



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

Directorate F – Western European Partners
The Director

Brussels
SG.F.1/MM/Ares (2026)6540401

Dear Ms Hawkins, Ms Golding and Ms Galella,

I refer to your letter of 19 March 2026, addressed to Minister Thomas-Symonds and Commissioner Maroš Šefčovič, concerning the impact of the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) on dual EU/UK nationals who are Withdrawal Agreement beneficiaries ('dual nationals concerned'). The Commissioner has asked me to respond on his behalf.

The conditions regarding the travel documents dual nationals can use to enter the EU are not affected by ETIAS. The dual nationals concerned will be able to enter the EU either as Withdrawal Agreement beneficiaries with their British passports or as EU citizens using their EU passports. The same applies to their family members.

To be able to board, due to carriers' liability rules, all visa-free travellers must be in possession of either an ETIAS travel authorisation or be exempt from such possession.

The dual nationals concerned fall outside the scope of the ETIAS Regulation by virtue of being EU citizens. They do not need an ETIAS travel authorisation and cannot obtain one.

To travel to the EU, the dual nationals concerned would need to show that they are exempt from the requirement to have an ETIAS travel authorization. Those who do not hold a residence document that exempts them from ETIAS would either need to obtain an EU travel document or to obtain a proper residence document issued under the Withdrawal Agreement. Every Withdrawal Agreement beneficiary is entitled to be issued such a residence document upon application.

You can find more information at <https://travel-europe.europa.eu/etias/about-etias/who-should-apply>.

To travel to the EU, the dual nationals concerned who do not hold a residence document that exempts them from ETIAS would either need to obtain an EU travel document or to obtain a proper residence document issued under the Withdrawal Agreement. Every Withdrawal Agreement beneficiary is entitled to be issued such a residence document upon application.

As regards the issue of costs: based on the latest data, average passport fees in the EU are currently around 65 EUR. The average fee for the Withdrawal Agreement residence documents is significantly lower, namely 15 EUR, while 13 EU Member States issue it for free.

When designing ETIAS, the Commission has worked together with our international partners that operate similar schemes. We follow the deployment of the UK's Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) scheme, including its impact on dual nationals.

There are no plans to amend ETIAS rules to allow EU/non-EU dual nationals to ‘register’ their EU Member State nationality and to ‘link’ it to their non-EU passports so that they would be exempt from ETIAS when travelling on non-EU passports.

I would like to assure you that the deployment of ETIAS and ETA and their impact on the dual nationals concerned will continue to be scrutinised in the governance bodies of the Withdrawal Agreement – the Joint Committee and the Specialised Committee on Citizens' Rights. I count on your continued engagement with us and our UK counterparts on the Withdrawal Agreement and its application.

Yours sincerely,

Richard SZOSTAK

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