

First Report of ETIAS Fundamental Rights Guidance Board Available



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News

The Fundamental Rights Guidance Board of the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (in short: the ETIAS Fundamental Rights Guidance Board) is composed of the Fundamental Rights Officer of Frontex, the Consultative Forum on Fundamental Rights of Frontex, the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS), the European Data Protection Board (EDPB), and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA). With regard to fundamental rights issues - in particular to privacy, protection of personal data, and non-discrimination - the ETIAS Fundamental Rights Guidance Board has the task of performing regular appraisals, making recommendations to the ETIAS Screening Board, and, when consulted, of supporting the ETIAS Screening Board in the execution of its tasks (→ [euclid 3/2018, 149](#)).

On 14 August 2024, the ETIAS Fundamental Rights Guidance Board published its first [Annual Report](#) providing an overview of its composition and organisation, its work programme, and its main areas of focus in 2023.

In 2023, the work programme of the Board focused on building internal capacity and supporting the initial technical and organisational implementation of ETIAS, including developing the screening rules, establishing the ETIAS watchlist, and providing procedures for processing applications. Meetings and consultations took place to set up the ETIAS Screening Board, the Working Group on Risk Screening Operations, the ETIAS National Units, and the ETIAS Central Unit. In its capacity as a member of the ETIAS Fundamental Rights Advisory Board, the Fundamental Rights Agency presented its project on the risk of discrimination in the ETIAS risk screening algorithm. It also presented its training activities on ETIAS and fundamental rights during the training sessions organised by Frontex for the ETIAS National Units.

Starting in mid-2025, individuals from more than 60 visa-free countries will be required to obtain an authorisation before travelling to Europe for a short stay. The authorisation will be processed through the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS). The aim of ETIAS is to carry out a pre-travel screening of visa-free travellers to determine whether they pose a security, illegal immigration, or public health risk (→ [euclid 2/2018, 82](#)). While the ETIAS Central Unit is hosted by Frontex, the ETIAS National Units are located in 30 European countries. The ETIAS information system is developed and maintained by eu-LISA. The ETIAS Screening Board, which is composed of representatives of the ETIAS National Units, Frontex and Europol, plays an advisory role.

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