

Law on maritime security

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(Legal) coverage in the BNS	(Port areas, cf. art. 3 of the law)	
Competent authorities in Belgium	National Authority for Maritime Security	

// abstract:

This law ensures the implementation of '*Regulation (EC) No 725/2004* of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004 on enhancing ship and port facility security' (p.94) and the transposition of '*Directive 2005/65/EC* of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 October 2005 on enhancing port security' (p.80). The law deals with maritime security in ports. A national authority for maritime security has to be established under the law. It is responsible for the general policy on maritime security, the development of standards and the surveillance of compliance. It has to give advice, coordinate the studies, implement the international and European legislation, etc. Moreover, for each port, a local committee for maritime security has to be installed (verification of the authenticity of the provided information, security evaluations, etc.) and a maritime security officer has to be designated (a local contact). In this law, three security levels are defined for the port security zones, and the rules on security evaluation are described. Moreover, the standards the port security plan should meet are determined. The plan has to be drawn up by each port, under the supervision of the local committee in question. Finally, the information and data exchange, surveillance of compliance with the law, as well as the sanctions are discussed.