

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000909/25**  
**to the Commission**  
**Özlem Demirel (The Left)**  
(4 March 2025)

*Subject:* Schedule for interoperability

The EU's interoperability project aims to link up and reorganise several biometrics-based databases, including the Schengen Information System (SIS II), the Visa Information System (VIS), the Eurodac system for recording the fingerprints of asylum seekers, the Criminal Records Information System for third-country nationals (ECRIS-TCN) and the Entry/Exit System (EES). The fulcrum of the framework is the shared biometric matching system (sBMS). In addition, a European Search Portal (ESP) is to be developed to enable the simultaneous searching of all five systems. All biometric data will be stored centrally in a common identity repository (CIR). There have been, however, some serious delays in making these newly established systems operational.

1. What is the Commission's current binding schedule for implementing the interoperability project and introducing the necessary new legislation (such as the Eurodac recast)?
2. When are the national and central systems ECRIS-TCN, EES, VIS4EES, ETIAS, sBMS, ESP, CIR expected to be technically ready for launch and when will they finally become operational?
3. Does the Commission intend to claim damages from unpunctual suppliers for the serious delays in the operational launch of the EES, and is it also investigating Agnès Diallo, the former manager at Atos and interim director of eu-LISA, in this regard?

Submitted: 4.3.2025

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission**  
(3 September 2025)

On 5 March 2025, the Justice and Home Affairs Council endorsed the revised Interoperability Roadmap that foresees the implementation in 2025 and 2026 of the Entry/Exit System (EES), centralised system for the identification of Member States holding conviction information on third-country nationals and stateless persons (ECRIS-TCN), Eurodac <sup>(1)</sup>, European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) and interoperability components referred to by the Honourable Member. Regarding specifically the Eurodac, the Roadmap reflects the timeline for its launch, as set out in Regulation (EU) 2024/1358.

Visa Information System for the EES (VIS4EES) and shared biometric matching service (sBMS) <sup>(2)</sup> have started operations on 20 May 2025.

The EES will start operating on 12 October 2025 <sup>(3)</sup> and the ETIAS entry into operation is planned for the last quarter of 2026. ECRIS-TCN, the European search portal and the common identity repository technical readiness are foreseen for the last quarter of 2025.

The Commission is not part of the contract regarding the development of the EES. The EU Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (eu-LISA) is responsible for the implementation of the contract, including any decisions related to the activation of contractual remedies.

The Commission is not investigating the former Executive Director of eu-LISA and there are no indications that the initiation of an investigation would be necessary.

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<sup>(1)</sup> Regulation (EU) 2024/1358 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 on the establishment of 'Eurodac' for the comparison of biometric data in order to effectively apply Regulations (EU) 2024/1351 and (EU) 2024/1350 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Directive 2001/55/EC and to identify illegally staying third-country nationals and stateless persons and on requests for the comparison with Eurodac data by Member States' law enforcement authorities and Europol for law enforcement purposes, amending Regulations (EU) 2018/1240 and (EU) 2019/818 of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Regulation (EU) No 603/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

<sup>(2)</sup> Commission Implementing Decision (EU) of 13.5.2025 determining the date on which operations of the shared Biometric Matching Service start pursuant to Regulations (EU) 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818 of the European Parliament and of the Council — C(2025) 2785.

<sup>(3)</sup> Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2025/1544 of 30.7.2025 determining the date from which the Entry/Exit System is to start operations pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2017/2226 of the European Parliament and of the Council, C/2025/5031, [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L\\_202501544](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:L_202501544).