



MEDIA RELEASE

TRACIT Applauds Passage of the INFORM Consumers Act in 2023 Omnibus Spending Package

Bipartisan, common-sense legislation would curtail online sale of counterfeit and stolen products

December 23, 2022 Washington, DC – Today, the Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade (TRACIT) issued the following statement on Congressional passage of and President Biden signing into law the INFORM Consumers Act as part of the 2023 omnibus spending package.

“The INFORM Consumers Act is a critical element in the fight against the online sale of counterfeit and stolen products,” said Jeffrey Hardy, Director-General, TRACIT. “We thank Representatives Jan Schakowsky and Gus Bilirakis, and Senators Bill Cassidy and Dick Durbin, for serving as staunch champions for this important bill which will go a long way towards protecting American consumers by requiring ecommerce platforms to better vet and disclose information about third party sellers.”

The [INFORM Consumers Act](#) will help law enforcement, manufacturers, retailers, and online marketplaces of all sizes work together to protect consumers from bad actors selling counterfeit and stolen goods. The INFORM Consumers Act increases transparency and accountability by requiring sensible verification and disclosure requirements designed to disrupt their ability to sell illicit goods. These criminal transactions compete directly with legitimate businesses, retailers, and emerging entrepreneurs. Often the counterfeit products are made with exploited labor and the profits fund organized criminals.

TRACIT joined dozens of other associations, businesses, manufacturers and marketplaces on a [letter](#) supporting INFORM and the need for Congress to take action before the end of the year. The multi-industry letter underscored how INFORM would modernize consumer protection laws to better safeguard American families, communities, employees, and consumers from the sale of counterfeit and stolen products.

“The SHOP SAFE Act was excluded from the final omnibus package, however, and Congress must pass this bipartisan companion bill to enhance consumer protection for ecommerce purchases by holding ecommerce and social media platforms liable for selling counterfeit and illicit products that harm consumers, if they don’t adhere to a set of prescribed best practices,” said Mr. Hardy. “TRACIT will work with business and consumer organizations to urge Congress to act early in 2023.”

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The Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade ([TRACIT](#)) is an independent, private sector initiative to mitigate the economic and social damages of illicit trade by strengthening government enforcement mechanisms and mobilizing businesses across industry sectors most impacted by illicit trade.

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