

**Question for written answer E-003958/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Mary Khan (ESN)

Subject: Follow-up question to E-001070/2025 and E-000788/2026 – Ongoing delays to the introduction of the entry/exit system (EES)

The introduction of the entry/exit system (EES) was announced several years ago, with the Commission presenting it as a tool for biometric identity checks at the EU's external borders. Its launch has, however, had to be repeatedly postponed – most recently from the end of 2024 to October 2025 – and it did not come fully online until April 2026. It was then suspended until September 2026 due to technical problems and the resulting significant delays to travel in some Member States.

On 14 September 2026 The Guardian reported that nine EU countries – including France, Germany and Italy – had still not fully implemented the EES and had asked the Commission for an additional delay¹. Technically speaking, they are thus in breach of Regulation (EU) 2025/1534², whose provisions allowing a limited suspension of the system expired on 6 September 2026.

1. Is The Guardian correct in stating that nine Member States have yet to complete full implementation of the EES?
2. How much additional time did the individual Member States request from the Commission, and on what grounds, and does the Commission intend to initiate infringement proceedings, or take any other action, against them for failing to implement the system on time?
3. What is the Commission's justification for this situation whereby a system it has lauded as a success has been postponed for years, right up to the present day, has recently been plagued by technical problems and has consequently caused significant delays to travel?

Submitted: 30.9.2026

¹ <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2026/sep/14/eu-countries-delay-ees-entry-exit-system-border-checks-france-greece-portugal-italy>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/1534/oj/deu>.