

Airspace Infringements

INTRODUCTION

During the first quarter of 2021, a significant **increase of airspace infringement incidents** has been noticed within the Belgian airspace. Because of the complex airspace in Belgium and in Europe, it is not easy to avoid infringements, even for the most experienced pilots. In order to help **reduce the risk** of airspace infringements and mid-air collisions, the Belgian Civil Aviation Authority (BCAA) – in collaboration with the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) – would like to provide all pilots with a few tips that could be useful before, during and after every flight.

WHAT IS AN AIRSPACE INFRINGEMENT?

An airspace infringement is when an aircraft enters Notified Airspace **without authorisation or clearance** from the airspace's controlling authority, or when it enters the airspace under conditions that were not contained in the **clearance**, thus creating a possibility of collision with another aircraft. In other words, it increases the **risk** of mid-air collision or an airprox (a situation in which two aircraft are dangerously getting closer to each other).

Notified Airspace includes controlled airspace structures in ICAO airspace classes A to E, such as Airways, Terminal Control Areas (TMAs), Control Zones (CTRs) or Aerodrome Traffic Zones (ATZ) outside controlled airspace, as well as restricted airspaces, such as danger areas, restricted areas, prohibited areas and temporary segregated/reserved areas.

A FEW TIPS TO REDUCE THE RISK AND AVOID AIRSPACE INFRINGEMENTS

In order to prevent airspace infringements, the EASA has underlined a **few tips** to keep in mind before, during and after the flight in order for you to help reduce risks.

BEFORE THE FLIGHT



Prepare and plan your flight (the intended and alternate routes). This also means identifying controlled or restricted airspace in order to know where they are.



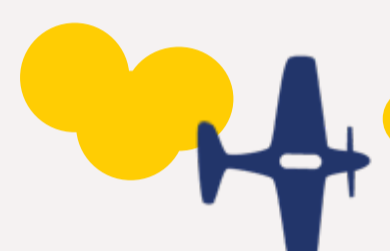
Use **modern technologies** and navigation software in order to help support your planning and your pilot skills.

Gather all necessary **information**, such as weather information, special zones activation, airport charts, airspace structure, etc. You can go to the **BCAA** or **skeyes** website for further information.



Save the **radio frequencies** of the Air Traffic Control (ATC) and Flight Information Service (FIS) to help you during your flight.

DURING THE FLIGHT



Always know where you are at all times; keep **situational awareness**. The flight plan you made is your guide, but be ready to adjust it in case of unforeseen circumstances.



Stay in contact with the FIS and ATC and actively monitor their radio frequencies to be aware of any problems whilst in the air.



Stay visible to others by having your **transponder** switched on to your assigned squawk (or the default 7000 or 2000 code). For standard SSR operating procedures, visit the **Aeronautical Information Publication's website** (AIP: ENR 1.6).



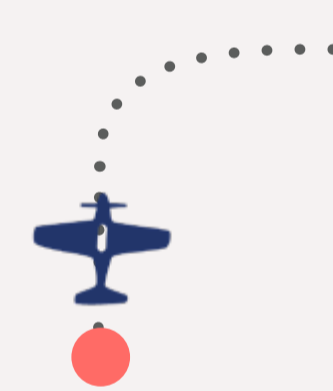
Obtain a clearance before entering a controlled airspace.

Communicate, it will help counter any exceptional situation. If you have infringed an airspace, keep your transponder activated and contact the FIS or ATC in order to inform them.

AFTER THE FLIGHT



Debrief your flight: replay and review it in order to learn from your experience.



Share your experience with others and report any incident that happened during your flight.

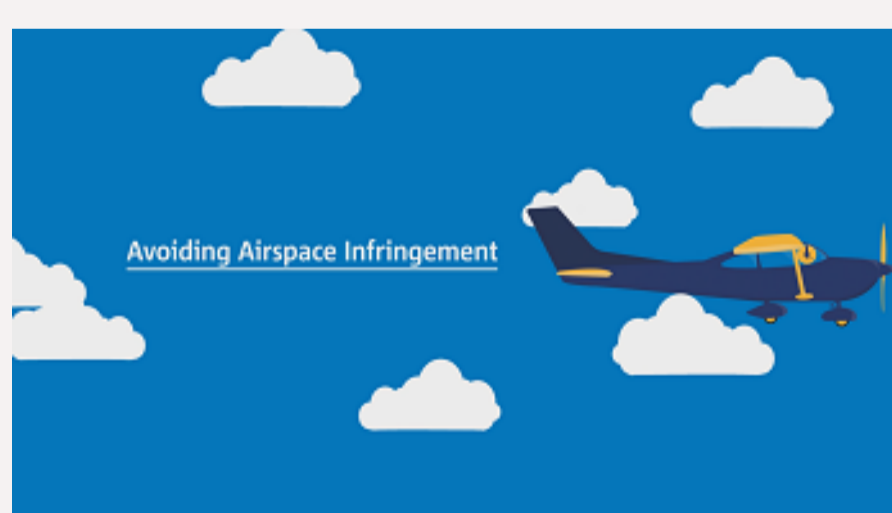
“NEVER STOP LEARNING AND SHARE YOUR FLIGHT EXPERIENCE WITH OTHERS!”

MORE INFORMATION

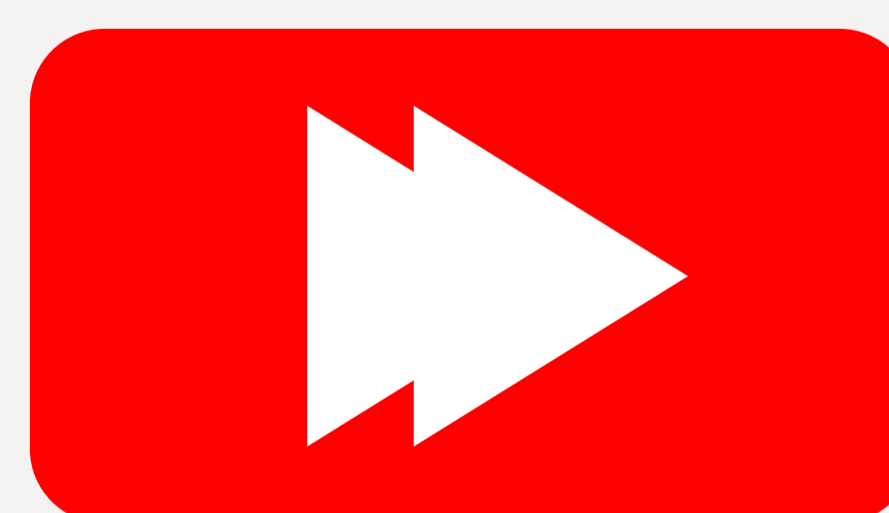
For more information about airspace infringements, go onto the **EASA's website** in order to find their Safety Promotion materials. The BCAA encourages all pilots to print and display the EASA leaflet and infographic in their club briefing room to help others be aware.



The BCAA also has a dedicated page concerning **airspace infringements**. It provides links to entertaining and informative videos and gives useful advice in order to avoid airspace infringements and increase **aviation safety**.



EASA'S VIDEO



BCAA'S VIDEO

If you have committed any airspace infringement during your flight, please **report** it to:

- The BCAA through the **European Portal** or;
- Your Approved Training Organisation (ATO) or your Declared Training Organisation (DTO).

“COMMUNICATE, STAY VISIBLE AND STAY ON TRACK.”

Questions? Suggestions?
BCAA.Safety.Promotion@mobilif.fgov.be



WHAT IS AN ASIL?

ASIL stands for Aviation Safety Information Leaflet. These leaflets are created and published by the Belgian Civil Aviation Authority (BCAA) in order to raise awareness and to promote aviation safety. They are also part of a larger frame aimed at achieving predetermined aviation safety objectives, including reports, flyers, posters, audiovisual material, manuals, conferences and promotional campaigns. These leaflets are often based on the safety analysis of occurrences reported in accordance with Regulation (EU) 376/2014 on the reporting, analysis and follow-up of occurrences in civil aviation. For more information about the leaflets themselves, visit our website in **French** or in **Dutch**.