SIS II Supervision Coordination Group
17th meeting
Brussels, 16 June 2021

Summary

The Supervision Coordination Group of the Schengen Information System (SIS II) held its 17th meeting on 16 June 2021. The meeting took place online.

Discussions

The updated SIS legal framework had a substantial impact on the discussions, as the European Commission held presentations on several aspects of the SIS legal framework following an invitation of the Group.

In what regards the information campaign in accordance with Article 19 of SIS Regulations 2018/1861 and 2018/1862, the Commission presented its plans and available materials for raising awareness and it was discussed how to better articulate this effort with the Data Protection Authorities (DPAs) at national level.

The Group was informed on the state of play of the implementation of the new SIS legal framework and the status of the necessary delegated and implementing acts. The Commission Implementing Decision setting the entry into operation of the SIS recast was envisaged for adoption by 28 December 2021. This would also mark the handover of the tasks of the SIS II SCG to the Coordinated Supervision Committee under the auspices of the European Data Protection Board.

The Group had a first exchange of views and provided input to the Commission on the template to collect statistics on the exercise of the data subjects’ rights and on remedies, pursuant to Articles 54 and 68 of the SIS Regulations 2018/1861 and 2017/1862 respectively. Here the group made it clear that the data need to be collected by competent authorities and not by the supervisory authorities.

Furthermore, the Group discussed aspects of the proposed new Regulation concerning the Schengen evaluation mechanism, with particular relevance in the maintenance of data protection as a separate topic for evaluation, in ensuring that data protection experts were joining the evaluation teams and in training new experts. It was decided by the Group to prepare a Position to be sent to the Commission on the proposed Regulation on the Schengen evaluation mechanism, to address especially the improvement of data protection safeguards and the question of resources for the deployment of experts to Schengen evaluation missions.

The Data Protection Officer of eu-LISA, invited by the Group, made a presentation of the operational status of SIS and its new developments and engaged in Q&A.

Regarding their ongoing work on SIS alerts pursuant to Article 36 of Council Decision 2007/533/JHA, the Group took note of the difficulties imposed by the pandemic on on-site inspections. The deadline was adjusted accordingly. The Group further received a presentation on the SIS implementation in Croatia.
Organisational issues

The next meeting of the SIS II SCG will be held in November 2021.

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Secretariat of the SIS II SCG