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## NET position on ETIAS

NET, the Network for the European Private Sector in Tourism, supports ambitious, cooperative and business-friendly tourism policies, allowing tourism to prosper and to serve travellers with safe, sustainable, affordable and high quality services for all.

Accepting that ETIAS is a security tool to help identify persons who may pose an irregular migration, security or health risk before they arrive at the EU border, NET would like to caution about the possible impact of ETIAS on (i) European inbound tourism and (ii) European travel and tourism enterprises.

NET is generally against any entry requirements that have the effect of deterring potential bona-fide travelers to Europe. ETIAS, per se, will reduce the ease with which visa-free travelers can access the EU.

To avoid any negative impact, NET calls for the following:

- Cost must remain minimal: ETIAS should be free of charge, but in any case not more than 5 Euros, and valid for 5 years;
- Increased administrative burdens must be avoided: The application process must be user-friendly and in the language of the applicant;
- Arrival process must be improved: There has to be a reciprocal offer of service; time spent in at border controls must reduce for visa-free travellers who have been pre-cleared through the new system.
- Sufficient advance notice must be given through an awareness-raising campaign and phased-in implementation.
- Application booths must be provided for applicants at the main departure air- and seaports and also at major land border crossings.

NET would also like to draw attention to the risk of creating additional administrative burdens and costs for operators in the tourism and transport sector. To avert this, NET calls for the following:

- ETIAS exemption for tourism professional: Whereas ETIAS will not apply to crew members of ships or aircraft while on duty, it fails to include other tourism professionals, such as coach drivers while on duty;
- Cost of repatriation: Carriers having demonstrated due diligence and having checked the ETIAS status of a traveller prior to boarding should be relieved

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### IAAPA

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
AMUSEMENT PARKS AND ATTRACTIONS

### IRU

BUS, COACH & TAXI OPERATORS  
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from the obligation to take back a traveller to the initial point of embarkation in case of refusal of entry at border crossing point;

In short, NET accepts that ETIAS is a security tool. Any system going forward should be efficient, simple, inexpensive, adequate and proportionate – it should not hamper the tourism experience for travelers coming to visit Europe.

Once implemented, NET encourages the European decision-makers to move more countries from the visa-list to the visa-waiver list, since travelers will be vetted in advance. NET would like to highlight that the conclusion of more visa waiver agreements, especially with BRIC countries, is crucial, in order to keep Europe as world's number one tourist destination.