

COUNTRY · MERCOSUR

Bolivia: What EU customers expect

Bolivia has been a full member of Mercosur since 2024 but is still adopting its rules step by step. There is no data protection law and no cybersecurity law. EU customers fill that gap with contracts.

DATA PROTECTION	EU ADEQUACY	AGREEMENT WITH THE EU	CYBERSECURITY
no law, protection through the constitution	no	none; tariff preferences through GSP+	no law

Overview: trade with the EU

Bolivia mainly supplies raw materials and agricultural products to Europe, such as ores from the Altiplano, Brazil nuts from the Amazon region around Riberalta, and quinoa. The Commission does not publish a breakdown for Bolivia alone. For the Andean countries as a whole, it lists agricultural products, mineral products and fisheries as the largest groups in 2025.

Bolivia has no trade agreement with the EU. Tariff benefits come through the EU's Generalized Scheme of Preferences, including the special incentive arrangement GSP+ for sustainable development and good governance. These preferences depend on compliance with international conventions on human rights, labor and the environment.

Data protection compared with the GDPR

Bolivia has no general data protection law. Privacy is protected through the constitution, which provides a specific action to protect privacy (Acción de Protección de Privacidad, comparable to habeas data in other countries), and through constitutional procedural law. Draft data protection laws have been discussed, but none has been enacted. As a result, there is no data protection authority and no statutory duty to report data breaches.

The [GDPR](#) applies regardless. It applies to you directly if you specifically offer goods or services to people in the EU. And it applies through the contract if you process data for an EU customer.

There is no EU adequacy decision. For every transfer of personal data to Bolivia, your EU customer needs standard contractual clauses (Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/914) and a transfer impact assessment. In that assessment, the customer checks whether Bolivian law undermines the protection of the data. Because there is no data protection law, it will ask for additional technical measures, such as encryption and strict access rules.

Without a home law to point to, your own rules become the evidence. A written data protection policy, records of processing and a reporting process you have actually rehearsed carry more weight in the transfer impact assessment than any promise.

Cybersecurity compared with NIS2

Bolivia has no cybersecurity law. Information security requirements apply mainly to public administration. The emergency team CGII (Centro de Gestión de Incidentes Informáticos) belongs to AGETIC, the government agency for e-government and ICT. In the financial sector, the supervisory authority ASFI sets its own information security requirements.

This is not comparable with [NIS2](#). In the EU, NIS2 requires medium-sized and large companies in 18 sectors to carry out risk management, secure their supply chains and meet fixed reporting deadlines. Your EU customers have to meet these obligations and pass them on to their suppliers by contract, which includes you.

If you sell devices with software or a network connection in the EU, you also fall under the [Cyber Resilience Act](#).

Reporting deadlines compared

EVENT	BOLIVIA	EU
Data breach, notice to the authority	no duty, no authority	72 hours (Art. 33 GDPR)
Notice to affected individuals	no duty	without undue delay if the risk is high (Art. 34 GDPR)
Significant cyber incident	no law; requirements for public administration and the financial sector	24 h early warning, 72 h notification, final report after one month (Art. 23 NIS2)

Since your home law sets nothing, the deadline in your contract applies. EU customers usually require notice within 24 to 48 hours. Decide who reports and what information goes into the first notice.

Authorities, CSIRT, accreditation body

AREA	BODY
Data protection	no authority

AREA	BODY
Cybersecurity, CSIRT	AGETIC with CGII
Financial sector	ASFI, Autoridad de Supervisión del Sistema Financiero
Accreditation	DTA, Dirección Técnica de Acreditación of IBMETRO

What EU customers typically ask for

Where the law is silent, certificates and evidence count. A Brazil nut exporter needs food safety certificates for [IFS](#), [BRCGS](#) or [FSSC 22000](#) and full traceability. Mining companies are asked about environmental and labor standards, often with reference to [ISO 14001](#) and European supply chain due diligence rules. Cattle, soy and timber from the lowlands fall under the [EUDR](#).

Service providers that process data for EU customers receive standard contractual clauses, a security questionnaire and often a question about [ISO 27001](#). A GRC platform such as [Sightadel](#) helps you keep policies, risks and evidence in one place when no law gives you the structure.

In the transfer impact assessment, your EU customer has to describe who in Bolivia could access the data and how it is protected. To do that, it will ask you about storage locations, encryption, access rights, logs and how you handle requests for information from public authorities. Have this information ready in writing. One document you can give to several customers saves weeks of back and forth.

A sensible starting point for Bolivian companies:

1. Find out which of your customers are based in the EU and which EU rules apply to their purchasing.
2. Write your own data protection policy modeled on the GDPR, with records of processing and deletion rules.
3. Set an incident reporting deadline and decide who reports.
4. For agricultural and timber exports, check whether the EUDR applies, and collect geolocation data.
5. Choose the certificate your customers ask for most often, and plan the audit with a recognized body.

The free [EU Readiness Check](#) shows your gaps.

Agreement with the EU

Bolivia has been a state party to Mercosur since 2024. It deposited its instrument of ratification of the Accession Protocol in Asunción on July 8, 2024 (Ley 1567 of July 4, 2024), and accession took effect 30 days later. Bolivia has a transition period of up to four years to adopt Mercosur law and the common external tariff. Bolivia is not a party to the [EU-Mercosur Agreement](#), which has been provisionally applied with Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay since May 1, 2026. Its tariff benefits therefore do not apply to Bolivian goods.

The Commission points out that Bolivia could accede to the trade agreement with Colombia, Peru and Ecuador. Until further notice, GSP+ remains the route into the EU market.

What this means in practice: for each product, check the tariff rate and the rule of origin in the European Commission's Access2Markets portal, sorted by tariff code. To use the GSP preference, exporters generally have to be registered in the Commission's electronic Registered Exporter system (REX) and make a statement on origin on the invoice. Your importer in the EU usually knows the procedure and can help. Keep the evidence for several years, because customs can check after the fact. Since GSP+ comes with conditions, it pays to keep an eye on the Commission's reports on Bolivia's compliance.

FAQ

Does the EU-Mercosur Agreement apply to Bolivia?

No. Bolivia is a Mercosur member but not a party to the agreement with the EU. Tariff benefits are available through GSP+.

Does Bolivia have a data protection law?

No. Privacy is protected through the constitution. There is no authority and no duty to report data breaches.

What do EU customers need for data transfers to Bolivia?

Standard contractual clauses and a transfer impact assessment, usually supplemented by technical measures such as encryption.

Since when has Bolivia been part of Mercosur?

Since 2024. Bolivia deposited its instrument of ratification on July 8, 2024 and has up to four years to adopt Mercosur law.

Which tool helps me document data protection without a national law?

Your own documentation has to take the place of the law. **Sightadel** is a GRC platform developed and hosted in Germany that supports the GDPR as a framework, with templates for policies, records of processing and evidence. It is available in Spanish.

Sources · Last updated: October 11, 2026

Mercosur, official website: <https://www.mercosur.int/>

European Commission, DG Trade: Andean Community (incl. Bolivia, GSP+): https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/eu-trade-relationships-country-and-region/countries-and-regions/andean-community_en

European Commission: adequacy decisions: https://commission.europa.eu/law/law-topic/data-protection/international-dimension-data-protection/adequacy-decisions_en

ASFI: <https://www.asfi.gob.bo/>

IBMETRO: <https://www.ibmetro.gob.bo/>

General information, not legal advice. The official texts are authoritative.

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE WITH TOOLS MADE IN GERMANY



Sightadel walks your team through NIS2: templates, tasks, evidence and audit preparation in one place. Built and hosted in Germany, with an optional consultant package.

[See Sightadel →](#)



veyrisk shows what attackers can see of your company from the outside: open services, certificates, known vulnerabilities. You can hand the report to EU customers and auditors.

[See veyrisk →](#)



Valar is a hardware firewall running neonotu software. It protects offices and sites and produces the logs NIS2 and ISO 27001 ask for.

[See Valar →](#)

Sightadel, veyrisk and Valar are products of neonotu GmbH, which operates MercoEU.

Which of these apply to your company?

The free EU Readiness Check shows you by industry and country in 10 minutes.

<https://www.mercoeu.com/en/eu-readiness-check>