



Quarterly Update

FOR: EUCOM Public Affairs

SUBJECT: (U) EUCOM ECJ1 Quality of Life Quarterly Updates – 4th Qtr 2025

✓ Revised Timeline for the EES and ETIAS

The EU Entry Exit System (EES) is expected to become operational in October 2025, but the legislative process is still ongoing. The European Travel Information and Authorization System (ETIAS) is expected to follow in the last quarter of 2026, assuming an October 2025 EES start date.

EES is a new digital border management system for registering non-EU nationals travelling for a short stay, each time they cross the external borders of 29 European countries (Schengen Area) using the system. The EES will modernize border management of the Schengen countries, gradually simplify border controls, and prevent identity fraud. ETIAS travel authorization is an entry requirement for non-EU visa-free nationals.

Senior officials at the Department of State and Department of Defense, including the Office of the Secretary of Defense, are aware of pending implementation of these systems and are proactively coordinating with the European Union and participating member states to secure exemptions for all DoD personnel for official and personal travel. These travel requirements pose potential challenges when entering and exiting the European Union for members of the force, including civilians, contractors, and dependents posted in Schengen countries under the NATO Status of Forces Agreement.

✓ Universal Prekindergarten Update

Enrollment as of April 25 – 1,331 students

Europe West – 327 students

Europe Central – 307 students

Europe East – 334 students

Europe South – 363 students

Phase II School Year (SY) 25/26

Ramstein Elementary School; Germany



Kleine Brogel, Belgium

✓ Biliteracy Award:

Beginning in SY 25-26 DoDEA students will be eligible to receive the Seal of Biliteracy. This achievement award recognizes graduating high school students who demonstrate proficiency in both English and at least one world language.

✓ Spousal Employment Initiatives

The ECJ1 Human Capital Division has hired a full-time civilian recruiter who will focus efforts on spousal employment. They have launched several initiatives to include working with the EUCOM Volunteer Internship Program and collaborating with the Army Community Service Employment Readiness Program Manager to encourage spouses to take advantage of services (resume writing, navigating USA Jobs, preparing for interviews, etc.). EUCOM will utilize the U.S. Army in Europe and Africa's Civilian Jobs (EURCivJobs) resume repository tool to address the challenges of overseas recruitment. EURCivJobs is available at <https://civjobs.ext.eur.army.mil/>

For additional questions, please contact:
EUCOM Stuttgart ECJ1 Mailbox Human Capital
eucom.stuttgart.ecj1.mbx.human-capital@mail.mil