



eu-LISA press release
19/09/2018

eu-LISA headquarters now in a smart new house

Today eu-LISA celebrates the opening of its new headquarters in Tallinn with an inauguration event to thank those who provided the Agency with a highly modern working environment in a smart and energy-efficient new house. Representatives of eu-LISA's governing bodies, EU institutions, EU Agencies, the Estonian government as well as eu-LISA's staff will take part in the festive event at Vesilennuki 5, in the close vicinity of the Seaplane Museum.

Seven years ago, in 2011, the European Parliament and the Council decided to establish eu-LISA with the headquarters in Tallinn, Estonia. The Estonian government committed itself to build the headquarters' house, fit for the needs and requirements of an Agency, which is responsible for large-scale IT systems for European security and stability. Throughout these years eu-LISA received remarkable support from the EU authorities and the Estonian government, allowing the Agency to start in temporary premises in Rävala Street 4 and begin to deliver from day one.

The contract for the construction was signed in March 2017 between the Estonian State Real Estate Ltd (RKAS) and the construction company Fund Ehitus.

Sixteen months later, in July 2018, the Estonian Ministry of the Interior passed the building over to the Agency. The international staff of eu-LISA from 17 EU countries, who work in the headquarters, finally got their own "Home".

Executive Director Krum Garkov said: *"This building is a credit to all who have worked to bring it to completion. It is a landmark for the city of Tallinn. And it provides eu-LISA with an impressive new home to pursue its mandate. But it also stands as a powerful symbol of what European integration is about. So let us not undo what has been achieved. Let us draw on the past to unite us in the present – to build a complete Union that can deliver the stability and prosperity we need. We, the European Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice, will do our part to ensure smooth functioning of Schengen area and to enable adequate response of the relevant present and future challenges the EU faces. The systems that eu-LISA is managing and the services that we provide to the Member States are the most tangible sign of our contribution to the Union. In this respect eu-LISA will continue its strong and broad support to the Member States and the European institutions in their efforts to make Europe safer and stronger".*

Estonian Minister of the Interior Andres Anvelt stressed that the European IT agency has a very important role in maintaining the internal security of the European Union. *"When ensuring internal security, we are moving increasingly towards digital solutions and cross-usage of data and the headquarters of the IT Agency in Tallinn is the pioneer in these fields. This means that the pan-European IT-knowhow is increasingly concentrating in Tallinn,"* the Minister said.

The headquarters of eu-LISA is in Tallinn, Estonia, whilst its operational centre is in Strasbourg, France. There is also a technical business continuity site based in Sankt Johann im Pongau, Austria and a Liaison Office in Brussels, Belgium.

Background:

About eu-LISA

The European Agency eu-LISA was established to manage large-scale information systems in the area of freedom, security and justice. It currently manages three large-scale systems, namely Eurodac, the Schengen Information System (SIS) and the Visa Information System (VIS), ensuring optimal service to end users and continuously evolving the systems to meet new needs. The Agency therewith supports the implementation of the EU's border management, migration and internal security policies.

In the coming years, the Agency is foreseen to develop technical solutions to bring the systems towards interoperability. This means that authorised users such as police officers, migration officials and border guards will have faster, seamless and more systematic access to the information they need to do their jobs. eu-LISA is to develop and subsequently manage several new systems, including:

- The European Entry Exit System (EES)
- The European Travel Information Authorisation System (ETIAS)
- The European Criminal Records Information System – Third Country Nationals (ECRIS-TCN)

About the new building:

- The heat from the servers is used to heat up the building via heat exchangers.
- Energy efficiency class B rating (low energy consumption)
- Weather Station on top of the roof to measure wind, temperature, sun direction and intensity in order to automatically regulate the external window-shields and provide for energy-efficiency
- Conference room for 150 and several smaller meeting rooms
- Parking lots (including several for electric cars with charging stations and for people with reduced mobility and for bicycles)
- Numerous green areas, including 50 planted trees, hundreds of bushes and different plants.

Website: <https://www.eulisa.europa.eu/>

Social media: [Twitter](#); [Facebook](#); [LinkedIn](#); [YouTube](#)

Videos: [Our Bonds are our Strength](#);

[Making Europe Better](#)

[eu-LISA New HQ - Corner Stone Ceremony](#)

Contact:

press@eulisa.europa.eu

