

Implementation of the Entry/Exit System in Austria



October 2nd, 2025
Vienna

Federal Ministry of the Interior
Department V/B/6 - Integrated Border Management

Basic Information about EES

bmi.gv.at

- The EES will be operated **at external borders** (registrations within the country only in some special cases)
 - **In Austria:**
6 international airports (Vienna-Schwechat, Salzburg, Linz, Innsbruck, Klagenfurt, and Graz)
 - 23 airfields that handle flights to or from third countries
- EES will be **gradually introduced** throughout the EU
- Access to EES will be provided to **border** control authorities, **immigration** authorities, **visa** authorities and **law enforcement** authorities
- EU Regulations
 - (EU) 2017/2226 ('EES Regulation') governing the EES
 - (EU) 2017/2225 amending the Schengen Borders Code (Regulation (EU) 2016/399)
 - EU Regulation (EU) 2025/1534 (on progressive Entry into Operation)



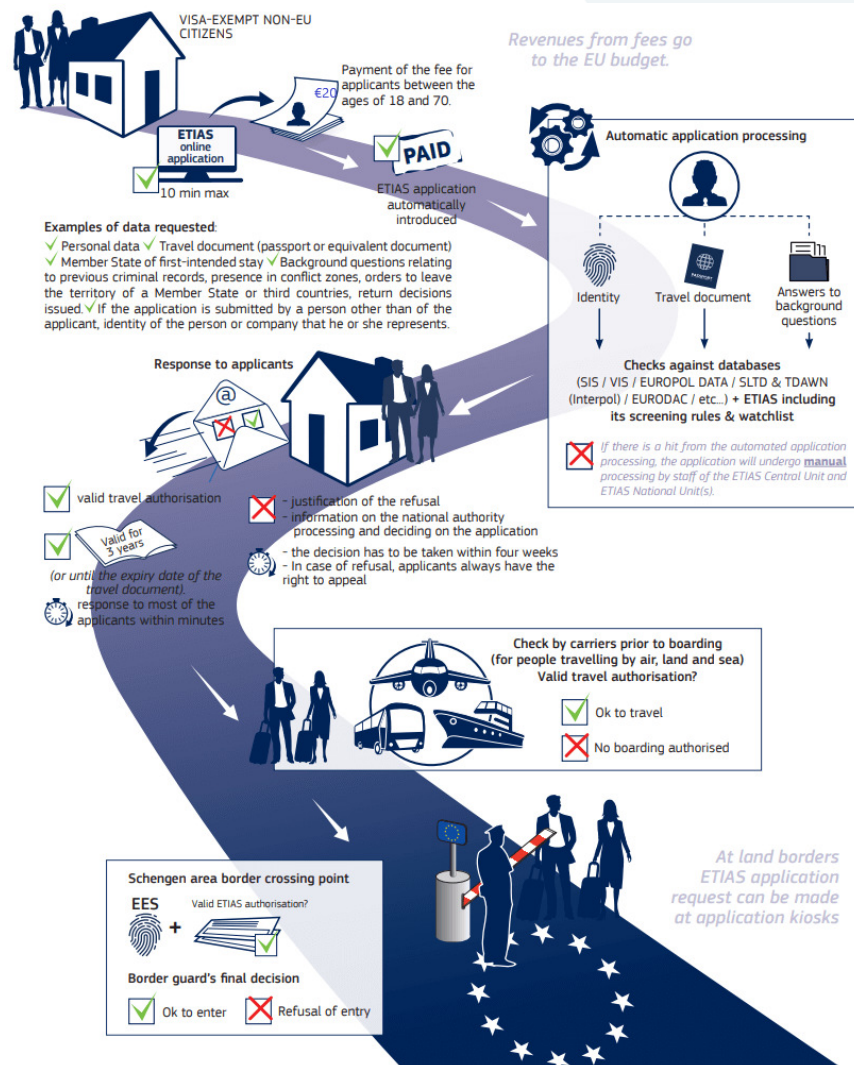
Differences EES / ETIAS

ETIAS vs. EES – Key Differences

- **EES (Entry/Exit System):**
 - Registers **entry, exit, and refusal data** of third-country nationals
 - Applies to **short stays (max. 90/180 days)**
 - Replaces manual passport stamping
 - Entry into Operation: 12. October 2025
- **ETIAS (European Travel Information and Authorisation System):**
 - **Pre-travel authorisation** for visa-free travellers
 - Online application, valid for **multiple short stays** (up to 3 years)
 - Linked to security and migration risk assessments
 - Entry into Operation: End of 2026 (possibly)



ETIAS
European Travel Information
and Authorisation System



EES Time Table

- **05th of September 2024:** Not all Member States declare readiness for the Entry into Operation of EES
- **Autumn 2024:** Postponement of the Entry into Operation
- **June 2025:** Missing declarations of readiness by DE, FR, and NL - **completed**
- **26th of July 2025:** Adoption of the EES Regulation on progressive EES Introduction in the European Parliament + entry into force
- **30th of July 2025:** Decision of the European Commission that the operation of the EES can **gradually** start in October 2025
- **24th of September 2025:** MS send their EES rollout plans to the European Commission
- **12th of October 2025:** EES Entry into Operation (progressive)
- **10th of April 2026:** EES Entry into Operation (full)

ROLLOUT-PLAN FLUGHÄFEN ÖSTERREICH



Territorial Scope of the EES

 Austria	 Estonia	 Iceland	 Malta	 Slovakia
 Belgium	 Finland	 Italy	 Netherlands	 Slovenia
 Bulgaria	 France	 Latvia	 Norway	 Spain
 Croatia	 Germany	 Liechtenstein	 Poland	 Sweden
 Czech Republic	 Greece	 Lithuania	 Portugal	 Switzerland
 Denmark	 Hungary	 Luxembourg	 Romania	

Übersicht der 29 Europäischen Staaten, die sich am EES-Betrieb beteiligen

- **Ireland, Cyprus:** no application of the Schengen acquis and no application of the EES.
- **Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland:** application of the Schengen acquis + full application of the EES.

What changes at border control after the introduction of the EES?

There are **no changes** for nationals of Schengen states, third-country nationals holding a **residence permit, residence card** or **long-stay visa** in the territory of a Schengen state, as well as for other persons exempt from EES registration.

However:

With the introduction of the EES, border control for third-country nationals subject to the EES will presumably take somewhat **more time**.
The reason for this is additional, legally prescribed steps, such as the collection of biometric data.

What does this mean for all travelers?

From the start of the EES, expect **longer waiting times at entry and exit border crossing points** (in Austria, this applies only to **airports** and aerodromes) and plan sufficient time to avoid missing flights or other connections.

Important!

EES applies **at first Schengen entry** and **last Schengen exit**.

Example: New Delhi → Amsterdam → Berlin → Prague → Exit via Vienna

An EES entry record will be made in Amsterdam. An EES exit record will be made in Vienna

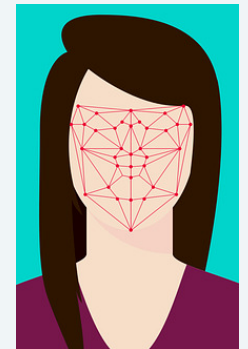
If travellers **remain** in the **transit area** during a flight within the Schengen area and **no border check** is carried out, your data will not be recorded in the EES.

What remains unchanged?

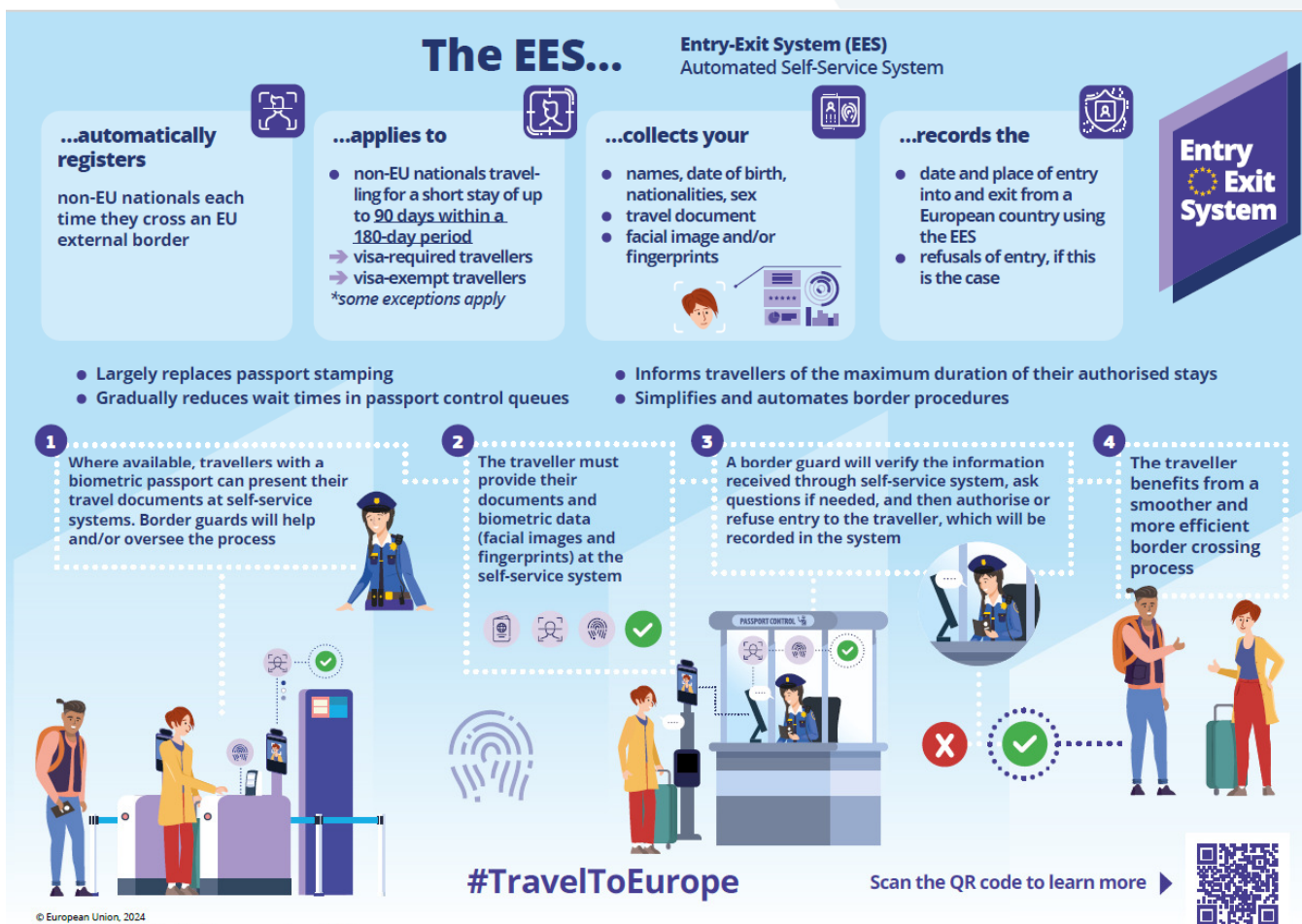
The EES does not change the existing entry, residence, and visa regulations.

Key Changes for Third Country Nationals

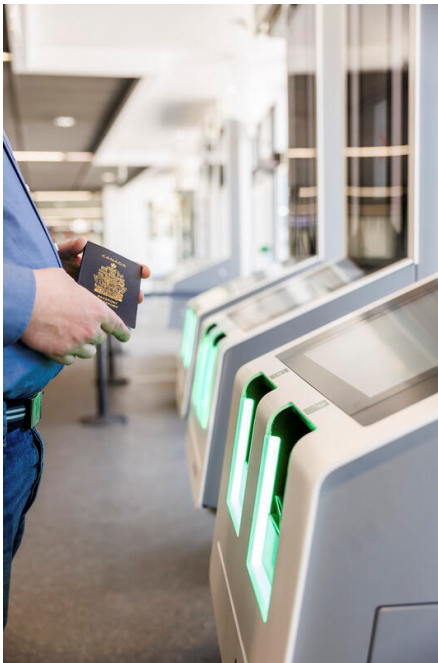
- In the future, every third-country national **subject to EES** must be registered
- If the person is not yet registered, a **personal EES-file** must be created
- If the person is already registered, their identity will be **verified** based on their biometric data
- For **each entry, exit, or refusal of entry** an “**electronic stamp**” will be created
- Passport stamping for persons subject to EES is no longer required



 **Recording of biometric data for border control purposes** → new entry requirement
according to Article 6 of the Schengen Borders Code (SBC)



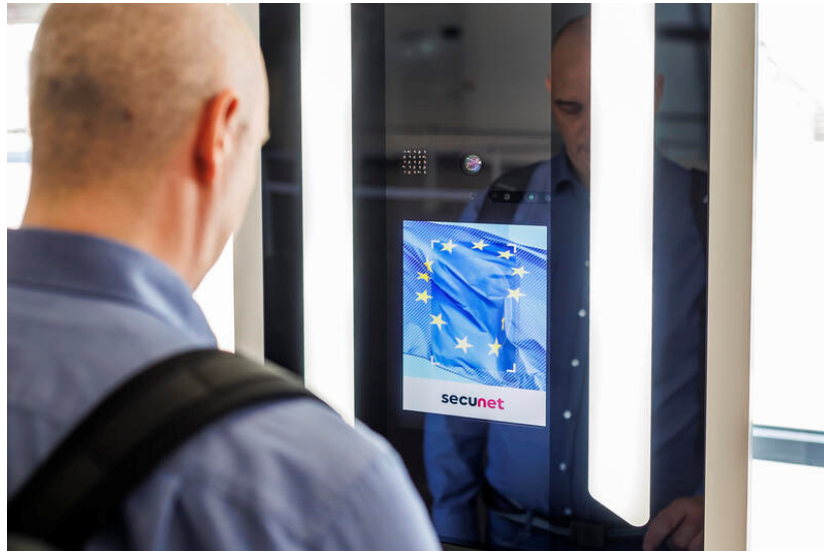
Step 1: Scan the passport



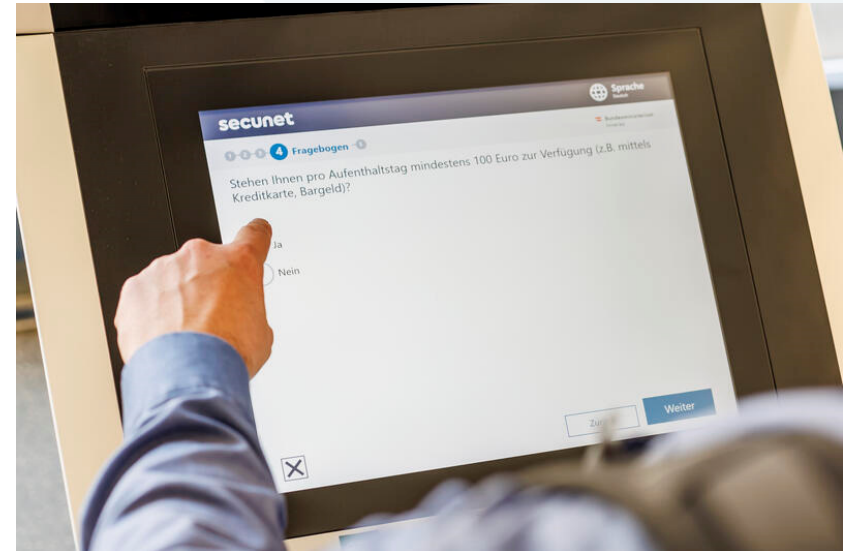
Step 2: Fingerprints



Step 3: Facial Image



Step 4: Entry questionnaire



Last step: Proceed to the border control booth for quicker pass at the booth

Applicable Rules for Gradual Entry into Operation

During the gradual introduction in the period **between 12th of October 2025 and 10th of April 2026 (so called “gradual” or “progressive entry into operation”**, it should be noted that:

- during this transitional phase, **not all travellers** subject to the EES will be registered immediately at all border crossing points
- the EES-registration of third-country nationals entering and exiting Schengen will be continuously expanded
- **biometric data may not be collected at all border control counters** – for example, due to technical reasons
- passports of **third-country nationals subject to the EES obligation must also be stamped**

Who will need to be registered in the EES?

- The EES Regulation is applicable to the following persons according to Art. 6a(1) and (2) of the Schengen Borders Code (SBC)
- **The following travellers must be registered in the EES:**
 - **Third-country nationals** (persons who are not citizens of the EU, the EEA, or Switzerland)
 - who enter or leave for a **visa-required** or **visa-exempt short stay** (of up to a maximum of **90 days** within a 180-day period) in one or more of the following **29 countries**:

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland.

Who is exempt from EES registration?

1. Nationals of the Schengen countries, as well as nationals of **Cyprus and Ireland**
2. Nationals of **Andorra, Monaco and San Marino** and **holders of passports issued by the Vatican City or the Holy See**
3. Holders of **residence permits/residence cards issued by the Schengen States:**
(a complete list of all residence permits issued by Austria is available here: [Model residence permit](#), also see [Residence purposes for third-country nationals](#)).
4. Holders of a **visa for long-term stay (Visa D)** of a Schengen State, valid for entry into the federal territory – for example, for the collection of a residence permit, temporary employment, etc.
5. **Pilots of aircraft** and other **flight crew members** travelling on official duty, provided that they pilot's licence or a **crew member certificate** as provided for in Annex 9 to the Civil Aviation Convention of 7 December 1944
6. **Further categories** in the following slides



Sample of a residence permit (Red-White-Red-Card)

Holders of diplomatic, official or service passports and members of international organisations

- **General rule:**
 - If the duration of stay for this group of persons **does not exceed 90 days**, registration in the EES is the general rule
- Accordingly, diplomats, consuls, or members of an international organization entering for a **short stay** (e.g. short conference) must be registered in the EES.
- **Exception:**
 - Non-accredited Members of the diplomatic and consular missions and members of international organisations who hold diplomatic, official or service passports **may be exempt** in *truly special circumstances* (e.g. if an EES registration would impede movement of the members of the diplomatic missions necessary for the exercise of their duties)
 - For this purpose, a **written confirmation or an official letter** verifying the individual's **special circumstances in connection with their official duties**, together with the **diplomatic, official, or service passport**, **will be required as supporting documentation**.



Holders of diplomatic, official or service passports and members of international organisations

- Members of **diplomatic or consular missions** as well as **members of international organizations** are exempt from registration in the EES if:
 - i. They possess a **diplomatic, official, or service passports** issued by third countries recognized by the EU member states or **documents issued by international organizations** (e.g., United Nations laissez-passers, European Union laissez-passers, etc.)
 - ii. AND they hold a residence permit or **legitimation (identification) card** issued by a Schengen State that they are assigned in **or other proof** of their **assignment to a mission** in the territory of a Schengen State (*certificates issued by the accrediting state or the competent foreign office*)
- Family members, administrative staff, technical personnel, or private domestic staff** are not to be registered in the EES if they possess a document of an appropriate card issued by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs
- Holders of **Visa D** will not be registered in EES



Important: Third-country nationals with an **legitimation card** from a **third country** will be **registered in the EES**, as the above-mentioned exemption only applies to legitimation cards from a Schengen State

NATO Troops

NATO Troops:

- **No registration** in the EES if:
 - Travelling on NATO or Partnership for Peace **duty**
 - Service members hold a **military ID and an individual or collective movement order** (as provided for under the NATO Status of Forces Agreement, 1951).



Civilian Component & Family Members:

- Exempt from EES registration (on the recommendation of the European Commission) if:
 - Joining or accompanying the NATO force, and
 - Nationals of the sending State

EES-Rules for British Nationals



- British citizens who moved in after January 1st, 2021, are considered **third-country nationals**
- When citizens of the United Kingdom and British Overseas Territories travel **for a short stay (e.g. tourism purposes)** they fall under the scope of the EES Regulation **must be registered in the EES**
- Holders of a residence permit under Article 50 TFEU are exempt from the EES Regulation and are not required to be registered in the EES
- Holders of a **confirmation of application for a residence permit under Art. 50 TFEU** which is issued on the basis of Art. 18(1)(b) of the Withdrawal Agreement by member states with a constitutive residence arrangement (including Austria) need to be registered in the EES
- Holders of other **residence permits** or **visa for long-term stay** issued by another Member State, including those not based on the withdrawal agreement, they are also **exempt** from EES registration

Heads of States, Governments, Sovereigns and Royals

- Annex VII Point 1 SBC stipulates:
 - **Heads of State, Heads of Government and members of national government** with accompanying **spouses**, and **members of their official delegation**, and **sovereigns** and other **senior members of a royal family**
 - who are **invited** by **Member States' governments** or by **international organisations** for an **official purpose**
 - and whose arrival and departure have been **officially announced** through **diplomatic channels**
- Therefore these categories of persons are **exempt from the registration in EES**

All of these conditions must be met. The documentation must clearly attest that the individual forms part of the government of the respective sending State

Entries of the above-mentioned persons for private or **non-official (e.g. tourist) purposes** are subject to regular border checks.

Examples for exceptions from the EES-registration:

- A third country national enters Schengen at an external border of the EU (e.g. in Austria by air or in Croatia on the land border) with an intent to remain in the Schengen for 30 days for touristic purposes. He does not own a long stay visa or a residence permit. → **EES registration needed**
- A third country national enters Schengen by air holds a **residence permit** allowing a stay for the duration of one year. → **NO registration in EES**
- Nationals of **Andorra, Monaco, and San Marino**, and holders of a passport issued by the **State of Vatican City or the Holy See** enter Schengen for a short stay → **NO registration in EES**
- A consular representative is traveling with a Belgian identity card (Carte d'identité consulaire (carte C)) from a third country via Vienna-Schwechat airport and then flying to Brussels. → **NO registration in EES**
- A third-country national wishes to enter via Vienna-Schwechat airport with a long stay Visa D for a long-term stay for the purpose of accreditation at a diplomatic mission in Vienna. → **NO registration in EES**

Information for Dual Citizens:

- If a person has a passport from a country whose citizens are not subject to EES registration, as well as a passport from a third country (e.g. USA), he or she should use the **passport of the country exempt from EES registration** when entering or leaving the EU/EEA or Switzerland.
- This **avoids mandatory registration** as a third-country national in the EES. Using EU or Schengen travel document facilitates the entry and exit and ensures that your freedom of movement rights is respected.

Information for Holders of Residence Permits, Residence Cards or Visas for Long-stay in the Territory of a Schengen State:

- Holders of residence permits, residence cards or long-stay visas must **present the relevant documents during border control**. Otherwise, registration in the EES is required.
- Third-country nationals who were already registered in the EES prior to obtaining a residence permit, a residence card or a visa for long-term stay in the territory of a Schengen Member State will be **deleted from the EES after lawful receipt of these documents**, but remain subject to the EES until that time.
- Registration in the EES will, however, **again be required** if, for example, after the expiry of the visa for long-term stay (visa D), a **visa-free short stay is taken up**.
- Conversely, when a person subject to EES requirements is granted a residence permit or a long-stay visa (type D), their data will be automatically deleted from the EES.

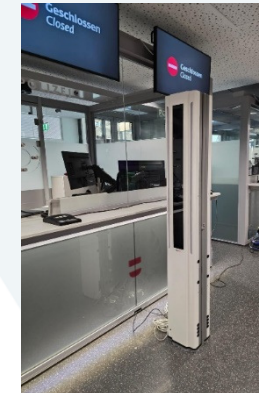
Bilateral Visa Waiver Agreements (“old agreements”) for visa-free Third-Country Nationals

- Before the Schengen Borders Code, many Schengen States concluded **bilateral visa waiver agreements** with third countries, allowing stays **beyond the standard 90/180-day** rule.
- **Application:** A third-country national may invoke such an agreement if a valid bilateral visa waiver exists between their home country and the specific Schengen Member State.

Art. 20 CISA-Agreement and Art. 60 EES-Regulation:

- **Extension of allowed stay** only by application:
 - at the border crossing **upon entry or**
 - **latest on the last working day** of the go-day stay within the territory
- Without application: extension may be recognised afterwards if stay was **only within that Member State**
- Extension applies **only to that State** → **exit must be directly from there, no onward travel to other Schengen States**
- Competent authority in Austria: Provincial Police Directorates
- Agreements between Austria and third countries: [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52019XC0408\(02\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52019XC0408(02))

EES Infrastructure in Austria



Communication: EES Information Campaign

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- EU-wide information campaign started on **September 15th, 2025**
- The distribution of information on EES by the **representative authorities** (embassies and consulates) is of a **key significance** for ensuring that the passengers are well informed
- A written **call for a support** of the information campaign **has been sent out** to the “multiplier stakeholders” (such as different ministries, carriers, airports etc.)
- The information material **available on a national website of the Federal Ministry for Interior:**
- **EES-Homepage** of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Interior contains:
 - detail information on EES for different target groups as well as a **FAQ-area** in English
 - **information material** of the European commission (posters, infographics, sticker, material for carrier) are available



We thank you for your cooperation and support in distributing the information on EES!

Contact

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