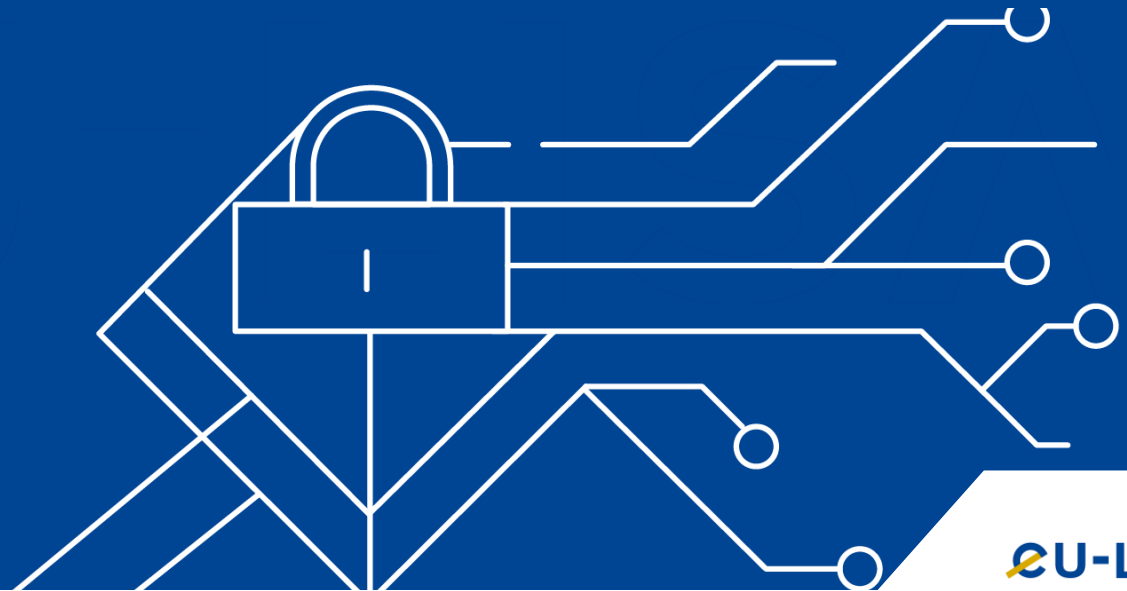# Improving the efficiency of migration and asylum management through EU large-scale IT systems and their interoperability

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Conference "Rethinking Migration"
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Tallinn

eu-LISA

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Introduction

eu-LISA Key Facts

- Start of operation: 01/12/2012

- Currently employs (Jan 2022): 313 staff

- Annual budget (2022): EUR 319,6 mln

- Sites:

  - Tallinn/EE – HQ

  - Strasbourg/FR – Operations

  - Sankt Johann im Pongau/AT – Backup site

  - Brussels/BE – Liaison Office

Existing systems for asylum and migration management operated by eu-LISA at central level

eu-LISA | Eurodac

eu-LISA | VIS

Asylum management

Border management

Visa policy
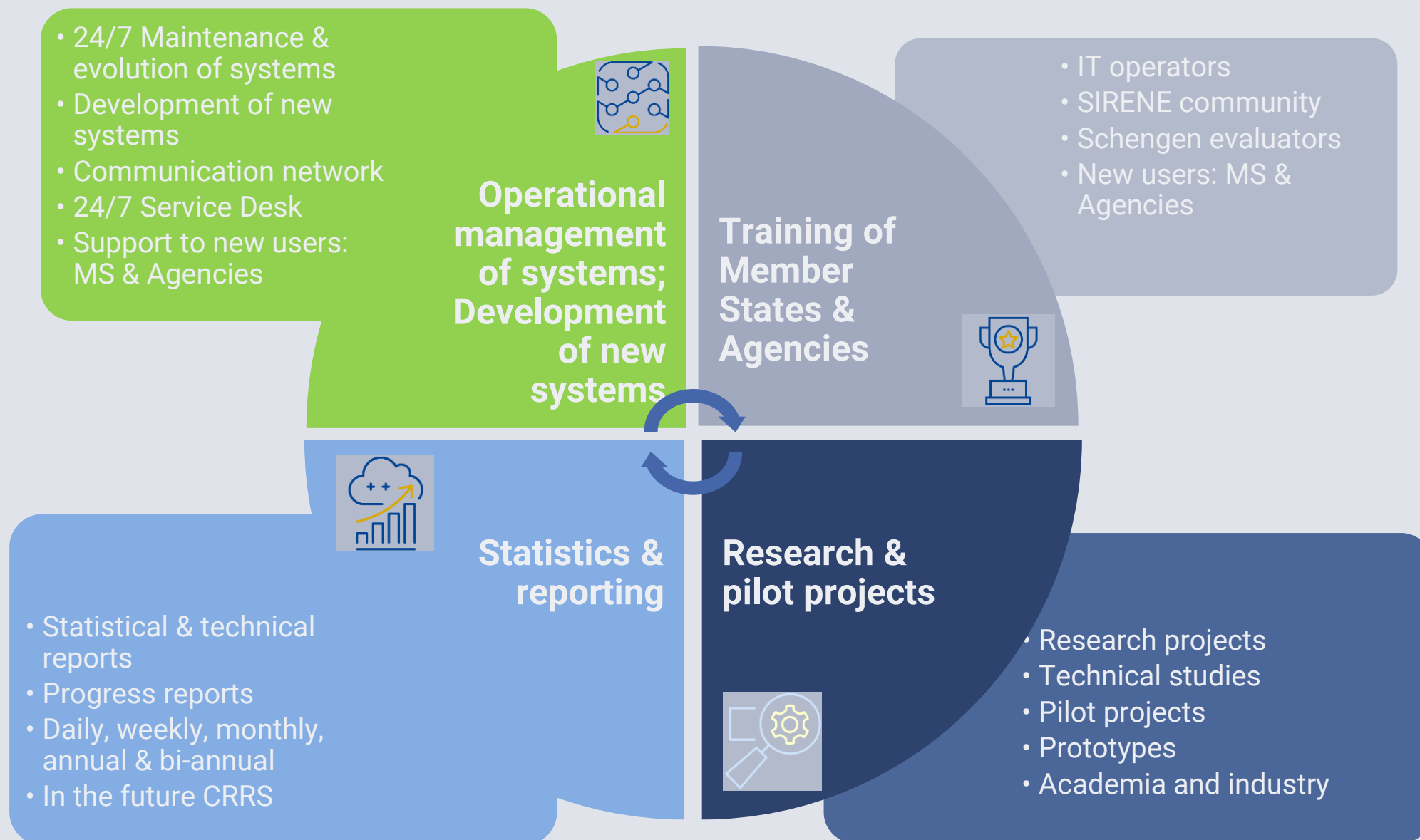
Systems in development by eu-LISA

eu-LISA | EES

eu-LISA | ETIAS

eu-LISA | ECRIS-TCN

eu-LISA | Interoperability

Border management

Asylum management

Judicial cooperation

The mandate of eu-LISA

• 24/7 Maintenance & evolution of systems
• Development of new systems
• Communication network
• 24/7 Service Desk
• Support to new users: MS & Agencies

Operational management of systems; Development of new systems

Training of Member States & Agencies

• IT operators
• SIRENE community
• Schengen evaluators
• New users: MS & Agencies

Statistics & reporting

Research & pilot projects

• Statistical & technical reports
• Progress reports
• Daily, weekly, monthly, annual & bi-annual
• In the future CRRS

• Research projects
• Technical studies
• Pilot projects
• Prototypes
• Academia and industry
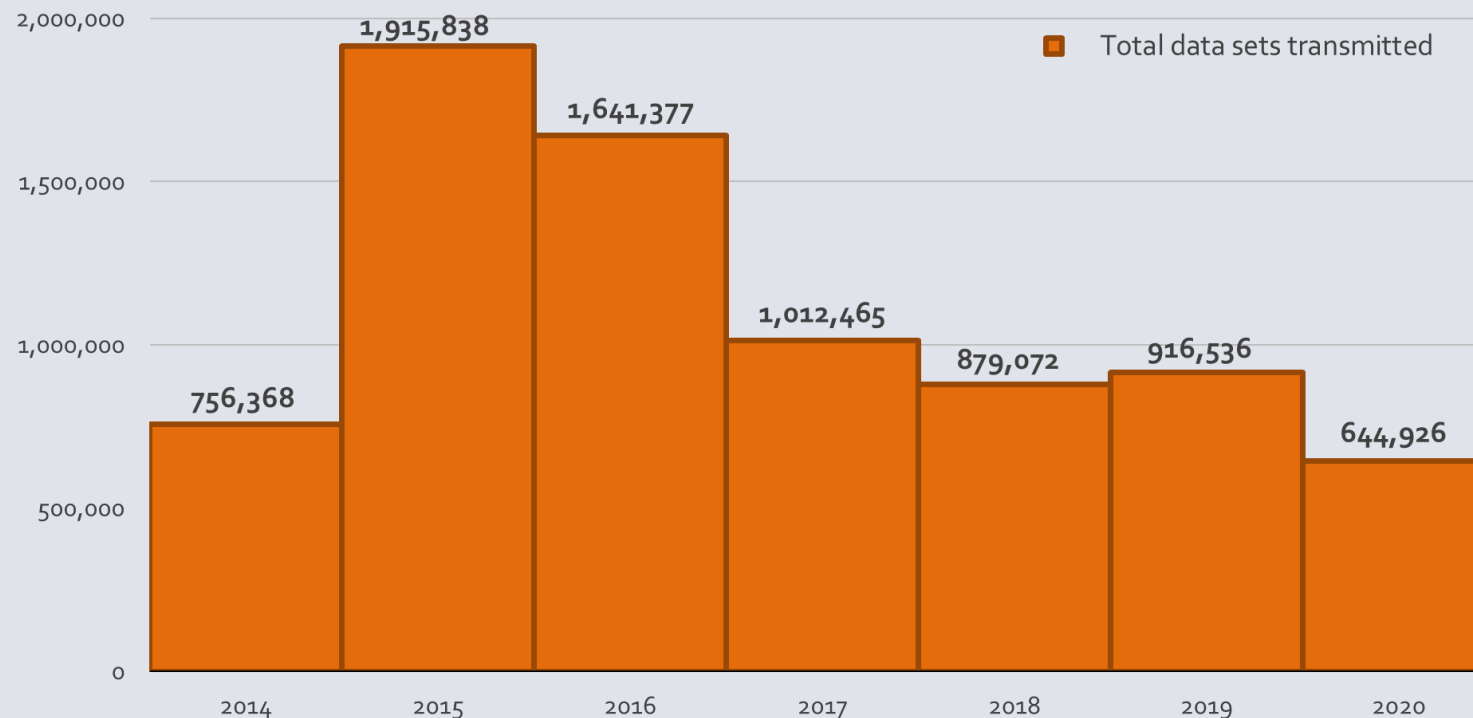
2 |

IT systems for internal security & migration

- existing systems
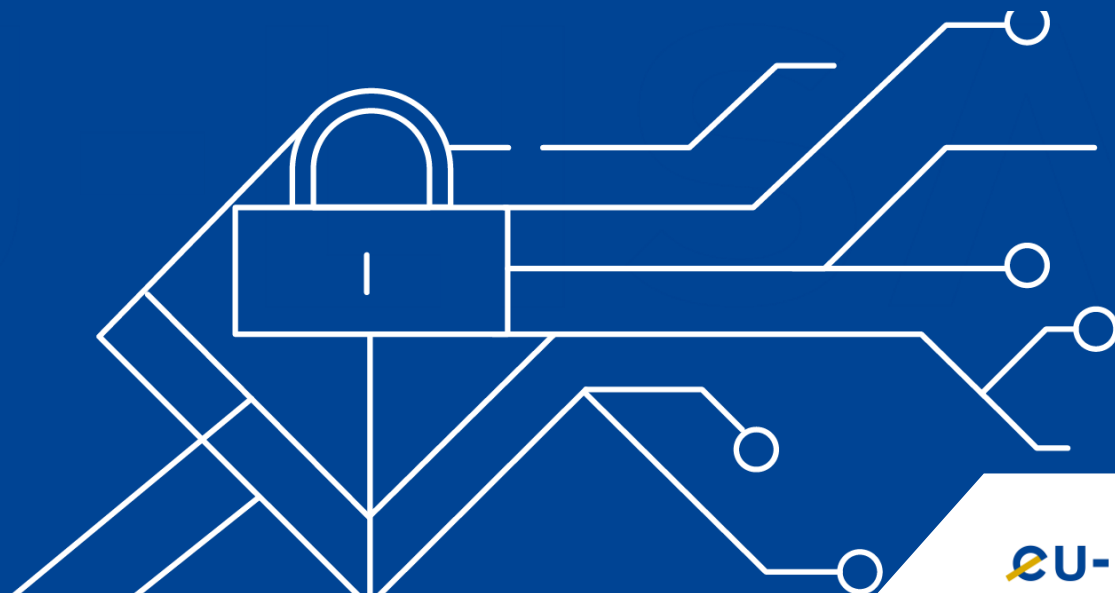
Eurodac

Eurodac

- Used by asylum and migration authorities for the Dublin Regulation
- Contains fingerprints but no alphanumerical data

eu-LISA:

- Responsible for ensuring uninterrupted access to the system 24/7
- Eurodac Advisory Group
- Eurodac annual technical report
- Eurodac annual statistics
- List of designated authorities accessing Eurodac

Total data sets transmitted

Year	Total data sets transmitted
2014	756,368
2015	1,915,838
2016	1,641,377
2017	1,012,465
2018	879,072
2019	916,536
2020	644,926

- Record traffic in 2015-2016
- In 2020, the traffic decreased 30% compared to 2019
- Since 2018, the overall traffic has been below one million, similar to prior the period prior 2015
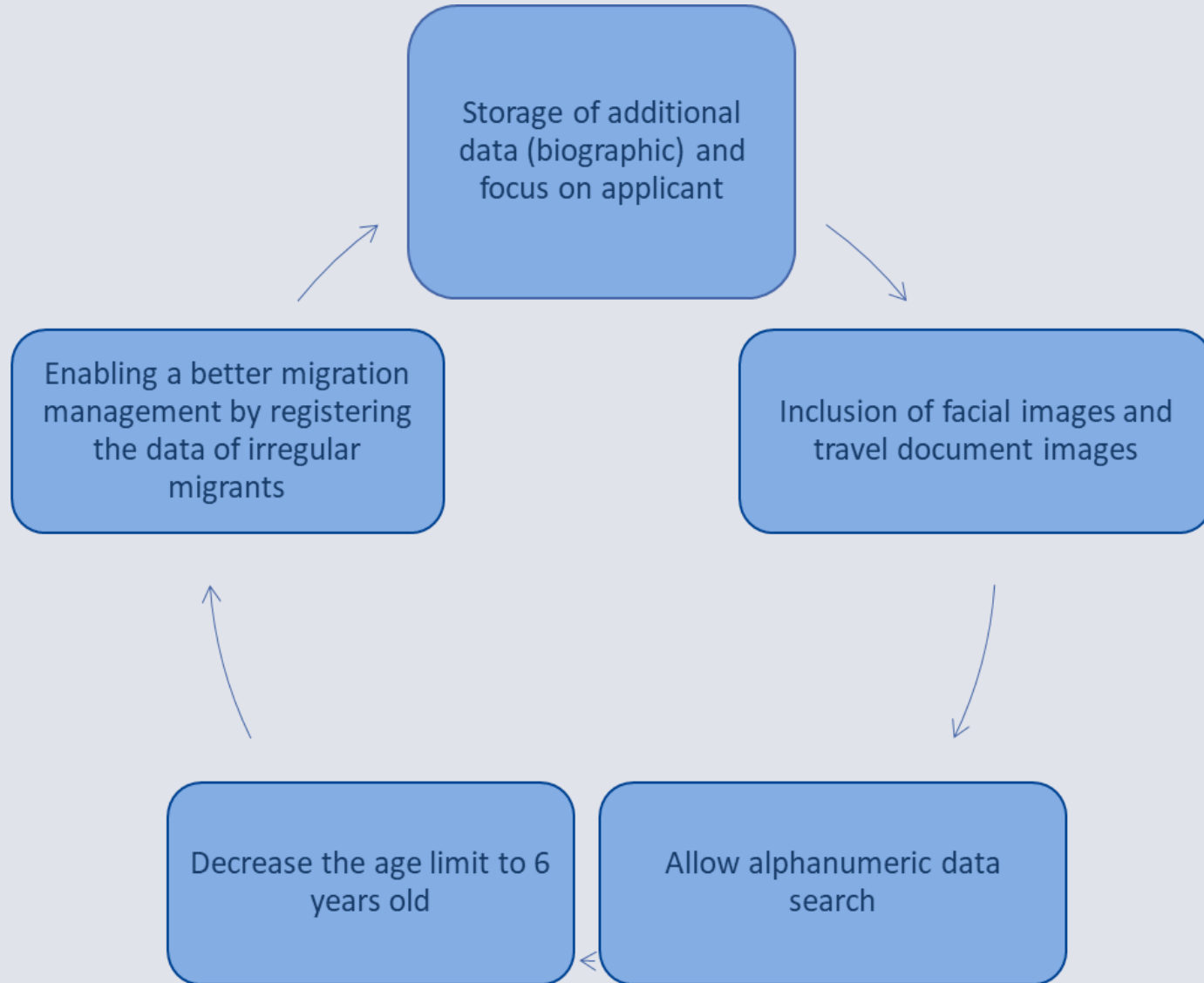
Eurodac legislative proposal (COM 2016 and 2020)

COM proposal for new Eurodac aims at transforming Eurodac into a common European database to support EU policies on asylum, resettlement and irregular migration.

- What is missing is a **database for irregular/illegal migration** identifying those who are apprehended entering irregularly or staying illegally in the Schengen area

- Today the **collection and limited storing** of fingerprints serves strictly the purpose of facilitating the application of the Dublin Regulation

- **Thousands of migrants remain invisible** in Europe, including unaccompanied minors.

The Eurodac legislative proposal (COM 2016 and 2020)

Storage of additional data (biographic) and focus on applicant

Inclusion of facial images and travel document images

Allow alphanumeric data search

Decrease the age limit to 6 years old

Enabling a better migration management by registering the data of irregular migrants

The new Eurodac would:

- ✓ constitute a case management system for MS,

- ✓ gather more complete data supporting management of irregular migration and borders,

- ✓ provide faster support in asylum processing.

eu-LISA | VIS

VIS

- Management of visa applications, identification and verification of third-country nationals travelling to the Schengen Area
- Used by consular posts, border, asylum and law enforcement authorities (conditions apply)
- Facial images and fingerprints

eu-LISA

- Responsible for ensuring 24/7 access to the system
- VIS Advisory Group
- VIS biannual technical report with statistics
- List of designated authorities accessing VIS
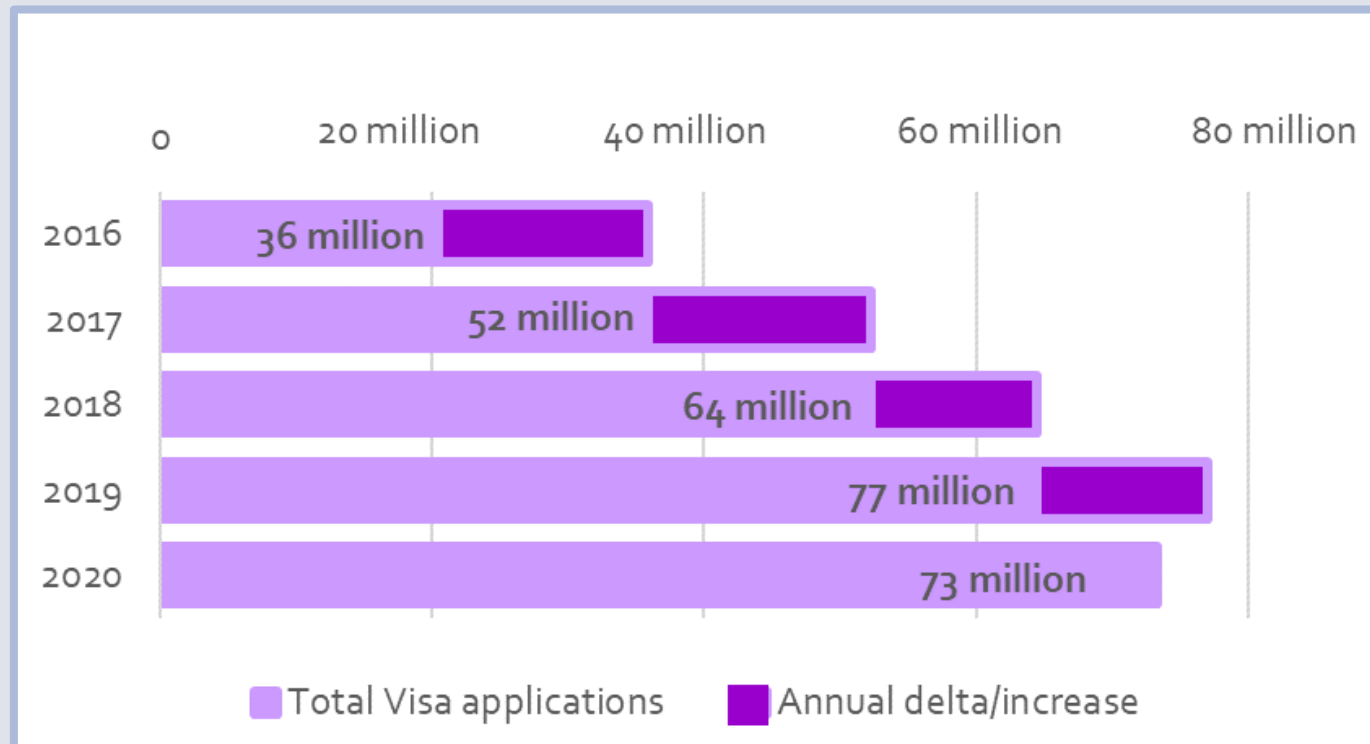
- The number of visa applications increased considerably between 2016-2019
- In 2020 it witnessed a decrease for the first time
- Yearly processed visa applications were 15-17 mln in 2016-2019, those dropped to 3 mln in 2020

eu-LISA | VIS

Revised VIS - Regulation (EU) 2021/1134

- In preparation phase by COM, MS and eu-LISA.
- In addition to short-stay visas it will also cover long-stay visas and residence permits, closing an information gap for border and law enforcement authorities
- All visa applications recorded in VIS will be automatically checked against all other EU information systems for security and migration
- Will include fingerprints and facial images
- The fingerprinting age is lowered from 12 to 6 years, 75 years as the upper age limit
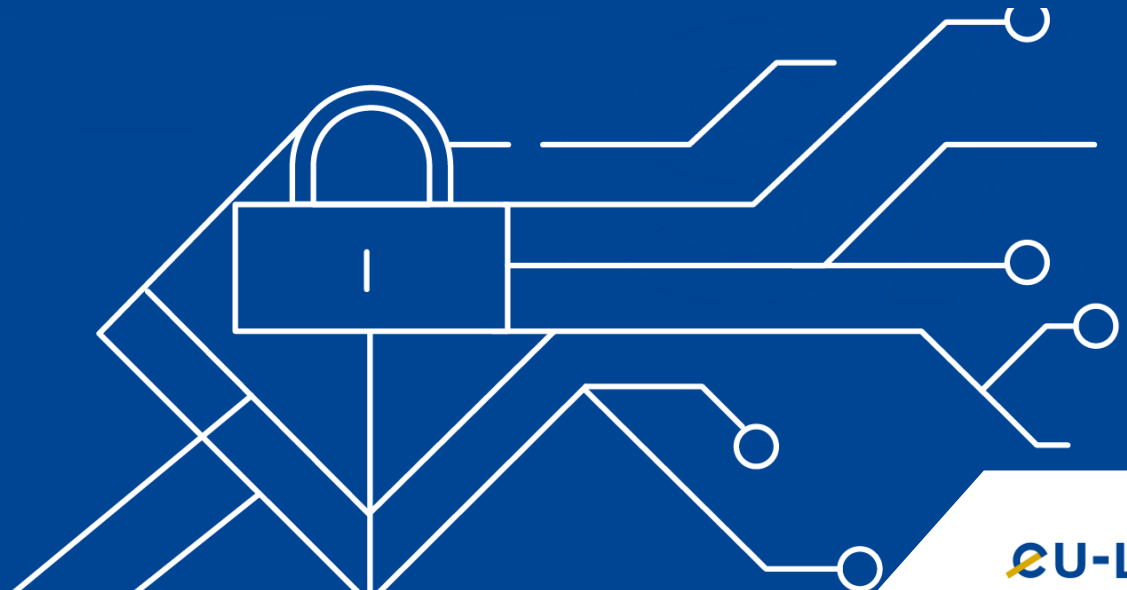
e-Visa platform - legal proposal being developed by COM

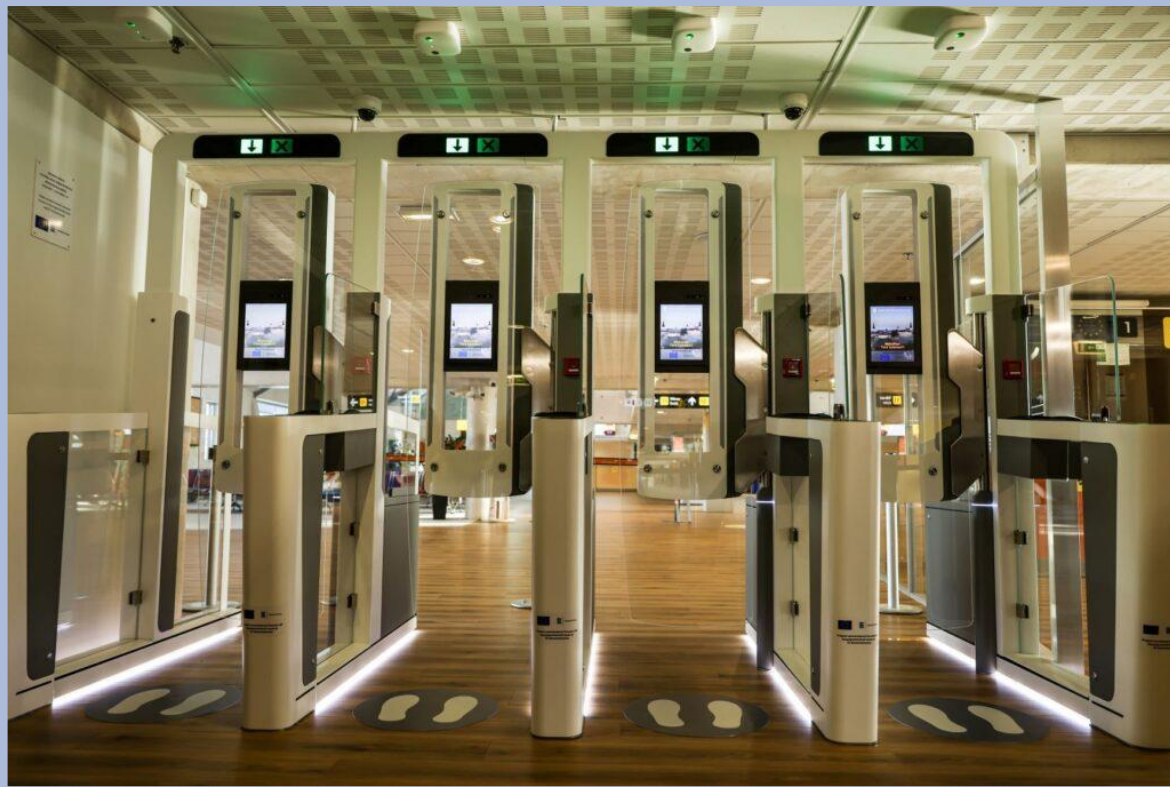- Digital visa application platform by eu-LISA, prototype has been developed

3

IT systems for internal security & migration
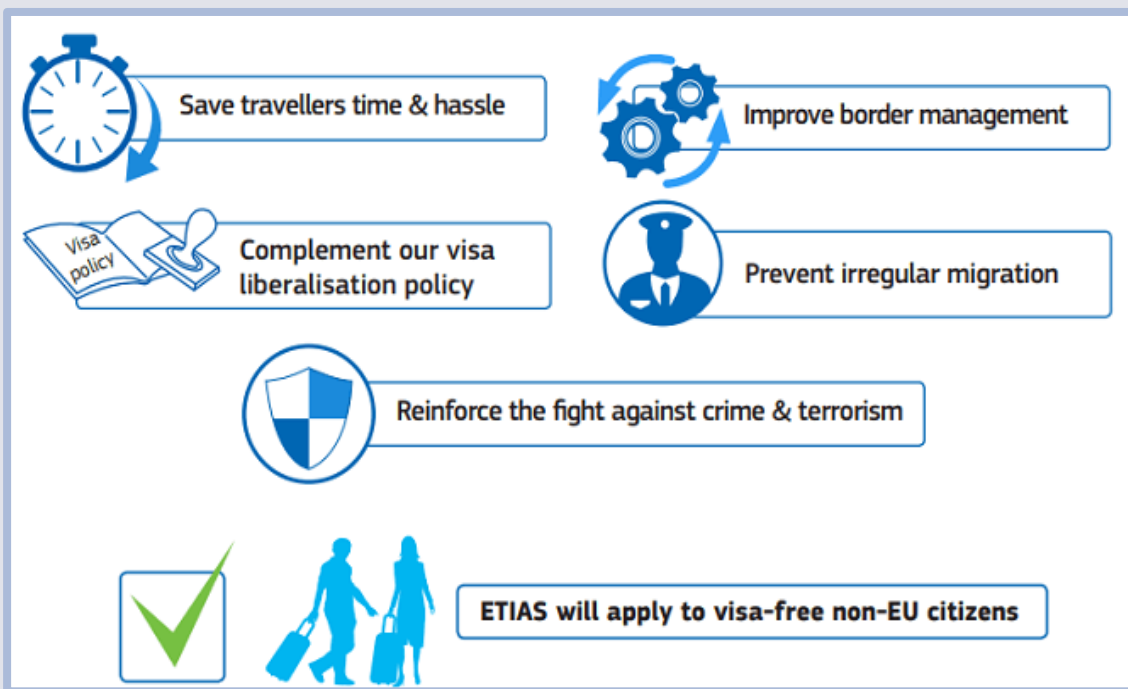
- new systems

![EU-LISA | EES logo]

- EES Regulation (EU) 2017/2226 System for border authorities
- Individual files of entry & exit records of TCN to/from Schengen area
- Will replace stamping of passports
- Will allow identification of overstayers
- Fingerprints and facial images
- Access by authorised staff of Frontex

eu-LISA | ETIAS

- Save travellers time & hassle
- Improve border management
- Complement our visa liberalisation policy
- Prevent irregular migration
- Reinforce the fight against crime & terrorism
- ETIAS will apply to visa-free non-EU citizens

- ETIAS Regulation (EU) 2018/1240

- Pre-authorisation of third country nationals from visa-free countries

- Verification of security, illegal immigration or high epidemic risk

- Central System, NUI, carrier gateway, secure web service, website & mobile app

- Frontex will manage the Central Unit

- Verification against eu-LISA, Europol and Interpol databases

eu-LISA | Interoperability
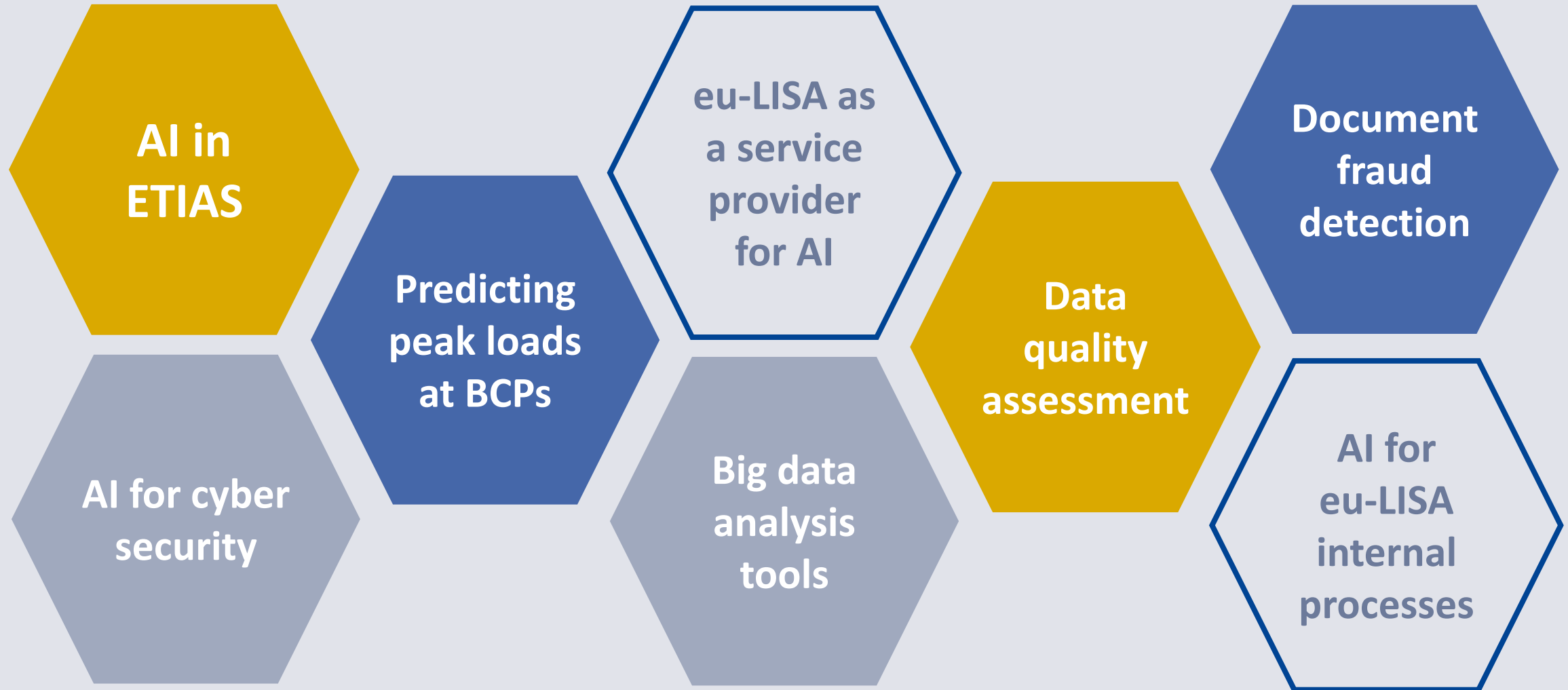
Interoperability components:

- European Search Portal
- Shared Biometric Matching Service
- Common Identity Repository
- Multiple Identity Detector

- Common Repository of Reporting and Statistics

Interoperability of existing and new systems will:

- Make existing and new systems (silo approach) interoperable to facilitate information sharing between

  Facilitate the processing of visa and asylum applications

- Improve detection of irregular migrants

- Allow detection of multiple identities

- Ensure that end-users have fast and seamless access to data stored in all the systems by eu-LISA for cross-checking (based on legal bases)

Future: Possible use-cases for the implementation of AI (future eu-LISA AI Roadmap)

AI in ETIAS

Predicting peak loads at BCPs

eu-LISA as a service provider for AI

Document fraud detection

Data quality assessment

AI for cyber security

Big data analysis tools

AI for eu-LISA internal processes

Conclusions

eu-LISA contributes to more efficient asylum and migration management through:
- ✓ **existing IT systems** (Eurodac and VIS + recast systems) and
- ✓ **new IT systems** (EES, ETIAS and Interoperability)

eu-LISA contributes to digitalisation of the JHA area (incl. migration & asylum) through:
- ✓ Working towards application of **new technologies** in our systems
- ✓ **Designing new tools**, e.g. digital visa platform
- ✓ **Implementing AI components** in the systems in the future
- ✓ Taking steps towards further **standardisation and automation** to support MS

Need to improve cooperation with third countries, especially neighbouring countries, to ensure compatibility between their systems and ours to enable exchange of information in the future. eu-LISA is involved in relevant projects with Western Balkan countries.

THANK YOU! Questions?

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