



Emergency Communications (EMTEL); Main terms and definitions for Emergency Communications

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Foreword

This Technical Report (TR) has been produced by ETSI Special Committee Emergency Communications (EMTEL).

Modal verbs terminology

In the present document **"should"**, **"should not"**, **"may"**, **"need not"**, **"will"**, **"will not"**, **"can"** and **"cannot"** are to be interpreted as described in clause 3.2 of the [ETSI Drafting Rules](#) (Verbal forms for the expression of provisions).

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Introduction

The present document, developed by the ETSI Technical Committee on Emergency Communications (EMTEL), aims to align definitions used across the European Union's legislative framework and ETSI's technical deliverables concerning emergency communications and emergency services. Prompted by the entry into force of legislation, including Directive (EU) 2018/1972 [i.6], Directive (EU) 2019/882 [i.8] and Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/444 [i.4], the present document addresses the critical need for alignment of certain terminology as highlighted in the European Commission's ICT Rolling Plan for Standardisation 2024 [i.9], specifically under Action 1 related to emergency communications and public warning systems.

The scope of the present document is focused on listing and defining terms that are within the domain of emergency communications and emergency services. While some terms are widely recognized across various technical fields, they assume specific significances or require clear definitions within an emergency communications/emergency services context to prevent any potential misunderstanding, misinterpretation or misrepresentation. To facilitate easy reference, the terms are arranged alphabetically and supplemented with a list of relevant abbreviations and acronyms that are used in both the legislative and technical narratives.

The primary purpose of the present document is not to exhaustively redefine all applicable ETSI terms but to align those where differences between legal and technical definitions could lead to misunderstanding, misinterpretation or misrepresentation. It is anticipated that as technological advancements and legislative changes continue to evolve, the present document will be periodically updated to include new or revised definitions, ensuring ongoing relevance and usefulness in aligning technical standards with EU law where necessary.

The present document serves as a reference for policymakers, standardization bodies, and stakeholders involved in the development, implementation, and management of emergency communications and the provision of emergency services.

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1 Scope

The present document lists the terms used across ETSI Standards and Technical Reports that pertain to emergency communications and emergency services. It includes terms that, although defined in other technical domains, carry distinct meanings or require unequivocal definitions specific to the context of emergency communications and emergency services. For ease of reference, terms are organized in alphabetical order without adherence to any other sorting criteria. Additionally, the present document encompasses a list of abbreviations and acronyms, some of which are borrowed from other fields but are relevant and used within the scope of emergency communications and emergency services.

In cases of ambiguity between definitions in EU legislation and existing ETSI technical deliverables within the scope of emergency communications and emergency services, the present document should be referenced for clarification; for new ETSI deliverables within the scope of emergency communications and emergency services, the definitions provided herein should be used.

2 References

2.1 Normative references

Normative references are not applicable in the present document.

2.2 Informative references

References are either specific (identified by date of publication and/or edition number or version number) or non-specific. For specific references, only the cited version applies. For non-specific references, the latest version of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

NOTE: While any hyperlinks included in this clause were valid at the time of publication ETSI cannot guarantee their long term validity.

The following referenced documents are not necessary for the application of the present document but they assist the user with regard to a particular subject area.

- [i.1] Recommendation ITU-T F.703: "Multimedia conversational services".
- [i.2] [EN 15722](#): "Intelligent transport systems - ESafety - ECall minimum set of data", (produced by CEN).
- [i.3] ETSI TS 102 181: "Emergency Communications (EMTEL); Requirements for communication between authorities/organizations during emergencies".
- [i.4] [Commission Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2023/444](#) of 16 December 2022 supplementing Directive (EU) 2018/1972 of the European Parliament and of the Council with measures to ensure effective access to emergency services through emergency communications to the single European emergency number '112'.
- [i.5] [Regulation \(EU\) 2015/758](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2015 concerning type-approval requirements for the deployment of the eCall in-vehicle system based on the 112 service and amending Directive 2007/46/EC.
- [i.6] [Directive \(EU\) 2018/1972](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2018 establishing the European Electronic Communications Code.
- [i.7] [Commission Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2024/1084](#) of 6 February 2024 amending Delegated Regulation (EU) No 305/2013 supplementing Directive 2010/40/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the harmonised provision for an interoperable EU-wide eCall.
- [i.8] [Directive \(EU\) 2019/882](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2019 on the accessibility requirements for products and services.