Under Article 109 of the Schengen Convention, anyone has the right to access the personal data entered in the SIS relating to him or her. Moreover, such persons have the right to rectification of their data stored in the SIS.

YEAR HITS 2007 2,641 2008 6,869 2009 5,924 2010 7,263 2011 7,255

SIRENE



SIRENE (Supplementary Information Request at National Entry) is a central national authority of a SIS user state and a single 24/7 point of contact for other partners.

Slovenia issues its alerts through the SIS via the Sirene bureau which serves as a platform for international police cooperation in the Schengen area.

Over 35,200 hits (involving a person or object entered in the SIS) were recorded in the 2007-2012 period.

In the same period over 87 million checks in the SIS were processed in Slovenia.

IDENTITY ABUSE

WHAT IS IDENTITY?

Identity is the sameness of data and reality of facts.

HOW DO I KNOW THAT SOMEONE IS REALLY WHO THEY SAY THEY ARE?

An identity is defined by:

- primary characteristics (personal name, date of birth, data on education, personal status, employment etc.) and
- secondary/biometric characteristics (fingerprints, DNA, face, eye colour etc.).

WHEN IS IDENTITY CONSIDERED ABUSED?

Identity is abused when someone assumes the identity of another person and under its name exploits their rights, gains property benefits or damages their personal dignity.

It is important that you protect your own identity as chances for its abuse are growing while the effects of such abuse can be very harmful.

ABUSED IDENTITY AND THE SCHENGEN INFORMATION SYSTEM (SIS)

In the SIS, an abuse of identity shall be marked with CODE 3. When Code 3 is triggered in the "identity category" of the SIS, the querying officer must contact the national SIRENE bureau and ask for supplementary information to clarify whether the person is someone sought or whether he/she is a missing person or someone whose identity has been abused. This means that for any identity abuse case (i.e. any Code 3) the system will produce material and personal data of the individual whose data have been abused.

HOW TO ACT WHEN A PERSON'S IDENTITY IS ABUSED AND THE SIS CONTAINS AN ALERT WITH HIS/HER PERSONAL DATA?

If it is found that someone's identity has been abused, the following information will be required:

- a photograph,
- fingerprints,
- a photocopy of an identity document (scanned passport or identity card),
- names and surnames of the parents,
- current residence address,
- a statement explaining the circumstances of any loss/theft of identity documents.

Such information may only be processed if prior free and explicit consent is obtained from the individual whose identity has been abused. The data, photos, fingerprints and other information is collected by the competent police authority.

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SLOVENIA'S

FIVE YEARS
IN THE SCHENGEN AREA

2007-2012



SCHENGEN AREA – A TERRITORY OF THE FREE MOVEMENT IN EUROPE

The free movement of persons is a fundamental right guaranteed to European Union (EU) citizens. An EU citizen has the right to travel, work or reside in any other member state without having to comply with any special formalities. Internal borders can be crossed without border checks. The Schengen area - a territory without borders - has made the free movement possible to over 400 million Europeans and many non-EU nationals, business people, tourists, students, researchers and other visitors who are staying in the EU legally.

The Schengen area countries include a great majority of EU member states, but not Bulgaria, Cyprus, Ireland, Romania and Great Britain. Bulgaria and Romania have been progressing towards becoming Schengen area members. The non-EU Schengen states are Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland.

Irrespective of nationality, any person with a valid document may cross Schengen's internal borders without checks being carried out.

External borders may be crossed only at border crossing points during the fixed opening hours.

Upon Croatia's entry in the EU the border crossing regime with this state shall remain the same as it will not yet become part of the Schengen area. Customs checks along the border with Croatia, however, will be abolished.

DELIVERING INTERNAL SECURITY

While having abolished their internal border checks, Schengen states have also tightened controls at their common external borders. To ensure security in the free movement area a single set of rules has been defined to govern the following areas:

- crossing external borders, visas and performance of border checks;
- harmonisation of entry requirements and rules on short-term stay (not exceeding three months);
- enhanced police cooperation (including the right of cross-border surveillance and pursuit);

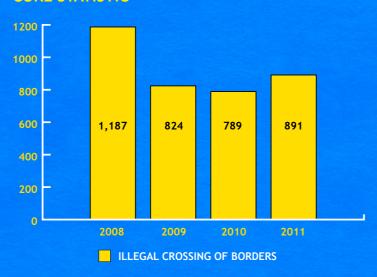
- enhanced cooperation of judicial authorities through accelerated extradition procedures and transfer of execution of judicial decisions;
- establishment and development of the Schengen Information System (SIS);
- documents for travelling in Europe.

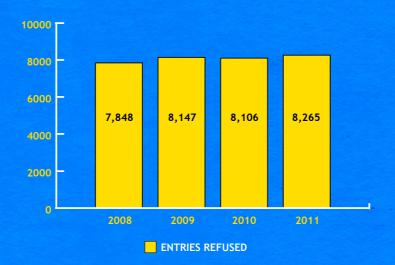


Member states may exceptionally reintroduce border controls at their internal borders or in border areas provided that they are not equivalent to the exercise of border checks. Slovenia's police developed a system of compensatory measures to serve this purpose.

To enter and stay in the territory of any other EU member state a Slovenian citizen must produce a valid ID card or passport. The same applies to crossing the external borders.

CORE STATISTIC





THE PRINCIPLE OF SOLIDARITY

Within the principle of solidarity in the field of justice and home affairs Slovenia was allocated the following funds to set up and develop the external border system and other measures aimed at harmonising border management (construction of border crossing points and police facilities, equipment and vehicles for border guards, ITC-equipment, officer training, return of aliens):

PHARE (1999-2004)	4/ million €
Schengen Facility	
PHARE (2004-2007)	115 million €
External Borders Fund	

USEFUL LINKS

Return Fund (2007-2012).....24 million €

Ministry of the Interior: http://www.mnz.gov.si

Police:

http://www.policija.si

European Commission: http://ec.europa.eu/

Information Commissioner: http://www.ip-rs.si

Frontex:

http://www.frontex.europa.eu/

SCHENGEN INFORMATION SYSTEM (SIS)

The SIS is an electronic control system, a digital database and the most important compensatory mechanism which contains information regarding certain persons and property.

In order to effectively carry out border checks at external borders on behalf of all member states it is necessary to provide access to other countries' data on certain individuals and objects: persons whose entry into the Schengen area has been refused, persons wanted for arrest or extradition, missing persons, stolen vehicles and documents, money, weapons, marked banknotes deriving from criminal offences, etc. This information is collected in the SIS.

Access to the SIS is provided to police authorities performing border checks and procedures involving third-country nationals, to administrative units when issuing permits to aliens, consular missions when issuing visas, and administrative units and agencies authorised for motor vehicle registration.

Countries enter their data in the common database or make queries in it via their national systems.

The SIS consists of the central section in Strasbourg (C.SIS) and its national copies known as national sections (N.SIS), which are used for making queries and entering data.

