

Regulation (EU) No 996/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2010 on the investigation and prevention of accidents and incidents in civil aviation and repealing Directive 94/56/EC (Text with EEA relevance)

*Article 13*

**Preservation of evidence**

1 [F1Where the accident or serious incident occurred in the United Kingdom, the safety investigation authority] shall be responsible for ensuring safe treatment of all evidence and for taking all reasonable measures to protect such evidence and for maintaining safe custody of the aircraft, its contents and its wreckage for such period as may be necessary for the purpose of a safety investigation. Protection of evidence shall include the preservation, by photographic or other means, of any evidence which might be removed, effaced, lost or destroyed. Safe custody shall include protection against further damage, access by unauthorised persons, pilfering and deterioration.

2 Pending the arrival of safety investigators, no person shall modify the state of the site of the accident, take any samples therefrom, undertake any movement of or sampling from the aircraft, its contents or its wreckage, move or remove it, except where such action may be required for safety reasons or to bring assistance to injured persons, or under the express permission of the authorities in control of the site and, when possible, in consultation with the safety investigation authority.

3 Any person involved shall take all necessary steps to preserve documents, material and recordings in relation to the event, in particular so as to prevent erasure of recordings of conversations and alarms after the flight.

**Textual Amendments**

- F1** Words in [Art. 13\(1\)](#) substituted (31.12.2020) by [The Aviation Safety \(Amendment etc.\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/645\)](#), regs. 1, [47](#) (with [Sch. 3](#)) (as amended by [S.I. 2019/1098](#), regs. 1(3), 12); 2020 c. 1, [Sch. 5 para. 1\(1\)](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Regulation (EU) No 996/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Article 13.