

(EN)

**ETIAS Regulation (EU) 2018/1240 – selected provisions***Article 18***Travel authorization fee**

1. A travel authorisation fee of EUR 7 shall be paid by the applicant for each application.
2. The travel authorisation fee shall be waived for applicants under 18 years or above 70 years of age at the time of the application.
3. The travel authorisation fee shall be charged in euros.
4. The Commission shall adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 89 on the payment methods and process for the travel authorisation fee and on changes to the amount of that fee. Changes to the amount shall take into account any increase in the costs referred to in Article 85.

*Article 83***Transitional period and transitional measures**

1. For a period of six months from the date on which ETIAS starts operations, the use of ETIAS shall be optional and the requirement to be in possession of a valid travel authorisation shall not apply. The Commission may adopt a delegated act in accordance with Article 89 to extend that period for a maximum of a further six months, renewable once.
2. During the period referred to in paragraph 1, Member States shall inform third-country nationals subject to the travel authorisation requirement crossing the external borders of the requirement to have a valid travel authorisation from the expiry of the six-month period. For this purpose, the Member States shall distribute a common leaflet to this category of travellers. The leaflet shall also be made available at the Member States' consulates in the countries whose nationals fall within the scope of this Regulation.
3. A grace period of six months shall apply following the end of the period referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article. During the grace period, the requirement to be in possession of a valid travel authorisation shall apply. During the grace period the border authorities shall exceptionally allow third-country nationals subject to the travel authorisation requirement who are not in possession of a travel authorisation to cross the external borders where they fulfil all the remaining conditions of Article 6(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/399, provided that they are crossing the external borders of the Member States for the first time since the end of the period referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article. The border authorities shall inform such third-country nationals of the requirement to be in possession of a valid travel authorisation in accordance with point (b) of Article 6(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/399. For that purpose, the border authorities shall distribute to those travellers a common leaflet informing them that they are exceptionally allowed to cross the external borders while not fulfilling the obligation to be in possession of a valid travel authorisation and explaining that obligation. The Commission may adopt a delegated act in accordance with Article 89 of this Regulation to extend that period for a maximum of a further six months.

During the period of grace, entries into the territories of the Member States not operating the EES shall not be taken into consideration.

4. The Commission shall, by means of implementing acts, draw up the two common leaflets referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article, containing at a minimum the information referred to in Article 71. The leaflets shall be clear and simple and available in at least one of the official languages of each country whose nationals fall within the scope of this Regulation. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 90(2).
5. During the transitional period referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, the ETIAS Information System shall respond to the carriers' query referred to in Article 45(2) by providing the carriers with an 'OK' answer. During the period of grace referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article, the response sent by the ETIAS Information System to the carriers' query shall take into consideration whether the third-country national is crossing the external borders of the Member States for the first time since the end of the period referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

## *Article 85*

### **Costs**

1. The costs incurred in connection with the development of the ETIAS Information System, with the integration of the existing national border infrastructure and the connection to the NUI, with the hosting of the NUI and with the establishment of the ETIAS Central Unit and the ETIAS National Units shall be borne by the general budget of the Union.

eu-LISA shall pay particular attention to the risk of costs increases and ensure sufficient monitoring of contractors.

2. ETIAS' operating costs shall be borne by the general budget of the Union. This shall include the operation and maintenance costs of the ETIAS Information System, including of the NUIs; the operating costs of the ETIAS Central Unit and the costs of staff and technical equipment (hardware and software) necessary for the fulfilment of the tasks of the ETIAS National Units; and translation costs incurred pursuant to Article 27(2) and (8).

The following costs shall be excluded:

- (a) Member States' project management office (meetings, missions, offices);
  - (b) hosting of national IT systems (space, implementation, electricity, cooling);
  - (c) operation of national IT systems (operators and support contracts);
  - (d) design, development, implementation, operation and maintenance of national communication networks.
3. ETIAS' operating costs shall also include financial support to Member States for expenses incurred to customise and automate border checks in order to implement ETIAS. The total amount of this financial support shall be limited to a maximum of EUR 15 million for the first year of operation, to a maximum of EUR 25 million for the second year of operation and to a maximum of EUR 50 million per year for the subsequent years of operation. The Commission shall adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 89 to further define that financial support.
  4. The European Border and Coast Guard Agency, eu-LISA and Europol shall receive appropriate additional funding and the staff necessary for the fulfilment of the tasks entrusted to them under this Regulation.

5. Funding to be mobilised from the envelope referred to in point (b) of Article 5(5) of Regulation (EU) No 515/2014 to cover the costs of implementation of this Regulation referred to in paragraphs 1 to 4 of this Article shall be implemented under indirect management for the costs incurred by eu-LISA and the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and under shared management for the costs incurred by the Member States.

#### *Article 86*

##### **Revenues**

The revenues generated by the ETIAS shall constitute internal assigned revenue in accordance with Article 21(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council. They shall be assigned to cover the costs of the operation and maintenance of ETIAS. Any revenue remaining after covering these costs shall be assigned to the Union budget.

#### *Article 88*

##### **Start of operations**

1. The Commission shall determine the date from which ETIAS is to start operations once the following conditions have been met:
  - (a) the necessary amendments to the legal acts establishing the other EU information systems with which interoperability, within the meaning of Article 11 of this Regulation, is to be established with the ETIAS Information System have entered into force, with the exception of the recast of Regulation (EU) No 603/2013;
  - (b) the Regulation entrusting eu-LISA with the operational management of ETIAS has entered into force;
  - (c) the necessary amendments to the legal acts establishing the EU information systems referred to in Article 20(2) providing for an access to these databases for the ETIAS Central Unit have entered into force;
  - (d) the measures referred to in Article 11(9) and (10), Article 15(5), Article 17(3), (5) and (6), Article 18(4), Article 27(3) and (5), Article 33(2) and (3), Article 36(3), Article 38(3), Article 39(2), Article 45(3), Article 46(4), Article 48(4), Article 59(4), point (b) of Article 73(3), Article 83(1), (3), and (4) and Article 85(3) have been adopted;
  - (e) eu-LISA has declared the successful completion of a comprehensive test of ETIAS;
  - (f) eu-LISA and the ETIAS Central Unit have validated the technical and legal arrangements to collect and transmit the data referred to in Article 17 to the ETIAS Central System and have notified them to the Commission;
  - (g) the Member States and the ETIAS Central Unit have notified to the Commission the data concerning the various authorities referred to in Article 87(1) and (3).
2. The test of ETIAS referred to in point (e) of paragraph 1 shall be conducted by eu-LISA in cooperation with the Member States and the ETIAS Central Unit.
3. The Commission shall inform the European Parliament and the Council of the results of the test carried out pursuant to point (e) of paragraph 1.
4. The Commission decision referred to in paragraph 1 shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

5. The Member States and the ETIAS Central Unit shall start using ETIAS from the date determined by the Commission in accordance with paragraph 1.
6. Interoperability, as referred to in Article 11, with ECRIS-TCN shall start when the CIR starts operations. ETIAS shall start operations regardless of whether that interoperability with ECRIS-TCN has been established.
7. ETIAS shall start operations regardless of whether it is possible to query the Interpol databases referred to in Article 12.