

**Question for written answer E-001100/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Marieke Ehlers (Pfe)

Subject: Schengen Information System (SIS) reporting on returns

Regulation (EU) 2018/1860¹ requires Member States to register return orders into the Schengen Information System (SIS) to facilitate the enforcement of return decisions for non-EU nationals who do not have the right to stay in the EU.

In this regard:

1. According to the 2023 SIS report² by the EU Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (eu-LISA), Member States introduced 321 549 SIS alerts on returns between 7 March 2023 and 31 December 2023, leading to 10 005 confirmed returns recorded in the SIS. However, Eurostat data³ indicates that 484 000 third-country nationals (TCNs) were ordered to leave in 2023 and roughly 65 000 TCNs actually returned after receiving a return decision in the same period. How does the Commission assess this discrepancy between the SIS data and the Eurostat figures?
2. Does the Commission have information on whether all Member States are fully complying with their obligation to enter return orders into the SIS?
3. In how many cases does a Member State that has not itself issued the return order execute the return, rather than transferring the individual back to the Member State that issued the return order?

Submitted: 14.3.2025

¹ Regulation (EU) 2018/1860 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 November 2018 on the use of the Schengen Information System for the return of illegally staying third-country nationals, OJ L 312, 7.12.2018, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/1860/oj>.

² European Union Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (eu-LISA), 'SIS 2023 Statistics Report', 13 May 2024, <https://www.eulisa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/SIS%202023%20Annual%20Statistics%20-%20Report.pdf>.

³ Eurostat, 'Third-country nationals returned following an order to leave, by type of return, citizenship, country of destination, age and sex – quarterly data', 17 March 2025, https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/migr_eirtn1__custom_16030221/default/table?lang=en.