

South-East European Freight Forwarders Association (SEEFF)

SEEFF Congress & FIATA REU Field Meeting 2026

Bucharest, Romania, 19th May 2026

**TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF SOUTH-EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES
TO THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND RELEVANT EU INSTITUTIONS
TO FIATA, CLECAT AND ALL INTERNATIONAL PARTNER ORGANISATIONS
and
TO NATIONAL FREIGHT FORWARDING AND LOGISTICS ASSOCIATIONS**

JOINT DECLARATION

Following the mission of the South-East European Freight Forwarders Association (SEEFF) to unite the efforts of national freight forwarding associations in South-Eastern Europe and contribute to a transparent, competitive, secure and sustainable logistics environment;

Recognising the strategic importance of freight forwarding and logistics for Europe's economic resilience, connectivity, and competitiveness, particularly in Central and Southeastern Europe;

Taking into consideration the growing importance of fraud prevention, cybersecurity, secure parking infrastructure, due diligence procedures and cooperation between public authorities, insurers, technology providers and logistics stakeholders in combating cargo crime and organised fraud;

Acknowledging the increasing geopolitical uncertainty, supply chain disruptions, security risks, regulatory pressure and the accelerated digital and green transformation affecting transport and logistics companies throughout Europe;

Recognising the growing importance of intermodal connectivity, strategic transport corridors, supply chain security and practical regulatory implementation for the long-term competitiveness and resilience of the sector;

SEEFF and the participating associations hereby:

1. *CALL UPON* the European institutions and national governments to ensure predictable, harmonised and business-oriented implementation of the growing number of transport, customs, sustainability and digital regulations affecting freight forwarding and logistics companies, while safeguarding the competitiveness of SMEs;

2. *URGE* governments, European institutions and international financial organisations to prioritise investments in strategic transport infrastructure and intermodal connectivity in South-Eastern Europe, including railways, ports, inland waterways, intermodal terminals, secure parking facilities and digital transport systems, with particular focus on the TEN-T network, the Black Sea region, the Danube corridor and the Middle Corridor;

South-East European Freight Forwarders Association (SEEFF) was established for an unlimited period to address the problems in the transport sector and the adoption of the Acquis Communautaire for all countries in the region. Since 1996 SEEFF has involved freight forwarding branch associations from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Moldova, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey, and Ukraine (listed in alphabetical order) and remains open for other countries from the region to join.

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3. CALL FOR stronger regional and international cooperation in combating cargo theft, fraud, cybercrime and other security threats affecting supply chains, including the development of harmonised security standards, secure parking infrastructure and effective information exchange between public authorities and the private sector;

4. SUPPORT the accelerated digitalisation of transport and logistics processes through the wider deployment and mutual recognition of electronic transport and customs documentation systems, increased interoperability and practical measures facilitating secure and efficient cross-border operations;

5. EMPHASISE that the transition towards sustainable and resilient logistics systems must be accompanied by realistic implementation timelines, adequate financial support, investment in innovation and stronger cooperation between governments, industry and educational institutions to address workforce shortages and ensure the long-term competitiveness of the sector.

6. CALL UPON the European Commission, the European Parliament, EU Member States and the relevant authorities to address the unintended consequences of the Schengen short-stay regime and the Entry/Exit System (EES) on international road transport operations involving professional drivers from non-EU countries in South-Eastern Europe. SEEFF supports the development of practical and secure solutions for highly mobile transport professionals, including a dedicated legal framework, that would enable them to perform their duties without facing unnecessary administrative barriers, while preserving the integrity of EU border management and ensuring the continuity, resilience and competitiveness of European supply chains.

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