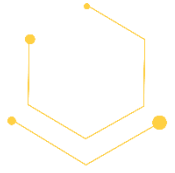


# Guaranteeing freedom, security and justice

THE SCHENGEN INFORMATION SYSTEM





# The Schengen Information System (SIS)

- **The Schengen Information System (SIS) is an IT system that guarantees freedom, security and justice in the Schengen area**
- **SIS supports operational cooperation and information exchange between national authorities**
- **The system enables the national competent authorities to check alerts on wanted persons or objects**
- **SIS has been upgraded and includes new elements**



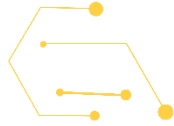


## What does SIS do?

- Enhances cooperation
- Protects the most vulnerable
- Manages irregular migration
- Combats criminality
- Strengthens external border controls
- Safeguards individual rights







## Enhancing cooperation



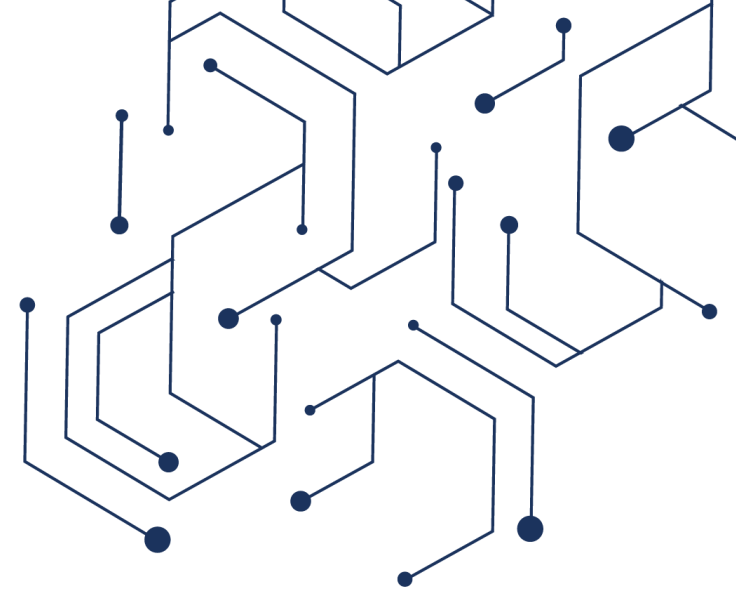
- **Additional types of alerts on persons and objects and specific actions that need to be taken**
- **Frontex teams and more national competent authorities now access SIS data**
- **Europol can exchange information with Member States on alerts concerning terrorist offences**
- **Exchange of supplementary information takes place in an enhanced way through the dedicated national contact points - SIRENE Offices**



# How this works in practice?

## Arrest of suspect alleged of rape thanks to SIS

- Ireland started using the SIS during March 2021
- On **14 May 2021**, the Irish authorities issued a SIS alert for arrest for surrender, for a person wanted in relation to an alleged rape of a young person in Munster in 2019
- The authorities believed that subject continued to have interactions with teens and minors at sports camps situated elsewhere
- The Italian authorities located and arrested the subject on 27 May 2021, just **13 days** after the Irish SIS alert was created





# Protecting the most vulnerable

- New alerts on **children at risk of abduction** and on **vulnerable persons at risk** support competent authorities to:
  - prevent children from being abducted
  - prevent children and other vulnerable persons from being taken abroad unlawfully for their own protection
- These alerts complement the alerts on **missing persons**
- **Missing persons** are identified also thanks to fingerprints or DNA



# How this works in practice?

## Preventing taking a child unlawfully abroad thanks to SIS

- A public institution in a Member State reported that a 16-year-old child had left its premises and could neither be found nor contacted
- The child was put in those premises following the judicial decision to be protected from frequent abuse and the threat of taking the child to a third-country of origin and force the child in marriage
- The child's relatives arranged to take the child to the third-country of origin unlawfully, using an airport in another Member State
- The Member State investigating the case entered a SIS alert immediately and alerted the authorities in the Member State concerned
- Those authorities located the child at the airport while when leaving with a parent. The child was immediately placed under protection and eventually entrusted to the authorities in the Member States that issued the alert







## Managing irregular migration

- New alert on **return decisions** and the improved tools for better **identification of non-EU nationals** subject to these alerts will help tackle irregular migration
- System allows to search and verify if non-EU nationals are subject to SIS alerts with the use of fingerprints
- New data on **falsified documents**, including **travel documents** and **visa stickers**







# Combating criminality

Member States authorities use SIS:

- To arrest **persons wanted** for prosecution or conviction of **terrorist related offences** or **serious crime**
- For checks on **persons involved in serious crime** and certain types of **objects connected with serious crime**
- To locate and protect **missing persons**, to protect **vulnerable persons at risk** who need to be prevented from travelling or being taken abroad, or to find **witnesses, defendants or victims** of crime sought to assist judicial procedures
- To identify criminals based on **fingerprints from scenes of serious crime**
- To locate **objects wanted for seizure or use as evidence** in criminal proceedings



# How this works in practice?

## Locating and arresting perpetrators of serious organised crime thanks to SIS

- Italy searched a person who **participated in a criminal organisation**, aiding and abetting **exploitation of prostitution**, including minors between March 2014 and June 2019
- In 2020, the individual was **stopped driving a vehicle** in Ireland but at the time it was not known that the person was wanted for such serious offences in Italy
- On 29 June 2021, Italy issued a SIS alert and **on that same day the subject was arrested** in Ireland



# Strengthening external border controls

Additional functionalities in the Schengen Information System enable:

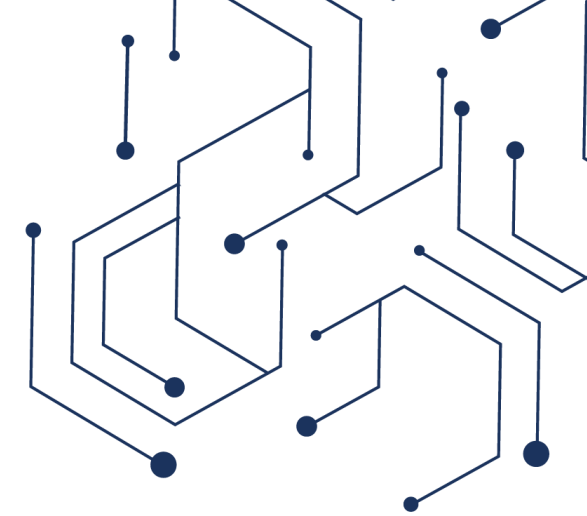
- Border guards' faster recognition of **non-EU nationals** subject to alerts for **refusal of entry or stay**, or **posing threats to security**, and to detect possibly **falsified documents**
- Authorities to match alerts on **EU nationals** who are **wanted or suspects of crime**



# How this works in practice?

## Arrest of a wanted person for robbery thanks to SIS

- **A person without identity documents reached Lampedusa, together with migrants**
- **A check in SIS with the person's fingerprints, through the so-called functionality SIS – AFIS, permitted the authorities to ascertain that German competent judicial authorities had entered a European arrest warrant for robbery against that person, but under another name**
- **The fugitive was arrested with a view to surrender to the German competent judicial authorities**







## Safeguarding your rights

- **Rights of access, correction or deletion of your data stored in the system**
- **Right to be informed about your alert on return or alert for refusal of entry and stay**
- **Legal procedure before competent authorities (including courts) to access, correct or delete data or to obtain compensation for any damage resulting from unlawfully processed data in any Member State**
- ***Guide for exercising the right of access***



# Keep in touch



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Thank you

