



Mobility: Immigration alert

October 2023

European Union

Implementation of EES and ETIAS delayed until 2024 and 2025 respectively

Executive summary

On 19 October 2023, a spokesperson for eu-LISA, an EU agency responsible for IT systems in the area of migration, security and justice, announced that the implementation of the Entry/Exit System (EES) and European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) will be delayed until Autumn 2024 and Spring 2025, respectively.

Background

The [EES](#) is an automated IT system designed to mitigate irregular migration to the Schengen Area and expedite the entry and exit of bona fide non-EU nationals. Under the EES, impacted travelers will be required to scan their passports at self-service kiosks each time they cross an external EU border. The EES will automatically record these 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 [ETIAS](#) is an 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 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).

Key developments

The EES was originally scheduled to come into force in 2022. The launch date was previously delayed until May 2023 and then late 2023. The ETIAS was initially expected to go into effect in May 2023 and then delayed until November 2023. The new proposed dates for the implementation of the EES (Autumn 2024) and ETIAS (Spring 2025) are subject to change depending on the readiness of the respective IT systems.

Impact on employers

Companies in the EU may continue to monitor developments related to the EES and ETIAS and take necessary actions once these systems are implemented.

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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