

**No. 24689**

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**SPAIN  
and  
FRANCE**

**Air Defence Protocol. Signed at Madrid on 12 November  
1985**

*Authentic texts: Spanish and French.*

*Registered by Spain on 15 April 1987.*

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**ESPAGNE  
et  
FRANCE**

**Protocole de défense aérienne. Signé à Madrid le 12 no-  
vembre 1985**

*Textes authentiques : espagnol et français.*

*Enregistré par l'Espagne le 15 avril 1987.*

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AIR DEFENCE PROTOCOL<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN  
AND THE FRENCH REPUBLIC

The Kingdom of Spain and the French Republic,  
Desiring to grant each other air defence facilities,

In accordance with the Agreement on Co-operation in Defence Matters signed  
by both Governments on 7 October 1983,<sup>2</sup>

Concerned by the need to specify common objectives and to define implementa-  
tion procedures,

Have agreed as follows:

*Article 1*

The primary role of the air defence systems of the two States is to ensure that national sovereignty in their airspace is respected at all times and, in the event of a crisis or war, to prevent enemy penetration.

As a result, each side requires the following:

- Information on the air situation, not only in the airspace of each State but also in adjacent airspace;
- Means of intervention designed to recognize and, where necessary, subject to special orders or destroy aircraft considered to be of doubtful origin, suspicious or hostile, which have penetrated the national airspace.

*Article 2*

Within the framework of the role defined in article 1 and subject to international law, the purpose of the co-operation is the following:

*2.1. In time of peace*

To facilitate the execution, by each Party, of the appropriate missions, exchanging in this regard information on the air situation.

*2.2. In time of a crisis or war*

To permit the execution of co-ordinated manoeuvres in the event that both Governments decide to carry out a joint military intervention, it being understood that each Party shall retain complete control over its forces.

*Article 3*

The development of Hispano-French co-operation in air defence requires essentially:

- A systematic exchange of specific information on the air situation known by each party;
- The execution of co-ordinated manoeuvres and exercises in areas of common concern.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 12 November 1985 by signature, in accordance with article 10.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1394, No. I-23343.

This implies:

- The establishment of special links between the two air defence systems;
- The definition of procedures adapted for the transmission of relevant information;
- The designation of co-ordination officers entrusted with the task of establishing the necessary contacts between the general staffs with a view to drafting joint operational plans;
- The designation of personnel to ensure the transmission of the information;
- The definition of coherent aircraft control procedures;
- The conduct of various air exercises for the purpose of training crews and controllers in the performance of air defence missions controlled by the other Party's ground facilities.

#### *Article 4*

The interconnection of the automated air defence systems of both Parties makes it possible to transmit information from one system to the other, in digital form, through automatic linkages.

Moreover, such information may be transmitted by telegraph or telephone.

##### *4.1. Torrejon Combat Operations Centre (COC) – Taverny Air Defence Operations Centre (ADOC)*

The Torrejon COC and Taverny ADOC are linked in order to exchange information on the air situation, and provide mutual information on alert situations, planning and control of joint activities.

##### *4.2. Air defence bodies*

4.2.1. Information is exchanged either automatically in digital form or by telephone or telegraph.

The following connections have been made in order to facilitate these exchanges:

- Torrejon Sector Operations Centre (SOC) – Nice or Lyon Detection and Control Centre (DCC),
- Torrejon SOC – Mont de Marsan DCC.

##### *4.2.2. Exchange of information between Centres*

This exchange concerns essentially:

- (a) The air situation in their zone of responsibility;
- (b) The transmission of real or practice “warning” messages;
- (c) Co-ordination of the use of facilities in the case of search and rescue operations concerning aircraft and vessels;
- (d) The weather situation, the condition of airfields, the actual situation of SOC, air surveillance squadrons (EVA) and DCC;
- (e) Execution of joint exercises;
- (f) Collaboration in exercises concerning only one of the two Parties.

##### *4.2.3. In the case of joint operations*

In the conditions referred to in article 2, paragraph 2.2, the sector commanders shall:

- (a) Collaborate closely in the preparation and execution of air defence operations;

- (b) Exchange all useful information, on their own capacity, availability of weapons, and alert positions;
- (c) Co-ordinate the conduct of interception operations likely to be of concern to them either successively or simultaneously.

#### 4.3. *Transmissions*

##### 4.3.1. *Automatic connections*

The exchange of information between the air defence systems is carried out mainly in digital form by automatic connections between the Torrejon SOC and the DCCs of Nice (or Lyon) and of Mont de Marsan.

##### 4.3.2. *Telephone connections*

Telephone connections intended for the transmission of information in the event of an interruption in the automatic connections and for ensuring the establishment of technical links between:

- The Torrejon COC and the Taverny ADOC;
- The Torrejon COC/SOC and the Mont de Marsan DCC;
- The Torrejon COC/SOC and the Nice (or Lyon) DCC;
- The Rosas EVA and the Narbonne Satellite Detection Centre.

##### 4.3.3. *Telegraph connections*

Telegraph links may be established between the various sectors for the transmission of information.

##### 4.3.4. *Ground-air links*

The allocation of frequencies to be used by aircraft or to be monitored continuously by detection centres shall be made jointly by the French and Spanish air defence systems.

#### 4.4. *Procedures to be followed for the exchange of information*

The terms and procedure to be used in the dissemination of air defence states of alert and prevention as well as the procedures to be employed for the exchange of information are set out in the Implementation Handbook for the Hispano-French Air defence protocol.

### *Article 5*

#### 5.1. *Air Defence Co-ordination Officers (ADCO)*

Co-operation requires a constant exchange of information between the general staffs as well as the joint study of problems that arise.

To this end, working meetings shall be held at the request of one of the Parties, at least once a year, alternately in France and in Spain.

In order to ensure the exchange of information between the defence general staffs, Air Defence Co-ordination Officers (ADCO) shall be assigned in time of peace to the general staffs responsible for dealing with day-to-day questions. They shall be permanently assigned to such staff during periods of crisis or war as well as during exercises. These functions may be assumed by officers already appointed for another purpose.

#### 5.2. *Units of Air Defence Operations Controllers (UADOC)*

To facilitate the exchange of information on the air situation and the air defence measures taken by one Party or the other, units of air defence operations controllers

may be established, consisting of French staff in the Torrejon SOC and of Spanish staff in the Nice and Mont de Marsan DCCs.

Air defence information is provided automatically and transmitted from one system to the other in digital form. The controller units monitor the technical operation of the connections, the permanent exchange of information between the French and Spanish air defence systems, and the co-ordination of joint operational activities.

Special directives approved by the two air defence commanders shall be drawn up for each unit. They shall specify their composition, functions and status.

#### *Article 6*

Whenever Spanish aircraft have to intervene, under the agreements binding the two Parties, in the airspace under the responsibility of the French Air Defence System, they shall conform to the procedures of the latter, under the responsibility of the commander of the French SOC concerned.

Conversely, whenever French aircraft have to intervene, under the agreements binding the two Parties, in the airspace under the responsibility of the Spanish Air Defence System, they shall conform to the procedures of the latter, under the responsibility of the commander of the Spanish SOC concerned.

The compatibility of these procedures shall be verified in order to improve control co-ordination and to ensure aircraft safety in all circumstances.

#### *Article 7*

7.1. To verify the functioning of co-operation, a number of exercises shall be carried out jointly, during which the operations shall be co-ordinated in the conditions specified in article 4, paragraph 4.2.3.

##### *7.2 Manoeuvres and exercises*

The following exercises shall be carried out according to the capacity of the two air defence systems.

- (a) Exchange and control of Spanish and French patrols during the exercises called "NAVIPAR".
- (b) French participation in the Spanish exercise "RED EYE", in the form of offensive missions with a possible landing in Spain.
- (c) Spanish participation in the French exercises "DATEX" and "BARRAGE", in the form of offensive missions with a possible landing in France.
- (d) Hand over and control of Spanish and French patrols, including interceptions following "scramble" takeoffs: Exercise "PYRÉNÉES".
- (e) Training in the rescue of aircraft in difficulty, with a possible landing in Spain or France: Exercise "TRIANGULEX".
- (f) Electronic warfare: exchange of methods used to localize jamming sources and elaboration of a method for co-ordinating information. Exchange of information on the localization of jamming sources and on the type of jamming: Exercise "JAMEX".
- (g) Saturation exercises involving a great number of trails, whether simulated or real, according to a given air situation.
- (h) Other exercises may be planned whenever they are considered necessary.

These various exercises may be combined. The description and conduct of the above-mentioned exercises shall be set out in the Implementation Handbook for the Hispano-French Air Defence Protocol.

*7.3. Overflight and flight safety conditions*

During the exercises or manoeuvres involving overflights, the aircraft shall, for the purpose of safety and simplicity, obey the air traffic rules and procedures of the State overflown and may, in the event of difficulty, make use of rescue and repair facilities (Hispano-French Protocol on facilities applicable to military aircraft of the two Parties).

*Article 8*

These provisions concern all the Spanish and French air defence facilities; they include the basic facilities of the Air Defence Commands and the facilities placed under their operational control by the other armies.

*Article 9*

Each Party shall assign to any information or documents and materials exchanged in pursuance of this Protocol a level of classification equivalent to that assigned by the Party of origin and shall take, with respect to those materials, appropriate security measures in conformity with the agreements entered into or to be entered into between the parties.

*Article 10*

This Protocol shall enter into force on the date of its signature for a period of five years. Unless it is denounced upon notice of six months, it shall be renewed by tacit agreement. In this case, it may be denounced at any time upon notice of six months.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the representatives of the two Parties, being duly authorized, have signed this Protocol and affixed their seals thereto.

DONE at Madrid, on 12 November 1985, in duplicate, in the Spanish and French languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Kingdom  
of Spain:

*[Signed]*

LUIS DELGADO SÁNCHEZ-ARJONA  
Lieutenant general,  
Head of MACOM

For the French Republic:

*[Signed]*

PASCAL DE CHASSEY  
General de Chassey  
commanding the Air Defence Forces