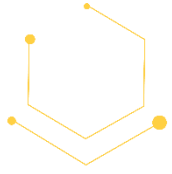


# Guaranteeing freedom, security and justice

THE SCHENGEN INFORMATION SYSTEM





# The Schengen Information System (SIS)

- The Schengen Information System (SIS) is an **IT system** that guarantees freedom, security and justice in the Schengen area
- SIS supports **operational cooperation** and **information exchange** between national authorities
- The system enables the national competent authorities to **check alerts** on wanted persons or objects
- SIS has been upgraded and includes new elements

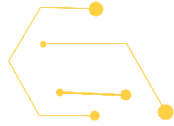




## What does SIS do?

- Enhances cooperation
- Protects the most vulnerable
- Manages irregular migration
- Combats criminality
- Strengthens external border controls
- Safeguards individual rights





# Enhancing cooperation



- **Additional types of alerts on persons and objects** and specific actions that need to be taken
- **Frontex teams** and more **national competent authorities** now access SIS data
- **Europol** can exchange information with Member States on alerts concerning terrorist offences
- Exchange of supplementary information takes place in an enhanced way through the dedicated national contact points - **SIRENE Offices**



# How this works in practice?

## Arrest of suspect alleged of rape thanks to SIS

- Ireland started using the SIS during March 2021
- On **14 May 2021, the Irish authorities** issued a SIS alert for arrest for surrender, for a person **wanted in relation to an alleged rape of a young person** in Munster in 2019
- The authorities believed that subject continued to have interactions with teens and minors at sports camps situated elsewhere
- **The Italian authorities located and arrested** the subject on 27 May 2021, **just 13 days after the Irish SIS alert was created**



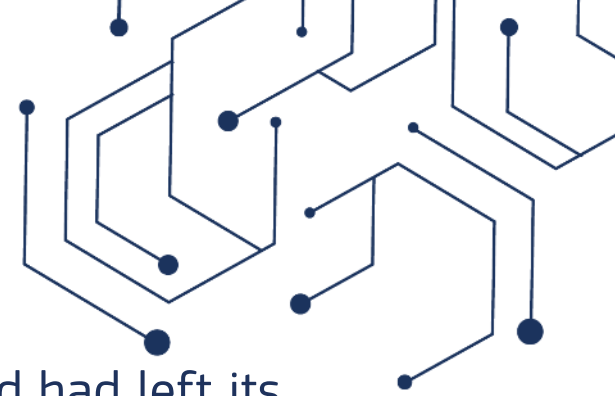


# Protecting the most vulnerable

- New alerts on **children at risk of abduction** and on **vulnerable persons at risk** support competent authorities to:
  - prevent children from being abducted
  - prevent children and other vulnerable persons from being taken abroad unlawfully for their own protection
- These alerts complement the alerts on **missing persons**
- **Missing persons** are identified also thanks to fingerprints or DNA



# How this works in practice?



## Preventing taking a child unlawfully abroad thanks to SIS

- A **public institution in a Member State reported** that a 16-year-old child had left its premises and could neither be found nor contacted
- The child was put in those premises following the judicial decision to be protected from frequent abuse and the threat of taking the child to a third-country of origin and force the child in marriage
- The child's relatives **arranged to take the child to the third-country of origin unlawfully**, using an airport in another Member State
- The Member State investigating the case **entered a SIS alert** immediately and alerted the authorities in the Member State concerned
- Those **authorities located the child at the airport while when leaving with a parent**. The child was immediately **placed under protection and eventually entrusted to the authorities in the Member States that issued the alert**





# Managing irregular migration

- New alert on **return decisions** and the improved tools for better **identification of non-EU nationals** subject to these alerts will help tackle irregular migration
- System allows to search and verify if non-EU nationals are subject to SIS alerts with the use of fingerprints
- New data on **falsified documents**, including **travel documents** and **visa stickers**







# Combating criminality

Member States authorities use SIS:

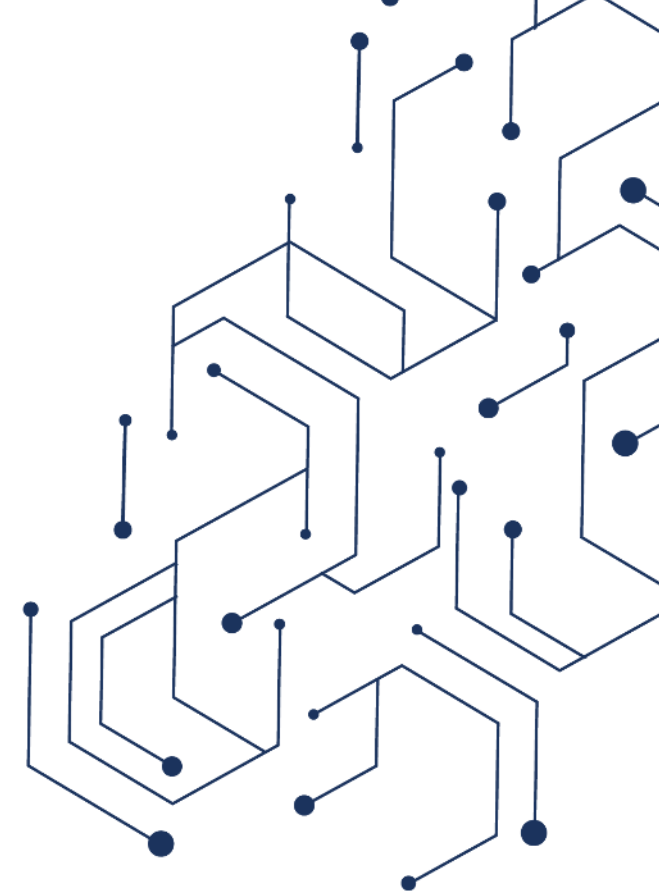
- To arrest **persons wanted** for prosecution or conviction of **terrorist** related offences or **serious crime**
- For checks on **persons involved in serious crime** and certain types of **objects connected with serious crime**
- To locate and protect **missing persons**, to protect **vulnerable persons at risk** who need to be prevented from travelling or being taken abroad, or to find **witnesses, defendants or victims** of crime sought to assist judicial procedures
- To identify criminals based on **fingerprints from scenes of serious crime**
- To locate **objects wanted for seizure or use as evidence** in criminal proceedings



# How this works in practice?

## Locating and arresting perpetrators of serious organised crime thanks to SIS

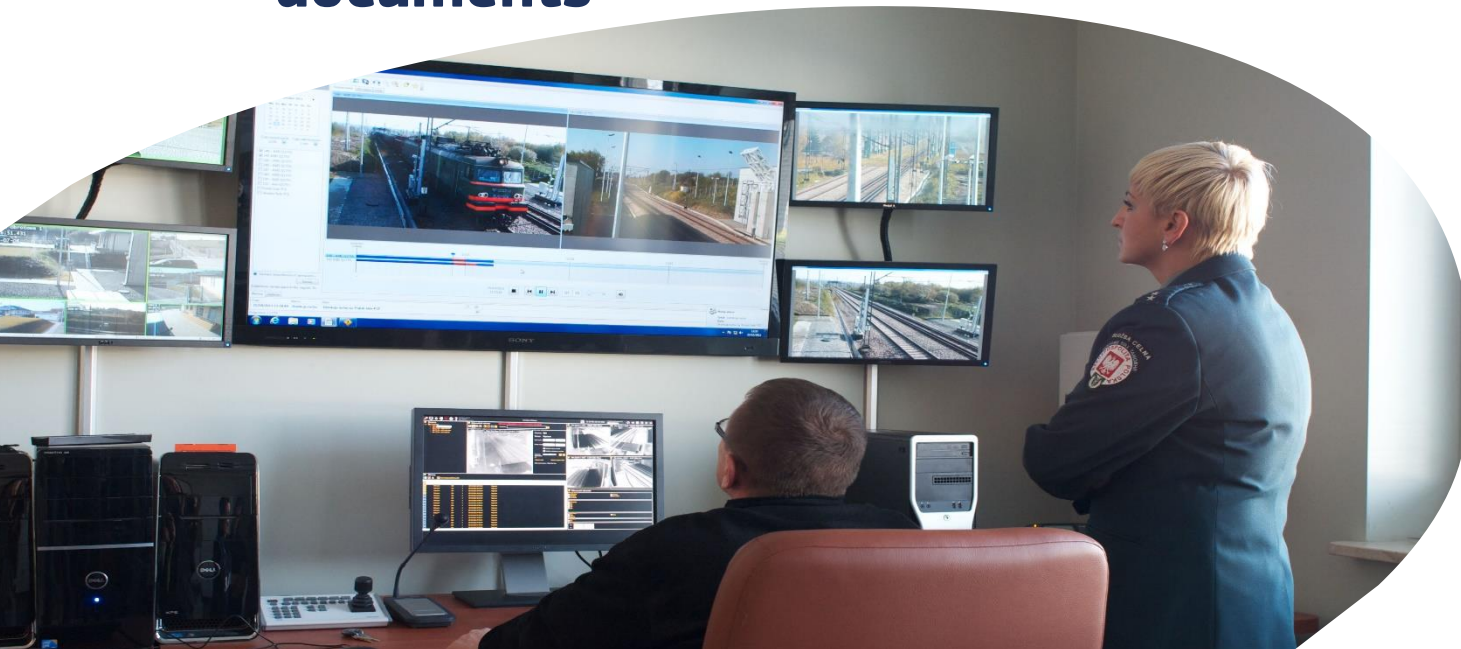
- Italy searched a person who **participated in a criminal organisation**, aiding and abetting **exploitation of prostitution**, including minors between March 2014 and June 2019
- In 2020, the individual was **stopped driving a vehicle** in Ireland but at the time it was not known that the person was wanted for such serious offences in Italy
- On 29 June 2021, Italy issued a SIS alert and **on that same day the subject was arrested** in Ireland



# Strengthening external border controls

Additional functionalities in the Schengen Information System enable:

- Border guards' faster recognition of **non-EU nationals** subject to alerts for **refusal of entry or stay**, or **posing threats to security**, and to detect possibly **falsified documents**
- Authorities to match alerts on **EU nationals** who are **wanted or suspects of crime**



# How this works in practice?

## Arrest of a wanted person for robbery thanks to SIS

- A **person without identity documents reached Lampedusa, together with migrants**
- A **check in SIS with the person's fingerprints**, through the so-called functionality **SIS – AFIS**, permitted the authorities to ascertain that German competent judicial authorities had entered **a European arrest warrant for robbery against that person, but under another name**
- The **fugitive was arrested** with a view to surrender to the German competent judicial authorities





## Safeguarding your rights

- Rights of **access, correction or deletion of your data** stored in the system
- Right to be **informed about your alert on return or alert for refusal of entry and stay**
- **Legal procedure** before competent authorities (including courts) to access, correct or delete data or to obtain **compensation** for any damage resulting from unlawfully processed data in any Member State
- ***Guide for exercising the right of access***



# Keep in touch



[ec.europa.eu/](http://ec.europa.eu/)



[europa.eu/](http://europa.eu/)



[@EU\\_Commission](https://twitter.com/EU_Commission)  
[@EUHomeAffairs](https://twitter.com/EUHomeAffairs)



[EUTube](https://www.youtube.com/EUTube)  
[EU Home Affairs](https://www.youtube.com/EUHomeAffairs)



[@EuropeanCommission](https://www.facebook.com/EuropeanCommission)



[@EuropeanCommission](https://www.masthead.com/@EuropeanCommission)



[European Commission](https://www.linkedin.com/company/EuropeanCommission)



Thank you

