



**Ad-Hoc Query on identity documents issued by EU Member States**

**Requested by EE EMN NCP on 2nd June 2010**

**Compilation produced on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

**Responses from Austria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom (15 in Total)**

*Disclaimer: The following responses have been provided primarily for the purpose of information exchange among EMN NCPs in the framework of the EMN. The contributing EMN NCPs have provided, to the best of their knowledge, information that is up-to-date, objective and reliable. Note, however, that the information provided does not necessarily represent the official policy of an EMN NCPs' Member State.*

1. **Background Information**

EE NCP received a query from Estonian Ministry of the Interior regarding biometric internal documents issued by EU Member States. The aim of this query is the planning and creating a common practise in the procedures of issuing identity documents.

It would be very much appreciated, therefore, if you could provide your response to the following:

- 1) Does your Member State issue biometric internal documents to aliens and/or citizens of your MS (e.g residence permits, ID-cards)? If yes: what kind of biometric data is added to the document (e.g. facial image, fingerprint images, signature or image of signature, iris images).
- 2) What is the process of issuing identity and travel documents in your Member State, i.e does the person have to go to the bureau personally to receive the document or is the document sent to them by post for example or is there any other possibility?

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We would very much appreciate it if you could provide your responses by 16<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

## 2. Responses

		Wider Dissemination?	<p>1) Does your Member State issue biometric internal documents to aliens and/or citizens of your MS (e.g residence permits, ID-cards)? If yes: what kind of biometric data is added to the document (e.g. facial image, fingerprint images, signature or image of signature, iris images).</p> <p>2) What is the process of issuing identity and travel documents in your Member State, i.e does the person have to go to the bureau personally to receive the document or is the document sent to them by post for example or is there any other possibility?</p>
	Austria	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
	Czech Republic	Yes	<p>1) No.</p> <p>2) The document must be received in person.</p>
	Estonia	Yes	<p>1) Estonia doesn't issue biometric internal documents, yet. As of May 2007 Estonia is issuing biometric travel documents.</p> <p>2) In order to receive a document, a person must personally appear at the seat of the issuer of the document. Upon issuing a document, the issuer of the document shall identify the applicant for the document. A person under 15 years of age or a person with restricted legal capacity need not personally appear at the seat of the issuer of the document in order to receive the document. For protection of the rights and interests of the holder of a document, the issuer of the document may demand that an applicant under 15 years of age or an applicant with restricted legal capacity appear in person in order to receive the document. Upon issue of a document to the legal representative of an applicant for a document under 15 years of age or an applicant with restricted legal capacity, the issuer of the document shall identify the legal representative. An applicant for a document under 15 years of age or an applicant with restricted legal capacity shall be identified on the basis of the statements of the legal representative of the applicant.</p> <p>A document subject to issue through the Foreign Ministry may be forwarded to a representation of a member state of the European Union for issue within the framework of consular assistance. There are also some exceptions (e.g prisoners etc.)</p>
	Finland	Yes	<p>1) Finland does not issue biometric internal documents at the moment. Residence permit card chips will contain fingerprints and facial biometrics as per the EU decree in 2011. Legislation on biometrics in national ID cards is underway, but no schedule exists for it so far.</p> <p>2) The application for a passport or an ID card has to be filed in person in all cases, and the identity of the applicant will be verified either</p>

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			with an existing ID or travel document or, if no prior document can be presented, through investigative means. (Driver's licence is not considered a valid ID document in the issuance process.) Once the ID or travel document has been issued, the applicant usually retrieves it from the issuance office in person, but a credentialed representative can also fetch it or it can be mailed via certified mail.
	Germany	Yes	<p>1) Since 01.01.2006, all residence titles issued must contain an integrated photograph. The introduction of a residence title in pocket card format containing also digital fingerprints in accordance with the provisions of the European Union is scheduled for May 2011. Since 28.06.2009, documents for aliens in lieu of a passport contain these biometric features; this applies also to children having reached the age of 6. Also German citizens are issued a passport with the holder's biometric data. The introduction of an identity card for citizens of the Federal Republic with an obligatory digital photo and, at the holder's request, also with the digital print of two fingers, is scheduled for autumn 2010.</p> <p>2) The collection of personal documents at the local authority must in principle be carried out by the holder in person or by a duly authorised representative; transmission of these documents by post is not possible.</p>
	Hungary	Yes	<p>1) As of June 2009 Hungarian nationals may apply for so-called second generation biometric travel documents containing the facial image, the image of the signature and also the fingerprint image of the holder. Hungary does not issue biometric residence permits yet.</p> <p>2) the application for biometric travel documents can be submitted at the responsible document office. As a general rule, the applicant has to appear personally when submitting the application; however the application may be submitted by a legal representative as well when the applicant is not able to appear personally due to his/her medical condition. The fingerprint image is taken at the same time as the facial image, except eg. in case of applicants under the age of 12 or when it is physically impossible. When the document is ready, the holder can either receive it personally or by post.</p>
	Ireland	No	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further..
	Italy	Yes	<p>In Italy all the identity and travel documents contain biometric data. For example:</p> <p>Passport: From 25 June 2010 onwards, all police headquarters issue the electronic passport. The citizen has to go personally at the police headquarter, where his/her 10 fingerprints are taken (for children only if they are over 12 years); the citizen has to provide two photographs that are subject to scanning and printing directly on the passport; the fingerprint is contextual to the application.</p> <p>Residence permits for foreigners: All documents are in electronic format with the exception of residence permits for family members of EU citizens still issued on paper, and provisional permits; when the foreigner has to submit the application for a residence permit, he/she receives an appointment to go to headquarter station for taking fingerprints and digital photos; fingerprints are taken to minors over 14 years old; only the holder of the permit may personally retrieve the document at police headquarters.</p> <p>Identity card: Since 2004, in 139 of the 8,101 Italian municipalities, it was started a experimental project to issue the electronic Identity Card; in all the rest of Municipalities the electronic Identity Card should be operational on 1th January 2011; Identity Card is issued to Italian and foreign citizens aged over 15 years; the electronic format contains only the digital photograph as a biometric data; photography is acquired by the municipality registry office at the time of issuing the request.</p>
	Latvia	Yes	1) Identity document is mandatory for all citizens and non-citizens of Latvia. As we don't have ID cards yet (to be issued in 2011 and

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			<p>will contain face and fingerprint data) biometric passport (with face and fingerprints) is issued and used as internal identity document as well.</p> <p>2) Application and issuing procedure involves personal visit to the issuing office – person has to be identified twice by two different officials (4 eye principle). Only applicants under 15 years of age has to appear in issuing office just once whether in application or issuing process to be identified by the official, but legal representative of an applicant in this case has to visit office twice and has to be identified accordingly.</p>
	Lithuania	Yes	<p>1) Lithuania issues biometric passports and ID cards to its own citizens, biometric travel documents of stateless persons, refugees' travel documents and aliens' passports. In the future, residence permits will also contain biometric data. The biometric data referred to is facial image and fingerprints.</p> <p>2) Usually the person has to go to the bureau personally to receive the document. Exceptions: - the document of a minor below the age of 18 can be taken by one of his parents, a tutor or an authorized representative of an office of the protection of the child's rights. If the parents are divorced, only the parent who lives together with the child can receive the passport. If the child is 16 years old or older, he can receive the passport by himself; - the document of an incapable person is taken by his tutor; - the document of any person can also be taken by an authorized person.</p> <p>In case a person is imprisoned, ill or disabled and therefore incapable to arrive to the migration service, there is a possibility that an official visits a person with mobile equipment, takes needed information and when a document is prepared hands it to a person.</p>
	Portugal	Yes	<p>1) Yes. PT issues biometric documents to national citizens and to foreigners: -e.passports since 2006. eID Cards since 2007 and e.Residence Permits since 2008. - Biometric data added: PT e.passports and e.ID Card - facial image and fingerprints. e.Residence Permit facial image only.</p> <p>2) Both PT e.passport , eID Card and e.Residence Permit can be sent by mail or collected personally in bureau.</p>
	Slovak Republic	Yes	<p>1) The Slovak Republic does not issue residence permits or ID cards with biometric data so far. The only documents issued with the biometric data are the passports.</p> <p>2) All the documents in the Slovak Republic are issued in a centralised way – the applicant has to appear in person when applying for a passport, an ID card and a driving license.</p>
	Spain	Yes	<p>1) <u>With regard to Spanish citizens:</u> In both the National Identification Document and the passport, the bearer's personal data (full name, date and place of birth, etc.), facial image, fingerprint images (right and left index fingers) and signature are contained in the chip. The passports of children under 12 years do not contain fingerprint images. <u>In relation to residence permits for third country nationals,</u> the appropriate adaptations are being made to include biometric data (facial image) as of May 2011, and later, fingerprints, in line with the provisions of Council Regulation (EC) No. 380/2008 of 18 April 2008.</p> <p>2) Spanish citizens: Both the National Identity Document and the passport must be handled at a Documentation Office. Citizens</p>

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			<p>must attend the office in person, where they will be processed and the document issued there and then.          Generally: In all cases, the issuing of identity and travel documents in Spain requires the physical presence of the applicant, both for drawing up and receiving the document.</p>
	Sweden	Yes	<p>1). Sweden issue biometric passports and ID card to its citizens (photo and personal particulars since October 2005 and 2 fingerprints since June 2009) and biometric Aliens' passports and Travel documents to third country residents (photo and personal particulars since March 2006 and 2 fingerprints added June 2009).          Sweden will commence the issue of biometric residence permit card in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No 380/2008 in spring 2011.          2) The process of issuing requires personal attendance when application is lodged (to leave the biometric data and for identification purposes) and when the issued document is collected (for identification purposes).</p>
	United Kingdom	Yes	<p>1) Yes – for non-EEA nationals – this is the Biometric Residence Permit. British Citizens and EEA nationals have been able to apply for a biometric Identity or Identification Card which, subject to Parliamentary approval, is shortly due to be cancelled. The biometrics used are a facial image and two fingerprints          2) The cards are issued by secure delivery service.</p>

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