

WOJCIECH RAFAŁ WIEWIÓROWSKI Assistant Supervisor

Mr Pascal LEGAI Director European Union Satellite Centre (EU SatCen) Apdo. de Correos 511 28850 Torrejón de Ardoz, Madrid, SPAIN

Brussels, 24 July 2015 WW/XK/sn/D(2015)1257 C 2014-1072 Please use <u>edps@edps.europa.eu</u> for all correspondence

Subject: Prior check opinion on the recruitment of trainees at the European Union Satellite Centre

Dear Mr Legai,

We have analysed the notification for prior-checking under Article 27(2)(a) and (b) of Regulation 45/2001 (the Regulation) on the processing of personal data in the context of trainees' recruitment at the European Union Satellite Centre (the EU SatCen).

As you have pointed out in your cover letter, the EU SatCen has prepared the notification, the privacy notice and the confidentiality declaration to be signed by the internal evaluators taking into account the EDPS Guidelines on the processing of personal data in the field of recruitment¹.

A specific issue nevertheless diverges from the Guideline. Successful local staff are required to provide a security clearance. The Security Office of the EU SatCen asks the National Security Agency (NSA) to send a security clearance of the successful trainee. At the end of the traineeship, the Security Office sends back to the NSA the trainee's security clearance by registered mail. The EDPS notes that the mission of EU SatCen is stated in the Council Joint Action 2001/555/CFSP of 20 July 2011, as amended on 21 December 2006 on the establishment of the agency. The legal basis for processing security clearances of employees

¹ Issued on 10 October 2008 under "Thematic Guidelines" on the EDPS website.

is provided in Article 2 (5) $(a)^2$ of the Staff Regulation of the EU SatCen published on 25 August 2009 (OJ) 11765/09. The processing of security clearance is therefore compliant with Article 10(5).

According to the notification and all documents enclosed, the EDPS considers that the EU SatCen has adopted adequate data protection safeguards in conformity with the Regulation.

We have therefore decided to close the case.

Should you have further doubts, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

(signed)

Wojciech Rafał WIEWIÓROWSKI

Cc: Ms Esther MOLINERO, Data Protection Officer

² "All employees may be required to have security clearance giving them access to classified documents in the course of their duties. A request for such clearance will be addressed to the competent authorities by the Centre. Pending official clearance, temporary access to classified information may be granted by the Director in exceptional cases and emergencies."