

Balance of payments and foreign investments

Newsletter
nr 1

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phone + 32 2 221 40 99 — e-mail sxselect@nbb.be

1. Upgrade of the security protocol for nbb applications to TLS 1.2

On Tuesday, **30 January 2018**, the National Bank of Belgium is changing **its website parameters** and it is therefore possible that you may need to make a similar change, obliging your browser to use only the TLS1.2 profile.

TLS1.0 and TLS1.1 will no longer be supported. The table below gives more information on compatibility. A2A (Application to Application) users must inform their IT officer of the change and check that their infrastructure is compatible with TLS1.2.

The NBB IT Helpdesk is at your service for more information (tel. +32 2 221 40 60, service@nbb.be).

Browser	Version	Compatibility
Microsoft Internet Explorer		
	Version 11	Compatible by default
	Versions 9 - 10	Capable when run in Windows 7 or newer, but not by default. Windows Vista and older operating systems, such as Windows XP, are not compatible.
	Version 8 and below	Not compatible.
Firefox		
	Version 27 and higher	Compatible by default.
	Version 23 - 26	Capable, but not by default.
	Version 22 and below	Not compatible.
Google Chrome		
	Version 38 and higher	Compatible by default.
	Version 22 - 37	Capable when run in Windows XP SP3, Vista, or newer, OS X 10.6 or newer .
	Version 21 and below	Not compatible.

2. New look OneGate coming soon

The OneGate application used to send company declarations will shortly be modified to make it more user-friendly. The new look version will appear during the first half of 2018.

3. Profile data and contact data

In order to manage your declarations efficiently, we need to have details of the person responsible for the declaration in your company.

Have you forgotten? Connect to the portal www.onegate.be. In the "Profile" menu, select the "Contact data" tab, click on the icon representing a file and enter your data (all fields marked with an asterisk (*) must be completed). Click "Save". Then check that the contact data (associated with a declaration) and the profile data (associated with access to the application) are correct. **Thank you!**

4. No negative amounts in the declarations

The amounts stated in the declarations are positive by default (creditors or debtors). Apart from exceptional cases, there should therefore be no negative amounts in the declarations. Please be careful about that and **reclassify** any negative amounts **under the correct heading**.

5. Declaration closed = declaration sent



A relatively large number of declarants forget to **close** the declaration so that it is not sent and the External Statistics service does not receive it.

Declarants are then taken aback to receive a reminder when they had done 99% of what was needed.

So once you have completed your declaration, do not forget to **tick** the little box at the beginning of your **report** and then **click** on this icon. Your report is then closed and totally finalised. Thank you!



6. Introduction of fines for offenders

The Royal Decree of 12 November 2017 and the Law of 28 February 2002 organising *the compilation of Belgium's balance of payments, international investment position and statistics on international trade in services and foreign direct investment* now make it possible for the NBB to resort to fines to require firms to meet their statistical obligations.

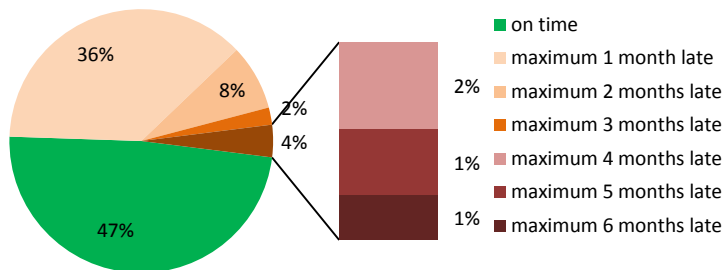
Explanatory notes

In order to compile **representative, relevant statistics**, it is essential to have sufficient data promptly.

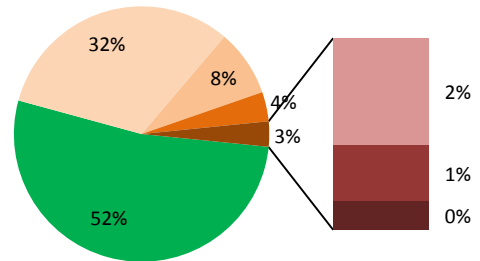
So as not to overburden firms unnecessarily, thresholds are set to ensure that only firms whose information is necessary are selected. It is therefore **vital that every selected firm submits its declarations on time**. Most declarants do that, as these charts indicate, but the charts also reveal that there are some who fail to do so. That prevents international movements from being measured promptly with the required accuracy.

Incoming declarations

Balance of payments



Foreign investments



Figures calculated on the basis of declarations for October 2016 to September 2017 (Balance of payments) and November 2016 to October 2017 (foreign investment).

In future, firms which, **after several reminders**, fail to submit their data may be subject to a fine.

The **amount** of the fine will be **proportionate to the infringement** and to the **size of the firm**. It will range from 50 to 1,000 euros per infringement, per day of delay and will apply until the correct statistical data have been supplied.

In practice, the intention is to impose fines with effect from the January 2018 declarations.

The external statistics service is counting on you to be diligent so that it can avoid the need to use this possibility.

→ To avoid fines : Submit your declarations on time!

7. List of declarations concerned

You will find the various declarations necessary for compiling the Balance of Payments and the statistics on foreign direct investment on our website at this address:

<https://www.nbb.be/en/statistics/balance-payments/declarations-onegate>