EURODAC

Eurodac is the European Dactyloscopy (fingerprints) database, operational since 2003. It facilitates the application of the Dublin Regulation and is one of the instruments used in implementing the Common European Asylum System (CEAS). Eurodac helps to determine the country responsible for the assessment of an asylum claim presented in a European Union Member State or an Associated Country (Norway, Iceland, Switzerland and Liechtenstein).

eu-LISA’s ROLE IN EURODAC

eu-LISA is in charge of the operational management and further development of the Eurodac Central System. The Agency is responsible for monitoring the performance of the system as well as providing training on the technical use of Eurodac. The Agency is also required to publish a collection of annual statistics as per Article 8(2) of the Eurodac Regulation (EU) No 603/2013.

THE 2019 STATISTICS

In 2019, Member States successfully transmitted a total of 916,577 sets of fingerprints to the Eurodac Central System. The Eurodac Central System processed:

- 592,691 sets of fingerprints of applicants for international protection aged 14 or older (Category 1)
- 111,761 sets of fingerprints of persons aged 14 or older, apprehended when irregularly crossing the external border of a Member State (Category 2)
- 211,635 sets of fingerprints of persons aged 14 or older, found illegally present within a Member State territory (Category 3)
- 449 sets of fingerprints sent by designated Member State law enforcement authorities for the purpose of prevention, detection or investigation of terrorist offences or of other serious criminal offences (Category 4). There were no fingerprints submitted by Europol (Category 5).

Compared to 2018, the total number of transactions to Eurodac in 2019 increased by 4%. During the past decade, the Eurodac Central System saw a peak record of traffic in 2015 and almost 2 million transactions per year.

Figure 1. Comparison of the number of submitted fingerprints in 2018 and 2019

Public statistic can be accessed on eu-LISA’s website.