



European
Commission

The renewed Schengen Information System enters into operation

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The **Schengen Information System (SIS)** is Europe's* most widely used information sharing system for security and border management.

SIS alerts on:

- Wanted or missing persons
- Third-country nationals with no right to stay in the Union
- Lost or stolen objects (for example cars, firearms, boats and identity documents)

The new SIS will include:

- **Enhanced information sharing and cross-border cooperation** between national authorities
- **New types of biometrics:** such as palm prints, fingermarks and palm marks and DNA records.
- **New inquiry check alerts** to collect targeted information on suspects of serious crime or terrorism. There will be **alerts on 'unknown wanted persons'** containing only the prints of unknown perpetrators that are discovered at the scenes of terrorist offences or serious crimes.
- **Preventive alerts on missing children and people in need.**
- A **new alert on return decisions** allows national authorities to verify if third-country nationals have the legal right to stay in the EU. SIS will also contain data on falsified documents, including travel documents and visa stickers.

How does it work?

An alert on a person or object entered in SIS by one country becomes available in real time in all the other countries that use the system. In this way national authorities can locate the person or object and take the required action.

*26 EU Member States and the Schengen associated countries. Cyprus will be connected to SIS in summer 2023



SIS supports the operations of:



● Border guards



● Police



● Customs authorities



● Immigration authorities



● Authorities responsible for the prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of criminal offences



SIS results so far:

More than 100,000 people were **arrested**

- **More than 400,000** people were **refused entry or stay in the Schengen area**;
- **Over 70,000 missing persons** were **found** and put under protection;
- **Almost 500,000 people** were **traced** to assist with a **criminal judicial procedure**;
- **Over 600,000 travelling serious criminals** or **terrorist** suspects were **located**;
- **More than 400,000 cases solved** concerning **stolen motor vehicles, misuse of identity** or travel documents, **stolen firearms, stolen number plates** and other lost or stolen property.