

**No. 53769\***

---

**Estonia  
and  
Norway**

**Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway on the exchange and mutual protection of classified information.  
Tallinn, 25 September 2014**

**Entry into force:** *1 December 2014, in accordance with article 18*

**Authentic text:** *English*

**Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations:** *Estonia, 27 July 2016*

*\*No UNTS volume number has yet been determined for this record. The Text(s) reproduced below, if attached, are the authentic texts of the agreement /action attachment as submitted for registration and publication to the Secretariat. For ease of reference they were sequentially paginated. Translations, if attached, are not final and are provided for information only.*

---

**Estonie  
et  
Norvège**

**Accord entre le Gouvernement de la République d'Estonie et le Gouvernement du Royaume de Norvège concernant l'échange et la protection réciproque d'informations classifiées.  
Tallinn, 25 septembre 2014**

**Entrée en vigueur :** *1<sup>er</sup> décembre 2014, conformément à l'article 18*

**Texte authentique :** *anglais*

**Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat des Nations Unies :** *Estonie, 27 juillet 2016*

*\*Le numéro de volume RTNU n'a pas encore été établi pour ce dossier. Les textes reproduits ci-dessous, s'ils sont disponibles, sont les textes authentiques de l'accord/pièce jointe d'action tel que soumises pour l'enregistrement et publication au Secrétariat. Pour référence, ils ont été présentés sous forme de la pagination consécutive. Les traductions, s'ils sont inclus, ne sont pas en form finale et sont fournies uniquement à titre d'information.*

[ ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS ]

**AGREEMENT**  
**BETWEEN**  
**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA**  
**AND**  
**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY**  
**ON**  
**THE EXCHANGE AND MUTUAL PROTECTION**  
**OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION**

The Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway (hereinafter referred to as *the Parties*),

realizing that good co-operation may require exchange of Classified Information between the Parties,

desiring to establish a set of rules regulating the mutual protection of Classified Information exchanged or created in the course of the co-operation between the Parties,

in order to safeguard Classified Information exchanged directly or through legal entities or individuals under the jurisdiction of either Party, that in accordance with national laws and regulations are authorized to handle Classified Information,

have agreed as follows:

## **ARTICLE 1 APPLICABILITY**

(1) The objective of this Agreement is to ensure protection of Classified Information that is exchanged or created in the process of co-operation between the Parties or between legal entities or individuals under their jurisdiction.

(2) This Agreement shall govern any activity and be applicable to any contract or agreement between the Parties or between legal entities or individuals under their jurisdiction involving Classified Information.

(3) This Agreement may not be invoked by either Party to obtain Classified Information.

## **ARTICLE 2 DEFINITIONS**

For the purposes of this Agreement,

a) "Classified Information" means any information, regardless of its form, designated as such in accordance with the national laws and regulations of either Party in order to ensure protection against unauthorized disclosure, misappropriation or loss;

b) "Security Classification Level" means a category, which, in accordance with the national laws and regulations, characterises the level of restriction of access to Classified Information and the minimum level of its protection by the Parties;

c) "National Security Authority" means the state authority responsible for the application and supervision of this Agreement;

d) "Competent Authority" means the National Security Authority or any other state authority, which, under national laws and regulations, is responsible for the implementation of this Agreement;

e) "Originating Party" means the Party that has created the Classified Information;

f) "Receiving Party" means the Party to which Classified Information of the Originating Party is transmitted;

g) "Need-to-know" means the necessity to have access to specific Classified Information in the scope of an official position and for the performance of a specific task;

h) "Third Party" means any state, international organization, legal entity or individual, which is not a party to this Agreement;

i) "Personnel Security Clearance" means the determination by a Competent Authority that an individual is eligible to have access to Classified Information in accordance with the national laws and regulations;

j) "Contractor" means a legal entity or an individual possessing the legal capacity to conclude contracts;

k) "Facility Security Clearance" means the determination by a Competent Authority that a Contractor has the physical and organizational capability to meet the conditions for safe treatment of Classified Information in accordance with the national laws and regulations;

l) "Classified Contract" means a contract or subcontract between a Contractor from one Party and a Contractor from the other Party, the implementation of which requires access to Classified Information or its creation.

### **ARTICLE 3 EQUIVALENCE OF SECURITY CLASSIFICATION LEVELS**

(1) The Parties agree that the following Security Classification Levels are equivalent:

Republic of Estonia:	Kingdom of Norway:	Corresponding English expression:
TÄIESTI SALAJANE	STRENGT HEMMELIG	TOP SECRET
SALAJANE	HEMMELIG	SECRET
KONFIDENTSIAALNE	KONFIDENSIELT	CONFIDENTIAL
PIIRATUD	BEGRENSET	RESTRICTED

(2) The Security Classification Level shall only be altered or revoked with the prior written consent of the Originating Party. The Originating Party shall inform the Receiving Party without delay about any alteration or revocation of the Security Classification Level of the transmitted Classified Information.

### **ARTICLE 4 MARKING**

(1) Classified Information to be transmitted shall be marked by the Originating Party according to the appropriate Security Classification Level.

(2) Classified Information created, reproduced or translated under this Agreement shall also be marked.

### **ARTICLE 5 PRINCIPLES OF THE PROTECTION OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION**

(1) The Parties shall in accordance with national laws and regulations take all appropriate measures to ensure the protection of the Classified Information, which is exchanged or created under this Agreement.

(2) The Parties shall afford transmitted or created Classified Information at least the same level of protection as they afford their own Classified Information of the equivalent Security Classification Level.

(3) The Receiving Party shall use Classified Information only for the purpose it has been transmitted for.

(4) The Receiving Party shall not make Classified Information accessible to a Third Party without the prior written consent of the Competent Authority of the Originating Party.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### **ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION**

(1) Access to Classified Information of the other Party shall only be granted to a person who is authorized in accordance with the national laws and regulations to have access to Classified Information of the equivalent Security Classification Level and who has a "Need-to-know".

(2) Each Party shall recognize the Personnel Security Clearances issued by the other Party regarding co-operation within the framework of this Agreement.

(3) The Competent Authorities shall assist each other upon request and in accordance with the national laws and regulations in carrying out vetting procedures.

(4) Within the scope of this Agreement, the Competent Authorities shall inform each other without delay about any alteration with regard to Personnel Security Clearances.

(5) Upon request of the Competent Authority of the Originating Party, the Competent Authority of the Receiving Party shall issue a written confirmation that an individual has the right to access Classified Information.

## **ARTICLE 7**

### **FACILITY SECURITY CLEARANCES**

(1) Each Party shall recognize the Facility Security Clearances issued by the other Party.

(2) Upon request of the National Security Authority of the Originating Party, the National Security Authority of the Receiving Party shall on the level KONFIDENTSIAALNE / KONFIDENSIELT / CONFIDENTIAL or above issue a written confirmation that a valid Facility Security Clearance has been issued or the relevant proceedings have been initiated.

(3) Within the scope of this Agreement, the National Security Authorities shall inform each other without delay about any alteration with regard to Facility Security Clearances.