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E-000210/2025

Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
(14.4.2025)

The timeline for the entry into operation of the Entry/Exit System (EES) underwent several revisions which were initiated by the Management Board of the European Union Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (eu-LISA) and endorsed by the Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) Council. The start of operations was originally foreseen in the first quarter of 2022, rescheduled for mid-May 2023, then for the fourth quarter of 2024. In October 2024, the JHA Council agreed that a progressive launch of the EES would be the best way forward. On 4 December 2024, the Commission adopted a proposal for a Regulation on a temporary derogation from certain provisions of Regulation (EU) 2017/2226 and Regulation (EU) 2016/399 as regards a progressive start of operations of the Entry/Exit System¹, which is currently being negotiated by the co-legislators before the system can go live.

The EES is designed to improve the travel experience and gradually reduce waiting times, particularly when Member States use automated border control systems or a pre-registration application. Adequate information of travellers will further support the acceleration of border crossings. The proposed Regulation for a progressive start² includes measures enabling Member States to effectively manage technical problems or peak travel periods.

eu-LISA is responsible for developing the EES and is aware of the costs incurred by its implementation. The Commission has asked the Agency to provide the information requested by the Honourable Member. The Commission will send the Agency's reply to the Honourable Member as soon as possible.

¹ COM (2024) 567 final.

² See footnote 1.