

Enabling Seamless Travel to the European Union

Research Report

With seamless travel, people will no longer need to present IDs or other travel-related documents multiple times at different checkpoints during their journey. The EU is in the process of **digitalising its border management requirements and procedures** to deliver this seamless experience for travellers headed to the Schengen Area.

The report traces the steps through the travel continuum from travel authorisation and pre-border checks to entering the Schengen Area. The report also outlines the EU's policy and regulatory landscape, and presents examples of innovative solutions that aim to make travel to the Europe as seamless as possible.

For the full report, please visit: <https://europa.eu/!7HdMGj>

Digital Visa

The EU is set to fully digitalise the **Schengen visa procedure** by 2025, introducing an online platform for visa applications, and replacing the visa sticker with a digital visa.

Automated Border Control

Automated border control (ABC) systems, such as e-gates, facilitate travel without undermining the integrity of border checks. Their next evolution – **biometric corridors** – will enable on-the-move verification of travellers.

Digital Travel Credentials

Digital travel credential (DTC) is an **electronic identity document**, which can temporarily or permanently substitute a conventional passport and result in reduced waiting times at border crossing and more efficient traveller processing.

ETIAS and EES

The **European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)** is a pre-travel authorisation system for visa-exempt third-country nationals planning to travel to the Schengen Area.

The **Entry/Exit System (EES)** will record the time and place of entry and exit from the Schengen Area of all third-country nationals, both visa-required and visa-exempt.

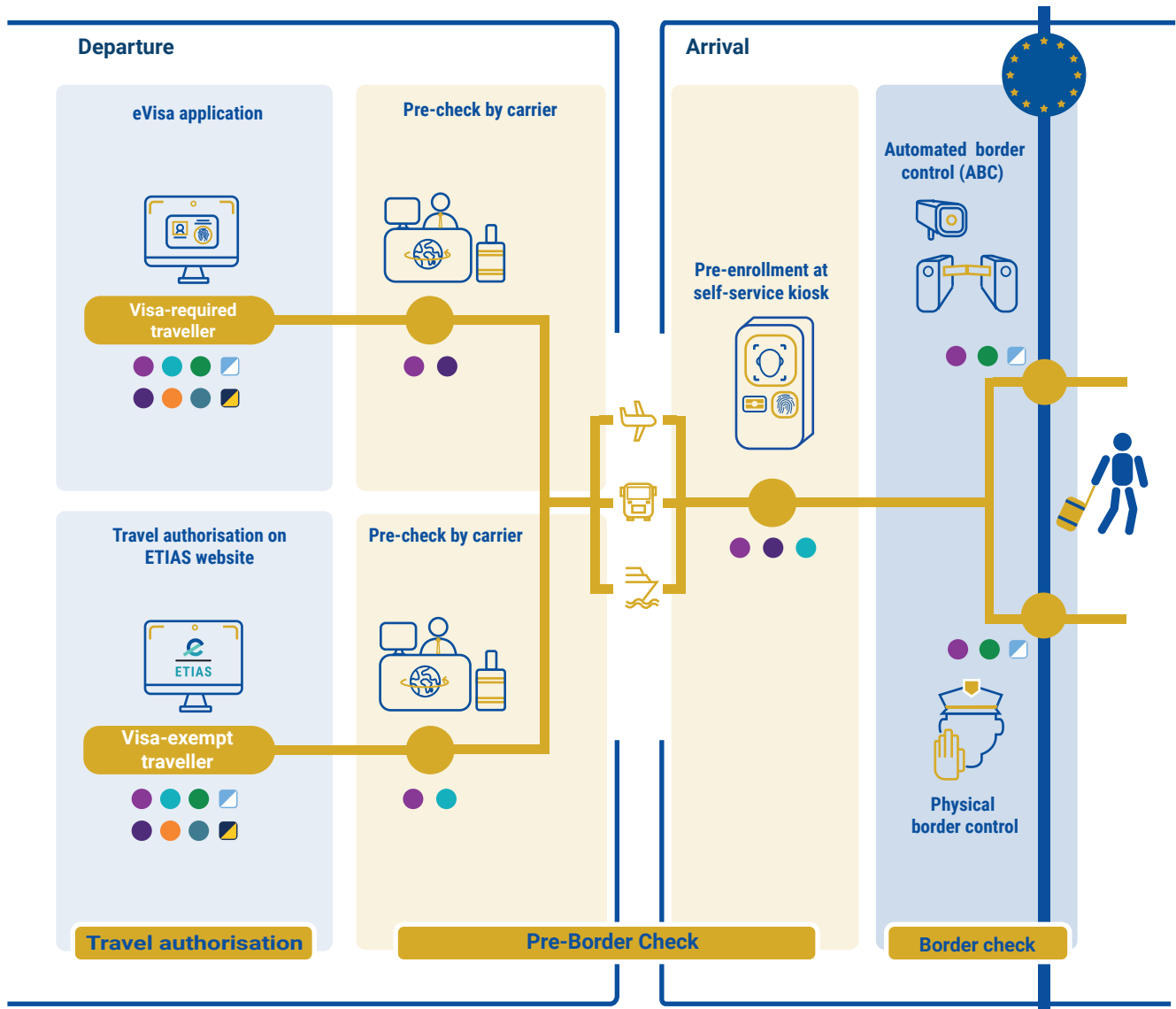
Carrier Interface

This web interface will **allow international carriers to query the EU's relevant information systems** to make informed decisions prior to boarding, while also reducing uncertainty for travellers.

Enrolment of Biometric Data

Recent innovations include **personal/commercial mobile devices** for biometrics enrolment and identity verification, and the implementation of techniques to foil presentation and morphing attacks.

The Traveller Continuum



This report provides an overview of the **most recent developments in EU legislation and travel industry practices**, as well as **innovative technological solutions** that facilitate the transition to a more seamless and contactless travel experience, while also **ensuring the necessary levels of security** throughout the traveller journey, from the application for a Schengen visa or a travel authorisation and up to the eventual border-crossing into the Schengen Area.

To read the full report, please visit



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