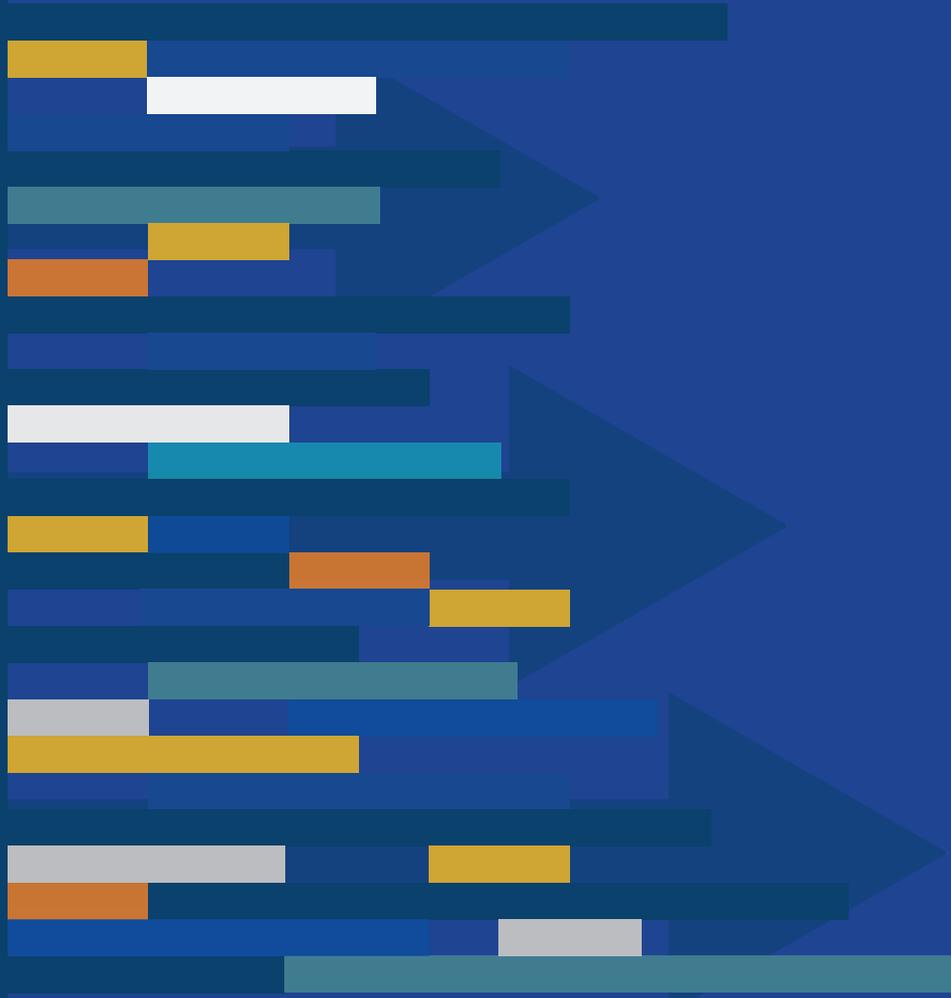


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OUTLOOK: What's ahead?



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The Schengen area is one of the greatest achievements of the European Union – a space where freedom of movement, trust and shared responsibility have transformed Europe. Behind this vision lies a digital architecture that ensures the security, integrity and seamless functioning of the EU's external borders.

The highly anticipated entry into operation of the Entry/Exit System (EES) in 2025 marked a new chapter in European integration, security and digital excellence. The year ahead is set to be just as significant, with the rollout of the new Eurodac, alongside ETIAS and ECRIS-TCN, marking the next key milestones in building a **modern interoperability architecture** for the EU's domain of justice and home affairs.

As always, we will continue to ensure a high level of responsiveness and availability across all existing Justice and Home affairs information systems – SIS, VIS, EES, Eurodac and e-CODEX – with **cybersecurity and data protection** safeguards among our highest priorities.

Our achievements are driven not only by state-of-the-art expertise, but also by the resilience, dedication and professionalism of our people, who steer the Agency through complex challenges, expanding responsibilities and high-pressure delivery. Working in close partnership with our stakeholders, we continue to turn the EU's vision of a **safe and secure Schengen area** into reality — one system and one milestone at a time.

I invite you to take a closer look at eu-LISA's plans for 2026 as we continue to deliver our mission and support the Member States in advancing a shared vision for the ongoing **digital transformation** of the European Union.

Tillmann Keber,
Executive Director

MISSION / VISION / VALUES



Our **mission** is to support the EU and the Member States in their efforts to keep Europe open and secure through **advanced technology**.



Our **vision** is to provide innovative and practical solutions for the EU's evolving needs while **driving digital transformation** in the area of justice and home affairs.



Values that guide our work at eu-LISA

- **Accountability:** strong governance and responsible use of resources
- **Transparency:** open dialogue with our stakeholders
- **Excellence:** high-quality and continuous service
- **Continuity:** best use of expertise and knowledge
- **Teamwork:** empowering our people
- **Customer focus:** serving our stakeholders

LOCATIONS



HEADQUARTERS
TALLINN, ESTONIA



LIAISON OFFICE
BRUSSELS, BELGIUM



OPERATIONAL SITE
STRASBOURG, FRANCE



BACKUP SITE
ST. JOHANN IM PONGAU, AUSTRIA

WHAT WE DO?

THE AGENCY SUPPORTS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EU'S JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS (JHA) POLICIES



OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT OF JHA SYSTEMS



DEVELOPMENT OF NEW JHA SYSTEMS



SUPPORT TO OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT



2026 PRIORITIES



1 Ensuring efficient operation and implementation of the EU's JHA information systems entrusted to eu-LISA

- stable and uninterrupted operation of SIS, VIS, EES, Eurodac, e-CODEX and ECRIS RI
- entry into operation of new Eurodac, ETIAS, ECRIS-TCN, JITs collaboration platform and new SIS information alert



2 Improving the Agency's performance in terms of compliance

- further strengthening the internal control system
- information security and data protection in strict compliance with relevant standards



3 Fostering staff engagement by making the Agency a great place to work, attracting and retaining new talent

- further improving staff occupancy rate
- enhancing eu-LISA's ability to attract, develop and retain talent



4 Be fit for the future, enhancing technologies and innovation

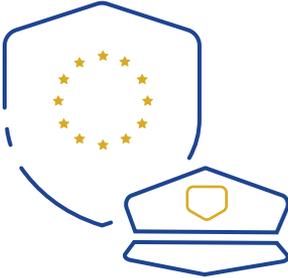
- strengthening cyber resilience capabilities
- improving the overall quality of biometric solutions
- expanding the new ways of working
- further deploying cloud solutions and artificial intelligence



5 Consolidate the Agency's governance and relations with its key stakeholders

- strengthening relationships with its key stakeholders
- enhancing cooperation with end-users in the JHA community

INTERNAL SECURITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT



The Agency contributes to the EU's internal security by providing IT systems and digital solutions that facilitate cooperation between European law enforcement authorities.

eu-LISA continues to support the building of a strong European security ecosystem with the development of new digital solutions: Prüm II central router and API-PNR router.

SIS | Schengen Information System

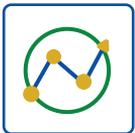
Set up in 1995, SIS supports European law enforcement and border control authorities in the exchange of alerts on wanted or missing persons and lost or stolen objects. Over the past 30 years, SIS has developed into the most widely used information-sharing system for ensuring internal security of the Schengen area.

KEY OBJECTIVES 2026



OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT

- efficient and continuous operation of SIS central system
- uninterrupted availability and continuity for end-users



UPGRADE AND EVOLUTION

- delivery of new SIS information alert on third-country nationals
- roadmap for the implementation of SIS facial recognition



INTEROPERABILITY

- SIS connection with ETIAS and for screening purposes
- finalising design and start of development for SIS connection with interoperability components and Revised VIS

Prüm II central router

The new router will provide a centralised connection for exchanging biometric information between European law enforcement authorities. Interoperability with other JHA systems will also expand the data available, introducing new data categories, such as facial images and police records.

KEY OBJECTIVES 2026



IMPLEMENTATION

- continued development of the Prüm II central router: delivery of the minimum viable product

API-PNR router

The router will facilitate traveller identification and clearance during border checks by providing a single connection point between air carriers and Member States to collect and transmit the API (advance passenger information) and PNR (passenger name record) data, thus supporting improved border management and law enforcement.

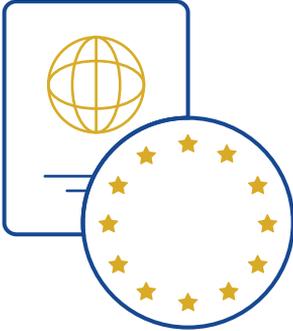
KEY OBJECTIVES 2026



IMPLEMENTATION

- continued development of the API-PNR router: delivery of first interface control document and minimum viable product
- delivery of the first version of technical guidelines for carriers

SCHENGEN BORDERS AND VISA



The Agency contributes to the efficient management of the EU's external borders by operating the systems set to modernise the EU's border control processes: VIS and EES.

eu-LISA is also gearing up to roll out the next new system – ETIAS – that will support authorities with a more integrated and streamlined processing of incoming travellers.

VIS | Visa Information System

Since 2011, VIS is used for processing visa applications and managing short-stay visas for people travelling to or transiting through the Schengen area. VIS is set for a major upgrade that will expand its scope, alongside establishing interoperability connections to enable automated checks on incoming travellers.

KEY OBJECTIVES 2026



OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT

- efficient and continuous operation of VIS central system
- uninterrupted availability and continuity for end-users



UPGRADE AND EVOLUTION

- refactoring the legacy VIS together with new VIS4 stack
- start of the development of a EU visa application platform (EU VAP)



INTEROPERABILITY

- VIS connection with ETIAS and for screening purposes
- finalising design and start of development for VIS connection with interoperability components

EES | Entry/Exit System

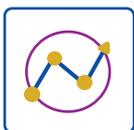
Since 2025, EES enables the electronic registration of all third-country nationals entering and exiting the Schengen area, including an online interface for passenger carriers to verify their right of entry to the Schengen area prior to boarding.

KEY OBJECTIVES 2026



OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT

- efficient and continuous operation of EES central system
- uninterrupted availability and continuity for end-users



EES/ETIAS WEB SERVICES

- entry into operation of EES/ETIAS web services, i.e. interface for passenger carriers and portal for third-country nationals establishing connection with the Revised VIS



INTEROPERABILITY

- EES connection with ETIAS and for screening purposes
- development of connections with interoperability components

ETIAS | European Travel Information and Authorisation System

ETIAS will introduce an online pre-travel authorisation for visa-exempt third-country nationals travelling to the Schengen area for a short stay. This will increase the security of the Schengen area and facilitate border-crossing.

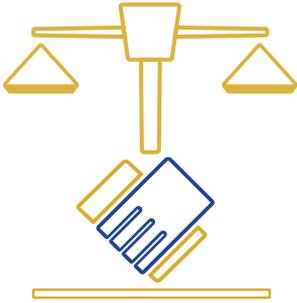
KEY OBJECTIVES 2026



ENTRY INTO OPERATION

- ETIAS including connection with web services, VIS, EES, Eurodac, CRRS and for screening purposes

JUSTICE COOPERATION



eu-LISA continues to step up its contribution in justice domain through the development of new digital solutions that support the digital transformation of national systems across Europe.

The digital solutions developed and managed by eu-LISA facilitate cooperation between European judicial authorities, while also providing better access to justice for EU citizens and businesses.

ECRIS-TCN | European Criminal Records Information System on third-country nationals and stateless persons

ECRIS was set up to facilitate information exchange on the criminal records of European citizens to allow mutual recognition of sentences and judicial decisions. ECRIS-TCN will supplement the existing system with information on criminal records of third-country nationals and stateless persons convicted in the EU.

KEY OBJECTIVES 2026



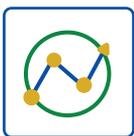
ENTRY INTO OPERATION

- entry into operation of ECRIS-TCN, including connection with VIS, interoperability components and for screening purposes



OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT

- efficient and continuous operation of ECRIS RI and ECRIS-TCN central system
- uninterrupted availability and continuity for end-users



UPGRADE AND EVOLUTION

- implementing ECRIS RI rewrite
- establishing connection with Revised VIS

e-CODEX

e-Justice Communication via Online Data Exchange

Since 2013, e-CODEX provides the secure transmission of electronic content in cross-border judicial proceedings, thus ensuring a more efficient process that benefits citizens and businesses across Europe.

KEY OBJECTIVES 2026



OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT

- efficient and continuous operation of e-CODEX system
- ensuring availability for end-users
- management of digital procedural standards (DPS) based on the EU e-Justice Core Vocabulary
- e-CODEX connector rewrite

JITs CP

Joint Investigation Teams collaboration platform

The JITs CP will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of cross-border investigations and prosecutions by allowing seamless cooperation between national judicial and law enforcement authorities as well as relevant EU agencies such as Europol, Eurojust, European Public Prosecutor's Office and European Anti-Fraud Office.

KEY OBJECTIVES 2026



ENTRY INTO OPERATION

- entry into operation of the JITs collaboration platform



OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT

- efficient and continuous operation of JITs CP central system
- uninterrupted availability and continuity for end-users

MIGRATION AND ASYLUM



eu-LISA supports the implementation of the Common European Asylum System by managing Eurodac, one of the main instruments for processing asylum applications.

As of May 2024, following the adoption of the EU's new Pact on Migration and Asylum, eu-LISA has been implementing the Recast Eurodac Regulation to enable more efficient asylum and migration management across the EU.

Eurodac | European Asylum Dactyloscopy Database

Eurodac is the EU database of digitalised fingerprints for the management of asylum applications. To better combat irregular migration, eu-LISA is implementing a major system revamp that will significantly expand its scope, as per the Recast Eurodac Regulation (see p.12).

KEY OBJECTIVES 2026



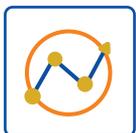
OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT

- efficient and continuous operation of Eurodac central system
- uninterrupted availability and continuity for end-users



ENTRY INTO OPERATION

- entry into operation of new Eurodac, including connection with interoperability components and screening functionalities



UPGRADE AND EVOLUTION

- Dublinet upgrades for new Eurodac

What is the new Eurodac?

As of **June 2026**, the EU will implement a common set of rules to manage asylum and migration. To that end, the existing Eurodac fingerprint database will be transformed into a **comprehensive asylum and migration management system** that is interoperable with all other EU JHA systems managed by eu-LISA.



EXPANDED SCOPE

irregular migration, overstayers, temporary protection, resettlement and relocation



NEW TYPES OF DATA

previously only fingerprints, now also identity data, facial images, identity/travel documents



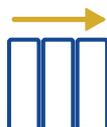
INTEROPERABILITY

biometric and alphanumeric searches from all JHA systems via the European search portal (ESP)



INTERNAL SECURITY

law enforcement searches by Member States and Europol



EFFICIENT PROCEDURES

systematic screening and faster processing, tracking secondary movements



IRREGULAR MIGRATION

robust screening, extended data retention, facilitating returns



FOCUS ON APPLICANTS

to facilitate identification, security checks and prevent multiple applications



INDEPENDENT MONITORING

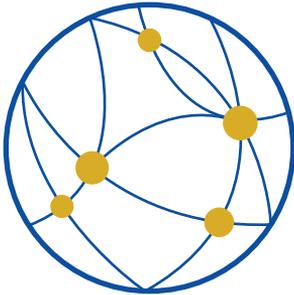
safeguarding fundamental rights and preventing abuse



PROTECTING MINORS

from 6 years of age to minimise risks for human trafficking and exploitation

INTEROPERABILITY

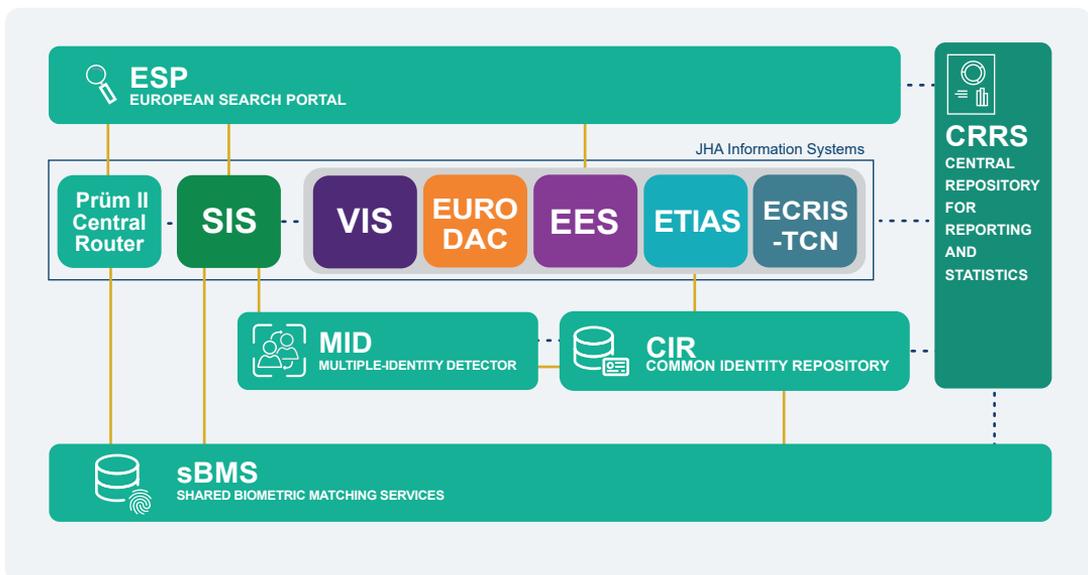


Interoperability is the capability of interconnected systems to share data and exchange information.

To reinforce the EU's internal security and facilitate cooperation in the JHA domain, eu-LISA is developing a new interoperability architecture that will enable data exchange between all JHA systems under its management: SIS, VIS, Eurodac, EES, ETIAS, and ECRIS-TCN.

This overarching systems interoperability will be enabled by dedicated components (ESP, MID, CIR and sBMS).

JHA systems interoperability



Interoperability components

IN OPERATION



SHARED BIOMETRIC MATCHING SERVICE (sBMS)

stores biometric templates and enables querying with biometric data across all JHA systems

ENTRY INTO OPERATION in 2026



EUROPEAN SEARCH PORTAL (ESP)

one-stop search window that enables authorised users to search and retrieve information from the JHA systems (incl. Europol and Interpol databases) they are authorised to access



COMMON IDENTITY REPOSITORY (CIR)

a database of biographical information on third-country nationals to ensure reliable identification



CENTRAL REPOSITORY FOR REPORTING AND STATISTICS (CRRS)

provides cross-system anonymised statistical data and analytical reporting on all systems for policy, operational and data quality

IN DEVELOPMENT



MULTIPLE-IDENTITY DETECTOR (MID)

enables the detection of multiple identities linked to the same biometric data across all JHA systems to verify travellers identity and combat identity fraud

RESEARCH AND CAPABILITY BUILDING



As a driver of digital transformation in the EU's JHA domain, eu-LISA monitors research and technology innovation to provide state-of-the-art expertise to its stakeholders for addressing operational challenges and capability gaps.

The Agency also compiles performance reports and statistics on JHA systems, while also providing customised training programmes for end-users.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION



- supporting strategic development in areas relevant for its stakeholder community, incl. publishing research reports and technology briefs
- enabling internal innovation, incl. piloting innovative solutions
- acting as a bridge to the wider research and innovation ecosystem, incl. organising industry roundtable events

STATUTORY REPORTING



- compiling performance and statistics reports and lists of authorities
- providing requested statistics to support the Commission

TRAINING to MEMBER STATES and JHA AGENCIES



- designing and delivering tailored training activities
- providing joint training courses in collaboration with Frontex and the EU Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL)

PLATFORMS AND INFRASTRUCTURE



All EU JHA information systems managed by eu-LISA are hosted in data centres, whereas the connectivity between the systems and their end-users at central level is enabled by the communication infrastructure running on the core network.

SHARED SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE



- effective and continuous operational management of infrastructure
- providing hosting services for the backup systems of Frontex and the EU Agency for Asylum (EUAA)

SMART HOSTING INITIATIVE

The Smart Hosting initiative introduces new concepts and state-of-the-art technologies for hosting large-scale IT systems, including the use of sovereign cloud solutions.



- continuous and highly available common shared platform and dedicated cloud platform
- delivering required evolutions to optimise performance, scalability and flexibility, security and align technology capabilities
- implementing the cloud strategy for development and pre-production

NETWORKS and COMMUNICATION



- highly available and secure communication infrastructure
- effective and continuous operational management of the second encryption layer on the SIS and VIS communication infrastructure

DIRECT SUPPORT TO OPERATIONS



Round-the-clock operational monitoring and end-user support throughout the entire lifecycle.

SYSTEM OPERATIONS



- 24/7/365 monitoring of JHA systems operation and performance, including end-user service desk
- end-to-end operational management of JHA systems and solutions

SERVICE TRANSITION and AUTOMATION



- supporting the operational maintenance of all JHA systems and their infrastructure throughout their entire lifecycle
- consolidating and enhancing operational service tools and processes

SYSTEM SECURITY and BUSINESS CONTINUITY



- security of JHA information systems and safety of data
- strengthening the security and cybersecurity posture of all IT systems
- annual security and business continuity exercise

TECHNOLOGY and SOFTWARE ENGINEERING



The Software Factory (SoFa) initiative provides a standardised framework for agile and iterative software development.

- study on future event-based architecture for core business systems
- management of eu-LISA's Technology Roadmap

GOVERNANCE AND COMPLIANCE



Applying sound and transparent administrative practices to ensure the continuous evolution towards a more efficient, agile and resilient organisation.

GOVERNANCE and COMPLIANCE



- implementing the recommendations stemming from the external evaluation
- continuous assessment of effectiveness for governance, risks and controls
- implementing audit recommendations, in particular those from the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS)
- effective human and financial resource management
- implementing the sourcing strategy

STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT and COMMUNICATION



- continuous support to all eu-LISA stakeholders
- enhanced visibility and professional reputation in areas of expertise

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT



- reduction of environmental footprint and improving energy efficiency
- implementation of an improvement plan based on the EU's Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS)

FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES FOR 2026



TOTAL EXPENDITURE
319.134 M



STAFF EXPENDITURE
58.575 M



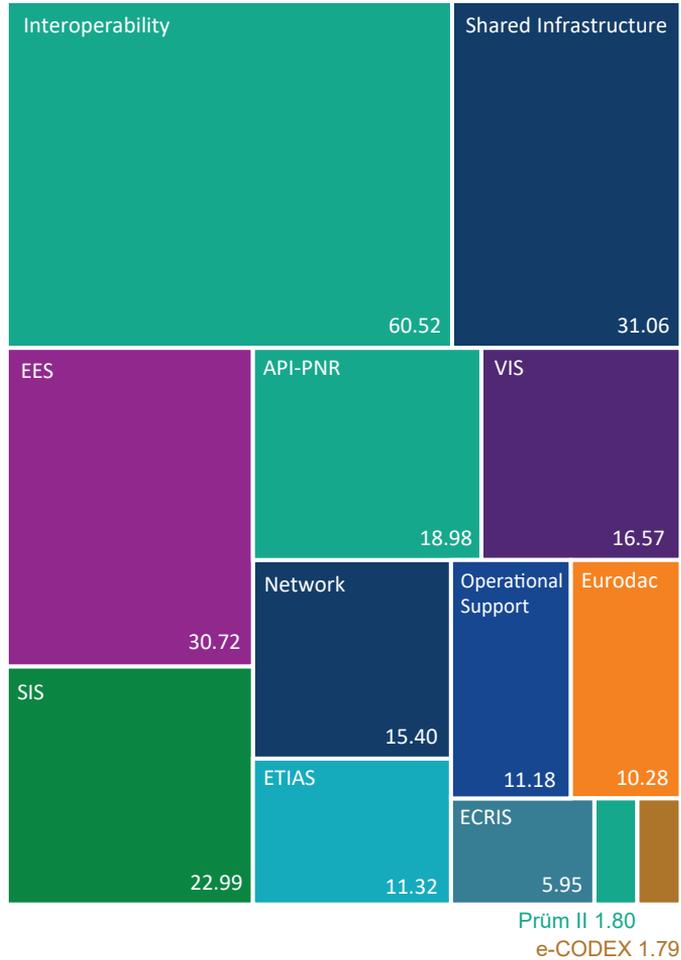
INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPERATING EXPENDITURE
22.006 M



OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURE
238.552 M

OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURE

(in million EUR)



ESTABLISHMENT PLAN

477
STAFF



272

temporary agents



194

contract agents



11

seconded national experts



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