

Council Directive (EU) 2020/262 of 19 December 2019  
laying down the general arrangements for excise duty (recast)

*CHAPTER II*

***General procedural provisions***

*Section 3*

***Exemptions***

*Article 13*

**Excise duty payment exemptions for passengers  
travelling to third countries or third territories**

- 1 Member States may exempt from payment of excise duty excise goods supplied by tax-free shops which are carried away in the personal luggage of travellers to a third territory or to a third country taking a flight or sea-crossing.
- 2 Goods supplied on board an aircraft or ship during the flight or sea-crossing to a third territory or a third country shall be treated in the same way as goods supplied by tax-free shops.
- 3 Member States shall take the measures necessary to ensure that the exemptions provided for in paragraphs 1 and 2 are applied in such a way as to prevent any possible evasion, avoidance or abuse.
- 4 For the purposes of this Article, the following definitions apply:
  - a 'tax-free shop' means any establishment situated within an airport or port which fulfils the conditions laid down by the competent authorities of the Member States, pursuant in particular to paragraph 3;
  - b 'traveller to a third territory or to a third country' means any passenger holding a transport document, for air or sea travel, stating that the final destination is an airport or port situated in a third territory or a third country.