

Safety Together!

AVOIDING AIRSPACE

REDUCE YOUR RISK OF A MID AIR COLLISION!

Guide for General Aviation Pilots

Current Situation: Risks & Consequences

- European airspace is highly complex, so careful planning is required to avoid airspace infringements.
- Unauthorised entry into controlled airspace increases the risk of an airprox or mid-air collision with Commercial Air Transport aircraft.
- Navigational errors are a major cause of airspace infringements

Solutions: Before, During and After the Flight

Planning and preparation is the best way to prevent airspace infringements. Modern technologies (digital maps, flight planning software, etc.) can make flight preparation easier and more accurate.

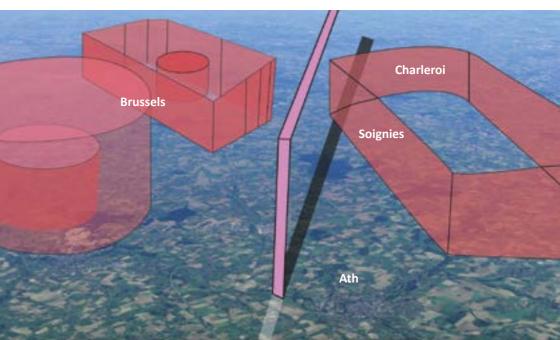
- Thouroughly plan and prepare your flight, even a local one!
- Know where you are at all times during the flight and don't be afraid to communicate!

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• Debrief your flight and share your experience with others!

1. Before the Flight: Preparation is Key!

- **Prepare and accurately plan** your intended and alternate routes in advance!
- Airspace in the vicinity of airports is complex and has dense traffic, which increases the risk of mid-air collisions.
- Use modern technologies that can support your flight planning, but keep practicing your basic pilot, navigation and dead reckoning skills.
- Gather all the necessary flight information such as NOTAMs, weather information, special zones activation, airport charts, airspace structure, etc. even for local flights.
- Save the ATC and FIS frequencies you will need during your flight!



2. During Flight: Situation Awareness and Communication is Crucial!

- Know where you are at all times: navigation technologies and frequent radio communication significantly increase situational awareness when you're in the air!
- **Stay in contact** with the Flight Information Service (FIS) / Air Traffic Control (ATC) or actively monitor the corresponding frequency.
- **Stay visible:** keep your transponder switched on to your assigned squawk (or the default 7000 code).
- The flight plan is your guide: follow your plan but be ready to adjust or change it in case of exceptional or unforeseen circumstances.
- If you know you have infringed, keep your transponder activated and contact FIS/ATC to inform them and request assistance.
 Never hesitate to communicate!

Use your electronic navigational aids wisely in support of your situational awareness. Always ensure continued safe navigation is possible in case of failure of your electronic device by having an adequate back-up arrangement ready for use. In case of using VFR charts as your (only) back-up, keep your basic pilot, navigation and dead reckoning skills current.



Image: ©Vasco Morao

3. After Flight: Lessons Learned

- Replay, review and debrief your flight.
- Share your experience with others and report any incident.

A good pilot never stops learning and shares their flight experience with others!





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You may also contact: SafetyPromotion@easa.europa.eu

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