in achieving the common goals. This Memorandum of Understanding recognises the need to engage stakeholders and to facilitate the cooperation in order to reach the common goals and interoperability, and it especially encourages the sharing of information on how the goals could be reached.

## **SECTION 4**

### **Exchange of information**

1. All information provided or generated pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding will be used, transmitted, stored and handled in accordance with the Participants' national laws and regulations.

2. Relevant information will be exchanged through recognised representatives of the Participants, ad hoc working groups and/or through other relevant means. Participants will establish information exchange for the purposes of Memorandum of Understanding.

## **SECTION 5**

### **Financial contribution**

Each Participant will bear its own expenses in connection with the cooperation carried out in accordance with this Memorandum of Understanding.

## **SECTION 6**

### **Disputes**

Any dispute arising from the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding will be resolved amicably between the Participants through negotiations and consultations, and will not be referred to any national or international tribunal or third party for settlement.

## **SECTION 7**

### **Amendments**

The Memorandum of Understanding may be amended at any time by the mutual written consent of the Participants.

## **SECTION 8**

### **Duration and effective dates**

The Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect on the date of its signature and will remain in effect unless terminated in accordance with section 9 of this Memorandum of Understanding.

## **SECTION 9**

### **Termination**

This Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by mutual decision or by either Participant giving six months' written notice. The Participants will consult to determine how any outstanding matter should be dealt with. Termination will not affect the validity of any contract made under this Memorandum of Understanding.

## **SECTION 10**

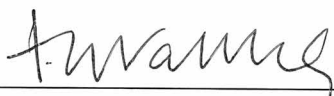
### **Relationship with national and international law**

1. This Memorandum of Understanding is not legally binding and is not intended to supersede national law or international obligations by which the Participants are bound. The participants will notify each other in case of any conflict arising from this Memorandum of Understanding.
2. This Memorandum of Understanding is not eligible for registration under Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

The foregoing represents the understanding reached between the Participants on the matters referred to in this Memorandum of Understanding.

Signed in on the 15 day of November, 2022, in duplicate, in the English language.

On behalf of Ministry of Transport  
and Communications



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Timo Harakka

Minister of Transport and Communications

Finland

On behalf of Ministry of  
Economic Affairs and Communications



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Kristjan Järvan

Minister of Entrepreneurship and  
Information Technology

Estonia