

**No. 55599\***

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**Germany  
and  
Cyprus**

**Agreement between the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the Republic of Cyprus on the mutual protection of classified information. Malta, 27 April 2017**

**Entry into force:** *21 August 2018 by notification, in accordance with article 14*

**Authentic texts:** *English, German and Greek*

**Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations:** *Germany, 4 January 2019*

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**Allemagne  
et  
Chypre**

**Accord entre le Gouvernement de la République fédérale d'Allemagne et le Gouvernement de la République de Chypre relatif à la protection mutuelle des informations classifiées. Malte, 27 avril 2017**

**Entrée en vigueur :** *21 août 2018 par notification, conformément à l'article 14*

**Textes authentiques :** *anglais, allemand et grec*

**Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat de l'Organisation des Nations Unies :** *Allemagne, 4 janvier 2019*

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[ ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS ]

**Agreement**

**between**

**the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany**

**and**

**the Government of the Republic of Cyprus**

**on the**

**Mutual Protection of Classified Information**

**The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany  
and  
the Government of the Republic of Cyprus  
(henceforth the Contracting Parties),**

**Intending to ensure the protection of classified information that is exchanged between the competent authorities of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Cyprus as well as with contractors in the territory of the other Contracting Party or between contractors of the two Contracting Parties,**

**Desirous of laying down an arrangement on the mutual protection of classified information that shall apply to all agreements on cooperation to be concluded between the Contracting Parties and to contracts involving an exchange of classified information,**

**Have agreed as follows:**

**Article 1  
Definitions**

**(1) For the purposes of this Agreement**

**1. “classified information” is**

**(a) in the Federal Republic of Germany**

**facts, items or intelligence which, regardless of how they are presented, are to be kept secret in the public interest. They shall be classified by, or at the instance of, an official agency in accordance with their need for protection;**

- (b) in the Republic of Cyprus  
any information or material, irrespective of its form or nature, which requires protection against unauthorized disclosure and/or use and has been classified in accordance with the national legislation;
2. a "classified contract" is a contract between an authority or an enterprise from the country of one Contracting Party (contracting entity) and an enterprise from the country of the other Contracting Party (contractor); under such contract, classified information from the country of the contracting entity is to be released to the contractor, is to be established by the contractor or is to be made accessible to duly authorised members of the contractor's staff who are to perform tasks in facilities of the contracting entity;
  3. "Competent Security Authority" means the security authority or authorities of each Contracting Party responsible for the implementation and supervision of this Agreement;
  4. "contractor" means an individual or a legal entity possessing the legal capacity to conclude classified contracts;
  5. "Facility Security Clearance" means the determination by the Competent Security Authority confirming, that the individual or legal entity provides the personal security and has the physical and organizational capability to use, store and protect classified information in accordance with the respective national legislation;
  6. "need-to-know" means the necessity to have access to classified information in the scope of a given duty or task;
  7. "Personnel Security Clearance" means the determination by the Competent Security Authority confirming, in accordance with the respective national

legislation, that an individual is eligible to have access to certain levels of classified information;

8. "third Party" means any state, organization, legal entity or individual, which is not a Contracting Party to this Agreement.

(2) The levels of security classification are defined as follows:

1. In the Federal Republic of Germany, classified information is
  - (a) STRENG GEHEIM if knowledge of it by unauthorized persons may pose a threat to the existence or vital interests of the Federal Republic of Germany or one of its states;
  - (b) GEHEIM if knowledge of it by unauthorized persons may pose a threat to the security of the Federal Republic of Germany or one of its states, or may cause severe damage to their interests;
  - (c) VS-VERTRAULICH if knowledge of it by unauthorized persons may be damaging to the interests of the Federal Republic of Germany or one of its states;
  - (d) VS-NUR FÜR DEN DIENSTGEBRAUCH if knowledge of it by unauthorized persons may be disadvantageous to the interests of the Federal Republic of Germany or one of its states;
2. in the Republic of Cyprus, classified information is
  - (a) ΑΚΡΩΣ ΑΠΟΡΡΗΤΟ: information and material the unauthorised disclosure of which could cause exceptionally grave prejudice to the essential interests of the Republic of Cyprus;