



## European Civil Protection

**Acronym:** MIC  
**Full Name:** The Monitoring and Information Centre  
**Website:** [http://ec.europa.eu/echo/civil\\_protection/civil/prote/mic.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/echo/civil_protection/civil/prote/mic.htm)  
**Established:** 2001  
**Location:** Brussels

**Areas of expertise:** Monitoring Centre. Operational support and assistance in case of emergency inside or outside the European Union

**Main Partners and collaborations:** Joint Research Centre (JRC), Space Charter, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the Commission's Humanitarian Aid Department (ECHO), the Red Cross.

### **Short Description:**

The Monitoring and Information Centre was created in 2001 through the establishment of a "Community Mechanism to facilitate reinforced cooperation in civil protection assistance interventions", which facilitates the response to any disaster inside and outside the EU\*.

The MIC is operated by the European Commission in Brussels and it is available 24 hours a day\*.

### **Main activities:**

The MIC offers operational support and assistance in case of disaster **inside or outside the European Union**. Any country, which suffers the effects of a major disaster, can request the assistance and support of the Centre. This request will be forwarded by the MIC to the network of contact points in the 30 participating states. Each State decides, if it is in a position to provide support and assistance. The requesting State informs the MIC about the available assistance. The affected States contacts with the assisting States directly. This mechanism allows "the national authorities to save valuable time in the aftermath of a disaster."\*

Additionally, the MIC provides information on civil protection preparedness and response. The Centre generates also early warning alerts on natural disasters through the MIC Daily and offers the latest updates on ongoing emergencies and Mechanism interventions\*.

### **Contact:**

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### **Source:**

\*The Monitoring and Information Centre ([http://ec.europa.eu/echo/civil\\_protection/civil/prote/mic.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/echo/civil_protection/civil/prote/mic.htm)  
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