

The inaugural NEFAB Council meeting on 6 February 2013 in Oslo

Declaration on Åland Islands by Finland

The demilitarisation and neutralisation of Åland is regulated primarily by four international conventions, the Convention on the Demilitarisation of the Åland Islands (1856), the Convention on the non-fortification and neutralisation of the Åland Islands (1921), Treaty between Finland and the Soviet Union (1940) and the Peace Treaty of Paris (1947). In addition, in 1992 Finland and the Russian federation signed a protocol confirming the validity of treaties signed by Finland and the Soviet Union.

The special status of the Åland Islands is also recognised by the European Union. In the second protocol of the Finnish accession treaty, the internationally recognised status of the Åland Islands is confirmed. Additionally, Finland has in connection with the establishment of the Treaty of Lisbon declared that the treaty does not affect the application of demilitarisation and neutralisation of Åland.

Therefore Finland concludes that

- The Agreement on the establishment of the North European Functional Airspace Block (NEFAB) contains certain provisions regarding civil–military cooperation.
- The entry into force of the NEFAB Agreement will not affect the applicability of the international conventions that regulate the demilitarisation and neutralisation of the Åland Islands.