



Access to data on the Schengen System

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Do you know that you can ask for access to your data processed in the Schengen Information System?

I. What is the Schengen Information System (SIS)?

SIS is a large-scale IT information system that provides national law enforcement, judicial, and administrative authorities with the means to perform certain tasks through the exchange of relevant data. The EU agencies Europol and Eurojust also have limited access to this system.

Examples worth highlighting:

- persons wanted for arrest for surrender or extradition purposes
- missing persons including children at high risk of parental abduction
- person subject to discreet, inquiry or specific checks

SIS has been implemented in all EU Member States and in four associated countries: Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Lichtenstein.

II. Rights of the data subjects

Individuals whose personal data are collected, stored or otherwise processed in the Schengen Information System have the right of access, rectification of inaccurate data and deletion of unlawfully stored data. In accordance with data protection principles, these rights are established in Regulation (EU) 2018/1861 of the European Parliament and of



the Council of 28 November 2018,¹ and Regulation (EU) 2018/1862 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 November 2018.²

III. Procedure

- In Portugal, the right of access, rectification or deletion of personal data is processed by the national SIRENE Bureau.
- All requests must be sent by mail to the following address:
 - Gabinete Nacional SIRENE / Av. Defensores de Chaves, No.6 / 1049-063 Lisboa.
 - Applications cannot be made in person or by e-mail as of 01/08/2023.
- The application may be filed by any natural person or through their attorney
- An error in the application can be corrected within 10 days
- The reply should be sent by e-mail to the applicant in Portuguese no later than 30 days after the request is received by the National Sirene Bureau.

IV. Form and content of the application

- Personal data of the applicant
 - name, surname, nationality, date of birth, place and country of birth
 - parents name and surname
 - Passport or ID card number, date of issuance and expiry, issuer body
 - Number of residence permit, issuance and validity date
- Contacts details
 - postal address, telephone, email

¹ Regulation (EU) 2018/1861 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 November 2018 on the establishment, operation and use of the Schengen Information System (SIS) in the field of border checks, and amending the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement, and amending and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1987/2006, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32018R1861>.

² Regulation (EU) 2018/1862 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 November 2018, on the establishment, operation and use of the Schengen Information System (SIS) in the field of police cooperation and judicial cooperation in criminal matters, amending and repealing Council Decision 2007/533/JHA, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1986/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Commission Decision 2010/261/EU, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32018R1862&qid=1693329391350>.



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- In case of request for data correction or deletion, the justification for the request
- Template forms in Portuguese and English are available for such applications
 - PT: https://www.puc-spoc.pt/storage/portal/Minuta_Dto_Acesso_SIS_pt.pdf
 - EN: https://www.puc-spoc.pt/storage/portal/Minuta_Dto_Acesso_SIS_en.pdf
- The applications must be legible
 - If the application is printed out and filled in handwritten form, it must be in block letters.
- A legally certified copy of the biographical portion of the ID or passport and of residence permit (if applicable) must accompany the application
- Certification of the identity document can be made at the following offices:
 - CTT
 - Notary public
 - Registry office ('Instituto dos Registos e Notariado')
 - Parish council ('Junta de Freguesia')
 - Lawyer Registered at the Portuguese Bar Association
- If the person concerned is represented by a lawyer ('Advogado') or solicitor ('Solicitador') when making the application, the lawyer's power of attorney must include the authority to exercise the right to information for the SIS (hard copy).

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