Our world grows increasingly interconnected requiring more concerted regulatory action

- Lower burden on economic activities, incl. trade facilitation & border administration
- Increase effectiveness of regulation
- Efficiency gains for regulators

=> Recommendation of the OECD Council on Regulatory Policy and Governance (2012)

=> OECD report (2013) highlights the proliferation of IRC initiatives and proposes a typology to structure information and help policy makers navigate across possible options
More cooperation but also more complex regulatory frameworks

- The sources of regulation and standards are multiplying, involving both state and non-state actors
- Evidence shows growing IRC. However, approaches to IRC remain *ad hoc* & the world of IRC is highly fragmented.
- There is a wide range of IRC approaches. Regulatory harmonisation is not the solution in all sectors and country context.
- Regulatory frictions to trade often arise from enforcement & procedures. Focusing efforts on design of rules is not enough => need to look at the administrative burden at and beyond borders
- Addressing the ‘stock’ of regulations is equally important to anticipating on new regulatory measures.

Countries can cooperate in more than one way to ensure regulatory consistency

- Integration, i.e. regulatory harmonisation through supra national institutions
- Specific negotiated agreements
- Regulatory provisions in trade agreements
- Regulatory co-operation partnerships
- Joint rule-making through inter governmental organisations
- Trans-governmental networks of regulators
- Joint standard setting by international standard setting bodies
- Mutual recognition
- Recognition of international and foreign regulation and standards
- Adoption of good regulatory practice
- Dialogue / Exchange of information

DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264200467-en](http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264200467-en)
Improving the quality of regulation domestically to reduce frictions externally

2/3 of countries report to assess trade impacts as part of RIAs.

Recognising the rules or their results where they are equivalent.

Mutual recognition of rules: equivalent objectives, regulatory requirements, standards, and conformity assessment procedures.

The EU principle of MR as a corollary of the ‘free movement of goods’ in the non-harmonised sectors.

The Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Agreement.

Adopting common approaches: the role of IOs


=> an area of cooperation with OSCE

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Background information:

The Regulatory Policy Committee was created by the OECD Council on 22 October 2009 to assist countries in implementing government-wide policies to promote regulatory policy and governance. Information about OECD work on regulatory policy at: www.oecd.org/gov/regulatory-policy

Our work on international regulatory co-operation is available at: www.oecd.org/gov/regulatory-policy/IRC