

Commission Proposes Tripling ETIAS Fee to €20

On 16 July 2025, the European Commission proposed, via a delegated act, an increase to the fee of the future [European Travel Authorisation System](#) (ETIAS) for visitors to the EU exempted from visa **from €7 to €20**.

This adjustment is grounded in **Articles 18(4) and 85 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1240**, which allow for fee revision through delegated acts in light of rising operational costs. The Commission justifies the increase based on:

- A **significant and sustained rise in operating costs**, including the implementation of unforeseen additional functionalities
- A **30.12% rise in EU inflation** since 2016 and a steady increase in the number of travellers
- A need to **align the EU's travel authorisation fee** with comparable systems: UK ETA (£20) and US ESTA (\$21).

The **€20 fee** will be **valid for 3 years**, with **exemptions** for:

- Applicants **under 16 or over 70 years old**
- **Family members of EU citizens** or of **non-EU citizens** with free movement rights within the EU.

HOTREC's position

- **Lack of proportionality:** The fee topic is a longstanding concern for the tourism sector. During the negotiation phase, the sector has persistently called for a reasonable fee to be implemented, as further costs and administrative burdens would not encourage travellers to come to Europe. We consider that a balanced approach was reached (7€).
- Lack of transparency: there is no impact assessment accompanying the delegated act.
- We call on the creation of a **separate legal instrument**, as part of the next **Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)**, to **earmark funding for the tourism sector**, using the ETIAS revenue stream as an indirect rationale. This funding should support **tourism infrastructure, staff training, and sustainable development initiatives** under the new **MFF 2028–2034**. (on this point we note that according with Art 85 of the ETIAS Regulation, revenue must be allocated to ETIAS operational and maintenance costs and any surplus is channelled into the general EU budget, thus **excluding the tourism industry from benefiting directly**).

Next steps

- Travel and Tourism to issue a Press Release on the topic
- The adjustment fee will now undergo the two-month review period of the Council and the European Parliament (renewable once)
- It will enter into effect as soon as ETIAS is operational, which is expected for Q4 2026.

For additional information

- [Commission Delegated Regulation C\(2025\) 4644](#)



- [Commission's press release](#)
- [ETIAS website](#)