



Brussels, 18 November 2025
(OR. en)

14669/25

LIMITE

CSC 555
CSCI 228
SAB 60
CSC-TSCM 8

NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Security Committee
No. prev. doc.:	13981/25
Subject:	Draft Council Decision on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (reviewed Council's security rules) - revised consolidated text - <i>written consultation</i>

DOCUMENT PARTIALLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (13.02.2026)

1. On 29 October 2025, the Council Security Committee examined the revised consolidated text of the Council's security rules as set out in doc. 13981/25.
2. Taking into account the comments made by delegations during the meeting, the General Secretariat of the Council (GSC) has prepared a revised consolidated text as set out in Annex to this note. Proposed changes as described under point 3 are highlighted in **bold underline** for new text and in ~~striketrough~~ for deleted text when compared to the previous version in doc. 13981/25.
3. Following changes are proposed:
 - **Horizontal changes**
 - The wording 'laws, rules, regulations':
 - in Article 1a(5): in the definition of 'competent authority' the word 'laws' was added 'or any other authority of the GSC or of a Member State in accordance with applicable **laws**, rules and regulations' to cover both Member States and the GSC;

- where the text concerns only the Member States, the established wording ‘(in accordance with) national laws and regulations’ was kept;
- in Article 7g, paragraphs 2 and 8: the text concerns only the GSC, therefore, the wording ‘rules and regulations’ was kept.
- The wording ‘handling, storage or discussion’ was added and/or aligned throughout text.
- The word ‘valid’ (PSC/PSCC) was deleted as superfluous in Article 5a, paragraph 3, and in Article 7g, paragraph 5.
- **Chapter II – Personnel security**
 - **Title 3** – the title was modified to ‘Security awareness and **briefings**’ for consistency.
- **Chapter V – CIS**
 - **Article 21** – The text of Article 21 regarding cyber defence of CIS handling, storing or allowing discussion of EUCI was kept.
- **Chapter VIII – Governance**
 - **Article 16a(1)(d)** – editorial change: the word order of text ‘industrial or other entities in a pre-contractual stage’ was modified for bigger clarity.
- **DELETED**

4. Delegations are invited to endorse the text as contained in Annex to this note by means of written consultation by **Tuesday, 25 November 2025, cob**. If we do not receive a reply from your delegation by this time, we will consider the text endorsed by your delegation.

5. After endorsement, the text will be submitted for a legal-linguistic revision.

Draft Council Decision on the security rules for protecting EU classified information

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