

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001258/25
to the Commission
Borja Giménez Larraz (PPE)
(26 March 2025)**

Subject: Response to the entry into force of the EES in the second half of 2025 in view of the lack of detail regarding the forms and the possible shortage of materials

The Entry and Exit System (EES), the new registration system for travellers from outside the European Union, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland or Liechtenstein admitted for a short stay (up to 90 days within any 180-day period), comes into force in the second half of 2025.

To date, the Commission has not communicated the exact procedure or the forms to be used. As a result, the Member States — especially Spain — do not have the logistical arrangements in place for the collection of this data, such as biometric checks.

Given the high number of non-EU tourists visiting certain regions of the EU — such as southern Spain — particularly British visitors (with Málaga alone welcoming three million UK tourists annually, or 2 300 per hour):

1. Has the European Commission prepared any contingency plans in case the entry into force of the EES causes disruptions to the European Union's infrastructure and at the ports of entry?

Submitted: 26.3.2025

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(16 June 2025)**

In view of the launch of the Entry/Exit System (EES), the Commission adopted all the implementing acts for the EES as required by the applicable legislation and provided to the Member States technical and operational guidelines, recommendations and best practices.

In 2024, Member States reported to the Commission that they had equipped their border crossing points, adapted their procedures and set up specific plans as part of the measures to address circumstances that may result in disruptions at the border crossing points.

Moreover, Member States can use optional tools such as automated border control systems to gradually reduce waiting times at the external borders.

In December 2024, the Commission adopted a legislative proposal ⁽¹⁾ enabling a progressive start of operations of the EES, introducing more flexibility for the Member States to deploy the EES, and measures that will enable them to effectively manage exceptional circumstances, such as technical problems or periods of peak travel. Co-legislators reached a provisional agreement on the proposal on 19 May 2025.

⁽¹⁾ Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council 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 System — COM/2024/567 final.