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E-003669/2025

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(12.11.2025)

The EU has a robust legal framework for cybersecurity in critical sectors. Notably, the NIS2 Directive¹ sets cybersecurity requirements for entities in sectors such as air transport. Aviation security *acquis*, notably Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1583², establishes measures to protect critical information and communication systems supporting aviation security operations. Aviation safety *acquis*, including Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/203³ and Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1645⁴, sets out further cybersecurity and information security requirements for relevant entities.

Successful implementation of applicable rules, including supply chain cybersecurity measures set out for instance in Article 21(2)(d) of NIS2, is crucial for cyber resilience in airports. The Commission urges all Member States to complete the transposition of NIS2.

NIS2 defines minimum requirements for essential and important entities in the air transport sector. The Directive also requires the reporting of significant cybersecurity incidents, although the required contents of incident reports are not tailored for specific types of incidents such as ransomware.

Protection of passengers' personal data is ensured by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)⁵. Acting as controllers, airports must put in place measures to ensure an appropriate level of data security. Ability to prevent a data breach in a timely way is a key element of

¹ Directive (EU) 2022/2555 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2022 on measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the Union, amending Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 and Directive (EU) 2018/1972, and repealing Directive (EU) 2016/1148 (NIS 2 Directive). <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2022/2555/oj/eng>.

² Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1583 of 25 September 2019 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/1998 laying down detailed measures for the implementation of the common basic standards on aviation security, as regards cybersecurity measures. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2019/1583/oj/eng.

³ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/203 of 27 October 2022 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 of the European Parliament and of the Council, as regards requirements for the management of information security risks with a potential impact on aviation safety for organisations covered by Commission Regulations (EU) No 1321/2014, (EU) No 965/2012, (EU) No 1178/2011, (EU) 2015/340, Commission Implementing Regulations (EU) 2017/373 and (EU) 2021/664, and for competent authorities covered by Commission Regulations (EU) No 748/2012, (EU) No 1321/2014, (EU) No 965/2012, (EU) No 1178/2011, (EU) 2015/340 and (EU) No 139/2014, Commission Implementing Regulations (EU) 2017/373 and (EU) 2021/664 and amending Commission Regulations (EU) No 1178/2011, (EU) No 748/2012, (EU) No 965/2012, (EU) No 139/2014, (EU) No 1321/2014, (EU) 2015/340, and Commission Implementing Regulations (EU) 2017/373 and (EU) 2021/664. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2023/203/oj/eng.

⁴ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1645 of 14 July 2022 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 of the European Parliament and of the Council, as regards requirements for the management of information security risks with a potential impact on aviation safety for organisations covered by Commission Regulations (EU) No 748/2012 and (EU) No 139/2014 and amending Commission Regulations (EU) No 748/2012 and (EU) No 139/2014. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2022/1645/oj/eng.

⁵ Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (Text with EEA relevance). <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/679/oj/eng>.

such measures. Airports also have obligations to notify data breaches under Articles 33 and 34 GDPR. Without prejudice to the Commission's competences as guardian of the Treaties, enforcement of the GDPR in individual cases lies primarily with the competent national authorities and courts.