

Overview of Liability Regulations in Europe

Country	Period of Liability	Liability / Limits	Time Bar of Complaints	Period of Limitation	Legal Basis
Austria	During custody (collection & delivery)	 Damage to goods: 8.33 SDR per kg Delay: amount of 1x time freight Other financial losses: in accordance with HGB (commercial code) 	 Visible damages: immediately on delivery Concealed damages: 7 days after delivery Delay: 21 days after delivery 	 1 year 3 years in case of gross negligence 	UGB (commercial code) / CMR*
Belgium	Basically: during custody (collection - delivery) Exception: with handover of transport documents	 Damage to goods: 8.33 SDR per kg Delay: amount of 1x time freight 	 Visible damages: immediately on delivery Concealed damages: 7 days after delivery 	• 1 year	National Contract Law dd. May 3rd, 1999 / CMR*
Bulgaria	During custody (collection & delivery)	 Damage to goods: 8.33 SDR per kg Delay: amount of 1x time freight Other financial losses: national civil code 	1 month after delivery	1 year 3 years in case of gross negligence	National Transport Law / CMR*
Czech Republic	During custody (collection & delivery)	Damage to goods: full amount (as per invoice value)	Immediately on delivery	 1 year 3 years in case of gross negligence 	HGB (Commercial Code)
Denmark	During custody (collection & delivery)	Damage to goods: no limitations	 Visible damages: immediately on delivery Concealed damages: 7 days after delivery 	• 5 years	Road Traffic Act (Faerdelsloven LBK No. 712 vom 02.08.2001)
Finland	During custody (collection & delivery)	 Damage to goods: 20 EUR per kg Delay: amount of 1x time freight 	 Visible damages: immediately on delivery Concealed damages: 7 days after delivery 	• 1 year	Act of Parliament governing the domestic and international transport of goods by road dd. 1979
France	During custody (collection & delivery)	 Damage to goods: Consignment up to 3 tons: 23 EUR per kg but max. 750 EUR per package Consignment over 3 tons: 14 EUR per kg but max. 2300 EUR per ton of consignment Refrigerated cargoes: 14 EUR per kg but max. 4000 EUR per ton of consignment 	3 days after delivery (by officially registered letter)	• 1 year	National Transport Law / Code de Commerce L 133- 1 et seq. and decree (depend- ing on contract type)
Germany	During custody (collection & delivery)	 Damage to goods: 8.33 SDR per kg Delay: amount of 3x times freight Other financial losses: amount of 3x times indemnification as for loss 	 Visible damages: immediately on delivery Concealed damages: 7 days after delivery Delay: 21 days after delivery 	 1 year 3 years in case of gross negligence 	HGB (Commercial Code)
Hungary	During custody (collection & delivery)	 Damage to goods: full amount (as per invoice value) Delay: amount of 1x time freight Other financial losses: national civil code 	 Visible damages: immediately on delivery Concealed damages: 3 days after delivery 	• 1 year	BGB (Civil Code)
Italy	During custody (collection & delivery)	Damage to goods: 1 EUR per kg	 Visible damages: immediately on delivery Concealed damages: 8 days after delivery 	 1 year 18 months for transports from/to non-European countries 	Codice Civile 1683-1702; laws No. 450/1985, No. 162/1993; decree No. 286/2005 et seq.
Netherlands	During custody (collection & delivery)	 Damage to goods: 3.40 EUR per kg Delay: amount of 1x time freight (if AVC 2002 is agreed) 	Immediately on delivery	• 1 year	Civil Code, Book 8 or AVC 2002

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Norway	During custody (collection & delivery)	 Damage to goods: 17 SDR per kg Delay: amount of 1x time freight 	 Visible damages: immediately on delivery Concealed damages: 8 days after delivery 	• 1 year	CMR
Poland	During custody (collection & delivery)	 Damage to goods: full amount (as per invoice value) Delay: amount of 2x times freight Other financial losses: national civil code 	 Visible damages: immediately on delivery Concealed damages: 7 days after delivery Delay: 21 days after delivery 	 1 year 6 months against freight forwarders, in case of delay: 2 months after delivery 	USTAWA z dnla 15 Ilstopada 1984 r. Prawo przewozowe, Kodeks Cywllny
Portugal	During custody (collection & delivery)	 Damage to goods: 8.33 SDR per kg Delay: amount of 1x time freight 	 Visible damages: immediately on delivery Concealed damages: 8 days after delivery Delay: 7 days after delivery 	• 1 year	Transport Law: Decreto-Ley No. 239/2003
Romania	During custody (collection & delivery)	 Damage to goods: converted amount of USD 2.50 (in RON) per kg Delay: amount of 1x time freight Other financial losses: national civil code 	 Visible damages: immediately on delivery Concealed damages: 7 days after delivery Delay: 21 days after delivery 	 1 year 3 years in case of gross negligence 	CMR* (in accordance with VO 27/2011)
Slovakia	During custody (collection & delivery)	 Damage to goods: full amount (as per invoice value) 	Immediately on delivery	 1 year 3 years in case of gross negligence 	HGB (Commercial Code) / CMR*
Slovenia	During custody (collection & delivery)	 Damage to goods: 8.33 SDR per kg plus freight Delay: amount of 2x times freight 	Visible damages: immediately on delivery Concealed damages: 7 days after delivery	 1 year 3 years in case of gross negligence 	ZPPCP
Spain	 Full truck load: during custody (collection & delivery) Combined load: during custody (collection & delivery) Carrier is also liable for loading and unloading 	 Damage to goods: 1/3 IPREM per kg (approx. 6 EUR per kg where IPREM means annual amount of the public revenue index) Delay: amount of 1x time freight Move: 20 IPREM per m3 	 Visible damages: immediately on delivery Concealed damages: 7 days after delivery Delay: 21 days after delivery 	 1 year 2 years in case of gross negligence 	LCCTM / Spanlsh Commercial Law
Sweden	During custody (collection & delivery)	Damage to goods: 150 SEK per kg	 Visible damages: immediately on delivery Concealed damages: 7 days after delivery 	• 1 year	Swedish Road Transport Act
Switzerland	During custody (collection & delivery)	 Damage to goods: full amount (as per invoice value) Delay: full amount up to invoice value (i.e. similar to damage to goods) 	 Visible damages: immediately on delivery Concealed damages: 8 days after delivery 	• 1 year	Swiss Code of Obligations (CO), Art. 440 et seq.
United Kingdom	During custody (collection & delivery)	 Damage to goods: max. 1.300 GBP per ton of consignment Delay: amount of 1x time freight 	Written notification within 7 days after termination of transit	• 1 year	RHA Conditions of Carriage 2009

* - CMR adopted into national law with deviations