Council of the European Union

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PARLNAT 208

NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	National Parliaments
Subject:	Council Implementing Decision setting out a recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2022 evaluation of **Sweden** on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of the **Schengen Information System**

In accordance with Article 15(3) of Council Regulation 1053/2013 of 7 October 2013, establishing an evaluation and monitoring mechanism to verify the application of the Schengen acquis and repealing the Decision of the Executive Committee of 16 September 1998 setting up a Standing Committee on the evaluation and implementation of Schengen, the Council hereby transmits to national Parliaments the Council Implementing Decision setting out a recommendation on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2022 evaluation of Sweden on the application of the Schengen acquis in the field of the Schengen Information System[1].

[1] Available in all official languages of the European Union on the Council public register, doc. 15830/22

Council Implementing Decision setting out a

RECOMMENDATION

on addressing the deficiencies identified in the 2022 evaluation of Sweden on the application of the Schengen *acquis* in the field of the Schengen Information System

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to 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[1], and in particular Article 31(3) thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 1053/2013 of 7 October 2013 establishing an evaluation and monitoring mechanism to verify the application of the Schengen *acquis* and repealing the Decision of the Executive Committee of 16 September 1998 setting up a Standing Committee on the evaluation and implementation of Schengen[2], and in particular Article 15(3) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

(1) A Schengen evaluation in the field of the Schengen Information System was carried out in respect of Sweden in April 2022. Following the evaluation, a report covering the findings and assessments, listing best practices and deficiencies identified during the evaluation was adopted by Commission Implementing Decision C(2022) 5444.

1 *OJ L 160, 15.6.2022, p. 1–27*
2 OJ L 295, 6.11.2013, p. 27.

(2) The on-site team considered the deployment of International Case Officers across the police regions as best practice, which has a positive impact on the use and awareness of police cooperation tools, including the Schengen Information System.

(3) Recommendations should be made on remedial actions to be taken by Sweden in order to address deficiencies identified as part of evaluation. In order to ensure the systematic use and full development of the Schengen Information System, priority should be given to implementing recommendation 4.

(4) This Decision should be transmitted to the European Parliament and to the national Parliaments of the Member States. Within two months of its adoption, Sweden should, pursuant to Article 21(1) of Council Regulation (EU) 2022/922, establish an action plan to implement all recommendations to remedy any deficiencies identified in the evaluation report and provide that action plan to the Commission and the Council,

RECOMMENDS:

that Sweden should

N.SIS Office and N.SIS main and back-up site

1. ensure that the N.SIS back-up site is operational;

Physical security of the data centre, access management and business continuity plan

2. ensure that the documentation containing business continuity measures contains also information on specific actions to be taken or escalations in case of serious incidents or disasters;

Deployment of the SIS Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS)

3. establish an automated process to check fingerprints enrolled at national level in real-time in SIS-AFIS;

4. ensure that the Migration Agency makes use of SIS-AFIS when it carries out checks in SIS in the context of its tasks, in accordance with Article 22(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1987/2006, as amended by Regulation (EU) 2018/1861;

SIRENE workflow system

5. increase the level of automation in the workflow system DAR when handling supplementary information and SIRENE cases;

Procedure for the creation of alerts on persons

6. streamline the procedure for creating alerts on persons by reducing the number of intermediate steps and improving the automation in the data quality controls, in order to ensure the timely creation of alerts and avoid the risk of important information being missed;

7. enhance the use of the linking functionality;

Procedure for the creation of alerts on objects

8. enhance the use of the marker ‘suspicion of clone’ when creating alerts on vehicles;

Use of SIS by the police

9. increase the knowledge of SIS procedures and enhance the use of SIS applications among the police forces in the regions;

10. ensure that alerts on missing persons are systematically created in SIS for each missing child case;

Search applications used for police checks

11. improve the user-friendliness of SökES application by ensuring that all information can be easily found by the end-users, that it is possible to carry out any-number searches for objects and to substitute wrong data entries, and by providing the operators with a user manual for the application;

12. enable the end-users using the mobile application mPMF to perform searches of all type of objects available in SIS and any-name searches, as well as to be displayed hit-reporting and 'vehicle-related remarks';

Training of police officers on SIS

13. increase the availability for the end-users of dedicated 'low-threshold' training material on SIS procedures and applications;

Use of SIS by Swedish Customs

14. enhance the use of SIS by customs authorities and establish specific training programmes on SIS for customs officers.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President