

Declaration of Friedrichshafen on November 6, 2021.

We, the model aviation organizations IG Hangflug for the alpine bordering countries, Finesse + for France and the Deutscher Modellflieger Verband e.V. for Germany declare as follows:

The undersigned associations are concerned about the implementation of the European regulations into the national legal framework of the respective member states.

In this context, the Basic Regulation 2018/1139 (34) and the Implementing Regulation 2019/947 Article 16 of the EU Commission should be mentioned in particular, which are intended to ensure that model aircraft "can continue to be operated as they do today" due to their good safety record.

This also applies, and to a particular extent, to operators of model aircraft outside of approved model airfields, specifically for slope gliding, for which the above-mentioned legislation forms the basis of the practice of their sport throughout Europe.

The signatories note that numerous member states do not or only insufficiently interpret the above-mentioned principles of the relevant EU regulations, or even charge fees for the use of the designated airspace. The French-style "balise", a chargeable national transponder technology, clearly belongs in this context, especially since exemption from it, even for foreign model pilots, is only possible through membership in a French sports association. Even if the operation of the model aircraft takes place on an airfield approved by the national aviation authority.

The undersigned see this as a violation of the principles of equal treatment of the European Union.

Also, the implementation of the so-called U-Space in accordance with EU Implementing Regulation 2021/664 must not give rise to introduce charges for access to airspace, to limit this to designated airfields, to exclude young pilots by unjustified age limits, or to establish unreasonable technologies for the operation of model aircraft. Once again, we formally point out to the EU member states that model aviation has operated with an excellent safety record over the past decades, despite a low level of regulation, and does not require any additional reprisals.

The undersigned associations reject any kind of requirements that would lead to a restriction of the established operation of model aircraft in the member states or to unequal treatment of model aircraft pilots of other nationalities. The signatories consider such measures as crossing a red line against which the associations will intervene across borders.



IG Hangflug



Finesse +



Deutscher Modellflieger Verband e.V.