Sabine Kloss-Tullius

ETIAS Central Unit Division
Frontex

Challenges with European border management

- No reliable information on who comes to the Schengen area

- … and when they leave

- No reliable way to identify overstayers

- Result: security gap

FRONTEX | ETIAS
EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD AGENCY
European Travel Information and Authorisation System

Interoperability architecture

Existing systems

- Schengen Information System (SIS)
- Visa Information System (VIS)
- New Eurodac (Q2 2026*)
- Europol databases

New systems

- ECRIS-TCN (Q1 2026*)
- Entry/Exit System (Q4 2025*)
- European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) (Q4 2026*)
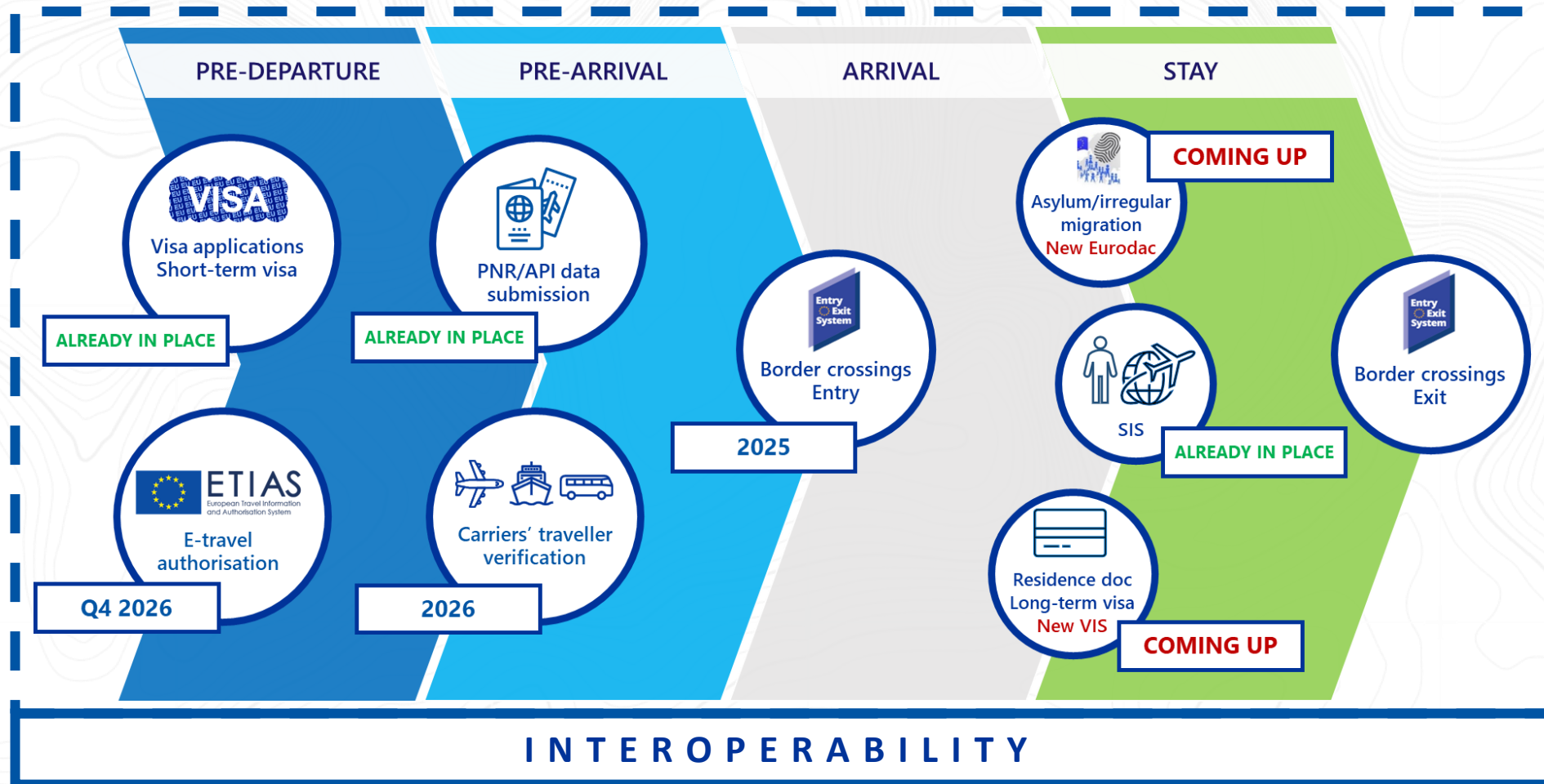
Challenge

- Making these systems talk to each other
- Ensuring that there is only one profile per individual

* All dates are indicative to be confirmed by the Commission and/or legislator

Interoperability architecture

European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)

- Established by the Regulation (EU) 2018/1240, hosted by Frontex

- Strengthens Europe's internal security while facilitating the movement of *bona fide* travellers

- 4 EU institutions and 30 European countries involved

- Entry into operation (Q4 2026*)
  * Dates is indicative - to be confirmed by the Commission and/or legislator
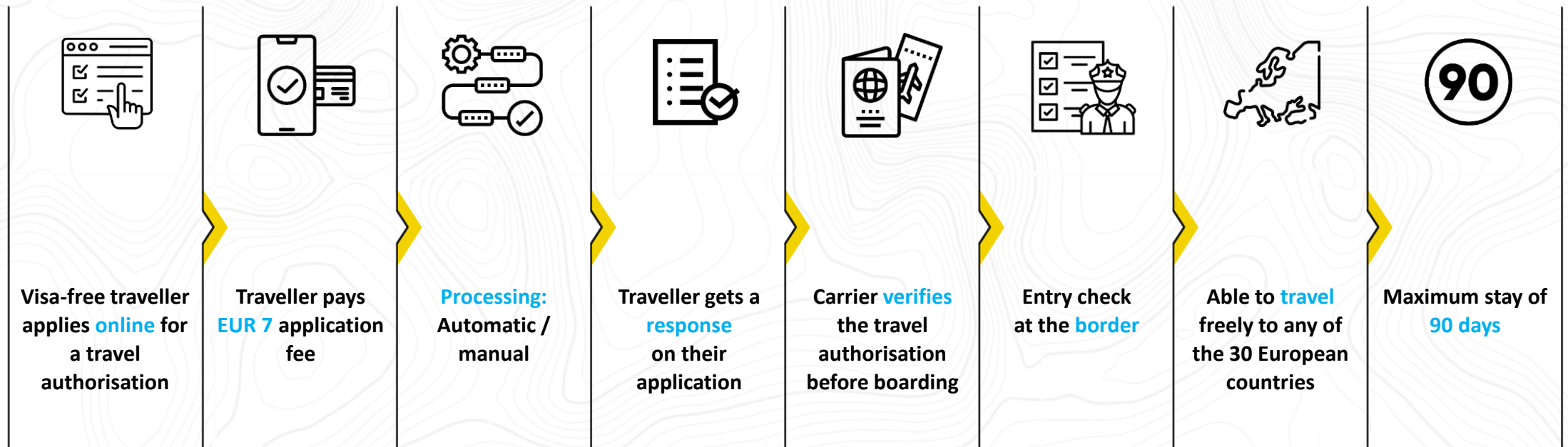
ETIAS affects 1.4 billion potential visa-free travellers

Albania
Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Australia
Bahamas
Barbados
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Brazil
Brunei
Canada
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Dominica
El Salvador
Georgia
Grenada
Guatemala
Honduras
Hong Kong

Israel
Japan
Kiribati
Kosovo
Macao
Malaysia
Marshall Islands
Mauritius
Mexico
Micronesia
Moldova
Montenegro
New Zealand
Nicaragua
North Macedonia
Palau
Panama
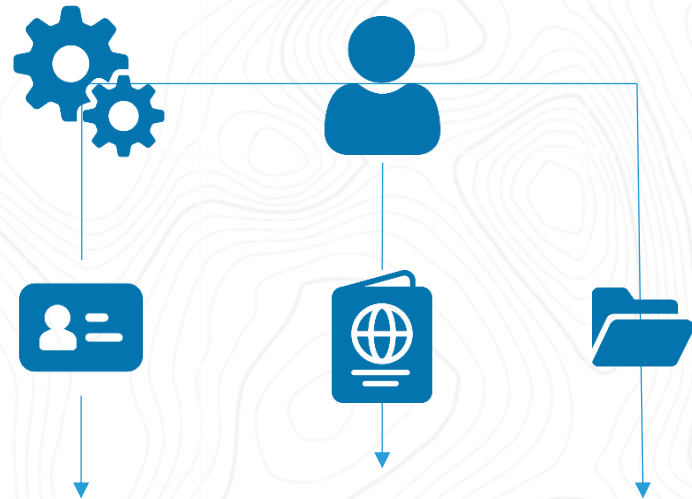Paraguay
Peru
Saint Kitts and Nevis

Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and
the Grenadines
Samoa
Serbia
Seychelles
Singapore
Solomon Islands
South Korea
Taiwan
Timor-Leste
Tonga
Trinidad and Tobago
Tuvalu
Ukraine

United Kingdom
United States of America
Uruguay
Venezuela

FRONTEX | ETIAS
EUROPEAN BORDER AND
COAST GUARD AGENCY
European Travel Information
and Authorisation System

How it will work

Visa-free traveller applies **online** for a travel authorisation

Traveller pays **EUR 7** application fee

Processing: Automatic / manual

Traveller gets a **response** on their application

Carrier **verifies** the travel authorisation before boarding

Entry check at the **border**

Able to **travel** freely to any of the 30 European countries

Maximum stay of **90 days**

FRONTEX | ETIAS
EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD AGENCY
European Travel Information and Authorisation System

Processing applications

- In most cases (about 95%), applications will be **processed within minutes**, but it could take up to **30 days**

Checks against databases
(SIS/VIS/EUROPOL/EURODAC/ etc.)
+ ETIAS including screening rules
and watchlist

If there is a hit during the automated processing, the application will be manually handled by an operator of the ETIAS Central Unit and the ETIAS National Unit

Risk screening

- Applicants screened against security, public health, and illegal immigration risks

- ETIAS Central Unit identifies and maintains risks, risk indicators and screening rules on European level – will be extended to VIS as well

- Consultation with the ETIAS Screening Board and the ETIAS Fundamental Rights Guidance Board

Data protection and management

- Applicants provide sensitive personal data

- Applicants can submit data subject requests via the ETIAS website

- ETIAS Central Unit:
  - handles data subject requests
  - ensures the data is accurate and up to date
  - acts as data controller

Carriers

- New obligations for air, sea and coach carriers

- Electronic verification of travellers
  - New tool: carrier interface

- ETIAS Central Unit provides 24/7 support to carriers on the Entry/Exit System and ETIAS in English

- Management of FAQ for carriers

Travel to Europe mobile app

- **A mobile app for EES pre-registration**

  - Collects passport data, facial image, answers to the entry questionnaire

- **Voluntary for Member States and travellers**

- **The ETIAS Central Unit:**

  - Developed and manages the app

  - Provides support to Member States and travellers