

SIS II Supervision Coordination Group

20th meeting Brussels, 21 November 2022

Summary

The Supervision Coordination Group of the Schengen Information System (SIS II) held its 20th and last meeting on 21 November 2022. The meeting took place in a hybrid format at the premises of the EDPS in Brussels and online.

Discussions

The Group was informed by the European Commission on the state of play of the legal and above all technical implementation of the SIS recast¹ and of the deliverables for the information campaign. The entry into operation was re-scheduled for 7 March 2023, depending on one outstanding declaration of readiness.

The Group continued the discussion with the European Commission on practical aspects of the new Council Regulation (EU) 2022/922 of 9 June 2022² on the Schengen evaluation mechanism and took note of the fact that the supervisory authorities had nominated 82 colleagues to the pool of experts, illustrating the ongoing commitment to the Schengen evaluation mechanism. The Commission further provided information on the state of play of a Schengen evaluation guide and of optional trainings for experts.

The Group was informed by the data protection officer of eu-LISA on recent developments and the state of affairs of the SIS (statistics on queries and alerts, system outages, data consistency checks, use of new features). The group took note that the deletion exercise of 7 million alerts on securities was successfully completed by mid-September 2022, contributing to an overall reduction of the total number of alerts.

Furthermore, the Group discussed the draft Activity Report for the period of 2020-2022. The reporting period was extended due to the recurring delays in the entry into application of the new SIS Regulations and the new legal framework for coordinated supervision. The Group also decided not to include the national contributions, since the entry into operation of the SIS, envisaged for November 2022, did not leave enough time to have them collected. Moreover, the circumstances of the Covid19 pandemic rendered on-site inspections difficult or impossible. It was decided to adopt the Activity Report by written procedure after the consolidation of the draft.

The Group then discussed the draft amendments to the Guide on the Exercise of data subjects'

¹ Regulation (EU) 2018/1860, Regulation (EU) 2018/1861 and Regulation (EU) 2018/1862.

² Council Regulation (EU) 2022/922 of 9 June 2022 on the establishment and operation of an evaluation and monitoring mechanism to verify the application of the Schengen acquis, and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1053/2013; OJ L 160, 15.6.2022, p. 1–27.

rights related to the SIS, in order to have it updated according to the new SIS regulations. The general part, the information from Member States and the model letters for assisting data subjects to submit requests for access to data, rectification or erasure were all updated, so the Guide would be ready when the new legal framework was fully applicable. The Group adopted the guide.

Regarding the transition of the coordinated supervision of the SIS to the Coordinated Supervision Committee of the European Data Protection Board, the Group discussed the state of play of open issues, notably the work on SIS alerts pursuant to Article 36 of Council Decision 2007/533/JHA, and the interpretation of Article 44(2) of SIS II Regulation and Article 60(2) of the SIS II Decision.

Organisational issues

There would be no next meeting of the SIS II SCG, provided the entry into operation of the new SIS occurs as planned.

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Secretariat of the SIS II SCG