European Maritime Safety Agency

RECORDING OF PROCESSING ACTIVITY

NOTIFICATION TO THE DATA PROTECTION OFFICER
(ARTICLE 31 REGULATION 2018/1725)

NAME OF PROCESSING ACTIVITY[1]: Management of the Satellite received Automatic Identification System (AIS) at EMSA.

1) Controller(s)[2] of data processing operation (Article 31.1(a))
Controller: European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) Organisational unit **responsible**[3] for the processing activity: 3.1 Contact person: Lazaros AIchmalotidis, Head of Unit 3.1 Data Protection Officer (DPO): Radostina Nedeva-Maegerlein: dpo@emsa.europa.eu
2) Who is actually conducting the processing? (Article 31.1(a))[4]
The data is processed by EMSA itself ☒ The organisational unit conducting the processing activity is: Unit 3.1
The data is processed by a third party (contractors) or the processing operation is conducted together with an external third party – n.a. ☐ Contact point at external third party (e.g. Privacy/Data Protection Officer): -n.a.

[1] **Personal** data is any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person, i.e. someone who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity. This information may, for example, be the name, date of birth, a telephone number, biometric data, medical data, a picture, professional details, etc.
Processing means any operation or set of operations which is performed on personal data, whether or not by automatic means, such as collection, recording, organisation, structuring, storage, adaptation or alteration, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure by transmission, dissemination or otherwise making available, alignment or combination, restriction, erasure or destruction.

[2] In case of more than one controller (e.g. joint operations), all controllers need to be listed here

[3] This is the unit that decides that the processing takes place and why.

[4] Is EMSA itself conducting the processing? Or has a provider been contracted?

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3) Purpose of the processing (Article 31.1(b))

Why are the personal data being processed? Specify the rationale and underlying reason for the processing and describe the individual steps used for the processing.

The Satellite Automatic Identification System (Sat-AIS) data are gathered by commercial partners or national missions and relayed to EMSA for the purpose of the VTMIS Directive.

EMSA receives Sat-AIS data from its contracted commercial provider, performs the technical processing necessary to validate and integrate the data into the SSN/IMS systems, and distributes the resulting real-time stream to Member States.

SAT-AIS data is provided by EMSA via Graphical User Interfaces (GUI) and System-to-System (S2S) to the following domain of users:

- EU / EFTA Member States authorities (GUI and S2S).
- EU Institutions such as EMSA, EFCA and Frontex (to support their users – public governmental Authorities) and EU or international public organisations collaborating with EMSA, such as EUNAVFOR, MAOC-N (GUI and S2S).
- Authorities from countries having the status of the EU candidate, or the European Neighbourhood Policy Countries (ENP), or Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA), i,e. beneficiary countries under European Commission programmes, or to any other third country or institution with whom EMSA established a cooperation agreement (GUI).

The processed Sat-AIS data can be provided to EU/EEA Member States as vessel position information in support of their tasks under the VTMIS Directive.

The data processed include vessel identifiers, positional information, navigational data and static vessel information transmitted through AIS messages, which is not considered personal data in the framework of the Regulation 2018/1725. EMSA acts as the data controller for Sat-AIS data up to the moment the validated data stream is distributed to the EU/EEA Member States.

In the Netherlands, Sat-AIS data may fall within the scope of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR), as the dataset may include AIS positions of inland vessels operated by sole proprietorships. In such situations, the shipowner may reside on board, and the vessel may function both as a professional asset and as a private residence. Under the national interpretation of the GDPR, AIS position data may therefore constitute personal data. At the national level, following receipt of the data, Dutch authorities apply an additional filtering step to ensure that ILT accesses only data relating to Dutch-flagged vessels for the purposes of Flag State Control. AIS position data relating to other vessels, including inland vessels, are excluded in accordance with applicable national GDPR requirements.

4) Lawfulness of the processing (Article 5(a)–(d)): Processing necessary for:

Mention the legal basis which justifies the processing

(a) a task carried out in the public interest or
in the exercise of official authority vested in EMSA
(including management and functioning of the institution) ☒

(Examples of legal basis: e.g. Article 2 'Core tasks of the Agency', par.4 b) EMSA founding regulation)

(b) compliance with a legal obligation to which EMSA is subject ☐

(c) necessary for the performance of a contract with the data subject or for the preparation of such a contract	☐
(d) Data subject has given consent (*ex ante*, explicit, informed)	☐
Describe how consent will be collected and where the relevant proof of consent will be stored	
5) Description of the categories of data subjects (Article 31.1(c)) *Whose personal data are being processed?*	
EMSA staff	☐
Officials, Temporary Agents and Contract Agents	
Non-EMSA staff (contractors staff, external experts, trainees)	☐
Seconded National Experts, Trainees, Interims, NEPTs, contractors staff	
Visitors to EMSA building	☐
Relatives of the data subject	☐
Other (please specify): Owners of vessels.	
6) Categories of personal data processed (Article 31.1(c)) *Please tick all that apply and give details where appropriate*	
(a) **General personal data:**	
The personal data contains:	
Personal details (name, address etc)	☐
Education & Training details	☐
Employment details	☐
Financial details	☐
Family, lifestyle and social circumstances	☐
Goods or services provided	☐
Other (please give details):	
(b) **Sensitive personal data** (Article 10)	
The personal data reveals:	
Racial or ethnic origin	☐
Political opinions	☐
Religious or philosophical beliefs	☐
Trade union membership	☐
Genetic, biometric or data concerning health	☐
Information regarding an individual's sex life or sexual orientation	☐

7) Recipient(s) of the data (Article 31.1 (d)) *Recipients are all parties who have access to the personal data*	
Data subjects themselves	☐
Managers of data subjects	☐
Designated EMSA staff members	☒
Administrators of the system	
Designated Contractors' staff members	☐
Other (please specify): EU Member States SafeSeaNet national competent authorities (NCA), or IMS authorities performing functions in the maritime domain.	
8) Transfers to third countries or recipients outside the EEA (Article 31.1 (e)) *If the personal data are transferred outside the European Economic Area, this needs to be specifically mentioned, since it increases the risks of the processing operation*.	
Data are transferred to third country recipients:	
Yes	☐
No	☒
If yes, specify to which country:	
If yes, specify under which safeguards:	
Adequacy Decision of the European Commission	☐
Standard Contractual Clauses	☐
Binding Corporate Rules	☐
Memorandum of Understanding between public authorities	☐
9) Technical and organisational security measures (Article 31.1(g)) *Please specify where the data are stored during and after the processing*	
How is the data stored?	
EMSA network shared drive	☐
Outlook Folder(s)	☐
Hardcopy file	☐
Cloud (give details, e.g. public cloud) - EMSA's Azure Cloud – HPIMS	☒
Servers of external provider	☐
Other (please specify): No personal data is processed by EMSA.	
10) Retention time (Article 4(e))	

How long will the data be retained and what is the justification for the retention period? Keep in mind that there are pre-determined retention periods for most types of files. Those are explained in the Records Management Policy and Procedure of the Agency. You can check EMSA Records Management Policy and Procedure at the Intranet of the Agency.
The data is retained at least for 5 years at EMSA (at EMSA's Azure Cloud). No personal data is processed by EMSA.

Electronically signed on 06/02/2026 10:44 (UTC+01)