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PROPOSAL

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date of receipt:	28 October 2026
To:	Ms Thérèse BLANCHET, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
No. Cion doc.:	COM(2026) 1037 final
Subject:	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the digitalisation of case management in the area of return, readmission and reintegration, and amending Regulations (EU) 2018/1726, (EU) 2018/1860, (EU) 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Delegations will find attached document COM(2026) 1037 final.

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2026/0340 (COD)

Proposal for a

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

on the digitalisation of case management in the area of return, readmission and reintegration, and amending Regulations (EU) 2018/1726, (EU) 2018/1860, (EU) 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818 of the European Parliament and of the Council

{SEC(2026) 1037 final} - {SWD(2026) 1037 final} - {SWD(2026) 1038 final} - {SWD(2026) 1039 final}

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. CONTEXT OF THE PROPOSAL

• Reasons for and objectives of the proposal

The functioning and the sustainability of the European migration and asylum system rely on a comprehensive system that manages migration in the long term. The effective return of third country nationals who have no right to stay in the European Union ('EU' or 'Union') is indispensable to the integrity of the European system.

As part of the new approach to migration presented in the European Strategy on Asylum and Migration[(1)], the EU has now strong rules and more modern rules in place on return. The new Return Regulation[(2)] strengthens the common approach to return through more effective procedures, enhanced cooperation between Member States and with third countries, and tools to support the implementation of returns. The simplification and automation of return processes can then further contribute to reducing the administrative burden and workload of national authorities, leading to simplification and increasing the efficiency of the return system. The Return Regulation works hand-in-hand with the rules of the Pact on Migration and Asylum, which close the loopholes between asylum and return, including through the procedures at the external borders, and reinforce the cooperation between different authorities, within and among Member States, with European Union agencies and with third countries.

The EU has made progress in strengthening the effectiveness of return. In 2025, Member States issued 487 285 orders to leave and 136 665 illegally staying third-country nationals were effectively returned, corresponding to a return rate of 28%. While this return rate marks a clear improvement compared to 2024 (24% return rate), there remains significant progress to make to ensure that all third-country nationals ordered to leave are effectively returned.

Against this background, the Commission is taking additional steps to further improve the effectiveness of returns by presenting this new initiative establishing a common digital backbone, connecting the relevant authorities, processes and tools. In addition, alongside this initiative, the Commission is equally proposing to revise the Frontex mandate to significantly strengthen its role as the Union actor in the common system for returns. Together with the new Return Regulation, these initiatives reflect the EU's enhanced ambition to have swift and effective returns, as an integral component of a well-managed EU migration system.

Digitalisation is important tool in the EU's toolbox to make returns more effective, support the implementation of the new common EU system for returns put in place by the Return Regulation, and reduce administrative burden. By enabling more efficient procedures and coordination, as well as more reliable data collection, digital systems are crucial to effectively design, enforce and monitor migration policy and rules. They contribute to achieving modern, secure and efficient tools to improve the quality, consistency and timeliness of decision making on return, and to enhance enforcement. Digitalisation will help make information available where and when it is needed, automate processes, reduce manual work and administrative burden, facilitate cooperation between authorities, and improve the monitoring

(1) European Commission, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council: European Asylum and Migration Management Strategy, COM(2026) 45 final, 26 January 2026.

(2) Regulation (EU) 2026/2280 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 October 2026 establishing a common system for the return of third-country nationals staying illegally in the Union, and repealing Directive 2008/115/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Directive 2001/40/EC and Council Decision 2004/191/EC, (OJ L, 2026/2280, 15.10.2026, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2026/2280/oj).

and implementation of returns. The digitalisation of case management in the area of return, readmission and reintegration is thus an important enabler of the common EU system for returns, complementing the strengthened operational role of Frontex on return and helping translate the EU's enhanced ambition in the field of return into more coordinated, efficient and effective action.

Despite significant efforts at national and EU levels during the last years, the digital landscape for return-related case management remains fragmented, with uneven development, wide differences in the availability of data, its functionalities and interoperability, as well as limited data sharing. First, the information needed to carry out efficiently return, readmission and reintegration is not easily accessible to all relevant authorities. The available data necessary to swiftly complete these processes is not sufficiently shared and accessible within the same Member State, between Member States (and between Member States and Frontex), and between Member States (or Frontex) and third countries. Second, migration authorities are suffering from excessive administrative burden. Third, more granular and swiftly available statistics on return, readmission and reintegration are needed.

These problems are caused by three main drivers. In the first place, the digitalisation of case management in the area of return, readmission and reintegration remains insufficient and fragmented across the EU. National return systems vary widely in availability, functionality, and interoperability, and are often disconnected from existing EU tools for readmission and reintegration. Governance is similarly fragmented, with responsibilities divided across Member States, EU agencies, and third-country partners, leading to inconsistent standards, complex data protection arrangements, and dependence on external funding and cooperation. Secondly, even when digital case management systems are in place and integrated, the functionalities of these systems are often inadequate. Key features such as adjusting deadlines, or automatic follow-up of return decisions are rarely implemented. Technical limitations, such as the lack of connection to Schengen Information System or a single identifier for returnee, can lead to duplicate cases and unreliable statistics. Thirdly, the lack of sufficiently clear legal bases for the sharing of data and development of IT systems restricts the use of existing IT systems and prevents the development of new systems.

Against this background, the objectives of this proposal are to support a more effective and efficient implementation of the rules on return, readmission and reintegration of third-country nationals staying illegally in the Union, laid down in the Return Regulation, and contribute to the implementation of the new approach to migration. By providing the digital means necessary to support the implementation of the new common rules, the proposal will contribute to making the common system for returns more efficient and operational in practice, with simpler and more automated workflows that reduce administrative burden. In the long-term, this would be the first step towards a comprehensive, integrated and digitalised EU migration management system, that would go beyond return, readmission and reintegration processes and may encompass other migration processes such as asylum.

The initiative aims to enhance data sharing between competent authorities, in compliance with data protection rules, to ensure that the information necessary to carry out and monitor return, readmission and reintegration processes is available; to significantly decrease the administrative burden and workload of national authorities; to advance with the digitalisation of return, readmission and reintegration processes and remedy the limited functionalities of existing IT systems to ensure that processes and reporting requirements are more digitalised, simplified, and more automated; and to improve data collection to enable the automated creation of more accurate and granular statistics and their timely availability.

- **Consistency with existing policy provisions in the policy area**

The Political Guidelines of the President von der Leyen (2024-2029) announced a new common approach on returns, with a new legislative framework to speed up and simplify the process, ensure that returns take place in a dignified manner, digitalise case management and ensure that return decisions are mutually recognised across Europe[(3)]. The Pact on Migration and Asylum calls for making full use of the potential of digital systems for more efficient procedures in the field of migration.

The EU Strategy on Voluntary Return and Reintegration[(4)] and the Operational Strategy for More Effective Returns of the EU Return Coordinator[(5)] raised the importance of leveraging the full potential of digital systems to improve efficiency. This point was also mentioned in the Commission Work Programme ('CWP') for 2025[(6)] and the CWP for 2026[(7)] refers to the digitalisation of the return process as a way to continue the work to modernise the common European return system and as an initiative with a strong simplification dimension. The long-term European Asylum and Migration Management Strategy stressed again that developing digital case management systems in the area of return, reintegration and readmission will further contribute to reducing the administrative workload of national authorities, simplifying and automating processes.

The Return Regulation identifies digital systems for managing return, readmission and reintegration processes as one of the components of the common system for returns[(8)], considering that digital systems are key to support the effective implementation of return rules, including to enable digital features supporting mandatory mutual recognition of return decisions. The Return Regulation sets out clear legal bases to share and transfer the data necessary to complete return, readmission and reintegration processes, in compliance with applicable data protection rules, but does not address the technical means through which such data should be shared and transferred. Detailing these technical means will contribute to ensure that appropriate technical and organisational measures are operational and complied with.

In parallel, the Commission is presenting a proposal to review the mandate of Frontex to also broaden its role as the Union actor in the common system for returns. The revised mandate will entrust the Agency with the necessary responsibilities and capabilities to contribute to the digitalisation of return, readmission and reintegration, creating synergies with this proposal and helping to establish the common digital backbone needed for a more integrated, efficient and effective return system across the Union.

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(3) Ursula von der Leyen, Political Guidelines for the Next European Commission 2024–2029, Strasbourg, 18 July 2024.

(4) European Commission, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council: The EU strategy on voluntary return and reintegration; COM(2021) 120 final, 27 April 2021.

(5) European Commission, Policy Document: Towards an operational strategy for more effective returns; COM(2023) 45 final, of 24 January 2023.

(6) European Commission, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions; Commission work programme 2025 Moving forward together: A Bolder, Simpler, Faster Union, COM/2025/45 final, 11.2.2025.

(7) European Commission, Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions; Commission work programme 2026 Europe's Independence Moment, COM(2025) 870 final, 21.10.2025.

(8) Article 40(1)(c) of the Return Regulation.

- **Consistency with other Union policies**

The proposal aligns with the wider EU ambition to find and promote European solutions in the digital age, to simplify processes and to reduce the administrative workload of relevant national and EU authorities. Where relevant, the functionalities of the newly established systems should make use of artificial intelligence systems, in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and of the Council[(9)].

2. LEGAL BASIS, SUBSIDIARITY AND PROPORTIONALITY

- **Legal basis**

The EU's legal basis to act is established under 79(2)(c) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ('TFEU'). This article mandates the European Parliament and the Council to adopt measures in the area of illegal immigration and unauthorised residence, including removal and repatriation of persons residing without authorisation. The development and implementation of efficient digital case management systems in the area of return, readmission and reintegration is a means to this end.

Additionally, the proposal is based on Article 77(2)(b) and (d) of the TFEU to enable the targeted amendment of Regulation (EU) 2019/817 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2019[(10)]. Article 77(2)(b) and (d) of the TFEU mandates the European Parliament and the Council to adopt measures concerning the checks to which persons crossing external borders are subject and any measure necessary for the gradual establishment of an integrated management system for external borders.

- **Subsidiarity (for non-exclusive competence)**

The identified problems cannot be effectively resolved at national level. Given the magnitude of the fragmentation of the current digital landscape, without EU coordination and an appropriate EU legal framework, Member States will continue developing siloed systems, leading to inefficiencies, uneven digitalisation, and higher costs. This would hinder the implementation of common rules on return, including the new Return Regulation, resulting in suboptimal levels of returns. This would also affect the proper functioning of the rules of the Pact on Migration and Asylum and have an impact on the Schengen area.

An EU-level intervention is essential to ensure interconnection of relevant IT systems across Member States, including by leveraging EU Information Systems, consistent data exchange, and operational efficiency across Member States. Only a coordinated approach at EU level can address in a coherent manner the cross-border complexities that Member States are currently facing e.g. as regards the insufficient sharing of data between Member States.

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(9) Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence and amending Regulations (EC) No 300/2008, (EU) No 167/2013, (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1139 and (EU) 2019/2144 and Directives 2014/90/EU, (EU) 2016/797 and (EU) 2020/1828 (Artificial Intelligence Act) (Text with EEA relevance) (OJ L, 2024/1689, 12.7.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1689/oj).

(10) 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, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/817/oj).

- **Proportionality**

To address the problems identified, the proposal envisages a solution based on a partially decentralised approach, which will build on existing systems at national and EU level.

For the management of return cases, this solution will provide Member States with the flexibility to base their return case management systems ('national RECAMAS') either on a model document and specifications developed by Frontex ('RECAMAS Model'), or on an IT reference implementation, made of several digital modules, developed by Frontex and based on the RECAMAS Model ('Frontex RECAMAS'), or a combination of the two. This approach will allow Member States to build on prior investments, while ensuring convergence towards a common framework.

The case management systems in the area of readmission ('iRCMS') and reintegration ('RIAT') will be provided at EU level.

By building on existing systems and relying on a partially decentralised approach, the proposal does not go further than what is necessary to solve the problems identified.

- **Choice of the instrument**

A regulation is the most suitable instrument to achieve the desired policy objectives given the objective of establishing a new integrated digital case management system both at national and EU level.

Regulations are binding, directly applicable in all Member States and ensure uniform rules across the EU. The existing problems of fragmentation and inconsistencies in relation to the digital management of return, readmission and reintegration processes are to a very large degree caused by diverging national approaches. Therefore, a regulation best addresses those problems.

3. RESULTS OF EX-POST EVALUATIONS, STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS AND IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

- **Ex-post evaluations/fitness checks of existing legislation**

Not Applicable

- **Stakeholder consultations**

A thorough and broad consultation process was conducted with all relevant stakeholders in 2025.

Interviews took place with national authorities from EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries, relevant EU agencies and institutions (eu-LISA, Frontex, European Data Protection Supervisor), as well as civil society organisations, international organisations, academia, and reintegration partners.

Three different written surveys targeted at three types of stakeholders (i.e. national authorities of EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries, civil society organisations and international organisations) have been conducted.

A call for evidence was published and open to feedback from 7 November 2025 to 5 December 2025. 11 contributions were received from seven EU citizens, one international organisation, one non-governmental organisation, one professional organisation and one company/business.

On 30 September 2025, a workshop took place with representatives from the Member States, Schengen Associated Countries and the Commission.

On 9 December 2025, the Commission held a stakeholder meeting with representatives from Member States, Schengen Associated Countries and Frontex.

- **Collection and use of expertise**

Not Applicable.

- **Impact assessment**

An impact assessment is accompanying the proposal.

- **Regulatory fitness and simplification**

Not Applicable

- **Fundamental rights**

As part of the impact assessment, the impact of the proposed measures on fundamental rights has been assessed. The proposal is found to adhere to fundamental rights.

Risks may arise in case the governance of the different IT systems is not defined sufficiently clearly, thereby leading to difficulties to identify the roles and responsibilities of the different data processors and controllers, as well as the applicable data protection rules. These risks are mitigated by laying down clear provisions on the governance of the systems and on the corresponding applicable rules. Roles and responsibilities under data protection rules will be clearly allocated (i.e. who is controller, who is processor).

Compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Regulation for EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies is ensured. Several safeguards, including encryption, access controls, and audit logging are provided by the proposal.

4. BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS

As detailed in the accompanying legislative financial and digital statement, the investments required at the EU level and Member States level are compatible with the proposed 2028-2034 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and could be financed during the 2028-2034 MFF.

To develop and improve their national RECAMAS, Member States will be able to make use of the funds allocated under their national programmes in accordance with the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Union support for asylum, migration and integration for the period from 2028 to 2034[(11)].

The development and maintenance of Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and a secure communication channel ('the communication portal') will be financed by the EU budget.

5. OTHER ELEMENTS

- **Implementation plans and monitoring, evaluation and reporting arrangements**

The legal proposal includes provisions for monitoring and evaluation based on the following indicators.

Specific Objective 1: enhancing data sharing

(11) Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Union support for asylum, migration and integration for the period from 2028 to 2034, COM/2025/540 final.

- Number of datasets on return, readmission and reintegration cases requested by Member States and made available to other Member States within the applicable time limits laid down by the Return Regulation.
- Number of readmission requests processed via the iRCMS.

Specific Objective 2: digitalising, automating and simplifying return, readmission and reintegration processes

- Number of national RECAMAS in place.
- Number of Member States making use of the Frontex RECAMAS, or parts of it.
- Number of national RECAMAS having integrated iRCMS and RIAT.
- Number of national RECAMAS connected to the European Search portal ('ESP'), the Central Repository for reporting and Statistics ('CRRS') and the Schengen Information System ('SIS').
- Number of national RECAMAS connected to the communication portal.
- Number of sub-processes streamlined or automated.
- Average duration of the processing time per return, readmission and reintegration case.
- Number of staff trained in new procedures and IT systems.

Specific Objective 3: enabling the creation of accurate statistics

- Number of statistical datasets (as per the Return Regulation) created automatically.
- Number of statistical datasets (as per the Return Regulation) provided within the applicable time limits laid down by the Return Regulation.

The application of the new rules will also be monitored through the Schengen evaluation and monitoring mechanism.

- **Detailed explanation of the specific provisions of the proposal**

The first chapter relates to general provisions (Article 1 to 6). It lays down the subject matter of the Regulation (Article 1) and the relevant definitions (Article 2). It establishes the IT architecture made of several digital components (Article 3) and the objectives of the digitalisation of case management in the area of return, readmission and reintegration (Article 4). It clarifies the role of existing EU Information Systems and interoperability components (Article 5), and of other national relevant IT systems (Article 6).

The second chapter (Article 7 to 14) relates to case management systems and addresses the questions of the recording (Article 7), consultation (Article 8), rectification and erasure of data (Article 9). It lays down the common functional features that the three future IT systems on return, readmission and reintegration should have (Article 10) and the specific essential functional features that each separate system should have: the national return case management system ('national RECAMAS') (Article 11), the EU integrated readmission case management system ('iRCMS') (Article 12) and the EU reintegration case management system ('RIAT') (Article 13). It establishes the communication channel between migration authorities ('communication portal') (Article 14).

The third chapter relates to the development and operation of the systems and corresponding responsibilities (Article 15 to 26). Roles and responsibilities are defined for the development phase (Article 15) and the corresponding IT governance is established via the creation of a Program Management Board, mirroring what is usually done for the development of other IT

systems (Article 16). Roles and responsibilities are defined for the operational management of the systems (Article 17) and specific provisions are included on data security (Article 18), the keeping of logs (Article 19), data retention (Article 20), the rights of data subjects (Article 21), statistics (Article 22), the responsibility for personal data processing (Article 23), staff training (Article 24), the required cooperation between national data protection supervisory authorities and the European Data Protection Supervisor (Article 25) and penalties for non-compliance with the Regulation (Article 26).

The fourth chapter addresses the targeted amendments of other Union legal acts (Articles 27 to 30) and more specifically:

- Regulation (EU) 2018/1726 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 November 2018 on the European Union Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (eu-LISA), as eu-LISA mandate will be expanded to support Frontex and establish the communication portal (Article 27).
- Regulation (EU) 2018/1860 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 November 2018 on the use of the Schengen Information System for the return of illegally staying third-country nationals (Article 28).
- Regulations (EU) 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2019 establishing a framework for interoperability between EU information systems, to ensure that the Central Repository for Reporting and Statistics can be connected to national systems, and to allow the newly established communication portal to be also used to exchange information to support the resolution of links identified by the Multiple Identity Detector (Article 29 and 30).

The fifth chapter contains the final provisions, addressing the question of costs (Article 31), requiring Member States to notify the competent authorities to the Commission (Article 32), and providing for a phased applicability per system and per Member State to ensure a gradual start of operations (Article 33). It includes a provision on the committee procedure (Article 34) and it establishes the Advisory Group, which will provide some technical support to the Program Management Board (Article 35). It requires Member States to provide for contact points (Article 36) and defines the monitoring and evaluation measures (Article 37). The Regulation should enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union (Article 38).

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Proposal for a

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

on the digitalisation of case management in the area of return, readmission and reintegration, and amending Regulations (EU) 2018/1726, (EU) 2018/1860, (EU) 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818 of the European Parliament and of the Council

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 Article 77(2), points (b) and (d), and Article 79(2), point (c), thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

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

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee[(1)],

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions[(2)],

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,

Whereas:

(1) The sustainability of the Common European Asylum System and the good functioning of the Schengen area rely on the ability to build a comprehensive system that manages migration in the long term. An effective return policy is a key component of a credible migration management system.

(2) The Pact on Migration and Asylum aims at building such system, and it relies on swift and clear processes as well as close and interlinked cooperation between different authorities, within and among Member States, with Union agencies and with third countries. The Pact legislation establishes a seamless link between asylum and return procedures to increase the efficiency and coherence of the asylum and migration system as a whole.

(3) Regulation (EU) 2026/2280 of the European Parliament and of the Council[(3)] establishing a common system for the return of third-country nationals staying illegally in the Union, identifies digital systems for managing return, readmission and reintegration of third country nationals as key components of the common system for returns.

(4) The Commission, the European Union Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (‘eu-LISA'), established by Regulation (EU) 2018/1726 of the European Parliament and of the

(1) OJ C [...], [...], p. [...]

(2) OJ C [...], [...], p. [...]

(3) Regulation (EU) 2026/2280 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 October 2026 establishing a common system for the return of third-country nationals staying illegally in the Union, and repealing Directive 2008/115/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Directive 2001/40/EC and Council Decision 2004/191/EC, OJ L, 2026/2280, 15.10.2026, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2026/2280/oj).

Council[4], the European Border and Coast Guard Agency ('Frontex'), established by Regulation (EU) 2019/1896 of the European Parliament and of the Council[5], the European Union Agency for Asylum, established by Regulation (EU) 2021/2303 of the European Parliament and of the Council[6], and Member States have made significant investments in the development and implementation of information technology ('IT') systems in the field of migration management.

(5) In the field of case management in the area of return, readmission and reintegration, the availability, level of digitalisation and functionalities of IT systems vary significantly between Member States. Existing IT systems for return, readmission and reintegration at national and Union level have been developed separately and by different actors, resulting in a fragmented digital landscape with limited interoperability and data-sharing possibilities.

(6) The current legal and operational framework limits the effective exchange and management of information throughout the return process and creates inefficiencies in the handling of return, readmission and reintegration procedures, as well as administrative burden. It is therefore necessary to establish a coherent framework for digital systems in the area of return, readmission and reintegration in order to support the establishment of a common Union system for returns.

(7) All Member States should make use of national return case management systems ('national RECAMAS') ensuring that return procedures are systematically and swiftly carried out. For the purpose of ensuring a minimum level of effectiveness and efficiency, national RECAMAS should either be based on a model document and specifications developed by Frontex ('RECAMAS Model'), or on an IT reference implementation developed by Frontex and based on the RECAMAS Model ('Frontex RECAMAS'), or on a combination of the RECAMAS Model and specific digital modules of the Frontex RECAMAS. Member States may develop their national RECAMAS while integrating in it some specific modules from the Frontex RECAMAS, such as an application to communicate with third-country nationals subject to a return procedure. Member States choosing to adopt the Frontex RECAMAS or some of its modules should integrate them in their own digital environment and further customise it to their own needs. The Frontex RECAMAS should be provided to Member States as a standalone non-production IT system. As a result, the Frontex RECAMAS should not run in a live production environment and should not contain personal data.

(8) In order to facilitate swift and effective cooperation with third countries and third parties located in third countries in the context of readmission and reintegration procedures, in compliance with the applicable rules on international transfers of personal data and in due respect of the fundamental rights of data subjects, it is necessary to establish, at Union level, an integrated readmission case management

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(4) Regulation (EU) 2018/1726 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 November 2018 on the European Union Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (eu-LISA), and amending Regulation (EC) No 1987/2006 and Council Decision 2007/533/JHA and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1077/2011 (OJ L 295 21.11.2018, p. 99, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/1726/oj).

(5) Regulation (EU) 2019/1896 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 November 2019 on the European Border and Coast Guard and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1052/2013 and (EU) 2016/1624, (OJ L 295, 14.11.2019, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/1896/oj).

(6) Regulation (EU) 2021/2303 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 2021 on the European Union Agency for Asylum and repealing Regulation (EU) No 439/2010, (OJ L 468, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/2303/oj).

system ('iRCMS') and a Union reintegration case management system ('RIAT'). Those systems should enable the secure management and exchange of information required for the identification of third-country nationals, the issuance of travel documents, the organisation of return operations, and the handling of reintegration and post-arrival assistance. In particular, iRCMS should be used to manage readmission procedures and may be connected to third countries' digital readmission case management systems for those purposes. RIAT should be used to manage reintegration procedures and should allow third parties competent for reintegration assistance to consult and record relevant data. In order to ensure an efficient and seamless use of those systems by authorised users, without requiring them to log off and log on when accessing different systems, iRCMS and RIAT should be integrated into the national RECAMAS.

(9) The European Search Portal (ESP), established by Regulations (EU) 2019/817 [(7)] and (EU) 2019/818[(8)] of the European Parliament and the Council, facilitates the access and the querying of the EU information systems referred to in Article 4, point 15, of Regulation (EU) 2019/817 and in Article 4, point 15, of Regulation (EU) 2019/818 ('EU information systems'). The ESP should facilitate the fast, seamless, efficient, systematic and controlled access, by Member State authorities and Union agencies, to those systems by enabling simultaneous querying. Member States authorities, such as migration authorities, and Union Agencies should use the ESP to query those systems where necessary for the performance of their tasks in accordance with their access rights under the legal instruments governing those systems.

(10) Accurate and reliable statistics are necessary to ensure the proper monitoring and assessment of the efficiency of return, readmission and reintegration processes. The Common Repository for Reporting and Statistics ('CRRS') provides for the possibility to generate statistics from EU information systems. As the CRRS is a statistical tool that already exists at Union level, it would be efficient, for the purpose of avoiding the duplication of digital tools, to also make use of this digital tool to allow for the creation of accurate and reliable statistics in the area of return, readmission and reintegration. Therefore, the CRRS should be able to create such statistics from national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT and should therefore be amended accordingly. Statistics should be accessible to competent authorities, Frontex, eu-LISA, and the Commission in accordance with their respective responsibilities.

(11) In several Member States, existing return case management systems are linked to other national relevant systems and databases, such as asylum case management systems or information systems supporting judicial authorities, which contain data directly or indirectly supporting the management of return readmission and reintegration cases. In other Member States, return case management systems are being developed. Consequently, Member States should be allowed to maintain and develop those

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(7) 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, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/817/oj).

(8) 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 and amending Regulations (EU) 2018/1726, (EU) 2018/1862 and (EU) 2019/816 (OJ L 135, 22.5.2019, p. 85, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/818/oj).

connections and ensure that their national RECAMAS is designed in such a way that it can allow the connection to other national relevant systems, in accordance with national law and in respect of the fundamental right to privacy and data protection.

(12) Competent authorities, other national authorities and Frontex should be allowed to record in return, readmission and reintegration case management systems all data, including personal data, necessary to complete effectively those procedures. The data should be limited to what is necessary to effectively manage return, readmission and reintegration cases and each authority should ensure that the data it records is accurate and up to date.

(13) Based on anonymised data, competent authorities, other national authorities, and Frontex should ensure the provision of reliable and accurate statistics in the area of return, readmission and reintegration.

(14) All processing operations of personal data undertaken under this Regulation should comply with Regulations (EU) 2016/679[(9)] and (EU) 2018/1725[(10)] of the European Parliament and of the Council, as applicable.

(15) Competent authorities should have direct access only to the data they recorded in national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT. However, where it emerged from the use of the European Search Portal or from the use of iRCMS or RIAT that the same third-country national is subject to several return cases in several Member States, any competent authority having recorded data on this third country national should, upon a request as referred to in Article 36 of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280, be provided by the other competent authority concerned with the data recorded regarding this third-country citizen, for the purpose of processing the case. Where applicable, the requested data should be exchanged through a secure communication channel ('the communication portal'). Upon agreement of the competent authority which recorded the data, Frontex should be able to consult the data recorded in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS, and in RIAT, only for the purposes for which the data was recorded.

(16) Competent authorities and Frontex should have the obligation and the technical possibility to rectify and erase inaccurate, incomplete or unlawfully recorded data that they recorded. When personal data are concerned, such obligation should be carried out in compliance with applicable data protection rules. If a competent authority or Frontex becomes aware that another competent authority has recorded factually inaccurate data, it should inform the competent authority having recorded the data of the inaccuracy as soon as possible. Such information should be transmitted via the communication portal.

(17) To ensure a minimum level of efficiency of return, readmission and reintegration case management systems, functional requirements should be established. These functionalities should enable the allocation of a single identifier per case and effective case handling, including automated case creation, identity verification, and real-time tracking of procedural statuses and deadlines, retrieval of data from the Schengen

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(9) 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, p. 1).

(10) Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39).

Information System, secure data exchange with third countries, and competent authorities, while facilitating digital communication with third-country nationals, automation of key procedures, such as the initiation of readmission applications, issuance of return decisions, generation of alerts in the Schengen Information System and creation of the European Return Order in the Schengen Information System, IT-supported reintegration case management, including financial management, quality assurance, and performance monitoring of assistance programs, as well as mechanisms for complaints and incident tracking, operational tools for flight booking, travel document management, and logistical coordination to facilitate the practical implementation of return operations, and analytics capabilities to anticipate case fluctuations, generate statistics for monitoring purposes, and ensure transparency in the application of return policies. Where deemed relevant during the development phase, the systems' functionalities should make use of artificial intelligence systems, in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and of the Council[(11)].

(18) The necessary data to manage return, readmission and reintegration cases is not always available in EU information systems, either because the data cannot be recorded in EU information systems, for instance because some categories of data relating to prima facie evidence of nationality in the context of readmission procedures are too specific to be stored in Eurodac or in the Schengen Information System, or because the data has not yet been recorded in or has already been deleted from EU information systems. In those cases, and where necessary, Member States should have the possibility to share swiftly and securely the data necessary to manage return, readmission and reintegration cases. Single points of contact should coordinate and facilitate such exchanges.

(19) A communication portal should be established to provide the technical means for Member States' single points of contact and Union agencies to share swiftly, securely and efficiently the data necessary for the management of return, readmission and reintegration cases where such data is not available in the relevant EU information systems. The communication portal should connect all national RECAMAS as well as Frontex through the integrated return management platform ('IRMA'), thereby facilitating the effective exchange of data. Member States should use the communication portal where the sharing of such data is necessary for the performance of their tasks and in accordance with their respective access rights and applicable data protection rules.

(20) Frontex should build on its own expertise and continue to develop the RECAMAS Model. As a frequent user of existing readmission case management systems and the main user of RIAT, Frontex is in the best position to take responsibility for the development, technical evolutions and operational management of iRCMS and RIAT. As return case management systems will remain at national level, Member States should continue to take responsibility for the development, technical evolutions and operational management of national RECAMAS.

(21) When developing the communication portal, the reuse of existing well-functioning digital infrastructures for the communication of data between migration authorities

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(11) Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 June 2024 laying down harmonised rules on artificial intelligence and amending Regulations (EC) No 300/2008, (EU) No 167/2013, (EU) No 168/2013, (EU) 2018/858, (EU) 2018/1139 and (EU) 2019/2144 and Directives 2014/90/EU, (EU) 2016/797 and (EU) 2020/1828 (Artificial Intelligence Act) (Text with EEA relevance) (OJ L, 2024/1689, 12.7.2024).

should be favoured as this would allow a faster technical implementation of the communication portal and would contribute to reducing its financial costs. Consequently, the communication portal may be based on existing digital infrastructure currently under the responsibility of eu-LISA, such as the digital infrastructure underpinning the SIRENE or the DublinNet systems. eu-LISA should therefore take responsibility for the development, technical evolutions and operational management of this secure communication channel, as well as on the monitoring of developments in research relevant for operational management. In order to update eu-LISA's mandate as well as to entrust it with the role of supporting Frontex on the development of the Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT, Regulation should be amended accordingly.

(22) The digital exchange of information with third countries involved in readmission procedures contributes to a more efficient cooperation and facilitate the timely handling of readmission cases. Where the relevant arrangements with a third country provide for such digital exchanges, Frontex should therefore put in place the necessary technical arrangements, upon request by the Commission, to enable the secure transmission of the information concerned. Such cooperation should be limited to the information necessary for the individual readmission case and should not provide the third country with general access to the iRCMS or to the information held therein.

(23) To ensure an effective cooperation of all stakeholders and the adequate management and coordination of the development phase of the RECAMAS model, the Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal, a Program Management Board should be established. It should be composed of 10 Members appointed by the Frontex Management Board, the eu-LISA Management Board, the Executive Directors of Frontex and eu-LISA and the Commission. The Program Management Board should meet regularly until the start of operations of all national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal. The Program Management Board should continue to meet after the start of operations. The Program Management Board should prepare reports on a regular basis and should share those reports with the Frontex Management Board and the eu-LISA management Board.

(24) Ensuring a high level of security for national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT, and the communication portal is necessary because these systems process sensitive operational and personal data whose compromise could endanger individuals' rights, safety and privacy. It is also essential to preserve the confidentiality, integrity and availability of information exchanged between Member States, Frontex and eu-LISA, thereby maintaining trust and the effective functioning of return management cooperation. Therefore, Member States, Frontex and eu-LISA should ensure a high level of data security for the systems for which they are responsible. To that end, Member States, Frontex, and eu-LISA should implement technical and organisational measures to protect personal data and other data processed in those systems against accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to such data. Those measures should, in particular, ensure physical protection, access control, storage control, user control, data access control, communication control, control of data recording, transport control, recovery, reliability, integrity and self-auditing, including the automatic detection, within 24 hours, of relevant events that may indicate a security incident.

(25) In order to ensure the lawfulness of data processing, to guarantee data integrity and security and to enable effective supervision, all data processing operations carried out in national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and in the communication portal should be

logged. Competent authorities, data protection supervisory authorities and, where appropriate, Frontex and eu-LISA should have access to the logs to the extent necessary for the performance of their respective tasks.

(26) The personal data recorded in national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT should be kept for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the data are processed. A 10-year retention period is operationally necessary to enable the competent authorities to identify, monitor, and assess return-related cases over time, including where individuals reappear under different identities, and to ensure continuity of case-handling across procedures and authorities. It is also needed to support the preparation, issuance, recognition and enforcement of return decisions, entry bans and related follow-up measures, including the verification of compliance, the management of re-entry risks and the handling of subsequent applications or appeals, as well as to prevent abuse of reintegration assistance schemes, including repeated applications in different Member States. Where the duration of an entry ban exceeds 10 years, retention for the duration of that ban is necessary to allow the authorities to verify and enforce the ban effectively and to maintain an accurate record for border management, migration control and public security purposes. To ensure that the data is effectively deleted, the systems should provide for an automated erasure of the data once the retention period has elapsed. Given that Frontex does not issue return decisions, specific rules and a shorter retention period should apply to Frontex, as provided for in Regulation (EU) …/… of the European Parliament and of the Council *[EBCG Regulation]*.

(27) Data subjects should be effectively able to exercise their rights in accordance with Regulations (EU) 2016/679 and (EU) 2018/1725.

(28) Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 should apply to the processing of personal data by Frontex and eu-LISA pursuant to this Regulation, while Regulation (EU) 2016/679 should apply to the processing of personal data by Member States pursuant to this Regulation. This Regulation respects the fundamental rights and principles recognised by the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. In particular, the processing of personal data under this Regulation should be carried out in accordance with the applicable data protection rules and in a manner that ensures the full respect of those rights and principles.

(29) In order to support operational monitoring, relevant statistical data from national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT should be recorded in an automated manner in the CRRS.

(30) In order to ensure accountability and effective data protection governance in the operation of RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal, it is necessary to specify the roles of the authorities involved in the processing of personal data. The allocation of governance roles should reflect the operational responsibilities and technical capacities of the actors involved for each system concerned. Accordingly, Member States should designate the national authority acting as controller for data entered in the national RECAMAS and for their operational management, while Frontex should act as data processor where it records data in these systems. For iRCMS, each Member State should be considered as controller in relation to the processing of data it records in this system. Frontex should be considered as processor in relation to the processing of data it records in iRCMS, and for its operational management. For RIAT, each Member State should be considered as controller in relation to the processing of data it records in this system on cases from national

reintegration assistance programs. Member States and Frontex should be considered as joint controllers in relation to the processing of personal data recorded in RIAT for cases managed under an EU reintegration assistance program. Frontex should be considered processor in relation to the processing of data it records on cases from national reintegration assistance programs managed in RIAT and for the operational management of RIAT. For the communication portal, Member States and Frontex should be considered joint controllers in relation to the processing of personal data exchanged through the communication portal. eu-LISA should be considered as processor in relation to the operational management of the communication portal.

(31) In order to ensure the secure and lawful operation of national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal, staff of competent authorities, Frontex and eu-LISA who are authorised to access those systems should receive appropriate and regular training.

(32) Certain data contained in the Schengen Information System relevant for return, readmission and reintegration purposes may need to remain available to Member States for the continued management of return cases after the corresponding alert has been deleted from the system. Such information may be necessary for the identification of the person and for establishing their previous return history where the person subsequently re-enters the territory of the Member States and becomes subject to a new return procedure. Retaining relevant information in national systems in accordance with the applicable data protection and retention rules governing national RECAMAS would ensure its availability for such subsequent procedures and facilitate the identification of the person, including where a return decision was issued by another Member State and subsequently recognised in accordance with the applicable rules on mutual recognition. Member States should therefore have the possibility to access and keep the data contained in alerts on return referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1860 of the European Parliament and of the Council[(12)]. Since that possibility presupposes access to alerts on return, it should be applied by Member States that use the Schengen Information System pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1860. Particular attention should be given to the quality of the data in the Schengen Information System. Where a Member State has relevant additional or modified data, or it has evidence suggesting that data is factually incorrect or has been unlawfully stored, it should inform through supplementary information exchange the alert issuing Member State in line with established procedures in order for the data contained in the alert to be completed, modified or deleted. Regulation (EU) 2018/1860 should therefore be amended accordingly.

(33) To ensure efficient, secure, and standardised communication between the Member States' authorities and between those authorities with the ETIAS Central Unit set up pursuant to Article 7 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1240 of the European Parliament and of the Council[(13)], the communication portal should serve also as a channel for communication required under Regulations (EU) 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818. The use of the communication portal for this purpose would allow a faster technical

(12) Regulation (EU) 2018/1860 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 November 2018 on the use of the Schengen Information System for the return of illegally staying third-country nationals (OJ L 312, 7.12.2018, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/1860/oj).

(13) 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).

implementation of a means of communication. Regulations (EU) 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818 should therefore be amended accordingly.

(34) In order to ensure the effective, secure and orderly start of operations of national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal, it is necessary to provide for a flexible approach as regards the date from which those systems are to be used. Member States should be required to have in place and use a national RECAMAS by four years from the date of entry into force of this Regulation at the latest and to notify the Commission and Frontex of the date on which they start using it. In order to ensure a uniform and reliable start of operations of the different components of the overall architecture, the completion of the development of iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal should be determined by the Commission by means of implementing acts, following the successful completion of comprehensive tests. On this basis, Member States should, within prescribed time limits, take the necessary measures to integrate iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal into their national RECAMAS and notify the Commission and Frontex of the successful integration. Frontex should likewise take the necessary measures to integrate the communication portal into IRMA and notify the Commission accordingly. The start of operations of iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal in the Member States concerned, and their operation by Frontex where applicable, should then be determined by the Commission by means of implementing acts, on the basis of declarations of successful integration and comprehensive testing. The Commission should inform the European Parliament and the Council of the relevant dates so determined, and those implementing acts should be published in the Official Journal of the European Union. Member States and, where applicable, Frontex should start using iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal from the dates so determined.

(35) To develop and improve their national RECAMAS, Member States should benefit from Union financial support in accordance with [Regulation .../... of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Union support for asylum, migration and integration for the period from 2028 to 2034]. The development and maintenance of Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal should be financed by the EU budget.

(36) Since the objectives of the Regulation, namely to improve the efficiency of case management in the area of return, readmission and reintegration through digitalised tools and interoperable systems, thereby contributing to the effective functioning of the area without internal borders, cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States but can rather, by reason of the scale or effects of the action to ensure a common and coherent approach among Member States, be better achieved at Union level, 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.

(37) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation, implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission to specify technical and operational requirements for the uniform application of the functional features of national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT, to specify the technical requirements necessary for the connection to the communication portal, to specify the technical requirements necessary for the recording in the CRRS, as well as the specific types of data needed for the recording of data on cases status and to specify the formats for communications via the communication portal. Those powers should be exercised in

accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council[14].

(38) In accordance with Articles 1 and 2 of the Protocol No 22 on the position of Denmark, as annexed to the TEU and to the TFEU, 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 should, 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.

(39) [Ireland is taking part in this Regulation in accordance with Article 5(1) of Protocol No 19 annexed to the TEU and to the TFEU and Article ... of Council Decision .../... *[Council decision adopted on the basis of Article 4 of Protocol No 19]*.] or [This Regulation constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen acquis in which Ireland does not take part in accordance with Protocol No 19 on the Schengen acquis integrated into the framework of the European Union, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and, subject to the application of Article 4 of that Protocol, Ireland is not bound by it or subject to its application.]

(40) 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/EC[15].

(41) 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/EC[16].

(42) 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

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(14) 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 powers (OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2011/182/oj).

(15) 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, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/1999/437/oj).

(16) 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, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2008/146/oj).

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/EU[17].

(43) As regards Cyprus, this Regulation constitutes an act building upon, or otherwise related to, the Schengen acquis within the meaning of Article 3(1) of the 2003 Act of Accession.

(44) The European Data Protection Supervisor was consulted in accordance with Article 42(2) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 and delivered its opinion on […]

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Chapter 1
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Subject matter

This Regulation lays down rules relating to the digitalisation of case management in the area of return, readmission and reintegration, in particular rules on digital case management systems, their development, operation and responsibilities of authorities operating them.

Article 2

Definitions

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

(1) 'EU information systems' means the large-scale IT systems referred to in Article 4, point (15), of Regulation (EU) 2019/817 and in Article 4, point 15, of Regulation (EU) 2019/818;

(2) 'centralised system' means a system in which control, decision-making, or data processing is concentrated in a single central authority;

(3) 'federated system' means a system in which separate entities retain legal and operational independence, while cooperating under a common framework, protocol, or set of rules;

(4) 'third-country national' means third-country national as defined in Article 3, point (1), of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280;

(5) 'return decision' means return decision as defined in Article 3, point (4), of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280;

(6) 'competent authority' means any of the competent authorities referred to in Article 41 of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280;

[17] 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, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2011/350/oj).

(7) 'competent authority of origin' means the competent authority which records the data in its national return case management system (national RECAMAS), in the integrated Union readmission case management system (iRCMS) or in the Union reintegration case management system (RIAT);

(8) 'case' means the digital file created in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS or in RIAT relating to the return, readmission and, where applicable, reintegration of a third-country national;

(9) 'multiple cases' means two or more cases in two or more Member States relating to the same third-country national;

(10) 'IT reference implementation' means a single or a set of reusable IT solutions, including their documentation, developed to support Member States in the implementation of this Regulation and designed to be further customised by the Member States to their specific operational needs;

(11) 'other national relevant IT systems' means IT systems directly or indirectly supporting the management of cases in national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT, including asylum systems, information systems supporting judicial authorities, foreigners' databases, national flight booking systems, criminal information systems, automated fingerprint identification systems.

Article 3

Technical architecture

1. The digitalisation of case management in the area of return, readmission and reintegration shall be ensured through the establishment, functioning and effective use of:

(a) national return case management system, which may be centralised or federated, in each Member State ('national RECAMAS');

(b) an integrated Union readmission case management system, integrated in each national RECAMAS ('iRCMS');

(c) a Union reintegration case management system, integrated in each national RECAMAS ('RIAT');

(d) the European Search Portal ('ESP') established by Regulations (EU) 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818;

(e) the Central Repository for Reporting and Statistics ('CRRS') established by Regulations (EU) 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818;

(f) the communication portal referred to in Article 14, providing for a communication infrastructure as a secure communication channel between the authorities using the different national RECAMAS.

2. Member States shall develop their national RECAMAS based on one of the following:

(a) a model document and specifications developed by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency ('Frontex') ('RECAMAS Model');

(b) an IT reference implementation, made of several digital modules, developed by Frontex and based on the RECAMAS Model, which shall be adopted by

Member States and further customised to their specific operational needs ('Frontex RECAMAS');

(c) a combination of the RECAMAS Model and specific digital modules of the Frontex RECAMAS, as detailed in the RECAMAS Model.

Article 4

Objectives of the digitalisation of case management in the area of return, readmission and reintegration

The objectives of the digitalisation of case management in the area of return, readmission and reintegration shall be to:

(a) support the implementation of a common Union system for returns in compliance with Regulations (EU) 2024/1349 of the European Parliament and of the Council[18] and (EU) 2026/2280;

(b) support competent authorities in the issuance and implementation of return decisions, in compliance with Regulations (EU) 2024/1349 and (EU) 2026/2280;

(c) support competent authorities in the handling and implementation of readmission, in compliance with Regulations (EU) 2024/1349 and (EU) 2026/2280;

(d) support competent authorities in the handling and implementation of the provision of reintegration assistance, in compliance with Regulations (EU) 2024/1349, (EU) 2026/2280 and (EU) …/… *[EBCG Regulation]*;

(e) provide reliable and accurate statistics on return, readmission and reintegration, including for the purposes of monitoring and evaluation, informing evidence-based policymaking and operational use, in compliance with Regulations (EU) 2024/1349 and (EU) 2026/2280.

Article 5

EU information systems

In order to facilitate the processing of data referred to in Article 7 and the identification of multiple cases, each competent authority using national RECAMAS, the iRCMS and RIAT shall make use of the ESP to access EU information systems in accordance with the legal instruments governing those EU information systems and with Regulations (EU) 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818.

Article 6

Connection to other national relevant IT systems

For the purposes of connecting the national RECAMAS to other national relevant IT systems in accordance with national law, Member States shall ensure the technical compatibility between the national RECAMAS and those systems for the prompt, secure and effective transmission of data to and from those systems.

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[18] Regulation (EU) 2024/1349 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 establishing a return border procedure, and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1148 (OJ L, 2024/1349, 22.5.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1349/oj).

Chapter 2
CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Article 7

Recording of data in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS and in RIAT

1. Competent authorities, shall record, where available, in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS and in RIAT the data referred to in Article 36(6) of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280 that are adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary for ensuring compliance with Regulations (EU) 2024/1349, (EU) 2026/2280 and (EU)…/… *[EBCG Regulation]*.

2. Subject to the agreement of a competent authority, Frontex shall record, where available, in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS and in RIAT the data referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article in the exercise of its powers and in the performance of its tasks in accordance with Section [8] of Regulation (EU) …/… *[EBCG Regulation]*.

3. Each competent authority, and, where applicable, Frontex shall be responsible for ensuring that the data it records in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS and in RIAT are accurate and up to date.

4. In RIAT, Frontex, when implementing a Union reintegration assistance program, may grant to third parties competent for reintegration assistance the right to record data relating to reintegration referred to in Article 36(6) of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280. Third parties competent for reintegration assistance shall be responsible for ensuring that the data they record in RIAT are accurate and up to date.

Article 8

Consultation of data recorded in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS and in RIAT

1. Each competent authority of origin may consult in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS and in RIAT only the data it recorded.

2. Subject to the agreement of the competent authority of origin, Frontex may consult the data recorded in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS and in RIAT in the exercise of its powers and in the performance of its tasks in accordance with Section [8] of Regulation (EU) …/… *[EBCG Regulation]*.

3. Where a third-country national is the subject of multiple cases, any competent authority of origin concerned shall, upon a request as referred to in Article 36(3) of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280, be provided with the recorded data on that third-country national by the other competent authority of origin concerned. Where applicable, in accordance with Article 36(3) of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280*,* those data shall be exchanged through the communication portal.

4. In RIAT, Frontex, when implementing a Union reintegration assistance program, may grant to third parties competent for reintegration assistance the right to consult data relating to reintegration referred to in Article 36(6) of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280.

Article 9

Rectification and erasure of data recorded in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS and in RIAT

1. Each competent authority of origin or Frontex shall, without delay, rectify or erase any inaccurate, incomplete or unlawfully recorded data it recorded in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS or in RIAT. Only the competent authority of origin or Frontex that recorded such data shall be authorised to rectify or erase it.

2. If a competent authority has information suggesting that data recorded in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS and in RIAT is inaccurate, incomplete or unlawfully recorded, it shall inform via the communication portal the competent authority of origin or, where applicable, Frontex as soon as possible.

3. If Frontex has information suggesting that data recorded in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS and in RIAT by a competent authority of origin is inaccurate, incomplete or unlawfully recorded, it shall inform via the communication portal the competent authority of origin as soon as possible.

4. Third parties competent for reintegration assistance shall, without delay, rectify or erase any inaccurate, incomplete or unlawfully recorded data they recorded in RIAT. If a third party competent for reintegration assistance has information suggesting that data recorded in RIAT is inaccurate, incomplete or unlawfully recorded, it shall inform Frontex as soon as possible.

Article 10

Functional features of national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT

1. National RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT shall provide for the following functional features:

   (a) issuance of a single identifier allocated to each third-country national for whom a case is opened as regards return, readmission and, where applicable, reintegration;

   (b) possibility to automate the creation of a case upon the ending of legal stay of a third-country national;

   (c) identification of multiple cases via the search in EU information systems in line with the corresponding access rights and via iRCMS and RIAT;

   (d) automatic retrieval of the necessary data referred to in Article 7 between national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT;

   (e) possibility to access the data contained in alerts on return referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1860 and in the European Return Order referred to in Article 5(13) of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280;

   (f) possibility to access the data referred to in Article 27(4) and Article 28(4) of Regulation (EU) 2024/1358 of the European Parliament and of the Council[19];

[19] Regulation (EU) 2024/1358 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 on the establishment of 'Eurodac' for the comparison of biometric data in order to effectively apply Regulations (EU) 2024/1351 and (EU) 2024/1350 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Directive 2001/55/EC and to identify illegally staying third-country nationals and stateless persons and on requests for the comparison with Eurodac data by Member States' law enforcement

(g) possibility to customise national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT in order to adjust the systems to procedural workflows and associated deadlines applicable under legal and administrative requirements;

(h) possibility to monitor applicable deadlines and prioritise cases;

(i) possibility for competent authorities and third-country nationals to securely communicate and exchange documents via digital means, including the use by third-country nationals of a dedicated mobile application;

(j) possibility to securely exchange the data referred to in Article 7 via the communication portal between competent authorities and between competent authorities and Frontex;

(k) access to relevant national, Frontex and eu-LISA training material on return, readmission and reintegration and on the use of national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT;

(l) possibility to assign one or several statuses to each case, corresponding to the stage and type of procedure ('case status'), including the possibility to update the case status in case of annulment or suspension of the return decision;

(m) possibility to have an overview and breakdown of all cases, in particular per third-country and case status;

(n) possibility to transmit the relevant information to information systems supporting the work of judicial authorities;

(o) possibility to automate the creation of data reports that are relevant to the production of statistics referred to in Regulation (EU) 2026/2280 and in Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council[20];

(p) predictive analysis to anticipate fluctuations in the number of cases, based on current and past aggregated or anonymised statistical data;

(q) possibility to organise return operations through one or several flight booking systems.

2. The RECAMAS Model shall set out the details of the functional features referred to in paragraph 1.

3. The Commission may adopt implementing acts specifying the technical and operational requirements necessary for the uniform application of the functional features set out in paragraph 1 of this Article. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 34(2).

Article 11

Functional features of national RECAMAS

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authorities and Europol for law enforcement purposes, amending Regulations (EU) 2018/1240 and (EU) 2019/818 of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Regulation (EU) No 603/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L, 2024/1358, 22.5.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1358/oj).

[20] Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 311/76 on the compilation of statistics on foreign workers (Text with EEA relevance) (OJ L 199, 31.7.2007, p. 23, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2007/862/oj).

1. National RECAMAS shall provide for the following functional features:

(a) technical support to manage the registration of third-country nationals;

(b) technical support to manage initial checks and verifications, including vulnerability checks;

(c) technical support to manage the identification and confirmation of the identity and nationality of third-country nationals;

(d) access to the list referred to in Article 12(3) of Regulation (EU) 2017/2226 of the European Parliament and of the Council[21];

(e) support to the preparation, issuance and notification of return decisions and removal orders;

(f) possibility to automate the creation and update of the European Return Order in the Schengen Information System, in compliance with Regulations (EU) 2018/1860, (EU) 2018/1861 and (EU) 2026/2280;

(g) possibility to automate the creation and update of alerts on return and for refusal of entry and stay in the Schengen Information System, in compliance with Regulations (EU) 2018/1860 and (EU) 2018/1861;

(h) management of measures for the prevention of absconding, detention and alternatives to detention referred to in Chapters III, IV and VI of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280;

(i) possibility to transfer a case from the return border procedure applicable under Regulation (EU) 2024/1349 to the return procedure applicable under Regulation (EU) 2026/2280.

2. The RECAMAS Model shall set out the details of the functional features referred to in paragraph 1.

3. The Commission may adopt implementing acts specifying the technical and operational requirements necessary for the uniform application of the functional features set out in paragraph 1 of this Article. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 34(2).

Article 12

Functional features of iRCMS

1. iRCMS shall provide for the following functional features:

(a) possibility to automate the initiation of readmission following the issuance of an enforceable return decision;

(b) possibility to automate the creation of a readmission application;

(c) possibility to securely communicate and exchange the data referred to in Articles 37, 38 and 39 of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280 with third countries'

[21] Regulation (EU) 2017/2226 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2017 establishing an Entry/Exit System (EES) to register entry and exit data and refusal of entry data of third-country nationals crossing the external borders of the Member States and determining the conditions for access to the EES for law enforcement purposes, and amending the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement and Regulations (EC) No 767/2008 and (EU) No 1077/2011 (OJ L 327, 9.12.2017, p. 20, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2017/2226/oj).

competent authorities, including through the connection to a third country's digital system and direct secure messaging and including the possibility to organise and conduct identification interviews through iRCMS;

(d) possibility to manage cases based on national and Union readmission instruments or established practices;

(e) possibility to receive the outcome of nationality verification and of the establishment of identity from third countries' competent authorities;

(f) possibility to receive and print emergency travel documents;

(g) possibility to book and manage flights, including through the possibility to communicate with third parties competent for other tasks related to implementing the return.

2. The RECAMAS Model shall set out the details of the functional features referred to in paragraph 1.

3. The Commission may adopt implementing acts specifying the technical and operational requirements necessary for the uniform application of the functional features set out in paragraph 1 of this Article. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 34(2).

Article 13

Functional features of RIAT

1. RIAT shall provide for the following functional features:

(a) access to relevant information on third countries where the reintegration assistance will be provided, including on the content of the available reintegration assistance;

(b) possibility for a competent authority of origin, when implementing a national reintegration assistance program, and for Frontex, when implementing a Union reintegration assistance program, to grant to third parties competent for reintegration assistance the right to record, consult, rectify and erase data relating to reintegration referred to in Article 7, in accordance with Article 7(4), Article 8(4) and Article 9(4);

(c) possibility for a competent authority to communicate with third parties competent for reintegration assistance on individual cases;

(d) possibility to book and manage flights, including through the possibility to communicate with third parties competent for other tasks related to implementing the return;

(e) possibility to implement, monitor and financially manage reintegration assistance, including via tracking the budget consumption of reintegration assistance programs;

(f) possibility to have an overview of the reintegration assistance provided to specific third country nationals, covering both the Union and national reintegration assistance programs, based on the data entered by Member States and Frontex;

(g) possibility to manage cases from Union and national reintegration assistance programs;

(h) possibility to create statistics on reintegration, including to assess the quality of reintegration assistance;

(i) possibility to manage outward referral to further reintegration assistance programs and national reintegration schemes of third countries;

(j) possibility to perform quality assurance checks on reintegration assistance cases, including the assessment of reintegration plans, monitoring of follow-up actions, and recording of approval and audit trails;

(k) possibility to monitor the performance of third parties competent for reintegration assistance, including indicators related to responsiveness, implementation of reintegration plans, completion of cases, and absorption of available financial support;

(l) possibility to record and manage complaints and incidents related to the provision of reintegration assistance, including the tracking of remedial actions and ensuring appropriate access control and traceability.

2. The RECAMAS Model shall set out the details of the functional features referred to in paragraph 1.

3. The Commission may adopt implementing acts specifying the technical and operational requirements necessary for the uniform application of the functional features set out in paragraph 1 of this Article. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 34(2).

Article 14

Communication portal

1. The communication portal shall be established to facilitate the sharing of data referred to in Article 36 of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280, without affecting its use for other purposes provided for under Union law.

2. The communication portal shall be integrated into each national RECAMAS and into the integrated return management platform ('IRMA') referred to in Article [57] of Regulation (EU) …/… *[EBCG Regulation]*.

3. In each competent authority, a single point of contact shall have access to the communication portal. Single points of contact shall be competent for coordinating and facilitating the exchange of data in compliance with Article 36 of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280.

4. The Commission may adopt implementing acts specifying the technical requirements necessary for the integration of the communication portal in the national RECAMAS of the Member States. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 34(2).

Chapter 3
DEVELOPMENT, OPERATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Article 15

Development and technical evolutions

1. Frontex shall be responsible for the development of the RECAMAS Model, as well as for its evolutions, in compliance with Article [55] of Regulation (EU) …/… *[EBCG Regulation]*.

2. Frontex shall be responsible for the development, including the design, of the Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT, as well as for technical evolutions, in compliance with Article [55] of Regulation (EU) …/… *[EBCG Regulation]*, with the support of eu-LISA.

3. Member States shall be responsible for the development, including the design, of national RECAMAS, as well as for technical evolutions. Member States shall be responsible for the integration of iRCMS and RIAT into their national RECAMAS with the support of Frontex, in compliance with Article [55] of Regulation (EU) …/… *[EBCG Regulation]*. Where applicable, Member States shall be responsible for the integration and customisation of the Frontex RECAMAS or of some of its modules.

4. eu-LISA shall be responsible for the development, including the design, as well as for technical evolutions, of the communication portal. Member States shall be responsible for the integration of the communication portal into their national RECAMAS, with the support of eu-LISA.

5. Frontex, eu-LISA and Member States shall cooperate and coordinate their work.

6. Technical developments shall take into account any relevant Interoperable Europe solutions, as referred to in Article 7 of Regulation (EU) 2024/903 of the European Parliament and of the Council[(22)].

Article 16

Program Management Board

1. During the development phase of the RECAMAS Model, the Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal, a Program Management Board composed of 10 members shall be established. It shall be composed of

   (a) three members appointed by the Frontex Management Board from among its members or alternate members;

   (b) three members appointed by eu-LISA's Management Board from among its members or alternate members;

   (c) a member representing eu-LISA appointed by its Executive Director;

   (d) a member representing Frontex appointed by its Executive Director;

   (e) two members appointed by the Commission.

   During the development phase, the Program Management Board shall meet regularly and at least six times per year until the start of operations of all national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal. It shall ensure the adequate management and coordination of the development phase of RECAMAS Model, the Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal. The

(22) Regulation (EU) 2024/903 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 March 2024 laying down measures for a high level of public sector interoperability across the Union (Interoperable Europe Act) (OJ L, 2024/903, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/903/oj).

Program Management Board shall submit written reports every month to Frontex and eu-LISA's Management Boards on the progress of the program.

2. From the start of operations in all Member States set in accordance with Article 33, the Program Management Board shall meet at least one time per year. It shall ensure the adequate management and coordination of the technical evolutions of the RECAMAS Model, the Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal.

3. The Program Management Board shall have no decision-making power nor any mandate to represent the Frontex or eu-LISA's Management Boards.

4. The Frontex Management Board shall establish the rules of procedure of the Program Management Board which shall include in particular rules on:

   (a) its chairmanship;

   (b) meeting venues;

   (c) the preparation of meetings;

   (d) the admission of experts to meetings;

   (e) communication plans ensuring full information to non-participating members of Frontex and eu-LISA's Management Board.

5. The chairmanship of the Program Management Board shall be held by a Member State which is fully bound under Union law by the legislative instruments governing the development, establishment, operation and use of the EU Information Systems. The chair shall be one of the members appointed by Frontex Management Board referred to in paragraph 1, first subparagraph, point (a).

6. All travel and subsistence expenses incurred by the members of the Program Management Board appointed by Frontex Management Board and by the Executive Director of Frontex shall be paid by Frontex. All travel and subsistence expenses incurred by the members of the Program Management Board appointed by eu-LISA Management Board and by the Executive Director of eu-LISA shall be paid by eu-LISA. Frontex shall provide the Program Management Board with a secretariat.

7. During the development phase, the Advisory Group referred to in Article 35 shall meet regularly, and at least six times per year, until the start of operations of all national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal. It shall report after each meeting to the Program Management Board. It shall provide the technical expertise to support the tasks of the Program Management Board and shall follow up on the state of preparation of Frontex, the Member States and eu-LISA.

Article 17

Operational management

1. Frontex shall be responsible for the operational management of iRCMS and RIAT.

2. Where a working arrangement concluded by Frontex with the competent authority of a third country in accordance with Article [88] of Regulation (EU) …/… *[EBCG Regulation]* provides for the digital exchange of data necessary for the purpose of readmission in accordance with Articles 37, 38 and 39 of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280, Frontex shall, at the request of the Commission, take the necessary

measures to establish and maintain a secure connection between the iRCMS and the relevant digital system of that third country to facilitate such exchanges. The data exchanged shall be limited to those strictly necessary for the readmission procedure applicable between the Member State concerned and the third country. The third country shall not have access to the iRCMS or to any data other than those exchanged in relation to an individual readmission case.

3. Member States shall be responsible for the operational management of national RECAMAS.

4. eu-LISA shall be responsible for the operational management of the communication portal.

5. Operational management shall consist of all the tasks necessary to ensure the uninterrupted availability of national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal, in accordance with this Regulation.

6. Frontex, eu-LISA and Member States shall ensure that at all times the best available technology, subject to a cost-benefit analysis, is used for national RECAMAS, Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal.

Article 18

Data security

1. Frontex shall ensure the security of iRCMS and RIAT. Member States shall ensure the security of the national RECAMAS. eu-LISA shall ensure the security of the communication portal. In particular, Frontex, eu-LISA and Member States shall:

(a) physically protect the data, including by making contingency plans for the protection of critical infrastructure;

(b) deny unauthorised persons access to data-processing equipment and national installations in which the Member State carries out operations in accordance with the purposes of national RECAMAS, RIAT, iRCMS or the communication portal (equipment, access control and checks at entrance to the installation);

(c) prevent the unauthorised reading, copying, modification or removal of data media (data media control);

(d) prevent the unauthorised input of data and the unauthorised inspection, modification or erasure of stored personal data (storage control);

(e) prevent the use of automated data-processing systems by unauthorised persons using data communication equipment (user control);

(f) prevent the unauthorised processing of data in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS, in RIAT and in the communication portal and any unauthorised modification or erasure of data (control of data entry);

(g) ensure that persons authorised to access national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal have access only to the data covered by their access authorisation, by means of individual and unique user IDs and confidential access modes only (data access control);

(h) ensure that all authorities with a right of access to national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal create profiles describing the

functions and responsibilities of persons who are authorised to access, enter, update, erase and search the data (personnel profiles);

(i) ensure that it is possible to verify and establish to which bodies personal data may be transmitted using data communication equipment (communication control);

(j) ensure that it is possible to verify and establish what data have been processed in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS, in RIAT and in the communication portal, when, by whom and for what purpose (control of data recording);

(k) prevent the unauthorised reading, copying, modification or deletion of personal data during the transmission of personal data to or from national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal, or during the transport of data media, in particular by means of appropriate encryption techniques (transport control);

(l) ensure that installed systems may, in the event of interruption, be restored (recovery);

(m) ensure that national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal perform its functions, that the appearance of faults in the functions is reported (reliability) and that stored personal data cannot be corrupted by means of the system malfunctioning (integrity);

(n) monitor the effectiveness of the security measures referred to in this paragraph and take the necessary organisational measures related to internal monitoring in order to ensure compliance with this Regulation (self-auditing) and to automatically detect within 24 hours any relevant events arising from the application of measures listed in points (b) to (k) that might indicate the occurrence of a security incident.

2. Frontex, eu-LISA and Member States shall cooperate within the Program Management Board and the Advisory Group in order to ensure a coherent data security approach based on a security risk management process.

Article 19

Keeping of logs

1. All data processing operations in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS, in RIAT and in the communication portal shall be logged for the purposes of checking whether those processing operations are carried out lawfully, ensure the proper functioning of those systems, self-monitoring as well as ensure data integrity and security.

2. The log shall show:

(a) the purpose of the processing operation;

(b) the data processed;

(c) the date and time of the processing operation;

(d) the name of the entity and of the person responsible that processed the data.

3. The logs shall only be used for the purposes referred to in paragraph 1 and shall be deleted three years after their creation.

4. Logs may be kept longer than the periods referred to in paragraph 3 if they are required for monitoring and/or oversight procedures that are already ongoing.

5. Each competent authority shall have access to the logs relating to the data it recorded.

6. For the purposes of self-monitoring and ensuring the proper functioning, data integrity and data security of iRCMS and RIAT, Frontex shall have access to the corresponding logs.

7. For the purposes of self-monitoring and ensuring the proper functioning, data integrity and data security of the communication portal, eu-LISA shall have access to the corresponding logs.

8. National data protection supervisory authorities and the European Data Protection Supervisor shall have access to the logs on request, to the extent necessary to fulfil their tasks.

Article 20

Retention period for data storage

1. Where a return has been confirmed in accordance with Article 6 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1860, the data recorded in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS and in RIAT shall be stored for 10 years from the date of the confirmation of return. When a return decision is annulled or withdrawn, the corresponding data shall be deleted immediately.

2. Where a return decision is accompanied by an entry ban in accordance with Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280, the data recorded in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS and in RIAT shall be stored for as long as that entry ban is in force or for the period referred to in paragraph 1, whichever is longer.

3. Upon expiry of the data storage period referred to in paragraph 1 and paragraph 2, the data shall be automatically erased from national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT.

4. This Article shall not affect the specific rules applicable to Frontex in accordance with Article [110] of Regulation (EU) …/… *[EBCG Regulation]*.

Article 21

Rights of data subjects

Data subjects may address requests to exercise their rights under applicable data protection rules to Frontex, which shall transmit the request via the communication portal to the competent controller, in accordance with Article 23.

Article 22

Statistics

1. The anonymised data referred to in Article 46 of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280 and in Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 862/2007, as well as anonymised data on cases status, shall be recorded, from national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT, in the CRRS in an automated manner.

2. The statistics generated by the CRRS shall be accessible to competent authorities, Frontex, eu-LISA and the Commission.

3. The Commission may adopt implementing acts specifying the technical requirements necessary for the recording in the CRRS, as well as the specific types of data needed for the recording of data on cases status. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 34(2).

Article 23

Responsibility for personal data processing

1. For national RECAMAS, each Member State shall designate the authority which is to be considered as controller in accordance with Article 4, point (7), of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 in relation to the processing of data it records in this system and for its operational management. Frontex shall be considered as processor in accordance with Article 3, point (12), of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 in relation to the processing of data it records in this system.

2. For iRCMS, the authority designated in compliance with paragraph 1 in each Member State shall be considered as controller in accordance with Article 4, point (7), of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 in relation to the processing of data it records in this system. Frontex shall be considered as processor in accordance with Article 3, point (12), of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 in relation to the processing of data it records in iRCMS and for its operational management.

3. For RIAT, the authority designated in compliance with paragraph 1 in each Member State shall be considered as controller in accordance with Article 4, point (7), of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 in relation to the processing of data it records in this system on cases from national reintegration assistance programs. The authorities designated by Member States and Frontex shall be considered as joint controllers in accordance with Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and Article 28 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, respectively, in relation to the processing of personal data recorded in RIAT for cases managed under an EU reintegration assistance program. The responsibilities of each joint controller shall be limited to the data it records in RIAT. Frontex shall be considered as processor in accordance with Article 3, point (12), of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 in relation to the processing of data it records on cases from national reintegration assistance programs managed in RIAT and for the operational management of RIAT.

4. For the communication portal, the authorities designated by Member States in compliance with paragraph 1 and Frontex shall be considered as joint controllers in accordance with Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and Article 28 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, respectively, in relation to the processing of personal data exchanged through the communication portal. The responsibilities of each joint controller shall be limited to the data it processes in the communication portal. eu-LISA shall be considered as processor in accordance with Article 3, point (12), of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 in relation to the operational management of the communication portal.

Article 24

Staff training

1. Before being authorised to process data stored in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS, in RIAT and in the communication portal and periodically after access to national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal has been granted, the staff

of competent authorities and Frontex having a right to access national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal shall receive appropriate training courses on data security, fundamental rights including data protection, and the rules and procedures for data processing, including measures for improving the data quality. The staff shall be informed of any relevant provisions on criminal offences and penalties, including those provided in Article 26.

2. Member States shall provide training courses to their staff on national RECAMAS.

3. Frontex shall provide training courses to its staff and to competent authorities on Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT.

4. eu-LISA shall provide training courses to competent authorities on the technical functioning of the communication portal.

Article 25

Cooperation between national data protection supervisory authorities and the European Data Protection Supervisor

In accordance with Article 62 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, the national supervisory authorities and the European Data Protection Supervisor shall, each acting within the scope of their respective competences, cooperate actively in the framework of their responsibilities and ensure, in particular, the coordinated supervision of the communication portal.

Article 26

Penalties

Member States shall lay down the rules on penalties applicable to infringements of this Regulation and shall take all measures necessary to ensure that they are implemented. The penalties provided for shall be effective, proportionate and dissuasive. Member States shall, without delay, notify the Commission of those rules and of those measures and shall notify it, without delay, of any subsequent amendment affecting them.

Chapter 4
AMENDMENTS TO OTHER UNION LEGAL ACTS

Article 27

Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2018/1726

Regulation (EU) 2018/1726 is amended as follows:

(1) in Article 1, the following paragraphs 4c and 4d are inserted:

'4c. The Agency shall be responsible for the development, including the design, operational management and technical evolutions, of a secure communication channel between migration authorities ('the communication portal'), in accordance with Regulation (EU) …/… of the European Parliament and of the Council[23] *[this Regulation]*.

4d. The Agency shall be responsible for supporting:

[23] Regulation (EU) …/… of the European Parliament and of the Council [full title of this Regulation].

(a) the European Border and Coast Guard Agency in the development, including technical evolutions, of a reference implementation of a return case management system ('Frontex RECAMAS'), in accordance with Regulation (EU) …/… *[this Regulation];*

(b) the European Border and Coast Guard Agency in the development, including technical evolutions, of an integrated Union readmission case management system ('iRCMS') and a Union reintegration case management system ('RIAT'), in accordance with Regulation (EU) …/… *[this Regulation]*.';

(2) the following Articles 8e and 8f are inserted:

'*Article 8e*

Tasks related to the communication portal

In relation to the communication portal, the Agency shall perform:

(a) the tasks conferred on it by Article 15(4) and Article 17(4) of Regulation (EU) …/… *[this Regulation]*;

(b) tasks relating to training on the technical use of the communication portal, including the provision of training materials.

Article 8f

Tasks related to Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT

In relation to the Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT, the Agency shall perform the tasks conferred on it by Regulation (EU) …/… *[this Regulation]*.';

(3) in Article 14, paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:

'1. The Agency shall monitor developments in research relevant for the operational management of SIS, VIS, Eurodac, the EES, ETIAS, DubliNet, ECRIS-TCN, the e-CODEX system, the JITs collaboration platform, the communication portal and other large-scale IT systems as referred to in Article 1(5).';

(4) in Article 19(1), first subparagraph, the following point (qq) is added:

'(qq) adopt the reports on the development and activities of the communication portal pursuant to Article 37(2) of Regulation (EU) …/… *[this Regulation]*.'.

Article 28

Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2018/1860

In Regulation (EU) 2018/1860, the following Article 17a is inserted:

'*Article 17a*

Keeping of data contained in alerts on return in national case management systems for the purposes of Regulation (EU) …/… of the European Parliament and of the Council *[this Regulation]*

1. By way of derogation from Article 41(2) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1861, following a hit on an alert on return entered by another Member State pursuant to Article 3, the competent authority of the executing Member State may keep in their national RECAMAS established pursuant to Regulation (EU) …/… of the European Parliament and of the Council[24] *[this*

[24] Regulation (EU) …/… of the European Parliament and of the Council [full title of this Regulation].

Regulation] the data contained in that alert to the extent necessary for the purposes referred to in Article 7(1) of Regulation (EU) …/… *[this Regulation]*.

2. Where the alert has been modified by the issuing Member State in accordance with Article 44(2) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1861, the executing Member State shall update those data in its national RECAMAS established pursuant to Regulation (EU) …/… *[this Regulation]* accordingly.

3. By way of derogation from Article 42(1) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1861, the data kept pursuant to paragraph 1 shall be stored and erased in accordance with Article 20(1) to (3) of Regulation (EU) …/… *[this Regulation]*.

4. Article 15 shall apply to transfers or the making available of the data kept pursuant to paragraph 1.'.

Article 29

Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2019/817

In Regulation (EU) 2019/817, the following Article 48a is added:

'*Article 48a*

Communication portal

1. The communication between the Member States' authorities and between those authorities with the ETIAS Central Unit required under this Regulation shall be carried out through the communication portal established under Regulation (EU) …/… of the European Parliament and of the Council[25] *[this Regulation]* for the following purposes:

(a) the exercise of data protection rights pursuant to Article 48(3) and (4);

(b) informing the competent authority about the rectification or erasure of a link pursuant to Article 31(3) and Article 33(5);

(c) informing about the rectification or erasure of a link pursuant to Article 32(7);

(d) informing the competent authority about a link incorrectly recorded pursuant to Article 32(7).

2. The Commission is empowered to adopt implementing acts to specify the formats for communications under this Regulation via the communication portal. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 74(2).'.

Article 30

Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2019/818

Regulation (EU) 2019/818 is amended as follows:

(1) Article 39 is amended as follows:

(a) paragraphs 1 and 2 are replaced by the following:

'1. A central repository for reporting and statistics (CRRS) is established for the purpose of supporting the objectives of the SIS, Eurodac and ECRIS-TCN, in accordance with the respective legal instruments governing those systems, and to provide cross-system statistical

[25] Regulation (EU) …/… of the European Parliament and of the Council [full title of this Regulation].

data and analytical reporting for policy, operational and data quality purposes. The CRRS shall also support the objectives of Regulation (EU) 2024/982 of the European Parliament and of the Council[26], Regulation (EU) 2025/13 of the European Parliament and of the Council[27] and of Regulation (EU) …/… of the European Parliament and of the Council[28] *[this Regulation]*.

2. eu-LISA shall establish, implement and host in its technical sites the CRRS containing the data and statistics referred to in Article 12 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1358, Article 74 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1862 and Article 32 of Regulation (EU) 2019/816 logically separated by EU information system. eu-LISA shall collect the data and statistics from the router referred to in Article 71(2) of Regulation (EU) 2024/982 and in Article 39(1) of Regulation (EU) 2025/13. eu-LISA shall collect the data and statistics referred to in Article 22 of Regulation (EU) …/… *[this Regulation]*. Access to the CRRS shall be granted by means of controlled, secured access and specific user profiles, solely for the purposes of reporting and statistics, to the authorities referred to in Article 12 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1358, Article 74 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1862, Article 32 of Regulation (EU) 2019/816, Article 71(2) of Regulation (EU) 2024/982, Article 13(1) of Regulation (EU) 2025/13 and Article 22(2) of Regulation (EU) …/… *[this Regulation]*.';

(b) in paragraph 4, the following point (d) is added:

'(d) a secure communication infrastructure to connect the CRRS to national return case management systems ('national RECAMAS'), the integrated Union readmission case management system ('iRCMS') and the Union reintegration case management system ('RIAT'), in compliance with Regulation (EU) …/… *[this Regulation]*.';

(2) the following Article 48a is inserted:

'*Article 48a*

Communication portal

1. The communication between the Member States' authorities and between those authorities with the ETIAS Central Unit required under this Regulation shall be carried out through the communication portal established under Regulation (EU) …/… *[this Regulation]* for the following purposes:

(a) the exercise of data protection rights pursuant to Article 48(3) and (4);

(b) informing the competent authority about the rectification or erasure of a link pursuant to Article 31(3) and Article 33(5);

(c) informing about the rectification or erasure of a link pursuant to Article 32(7);

(d) informing the competent authority about a link incorrectly recorded pursuant to Article 32(7).

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(26) Regulation (EU) 2024/982 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 March 2024 on the automated search and exchange of data for police cooperation, and amending Council Decisions 2008/615/JHA and 2008/616/JHA and Regulations (EU) 2018/1726, (EU) No 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818 of the European Parliament and of the Council (the Prüm II Regulation) (OJ L, 2024/982, 5.4.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/982/oj).

(27) Regulation (EU) 2025/13 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2024 on the collection and transfer of advance passenger information for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of terrorist offences and serious crime, and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/818 (OJ L, 2025/13, 8.1.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/13/oj).

(28) Regulation (EU) …/… of the European Parliament and of the Council [full title of this Regulation].

2. The Commission is empowered to adopt implementing acts to specify the formats for communications under this Regulation via the communication portal. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 70(2).';

(3) Article 62 is amended as follows:

(a) the following paragraph 3a is inserted:

'3a. The duly authorised staff of the competent authorities of Member States, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, eu-LISA and the Commission shall have access to consult the data related to national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT referred to in Article 22 of Regulation (EU) …/… *[this Regulation]*.';

(b) paragraph 6 is replaced by the following:

'6. For the purpose of paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 3a, eu-LISA shall store the data referred to in those paragraphs in the CRRS. It shall not be possible to identify individuals from the data included in the CRRS, but the data shall allow the authorities listed in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 3a to obtain customisable reports and statistics to enhance the efficiency of border checks, to help authorities processing visa applications and to support evidence-based policy-making on migration and security in the Union.'.

Chapter 5
FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 31

Costs

The costs incurred in connection with the development, including technical evolutions, and operational management of national RECAMAS shall be borne by each Member State concerned. These costs shall include the costs incurred in connection with the integration of Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal into national RECAMAS, as well as with the customisation of the Frontex RECAMAS.

Article 32

Notifications

1. Member States shall notify the Commission, Frontex and eu-LISA of the authority which is to be considered as controller and joint controller in accordance with Article 23.
2. Member States shall notify the Commission, Frontex and eu-LISA of the competent authorities referred to in Article 7, Article 8 and Article 9, which may record, consult, rectify or erase data.
3. Member States shall notify the Commission, Frontex and eu-LISA of their single point of contact referred to in Article 14(3).
4. Frontex shall maintain a continuously updated public website containing the information referred to in this Article.

Article 33

Start of operations

1. By *[OJ: please fill in: four years after the date of entry into force of this Regulation]* at the latest, Member States shall have in place and use a national RECAMAS. Each Member State shall notify, without delay, the Commission and Frontex of the date on which it started using its national RECAMAS.

2. The Commission shall determine, by means of an implementing act, the date of completion of the development of iRCMS and RIAT, once Frontex has declared the successful completion of a comprehensive test of iRCMS and RIAT, to be conducted with the support of eu-LISA.

3. Within one year from the date determined in accordance with paragraph 2 or, where later, from the date of notification referred to in paragraph 1, each Member State shall take the necessary measures to integrate iRCMS and RIAT into its national RECAMAS, in accordance with Article 15(3) and shall notify the Commission and Frontex of the successful integration.

4. The Commission shall determine, by means of an implementing act, the date from which iRCMS and RIAT are to start operations in the Member States concerned and are operated by Frontex, once Frontex has declared, for the Member States concerned, the successful integration of iRCMS and RIAT in the national RECAMAS of the Member States concerned. Frontex' declaration shall be based on the successful completion of comprehensive tests and conducted, upon receipt of the notification referred to in paragraph 3, in cooperation with the Member State or Member States concerned and with the support of eu-LISA.

5. The Commission shall determine, by means of an implementing act, the date of completion of the development of the communication portal, once eu-LISA has declared the successful completion of a comprehensive test of the communication portal, to be conducted in cooperation, where necessary, with Frontex and the Member States.

6. Within one year from the date determined in accordance with paragraph 5, or, where later, from the date of notification referred to in paragraph 1, each Member State shall take the necessary measures to integrate the communication portal into its national RECAMAS, in accordance with Article 15(4) and shall notify the Commission and Frontex of the successful integration. Within one year from the date determined in accordance with paragraph 5, Frontex shall take the necessary measures to integrate the communication portal into IRMA in accordance with Article 14(2) and shall notify the Commission of the successful integration.

7. The Commission shall determine, by means of an implementing act, the date from which the communication portal is to start operations in the Member States concerned and is operated by Frontex, once eu-LISA has declared, for the Member States concerned, the successful integration of the communication portal in the national RECAMAS of the Member States concerned and in IRMA. eu-LISA's declaration shall be based on the successful completion of comprehensive tests and conducted, upon receipt of the notification referred to in paragraph 6, in cooperation with the Member States concerned.

8. The Commission shall inform the European Parliament and the Council of the dates determined in accordance with paragraphs 2, 4, 5 and 7.

9. The implementing acts referred to in paragraphs 2, 4, 5 and 7 shall be published in the Official Journal of the European Union.

10. Member States and, where applicable, Frontex, shall start using iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal from the dates determined in accordance with paragraph 4 and paragraph 7 respectively.

Article 34

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.

Article 35

Advisory Group

1. An Advisory Group shall be established by Frontex.

2. The Advisory Group provides Frontex and eu-LISA with the expertise related to the RECAMAS Model, Frontex RECAMAS, national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal, in particular in the context of the preparation of their annual work programmes and their annual activity reports.

3. The Advisory Group shall be composed of national experts, two project managers from Frontex, two project managers from eu-LISA and one member from the Commission. It shall be chaired by Frontex.

Article 36

Contact point

Each Member State shall designate an authority as the contact point for the implementation of this Regulation. Each Member State shall communicate the name of that authority to the Commission. If a Member State changes its designated authority, it shall inform the Commission accordingly.

Article 37

Monitoring and evaluation

1. Frontex shall submit to the European Parliament, to the Council, to the Commission and to the European Data Protection Supervisor an annual report on the development and activities of Frontex RECAMAS, national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT, including on their technical functioning and security. The annual report shall include information on the operational management, including data protection and security incidents, and performance of these systems against pre-defined quantitative indicators for the objectives relating to output, cost-effectiveness and quality of service.

2. eu-LISA shall submit to the European Parliament, to the Council, to the Commission and to the European Data Protection Supervisor an annual report on the development and activities of the communication portal, including on its technical functioning and security. The annual report shall include information on the management and

performance of this system against pre-defined quantitative indicators for the objectives relating to output, cost-effectiveness and quality of service.

3. Five years after the start of operations of all national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal and every five years thereafter, the Commission shall submit to the European Parliament and to the Council an evaluation report on the application of this Regulation. For this purpose, the Commission shall have permanent access to Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal without the possibility to access any personal data.

4. Member States shall provide Frontex, eu-LISA and the Commission with the information necessary to prepare the annual reports and the evaluation referred to in this Article.

5. Evaluations may be conducted in accordance with Council Regulation (EU) 2022/922[29].

Article 38

Entry into force

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 be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the European Parliament	*For the Council*
The President	*The President*
[...]	*[...]*

[29] Council Regulation (EU) 2022/922 of 9 June 2022 on the establishment and operation of an evaluation and monitoring mechanism to verify the application of the Schengen acquis, and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1053/2013 (OJ L 160, 15.6.2022, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/922/oj).

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1. FRAMEWORK OF THE PROPOSAL/INITIATIVE

1.1. Title of the proposal/initiative

Proposal on the digitalisation of case management in the area of return, readmission and reintegration, and amending Regulations (EU) 2018/1726, (EU) 2018/1860, (EU) 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818 of the European Parliament and of the Council

1.2. Policy area concerned

Home Affairs

1.3. Objective(s)

1.3.1. General objectives

Support the implementation of the rules on return, readmission and reintegration laid down in the Return Regulation and contribute to the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum. Achieving these two objectives will contribute to the proper functioning of the Schengen Area and to the sustainability of the Common European Asylum System.

1.3.2. Specific objectives

Specific objective 1: increase data sharing between competent authorities within the same Member State, between Member States and between member States and Frontex, and between member States or Frontex and third countries, in compliance with data protection rules, to ensure that the information necessary to carry out and monitor return, readmission and reintegration processes is available.

Specific objective 2: foster the digitalisation of return, readmission and reintegration processes and remedy the limited functionalities of existing IT systems to ensure that processes and reporting requirements are more digitalised, user-friendly, and automated, and to significantly decrease the administrative burden and workload of national authorities.

Specific objective 3: enable the automated compilation of more accurate and reliable statistics and shorten the timeframe for data collection to better support evidence-based policy and decision-making.

1.3.3. Expected results and impact

Member States will develop, maintain and operate their national case management systems on return (national RECAMAS).

Frontex will maintain and update the RECAMAS Model and will develop, in cooperation with eu-LISA, the Frontex RECAMAS that may be adopted and customised by willing Member States. Frontex will also develop ad-hoc off-the-shelf IT solutions (e.g. RECAP, an application allowing the communication between third country nationals and migration authorities) that may be integrated into national RECAMAS. Frontex will develop and maintain an EU integrated case management system on readmission (iRCMS) and on reintegration (RIAT), in cooperation with eu-LISA, to be integrated in national RECAMAS.

eu-LISA will develop a communication portal to allow return authorities to share information that cannot be shared through existing or future EU Information Systems.

By digitalising the case management of return, readmission and reintegration procedures, the initiative will speed up, simplify and streamline processes, increase their transparency and decrease the workload for national competent authorities and Frontex.

1.3.4. Indicators of performance

Specific objective 1

– Number of datasets on return, readmission and reintegration cases requested by Member States and made available to other Member States within the applicable time limits laid down by the Return Regulation.

– Number of readmission requests processed via iRCMS.

Specific objective 2

– Number of national RECAMAS in place.

– Number of Member States making use of the Frontex RECAMAS, or parts of it.

– Number of national RECAMAS having integrated iRCMS and RIAT.

– Number of national RECAMAS connected to ESP, CRRS and SIS.

– Number of national RECAMAS connected to the communication portal.

– Number of sub-processes streamlined or automated.

– Average duration of the processing time per return, readmission and reintegration case.

– Number of staff trained in new procedures and IT systems.

Specific objective 3

– Number of statistical datasets (as per the Return Regulation) created automatically.

– Number of statistical datasets (as per the Return regulation) provided within the applicable time limits laid down by the Return Regulation.

1.4. The proposal/initiative relates to:

☑ a new action

☐ a new action following a pilot project / preparatory action[1]

☐ the extension of an existing action

☐ a merger or redirection of one or more actions towards another/a new action

[1] As referred to in Article 58(2), point (a) or (b) of the Financial Regulation.

1.5. Grounds for the proposal/initiative

1.5.1. Requirements to be met in the short or long term including a detailed timeline for roll-out of the implementation of the initiative

All systems (national RECAMAS, Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal) are meant to be developed within four years as of the entry into force of the regulation, in line with the following indicative timeline:

- Q3 2028: entry into force of the regulation.
- Q3/Q4 2028: establishment of the governance framework for the development of the IT systems.
- Q3 2028-Q1 2030: inception phase, including recruitment.
- Q1 2030-Q2 2030: procurement phase.
- Q2 2030-Q1 2032: development phase.
- Q1 2032-Q2/ 2032: testing phase.
- Q2 2032-Q3 2032: gradual onboarding phase and gradual start of operations.

1.5.2. Added value of EU involvement (it may result from different factors, e.g. coordination gains, legal certainty, greater effectiveness or complementarities). For the purposes of this section 'added value of EU involvement' is the value resulting from EU action, that is additional to the value that would have been otherwise created by Member States alone.

Reasons for action at EU level (ex-ante)

The identified problems cannot be effectively resolved at national level. Given the magnitude of the fragmentation of the current digital landscape, without EU coordination and an appropriate EU legal framework, Member States will continue developing siloed systems, leading to inefficiencies, uneven digitalisation, and higher costs. Inefficient digital management of return, readmission and reintegration processes will hinder the future implementation of common rules on return, resulting in suboptimal levels of returns. This would also affect the proper functioning of the rules of the Pact on Migration and Asylum and have an impact on the Schengen area.

An EU-level intervention is essential to ensure interconnection of relevant IT systems across Member States (including by leveraging EU Information Systems), consistent data exchange, and operational efficiency across Member States. Only a coordinated approach at EU level can address in a coherent manner the cross-border complexities that Member States are currently facing e.g. as regards the insufficient sharing of data between Member States.

Expected generated EU added value (ex-post)

The initiative will generate EU added value because an EU initiative can bring about a common framework at EU level that is expected to enhance data sharing, speed up procedures, reduce administrative burden and enable the creation of more granular statistics. This cannot be achieved in the same way by Member States acting individually. A harmonised digitalised approach to return, readmission and reintegration processes at EU level will improve the overall effectiveness of the return system and align with the broader objectives of the Pact on Migration and Asylum. Eventually, coherent digitalisation efforts will support the proper

functioning of the Schengen area and the sustainability of the Common European Asylum System.

A unified digital framework will strengthen the EU's position in negotiations and interactions with third countries and improve the implementation of the 24 EU readmission instruments which provide for uniform procedures. It would contribute to a streamlined approach and coherent expectations in third countries and benefit all Member States.

EU-level efforts will create economies of scale by reducing average costs, as well as avoiding duplication of efforts through system development in silos, and support evidence-based policymaking, including by increasing the reliability of data and statistics. By pooling resources and expertise, the EU can deliver more robust and scalable solutions than Member States acting individually.

1.5.3. Lessons learned from similar experiences in the past

On return, to help Member States improve their return case management systems and ensure a minimum level of efficiency, Frontex has developed a Return Case Management Model ('RECAMAS Model') in accordance with its mandate (also referred to as the 'EBCG Regulation'). The RECAMAS Model is a template (i.e. a document and not an IT system) that provides a basis for Member States to build and set up their own case management systems in similar ways, enabling enhanced cooperation between relevant Member States' authorities while improving data collection. As part of the Operational Strategy of the EU Return Coordinator and the Common Implementation Plan for the Pact on Migration and Asylum, all Member States should have started the development and implementation of a national system based on the RECAMAS Model in 2024-2025. So far, 26 EU Member States have a return case management system possessing a certain degree of alignment on the RECAMAS Model, but only 12 of them operate a system fully based on the RECAMAS Model.

On readmission, to enable Member States and third countries to conduct readmission procedures in an efficient, digital and standardised manner, the Commission has supported the development and operation of Readmission Case Management Systems, though without specific rules at EU level framing the use of these systems. The systems are physically located in and owned by third countries and require rolling maintenance costs. Currently, there are only six RCMS in place with Armenia, Bangladesh, Georgia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Ukraine. The six RCMS allow for the submission of readmission requests to the third country, as well as monitoring of workflows related to verification and confirmation of nationality, issuance of travel documents and return operations. They are separate systems, each one requiring a different log-in procedure, and do not allow the direct upload of information from Member States' and EU systems. The Commission plays a leading role in facilitating the connection of willing Member States to the existing RCMS and contributes financially to their proper technical maintenance and operation.

On reintegration, to ensure communication on reintegration cases between return counsellors in Member States and reintegration implementing partners in third countries, the Commission has developed the Reintegration Assistance Tool ('RIAT'). RIAT is part of the European Migration Network Information Exchange System ('EMN IES'), which was established in 2008. In addition to communication,

RIAT is used for financial and administrative handling of cases in the context of various reintegration programmes, including Frontex own EU Reintegration Programme, and data collection. Currently, all EU Member States, Switzerland, Norway, and Iceland, as well as some reintegration partners are connected to RIAT.

The availability, the use and functionalities of existing IT systems vary greatly between Member States. The existing IT systems for return, readmission and reintegration have been developed separately and by different actors, both at EU and national level. The possibilities for further development and data sharing are limited within the current legal frameworks and operational set-up. This results in a fragmented and inefficient digital landscape.

1.5.4. Compatibility with the multiannual financial framework and possible synergies with other appropriate instruments

Digitalisation is explicitly identified in the Pact on Asylum and Migration as an enabler for swift and efficient migration procedures. Digital systems are essential to improve operational cooperation, ensure reliable data collection, reduce administrative burden, and strengthen the monitoring and enforcement of EU migration rules. This objective aligns with the broader EU political ambition to develop European digital solutions that simplify procedures while safeguarding fundamental rights and data protection.

The need for digitalisation of case management in the area of return, readmission and reintegration has been underlined in the Political Guidelines of President von der Leyen (2024-2029), the Commission Work Programmes for 2025 and 2026, which explicitly present the initiative as having a strong simplification dimension ([3]), and the European Asylum and Migration Management Strategy ([4]). The Return Regulation establishes a common EU return system allowing for the enhanced sharing and transfer of data, in compliance with data protection rules.

The investment required at the EU level and Member States' level may fall within the amounts negotiated for the MFF 2028-2034.

1.5.5. Assessment of the different available financing options, including scope for redeployment

The initiative implies the creation of new IT systems, which will be entrusted to Frontex and eu-LISA.

Frontex will develop and maintain an IT reference implementation for return case management (Frontex RECAMAS), the EU Integrated Readmission Case Management System (iRCMS), the EU Reintegration Case Management System (RIAT).

eu-LISA will design, develop and maintain a communication channel between migration authorities (communication portal).

Achieving these objectives requires broadening the mandate of Frontex and eu-LISA, as these new tasks are not covered by the existing ones. New financial and human resources are therefore necessary to enable both agencies to fulfil their new tasks.

A Program Management Board and an Advisory Group will support the development and further evolutions of the new IT systems. DG HOME will be part of these two

structures. Meetings will take place on a regular basis and at least six times per year in the development phase. More generally, DG HOME will have to monitor the development, implementation and overall compliance with the future regulation. Accordingly, new staff is required to allow the Commission to fulfil its new tasks.

1.6. Duration of the proposal/initiative and of its financial impact

☐ **limited duration**

– ☐ in effect from [DD/MM]YYYY to [DD/MM]YYYY

– ☐ financial impact from YYYY to YYYY for commitment appropriations and from YYYY to YYYY for payment appropriations.

☑ **unlimited duration**

– Implementation with a start-up period from 2028 to 2034,

– followed by full-scale operation.

1.7. Method(s) of budget implementation planned[2]

☐ **Direct management** by the Commission

– ☐ by its departments, including by its staff in the Union delegations;

– ☐ by the executive agencies

☐ **Shared management** with the Member States

☑ **Indirect management** by entrusting budget implementation tasks to:

– ☐ third countries or the bodies they have designated

– ☐ international organisations and their agencies (to be specified)

– ☐ the European Investment Bank and the European Investment Fund

– ☑ bodies referred to in Articles 70 and 71 of the Financial Regulation

– ☐ public law bodies

– ☐ bodies governed by private law with a public service mission to the extent that they are provided with adequate financial guarantees

– ☐ bodies governed by the private law of a Member State that are entrusted with the implementation of a public-private partnership and that are provided with adequate financial guarantees

– ☐ bodies or persons entrusted with the implementation of specific actions in the common foreign and security policy pursuant to Title V of the Treaty on European Union, and identified in the relevant basic act

– ☐ bodies established in a Member State, governed by the private law of a Member State or Union law and eligible to be entrusted, in accordance with sector-specific rules, with the implementation of Union funds or budgetary guarantees, to the extent that such bodies are controlled by public law bodies or by bodies governed by private law with a public service mission, and are provided

[2] Details of budget implementation methods and references to the Financial Regulation may be found on the BUDGpedia site: https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/corp/budget/financial-rules/budget-implementation/Pages/implementation-methods.aspx.

with adequate financial guarantees in the form of joint and several liability by the controlling bodies or equivalent financial guarantees and which may be, for each action, limited to the maximum amount of the Union support.

Comments

For indirect management – implementation via two decentralized agencies (Frontex, eu-LISA)

2. MANAGEMENT MEASURES

2.1. Monitoring and reporting rules

The Commission will ensure that the necessary arrangements are in place to monitor the functioning of the measures proposed and evaluate them against the main policy objectives. Five years after the start of operations of all national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal, and every five years thereafter, the Commission will submit an evaluation report to the European Parliament and the Council assessing the implementation of the Regulation and its added value. The report will also report on any direct or indirect impact on relevant fundamental rights. It will examine results achieved against objectives and assess the continuing validity of the underlying rationale and any implications for future options.

Frontex will submit an annual report to the European Parliament, to the Council, to the Commission, and to the European Data Protection Supervisor on the development and activities of Frontex RECAMAS, national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT, including on their technical functioning and security.

eu-LISA will submit an annual report to the European Parliament, to the Council, to the Commission, and to the European Data Protection Supervisor on the development and activities of the communication portal, including on its technical functioning and security.

2.2. Management and control system(s)

2.2.1. Justification of the budget implementation methods, the funding implementation mechanisms, the payment modalities and the control strategy proposed

Part of this proposal will be implemented via the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and eu-LISA's budgets, through indirect management.

Pursuant to the principle of sound financial management, the budgets of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and eu-LISA shall be implemented in compliance with effective and efficient internal control. The European Border and Coast Guard Agency and eu-LISA are therefore bound to implement an appropriate control strategy coordinated among appropriate actors involved in the control chain. Regarding ex-post controls, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and eu-LISA, as decentralised agencies, are notably subject to:

– internal audit by the Internal Audit Service of the Commission;

– annual reports by the European Court of Auditors, giving a statement of assurance as to the reliability of the annual accounts and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions;

– annual discharge granted by the European Parliament;

– possible investigations conducted by OLAF to ensure, in particular, that the resources allocated to agencies are put to proper use.

As partner DG to the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and eu-LISA, DG HOME will implement its Control Strategy on decentralised agencies to ensure reliable reporting in the framework of its Annual Activity Report (AAR). While decentralised agencies have full responsibility for the implementation of their budget,

DG HOME is responsible for regular payment of annual contributions established by the EU Budgetary Authorities.

Finally, the European Ombudsman provides a further layer of control and accountability.

2.2.2. Information concerning the risks identified and the internal control system(s) set up to mitigate them

For the budget implemented by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and eu-LISA, a specific Internal Control Framework based on the Internal Control Framework of the European Commission is required. The Single Programming Document must provide information on the internal control systems, while the Consolidated Annual Activity Report (CAAR) must contain information on the efficiency and effectiveness of the internal control systems, including as regards risk assessment.

Moreover, the European Data Protection Supervisor and Frontex's and eu-LISA's data protection officer (DPO) supervise Frontex's and eu-LISA's processing of personal data.

Finally, as partner DG of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and eu-LISA, DG HOME runs an annual risk management exercise to identify and assess potential high risks related to agencies' operations. Risks considered as critical are reported annually in DG HOME management plan and are accompanied by an action plan stating the mitigating action.

At operational level the main risk identified is the lack of adequate levels of financial and human resources to allow for the timely development of the new IT systems.

2.2.3. Estimation and justification of the cost-effectiveness of the controls (ratio between the control costs and the value of the related funds managed), and assessment of the expected levels of risk of error (at payment & at closure)

For the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and eu-LISA, the ratio of 'control costs/value of the related funds managed' is reported on by the Commission. The 2024 AAR of DG HOME reports 0,11% for this ratio in relation to Indirect Management Entrusted Entities and Decentralised Agencies, including European Border and Coast Guard Agency.

2.3. Measures to prevent fraud and irregularities

DG HOME will continue to apply its Anti-Fraud Strategy in line with the Commission's Anti-Fraud Strategy (CAFS) in order to ensure inter alia that its internal anti-fraud related controls are fully aligned with the CAFS and that its fraud risk management approach is geared to identify fraud risk areas and adequate responses.

For indirect management, the measures related to combating fraud, corruption and any other illegal activities are outlined in specific provisions on combating fraud of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and eu-LISA's founding regulations.

They require that, among other things, the two decentralised agencies adopt an anti-fraud strategy.

Moreover, as partner DG, DG HOME has developed and implemented its own anti-fraud strategy on the basis of the methodology provided by OLAF. Decentralised agencies, including European Border and Coast Guard Agency, fall within the scope of the strategy.

3. ESTIMATED FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSAL/INITIATIVE

The estimated impact on expenditure and staffing for 2028 and beyond is added for illustrative purposes only and does not pre-judge the next Multiannual Financial Framework. The source of financing and scope of Union financial commitment in the post-2027 period remain subject to the outcome of interinstitutional negotiations on the MFF 2028-2034 and thereafter shall be determined through the annual budgetary procedure. All appropriations and staffing allocations as of 2028 are indicative.

3.1. Heading(s) of the multiannual financial framework and expenditure budget line(s) affected

- Existing budget lines

In order of multiannual financial framework headings and budget lines.

Heading of multiannual financial framework	Budget line	Type of expenditure	Contribution			
	Number	Diff./Non-diff.[3]	from EFTA countries[4]	from candidate countries and potential candidates[5]	From other third countries[6]	other assigned revenue
1	[XX.YY.YY.YY] (Frontex)	Non-diff.	NO	NO	YES	YES
1	[XX.YY.YY.YY] (eu-LISA)	Diff.	NO	NO	YES	YES

- New budget lines requested

In order of multiannual financial framework headings and budget lines.

Heading of multiannual financial framework	Budget line	Type of expenditure	Contribution			
	Number	Diff./Non-diff.	from EFTA countries	from candidate countries and potential candidates	from other third countries	other assigned revenue
	[XX.YY.YY.YY]	Diff./Non-diff.	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO
	[XX.YY.YY.YY]	Diff./Non-diff.	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO
	[XX.YY.YY.YY]	Diff./Non	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO	YES/NO

[3] Diff. = Differentiated appropriations / Non-diff. = Non-differentiated appropriations.
[4] EFTA: European Free Trade Association.
[5] Candidate countries and, where applicable, potential candidates from the Western Balkans.
[6] Frontex and eu-LISA receive contributions from the countries associated with the Schengen Agreement (NO, IS, CH, LI).

		-diff.				

3.2. Estimated financial impact of the proposal on appropriations

3.2.1. Summary of estimated impact on operational appropriations

– ☐ The proposal/initiative does not require the use of operational appropriations

– ☑ The proposal/initiative requires the use of operational appropriations, as explained below

3.2.1.1. Appropriations from voted budget

EUR million (to three decimal places)

Heading of multiannual financial framework	1	Economic, social and territorial cohesion, agriculture, rural and maritime prosperity and security

EU contribution to a decentralised agency

EUR million (to three decimal places)

FRONTEX	Year **2028**	Year **2029**	Year **2030**	Year **2031**	Year **2032**	Year **2033**	Year **2034**	**TOTAL MFF 2028-2034**
Budget line: <…….> / EU Budget contribution to the agency	44,130	18,023	18,134	18,244	18,768	19,309	19,447	156,054

The amount of appropriations to be allocated to the agency in the next MFF is indicative and subject to the agreement on the MFF. It should be integrated into the Agency's subsidy due to the permanent nature of the tasks allocated by this proposal and will be compensated, if relevant, by an equivalent reduction of a relevant programme envelope under the same MFF heading. If a compensatory reduction is needed, the resources allocated to the Agency may also need to be revised through the annual budgetary procedure.

eu-LISA	Year **2028**	Year **2029**	Year **2030**	Year **2031**	Year **2032**	Year **2033**	Year **2034**	**TOTAL MFF 2028-2034**
Budget line: <…….> / EU Budget contribution to the agency	14,120	8,113	8,196	8,280	8,615	8,960	9,059	65,343

The amount of appropriations to be allocated to the agency in the next MFF is indicative and subject to the agreement on the MFF. It should be integrated into the Agency's subsidy due to the permanent nature of the tasks allocated by this proposal and will be compensated, if relevant, by an equivalent reduction of a relevant programme envelope under the same MFF heading. If a compensatory reduction is needed, the resources allocated to the Agency may also need to be revised through the annual budgetary procedure.

			Year **2028**	Year **2029**	Year **2030**	Year **2031**	Year **2032**	Year **2033**	Year **2034**	**TOTAL MFF 2028-2034**
TOTAL operational appropriations (including contribution to decentralised agency)	Commitments	(4)	58,250	26,136	26,330	26,524	27,382	28,269	28,506	221,397
	Payments	(5)	58,250	26,136	26,330	26,524	27,382	28,269	28,506	221,397
TOTAL appropriations of an administrative nature financed from the envelope for specific programmes		(6)	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	**0,000**
TOTAL appropriations under HEADING 1 of the multiannual financial framework	Commitments	=4+6	**58,250**	**26,136**	**26,330**	**26,524**	**27,382**	**28,269**	**28,506**	**221,397**
	Payments	=5+6	**58,250**	**26,136**	**26,330**	**26,524**	**27,382**	**28,269**	**28,506**	**221,397**

			Year **2028**	Year **2029**	Year **2030**	Year **2031**	Year **2032**	Year **2033**	Year **2034**	**TOTAL MFF 2028-2034**
TOTAL operational appropriations (all operational headings)	Commitments	(4)	58,250	26,136	26,330	26,524	27,382	28,269	28,506	221,397
	Payments	(5)	58,250	26,136	26,330	26,524	27,382	28,269	28,506	221,397
TOTAL appropriations of an administrative nature financed from the envelope for specific programmes (all operational headings)		(6)	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	**0,000**
TOTAL appropriations Under Heading 1 to 3	Commitments	=4+6	**58,250**	**26,136**	**26,330**	**26,524**	**27,382**	**28,269**	**28,506**	**221,397**

of the multiannual financial framework (Reference amount)	Payments	=5+6	**58,250**	**26,136**	**26,330**	**26,524**	**27,382**	**28,269**	**28,506**	**221,397**

Heading of multiannual financial framework	4	'Administrative expenditure'[7]

DG HOME		Year **2028**	Year **2029**	Year **2030**	Year **2031**	Year **2032**	Year **2033**	Year **2034**	**TOTAL MFF 2028-2034**
• Human resources		0,388	0,388	0,388	0,388	0,388	0,388	0,388	**2,716**
• Other administrative expenditure		0,048	0,048	0,048	0,048	0,048	0,048	0,048	**0,336**
TOTAL DG HOME	Appropriations	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**3,052**

TOTAL appropriations under HEADING 4 of the multiannual financial framework	(Total commitments = Total payments)	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**3,052**

EUR million (to three decimal places)

		Year **2028**	Year **2029**	Year **2030**	Year **2031**	Year **2032**	Year **2033**	Year **2034**	**TOTAL MFF 2028-2034**
TOTAL appropriations under HEADINGS 1 to 4	Commitments	58,686	26,572	26,766	26,960	27,818	28,705	28,942	224,449
of the multiannual financial framework	Payments	58,686	26,572	26,766	26,960	27,818	28,705	28,942	224,449

[7] The necessary appropriations should be determined using the annual average cost figures available on the appropriate BUDGpedia webpage.

The estimated impact on expenditure and staffing for 2028 and beyond is added for illustrative purposes only and does not pre-judge the next Multiannual Financial Framework. The source of financing and scope of Union financial commitment in the post-2027 period remain subject to the outcome of interinstitutional negotiations on the MFF 2028-2034 and thereafter shall be determined through the annual budgetary procedure. All appropriations and staffing allocations as of 2028 are indicative.

3.2.2. Summary of estimated impact on administrative appropriations

– ☐ The proposal/initiative does not require the use of appropriations of an administrative nature

– ☑ The proposal/initiative requires the use of appropriations of an administrative nature, as explained below

3.2.2.1. Appropriations from voted budget

VOTED APPROPRIATIONS	Year 2028	Year 2029	Year 2030	Year 2031	Year 2032	Year 2033	Year 2034	TOTAL 2028 - 2034
HEADING 4								
Human resources	0,388	0,388	0,388	0,388	0,388	0,388	0,388	**2,716**
Other administrative expenditure	0,048	0,048	0,048	0,048	0,048	0,048	0,048	**0,336**
Subtotal HEADING 4	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**3,052**
Outside HEADING 4								
Human resources	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	**0.000**
Other expenditure of an administrative nature	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	**0.000**
Subtotal outside HEADING 4	**0.000**	**0.000**	**0.000**	**0.000**	**0.000**	**0.000**	**0.000**	**0.000**
TOTAL	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**0,436**	**3,052**

The appropriations required for human resources and other expenditure of an administrative nature will be met by appropriations from the DG that are already assigned to management of the action and/or have been redeployed within the DG, together, if necessary, with any additional allocation which may be granted to the managing DG under the annual allocation procedure and in the light of budgetary constraints.

The estimated impact on expenditure and staffing for 2028 and beyond is added for illustrative purposes only and does not pre-judge the next Multiannual Financial Framework. The source of financing and scope of Union financial commitment in the post-2027 period remain subject to the outcome of interinstitutional negotiations on the MFF 2028-2034 and thereafter shall be determined through the annual budgetary procedure. All appropriations and staffing allocations as of 2028 are indicative.

3.2.3. Estimated requirements of human resources

– ☐ The proposal/initiative does not require the use of human resources

– ☑ The proposal/initiative requires the use of human resources, as explained below

3.2.3.1. Financed from voted budget

Estimate to be expressed in full-time equivalent units (FTEs)[8]

VOTED APPROPRIATIONS	Year 2028	Year 2029	Year 2030	Year 2031	Year 2032	Year 2033	Year 2034
• Establishment plan posts (officials and temporary staff)							
20 01 02 01 (Headquarters and Commission's Representation Offices)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

[8] Please specify below the table how many FTEs within the number indicated are already assigned to the management of the action and/or can be redeployed within your DG and what are your net needs.

20 01 02 03 (EU Delegations)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Indirect research)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Direct research)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other budget lines (specify)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
• External staff (in FTEs)								
20 02 01 (AC, END from the 'global envelope')		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20 02 03 (AC, AL, END and JPD in the EU Delegations)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Admin. Support line	- at Headquarters	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
[XX.01.YY.YY]	- in EU Delegations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(AC, END - Indirect research)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(AC, END - Direct research)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other budget lines (specify) - Heading 4		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other budget lines (specify) - Outside Heading 4		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		2	2	2	2	2	2	2

The estimated impact on expenditure and staffing for 2028 and beyond is added for illustrative purposes only and does not pre-judge the next Multiannual Financial Framework. The source of financing and scope of Union financial commitment in the post-2027 period remain subject to the outcome of interinstitutional negotiations on the MFF 2028-2034 and thereafter shall be determined through the annual budgetary procedure. All appropriations and staffing allocations as of 2028 are indicative.

Considering the overall strained situation in Heading 4, in terms of both staffing and the level of appropriations, the human resources required will be met by staff from the DG who are already assigned to the management of the action and/or have been redeployed within the DG or other Commission services.

The staff required to implement the proposal (in FTEs):

	To be covered by current staff available in the Commission services	**Exceptional additional staff***		
		To be financed under Heading 4 or Research	**To be financed from BA line**	**To be financed from fees**
Establishment plan posts	2 AD posts		N/A	
External staff (CA, SNEs, INT)				

Description of tasks to be carried out by:

Officials and temporary staff	New tasks are foreseen for the Commission: • To monitor the development, implementation and overall compliance with the future regulation. • To prepare and participate in the Program Management Board and the Advisory Group that will support the development and further evolutions of the new IT systems. Meetings will take place on a regular basis and at least six times per year in the development phase that will last several years.
External staff	n/a

3.2.4. Overview of estimated impact on digital technology-related investments

NOT APPLICABLE

Compulsory: the best estimate of the digital technology-related investments entailed by the proposal/initiative should be included in the table below.

Exceptionally, when required for the implementation of the proposal/initiative, the appropriations under Heading 4 should be presented in the designated line.

The appropriations under Headings 1-3 should be reflected as "Policy IT expenditure on operational programmes". This expenditure refers to the operational budget to be used to re-use/ buy/ develop IT platforms/ tools directly linked to the implementation of the initiative and their associated investments (e.g. licences, studies, data storage). The information provided in this table should be consistent with details presented under Section 4 "Digital dimensions".

TOTAL Digital and IT appropriations	Year **2028**	Year **2029**	Year **2030**	Year **2031**	Year **2032**	Year **2033**	Year **2034**	**TOTAL MFF 2028 - 2034**
HEADING 4								
IT expenditure (corporate)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Subtotal HEADING 4	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Outside HEADING 4								
Policy IT expenditure on operational programmes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**
Subtotal outside HEADING 4	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
TOTAL	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

3.2.5. Compatibility with the current multiannual financial framework

The proposal/initiative:

– ☑ can be fully financed through redeployment within the relevant heading of the multiannual financial framework (MFF)

Frontex, eu-LISA – the source of financing and scope of Union financial commitment in the post-2027 period remain subject to the outcome of interinstitutional negotiations on the MFF 2028-2034 and thereafter shall be determined through the annual budgetary procedure Admin lines – additional budget requested

– ☐ requires use of the unallocated margin under the relevant heading of the MFF and/or use of the special instruments as defined in the MFF Regulation

– ☐ requires a revision of the MFF

3.2.6. Third-party contributions

The proposal/initiative:

– ☑ does not provide for co-financing by third parties

– ☐ provides for the co-financing by third parties estimated below:

Appropriations in EUR million (to three decimal places)

	Year **2028**	Year **2029**	Year **2030**	Year **2031**	Year **2032**	Year **2033**	Year **2034**	Total
Specify the co-financing body								
TOTAL appropriations co-financed								

3.2.7. Estimated human resources and the use of appropriations required in a decentralised agency

Staff requirements (full-time equivalent units)

Agency: FRONTEX	Year **2028**	Year **2029**	Year **2030**	Year **2031**	Year **2032**	Year **2033**	Year **2034**
Temporary agents (AD Grades)	28	28	28	28	32	32	32
Temporary agents (AST grades)							
Temporary agents (AD+AST) subtotal	**28**	**28**	**28**	**28**	**32**	**32**	**32**
Contract agents	9	9	9	9	10	10	10
Seconded national experts							
Contract agents and seconded national experts subtotal	**9**	**9**	**9**	**9**	**10**	**10**	**10**

TOTAL staff	**37**	**37**	**37**	**37**	**42**	**42**	**42**

Agency: eu-LISA	Year **2028**	Year **2029**	Year **2030**	Year **2031**	Year **2032**	Year **2033**	Year **2034**
Temporary agents (AD Grades)	15	15	15	15	17	17	17
Temporary agents (AST grades)							
Temporary agents (AD+AST) subtotal	**15**	**15**	**15**	**15**	**17**	**17**	**17**
Contract agents	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Seconded national experts							
Contract agents and seconded national experts subtotal	**5**	**5**	**5**	**5**	**5**	**5**	**5**
TOTAL staff	**20**	**20**	**20**	**20**	**22**	**22**	**22**

Appropriations covered by the EU budget contribution in EUR million (to three decimal places)

Agency: FRONTEX	Year **2028**	Year **2029**	Year **2030**	Year **2031**	Year **2032**	Year **2033**	Year **2034**	**TOTAL 2028 - 2034**
Title 1: Staff expenditure	2,730	5,570	5,681	5,795	6,319	6,861	6,999	**39,954**
Title 2: Infrastructure and operating expenditure	3,320	1,029	1,029	1,028	1,028	1,028	1,028	**9.490**
Title 3: Operational expenditure	38,080	11,424	11,424	11,421	11,421	11,420	11,420	**106,610**
TOTAL of appropriations covered by the EU budget	**44,130**	**18,023**	**18,134**	**18,244**	**18,768**	**19,309**	**19,447**	**156,054**

For 2028, recruitment is assumed to take place in July; therefore, only 50% of the average cost is taken into account. The same approach is applied in 2032 to the additional staff. The staff costs are adjusted with the current correction coefficient for Poland of 82,3% (Frontex) and 113.60% for Strasbourg (eu-LISA).

Appropriations in EUR million (to three decimal places)

Agency: eu-LISA	Year **2028**	Year **2029**	Year **2030**	Year **2031**	Year **2032**	Year **2033**	Year **2034**	**TOTAL 2028 - 2034**

Title 1: Staff expenditure	2,030	4,141	4,224	4,308	4,643	4,989	5,088	**29,423**
Title 2: Infrastructure and operating expenditure	3,000	0,922	0,922	0,922	0,922	0,921	0,921	**8,530**
Title 3: Operational expenditure	9,090	3,050	3,050	3,050	3,050	3,050	3,050	**27,390**
TOTAL of appropriations covered by the EU budget	**14,120**	**8,113**	**8,196**	**8,280**	**8,615**	**8,960**	**9,059**	**65,343**

Overview/summary of human resources and appropriations (in EUR million) required by the proposal/initiative in a decentralised agency

Agency: FRONTEX	Year **2028**	Year **2029**	Year **2030**	Year **2031**	Year **2032**	Year **2033**	Year **2034**	**TOTAL 2028 - 2034**
Temporary agents (AD+AST)	**28**	**28**	**28**	**28**	**32**	**32**	**32**	**-**
Contract agents	**9**	**9**	**9**	**9**	**10**	**10**	**10**	**-**
Seconded national experts	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**-**
Total staff	**37**	**37**	**37**	**37**	**42**	**42**	**42**	**-**
Appropriations covered by the EU budget	**44.130**	**18.023**	**18.134**	**18.244**	**18.768**	**19.309**	**19.447**	**156.054**
Appropriations covered by fees (if applicable)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	**0.000**
Appropriations co-financed (if applicable)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	**0.000**
TOTAL appropriations	**44,130**	**18,023**	**18,134**	**18,244**	**18,768**	**19,309**	**19,447**	**156,054**

Agency: eu-LISA	Year **2028**	Year **2029**	Year **2030**	Year **2031**	Year **2032**	Year **2033**	Year **2034**	**TOTAL 2028 - 2034**
Temporary agents (AD+AST)	*15*	*15*	*15*	*15*	*17*	*17*	*17*	**-**
Contract agents	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	**-**

Seconded national experts	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**-**
Total staff	**20**	**20**	**20**	**20**	**22**	**22**	**22**	**-**
Appropriations covered by the EU budget	**14,120**	**8,113**	**8,196**	**8,280**	**8,615**	**8,960**	**9,059**	**65,343**
Appropriations covered by fees (if applicable)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	**0.000**
Appropriations co-financed (if applicable)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	**0.000**
TOTAL appropriations	**14,120**	**8,113**	**8,196**	**8,280**	**8,615**	**8,960**	**9,059**	**65,343**

3.3. Estimated impact on revenue

– ☑ The proposal/initiative has no financial impact on revenue.

– ☐ The proposal/initiative has the following financial impact:

  – ☐ on own resources

  – ☐ on other revenue

  – ☐ please indicate, if the revenue is assigned to expenditure lines

EUR million (to three decimal places)

Budget revenue line:	Appropriations available for the current financial year	Impact of the proposal/initiative[9]						
		Year **2028**	Year **2029**	Year **2030**	Year **2031**	Year **2032**	Year **2033**	Year **2034**
Article …….								

For assigned revenue, specify the budget expenditure line(s) affected.

n/a

Other remarks (e.g. method/formula used for calculating the impact on revenue or any other information).

n/a

[9] As regards traditional own resources (customs duties, sugar levies), the amounts indicated must be net amounts, i.e. gross amounts after deduction of 20% for collection costs.

4. DIGITAL DIMENSIONS

4.1. Requirements of digital relevance

Reference to the requirement	High-level description of the requirement	Stakeholders affected by the requirement	High-level processes	Categories
Article 3, Article 27 (Technical architecture)	Establishment of three digital systems to manage cases relating to return ('national RECAMAS'), readmission ('iRCMS') and reintegration ('RIAT') of third-country nationals staying illegally in the Union, including a communication channel connecting these systems ('communication portal')	Member States's competent authorities EU Agencies (Frontex, eu-LISA) Third countries' competent authorities (for iRCMS) Third parties competent for reintegration assistance (for RIAT)	Establishment of digital systems	Digital solution Digital public service
Article 5 (EU Information Systems)	Competent authorities using national RECAMAS, the iRCMS and RIAT shall make use of the ESP to access EU Information Systems	Member States's competent authorities	Processing of data	Digital Solution Digital Public Service
Article 6 (Connection to other national relevant IT systems)	Each national RECAMAS shall allow for the connection with other relevant national IT systems	Member States's competent authorities	Processing of data	Digital Solution Digital Public Service
Articles 7 - 9 (Case management systems)	Article 7: Recording of data in national	Member States's competent	Processing of data	Digital Solution Data

	RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT Article 8: Consultation of data recorded Article 9: Rectification and erasure of data recorded	authorities Frontex		Digital Public Service
Articles 10-14 (Case management systems)	Essential functional features: (i) common to national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT (Article 10) (ii) of national RECAMAS (Article 11) (iii) of iRCMS (Article 12) (iv) of RIAT (Article 13) (v) and of the communication portal (Article 14)	Member States's competent authorities EU Agencies (Frontex, eu-LISA)	Processing of data	Digital Solution Digital Public Service
Articles 15-17 (Development, operation, and responsibilities)	Organisational measures concerning the: Development and technical evolutions (Article 15) Program Management Board (Article 16) Operational management (Article 17)	Member States's competent authorities EU Agencies (Frontex, eu-LISA) Commission	Establishment of digital systems	Digital Public Service

Article 18 (Data security), Article 19 (Keeping of logs), Article 20 (Retention period for data storage)	Measures to ensure the security of iRCMS, RIAT, and national RECAMAS Measures regarding the logging of all data processing operations, and the retention period for data stored	Member States's competent authorities EU Agencies (Frontex, eu-LISA)	Establishment of digital systems	Digital solution Digital Public Service
Article 22 (Statistics), Article 29 and Article 30 (Amendments to Regulations (EU) 2019/817 and 2019/818)	Automation of statistics relating to return, readmission and reintegration	Member States's competent authorities eu-LISA	Processing of data	Data Digital Public Service
Article 28 (Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2018/1860)	Enabling the possibility to retain data relevant for return, readmission and reintegration purposes from the Schengen Information System into national systems	Member States's competent authorities eu-LISA	Processing of data	Data Digital Solution Digital Public Service
Article 32 (Notifications)	Data flows pertaining to notifications	Member States's competent authorities EU Agencies (Frontex, eu-LISA) Commission	Processing of data	Data
Article 33 (Start of operations)	Organisational measures pertaining to the start of operations for	Member States's competent authorities EU Agencies	Establishment of digital systems	Digital Public Service

	national RECAMAS, iRCMS, RIAT and the communication portal	(Frontex, eu-LISA) Commission		
Article 36 (Contact point)	Member States shall communicate the name of the designated authority (or any changes in said designation) to the Commission	Member States's competent authorities Commission	Processing of data	Data
Article 37 (Monitoring and evaluation)	Data flows in the context of the monitoring and evaluation of the development and activities of Frontex RECAMAS, national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT, and communication portal	Member States's competent authorities EU Agencies (Frontex, eu-LISA) Commission	Processing of data	Data

4.2. Data

Type of data	Reference to the requirement(s)	Standard and/or specification (if applicable)
Data necessary for managing cases in the area of return, readmission and reintegration	Article 7(1), itself referring to Article 36(6) of the Return Regulation	n/a
Statistical data in the area of return, readmission and reintegration	Article 22	n/a
Data from the Schengen Information System relevant for return, readmission and	Article 28	n/a

reintegration purposes		
Data flows pertaining to notifications	Article 32	n/a
Member States shall communicate the name of the designated authority (or any changes in said designation) to the Commission	Article 36	n/a
Data flows in the context of the monitoring and evaluation of the development and activities of Frontex RECAMAS, national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT, and communication portal	Article 37	n/a

Alignment with the European Data Strategy

Due to the type of data processed and the fact that such data will be processed for very specific purposes linked to return, readmission and reintegration, the proposed initiative is of very limited relevance to the objective of achieving a genuine single market for data, which is the underpinning objective of the European Data Strategy.

Alignment with the once-only principle

First, the proposed IT architecture will rely on the use of EU Information Systems (e.g. the Schengen Information System, Eurodac, EES), which will be systematically queried via the European Search Portal. Thanks to these EU Information systems and the interoperability framework, the data is stored only once and its access by national competent authorities is immediate.

Second, for the data that may not be available in EU Information Systems, the communication portal will be used, ensuring a useful and necessary additional technical mean to share data, without any redundancy with the EU Information Systems.

Third, one of the essential functional features to be complied with will be the automatic retrieval of data between the three case management systems i.e. national RECAMAS (for return), iRCMS (for readmission) and RIAT (for reintegration). This will ensure that competent authorities are required to provide the same data only once, in compliance with the once-only principle.

Data flows

Type of data	References to the requirements	Stakeholder who provides the data	Stakeholder who receives the data	Trigger for the data exchange	Frequency (if applicable)
Data necessary for managing cases in the area of return, readmission and reintegration	Article 7(1), itself referring to Article 36(6) of the Return Regulation	Member States' competent authorities. Frontex (when processing a case upon request from a competent authority) Third countries' competent authorities (for part of the readmission procedure). Third parties competent for reintegration assistance (for part of the reintegration procedure)	Member States' competent authorities Frontex (when processing a case upon request from a competent authority) Third countries' competent authorities (for part of the readmission procedure). Third parties competent for reintegration assistance (for part of the reintegration procedure)	Need to manage cases relating to return, readmission and reintegration	n/a
Statistical data in the area of return, readmission and reintegration	Article 22	Member States' competent authorities (to provide the data to the CRRS) eu-LISA (to produce the statistics through the CRRS)	Member States' competent authorities. Frontex eu-LISA. Commission	Obligation to comply with reporting requirements	Annually in accordance with Article 46 of the Return Regulation and quarterly based on Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 862/2007

Data from the Schengen Information System and relevant for return, readmission and reintegration purposes	Article 28	Member States' competent authorities	Member States' competent authorities	Need to manage cases relating to return, readmission and reintegration	n/a

4.3. Digital solutions

Digital solution	References to the requirements	Main mandated functionalities	Responsible body	How is accessibility catered for?	How is reusability considered?	Use of AI technologies (if applicable)
National RECAMAS	Article 3 (Technical architecture) Article 6 (Connection to other national relevant IT systems) Article 7 (Recording of data in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS and in RIAT) Article 8 (Consultation of data recorded in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS, and in RIAT)	To be based on either RECAMAS Model, Frontex RECAMAS or a combination of the two Each national RECAMAS shall allow for the connection of other national relevant IT systems and for the prompt, secure, and effective transmission of data from and to those systems	Member States	n/a	The use of the European Search Portal will allow to access the information stored in EU Information Systems. The system should ensure the automatic retrieval of the necessary data between national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT	Where relevant, the functionalities of the system should make use of artificial intelligence systems, in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2024/1689.

	Article 9 (Rectification and erasure of data recorded in national RECAMAS, in iRCMS and in RIAT) Article 10 (Essential functional features common to national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT) Article 11 (Essential functional features of national RECAMAS)	Allow competent authorities (and upon agreement by a competent authority, Frontex) to record data Allow each competent authority of origin to consult the data it recorded. Allow Frontex, upon agreement by the competent authority of origin, to consult the data Allow and mandate each competent authority of origin and Frontex to rectify or erase the data Establishing essential functional features that all three case management systems should comply with (e.g. issuance of				

		a single identifier allocated to each third-country national for whom a case is opened as regards return, readmission and, where applicable, reintegration) Establishing essential functional features that all national RECAMAS should comply with (e.g. support to the preparation, issuance and notification of return decisions)				
iRCMS	Article 3 (Technical architecture) Article 10 (Essential functional features common to national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT) Article 12 (Essential functional features of	Union integrated readmission case management system Establishing essential functional features that all three case management systems should comply with (e.g.	Frontex	n/a	The use of the European Search Portal will allow to access the information stored in EU Information Systems. The system should ensure the automatic	Where relevant, the functionalities of the system should make use of artificial intelligence systems, in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2024/1689

	iRCMS)	issuance of a single identifier allocated to each third-country national for whom a case is opened as regards return, readmission and, where applicable, reintegration) Establishing essential functional features that iRCMS should comply with (e.g. possibility to automate the initiation of a readmission procedure following the issuance of an enforceable return decision)			retrieval of the necessary data between national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT	.
RIAT	Article 3 (Technical architecture) Article 10 (Essential functional features common to national	Union reintegration case management system Establishing essential functional features that	Frontex	n/a	The use of the European Search Portal will allow to access the information stored in EU	Where relevant, the functionalities of the system should make use of artificial intelligenc

	RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT) Article 13 (Essential functional features of RIAT)	all three case management systems should comply with (e.g. issuance of a single identifier allocated to each third-country national for whom a case is opened as regards return, readmission and, where applicable, reintegration) Establishing essential functional features that RIAT should comply with (possibility for a competent authority to communicate with third parties competent for reintegration assistance on individual cases)			Information Systems. The system should ensure the automatic retrieval of the necessary data between national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT	e systems, in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2024/1689.
Frontex RECAMAS	Article 3 (Technical architecture) Article 10	Reference implementation of a return case	Frontex	n/a	This system is a reference implementa	Where relevant, the functionali

	(Essential functional features common to national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT) Article 11 (Essential functional features of national RECAMAS)	management system Establishing essential functional features that all three case management systems should comply with (e.g. issuance of a single identifier allocated to each third-country national for whom a case is opened as regards return, readmission and, where applicable, reintegration) Establishing essential functional features that all national RECAMAS should comply with and that Frontex RECAMAS reference implementation must include			tion and is therefore not containing data	ties of the system should make use of artificial intelligence systems, in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2024/1689.
Communication portal	Article 3 (Technical architecture)	Communication channel between competent	eu-LISA	n/a	This system is a communication channel	Where relevant, the functionali

	Article 14 (communication portal)	authorities Establish the essential functional features that the communication portal should comply with, as well as to establish the single point of contacts to coordinate and facilitate the exchange of data through the communication portal			and is therefore not storing data	ties of the system should make use of artificial intelligence systems, in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2024/1689
CRRS	Article 3 (Technical architecture) Article 22 (Statistics)	Central Repository for Reporting and Statistics, to generate statistics from national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT Establish the obligation to automatically record anonymised return, readmission and	eu-LISA	n/a	This system will ensure that statistics are generated from the data recorded in national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT	Where relevant, the functionalities of the system should make use of artificial intelligence systems, in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2024/1689

		reintegration-related data from national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT into the CRRS to generate statistics, and provide access to the generated statistics to competent authorities, Frontex, eu-LISA and the Commission				

Digital systems for managing return, readmission and reintegration of third-country nationals i.e. national RECAMAS, Frontex RECAMAS, RIAT, iRCMS, communication portal.

Digital and/or sectorial policy (when these are applicable)	Explanation on how it aligns
AI Act	Where relevant, the functionalities of the system should make use of artificial intelligence systems, in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2024/1689. In case high-risk AI systems are to be used, the corresponding requirements of the AI Act will apply
EU Cybersecurity framework	The systems will comply with the EU Cybersecurity framework
European Digital Identity Regulation	Where relevant, the systems will make use of the possibilities offered by the European Digital Identity Regulation concerning secure electronic identification, authentication, and trust services across the EU
Single Digital Gateway and IMI	n/a
Others	n/a

4.4. Interoperability assessment

Digital public service or category of digital public services	Description and impact on interoperability	Reference(s) to the requirement(s)	Interoperable Europe Solution(s)	Other interoperability solution(s)
Digitalisation of migration management	Establishment of three digital systems to manage cases relating to return ('national RECAMAS'), readmission ('iRCMS') and reintegration ('RIAT') of third-country nationals staying illegally in the Union, including a communication channel connecting these systems ('communication portal')	Article 3 (Technical architecture); Article 5 (EU Information Systems); Article 6 (Connection to other national relevant IT systems); Articles 7-9 (Case management systems); Articles 10-14 (Case management systems); Articles 15-17 (Development, operation and responsibilities); Article 20 (Retention period for data storage); Article 28 (Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2018/1860)	Possibly, to be determined at the stage of the development of the systems. The regulation provides that 'Technical developments shall take into account any relevant Interoperable Europe solutions, as referred to in Article 7 of Regulation (EU) 2024/903.'	Yes. The systems will make use of the Interoperability framework established by 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 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
Statistics on migration management	Automation of statistics relating to return, readmission and reintegration	Article 22 (Statistics), Articles 29 and 30 (Amendments to Regulations (EU) 2019/817	No	Yes. The systems will make use of the central repository for reporting and statistics

		and 2019/818)		(CRRS) established by Regulations (EU) 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818

Digitalisation of migration management

Assessment	**Measure(s)**	**Potential remaining barriers (if applicable)**
Alignment with existing digital and sectorial policies **Please list the applicable digital and sectorial policies identified**	The three case management systems (national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT) will make full use of the EU Information Systems (e.g. SIS or EES, in compliance with Regulations (EU) 2018/1860, 2018/1861 and Regulation (EU) 2017/2226), in particular through the use of the European Search Portal (ESP) established by Regulations (EU) 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818, which will allow to access the relevant data stored in EU Information Systems Should AI functionalities be embedded into the three case management systems (national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT) and/or in the communication portal, Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 will be complied with, including as regards the possible implementation of high-risk AI systems Connections to national relevant IT systems and corresponding processing activities to be carried out in compliance with data protection rules and the conditions determined by national law (Article 6)	n/a
Organisational measures for a smooth cross-border digital public services delivery **Please list the governance measures foreseen**	Access rights: - Article 7: Competent authorities, and (upon approval by competent authorities) Frontex, may record data in national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT. They shall be responsible for ensuring data is accurate and up to date. - Article 8: Details rules for consultation of data by each competent authority and Frontex. - Article 9: Competent authority of origin and Frontex shall be responsible for rectifying and erasing any factually inaccurate data. If competent authorities/Frontex have information suggesting factually inaccurate data, they shall inform the competent authority of origin (and Frontex). - Article 14: In each competent authority, a single point of contact shall have access to the communication	n/a

	portal. Development and Operation: - Article 15: Frontex is responsible for the development of the RECAMAS Model, Frontex RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT. - Article 15: Member States are responsible for the development of national RECAMAS, and the integration of iRCMS, RIAT, and the communication portal into their national RECAMAS. - Article 15: eu-LISA is responsible for the development of the Communication Poral. - Article 16: Program Management Board to be established. - Article 17: Frontex is responsible for the operational management of iRCMS and RIAT. - Article 17: Prior agreement of the Commission is needed for the selection of third countries to be connected to iRCMS. - Article 17: Member States are responsible for the operational management of national RECAMAS. - Article 17: eu-LISA is responsible for the operational management of the communication portal. - Article 20: Rules and responsibilities as regards retention period for data storage.	
Measures taken to ensure a shared understanding of the data **Please list such measures**	Article 7: Data to be recorded in national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT to include data referred to in Article 36(6) of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280. Article 28: Allows the keeping of relevant data from the Schengen Information System into national RECAMAS. Existing interoperability will be enhanced as Member States will have the possibility to keep into national RECAMAS the relevant information from the Schengen Information System.	n/a
Use of commonly agreed open technical specifications and standards **Please list such measures**	Interoperability is ensured as the three case management systems (national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT) will be accessing EU Information Systems via the European Search Portal. In addition, national RECAMAS (in which iRCMS and RIAT will be integrated) will be connected to the communication portal. **Common to National RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT:** - Article 5: Each competent authority using these systems shall make use of the ESP to access EU Information Systems. - Article 10: The communication portal will provide the possibility to securely exchange data between competent authorities and between competent	n/a

	authorities and Frontex. - Article 10: Implementing acts to specify technical and operational requirements necessary for the uniform application of the essential functional features, and to address unforeseen technical or operational gaps. - Article 14: The communication portal shall be integrated into each national RECAMAS, iRCMS, and RIAT, as well as into the integrated return management platform (IRMA). Implementing acts to specify the technical requirements for the establishment and connection to the communication portal. - Article 15: Technical development shall take into account any relevant Interoperable Europe Solutions. **National RECAMAS:** - Article 3: Member States shall base their national RECAMAS on: the model document and specifications developed by Frontex (RECAMAS Model), the IT reference implementation developed by Frontex and based on the RECAMAS Model (Frontex RECAMAS), or a combination of the RECAMAS Model and specific digital modules of Frontex RECAMAS. - Article 6: Allows the connection of other national relevant IT systems for the transmission of data to and from those systems. - Article 11: Implementing acts to detail or complement the features of the national RECAMAS. **iRCMS:** - Article 12: Implementing acts to detail or complement the features of the iRCMS. **RIAT:** - Article 13: Implementing acts to detail or complement the features of the RIAT.	

Statistics on migration management

Assessment	**Measures**	**Potential remaining barriers (if applicable)**
Alignment with existing digital and	Regulations (EU) 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818 establishing the Central Repository for Reporting and Statistics (CRRS)	n/a

sectorial policies **Please list the applicable digital and sectorial policies identified**	Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection Regulation (EU) 2026/2280 (Return Regulation)	
Organisational measures for a smooth cross-border digital public services delivery **Please list the governance measures foreseen**	The governance of the CRRS is not amended and remains regulated by Regulations (EU) 2019/817 and (EU) 2019/818 Article 22: The statistics generated by the CRRS shall be accessible to competent authorities, Frontex, eu-LISA and the Commission	n/a
Measures taken to ensure a shared understanding of the data **Please list such measures**	Article 22: The anonymised data referred to in Article 46 of Regulation (EU) 2026/2280 and in Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 862/2007, as well as anonymised data on cases status, should be recorded, from national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT, in the CRRS	n/a
Use of commonly agreed open technical specifications and standards **Please list such measures**	Interoperability is ensured as the three case management systems (national RECAMAS, iRCMS and RIAT) will make use of the CRRS	n/a

4.5. Measures to support digital implementation

Description of the measure	Reference to the requirement	Commission's role in implementing the measure	Stakeholders to be involved	Expected timeline
Establishment of three digital systems to manage cases relating to return ('national RECAMAS'), readmission ('iRCMS') and reintegration ('RIAT') of	Article 3 (Technical architecture), Article 7 to Article 14 (Case management systems), Article 18 (Data security), Article 19 (Keeping of logs), Article 20	The Commission will be part of the Program Management Board and the Advisory Group, which will support the continuous development of the systems	Member States, Frontex, eu-LISA, Commission	Start of operations by 2034

third-country nationals staying illegally in the Union, including a communication channel connecting these systems (‘communication portal’)	(Retention period for data storage)			
Automation of statistics relating to return, readmission and reintegration	Article 22 (Statistics), Article 29 and 30 (Amendments to Regulations (EU) 2019/817 and 2019/818)	The Commission is part of the Interoperability Program Management Board and the Interoperability Advisory Group, which support the continuous development of the interoperability components	Member States, Frontex, eu-LISA, Commission	Start of operations by 2034
Enabling the possibility to retain data relevant for return, readmission and reintegration purposes from the Schengen Information System into national systems	Article 28 (Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2018/1860)	The Commission is part of the SIS Advisory Group, which monitors and supports the continuous development and adaptation of the SIS	Member States, Frontex, eu-LISA, Europol, Eurojust, Commission	Start of operations by 2034