

European Union

Entry and Exit System (EES) and European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)

Executive summary

In late 2022 and early 2023, the European Union (EU) will implement two new technology platforms designed to more effectively regulate non-EU nationals' entry into, and exit from, the <u>Schengen Area</u>. The Entry and Exit System (<u>EES</u>) will take effect in October 2022 and the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (<u>ETIAS</u>) in March 2023.

Entry and Exit System

The EES is an information technology (IT) system that is designed to mitigate irregular migration to the Schengen Area and expedite the entry and exit of bona fide non-EU nationals. It will register most non-EU nationals' entry into, and departure from, the Schengen Area and replace the current manual process of stamping passports. It will automatically record non-EU travelers' names, biometric data, travel documents, dates and places of entry into and exit from the Schengen Area, as well as instances when they are denied entry to the Area. The EES will apply to all non-EU citizens, including visa-exempt and visa nationals, who cross the external borders of the Schengen Area and enter any of its 26 Member States.

The following groups of travelers will be exempt from the EES requirement:

- Non-EU nationals who hold a valid residence permit issued by an EU Member State
- Holders of uniform visas, long-stay visas and local border traffic permits
- Nationals of Andorra, Monaco and San Marino and holders of passports issued by the Vatican City

European Travel Information and Authorisation System

The ETIAS is another IT system designed to mitigate irregular migration to the Schengen Area. It will apply to most non-EU nationals who do not need a visa to enter the Schengen Area (i.e., visa-exempt nationals) and require them to complete an online registration form prior to travel. The form will include questions about their identity, education, occupation, travel documents, travel history and prior criminal convictions (if any). ETIAS authorizations will be granted for three years and allow authorized travelers to enter the Schengen Area without restrictions on the number of entries during the ETIAS validity period, provided they comply with all Schengen Area rules (e.g., they do not remain in the Area for more than 90 days in any 180-day period). The fees for an ETIAS application will be EUR 7 per traveler between the ages of 18 and 70. Travelers under the age of 18 or above the age of 70 will be exempt from the requirement to pay the application fee.

The following groups of travelers will be exempt from the ETIAS requirement:

- Non-EU nationals who hold a valid residence permit issued by an EU Member State
- Holders of uniform visas, long-stay visas and local border traffic permits
- Individuals who benefit from the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement
- Nationals of Andorra, Monaco and San Marino, and holders of passports issued by the Vatican City



San Marino, Vatican City and Monaco may enact a requirement for visa-exempt non-EU nationals to obtain an ETIAS authorization prior to arrival, as they share their borders with certain Schengen Area Member States and are thus accessible to individuals who have Schengen visas. Additional details are expected in the upcoming months.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.

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