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Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council introducing a screening of third country nationals at the external borders and amending Regulations (EC) No 767/2008, (EU) 2017/2226, (EU) 2018/1240 and (EU) 2019/817 – mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament

Delegations will find attached the mandate on the abovementioned proposal as approved by the Permanent Representatives Committee at its meeting on 22 June 2022.

2020/0278 (COD)

Proposal for a

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
introducing a screening of third country nationals at the external borders and amending
Regulations (EC) No 767/2008, (EU) 2017/2226, (EU) 2018/1240 and (EU) 2019/817

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular points (b) and (d) of Article 77(2) thereof

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,

Whereas:

- (1) The Schengen area was created to achieve the Union's objective of establishing an area without internal ~~frontiers~~ **borders** in which the free movement of persons is ensured, as set out in Article 3(2) of the Treaty on European Union (TEU). The good functioning of this area relies on mutual trust between the Member States and efficient management of the external border.

- (2) The rules governing border control of persons crossing the external borders of the Member States of the Union are laid down in Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council (Schengen Borders Code)¹ as adopted under Article 77(2)(b) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU). **However, despite the applied border surveillance measures, Member States could be confronted to unauthorised border crossings by third country nationals trying to avoid border checks.** To further develop the Union's policy with a view to carrying out checks on persons and efficiently monitoring the crossing of external borders referred to in the first paragraph of Article 77 TFEU, additional measures should address situations where third-country nationals manage to avoid border checks at the external borders **in accordance with Article 5(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/399**, or where third-country nationals are disembarked following search and rescue operations as well as where third-country nationals ~~request~~ **make an application for** international protection at a border crossing point without fulfilling entry conditions, **and third country nationals who make an application for international protection and benefit from an authorisation to enter on humanitarian grounds or international obligations under Article 6(5)c of Regulation (EU) 2016/399.** The present regulation complements and specifies Regulation (EU) 2016/399 with regard to those three sets of situations.
- (3) It is essential to ensure that in those three sets of situations, the third country nationals are screened, in order to facilitate a proper identification and to allow for them being referred efficiently to the relevant procedures which, depending on the circumstances, can be procedures for international protection or procedures respecting Directive 2008/115/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (the "Return Directive")². The screening should seamlessly complement the checks carried out at the external border or compensate for the fact that those checks have been circumvented by the third country nationals when crossing the external border.
- (4) Border control is in the interest not only of the Member States at whose external borders it is carried out but of all Member States which have abolished internal border control. Border control should help to combat illegal migration, **smuggling** and trafficking of human beings and to prevent any threat to the Member States' internal security, public policy, public health and international relations. As such, measures taken at the external borders are important elements of a comprehensive approach to migration, allowing to address the challenge of mixed flows of **irregular** migrants and persons ~~seeking~~ **in need of** international protection.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code), OJ L 77, 23.3.2016, p.1.

² Directive 2008/115/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on common standards and procedures in Member States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals, OJ L 348, 24.12.2008, p. 98.

- (5) In accordance with Article 2 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399, border control consists of border checks carried out at the border crossing points and border surveillance, which is carried out between the border crossing points, in order to prevent third-country nationals **from border crossing not authorised under Article 5 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399 and thereby** circumventing border checks. In accordance with Article 13 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399 a person who has crossed a border in an unauthorised manner and who has no right to stay on the territory of the Member State concerned shall be apprehended and made subject to procedures respecting Directive 2008/115/EC. In accordance with Article 3 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399, border control should be carried out without prejudice to the rights of refugees and persons requesting international protection, in particular as regards non-refoulement.
- (6) Border guards are often confronted with third-country nationals who are requesting international protection without travel documents, both following apprehension during border surveillance and during checks at the border crossing points. Moreover, at some border sections the border guards are confronted with ~~large numbers of arrivals~~ **mass influx of people** at the same time. In such circumstances, it is particularly difficult to ensure that all relevant databases are consulted and to immediately determine the appropriate asylum or return procedure.
- (7) In order to ensure a swift handling of third-country nationals **at the external borders or within the territory of the Member States, who have not been subject to border checks at the external borders of the Member States, as well as those who have made an application for international protection at border crossing points or in transit zones, without fulfilling the entry conditions** ~~who try to avoid border checks or who request international protection at a border crossing point without fulfilling the entry conditions or who are disembarked following a search and rescue operation,~~ it is necessary to provide a stronger framework for cooperation between the different national authorities responsible for border control, the protection of public health, the examination of the need for international protection and the application of return procedures.
- (8) In particular, the screening should ~~help~~ **contribute** to ensuring that the third-country nationals concerned are referred to the appropriate procedures at the earliest stage possible and that the procedures are continued without interruption and delay. At the same time, the screening should ~~help~~ **contribute** to countering the practice whereby ~~some~~ applicants for international protection abscond after having been authorised to enter the territory of a Member State based on their request for international protection, in order to pursue such ~~requests~~ **applications** in another Member State or not at all. **Taking into consideration that the screening should contribute to ensuring the referral to the appropriate procedures, obligations stemming from this Regulation should be without prejudice to the applicable rules under Union law concerning international protection or return.**

- (9) With regard to those persons who apply for international protection, the registration of the application should be determined by Article 6(4) of Asylum Procedure Directive 2013/32. The screening should be followed by an examination of the need for international protection. It should allow to collect and share with the authorities competent for that examination any information that is relevant for the latter to identify the appropriate procedure for the examination of the application, thus speeding up that examination. The screening should also ensure that **vulnerable** persons ~~with special needs~~ are identified at an early stage, so that any ~~special reception and procedural~~ **specific** needs are fully taken into account in the determination of and the pursuit of the applicable procedure.
- (10) The obligations stemming from this Regulation should be without prejudice to the provisions concerning responsibility for examining an application for international protection regulated in Regulation (EU) No **604/2013 (Dublin III Regulation)** ~~No XX/XXX [Asylum and Migration Management Regulation]~~.
- (11) This Regulation should apply to third-country nationals and stateless persons who are apprehended in connection with the unauthorised crossings of the external border of a Member State by land, sea or air, except third country nationals for whom the Member State is not required to take the biometric data pursuant to [Article **134**(1) and (3) of the Regulation (EU) **XXX/XXX (EURODAC III Regulation)**] for reasons other than their age, as well as to persons who have been disembarked following search and rescue operations, regardless of whether they apply or not for international protection. **For the latter category of persons, the application of this Regulation should be without prejudice to the obligations of Member States according to international law regarding search and rescue operations.** This Regulation should also apply to those who seek international protection at the border crossing points or in transit zones without fulfilling the entry conditions.
- (12) The screening should **in principle** be conducted at or in proximity to the external border. **However, notably where there are no adequate facilities at the border or they are already occupied, it can be conducted in other designated locations,** ~~before the persons concerned are authorised to enter the territory.~~ The Member States should ~~apply measures pursuant to~~ **lay down in their national law provisions to ensure to the presence of those third-country nationals in the designated locations** during the screening **in order to prevent absconding.** In individual cases, where required, this may include detention, **as well as other alternative measures that can ensure the same objective,** subject to the national law regulating that matter. **Detention should always be necessary, proportionate and subject to an effective remedy, in line with national, EU and international law and should not exceed the duration provided for by the national regulatory framework. Beyond this duration, alternative measures would apply. The third country nationals subject to screening should remain, for the duration of the screening, at the disposal of the screening authorities. Should they abscond from these authorities, they could be subject to penalties if it is provided for under national law, in line with EU law. Those penalties would complement the framework set out by Regulation (EU) 2016/399 and should be effective, proportionate and dissuasive. Screening within the territory should be conducted in any appropriate location.**

- (13) Wherever it becomes clear during the screening that a third-country national subject to it fulfils the conditions of Article 6 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399, the screening should ~~end~~ **be discontinued** and the third-country national concerned should be authorised to enter the territory, without prejudice to the application of penalties as referred to in Article 5(3) of that regulation.
- (14) In view of the purpose of the derogation referred to in Article 6(5) of Regulation (EU) 2016/399, persons whose entry has been authorised by a Member State under that provision in an individual decision should not be submitted to the screening despite the fact that they do not fulfil all entry conditions, **unless they make an application for international protection.**
- (15) All persons subject to the screening should be submitted to checks, **including, where appropriate, interviews**, in order to establish **or verify** their identity and to ascertain that they do not pose a ~~threat to internal security or public health~~ **security risk or a threat to public health**. In the case of persons ~~requesting~~ **making an application for** international protection at border crossing points, the identity and security checks carried out in the context of border checks should be taken into account to avoid duplication.
- (16) On completion of the screening, the third-country nationals concerned should be referred to the relevant procedure to establish responsibility for examining an application **respecting the Regulation (EU) No 604/2013 (Dublin III Regulation)** for and to assess the need for international protection **respecting the Directive 2013/32/EU (asylum directive procedure)**, or be made subject to procedures respecting **recast** Directive 2008/115 (return directive), as appropriate. ~~The relevant information obtained during the screening should be provided to the competent authorities to support the further assessment of each individual case, in full respect of fundamental rights. The procedures established by Directive 2008/115 should start applying only after the screening has ended. Article 26 and 27 of the Asylum Procedures Regulation should apply only after the screening has ended. This should be without prejudice to the fact that the persons applying for international protection at the moment of apprehension, in the course of border control at the border crossing point or during the screening, should be considered applicants.~~
- (17) The screening could also be followed by relocation under ~~the~~ **a** mechanism for solidarity established by Regulation (EU) XXX/XXX [Asylum and Migration Management] ~~where a Member State is contributing to solidarity on a voluntary basis or the applicants for international protection are not subject to the border procedure pursuant to Regulation (EU) No. XXX/XXX (Asylum Procedures Regulation), or under the mechanism addressing situations of crisis established by Regulation (EU) XXX/XXX [Regulation on situations of crisis].~~

(18) In accordance with Article 12 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399, the fulfilment of entry conditions and the authorisation of entry are expressed in an entry stamp in a travel document. The absence of such entry stamp or the absence of a travel document may therefore be considered as an indication that the holder does not fulfil the entry conditions. With the start of the operation of the Entry/Exit System leading to substitution of the stamps with an entry in the electronic system, that presumption will become more reliable. Member States should therefore apply the screening to third-country nationals who are already within the territory and who are unable to prove that they fulfilled the conditions of entry into the territory of the Member States. The screening of such third-country nationals is necessary in order to compensate for the fact that they presumably managed to evade entry checks upon arrival in the Schengen area and therefore could have not been either refused entry or referred to the appropriate procedure following screening. Applying the screening could also help in ascertaining, through the consultation of the databases referred to in this Regulation, that the persons concerned do not pose a ~~threat to internal security~~ **security risk**. By the end of the screening within the territory, the third-country nationals concerned should be subject to a return procedure or, where they apply for international protection, to the appropriate asylum procedure. Submitting the same third-country national to repeated screenings should be avoided to the utmost extent possible.

(18a) If an illegally staying third-country national is apprehended or intercepted at or in the immediate vicinity of an internal border, and there is no indication that the person has crossed the external border in an authorized manner or that the person has already been subject to screening, the apprehending Member States may not apply the screening if that person is taken back by another Member State under bilateral agreements or arrangements or under a specific cooperation framework, such as the transfer procedure set out in Article 23a of Regulation (EU) 2016/399.

The Member State which has taken back the third-country national should apply the screening. However, in this case, the transfer of the third-country national has to occur immediately after the apprehension or interception, in order to ensure that screening should start without delay.

(18b) This Regulation is without prejudice to provisions of national law covering the identification of third-country nationals suspected of staying in a Member State illegally in order to research, within a brief but reasonable time, the information enabling a determination of the illegality or legality of the stay.

(18c) Without prejudice to the rules on border control applicable at the internal borders of the Member States where a decision to lift such controls has not been taken yet, screening of third country nationals apprehended in connection with unauthorised crossing of such internal borders where the controls have not yet been lifted should follow the rules established by this Regulation for screening within the territory and not the rules established for screening at the external borders.

- (19) The screening should be completed as soon as possible, and should not exceed 5 days. **Member States may set a shorter period in their national legislation, provided that this ensures that the checks provided for in this Regulation are carried out.** ~~where it is conducted at the external border and 3 days where it is conducted within the territory of a Member State.~~ Any extension of the 5 days' time limit should be reserved for exceptional situations at the external borders, where the capacities of the Member State to handle screenings are exceeded for reasons beyond its control ~~such as crisis situations referred to in Article 1 of Regulation XXX/XXX [crisis proposal].~~
- (20) The Member States should determine appropriate locations for the screening at or in proximity to the external border **or, in any other designated location**, taking into account geography and existing infrastructures, ensuring that apprehended third-country nationals as well as those who present themselves at a border crossing point can be swiftly submitted to the screening. The tasks related to the screening may be carried out in hotspot areas as referred to in point (23) of Article 2 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1896 of the European Parliament and of the Council³. **For the screening within the territory Member States should determine appropriate locations in the territory.**
- (21) In order to achieve the objectives of the screening, close cooperation should be ensured between the competent national authorities referred to in Article 16 of Regulation 2016/399, **those involved in asylum procedures and responsible for reception of applicants**, ~~those referred to in Article 5 of the [Asylum Procedures Regulation]~~ as well as those responsible for carrying out return procedures respecting Directive 2008/115. Child protection authorities should also be closely involved in the screening wherever necessary to ensure that the best interests of the child are duly taken into account throughout the screening. Member States should be allowed to avail themselves of the support of the relevant agencies, in particular the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and the [European Union Agency for Asylum], within the limits of their mandates. Member States should involve the national Rapporteurs for Anti-trafficking **or equivalent mechanisms** wherever the screening reveals facts relevant for trafficking in line with Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴.
- (22) When conducting the screening, the competent authorities should comply with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and ensure the respect for human dignity and should not discriminate against persons on grounds of sex, racial, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinions, membership of a national minority, disability, age or sexual orientation. Particular attention should be paid to the best interests of the child.

³ Regulation (EU) 2019/1896 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 November 2019 on the European Border and Coast Guard, OJ L 295, 14.11.2019, p. 1.

⁴ Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2011 on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims, OJ L 101, 15.4.2011, p. 1.

- (23) In order to ensure compliance with EU and international law, including the Charter of Fundamental Rights, during the screening, each Member State should ~~establish~~ **provide for** a monitoring mechanism and put in place adequate safeguards for the independence thereof. **For this purpose Member States may resort to already existing national fundamental rights monitoring mechanisms which foresee safeguards that ensure their independences.** The monitoring mechanism should cover in particular the respect for fundamental rights in relation to the screening, as well as the respect for the applicable national rules regarding detention and compliance with the principle of non-refoulement as referred to in Article 3(b) of Regulation (EU) 2016/399. The Fundamental Rights Agency should establish general guidance as to the establishment and the independent functioning of such monitoring mechanism. Member States should furthermore be allowed to request the support of the Fundamental Rights Agency for developing their national monitoring mechanism. Member States should also be allowed to seek advice from the Fundamental Rights Agency with regard to establishing the methodology for this monitoring mechanism and with regard to appropriate training measures. Member States should also be allowed to invite relevant and competent national, international and non-governmental organisations and bodies to participate in the monitoring. The independent monitoring mechanism should be without prejudice to the monitoring of fundamental rights provided by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency's fundamental rights monitors provided for in Regulation (EU) 2019/1896. The Member States should investigate allegations of the breach of the fundamental rights during the screening, including by ensuring that complaints are dealt with expeditiously and in an appropriate way.
- (24) **As soon as possible and, at latest** by the end of the screening, the authorities responsible for the screening should fill in a ~~de-briefing~~ **screening form with all relevant information gathered or include such information in the relocation form.** The form should be transmitted **by any appropriate means, including digital tools**, to the authorities examining applications for international protection or to the authorities competent for return **procedures**— depending on whom the individual is referred to. ~~In the former case, the authorities responsible for the screening should also indicate any elements which may seem to be relevant for determining whether the competent authorities should submit the application of the third country national concerned to an accelerated examination procedure or to the border procedure.~~ **The end of screening should not prevent authorities, where appropriate, to continue actions to determine the identity of the person concerned and assess possible security risks.**
- (25) The biometric data taken during the screening should, together with the data referred to in Articles ~~[12, 13, 14 and 14a]~~ **[10, 13, 14 and 14a of the Eurodac III Regulation]** be transmitted to Eurodac by the competent authorities in accordance with the deadlines provided for in that Regulation.

- (26) A preliminary health ~~examination~~ **check** should be carried out on ~~all~~ persons submitted to the screening at the external borders with a view to identifying persons in need of immediate care or requiring other measures to be taken, for instance isolation on public health grounds. ~~The specific needs of minors and vulnerable persons should be taken into account.~~ If it is clear from the circumstances that such examination **check** is not needed, in particular because the overall condition of the person appears to be very good, the ~~examination~~ **check** should not take place and the person concerned should be informed of that fact. **By way of derogation and in exceptional circumstances linked to the number of third-country nationals needing to be subject to the screening, and based on the overall condition of the person, the decision on the absence of the necessity of such a preliminary health check may be taken by the screening authorities under the supervision of qualified medical staff. The Member States should notify the Commission where they make use of such a possibility.** The preliminary health ~~examination~~ **check** should be carried out by ~~the health authorities~~ **qualified medical staff** of the Member State concerned. ~~With regard to third-country nationals apprehended within the territory, the preliminary medical examination should be carried out where it is deemed necessary at first sight.~~
- (26a) **During screening, a vulnerability check should be carried out to identify any indications of vulnerability without prejudice to further assessment in subsequent procedures following the completion of screening. The specific needs of minors and vulnerable persons should be taken into account.**
- (27) During the screening, all persons concerned should be guaranteed a standard of living complying with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and have access to emergency health care and essential treatment of illnesses. Particular attention should be paid to individuals with vulnerabilities, such as pregnant women, elderly persons, single parent families, persons with an immediately identifiable physical or mental disability, persons visibly having suffered psychological or physical trauma and unaccompanied minors. In particular, in case of a minor, information should be provided in a child-friendly and age appropriate manner. All the authorities involved in the performance of the tasks related to the screening should **report any situation of vulnerabilities observed or reported to them**, respect human dignity, privacy, and refrain from any discriminating actions or behaviour.
- (28) Since third-country nationals subject to the screening may not carry the necessary identity and travel documents required for the legal crossing of the external border, an identification **or verification** procedure should be provided for as part of the screening.

- (29) The Common Identity Repository (“CIR”) was established by Regulation (EU) 2019/817 of the European Parliament and of the Council (Interoperability Regulation)⁵ to facilitate and assist in the correct identification of persons registered in the Entry/Exit System (“EES”), the Visa Information System (“VIS”), the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (“ETIAS”), Eurodac and in the European Criminal Records Information System for third country nationals (“ECRIS-TCN”), including of unknown persons who are unable to identify themselves. For that purpose, the CIR contains only the identity, travel document and biometric data recorded in EES, VIS, ETIAS, Eurodac and ECRIS-TCN, logically separated. Only the personal data strictly necessary to perform an accurate identity check is stored in the CIR. The personal data recorded in the CIR is kept for no longer than strictly necessary for the purposes of the underlying systems and should automatically be deleted where the data are deleted from the underlying systems. Consultation of the CIR enables a reliable and exhaustive identification of persons, by making it possible to consult all identity data present in the EES, VIS, ETIAS, Eurodac and ECRIS-TCN in one go, in a fast and reliable manner, while ensuring a maximum protection of the data and avoiding unnecessary processing or duplication of data.
- (30) In order to establish the identity of the persons subject to the screening, a verification should be initiated in the CIR in the presence of the person during the screening. During that verification, the biometric data of the person should be checked against the data contained in the CIR. Where the biometric data of a person cannot be used or if a query with that data fails, the query could be carried out with identity data of the person in combination with travel document data, where such data are available. In accordance with the principles of necessity and proportionality, and where the query indicates that data on that person are stored in the CIR, Member State authorities should have access to the CIR to consult the identity data, travel document data and biometric data of that person, without the CIR providing any indication as to which EU information system the data belong to.
- (31) Since the use of the CIR for identification purposes has been limited by Regulation (EU) 2019/817 to facilitating and assisting in the correct identification of persons registered in the EES, VIS, ETIAS, Eurodac and ECRIS-TCN in situations of police checks within the territory of the Member States, that Regulation needs to be amended to provide for the additional purpose of using the CIR to identify persons during the screening established by this Regulation.
- (32) Given that many persons submitted to the screening may not carry any travel documents, the authorities conducting the screening should have access to any other relevant documents held by the persons concerned in cases where the biometric data of such persons are not usable or yield no result in the CIR. The authorities should also be allowed to use data from those documents, other than biometric data, to carry out checks against the relevant databases.

⁵ Regulation (EU) 2019/817 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2019 on establishing a framework for interoperability between EU information systems in the field of borders and visa and amending Regulations (EC) No 767/2008, (EU) 2016/399, (EU) 2017/2226, (EU) 2018/1240, (EU) 2018/1726 and (EU) 2018/1861 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Decisions 2004/512/EC and 2008/633/JHA, OJ L 135, 22.5.2019, p. 27.

- (33) The identification of persons during border checks at the border crossing point and any consultation of the databases in the context of border surveillance or police checks in the external border area by the authorities who referred the person concerned to the screening should be considered as part of the screening and should not be repeated, unless there are special circumstances justifying such repetition.
- (34) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of Articles 11(54) and 12(58) of this Regulation, implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶. For the adoption of relevant implementing acts, the examination procedure should be used.
- (35) The screening should also assess whether the entry of the third-country nationals into the Union could pose a **security risk** ~~threat to internal security or to public policy~~.
- (36) As the screening concerns persons present at the external border without fulfilling entry conditions, or disembarked after a search and rescue operation, the security checks as part of the screening should be at least of a similar level as the checks performed in respect of third country nationals that apply on beforehand for an authorisation to enter the Union for a short stay, whether they are under a visa obligation or not.
- (37) For third-country nationals who are on the basis of their nationality exempt from the visa requirement under Regulation (EU) 2018/1806 of the European Parliament and the Council⁷, Regulation (EU) 2018/1240 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁸ (ETIAS Regulation) provides that they have to apply for a travel authorisation to come to the EU for short stay. Before receiving that travel authorisation, the persons concerned are submitted to security checks of the personal data they submit against a number of EU databases – the Visa Information System (VIS), the Schengen Information System (SIS), the Entry/Exit System (EES), the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS), the Europol data processed for the purpose referred to in Article 18(2)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2016/794⁹, ECRIS-TCN¹⁰ – as well as Interpol's Stolen and Lost Travel Document database (SLTD) and Travel Documents Associated with Notices database (Interpol TDAWN).

⁶ Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by the Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing power (OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13).

⁷ Regulation (EU) 2018/1806 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 November 2018 listing the third countries whose nationals must be in possession of visas when crossing the external borders and those whose nationals are exempt from that requirement (OJ L 303, 28.11.2018, p. 39).

⁸ Regulation (EU) 2018/1240 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 September 2018 establishing a European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) and amending Regulations (EU) No 1077/2011, (EU) No 515/2014, (EU) 2016/399, (EU) 2016/1624 and (EU) 2017/2226 (OJ L 236, 19.9.2018, p. 1).

⁹ Regulation (EU) 2016/794 of 11 May 2016 on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) and replacing and repealing Council Decisions 2009/371/JHA, 2009/934/JHA, 2009/935/JHA, 2009/936/JHA and 2009/968/JHA (OJ L 135, 24.5.2016, p. 53–114).

- (38) As to third-country nationals who are subject to the visa requirement under Regulation (EU) 2018/1806, they are submitted to security checks against the same databases as visa-free third country nationals, pursuant to Regulation (EU) 810/2009 and Regulation (EU) 767/2008 before a visa is issued.
- (39) It follows from the reasoning developed in recital (36) that as regards persons subject to the screening, automated verifications for security purposes should be carried out against the same systems as is provided for applicants for a visa or for a travel authorisation under the European Travel Information and Authorisation System: the VIS, EES, ETIAS, SIS, ECRIS-TCN, Europol and Interpol's SLTD and TDAWN. Persons submitted to the screening should also be checked against ECRIS-TCN as regards persons convicted in relation to terrorist offences and other forms of serious criminal offences, Europol data referred to in the preceding recital 38, the Interpol's Lost and Stolen Travel Documents database and Travel Documents Associated with Notices databases (TDAWN).
- (40) Those checks should be conducted in a manner that ensures that only data necessary for carrying out the security checks is retrieved from those databases. With regard to persons who have ~~requested~~ **made an application for** international protection at a border crossing point, the consultation of databases for the security check as part of the screening should focus on the databases that were not consulted during the border checks at the external border, thus avoiding repeated consultations.
- (41) Where justified for **its purpose**, ~~the purpose of the security check~~, the screening could also include verification of objects in the possession of third-country nationals, in accordance with national law. Any measures applied in this context should be proportionate and should respect the human dignity of the persons subject to the screening. The authorities involved should ensure that the fundamental rights of the individuals concerned are respected, including the right to protection of personal data and freedom of expression.
- (42) Since access to EES, ETIAS, VIS and ECRIS-TCN is necessary for the authorities designated to carry out the screening in order to establish whether the person could pose a ~~threat to the internal security or to public policy~~ **security risk**, Regulation (EC) No 767/2008, Regulation (EU) 2017/2226, Regulation (EU) 2018/1240 and Regulation (EC) No 2019/816, respectively, should be amended to provide for this additional access right which is currently not provided by those Regulations. In the case of Regulation (EU) No 2019/816, this amendment should for reasons of variable geometry take place through a different regulation than the present one.

¹⁰ Regulation (EC) 2019/816 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2019 establishing a centralised system for the identification of Member States holding conviction information on third-country nationals and stateless persons (ECRIS-TCN) to supplement the European Criminal Records Information System and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1726 (OJ L 135, 22.5.2019, p. 1–26).

- (43) The European search portal (ESP) established by Regulation (EU) 2019/817 should be used to carry out the searches against the European databases, EES, ETIAS, VIS and ECRIS-TCN **and Europol data**, for identification, **verification**, or for the purpose of security checks, as applicable.
- (44) Since the effective implementation of the screening is dependent upon correct identification of the individuals concerned and of their security background, the consultation of European databases for that purpose is justified by the same objectives for which each of those databases has been established, that is to say, the effective management of the Union's external borders, the internal security of the Union and the effective implementation of the Union's asylum and return policies.
- (44a) National databases can also be checked in this context whenever national law authorizes such queries.**
- (44b) For the purposes of complying with the obligation to perform identity and security checks during the screening, Member States who do not yet apply some provisions of Schengen acquis in full and do not therefore have access to all Union systems and databases are responsible for the identity and security checks by carrying out searches only in those Union systems and databases to which they have access.**
- (45) Since the objectives of this Regulation, namely the strengthening of the control of persons ~~who are about to enter the Schengen area~~ **at the external borders** and their referral to the appropriate procedures, cannot be achieved by Member States acting alone, it is necessary to establish common rules at Union level. Thus, the Union may adopt measures, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity as set out in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union. In accordance with the principle of proportionality, as set out in that Article, this Regulation does not go beyond what is necessary in order to achieve those objectives.
- (46) In accordance with Articles 1 and 2 of the Protocol No 22 on the position of Denmark, as annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Denmark is not taking part in the adoption of this Regulation and is not bound by it or subject to its application. Given that this Regulation builds upon the Schengen acquis, Denmark shall, in accordance with Article 4 of that Protocol, decide within a period of six months after the Council has decided on this Regulation whether it will implement it in its national law.

- (47) This Regulation constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis, in which Ireland does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2002/192/EC¹¹; Ireland is therefore not taking part in the adoption of this Regulation and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
- (48) As regards Iceland and Norway, this Regulation constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis within the meaning of the Agreement concluded by the Council of the European Union and the Republic of Iceland and the Kingdom of Norway concerning the latter's association with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen acquis, which fall within the area referred to in Article 1, point A of Council Decision 1999/437/EC¹².
- (49) As regards Switzerland, this Regulation constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis within the meaning of the Agreement between the European Union, the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Swiss Confederation's association with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen acquis which fall within the area referred to in Article 1, point A of Decision 1999/437/EC read in conjunction with Article 3 of Council Decision 2008/146/EC¹³.

¹¹ Council Decision 2002/192/EC of 28 February 2002 concerning Ireland's request to take part in some of the provisions of the Schengen acquis (OJ L 64, 7.3.2002, p. 20).

¹² Council Decision 1999/437/EC of 17 May 1999 on certain arrangements for the application of the Agreement concluded by the Council of the European Union and the Republic of Iceland and the Kingdom of Norway concerning the association of those two States with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen acquis (OJ L 176, 10.7.1999, p. 31).

¹³ Council Decision 2008/146/EC of 28 January 2008 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Community, of the Agreement between the European Union, the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Swiss Confederation's association with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen acquis (OJ L 53, 27.2.2008, p. 1).

- (50) As regards Liechtenstein, this Regulation constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis within the meaning of the Protocol between the European Union, the European Community, the Swiss Confederation and the Principality of Liechtenstein on the accession of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the Agreement between the European Union, the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Swiss Confederation's association with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen acquis which fall within the area referred to in Article 1, point A of Decision 1999/437/EC read in conjunction with Article 3 of Council Decision 2011/350/EU¹⁴.
- (51) ~~As regards Cyprus, Bulgaria, Romania and Croatia,~~ This Regulation constitutes an act building upon, or otherwise related to, the Schengen acquis within, respectively, the meaning of Article 3(1) of the 2003 Act of Accession, Article 4(1) of the 2005 Act of Accession and Article 4(1) of the 2011 Act of Accession,
- (51a) As regards Cyprus, Council Regulation (EC) No 866/2004 of 29 April 2004 on a regime under Article 2 of Protocol 10 to the Act of Accession provides for specific rules that apply to the line between the areas of the Republic of Cyprus in which the Government of the Republic of Cyprus exercises effective control and those areas in which the Government of the Republic of Cyprus does not exercise effective control. Under this Regulation, although the line does not constitute an external border, checks are to be carried out on all persons crossing the line through an authorized or unauthorized crossing point with the aim to combat illegal immigration of third-country nationals and to detect and prevent any security risk. It follows that screening under Article 3 may also apply to third-country nationals who are apprehended in connection with an unauthorized crossing of the line and to those who have made an application for international protection at the authorized crossing points.**

¹⁴ Council Decision 2011/350/EU of 7 March 2011 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Protocol between the European Union, the European Community, the Swiss Confederation and the Principality of Liechtenstein on the accession of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the Agreement between the European Union, the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Swiss Confederation's association with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen acquis, relating to the abolition of checks at internal borders and movement of persons (OJ L 160, 18.6.2011, p. 19).

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Subject matter and scope

In order to strengthen the control of persons at external borders, This Regulation establishes the screening of all third-country nationals who have crossed the external border in an unauthorised manner, of those who have applied for international protection during border checks without fulfilling entry conditions, as well as those disembarked after a search and rescue operation, before they are referred to the appropriate procedure. of third country nationals, at the external borders or within the territory of the Member States, who have not been subject to border checks at the external borders of the Member States, as well as those who have made an application for international protection at border crossing points or in transit zones, without fulfilling the entry conditions.

~~The purpose of the screening shall be the strengthening of the control of persons who are about to enter the Schengen area and their referral to the appropriate procedures.~~

~~The object~~**objective** of the screening shall be the identification of all third-country nationals subject to it and the verification against relevant databases that ~~the those~~ persons subject to it do not pose a **security risk** ~~threat to internal security~~. The screening shall also entail health checks, where appropriate, to identify persons ~~vulnerable and in the need of~~ **immediate** health care ~~and as well as~~ the ones posing a threat to public health, **as well as vulnerability checks to identify vulnerable persons**. Those checks shall contribute to referring such persons to the appropriate procedure.

~~The screening shall also be carried out within the territory of the Member States where there is no indication that third-country nationals have been subject to controls at external borders.~~

Article 2

Definitions

For the purposes of this Regulation, the following definitions apply:

1. ‘unauthorised crossing of the external border’ means crossing of an external border of a Member State by land, sea or air, at places other than border crossing points or at times other than the fixed opening hours, as referred to in Article 5(3) of Regulation (EU) 2016/399;
2. ‘threat to public health’ means a threat to public health within the meaning of Article 2, point 21, of Regulation (EU) 2016/399;
3. ‘verification’ means the process of ~~comparing sets of data to establish the validity of a claimed identity (one to one check)~~, as referred to in Article 4 (5) of Regulation (EU) 2019/817;
4. ‘identification’ means the process of ~~determining a person’s identity including through a database search against multiple sets of data (one to many check)~~, referred to in Article 4 (6) of Regulation (EU) 2019/817;
5. ‘third-country national’ means any person who is not a citizen of the Union within the meaning of Article 20(1) TFEU and who is not a person enjoying the right to free movement under Union law within the meaning of Article 2 Point 5, of Regulation (EU) 2016/399;
6. ‘security risk’ means the risk referred to in Article 3 (1) (6) of the ETIAS Regulation (EU) 2018/1240;
7. ‘Europol data’ means data as referred to in Article 4 (16) of Regulation (EU) 2019/817;
8. ‘biometric data’ means data as referred to in Article 4 (11) of the Interoperability Regulation (EU) 2019/817;
9. ‘Interpol databases’ means databases as referred to in Article 4 (17) of the Interoperability Regulation (EU) 2019/817;
10. ‘vulnerable persons’ means persons as referred to in Article 3 (9) of Directive 2008/115 EC;
11. ‘screening authorities’ means all competent authorities designated by national law to carry out one or more of the tasks under this Regulation except for the health checks laid down in Article 9 (1);
12. ‘Search and Rescue Operations’ means operations of search and rescue as referred in the 1979 International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue adopted in Hamburg, Germany on 27 April 1979.

Article 3

Screening at the external border

1. This Regulation shall apply to all third-country nationals, **regardless of whether they have made an application for international protection**, who:
 - (a) are apprehended in connection with an unauthorised crossing of the external border of a Member State by land, sea or air, except third country nationals for whom the Member State is not required to take the biometric data pursuant to [Article 14 13 (1) and (3)] of Regulation (EU) 603/2013 [**Regulation (EU) XXX/XXX (EURODAC III Regulation)**] for reasons other than their age, or
 - (b) are disembarked in the territory of a Member State following a search and rescue operation

and do not fulfil the entry conditions set out in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399.

~~The screening shall apply to those persons regardless of whether they have applied for international protection.~~

2. **This Regulation shall apply** ~~The screening shall also apply~~ to all third-country nationals who **have made an application** ~~apply~~ for international protection at external border crossing points or in transit zones and who do not fulfil the entry conditions set out in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399.
3. The screening is without prejudice to the application of Article 6 (5) of Regulation (EU) 2016/399, except the situation where the beneficiary of an individual decision issued by the Member State based on Article 6 (5)(c) of that Regulation is seeking international protection.

Article 3a - NEW

Relation with other legal instruments

1. **For third-country nationals subject to the screening who have made an application for international protection**
 - a) **the registration of the application for international protection in accordance with the Asylum Procedures Directive 2013/32 is determined by Article 6(1) and (5) of that Directive**
 - b) **the application of the common standards for the reception of applicants for international protection of the Reception Conditions Directive (Directive 2013/33/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, laying down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection (recast)) is determined by [Article 3] of that Directive.**
2. **Without prejudice to the application of provisions on international protection, Directive 2008/115/EC or national provisions respecting Directive 2008/115/EC shall apply only after the screening has ended, except for the screening referred to in Article 5, where they shall apply in parallel with the screening referred to in that Article.**

Article 4

Authorisation to enter the territory of a Member State

1. During the screening, the persons referred to in Article 3, paragraphs 1 and 2, shall not be authorised to enter the territory of a Member State.
Member States shall lay down in their national law provisions to ensure that persons referred to in Article 3, paragraphs 1 and 2 shall remain at the disposal of the competent authorities in the locations as referred to in Article 6, for the duration of the screening to prevent any risk of absconding, potential resulting security risks or public health risks.
2. ~~Where it becomes apparent during the screening that the third-country national concerned fulfils the entry conditions set out in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399, the screening shall be discontinued and the third-country national concerned shall be authorised to enter the territory, without prejudice to the application of penalties as referred to in Article 5 (3) of that Regulation.~~

The screening may be discontinued when the third country national leaves the territory of the Member States, for the country of origin, residence or another third country to which the third-country national concerned voluntarily decides to return and where he or she is accepted.

Article 5

Screening within the territory

1. Member States shall apply the screening to third-country nationals **illegally staying found** within their territory where there is no indication that they have crossed an external border to enter the territory of the Member States in an authorised manner **and that they have already been subjected to screening in a Member State. Member States shall lay down in their national law provisions to ensure that those third country nationals remain at the disposal of the competent authorities for the duration of the screening, to prevent any risk of absconding and potential resulting security risks.**
2. **Member States may refrain from applying the screening in accordance with paragraph 1 if a third-country national staying illegally on their territory is sent back, immediately after apprehension, to another Member State under bilateral agreements or arrangements or under a specific cooperation framework. In this case, the Member State to which the third-country national concerned has been sent back shall apply the screening.**

Article 6

Requirements concerning the screening

1. In the cases referred to in Article 3, the screening shall **generally** be conducted at locations situated at or in proximity to the external borders– **or in other designated locations within its territory.**
2. In the cases referred to in Article 5, the screening shall be conducted at any appropriate location within the territory of a Member State.
3. In the cases referred to in Article 3, the screening shall be carried out without delay and shall in any case be completed within 5 days from the apprehension in the external border area, the disembarkation in the territory of the Member State concerned or the presentation at the border crossing point. In exceptional circumstances, where a disproportionate number of third-country nationals needs to be subject to the screening at the same time, making it impossible in practice to conclude the screening within that time-limit, the period of 5 days may be extended by a maximum of an additional 5 days.

With regard to persons referred to in Article 3(1)(a)–to whom [Article ~~14~~ **13** (1) and (3)] of **Regulation (EU) XXX/XXXX [(EURODAC III Regulation)]** apply, where they **subsequently** remain physically at the external border for more than 72 hours, the **screening shall apply and the** period for the screening shall be reduced to two days.

4. Member States shall notify the Commission without delay about the exceptional circumstances referred to in paragraph 3. They shall also inform the Commission as soon as the reasons for extending the screening period have ceased to exist.
5. The screening referred to in Article 5 shall be carried out without delay and in any case shall be completed within ~~3-5~~ days from apprehension.
6. The screening shall comprise the following ~~mandatory~~ elements:
 - (a) ~~preliminary health and~~ vulnerability check as referred to in Article 9 ;
 - (b) **preliminary health check as referred to in Article 9, unless, in accordance with that Article, it was not considered necessary;**
 - (c**b**) identification as referred to in Article 10;
 - (d**e**) registration of biometric data in the appropriate databases **Eurodac** as referred to in [Article 14(~~65~~)], to the extent it has not occurred yet;
 - (e**d**) security check as referred to in Article 11;
 - (f**e**) the filling out of a ~~de-briefing~~ **screening** form as referred to in Article 13;
 - (g**f**) referral to the appropriate procedure as referred to in Article 14.
7. Member States shall designate ~~competent~~ **the screening** authorities ~~to carry out the screening. They shall and ensure that they~~ deploy appropriate staff and sufficient resources to carry out the screening in an efficient way.

Member States shall **ensure that** ~~designate~~ qualified medical staff ~~to~~ carry out the **preliminary** health check provided for in Article 9. National child protection authorities and national anti-trafficking rapporteurs **or equivalent mechanisms** shall also be involved, where appropriate.

Member States shall also ensure that only the screening authorities responsible for the identification or verification of identity and the security check have access to the databases foreseen in Article 10 and Article 11 of this Regulation.

The ~~competent~~ **screening** authorities may be assisted or supported in the performance of the screening by experts or liaison officers and teams deployed by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and the [European Union Agency for Asylum] within the limits of their mandates.

Article 6a - NEW

Obligations of third country nationals submitted to screening

1. The third country nationals subject to screening shall remain, for its duration, at the disposal of the screening authorities, in the locations referred to in Article 6 (1) and (2) for that purpose.
2. They shall cooperate with the screening authorities in all elements of the screening as set in Article 6(6), in particular, by providing:
 - a) Name, date of birth, gender and nationality as well as documents and information that can prove this data;
 - b) fingerprints and facial image as referred to in [Regulation (EU) XXX/XXX (EURODAC III Regulation)].
3. Member States may introduce penalties, in accordance with their national law, in case of non-compliance with the obligations referred to in this Article. Those penalties shall be effective, proportionate and dissuasive.

Article 7

Monitoring of fundamental rights

1. Member States shall adopt relevant provisions to investigate allegations of non-respect for fundamental rights in relation to the screening.
2. Each Member State shall ~~establish~~ **provide for** an independent monitoring mechanism
 - to ensure compliance with EU and international law, ~~including~~ the Charter of Fundamental Rights **including in relation with the access to the asylum procedure and the principle of non-refoulement**, during the screening;
 - ~~where applicable, to ensure compliance with national rules on detention of the person concerned, in particular concerning the grounds and the duration of the detention;~~
 - ~~to ensure that allegations of non-respect for fundamental rights in relation to the screening, including in relation to access to the asylum procedure and non-compliance with the principle of non-refoulement, are dealt with effectively and without undue delay.~~

~~Member States shall put in place adequate safeguards to guarantee the independence of the mechanism.~~

The Fundamental Rights Agency shall issue general guidance for Member States on the setting up of such mechanism and its independent functioning. ~~Furthermore, Member States may request the Fundamental Rights Agency to support them in developing their national monitoring mechanism, including the safeguards for independence of such mechanisms, as well as the monitoring methodology and appropriate training schemes.~~

~~Member States may invite relevant national, international and non-governmental organisations and bodies to participate in the monitoring.~~

Article 8

Provision of information

1. Third-country nationals subject to the screening shall be succinctly informed about ~~the purpose and the modalities of the screening~~:
 - (a) **the purpose, steps modalities and elements** of the screening as well as possible outcomes of the screening;
 - (b) the rights and obligations of third country nationals during the screening, including the obligation on them to remain in the designated facilities during the screening;
 - (c) **the obligations of third-country nationals referred to in Article 6A and the consequences of non-compliance therewith, including the penalties under national law where provided for by Member States.**
2. During the screening, they shall also, where appropriate, receive **succinct** information on:
 - (a) the applicable rules on the conditions of entry for third-country nationals in accordance with Regulation (No) 2016/399 [Schengen Borders Code], as well as on other conditions of entry, stay and residence of the Member State concerned, to the extent this information has not been given already;
 - (b) **the applicable rules on applying where they have applied, or there are indications that they wish to apply, for international protection; and, for those having made an application for international protection, all the relevant information in accordance with Article 4 of Regulation (EU) 604/2013 (Dublin III Regulation)** ~~information on the obligation to apply for international protection in the Member State of first entry or legal stay set out in Article [9(1) and (2)] of Regulation (EU) No XXX/XXX [ex-Dublin Regulation], the consequences of non-compliance set out in Article [10(1)] of that Regulation, and the information set out in Article 11 of that Regulation as well as on the procedures that follow the making of an application for international protection;~~

- (c) the obligation for illegally staying third-country nationals to return in accordance with **Directive (EU) 2008/115/EC (Return Directive)** ~~Directive XXXXX [Return Directive]~~;
 - (d) the possibilities to enrol in a programme providing logistical, financial and other material or in-kind assistance for the purpose of supporting voluntary departure;
 - (e) the conditions of participation in relocation **in accordance with an existing solidarity mechanism** ~~in accordance with Article XX of Regulation (EU) No XXX/XXX [ex-Dublin Regulation]~~;
 - (f) the information referred to in Article 13 of the Regulation (EU) 2016/679¹⁵ [GDPR].
3. The information provided during the screening shall be given in a language which the third-country national understands or is reasonably supposed to understand **or, in any case, in at least five of those languages which are most frequently used or understood by illegal migrants entering the Member State concerned.** The information shall be given in writing, **or where necessary for the applicant's proper understanding, shall also be supplied orally, using interpretation services where possible** ~~in exceptional circumstances. Where needed,~~ it shall be provided in an appropriate manner **in the case of vulnerable persons.** ~~taking into account the age and the gender of the person.~~
4. Member States may authorise relevant and competent national, international and non-governmental organisations and bodies to provide third country nationals with information under this article during the screening according to the provisions established by national law. **Such information may also be provided by leaflets developed by EU agencies, as appropriate.**

¹⁵ Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation), OJ L 119, 4.5.2016

Article 9

Preliminary health checks and vulnerabilities

1. Third-country nationals submitted to the screening referred to in Article 3 **shall have access to emergency health care and essential treatment of illness.** They shall be subject to a preliminary **health check** ~~medical examination~~ with a view to identifying any needs for immediate **health** care or isolation on public health grounds ~~as well as any indications of vulnerability~~, unless, based on the circumstances concerning the general state of ~~the~~ **each** individual third-country nationals concerned and the grounds for directing ~~them~~ **her/him** to the screening, the **qualified medical staff or, by way of derogation, in exceptional circumstances, the screening authorities under the supervision of qualified medical staff** ~~relevant competent authorities are satisfied~~ **consider** that no preliminary **medical health check** screening is necessary. ~~In that case, they shall inform those persons accordingly.~~ **The Member States shall notify the Commission where they make use of such a possibility.**
2. ~~Where relevant, it shall be checked whether persons referred to in paragraph 1 are in a vulnerable situation, victims of torture or have special reception or procedural needs within the meaning of Article 20 of the [recast] Reception Conditions Directive.~~ **Third-country nationals submitted to the screening referred to in Article 3 shall be subject to a vulnerability check with a view to identifying any indication of vulnerability. The vulnerability check shall be conducted by a screening authority trained for that purpose which may be assisted by non-governmental organizations and where relevant by medical staff as referred to in Article 6(7).**
3. ~~Where there are indications of vulnerabilities or special reception or procedural needs, the~~ third-country national concerned shall receive timely and adequate support in view of their physical and mental health. In the case of minors, support shall be given by personnel trained and qualified to deal with minors, and in cooperation with child protection authorities. **Where a need for immediate health care was identified, such care shall be swiftly provided. Where a need for isolation on public health grounds was identified, the necessary public health measures shall be taken.**
4. ~~Where it is deemed necessary based on the circumstances, third-country nationals submitted to the screening referred to in Article 5 shall be subject to a preliminary medical examination, notably to identify any medical condition requiring immediate care, special assistance or isolation.~~

Article 10

Identification or verification of identity

1. To the extent it has not yet occurred during the application of Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399, the identity of third-country nationals submitted to the screening pursuant to Article 3 or Article 5 shall be verified or established, by using, **where applicable**, in particular the following **data**, ~~in combination with national and European databases~~:
 - (a) identity, travel or other documents;
 - (b) data or information provided by or obtained from the third-country national concerned; and
 - (c) biometric data, **including both facial images and fingerprints**.
2. For the purpose of the identification **or verification** ~~referred to in paragraph 1~~, the competent **screening** authorities shall query, **using the data or information referred in paragraph 1**, ~~any relevant national databases as well as the common identity repository (CIR) referred to in Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2019/817, the Schengen Information System (SIS) and where relevant, national databases applicable in accordance with national legislation. The biometric data of a third-country national taken live during the screening, as well as the identity data and, where available, travel document data shall be used to that end.~~
3. **Biometric data of a third-country national taken live shall be used for searches in the CIR.** Where the biometric data of the third-country national cannot be used or where the query with those data referred to in paragraph 2 fails **or returns no result**, the query as referred to in paragraph 2 shall be carried out with the identity data of the third-country national, in combination with any ~~identity~~, travel or other document data, or with **any of the identity data or information provided by that third-country national referred to in paragraph 1(b)**.
4. **Searches in the SIS with biometric data shall be carried out in accordance with Article 33 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1861 and Article 43 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1862. A search with the identity data of the third-country national in combination with any travel or other document data or with any of the data or information referred to in paragraph 1(b) shall in all cases be carried out in SIS.**
5. The checks, where possible, shall also include the verification of at least one of the biometric identifiers integrated into any identity, travel or other document.
6. **This article is without prejudice to actions undertaken in line with national law with a view to establish the identity of the person concerned.**

Article 11

Security check

1. Third country nationals submitted to the screening pursuant to Article 3 or Article 5 shall undergo a security check to verify **whether they could** ~~that they do not constitute~~ pose a **security risk** ~~threat to internal security~~. The security check may cover both the third-country nationals and the objects in their possession. The law of the Member State concerned shall apply to any searches carried out.
 2. For the purpose of conducting the security check referred to in paragraph 1, and to the extent ~~that they have not yet done so in accordance with Article 8(3), point (a)(vi), of Regulation (EU) 2016/399, the competent authorities shall query relevant national and Union databases, in particular the Schengen Information System (SIS).~~ it has not been already done during the checks referred to in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399, the **screening authorities** ~~competent authority~~ shall query **relevant national and Union databases, in particular the Schengen Information System (SIS), the Entry/Exit System (EES), the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS), including the ETIAS watch list referred to in Article 29-34 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1240, the Visa Information System (VIS), the ECRIS-TCN system, as far as convictions related to terrorist offences and other forms of serious criminal offences are concerned, the Europol data processed for the purpose referred to in Article 18(2), point (a), of Regulation (EU) 2016/794, and the Interpol Databases and the Interpol Travel Documents Associated with Notices database (Interpol TDAWN) with the data referred to in Article 10(1) or any identity discovered during the identification or verification of Article 10.**
 - 4.3. ~~As regards the consultation~~ **The query of EES, ETIAS, with the exception of the ETIAS watchlist, and VIS pursuant to paragraph 3 2, the retrieved data shall be limited to refusals of entry, indicating decisions to refusals refuse, annul or revoke of a travel authorisation, or decisions to refuse, annul or revoke a visa or residence permit respectively, which are based on security grounds.**
- In case of a match in the SIS, the screening authority carrying out the search shall have access to all data stored in the SIS related to the matched alert.**
- 5.4. The Commission shall adopt implementing acts setting out the detailed procedure and specifications for retrieving data. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 15(2).

Article 12

*Modalities for **identification and security checks***

1. The queries provided for in Article 10(2) and in Article 11(2) may be launched using, for queries related to EU information systems, **Europol data**, Interpol Databases, and the CIR, the European Search Portal in accordance with Chapter II of Regulation (EU) 2019/817 and with Chapter II of Regulation (EU) 2019/818¹⁶.
2. **In case of a hit pursuant to Article 10 or Article 11, the screening authority shall verify that data recorded in EU information systems or Europol correspond to the data triggering a hit.**
23. Where a match is obtained following a query as provided for in Article 11(2) ~~(3)~~ against data in one of the information systems, the **screening authorities** ~~competent authority~~ shall have access to consult, **without prejudice to provisions of the Member States on the protection of classified information**, the file corresponding to that match in the respective information system in order to determine the **security risk** ~~to internal security as referred to in Article 11(1)~~.
4. **When a hit is obtained following a query against the in SIS, the screening authorities shall carry out the procedures set out in Regulations (EU) 2018/1860, 2018/1861 or 2018/1862 including the consultation of the alert issuing Member State through the SIRENE Bureaux.**
5. **Where a third-country national corresponds to a person whose data is recorded in the ECRIS-TCN and flagged in accordance with point (c) of Article 5(1) of Regulation (EU) 2019/816, the data may only be used for the purpose of the security check referred to in Article 11 of this Regulation and for the purpose of consultation of the national criminal records which shall be in accordance with Article 7c of the Regulation 2019/816. National criminal records shall be consulted prior to the delivery of an opinion pursuant to Article 7c of that Regulation.**
36. Where a query as provided for in Article 11(~~2~~ **3**) reports a match against Europol data, **an automated notification, containing the data used for the query, shall be sent to Europol in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/794** in order for Europol to inform, where needed, whether the person could pose a security risk, **using the communication channels provided for in Regulation (EU) 2016/794.** ~~to take, if needed, any appropriate follow-up action in accordance with the relevant legislation.~~

¹⁶ Regulation (EU) 2019/818 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2019 on establishing a framework for interoperability between EU information systems in the field of police and judicial cooperation, asylum and migration, OJ L 135, 22.5.2019, p. 85.

7. ~~4. Where a query~~ **Queries** as provided for in Article 11(2 ~~3~~) databases **shall be performed in accordance with Articles 9(5) and 72(1) of Regulation (EU) 2019/817. Where it is not possible to perform such queries in a way that no information is revealed to the owner of the Interpol alert, the screening shall not include the query of the Interpol databases reports a match against the Interpol Travel Documents Associated with Notices database (Interpol TDAWN), the competent authority of the Member State shall inform the Interpol National Central Bureau of the Member State that launched the query in order to take, if needed, any appropriate follow-up action in accordance with the relevant legislation.**
8. **When a hit is obtained in the ETIAS watchlist, the provisions of Article 35a of Regulation (EU) 2018/1240 shall apply.**
9. ~~5.~~ The Commission shall adopt implementing acts to specify the procedure for cooperation between the authorities responsible for carrying out the screening, Interpol National Central Bureaux, **and** Europol national unit, ~~and ECRIS-TCN central authorities, respectively, to determine the security risk to internal security.~~ Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 15(2).

Article 13

De-briefing Screening form

1. ~~On completion of~~ **During the screening and at the latest on its completion, the competent screening** authorities shall, with regard to the persons referred to in Article 3 and in Article 5, complete ~~the a form in Annex I containing,~~ **at least, the following data:**
- (a) name, date and place of birth and sex;
 - (b) ~~initial indication of~~ **nationality or statelessness** ~~nationalities countries of residence prior to arrival and languages spoken;~~
 - (c) **reason to perform the screening;**
 - (d) **information, where applicable, on vulnerability identified during the screening, and on health checks performed, excluding detailed medical information.**
 - (e) **whether the third country national has made an application for international protection;**
 - (f) **whether there is a hit in accordance with Article 11;**
 - (g) **whether the third country national has complied with its obligation to cooperate in accordance with Article 6a.**

The screening authotities shall also specify whether the data referred to in points (a) and (b) are confirmed or declared by the person concerned and whether the third-country national has been subject to a preliminary health check.

2. Where available, the following data shall be included:

- (ea) reason for unauthorised arrival, entry, and, where appropriate, illegal stay or residence, including **declared or confirmed** information ~~on whether the person made an application for international protection~~ **if any of the family members are located on the territory of the Member States;**
- (db) information obtained on routes travelled, including the point of departure, the places of previous residence, the third countries of transit and those where **application for international protection** may have been ~~made sought~~ or granted as well as the intended destination within the Union **and presence and validity of travel and identity documents;**
- (e) ~~information on assistance provided by a person or a criminal organisation in relation to unauthorised crossing of the border, and any related information in cases of suspected smuggling.~~
- (c) **Any other relevant information.**

3. The screening authorities shall transmit to the competent authorities any information obtained during the screening on assistance provided to the third country national by a person or an organisation in relation to the unauthorised crossing of the border, and any related information in cases of suspected smuggling or trafficking in human beings.

Article 14

Outcome Completion of screening

Once the screening is completed or, at the latest, when the time limits set in Article 6 expire, the following rules apply:

1. The third country nationals referred to in Article 3(1) point (a) and (b) of this Regulation who have not **made an application** ~~applied~~ for international protection ~~and with regard to whom the screening has not revealed that they fulfil entry conditions set out in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399,~~ shall be referred to the competent authorities to apply procedures respecting Directive (EU) 2008/115/EC (Return Directive) **including, where applicable procedures in line with Article 2(2)(a) of that Directive** ~~(EU) 2008/115/EC (Return Directive).~~

~~In cases not related to search and rescue operations, entry may be refused in accordance with Article 14 of Regulation 2016/399.~~

The form referred to in Article 13 shall be transmitted to the relevant authorities to whom the third country national is being referred.

2. **Where the third-country nationals referred to in Article 3(1) and Article 5 who have made an application for international protection, shall be referred to the authorities mentioned in Article XY of Regulation (EU) No XXX/XXX [Asylum Procedure Regulation], together with the form referred to in Article 13 of this Regulation, the form referred to in Article 13 of this Regulation, as soon as possible and at the latest once completed, shall be referred to the authorities competent under national law for registering application for international protection].**

~~On that occasion, the authorities conducting the screening shall point in the de-briefing form to any elements which seem at first sight to be relevant to refer the third-country nationals concerned into the accelerated examination procedure or the border procedure.~~

3. Where the third-country national is to be relocated ~~under the mechanism for solidarity established by Article XX of Regulation (EU) No XXXX/XXXX [Dublin Regulation]~~, the third-country national concerned shall be referred to the relevant authorities of the Member States concerned together with ~~the form~~ **the information** referred to in Article 13.
4. The third-country nationals referred to in Article 5, who have not **made an application** for international protection ~~and with regard to whom the screening has not revealed that they fulfil the conditions for entry and stay~~ shall **continue** to be subject to return procedures respecting Directive 2008/115/EC.
65. In respect of third-country nationals to whom Regulation EU No XXX/XXXX [Eurodac **III** Regulation] applies, the **screening competent** authorities shall take the biometric data referred to in Articles [10, 13, 14 and 14a] of that Regulation (EU) and shall transmit it in accordance with that Regulation.
76. Where the third country nationals referred to in Article(s) 3(1) **and Article 5** ~~and Article 5~~ are referred to an appropriate procedure regarding ~~asylum~~ **international protection**, ~~or a procedure respecting Directive 2008/115/EC (Return directive), including Article 2(2)(a) thereof, or where the form referred to in Article 13 was passed to these authorities concerning the third-country nationals referred to in Article 3(2), Article 3(3) and Article 5, or to the relevant authorities of another Member State concerning third-country nationals to be relocated~~, the screening ends. Where not all the checks have been completed within the deadlines referred to in Article 6(3) and (5), the screening shall nevertheless end with regard to that person, who shall be referred to a relevant procedure. **Where necessary, the checks set forth under this Regulation shall continue within the subsequent procedure by the respective competent authorities.**

7. Where, in accordance with national criminal law, a third-country national referred to in Articles 3 or 5 is apprehended under criminal law procedures, the screening may not be applied. If the screening had already started, the form referred to in Article 13 shall be sent, with indication of circumstances that ended the screening, to the authorities competent for the procedures respecting Directive (EC) 2008/115/EC (Return Directive), or, if the third-country national has made an international protection application, the authorities competent under national law for registering application for international protection].

Article 15

Committee procedure

1. The Commission shall be assisted by a committee. That committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.
2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply. **Where the Committee delivers no opinion, the Commission shall not adopt the draft implementing act, and the third subparagraph of Article 5(4) of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.**

Article 16

Amendments to Regulation (EC) No 767/2008

Regulation (EC) No 767/2008 is amended as follows:

- (1) in Article 6, paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:
 - “(2) Access to the VIS for consulting the data shall be reserved exclusively for the duly authorized staff of:
 - (a) the national authorities of each Member State and of the EU bodies which are competent for the purposes laid down in Articles 15 to 22, Articles 22g to 22m, and Article 45e;
 - (b) the ETIAS Central Unit and the ETIAS National Units, designated pursuant to Articles 7 and 8 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1240, for the purposes laid down in Articles 18c and 18d of this Regulation and in Regulation (EU) 2018/1240;
 - (c) the ~~competent~~ **screening** authorities, designated pursuant to Article 6(7) of Regulation (EU) 2020/XXX [screening regulation], for the purposes laid down in Articles 10 to 12 of that Regulation;

- (d) the national authorities of each Member State and of the Union bodies which are competent for the purposes laid down in Articles 20 and 21 of Regulation (EU) 2019/817.

That access shall be limited to the extent that the data are required for the performance of their tasks in accordance with those purposes, and proportionate to the objectives pursued.”

Article 17

Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2017/2226

Regulation (EU) 2017/2226 is amended as follows:

- (1) in Article 6(1), the following point (k) is inserted after point (j):

“(k) support the objectives of the screening established by Regulation (EU) 2020/XXX of the European Parliament and of the Council¹⁷, in particular for the checks provided under **Articles 10 to 12** thereof.”

- (2) Article 9 is amended as follows:

- (a) the following paragraph 2a is inserted after paragraph 2:

“2a. The ~~competent~~ **screening** authorities referred to in Article 6(7) of Regulation (EU) 2020/XXX shall have access to the EES to consult data.”;

- (b) paragraph 4 is replaced by the following:

“(4) Access to the EES data stored in the CIR shall be reserved exclusively for the duly authorized staff of the national authorities of each Member State and for the duly authorized staff of the Union agencies that are competent for the purposes laid down in Article 20, Article 20a and Article 21 of Regulations (EU) 2019/817 and 2019/818. Such access shall be limited according to the extent that the data are required for the performance of their tasks for those purposes, and proportionate to the objectives pursued.”

¹⁷ See footnote of the proposal.

- (3) the following Article 24a is inserted after Article 24:

“Article 24a

Access to data for the identification and for the security check for the purposes of screening

1. For the purposes of verifying or establishing the identity of a person pursuant to Article 10 of Regulation (EU) XXX/YYYY (Screening) and the carrying out of security checks pursuant to Articles 11 and 12 of that Regulation, ~~competent~~ **the screening authorities** referred to in Article 6(7) of that same Regulation shall have access to EES data to the extent necessary to be able to carry out searches using the data referred to in Article 10(1) of Regulation (EU) XXX/YYYY (Screening) against the data stored in the EES in accordance with points (a) to (d) of Article 16(1) and points (a) to (c) of Article 17(1) of this Regulation.
2. If the search carried out pursuant to paragraph 1 indicates that data on the person are stored in the EES, the **screening authorities** ~~competent authority~~ referred in paragraph 1 shall be given access to the data of the individual file, the entry/exit records and refusal of entry records linked to it.

If the individual file referred to in the first subparagraph does not include any biometric data, the **screening** authorities ~~competent~~ authorities may proceed to access the biometric data of that person and verify correspondence in VIS in accordance with Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 767/2008.”

- (4) in Article 46(1), point (a) is replaced by the following:

“(a) The purpose of the access referred to in Article 9 and Article 9(2a).”

Article 18

Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2018/1240

Regulation (EU) 2018/1240 is amended as follows:

- (1) in Article 4, point (a) is replaced by the following:

“(a) contribute to a high level of security by providing for a thorough security risk assessment of applicants, prior to their arrival at external border crossing points, and of persons subject to the screening referred to in Regulation (EU) 2020/XXX [Screening Regulation], in order to determine whether there are factual indications or reasonable grounds based on factual indications to conclude that the presence of the person on the territory of the Member States poses a security risk;”

- (2) In paragraph 2 of Article 8 a new point (h) is added:

(h) providing opinions in accordance with Article 35a.

(3) Article 13 is amended as follows:

(a) the following paragraph 4b is inserted after paragraph 4a:

“4b. For the purposes of Articles 10 to 12 of Regulation (EU) XXX/YYYY (Screening), **the screening** ~~competent~~ authorities referred to in **the third subparagraph of Article 6(7)** of that Regulation, shall have:

(a) access to the data in the ETIAS Central System to the extent necessary to be able to carry out searches using the data referred to in Article 10(1)(a) and (b) of that Regulation against the data contained in the ETIAS Information System;

~~If the search carried out pursuant to paragraph 1 reveals a match, the competent authorities shall have~~

(b) **a ‘read-only’ access, to the ETIAS applications files stored in the ETIAS Central system where the search carried out pursuant to point (a) reveals a match, in accordance with Article 11(3) of that Regulation.**

~~If the search carried out pursuant to paragraph 1 indicates that there is a correspondence between the data used for the search and the data recorded in the ETIAS watchlist referred to in Article 34,~~

If the search carried out pursuant to paragraph 1 indicates that there is a correspondence between the data used for the search and the data recorded in the ETIAS watchlist referred to in Article 34, the ETIAS National Unit or Europol having entered the data in the ETIAS watchlist shall be notified of the correspondence and shall be responsible for accessing the data in the ETIAS watchlist and for providing an opinion in accordance with Article 35a of this Regulation.”

(b) paragraph 5 is replaced by the following:

“5. Each Member State shall designate the competent national authorities referred to in paragraphs 1, 2, 4 and 4a of this Article, and the ~~competent~~ **screening** authority referred to in Article 6(7) of Regulation (EU) 2020/XXX, and shall communicate a list of those authorities to eu-LISA without delay, in accordance with Article 87(2) of this Regulation. That list shall specify for which purpose the duly authorised staff of each authority shall have access to the data in the ETIAS Information System in accordance with paragraphs 1, 2, 4 and 4a of this Article.”

- (4) the following Article 35a is inserted after Article 35:

“Article 35a

Tasks of the **ETIAS National Unit** and Europol regarding the ETIAS watchlist for the purpose of the screening procedure

1. In cases referred to in the **second sub-paragraph** of Article 13(4b), the ETIAS Central System shall send an automated notification to the **ETIAS National Unit** or Europol having entered **the data in** ~~into~~ the ETIAS watchlist.

Where the ETIAS National unit or Europol that entered the data into the watchlist consider that the third country national undergoing the screening could pose a security risk, they shall immediately notify the respective screening authorities and provide a reasoned opinion to the Member State performing the screening, within two days of the receipt of the notification, in the following manner:

- (a) **the ETIAS national units shall inform the screening authorities through a secure communication mechanism, to be set up by eu-LISA, between the ETIAS National Units on the one part and the screening authorities on the other;**
- (b) **Europol ~~can~~ shall inform the screening authorities using the communication channels provided for in Regulation (EU) 2016/794.**

If no opinion is provided, it should be considered that there is no security risk ~~threat~~.

~~The reasoned opinion shall be provided through a secure notification mechanism to be set up by eu LISA between the ETIAS National Units and Europol on the one part, and the competent authorities (of the Screening) on the other.~~

2. The automated notification(s) referred to in paragraph 1 shall contain the data referred to in Article **11(2)** of Regulation (EU) xxxx/yyyy (Screening) used for the query.”

- (5) in Article 69(1), the following point (ea) is inserted after point (e):

“(ea) where relevant, a reference to queries entered in the ETIAS Central System for the purposes of Articles 10 and 11 Regulation (EU) XXX/YYYY (Screening), the hits triggered and the results of this query.”

Article 19

Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2019/817

Regulation (EU) 2019/817 is amended as follows:

(1) **In Article 7, paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:**

‘The Member State authorities and Union agencies referred to in paragraph 1 shall use the ESP to search data related to persons or their travel documents in the central systems of the EES, VIS and ETIAS in accordance with their access rights as referred to in the legal instruments governing those EU information systems and in national law. They shall also use the ESP to query the CIR in accordance with their access rights under this Regulation for the purposes referred to in Articles 20, 20a, 21 and 22.’

(2) Article 17 is amended as follows:

(a) *paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:*

“A common identity repository (CIR), creating an individual file for each person that is registered in the EES, VIS, ETIAS, Eurodac or ECRIS-TCN containing the data referred to in Article 18, is established for the purpose of facilitating and assisting in the correct identification of persons registered in the EES, VIS, ETIAS, Eurodac and ECRIS-TCN in accordance with Articles 20 and 20a of this Regulation, of supporting the functioning of the MID in accordance with Article 21 and of facilitating and streamlining access by designated authorities and Europol to the EES, VIS, ETIAS and Eurodac, where necessary for the prevention, detection or investigation of terrorist offences or other serious criminal offences in accordance with Article 22.”

(b) paragraph 4 is replaced by the following:

“Where it is technically impossible because of a failure of the CIR to query the CIR for the purpose of identifying a person pursuant to Article 20 or for verifying or establishing the identity of a person pursuant to Article 20a of this Regulation, for the detection of multiple identities pursuant to Article 21 or for the purposes of preventing, detecting or investigating terrorist offences or other serious criminal offences pursuant to Article 22, the CIR users shall be notified by eu-LISA in an automated manner.”

(3) In Article 18, paragraph 3 is replaced by the following:

“The authorities accessing the CIR shall do so in accordance with their access rights under the legal instruments governing the EU information systems, and under national law and in accordance with their access rights under this Regulation for the purposes referred to in Articles 20, 20a, 21 and 22.”

(4) the following Article 20a is inserted after article 20:

“Article 20a

Access to the common identity repository for identification according to Regulation (EU) 2020/XXX

1. Queries of the CIR shall be carried out by the designated ~~competent~~ **screening** authority as referred to in Article 6(7) of Regulation (EU) yyyy/XXX (Screening), solely for the purpose of verifying or establishing the identity of a person according to Article 10 of that Regulation, provided that the procedure was initiated in the presence of that person.
2. Where the query indicates that data on that person are stored in the CIR, the ~~competent~~ **screening** authority shall have access to consult the data referred to in Article 18(1) of this Regulation as well as to the data referred to in Article 18(1) of Regulation (EU) 2019/818 of the European Parliament and the Council.”

(5) in Article 24, ~~the following paragraph 2a is inserted after paragraph 2:~~

(a) **Paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:**

- ‘1. Without prejudice to Article 46 of Regulation (EU) 2017/2226, Article 34 of Regulation (EC) No 767/2008 and Article 69 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1240, eu-LISA shall keep logs of all data processing operations in the CIR in accordance with paragraphs 2, 2a, 3 and 4 of this Article.’**

(b) **the following paragraph 2a is inserted after paragraph 2:**

- “2a. eu-LISA shall keep logs of all data processing operations pursuant to Article 20a in the CIR. Those logs shall include the following:
- (a) the Member State launching the query;
 - (b) the purpose of access of the user querying via the CIR;
 - (c) the date and time of the query;
 - (d) the type of data used to launch the query;
 - (e) the results of the query.”

(c) in paragraph 5, the first sub-paragraph is replaced by the following:

“(5) Each Member State shall keep logs of queries that its authorities and the staff of those authorities duly authorised to use the CIR make pursuant to Articles 20, 20a, 21 and 22. Each Union agency shall keep logs of queries that its duly authorised staff make pursuant to Articles 21 and 22.”

Article 20

Evaluation

[Three years after entry into force, the Commission shall report on the implementation of the measures set out in this Regulation.]

No sooner than [five] years after the date of application of this Regulation, and every five years thereafter, the Commission shall carry out an evaluation of this Regulation. The Commission shall present a Report on the main findings to the European Parliament, the Council and the European Economic and Social Committee. Member States shall provide the Commission all information necessary for the preparation of that report, ~~at the latest six months before the [five] years' time limit expires.~~

Article 21

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall start to apply 18 months from its entry into force.

The provisions laid down in Articles 10 to 12 related to queries to EU information systems, the CIR and the European Search Portal shall start to apply only once the relevant information systems, CIR and ESP enter into operation.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in the Member States in accordance with the Treaties.