FEEDS
Forum for European Electrical Domestic Safety

MAPPING

DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL INSPECTIONS REGIMES IN THE EU:

A SITUATION WHICH VARIES STRONGLY AMONG MEMBER STATES

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ABOUT FEEDS

The Forum for European Electrical Domestic Safety (FEEDS) is a think-tank and a do-tank that brings together organizations aiming to improve electrical safety in dwellings.

The Forum aims to contribute to a safe, just and ambitious Energy Transition mainly focused on electrification by:

Providing harmonized data on domestic fires from electrical source at European level and contributing to improve data collection in each country,

Promoting proven solutions at European level to reduce electrical fires from electrical source in dwellings,

Putting electrical safety as a pre-requisite to the deep renovation and deployment of decentralized production (e.g. PV), energy storage and increased electrical demand of 132 million dwellings across Europe with obsolete electrical installations,

Drawing attention at all policy levels on the close connection between energy poverty and electrical safety for vulnerable communities,

Participating in the achievement of the Green Deal targets.

The results of the work of the FEEDS Forum are available to all stakeholders involved in household electrical safety in Europe. Stakeholders are free to make use of it to support their case and facilitate action in the different Member States of the European Union.

FEEDS MEMBERS

European organizations

- European Committee of Electrical Installation Equipment Manufacturers (CECAPI)
- Europacable
- European Association of Electrical Contractors (EuropeOn)
- European Copper Institute (ECI)
- European Fire Safety Alliance (EFSA)
- Federation of the European Union Fire Officer Associations
- International Federation for the Safety of Electricity Users
- Insurance Europe – Prevention Forum

National organizations

- Confédération Nationale du Logement (CNL – France)
- Electrical Safety First - The UK's Electrical Safety Experts (ESF – United Kingdom)
- Groupe de Réflexion sur la Sécurité Electrique dans le Logement (GRESEL – France)
- Dutch Burns Foundation (NBS – Netherlands)

DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL INSPECTIONS REGIMES IN THE EU: A SITUATION WHICH VARIES STRONGLY AMONG MEMBER STATES

FEEDS analysed the general framework regarding the installation and renovation of electrical installations in dwellings in various countries. As conclusion, EU deployment of electrical inspection regimes is limited and mainly voluntary.

VARIOUS TYPES OF EXISTING REGULATIONS THROUGHOUT THE EU

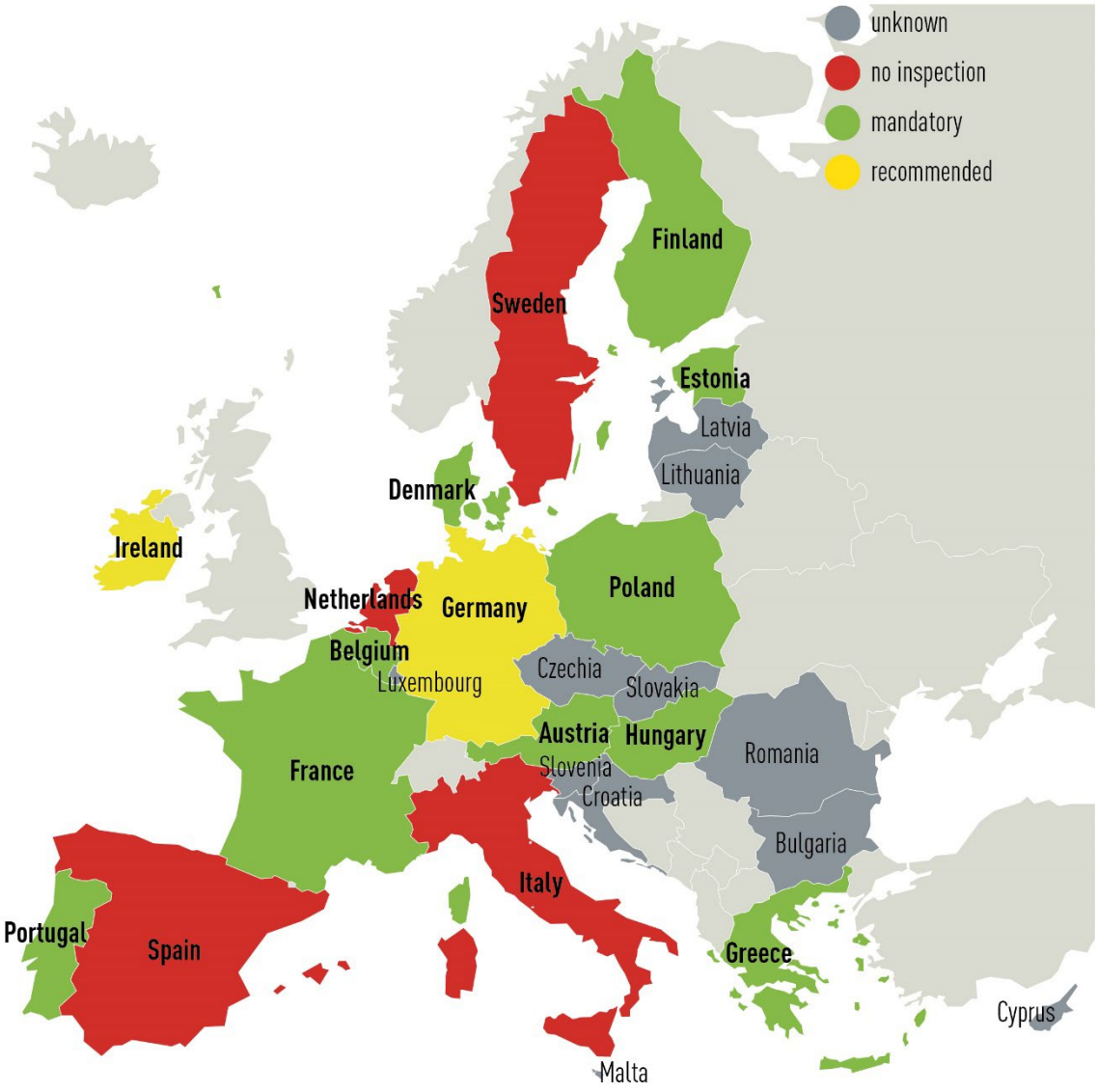
- INITIAL VERIFICATION OF THE ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION
- INSPECTION OF EXISTING ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS

INITIAL VERIFICATION OF THE ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION

In the majority of the EU countries, an initial third-party verification of the electrical installation in new residential buildings is mandatory. Who coordinates and who executes those inspections depends upon the country and the type of building. Most of the inspections in the EU are executed by private inspection companies or third party authorized electricians.

In some countries, third-party inspection of the installation is not mandatory, but the work on the installation needs to be executed by certified electrical contractors.

Verification that the inspection (or certified installation) has been executed is in the hands of distribution network operators or public authorities. In most EU countries, distribution network operators request an inspection report before connecting the new electricity meters to the grid.

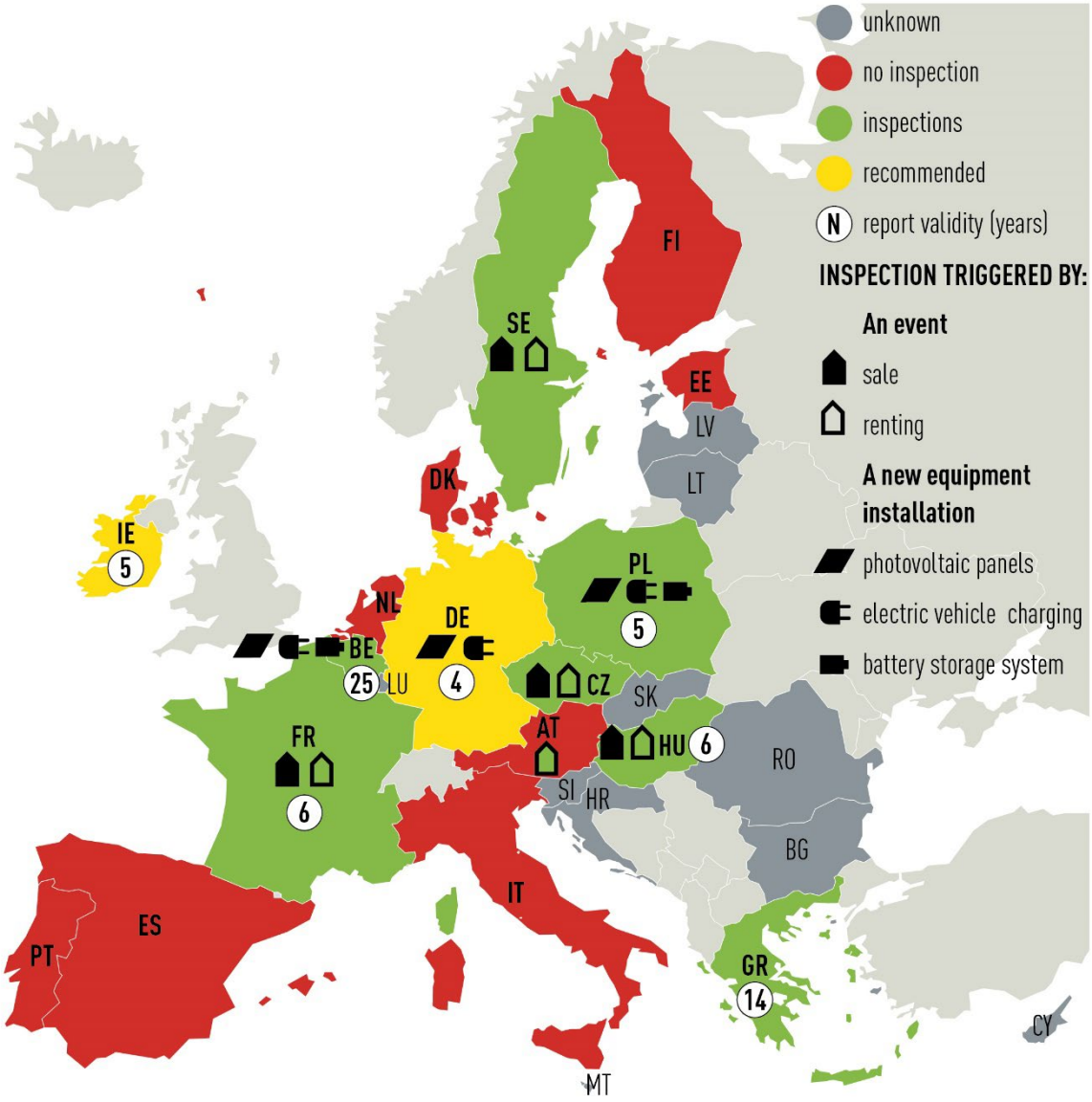


Map 1 — Initial inspection of new domestic installation

INSPECTION OF EXISTING ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS

CENELEC (HD 60364-6) recommends a periodic inspection of the electrical installation every 10 years. When occupancy of a dwelling has changed, a verification of the electrical installation is also strongly recommended. But, the majority of European countries do not have regulation for verifying domestic electrical installations after the initial inspection. Among countries that do require periodic inspections, the protocols vary greatly. The following strategies can be roughly distinguished:

- PERIODIC INSPECTIONS AT FIXED INTERVALS
- INSPECTIONS WITH EACH CHANGE OF OCCUPANT
- INSPECTION AFTER MAJOR WORKS (Power increase, retrofit, new equipment…)



Map 2 — Domestic electrical inspection regimes of existing installation

IN DEPTH ANALYSIS PER COUNTRY

AUSTRIA

Initial inspections (Map 1)			mandatory
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			no
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			no
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	no
		Renting	mandatory
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	no
		Electric vehicle charging point	no
		Storage battery system	no

Reference: https://www.elektrotechniker.at

BELGIUM

Initial inspections (Map 1)			mandatory
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			mandatory
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			25
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	mandatory
		Renting	no
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	mandatory
		Electric vehicle charging point	mandatory
		Storage battery system	no

Reference: https://economie.fgov.be/fr/publications/reglement-general-sur-les

Source: AiE Technical Guideline for Electrical Contracting Companies in the EU 2013

BULGARIA

Initial inspections (Map 1)			unknown
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			unknown
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			unknown
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	unknown
		Renting	unknown
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	unknown
		Electric vehicle charging point	unknown
		Storage battery system	unknown

CROATIA

Initial inspections (Map 1)			unknown
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			unknown
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			unknown
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	unknown
		Renting	unknown
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	unknown
		Electric vehicle charging point	unknown
		Storage battery system	unknown

CYPRUS

Initial inspections (Map 1)			unknown
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			unknown
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			unknown
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	unknown
		Renting	unknown
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	unknown
		Electric vehicle charging point	unknown
		Storage battery system	unknown

CZECHIA

Initial inspections (Map 1)			unknown
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			unknown
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			unknown
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	unknown
		Renting	unknown
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	unknown
		Electric vehicle charging point	unknown
		Storage battery system	unknown

DENMARK

Initial inspections (Map 1)			mandatory
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			no
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			no
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	no
		Renting	no
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	no
		Electric vehicle charging point	no
		Storage battery system	no

Reference: Stærkstrømsbekendtgørelsen afsnit 6 Elektriske installationer
Danish Heavy Current Legislation, Section 6, Electrical Installations
HD IEC 364
CEN/CENELEC HD 384

Source: https://www.tekniq.dk/

ESTONIA

Initial inspections (Map 1)			mandatory
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			no
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			no
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	no
		Renting	no
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	no
		Electric vehicle charging point	no
		Storage battery system	no

FINLAND

Initial inspections (Map 1)			mandatory
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			no
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			no
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	no
		Renting	no
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	no
		Electric vehicle charging point	no
		Storage battery system	no

Source: https://www.stul.fi/

FRANCE

Initial inspections (Map 1)			mandatory
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			mandatory
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			6
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	mandatory
		Renting	mandatory
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	no
		Electric vehicle charging point	no
		Storage battery system	no

Source: https://www.promotelec.com/
http://ffie.fr
http://www.serce.fr

GERMANY

Initial inspections (Map 1)			recommended
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			recommended
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			4
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	no
		Renting	no
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	recommended
		Electric vehicle charging point	recommended
		Storage battery system	no

Source: https://www.elektrohandwerk.de/privat/themen/e-check.html

GREECE

Initial inspections (Map 1)			mandatory
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			mandatory
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			14
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	unknown
		Renting	unknown
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	no
		Electric vehicle charging point	no
		Storage battery system	no

Source: https://www.poseh.gr
https://energy4you.gr/hedno-certifications

HUNGARY

Initial inspections (Map 1)			mandatory
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			mandatory
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			6
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	mandatory
		Renting	mandatory
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	unknown
		Electric vehicle charging point	unknown
		Storage battery system	unknown

Source: http://emosz.hu

IRELAND

Initial inspections (Map 1)			recommended
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			recommended
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			5
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	unknown
		Renting	unknown
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	unknown
		Electric vehicle charging point	unknown
		Storage battery system	unknown

Source:
https://www.hsa.ie/eng/Publications_and_Forms/Publications/Information_Sheets/Guidance-Note_on_Periodic_Inspection_and_Testing_of_Electrical_Installations.html

ITALY

Initial inspections (Map 1)			no
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			no
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			no
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	no
		Renting	no
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	no
		Electric vehicle charging point	no
		Storage battery system	no

Source: https://www.prosiel.it
http://www.assistal.it

LATVIA

Initial inspections (Map 1)			unknown
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			unknown
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			unknown
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	unknown
		Renting	unknown
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	unknown
		Electric vehicle charging point	unknown
		Storage battery system	unknown

LITHUANIA

Initial inspections (Map 1)			unknown
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			unknown
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			unknown
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	unknown
		Renting	unknown
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	unknown
		Electric vehicle charging point	unknown
		Storage battery system	unknown

LUXEMBOURG

Initial inspections (Map 1)			unknown
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			unknown
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			unknown
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	unknown
		Renting	unknown
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	unknown
		Electric vehicle charging point	unknown
		Storage battery system	unknown

Source: https://www.creos-net.lu/index.php?id=619

MALTA

Initial inspections (Map 1)			unknown
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			unknown
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			unknown
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	unknown
		Renting	unknown
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	unknown
		Electric vehicle charging point	unknown
		Storage battery system	unknown

NETHERLANDS

Initial inspections (Map 1)			no
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			no
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			no
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	no
		Renting	no
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	no
		Electric vehicle charging point	no
		Storage battery system	no

Source: https://www.technieknederland.nl/home

POLAND

Initial inspections (Map 1)			mandatory
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			mandatory
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			5
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	no
		Renting	no
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	mandatory
		Electric vehicle charging point	mandatory
		Storage battery system	mandatory

Reference: Building Law art62,1 point2

PORTUGAL

Initial inspections (Map 1)			mandatory
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			no
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			no
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	no
		Renting	no
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	no
		Electric vehicle charging point	no
		Storage battery system	no

Source: https://selectra.pt/energia/info/certiel
http://www.aecops.pt/

ROMANIA

Initial inspections (Map 1)			unknown
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			unknown
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			unknown
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	unknown
		Renting	unknown
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	unknown
		Electric vehicle charging point	unknown
		Storage battery system	unknown

SLOVAKIA

Initial inspections (Map 1)			unknown
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			unknown
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			unknown
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	unknown
		Renting	unknown
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	unknown
		Electric vehicle charging point	unknown
		Storage battery system	unknown

SLOVENIA

Initial inspections (Map 1)			unknown
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			unknown
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			unknown
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	unknown
		Renting	unknown
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	unknown
		Electric vehicle charging point	unknown
		Storage battery system	unknown

Source: https://cms.law/en/int/expert-guides/cms-expert-guide-to-electricity/slovenia
https://www.ezs-zveza.si/

SPAIN

Initial inspections (Map 1)			no
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			no
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			no
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	no
		Renting	no
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	no
		Electric vehicle charging point	no
		Storage battery system	no

Source: https://fenie.es/presentacion

SWEDEN

Initial inspections (Map 1)			no
Periodic inspections (Map 2)			no
Validity of the inspection report (Year)			no
Conditions	Event related to housing	Sale	no
		Renting	no
	New equipment installation	Photovoltaic panels	no
		Electric vehicle charging point	no
		Storage battery system	no

Source: https://www.in.se/#/