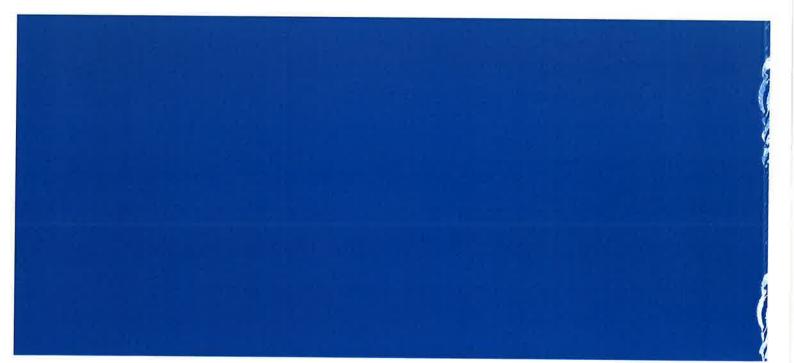




Cooperation Plan 2024-2026 of FRA and eu-LISA



The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), represented for the purposes of signature of this Cooperation Plan by its Director, Sirpa Rautio,

and

the European Union Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (eu-LISA), represented for the purposes of signature of this Cooperation Plan by its Executive Director, Agnès Diallo,

hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Parties", or individually as the "Party",

Having regard to the Council Regulation (EC) No 168/2007 of 15 February 2007 establishing a European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, as amended by Council Regulation (EU) 2022/555 (hereinafter referred to as the "FRA founding Regulation"),

Having regard to 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 (hereinafter referred to as the "eu-LISA Regulation");

Having regard to the Working Arrangement between FRA and eu-LISA concluded on 6 July 2016 (hereinafter referred to as the "Working Arrangement"),

Whereas:

(1) In line with their respective mandates, the cooperation between the Parties can contribute to develop further the provision of expertise and operational and technical support to the EU and its Member States.

(2) Following discussions, the Parties have agreed that it is within their common interest to establish a multi-annual Cooperation Plan in the areas of mutual interest, namely the exchange of information and expertise; cooperation in the field of training to Member States; data protection; communication and events as well as policy coordination and practices.

The Parties have agreed on the following:

Article 1 Objective

The purpose of this Cooperation Plan for the period of 2024-2026 is to share knowledge, expertise and best practices between the Parties as well as to cooperate in the areas of mutual interest, notably to exchange information and know-how; cooperate in the field of training and in the area of data protection; concerning communication and events, as well as policy coordination and practices.

Article 2

General provisions on the application of the Cooperation Plan

1. The implementation of this Cooperation Plan is subject to the available resources of each Party in accordance with the applicable legal framework.

2. The services provided by each Party to the other will be on a best effort basis. No liability shall be attached to either Party or their respective staff in relation to providing the services

covered by this Cooperation Plan. No damages nor liabilities can result from a failure or breach of application under this Cooperation Plan and its execution.

3. Both Parties shall bear their own expenses.

4. Any disputes arising in the implementation of this plan will be referred to the Heads of Agencies to agree on a solution.

5. The Cooperation Plan may be modified on the agreement of both Parties. Before the expiration of the Cooperation Plan, the Parties will assess its implementation and the way forward.

6. In accordance with Article 12 of the Working Arrangement, at least once a year, the Parties shall assess the progress made in their cooperation and discuss further cooperation activities.

Article 3

Cooperation activities

The Parties will cooperate in the following areas:

STRUCTURE FRA / eu-LISA		ACTIVITY	
AREA – Exchange of information and expertise			
Justice, Digital and Migration Unit (JDM) Corporate Services (CS) Director's Office	Planning and Standards Unit (PSU)	 Exchange information on the development of new and existing information systems in the JHA area and possible fundamental rights implications, as relevant: In the areas of asylum, security, and borders: API, EES, ETIAS, Eurodac, SIS, VIS, Prüm II and the visa application platform. In the area of justice: ECRIS-RI, ECRIS-TCN, e-CODEX, and Joint Investigation Teams (JITs) Collaboration Platform. The interoperability architecture, artificial intelligence, and cyber security. When handling classified information, the Parties shall comply with security rules and standards equivalent to those applied by each Party. Hold regular working level discussions on the abovementioned matters, as required. 	
JDM	Governance and Capabilities Unit (GCU)	Share findings on relevant research initiatives and developments related to information systems in the JHA area and possible fundamental rights implications, as relevant. Collaborate and share expertise, where appropriate, in FRA's projects on: artificial intelligence; remote biometric identification; EES and ETIAS; FRA Fundamental Rights Report and FRA's awareness raising guide on interoperability for civil society, cyber security and digital justice. eu-LISA will provide expert input within its field of competence and expertise to FRA reports and tools, and FRA will likewise contribute to relevant eu-LISA studies as well as research initiatives, and provide guidance in relation to relevant fundamental rights provisions in the ETIAS Regulation, within the limits of each Party's available resources.	

CS	Security Unit	Share best practices, respective experience, and expertise in the security domain (specifically including cybersecurity) and business continuity among the responsible staff members of the Parties, as necessary.		
AREA – Cooperation in the field of training to Member States				
Communicati ons and Events Unit (Comms)	GCU	Cooperate by contributing to each other's training and awareness raising events and materials, as relevant, including on the respective Parties' on-line training platforms.		
AREA – Data protection				
		Exchange lessons learnt and best practices in the area of protection of personal data.		
DPO	DPO	Cooperate through the Data Protection Officers' meetings within the Justice and Home Affairs Agencies Network (JHAAN) and the EU Agencies Network (EUAN) as relevant.		
AREA – Communication and events				
Comms	Executive Support and Stakeholder Relations Unit (ESU)	Promote and share activities of common interest on the Parties' websites, social media, and other relevant communication channels. Streamline the sharing of pertinent media alerts, for example those initiatives and developments related to fundamental rights, in particular the Charter of Fundamental Rights and large-scale IT systems.		
Director's Office, JDM	ESU	Extend invitations to relevant conferences, expert meetings and workshops organised by either Party to build on and gain from each other's expertise, as relevant. FRA will be invited to the eu-LISA Annual Conferences and eu-LISA will be invited to FRA's flagship events, e.g. the Fundamental Rights Forum, as appropriate.		
		Both Parties shall bear their own expenses.		
AREA – Activities in the area of policy coordination and practices				
CS	ESU	Consult each other on strategic documents, such as the draft Annual Work Programmes and other programming and reporting documents, where appropriate.		
Institutional Cooperation and Networks Unit (Inst), CS, JDM	ESU	Coordinate matters concerning the priorities and activities of both Parties, especially in the context of the JHAAN, the EU Agencies Network (EUAN), and the Internal Security Hub where relevant.		
CS	Corporate Services Department (Human Resources Unit, Finance and Procurement Unit, Corporate	Share expertise and best practices in areas such as human resources, accounting, finance and procurement, corporate services, and administrative matters, as appropriate. Provide shared services in the area of cybersecurity in particular assisting in the compliance with the provisions set out in the new Cybersecurity regulation 2023/2841 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Cooperation in the human resources domain may include sharing of valid and available Reserve Lists of successful candidates in the		

The Cooperation Plan will enter into effect on the day following the signature by the second Party.

Signed in Vienna in the English language.

For FRA

Sirpa RAUTIO Director

For eu-LISA

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Agnès DIALLO Executive Director

Date: 12 March 2024

Date:

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12.5.2024