What is ETIAS?

The European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) is a new IT system for EU border management being developed by eu-LISA, which will improve the security and safety aspects of travelling to or through the Schengen Area. Once operational, ETIAS will require that all visa-exempt third country nationals planning to travel to the Schengen Area apply for pre-travel authorisation online. Similar to systems already existing in the USA, Canada and Australia, a valid passport, a credit card and minimal personal information will be needed. The information submitted will be automatically processed against existing EU databases (Eurodac, SIS and VIS), future systems EES and ECRIS-TCN, and relevant Interpol databases. This will enable advance verification of potential security, irregular migration and public health risks.

The Benefits

The ETIAS will reduce procedures and border-crossing times, strengthen border management, reinforce the EU’s visa liberalisation policy, help prevent irregular migration and fortify the fight against terrorism and organised crime.

eu-LISA and the JHA Information Systems

Since 2012, eu-LISA has played an integral role in the operational management of large-scale IT systems and databases that are crucial for the security of the European Union. These include the already existing Eurodac, SIS and VIS systems, as well as systems currently under development, such as ECRIS-TCN, EES and ETIAS.

These systems, and the interoperability foreseen between them, will be game-changers in the European Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) area. The technologies being developed by eu-LISA will help the move away from outdated silo solutions towards new holistic approaches that still fully respect the original objectives and data protection guarantees of the individual systems. eu-LISA works closely with Member States, European Institutions and other JHA Agencies to ensure that the technical and procedural solutions applied optimally cover business requirements while remaining technically feasible.

eu-LISA ensures that Europe’s freedom, security and justice management systems are safeguarded for generations to come.

The headquarters of eu-LISA are in Tallinn (Estonia), the operational management is carried out in Strasbourg (France) and a backup site is located in Sankt Johann im Pongau (Austria). eu-LISA also has a liaison office in Brussels (Belgium).