



Cooperation Plan 2020-2022 of eu-LISA and EASO

In light of the Working Arrangement between the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) and the European Union Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (eu-LISA) dated 4 November 2014, the Cooperation Plan operationalises joint activities between EASO and eu-LISA for the period 2020-2022.

The implementation of all the activities is performed on a best-effort basis and may be subject to the availability of resources in accordance with the applicable legal framework.¹ EASO and eu-LISA (hereinafter referred to as 'the Agencies') shall bear their own expenses.

Towards the expiration of the Cooperation Plan 2020-2022, the Agencies will assess its implementation and decide on the way forward as appropriate.

STRUCTURE EASO / eu-LISA		ACTIVITY
AREA – Border, Migration and Asylum Management		
EASO Operational Support Centre	eu-LISA Executive Support and Stakeholder Relation Unit (ESU) and Operations Department (OD)	eu-LISA provides <i>ad hoc support</i> to Member States at their request, where required by extraordinary security or migratory challenges or needs. In particular, eu-LISA provides operational and technical reinforcement in cases of specific and disproportionate migratory challenges at particular areas of the Member States' external borders characterised by large inward migratory flows. Such reinforcement is provided in hotspot areas through the deployment of relevant teams composed of experts from relevant European Union Agencies. The Agencies may plan and carry out pilot projects encompassing inter alia standardisation of equipment for migration management support teams (MMSTs), if relevant.
Operational Support Centre / Administration Department – ICT Unit	ESU and OD (Business Relations Management Sector - BRMS)	The Agencies will conduct joint planning around possible future development and testing of standardised and portable technical tools for identification and registration, enabling fast establishment of registration points when and where necessary in operations on the ground.
Asylum Knowledge Centre – Asylum Cooperation & Guidance Unit (EASO Dublin Team)/ Situational Awareness Unit	OD (Planning and Standards Unit - PSU) and ESU	The Agencies may strengthen cooperation related to ensuring the appropriate technical and operational feasibility and completeness of the latest Eurodac legal proposal, and strengthen cooperation related to the development process of the system. Should the legislation so allow, the Agencies will cooperate on the implementation of the Eurodac reform within the respective mandates of each Agency.

¹ 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.99-137); Regulation (EU) No 439/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 May 2010 establishing a European Asylum Support Office (OJ L 132, 29.5.2010, p. 11-28); 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. 39-98).

Asylum Knowledge Centre / Administration Department – ICT Unit	ESU, GCU and OD (BRM)	<p>The Agencies will map information processing maturity in the Member States (hereinafter referred to as 'MS'), gathering lessons learned and developing best practices with the aim of optimising asylum process flows as well as the integration and use of enterprise architecture principles into information systems and tools (national and EU-wide).</p> <p>As envisaged in the Action Plan on Enhancement of Data Quality prepared in the context of the 5th Information Management Strategy action list, the presence of high quality data in large-scale JHA IT systems, Eurodac included, shall be ensured. Therefore, this work shall contribute to the optimisation of processes and standards, including the unified message format (UMF).</p> <p>The Agencies shall explore together, based on their expertise, and with the MS, innovative solutions including the use of Artificial Intelligence and machine-learning for technical practical tools used in the asylum procedure.</p>
Asylum Knowledge Centre – Asylum Cooperation & Guidance Unit (EASO Dublin Team)	ESU, OD (BRM, Programme and Project Management Sector (PPMS))	<p>The Agencies will continue their co-operation with regard to the operational management support to Dublin Units in MS through the work of the Steering Group and Working Groups of the EASO Network of Dublin Units, and through the organisation of the annual thematic meeting for the MS regarding DublinNet, and/or Dublin related technical systems.</p>
Asylum Knowledge Centre – Asylum Cooperation & Guidance Unit (EASO Dublin Team)	OD (PSU), ESU, GCU	<p>The Agencies may jointly develop recommendations, digital brochures and practical guides on the operational use of asylum-related IT systems, in particular those related to the Dublin procedure, such as Eurodac.</p> <p>To this extent, eu-LISA will retain its status as observer to Steering Group of the EASO Network of Dublin Units. eu-LISA will invite as appropriate EASO representatives as experts to attend the Eurodac Advisory Group.</p>
Asylum Knowledge Centre – Asylum Cooperation & Guidance Unit (EASO Dublin Team) / Administration Department – ICT Unit	OD (PSU), ESU	<p>eu-LISA will closely involve EASO for the business aspects, such as user requirements and for the alignment with the technical conditions in the field, in the development of any relevant IT system to be established in the context of the reform of the Dublin Regulation.</p>

AREA – Security and Business Continuity		
Administration Department – ICT Unit	ESU, OD, Security Unit	eu-LISA will continue providing its support in the field of business continuity by hosting the EASO disaster recovery site for ICT logistical infrastructure and communications in the eu-LISA technical sites. The Agencies will consider the need to update the Agreement on the Recovery Site for EASO ICT Logical Infrastructure and Communications.
Administration Department - HR & Security Unit	Security Unit	The security offices of the Agencies will maintain a horizontal working cooperation on developing security policies, best practices and security aspects of common activities.
Executive Office - Data Protection Officer / Administration Department - ICT Unit, Security Sector	Security Unit, Data Protection Officer (DPO)	The Agencies can develop cooperation for the exchange of sensitive non-classified and EU classified information
AREA – Internal Auditing		
EXO-Internal Control and Risk Management Sector	Internal Audit Capability (IAC), ESU	eu-LISA will support EASO in creating an Internal Audit Capability (IAC) in EASO. The Agencies will endeavour to conclude a separate Service Level Agreement (SLA) in this respect.
AREA – Training, Research and Development, Data and Knowledge Management		
Training & Professional Development Centre	ESU and Governance and Capabilities Unit (GCU), OD, HRU	<p>The Agencies will continue to share experts, knowledge and relevant documents related to specific training areas and initiatives.</p> <p>The Agencies will explore opportunities for development and delivery of training for asylum, migration and other officials on cross-cutting subjects related to the use and interoperability of large-scale JHA IT systems, including future systems under development.</p> <p>The Agencies will share best practices in the field of andragogy, including the use of e-Learning practices and quality assurance in the field of training. The possibility to provide access to each other's online training platforms, for officials of both agencies, should also be explored.</p>
Operational Support Centre / Training & Professional Development Centre / Asylum Knowledge Centre	ESU, GCU, OD and Human Resources Unit (HRU)	The Agencies will further develop their already established cooperation in the field of training. In particular, the Agencies may decide to organise a joint training module on data quality enhancement in large-scale JHA IT systems used in the asylum and migration fields as envisaged in the Action Plan on Enhancement of Data Quality prepared in the context of the 5 th Information Management Strategy action list.

Training & Professional Development Centre	ESU and GCU	The Agencies will continue, and further enhance working-level cooperation by extending invitations to each other's training related strategic and planning meetings and conferences. Training activities organised by EASO and eu-LISA may be opened for participation by the respective Agencies' staff.
Training & Professional Development Centre	ESU and GCU	The Agencies' trainers/experts may consult each other and exchange expertise in order to contribute to training delivery and/or creation or update of training curriculum.
Asylum Knowledge Centre	ESU, GCU and OD	The Agencies will share their plans and findings related to relevant research initiatives and developments in research areas of interest to both Agencies, such as technical tools, innovations and asylum related matters.
Operational Support Centre / Asylum Knowledge Centre / Situational Awareness Unit	ESU, GCU and OD (PSU)	The Agencies may hold discussions related to interoperability of relevant large-scale JHA IT systems for future exchange of statistics not including personal data for asylum research and analyses purposes, in particular, in relation to the interoperability regulations in force, including exchanges on the Central Repository for Reporting and Statistics (CRRS) as appropriate and promotion of EASO use cases.
AREA – External and Internal Communication		
Communication & Public Relations Unit	ESU	The Agencies will maintain regular contacts between the communication professionals of the Agencies to share best practices in corporate communication and streamline media alerts and responses to public inquiries in case of need.
Communication & Public Relations Unit	ESU	The Agencies will ensure mutual promotion of postings on social media and through the internal communication channels to advocate their added value when working on shared issues related to their core business. The Agencies will make sure that in case of EU-level communication campaigns the posting strategies and time schedules are closely coordinated and followed.
European & International Cooperation Unit	ESU and GCU	The Agencies will extend invitations to speakers and other representatives to each other's events, conferences, thematic expert meetings, technical workshops of mutual interest and Advisory Groups as appropriate.
AREA – Data Protection		
Administration Department - ICT Unit/ Executive Office - Data Protection Officer	DPO	The Agencies will exchange the lessons learnt and best practices in the area of personal data protection.

Other Areas of Cooperation		
European & International Cooperation Unit	ESU	The Agencies will maintain multilateral cooperation in the framework of the Justice and Home Affairs Agencies Network in multiple core business related areas and in the framework of the EU Agencies Network in administrative and financial matters.
European & International Cooperation Unit	Executive Director (ED), ESU	The Agencies will organise annual meetings at the level of Executive Director / Senior Management to take stock of and review the cooperation and explore new synergies. These meetings will take place alternatively in Malta and Tallinn, or <i>en marge</i> of mutually attended meetings.
European & International Cooperation Unit	ESU	The Agencies will consider conducting joint advocacy towards common stakeholders in matters of common interest, when needed.
Executive Office - Governance, Corporate Planning and Security Sector	GCU, ESU	The Agencies will continue the good practice of consulting each other on their planning documents in order to explore future synergies.
Administration Department - ICT Unit/ Governance, Corporate Planning and Security Sector	GCU	eu-LISA will support EASO with the roll-out of a new Strategic Planning Document software tool.

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

Signed at Valletta Harbour and in Tallinn in two originals in the English language.

For EASO

For eu-LISA

Executive Director

Executive Director

Nina Gregori

Krum Garkov

[Digitally signed]

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