**Update: 8 February 2017**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Related to Radio Amateur Regulations in CEPT**

These FAQs have been developed in co-operation between ECO and the International Radio Amateur Union (IARU) Region 1. The FAQs can neither be used nor referenced instead of the actual applicable regulation and only intend to serve as a guide.

The FAQs risk not being up to date as regulations change from time to time.

The FAQs are intended to help**:**

* + Administrations in the consistent interpretation of CEPT radio amateur regulations.
	+ Radio amateurs who intend to visit another country under the CEPT radio amateur regulations.

**URLs of documents**

The main page of the WGFM Radio Amateur Forum Group is: [FM RAFG](http://www.cept.org/ecc/groups/ecc/wg-fm/fm-radio-amateur-fg) . The main access to both [T/R 61-01](http://www.erodocdb.dk/Docs/doc98/official/pdf/TR6101.PDF) CEPT Radio Amateur Licence, [ECC/REC (05)06](http://www.erodocdb.dk/Docs/doc98/official/pdf/REC0506.PDF) CEPT Novice Radio Amateur Licence, and [T/R 61-02](http://www.erodocdb.dk/Docs/doc98/official/pdf/TR6102.PDF) HAREC is via the document database at: [ECO Documentation Database](http://www.erodocdb.dk/doks/doccategoryECC.aspx?doccatid=2%20).

Scroll down the page to the relevant documents or quicker just use your browser to 'search in the page' for '61-01' or '(05)06' or 61-02. You can then download the text of these agreements or just look on line. If you click on the 'Implementation' button a new page opens which shows which countries have adopted the agreements and any special conditions if any.

**What have been the major changes over the past 10 years?**

* The deletion of the Morse code requirement for access to frequencies below 30MHz (applicable to the CEPT countries which have implemented the latest version of T/R 61-01);
* The merging of the old CEPT Class 1 and 2 licences into a single class, the “CEPT radio amateur licence''
* Removal of an ambiguity concerning portable and mobile operation
* Freedom to use any amateur station in the country visited, not just the visitors ‘own’ station
* Introduction of the CEPT Novice class, ECC/REC(05)06
* 2014: The new [ECC Recommendation (14)05](http://www.erodocdb.dk/Docs/doc98/official/pdf/REC1405.PDF) on Amateur Radio Licence Examinations for Persons with Disabilities was approved for publication. The Recommendation provides an open framework for administrations to define and introduce practices facilitating the access of persons with disabilities to licence examinations for the amateur radio service.
* 2016: Introduction of T/R 61-01 ANNEX 5:concerning the Participation of Non-CEPT Administrations in the "CEPT RADIO AMATEUR LICENCE'' – STATEMENT OF CONFORMITY, which is designed to ease the process of implementing T/R 61-01 (and T/R 61-02 for Non-CEPT Administrations.
* Clarification of the situation with respect to Remote Operating in these FAQs.

**What does a radio amateur visitor need to do to operate as a visitor to a country under the current CEPT regulations?**

For short stays:
A radio amateur visitor has to:

* check that his national licence class does qualify for a CEPT Licence and that his national licence document confirms this. If not then confirmation that the licence held is equivalent to a CEPT licence is needed from his national licence authority;
* check what national licence class in the country to be visited is equivalent to a CEPT Licence;
* check what are the operating privileges and regulations covering the use of that national licence class in the country to be visited;
* use the appropriate prefix which has to be appended to his own personal national callsign.

Check online the publicly available information about radio amateur regulations for visitors in the country in question. Information about/pre-notification of the intended operation may be required in individual country cases. Only if such information is found, send in a notification information to the national authorities. You can also ask the European Communications Office (eco@eco.cept.org) whether the CEPT has been informed about such notification needs.

**Can an amateur from a country listed in Annexes 2 or 4 of T/R 61-01 remotely operate an amateur station in another country listed in Annexes 2 or 4, using the provisions of T/R 61-01?**

No, the issue of remote operation has surfaced in recent years following the decision of a number of CEPT and non CEPT administrations to permit the connection of amateur stations to the Internet (directly or indirectly), which facilitates remote operation.

Recommendation T/R 61-01 as approved in 1985 made it possible for licensed radio amateurs from CEPT countries to operate during short visits in other CEPT countries without obtaining an individual temporary licence from the visited CEPT country. The physical presence of the operator at the station is therefore required as evidenced in the following text.

Nowhere in T/R 61-01 is remote operation mentioned or text included which suggests such operation is permitted. In addition T/R61-01 states in:

RECOMMENDS:

1.     that CEPT member administrations recognise the principle of the CEPT radio amateur licence issued under the conditions specified in ANNEX 1: and ANNEX 2:, on which the administrations of the countries visited will not levy administrative charges or spectrum fees;

2.   that administrations, not being members of CEPT, accepting the provisions of this Recommendation, may apply for participation in accordance with the conditions laid down in ANNEX 3 and ANNEX 4, and in Paragraph 2 of ANNEX 1 of Recommendation T/R 61-01.

CONDITIONS OF UTILISATION

2.1       On request the licence holder shall present his CEPT radio amateur licence to the appropriate authorities in the country visited.

2.2     The licence holder shall observe the provisions of the ITU Radio Regulations, this Recommendation and the regulations in force in the country visited. Furthermore, any restrictions concerning national and local conditions of a technical nature or regarding the public authorities must be respected. Special attention should be paid to the difference in frequency allocations to the radio amateur services in the three ITU Regions

2.3     When transmitting in the visited country the licence holder must use his national call sign preceded by the call sign prefix of the visited country..

**Whose operating privileges should the visitor use?**

The operating privileges for the visitor operating under the CEPT Licence are defined by the COUNTRY BEING VISITED, NOT THE PRIVILEGES IN HIS OWN COUNTRY.

**What operating procedures do I have to follow?**

The operating privileges and regulations of the country to be visited have to be followed closely. In-depth information on operating standards and ethics for radio amateurs in general, can be found in an official document of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) at <http://www.hamradio-operating-ethics.org/>. The document is available in more than 25 languages.

**How can a radio amateur find out if his national licence is recognised by CEPT?**

Many Administrations mark the national licence as being recognised by CEPT (applicable to countries that implemented T/R 61-01)

**How long is operation under T/R 61-01 permitted? Or how long is a ‘short’ visit?**

The period varies but is normally 1 to 3 months or up to 90 days. For longer stays, amateurs from CEPT Administrations which have adopted T/R 61-02, can apply for a national licence (see later)

**Can the visitor use the station of a local radio amateur ?**

Yes, with the permission of the licensee. You may operate his equipment if physically present at his station under your own licence, using your own call-sign prefixed as necessary.

**What callsigns are permitted?**

The visitor should use his personal primary callsign prefixed by the appropriate prefix for the country being visited. The prefixes are shown in the equivalence tables in T/R 61-01 and ECC/REC(05)06. You should use the national prefix and any secondary locator if any, then a forward slash,‘/’, followed by your home callsign. Thus an amateur from the Netherlands holding the callsign PA2MIL would identify in England as M/PA2MIL and an Austrian amateur holding the callsign OE7PBK would identify in Switzerland as HB9/OE7PBK.

**Can club callsigns be used?**

No, personal call signs only, should be used. This is because club callsigns are not recognised in the equivalence tables and the identity and licence class of the operator are not clear.

**What documents should be taken for inspection by the Administrations of the country being visited?**

The visitor needs to be able to show that licence is recognised under T/R 61-01. You are advised to carry your home licence which must be in English/French/German and which should show that it is equivalent to a CEPT Radio Amateur Licence. Also it is recommended that visitors should have a copy of the current national radio amateur licence terms.

**I want to stay for longer visits, what should I do?**

T/R 61-01 is intended to cover temporary stays, for up to 3 months or 90 days depending on country. For longer stays you will need to apply for a normal or reciprocal amateur radio licence and to provide the Harmonised Amateur Radio Examination Certificate (HAREC) from your own country (if it has implemented T/R 61-02).

**Are there HAREC question pools available?**

HAREC - Harmonised Amateur Radio Examination Certificate. CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-02 sets out the principle of mutual recognition of HAREC certificates issued by various CEPT countries and establishes conditions for issuing HAREC.

Both radio amateurs seeking HAREC certificate and CEPT as well as non-CEPT administrations running national examinations on HAREC can benefit from using the available HAREC question pools placed on the IARU Region 1 web-page ([IARU R1 Question Pools](http://www.iaru-r1.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=224&Itemid=169)). Two of the available question pools in English (from New Zealand and USA) have been evaluated by IARU R1 and found to be HAREC-compliant.

It is assumed that administrations wishing to use the above mentioned question pools would be able to adjust them to fit with their national licensing conditions.

**How to apply to CEPT for membership in CEPT Recommendations**

**T/R 61-01, T/R 61-02 and ECC Recommendation (05)06?**

**CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 on the ’CEPT Radio Amateur Licence’**

**CEPT countries**

To join CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 the national communications authority of a CEPT country should send a letter to the ECO (thomas.weber@eco.cept.org) informing it of the implementation of this Recommendation at the national level and, possibly, of additional requirements. The national call sign prefix as well as the national licence equivalent to the "CEPT Radio Amateur Licence" (also known as the “CEPT Licence”) as defined in Recommendation T/R 61-01 should be provided in the same letter for filing in Appendix II of this Recommendation.

By submitting such a letter to the ECO, the applying authority of a CEPT country declares the equivalence between the notified national licence and the CEPT Licence and is expected to keep the ECO updated when the national licensing system is amended.

Once the information provided by the joining CEPT country has been filed in Appendix II of CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01, both radio amateurs from the participating CEPT and non-CEPT countries (check the implementation status here) and the newly joined CEPT country will be allowed to operate temporarily (up to three months) without any additional permissions in the participating countries they are visiting under the conditions specified in Appendices II and IV of T/R 61-01.

Please, also note the following:

Morse code proficiency is not required for operation in a participating country unless it is specifically stated (a few participating CEPT countries have not yet implemented the latest version of T/R 61-01, without Morse code requirement; some others require Morse code proficiency only if Morse code is supposed to be used by the visiting radio amateur).

**Non-CEPT countries**

To join CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 the national communications authority of a non-CEPT country should send to the ECO (thomas.weber@eco.cept.org) an application containing a description of the requirements (including the relevant syllabus used for examinations) and the privileges associated with its highest national licence class (this could be a reference to a webpage in English). Privileges which would be granted to the visiting radio amateurs from CEPT countries (usually these are the same privileges as those given to the holders of the highest national licence class) and the call sign prefix for the visiting amateurs should be also indicated in the application.

Then CEPT ECC WGFM Radio Amateur Forum Group ([FM RAFG](http://www.cept.org/ecc/groups/ecc/wg-fm/fm-radio-amateur-fg)) will evaluate, as the responsible group, whether the national licence class indicated in the application could be considered as being equivalent to the highest CEPT licence class which is called the "CEPT Radio Amateur Licence" (also known as the “CEPT Licence”) as defined in CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01.

In case the evaluation is successful, the name of the applying non-CEPT country accompanied by other necessary information will be added to Appendix IV of T/R 61-01. Since then, both radio amateurs from the participating CEPT countries (For further details (call signs, equivalent licences, other specific requirements) consult Annex 2 of T/R 61-01) ) and the accepted non-CEPT country will be allowed to operate temporarily (up to 3 months) without any additional permissions in the participating countries they are visiting under the conditions specified in Appendices II and IV (for the accepted non-CEPT country) of T/R 61-01.

Please, also note the following:

* Morse code proficiency is not required for operation in a participating country unless it is specifically stated (a few participating CEPT countries have not yet implemented the latest version of T/R 61-01, without Morse code requirement; some others require Morse code proficiency only if Morse code is supposed to be used by the visiting radio amateur);
* the arrangement is not working automatically between participating non-CEPT countries.

**CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-02 on the ’CEPT Harmonised Amateur Radio Examination Certificate’ (HAREC)**

Should a visiting radio amateur wish to operate longer than 3 months, he/she should apply for the individual licence in the visiting country. In order to facilitate issuing individual licences, another CEPT arrangement was made which is called ‘CEPT Harmonised Amateur Radio Examination Certificate’ (HAREC). This is defined in CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-02. Participating in this arrangement CEPT as well as non-CEPT countries agree to issue the highest national licence to individuals who passed national examinations according to HAREC requirements in a participating country and has a valid certificate proving this.

**CEPT countries**

To join CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-02, the national communications authority of a CEPT country should send a letter to the ECO (thomas.weber@eco.cept.org) informing it of the implementation of this Recommendation at the national level and, possibly, of additional requirements. The national certificate class (licence) for which the examination requirements correspond to HAREC (as defined in Recommendation T/R 61-02) as well as the national licence the joining Administration will issue to holders of a HAREC from other participating countries should also be listed in the same letter for filing in Annex II of this Recommendation.

By submitting such a letter to the ECO, the applying authority of a CEPT country declares the equivalence between the requirements associated with the notified national certificate class and the CEPT examination level (HAREC) and is expected to keep the ECO updated when the national licensing system is amended.

Please, also note that the Morse code proficiency requirement was excluded from HAREC in February 2004.

**Non-CEPT countries**

An application from a non-CEPT administration shall include a Statement of Conformity (SOC) which confirms that following a comparative assessment of their national amateur radio examination syllabuses and licence classes with Annex 6 of CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-02 (HAREC), which particular national licence classes are considered to be equivalent to the CEPT licence. A list of these licence classes and their privileges (if such privileges are substantially different to the CEPT licence) shall be included in the SOC, see paragraphs 8 and 11 of ANNEX 5. All the details mentioned above must be submitted in one of the official languages of the CEPT (English, French or German) and sent to the ECO (thomas.weber@eco.cept.org).

The applying Administration shall also provide the call sign prefix (see paragraph 10 of Annex 5) to be used by visiting radio amateurs in the SOC and details of any special conditions relating to the implementation of this Recommendation in the country concerned. Special conditions or restrictions should be confined to a minimum, and should not be imposed unless absolutely necessary, and shall be included in a footnote in ANNEX 4.

In case the evaluation is successful, the name of the applying non-CEPT country accompanied by other necessary information will be added to Annex 4 of T/R 61-02. Since then, both CEPT countries already participating in this system and the newly accepted non-CEPT country agree to issue national licences corresponding to the CEPT examination standard to foreign nationals who possess a HAREC issued by a country participating in this system and who stay in their country for a period longer than three months.

Please, also note the following:

* the Morse code proficiency requirement was excluded from HAREC in February 2004;
* the arrangement is not working automatically between the participating non-CEPT countries.

**ECC Recommendation (05)06 on ‘CEPT Novice Radio Amateur Licence’**

ECC Recommendation (05)06 is similar to CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 but defines the framework for a lower class licence which is called “CEPT Novice Radio Amateur Licence”. CEPT as well as non-CEPT countries may consider applying for participation in this arrangement in case their national systems include similar national licence classe. The corresponding examination syllabus is described in ERC Report 32.

The procedure for joining ECC Recommendation (05)06 is similar to the one for joining CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 (as described above).

[**ECC Recommendation (14)05**](http://www.erodocdb.dk/Docs/doc98/official/pdf/REC1405.PDF) **on Amateur Radio Licence Examinations for Persons with Disabilities**

Several administrations of CEPT member countries have adopted practices to adapt amateur radio licence examinations to the specific needs of candidates with disabilities, hereby recognising the importance of amateur radio as an instrument of self-training and integration of disabled persons into society. The Recommendation provides an open framework for administrations to define and introduce practices facilitating the access of persons with disabilities to licence examinations for the amateur radio service.