

Slot Coordination Procedures 2026 EU Presidency

1. Objective of Document

The objective of this document is to explain the procedures applicable during the time of the EU presidency. This is to ensure that:

- Business-as-usual traffic is maintained by Dublin Airport.
- Additional movements specific to the EU presidency are efficiently processed.
- The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) are informed about the specific rules applicable and are aware of the procedures in place for the EU presidency.

2. Slot Coordination Details

- The coordinator is ACL, website is www.acl-uk.org
- Slot Messages (SCR/SMA) send to LONACXH@acl-uk.org and for general enquires, emails can be sent to current_season@acl-uk.org
- Dublin out of hours email: POD@dublinairport.com, phone: +353 1 814 5228. Currently no specific night restrictions are in effect at Dublin Airport.

3. Coordination of summer season 2026 during EU Presidency

Dublin Airport is coordinated at its normal Level 3 status level. No temporary level status change is planned. Dublin Airport will be operating a “drop and go” procedure for the EU Presidency and will be the primary arrival/departure location for state flights (commercial and non-commercial). Baldonnell Aerodrome and Shannon Airport will act as alternative locations.

General Coordination Principles

All flights, regardless of the category (scheduled, charter, general or business aviation) departing from or arriving to Dublin Airport during EU Presidency, will require an airport slot allocated by the coordinator prior to the operation and prior to filing the corresponding ATC flight plan. Slots must be submitted in turnaround format. All aircraft must leave the airport as soon as possible after off-loading passengers, including VIPS. Overnight flights are not guaranteed and must be agreed in advance with Dublin Airport.

The following flights are exempted from slot allocation, but we highly recommend that the operators keep us informed of their intention even at short notice:

- Medical emergencies, evacuation, or humanitarian flights
- Search and rescue operations.
- Emergency operations

4. Requests of slots for flights specific for the EU Presidency

Slot Requests

Slots requested should be made in the usual SSIM format (SCR/SMA) to ACL.

- Slots for general and business aviation flights shall be requested by operators via their ground-handling agent.
- Slot requests must be submitted in turnaround format (except flights using existing aircraft based at that airport).
- Confirmed handling agent must be arranged in advanced of the operation.
- The aircraft registration must be included in the SCR request.

Use of Specific Service Type Codes

To identify requests specific for the EU Presidency from all other requests, operators are required to use the specific following service type codes for these flights:

- Use of service type "I" for official head of state flights (VIP Flights)
- Use of service type code "C" for any charter flight
- Use of service type "P" for any positioning flight
- Use of any combination C-P, P-C for the turnaround format.

SI Text (Supplementary Information, free text)

SI text on slot request should include flights requested for EU Presidency. Please see an example below.

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SCR
S26
02MAR
DUB
NXYZ917 NXYZ918 25JUL25JUL 0000500 014CCX STN1625 1725STN II / RE.XXXXX/
SI FLTS REQUESTED FOR EU PRESIDENCY VISIT
SI THESE FLIGHTS WILL BE HANDLED BY SWISSPORT.
GI BEST REGARDS
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Priorities for slot allocation during EU Presidency

Requests for slots will be processed in accordance with the EU Slot Regulations 95/93 on common rules for the allocation of slots at community airports.

Handling of request for series of slots

A blocker will be in place for all non-based activity across the below dates. Requests for EU Presidency State flights will be referred to Dublin Airport for approval. Requests for Charter, GA and non-based positioning flights will not be processed until 7 days prior to operation and placed on a waitlist. ACL will discuss the demand with the airports and allocations will be given where capacity exists.

- 2nd-3rd July
- 15th-17th July
- 31st August-2nd September
- 17th-19th September
- 12th – 13th November

Slot Monitoring

ACL will conduct routine slot monitoring covering the period of the EU Presidency. Strict enforcement of above regulation (EEC No 95/93) applies, including a measure of actual times operated against a slot time held. Slot sanctions may apply in the case of intentional slot misuse.