



CLIENT SERVICES & POLICY DIVISION Legal Assistance Office



The EES – EU Entry/Exit System

You get off the plane after a long flight to Germany. You are tired, bleary-eyed, and ready to get home. An agent directs you to a small kiosk and asks you to sign-in to the EES system. You vaguely remember hearing a warning about the dangers of registering for the EES. Don't worry, here are some facts you need to know about the EU Entry and Exit system, commonly referred to as the EES:

What is EES?

- The EES is a new border control system implemented by 29 European countries. The program digitally records the entries and exits of non-EU nationals traveling to the Schengen Area with the help of biometric data, such as fingerprints, facial images, and other travel information, saving the personal data to a digital file. Travelers staying for more than 90 days in the Schengen Area will be identified by EES, possibly leading to entry denial or a forced exit.
- The goal of EES is to replace passport stamping in the Schengen Area.
- DoD personnel traveling to NATO countries for OFFICIAL purposes are exempt from EES. This includes civilian employees, dependents, and contractors.
- To cross the border, a DoD identification card and orders must be presented, not a passport. This applies to both military personnel and families. It is important to bypass the kiosk and head straight to the desk.
- EES applies to anyone traveling without NATO SOFA status. This may include DoD service members traveling on leave. A registration for EES is valid for 3 years.

For Visitors without SOFA Status:

- When EES does apply travelers must use a valid passport and other identification.
- Travelers may use the EES self-service system instead of interacting with a passport control officer. The EES self-service system should be significantly faster to process through.
- Once an EES digital file is created, only one's fingerprints and photo need to be verified in order to cross a Schengen Area border.

You accidentally registered, now what?

- At The Airport: In the event you are mistakenly entered into EES, inform the border guard that you hold SOFA status and are exempt from EES processing. Ask the border guard to delete any electronic record that was improperly created.

After The Fact: If the border guard at the point of entry will not comply with your request, you should visit your local installation Pass and ID Office and complete the attached form. You may also visit your installation Legal Assistance Office. You should attempt to rectify your improper EES registration as soon as possible.

Prompt EES deregistration should avoid entry and/or exit problems on your future Schengen Area travels.



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ENTRY/EXIT SYSTEM (EES) INFORMATION REQUEST FORM

This form is required to assist with the review of your Entry/Exit System (EES) inquiry. Please complete all sections accurately. Incomplete information may delay processing.

PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION

1. Full Name:
2. Organization / Unit:
3. Nationality:
4. Date of Birth (YYYY-MM-DD):
5. Gender:

TRAVEL DOCUMENT INFORMATION

6. Passport Number:
7. Passport Expiration Date (YYYY-MM-DD):

ENTRY/EXIT SYSTEM (EES) DETAILS

8. Date and Location of EES Entry:
9. Documents Presented to Border Guard: (Example: SOFA card, SOFA stamp, ID card, orders, passport)
10. Description of Interaction with Border Guard: (Please describe what occurred. Include whether you were informed that you were or were not registered in the EES, and any additional comments provided by the border guard.)

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____