

# **Information-Sharing Arrangements**

## **Notification Process**

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# REVISIONS LOG

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## Introduction

This process document is based on Chapter VI *Information-sharing arrangements* (Article 45) of the Digital Operational Resilience Act (Regulation (EU) 2022/2554) insofar as the Malta Financial Services Authority ('MFSA', 'the Authority') acts as the respective national competent authority for the Maltese jurisdiction. In preparation for the date of applicability of the DORA Regulation, the Authority is herewith establishing an Information-Sharing Arrangements process as communicated on 30 April 2024 through Circular titled [Information-Sharing Arrangements under Regulation \(EU\) 2022/2554 on Digital Operational Resilience for the Financial Sector](#).

Information-Sharing Arrangements are established for the exchange of cyber threat information and intelligence, including indicators of compromise, tactics, techniques, and procedures, cyber security alerts and configuration tools. These arrangements aim to enhance the digital operational resilience of financial entities, take place within trusted communities, and are implemented in a manner that protect the potentially sensitive nature of the information shared, and are governed by rules of conduct in full respect of business confidentiality, protection of personal data in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and guidelines on competition policy. Membership in Information-Sharing Arrangements is an encouraged practise.

Once the DORA Regulation becomes applicable, that is, as of 17 January 2025, the Authorised Persons within scope (see Article 2 of the DORA Regulation) may participate in Information-Sharing Arrangements on a voluntary basis but shall notify the Authority of their participation, upon validation of their membership, or, as applicable, of the cessation of their membership, once it takes effect.

The Authority is also extending the opportunity for the same notification process to Authorised Persons that are not subject to the DORA Regulation but on a voluntary basis.

This process is being released alongside the Information-Sharing Arrangements Notification Form, available on the MFSA website (Our Work > Supervisory ICT Risk and Cybersecurity).

## Scope and Applicability

As of 30 April 2024, any Authorised Person may, on a voluntary basis, notify the Authority of its participation in an Information-Sharing Arrangement upon validation of its membership, or, as applicable, of the cessation of its membership, once it takes effect. Once the DORA Regulation becomes applicable, that is, as of 17 January 2025, such notification will become mandatory for the Authorised Persons within scope, and will remain voluntary for all other Authorised Persons.

This process and its accompanying material apply from the date of publication of Circular titled [Information Sharing Arrangements under Regulation \(EU\) 2022/2554 on Digital Operational Resilience for the Financial Sector](#) and this document, that is, 30 April 2024.

## Definitions

TERM	DEFINITION
Authorised Person	Any person that is licensed, registered, or otherwise authorised by the Malta Financial Services Authority. The term “Licence Holder” is also widely used within the Authority.
Cyber Threat	Any potential circumstance, event or action that could damage, disrupt, or otherwise adversely impact network and information systems, the users of such systems and other persons. Source: Article 2, point (8), of Regulation (EU) 2019/881.
DORA Regulation	Regulation (EU) 2022/2554 on digital operational resilience for the financial sector (the ‘Regulation’).
Digital Operational Resilience	The ability of a financial entity to build, assure and review its operational integrity and reliability by ensuring, either directly or indirectly through the use of services provided by ICT third-party service providers, the full range of ICT-related capabilities needed to address the security of the network and information systems which a financial entity uses, and which support the continued provision of financial services and their quality, including throughout disruptions. (DORA Regulation).
Information-Sharing Arrangement	In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2022/2554 Chapter VI Article 45.
MFSA	Malta Financial Services Authority (the ‘Authority’).
SIRC	The Supervisory ICT Risk and Cybersecurity Function within the MFSA.

## The Process

Authorised persons notifying the Authority of:

1. their participation in an Information-Sharing Arrangement, upon validation of the membership, and/or
2. their cessation of membership from an Information-Sharing Arrangement, once it takes effect,

are to request a secure link by sending an email on [mirt@mfsa.mt](mailto:mirt@mfsa.mt) and submit the following documents accordingly through the secure link provided.

1. **Participation:** a signed copy of the Information-Sharing Arrangements Notification Form and the membership validation, which shall be done by presenting either of the below, per participation:
  - A written statement by the Governing Body of the respective Information-Sharing Arrangement confirming the membership.
  - Membership Certificate or Card, clearly illustrating the name of the Authorised Person and the name of the Information-Sharing Arrangement.
2. **Cessation of membership:** a signed copy of the Information-Sharing Arrangements Notification Form.

An editable version of the Notification Form mentioned in both processes is available on the MFSA website (Our Work > Supervisory ICT Risk and Cybersecurity).

Authorised Persons may request further information by sending an email to the SIRC Function on [mirt@mfsa.mt](mailto:mirt@mfsa.mt).

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