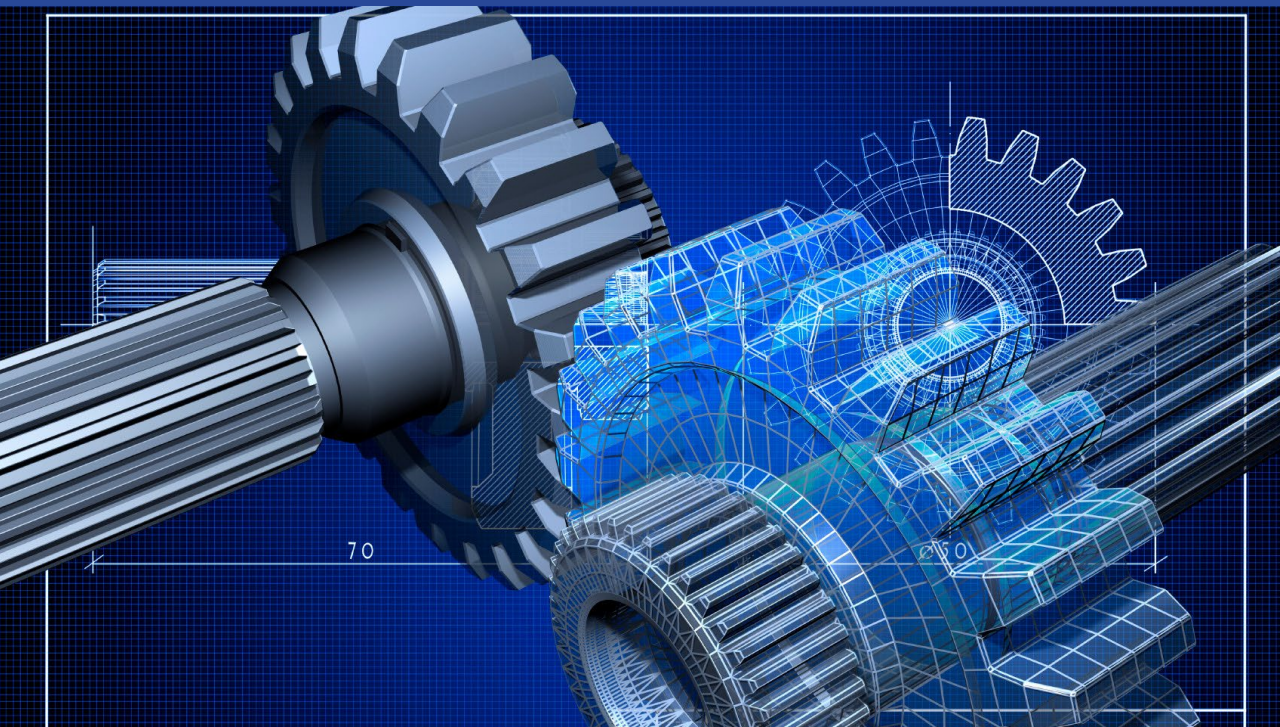


Back to Basics : Technical Regulations and International Regulatory Cooperation

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**Sweden's government agency for
trade and the EU internal market**

Technical Regulation

*Document which lays down product characteristics or their related processes and production methods, including the applicable administrative provisions, **with which compliance is mandatory**. It may also include or deal exclusively with terminology, symbols, packaging, marking or labelling requirements as they apply to a product, process or production method.*

Technical regulations cover all kinds of products

... and different kinds of measures and requirements





The purpose of technical regulations

- Provides a basis to ensure quality and safety in the goods we use
- Provides protection of human safety or health, animal and plant life or health, and the environment
- Enforce policy

**Complex World =
Complex Regulation**



The WTO TBT-agreement

Avoid unnecessary obstacles
to international trade....

.... allow for regulatory
autonomy to protect
legitimate interests



Technical regulations should...

- Be non-discriminatory
- Be necessary and have a legitimate objective
- Take into account international standards
- Be transparent

International regulatory cooperation

- Cooperation between trading partners to promote coordination on regulations
- Facilitates trade by limiting regulatory divergence
- Not limited to FTA:s, "smörgåsbord" of options

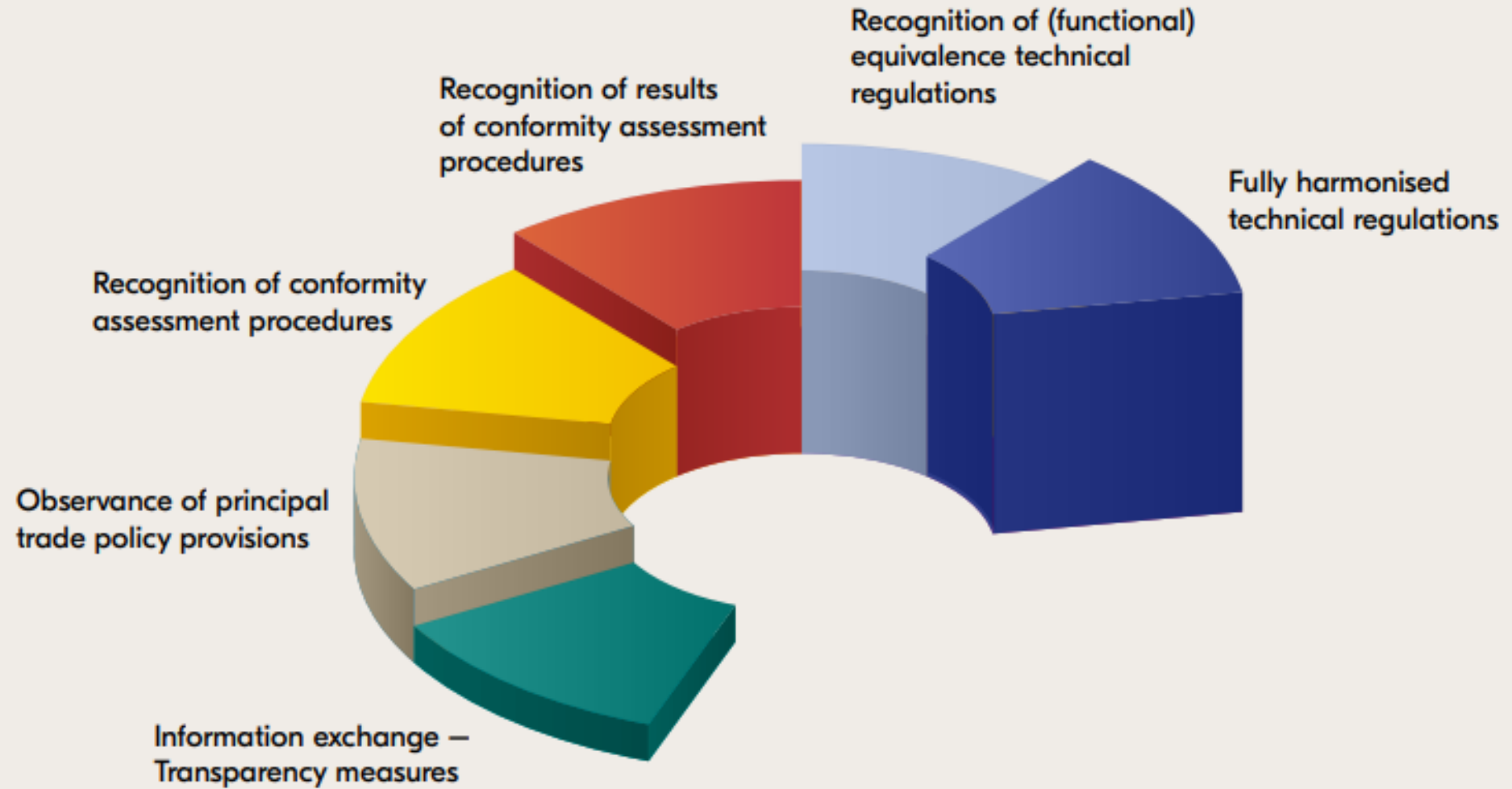


Transparency

- WTO-TBT Notification (ePing), EU TRIS-database (directive (EU) 2015/1535)
- Allows for dialogue and prevention of unnecessary barriers to trade
- Can provide inspiration for regulators



Different levels of regulatory cooperation





Regulatory cooperation and the green transition

- We all face similar challenges – IRC can help us manage these challenges without creating barriers to trade
- Increased cooperation in the development of regulations can lead to addressing sustainability challenges more efficiently

Read more

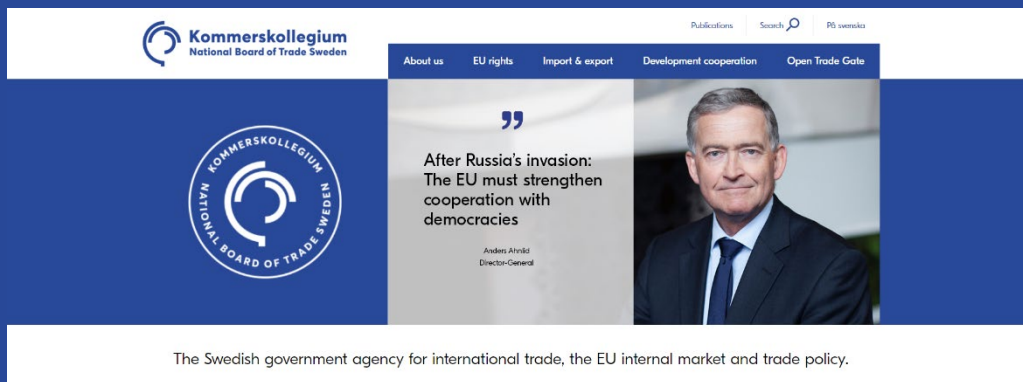
- An All-Star Approach to Regulatory Cooperation in the Area of Technical Barriers to Trade (National Board of Trade, 2022)
- Supporting the Green Transition through Regulatory Cooperation within the Trade and Technology Council (National Board of Trade, 2022)



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