



Ad-Hoc Query on the implementation of Council regulation 2725/2000 (Eurodac)

Requested by FR on 1st December 2010

Compilation produced on 29th March 2011

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom (17 in Total)

Disclaimer: The following responses have been provided primarily for the purpose of information exchange among EMN NCPs in the framework of the EMN. The contributing EMN NCPs have provided, to the best of their knowledge, information that is up-to-date, objective and reliable. Note, however, that the information provided does not necessarily represent the official policy of an EMN NCPs' Member State.

1. Background Information

The asylum department of the Ministry of Interior is interested in gathering information on the implementation of Council Regulation No 2725/2000 of 11 December 2000 concerning the establishment of 'Eurodac' for the comparison of fingerprints for the effective application of the Dublin Convention.

Please provide your much appreciated responses by **23rd December 2010**.

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2. Responses

		Wider Dissemination?¹	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the name of the software used for the validation of HITS? What is the software version used? 2. Is the validation of HITS automatic or manual? 3. In the case of a manual validation, <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Is the operator an expert in digital fingerprints? b. Does the operator place points of agreement both on the candidate and asylum applicant file card / if so how many? 4. In the case of an automatic validation, what does the operator do? 5. Are experts in digital fingerprints trained? If yes, what kind of training/who provides the training? 6. How many agents are there in the Eurodac unit? 7. How many officers are assigned to the treatment of HITS?
	Austria	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
	Belgium	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Steria NAP/FIT solution. 2. Validation of Hits is automatic. 3. No manual validation. 4. HITS are reported to the Dublin office. 5. Experts are trained on-site. System Operators are trained by System Managers, who are trained by the AFIS-company. 6. Eurodac unit consists of two (2) System Managers and eight (8) System Operators. 7. Every person of the unit treats HITS.
	Czech Republic	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
	Estonia	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) ESTODAC 2) If Police and Border Guard Board (PBGB) receives HIT from EURODAC, then PBGB forwards all relevant fingerprints to the Estonian Forensic Science Institute (EFSI; www.ekei.ee) and their expert checks these fingerprints visually and confirms whether these fingerprints belong to the same person or not. 3. a) Specialists of the PBGB are not experts of the fingerprints. As stated above PBGB uses EFSI services. 3. b) EFSI experts don't use points methodology. They use holistic approach. 4) See answer no 2. 5) Yes, EFSI's experts are trained and mostly they are trained by colleagues. 6) In PBGB there is no such central EURODAC Unit. We have approximately 30 officials from different departments and divisions who have the rights to send fingerprints to the EURODAC. If they receive HIT from there, then they contact the EFSI (see answer no 2).

¹ A default "Yes" is given for your response to be circulated further (e.g. to other EMN NCPs and their national network members). A "No" should be added here if you do not wish your response to be disseminated beyond other EMN NCPs. In case of "No" and wider dissemination beyond other EMN NCPs, then for the Compilation for Wider Dissemination the response should be removed and the following statement should be added in the relevant response box: "This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further."

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	Finland	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. N/a; Finland does not validate hits separately. 2. The validation is totally automatic; Finland has chosen the automatic “Trusted mode”. The Police or the Border Guard takes the finger prints and inputs them in the Eurodac-system. The reply is sent to the Finnish Immigration Service 3. N/a 4. Nothing 5. The finger print experts at the forensic laboratory of the National Bureau of Investigation have completed a training programme to become finger print investigators. The duration of the training programme for a new investigator is 120 study credits, which together with other studies amounts to about 12-18 months. The police officers and other personnel in charge of taking the actual finger prints are trained by the Police College of Finland. 6. Two persons at the forensic laboratory are in charge of processing Eurodac-requests. As agreed between the National Bureau of Investigation and the Finnish Immigration Service, the Dublin section at the Immigration Service has two persons also responsible for handling the shielding/blocking of Eurodac finger prints. Two persons at the Nationality unit of the Immigration Service are also responsible for removing those who have attained Finnish citizenship from the Eurodac-system. 7. All 15 persons of the Dublin section of the Asylum unit at the Finnish Immigration Service are processing hits.
	France	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SAGEM PFSE METAMORPHO 2. The results transmitted by the system are manually checked by officers of the Eurodac unit. 3. a. In France, the operator is not an expert in digital fingerprints. b. The operator places a minimum of 12 points of agreement on both file cards. 4. In France, there is no automatic validation. 5. It is an internal training provided by a Police captain of judiciary identity (identité judiciaire). 6. The whole staff is processing the HITS. 7. The Eurodac unit is composed of 8 officers (including 2 managers)
	Germany	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sagem Morpho 2. The results transmitted by the system are manually checked by officers of the Federal Criminal Police. 3. a. Yes. b. The operator places a minimum of 12 points of agreement on both file cards. 4. n.a. 5. It is an internal four-week theoretical training provided by the Federal Criminal Police, followed by a six-month practical training. 6. The authority in charge – the Federal Criminal Police – has no special Eurodac unit. The relevant procedures are part of the general work-flow. 7. The validation is carried out by 40 staff members 24 hours a day in four work-shifts.
	Hungary	Yes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sagem Metamo 2.8 2. Manual

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			<p>3. a. Yes</p> <p>b. Yes. She/he does the verification based on 10 minutiaes.</p> <p>4. In Hungary, there is no automatic validation</p> <p>5. Metamorpho user training to deal with digital fingerprints on AFIS. Internal training.</p> <p>6. 12 experts at person identification group in dactiloscropy department.</p> <p>7. 3 experts in Eurodac verification.</p>
	Latvia	Yes	<p>1. Sagem MetaMorpho, ver. 3.3</p> <p>2. The best matching results from the system are provided to operator automatically and then in all cases are manually checked by the officers at Expert department.</p> <p>3. a. Yes b. Operator places 12 or more points of agreement on each.</p> <p>4. Operator makes manual check and approves HIT or NoHit result.</p> <p>5. Digital fingerprints are processed by certified state judicial experts. State judicial experts training and certification is held according to state legal acts.</p> <p>6. There is no special Eurodac unit. Fingerprints are processed by 2 digital fingerprint experts and numerous agents, who perform data acquisition.</p> <p>7. HITs are processed by 2 officers.</p>
	Lithuania	Yes	<p>1. The following software purchased from STERIA Norway is used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAP Server 3.0 (server) – for data transfer /acceptance to/from EURODAC central database; • SteriaFIT ver. 6.60 (workstation) – for fingerprint scanning (electrically or from paper cards), automatic downloading via the NAP server to EURODAC central database, for obtaining matches in the central database. <p>2. Automatically. From the very beginning of the EURODAC operation, there have been no cases in all EU countries of incorrect identification according to 10 fingerprint dactiloscopic cards. This accuracy is attributed to the quality of EURODAC central database software, as well as high quality standards in EURODAC workstations: low-quality fingerprints are rejected.</p> <p>3. Data matching is automated, the operator is absent.</p> <p>4. Working with EURODAC (or more precisely, the introduction of EURODAC cards and processing of results) is only part of the functions performed by the personnel working with the AFIS system.</p> <p>5. The personnel of the Lithuanian Police Centre of Criminalistic researches (hereinafter LPCCR) operating the EURODAC system reports to the Dactiloscopic Analysis Division and is trained according to common procedures according to the program of the Dactiloscopic Analysis Division, approved by the manager of the LPCCR. The training plan is drafted for new employees who are taught the dactiloscopic theory, hand impression theory and the theory and practice of the identification of persons, and who then undergo practical training. Manager of the division or his authorized representative are responsible for the staff training. Training lasts from 6 to 12 months. After the training, the employee takes a qualification exam in accordance with the procedure set by the LPCCR. After successfully passing a qualifying exam, the employee acquires the qualification of a “Fingerprint registration survey specialist”, which entitles to work independently with dactiloscopic systems in accordance with the procedure set by the LPCCR.</p>

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			<p>6. 4 employees.</p> <p>7. EURODAC data matching is automated, the operator is not present.</p>
	Netherlands	Yes	<p>1. No software other than the EURODAC software</p> <p>2. The validation of hits is manual</p> <p>3. a. an expert in fingerprints (not digital fingerprints) b. 12 points are used to make an identification; always by two experts</p> <p>4. -</p> <p>5. yes the are trained in fingerprints, by following a course (with certification) at the Police Academy</p> <p>6. there is a fingerprint department that also occupies itself with EURODAC, there are 32 fingerprint experts</p> <p>7. 22 officers</p>
	Portugal	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
	Slovak Republic	Yes	<p>1. CAFIS (Cogents Automated Fingerprints Identification System), ver. 5.10.</p> <p>2. manual</p> <p>3. a) The expert is a certified fingerprints expert. b) Yes. 10 points.</p> <p>4. NA</p> <p>5. Yes. Accredited certification – Forensic Science Institute of the Slovak Police Corps at the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic (3 years, 3 exams, once in 5 years re-examination), Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic (final exam).</p> <p>6. 10 experts</p> <p>7. 10 experts</p>
	Slovenia	Yes	<p>1. STERIA - NAP</p> <p>2. AUTOMATIC</p> <p>3. +4. The transactions are performed in addition to their daily routine by the Dublin experts - communication of fingerprints to the central database, receiving answers from the central database – communication of replies to the FIT contact point that captured the fingerprint. In addition to these tasks there is also the care for installations and the maintenance of the system of the PKI key installation.</p> <p>5. Currently we are preparing a training programme for the experts at the Police Academy whereby they will acquire also a formal degree of education. They have however lots of experience in this area.</p> <p>6. In the Slovene Dublin Unit (EURODAC + DUBLIN) there are two employees.</p> <p>7. Two persons.</p>
	Spain	Yes	<p>1. STERIA NAP WKS. V.3.0</p> <p>2. The results transmitted by the system are manually checked and validated, if that is the case.</p> <p>3. a. Yes, he/she is always a fingerprints expert b. Yes. The operator places the points of agreement. 12 points.</p>

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			<p>4. Not applicable</p> <p>5. Yes, because they are all police officers, specially trained in Scientific Police. They received basic fingerprint training in our National Police Academy and when they join the Scientific Police, they are specialized in a particular field. In this case, fingerprint identification.</p> <p>6. 20-22.</p> <p>7. 14.</p>
	Sweden	Yes	<p>1. Steria´s NAP (National Access Point) Workstation Version 3.0.</p> <p>2. The results transmitted by the system are manually checked by fingerprint specialists at the Unit for Biometrics and Document Verification.</p> <p>3. a) The operators are not certified fingerprint experts but are specialists trough experience and training.</p> <p>3. b) No points are placed on the cards. A holistic non-numerical approach is utilized.</p> <p>4. In the rare occasion automated verification is used a manual verification is always done afterwards.</p> <p>5. The fingerprint officers have a background in law enforcement and additional fingerprint training trough the National Policing Improvement Agency, UK.</p> <p>6. The fingerprint section currently consists of two officers plus one in training</p> <p>7. Currently two officers have clearance to verify HITs plus one officer in training</p>
	United Kingdom	Yes	<p>1) The software we use is IAFS which is managed and supplied by MORPHO</p> <p>2) All our EURODAC hits are validated manually</p> <p>3)</p> <p>a) Our EURODAC responses are 1st checked by a Fingerprint Technician and then 2nd checked by a Fingerprint Expert</p> <p>b) If necessary, and as many points as the expert/technician needs to help him confirm or not the suggested match</p> <p>4) The UK does not use automatic validations for matches suggested by Eurodac</p> <p>5) All our experts and technicians are trained following ACPO (Association of Chief Police Officers) guidelines to the national standard. All Experts have completed and passed the Expert Fingerprint Course run by the NPIA (National Policing Improvement Agency) and are on the UK National Register of Fingerprint Experts</p> <p>6) We don't have a Eurodac Agency; the validation of Eurodac suggested matches is done as part of the normal working day.</p> <p>7) We don't have a specific number of officers dedicated to Eurodac responses as stated above</p>
