

Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 of 13 March 2015  
on the security rules for protecting EU classified information

CHAPTER 1

BASIC PRINCIPLES AND MINIMUM STANDARDS

Article 1	Definitions
Article 2	Subject matter and scope
Article 3	Definition of EUCI, security classifications and markings
Article 4	Classification management
Article 5	Protection of classified information
Article 6	Security risk management
Article 7	Implementation of this Decision
Article 8	Breaches of security and compromise of EUCI

CHAPTER 2

PERSONNEL SECURITY

Article 9	Definitions
Article 10	Basic Principles
Article 11	Security authorisation procedure
Article 12	Security authorisation briefings
Article 13	Temporary security authorisations
Article 14	Attendance at classified meetings organised by the Commission
Article 15	Potential Access to EUCI

CHAPTER 3

PHYSICAL SECURITY AIMED AT PROTECTING CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Article 16	Basic principles
Article 17	Physical security requirements and measures
Article 18	Equipment for the physical protection of EUCI
Article 19	Physical protective measures for handling and storing EUCI
Article 20	Management of keys and combinations used for protecting EUCI

CHAPTER 4

MANAGEMENT OF EU CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Article 21	Basic principles
Article 22	Classifications and markings
Article 23	Markings
Article 24	Abbreviated classification markings
Article 25	Creation of EUCI
Article 26	Downgrading and declassification of EUCI
Article 27	EUCI registry system in the Commission

Article 28	Registry control officer
Article 29	Registration of EUCI for security purposes
Article 30	Copying and translating EU classified documents
Article 31	Carriage of EUCI
Article 32	Destruction of EUCI
Article 33	Destruction of EUCI in emergencies

## CHAPTER 5

### PROTECTION OF EU CLASSIFIED INFORMATION IN COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (CIS)

Article 34	Basic principles of Information Assurance
Article 35	Definitions
Article 36	CIS handling EUCI
Article 37	Accreditation of CIS handling EUCI
Article 38	Emergency circumstances

## CHAPTER 6

### INDUSTRIAL SECURITY

Article 39	Basic principles
Article 40	Definitions
Article 41	Procedure for classified contracts or grant agreements
Article 42	Security elements in a classified contract or grant agreement
Article 43	Access to EUCI for contractors' and beneficiaries' staff
Article 44	Facility security clearance
Article 45	Provisions for classified contracts and grant agreements
Article 46	Specific provisions for classified contracts
Article 47	Visits in connection with classified contracts
Article 48	Transmission and carriage of EUCI in connection with classified contracts or classified grant agreements
Article 49	Transfer of EUCI to contractors or grant beneficiaries located in third states
Article 50	Handling of information classified RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED in the context of classified contracts or classified grant agreements

## CHAPTER 7

### EXCHANGE OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION WITH OTHER UNION INSTITUTIONS, AGENCIES, BODIES AND OFFICES, WITH MEMBER STATES, AND WITH THIRD STATES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Article 51	Basic principles
Article 52	Exchange of EUCI with other Union institutions, agencies, bodies and offices
Article 53	Exchange of EUCI with Member States
Article 54	Exchange of EUCI with third States and international organisations
Article 55	Security of information agreements
Article 56	Administrative arrangements

Article 57 Exceptional ad hoc release of EUCI

## CHAPTER 8

### FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 58 Replacement of previous decision  
Article 59 Classified information created before the entry into force of this  
Decision  
Article 60 Implementing rules and security notices  
Article 61 Entry into force  
Signature

---

## ANNEX I

### EQUIVALENCE OF SECURITY CLASSIFICATIONS

## ANNEX II

### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

## ANNEX III

### LIST OF NATIONAL SECURITY AUTHORITIES

BELGIUM

BULGARIA

CZECH REPUBLIC

DENMARK

GERMANY

ESTONIA

GREECE

SPAIN

FRANCE

CROATIA

IRELAND

ITALY

CYPRUS

LATVIA

LITHUANIA

LUXEMBOURG

HUNGARY

MALTA

NETHERLANDS

AUSTRIA

POLAND

PORTUGAL

ROMANIA

SLOVENIA

SLOVAKIA

FINLAND

SWEDEN

UNITED KINGDOM

---

**Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444. (See end of Document for details)

---

- (1) Cf. the ‘Arrangement entre le Gouvernement belge et le Parlement européen, le Conseil, la Commission, le Comité économique et social européen, le Comité des régions, la Banque européenne d’investissement en matière de sécurité’ of 31 December 2004, the ‘Accord de sécurité signé entre la Commission et le Gouvernement luxembourgeois’ of 20 January 2007, and the ‘Accordo tra il Governo italiano e la Commissione europea dell’energia atomica (Euratom) per l’istituzione di un Centro comune di ricerche nucleari di competenza generale’ of 22 July 1959.
- (2) Commission Decision 2002/47/EC, ECSC, Euratom of 23 January 2002 amending its rules of procedure ([OJ L 21, 24.1.2002, p. 23](#)).
- (3) Commission Decision 2004/563/EC, Euratom of 7 July 2004 amending its Rules of Procedure ([OJ L 251, 27.7.2004, p. 9](#)).
- (4) Regulation (Euratom) No 3 of 31 July 1958 implementing Article 24 of the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community ([OJ 17, 6.10.1958, p. 406/58](#)).
- (5) Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents ([OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43](#)).
- (6) Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data ([OJ L 8, 12.1.2001, p. 1](#)).
- (7) Council Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 354/83 of 1 February 1983 concerning the opening to the public of the historical archives of the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community ([OJ L 43, 15.2.1983, p. 1](#)).

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444.