



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 17 June 2024
(OR. en)

11301/24

LIMITE

ASIM 62
ENFOPOL 311
EURODAC 8
IXIM 170

Interinstitutional File:
2016/0132(COD)

NOTE

From: Commission Services
To: JHA Counsellors (Asylum)
Subject: Commission concept note - Prioritising Eurodac key functionalities for the Pact Implementation: A gradual approach for the delivery of Eurodac

DOCUMENT PARTIALLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (06.08.2024)

Delegations will find attached in ANNEX a note from the Commission Services.

CONCEPT NOTE**PRIORITISING EURODAC KEY FUNCTIONALITIES FOR THE PACT IMPLEMENTATION: A GRADUAL APPROACH FOR THE DELIVERY OF EURODAC**

Eurodac is the large-scale IT system that, among others, will support the Pact in practice, notably the determination of responsibility and the monitoring of secondary movements. Eurodac will store and process the biometrics, identity data and other information of applicants for international protection, persons disembarked following search and rescue operations as well as persons apprehended in connection with an irregular crossing of the external border, of persons who are found illegally staying in the territory of a Member State or of persons admitted via resettlement. In this way, the system helps to compare new applications for international protection against those already registered in the database to facilitate the application of the responsibility rules under the Asylum Migration Management Regulation as well as to monitor the secondary movements and flag persons who might present a threat to the internal security.

The new Eurodac is one of the operational backbones supporting the new legal framework. The timely development and entry into operation of the reformed Eurodac system is a critical precondition for the implementation of all the other elements of the Pact. It will enable Member States to operationalise the new solidarity rules, be it relocation or the solidarity offsets. It will also be instrumental for the application of the new responsibility rules in the AMMR, in particular, the new timelines for shift and cessation of responsibility or the new cessation ground for asylum decisions taken in the border procedure. It will support the full operationalisation of the new resettlement and humanitarian admission procedure. With the Pact on Migration and Asylum, Eurodac will become part of an interoperable and integrated migration and border management system and will enhance the identification and return of illegally staying third country nationals. The new Eurodac will also be crucial to monitor secondary movements, including of people admitted via resettlement and humanitarian admission (new feature), and flag persons who may present a threat to the internal security.

The requirements of the new system go well beyond a mere transformation of the current Eurodac. Given the much wider scope of the database and the significantly increased functionalities, the new system will need to be completely built from scratch. This is true both for the database itself that eu-LISA will build and for each of the national components that Member States must build and that will need to be connected to the database.

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