



ECRIS

European Criminal Record Information System



European Commission
Justice

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Outline

- What's ECRIS ?
- Fingerprint aspects

What's ECRIS - Genesis

Need to improve exchange of information on criminal records – **coping with increased mobility in Europe**

- **Michel Fourniret** case of 2004
- Criminals able to escape their past simply by moving between EU states

Main objectives

- to ensure that criminal records **information is available to the courts**
- to contribute to full implementation of the principle of mutual recognition of judgements – **recidivism**
- to ensure that criminal records information is available when relevant for future activities of the offender (e.g. **pre-employment screening**)



From heterogeneity to communication

How to improve?

- Need for **a new legal framework**
- Need to **use IT** to improve the quality of the exchanges

Commission's actions for bridging national systems

- 1) Proposing new legal instruments – **'criminal records package'**
- 2) Providing **technical framework** for the exchanges
- 3) Providing **financial help** to the Member States for development of national databases

1) Proposing new legal instruments - ‘criminal records package’

- ‘Emergency Decision’ 2005/671 – currently repealed
- Framework Decision 2009/315 on exchange of information extracted from criminal records
- Council Decision 2009/316 establishing ECRIS system
- Framework Decision 2008/675 on taking account of previous convictions

NJR – the Member States’ pilot project

- ECRIS is directly inspired by the ‘**Network of Judicial Registers**’ (NJR) pilot project
- After introducing the electronic mode – **number of information** transmitted between FR and DE during **1 month** was equal to the number of those during **last 10 years!**

What ECRIS means in practical terms? (1/3)

- **Decentralized** electronic system
- Consisting of:
 - national criminal records databases
 - Common communication infrastructure s-TESTA
 - Interconnection software
- Exchange between **Central Authorities**
- Entry into force - **April 2012**

What ECRIS means in practical terms? (2/3)

- 3 main obligations:
 - Obligation of the convicting MS to **immediately send information** on conviction to MS of nationality
 - Obligation of the MS of nationality to **store** it and keep updated
 - Obligation of the MS of nationality to **respond to requests** for information

What ECRIS means in practical terms? (3/3)

- Use of a European standardised format:
 - **Table of categories of offences** (27 categories/ 160 sub-categories)
 - **Table of categories of sanctions** (12 categories/ 60 sub-categories)
- Response within 10 working days
- Exchange for **criminal and other purposes**

Challenges and future perspectives (1/2)

- 1) Exchange for other purposes than criminal proceedings
 - Art. 7(2) Framework Decision 2009/315
 - Proposal for Directive on child sexual exploitation – Art. 10

Challenges and future perspectives (1/2)

2) Exchange of information on **third country nationals**

- Art. 7(4) FD 2009/315
- Future instrument supplementing ECRIS with Index of convicted third country nationals

2) Providing technical framework for the exchanges (1/2)

- Preparing the **implementing measures for ECRIS** referred to in Article 6(2)(b) of Decision 2009/316
 - Technical specifications of the exchange
 - Monitoring and statistics
 - Verification of conformity measures

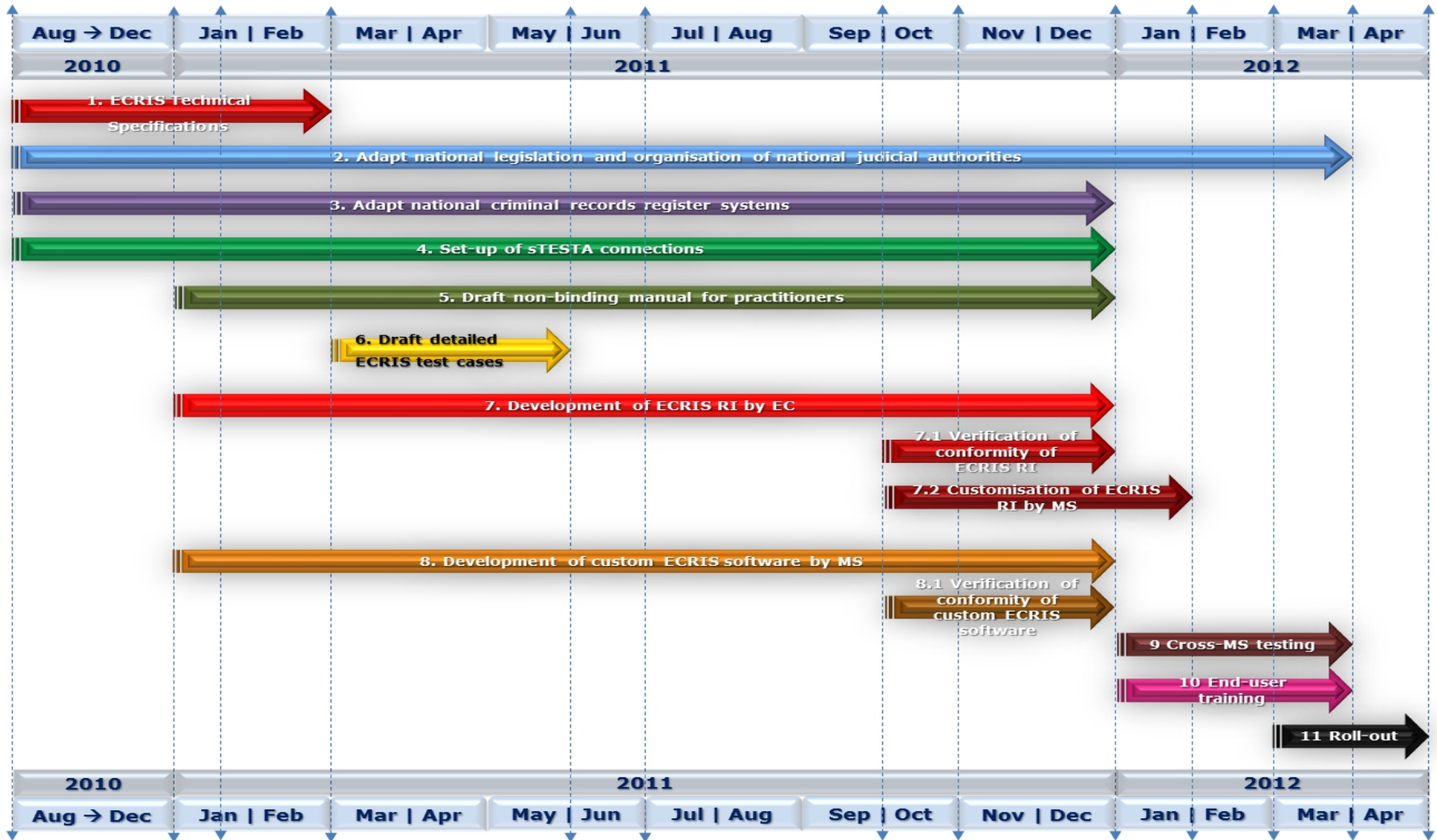
2) Providing technical framework for the exchanges (2/2)

- Developing the **Reference Implementation (RI)** software
- Providing **technical support**
- Preparing **ECRIS implementation Roadmap** and monitoring its implementation by the MS

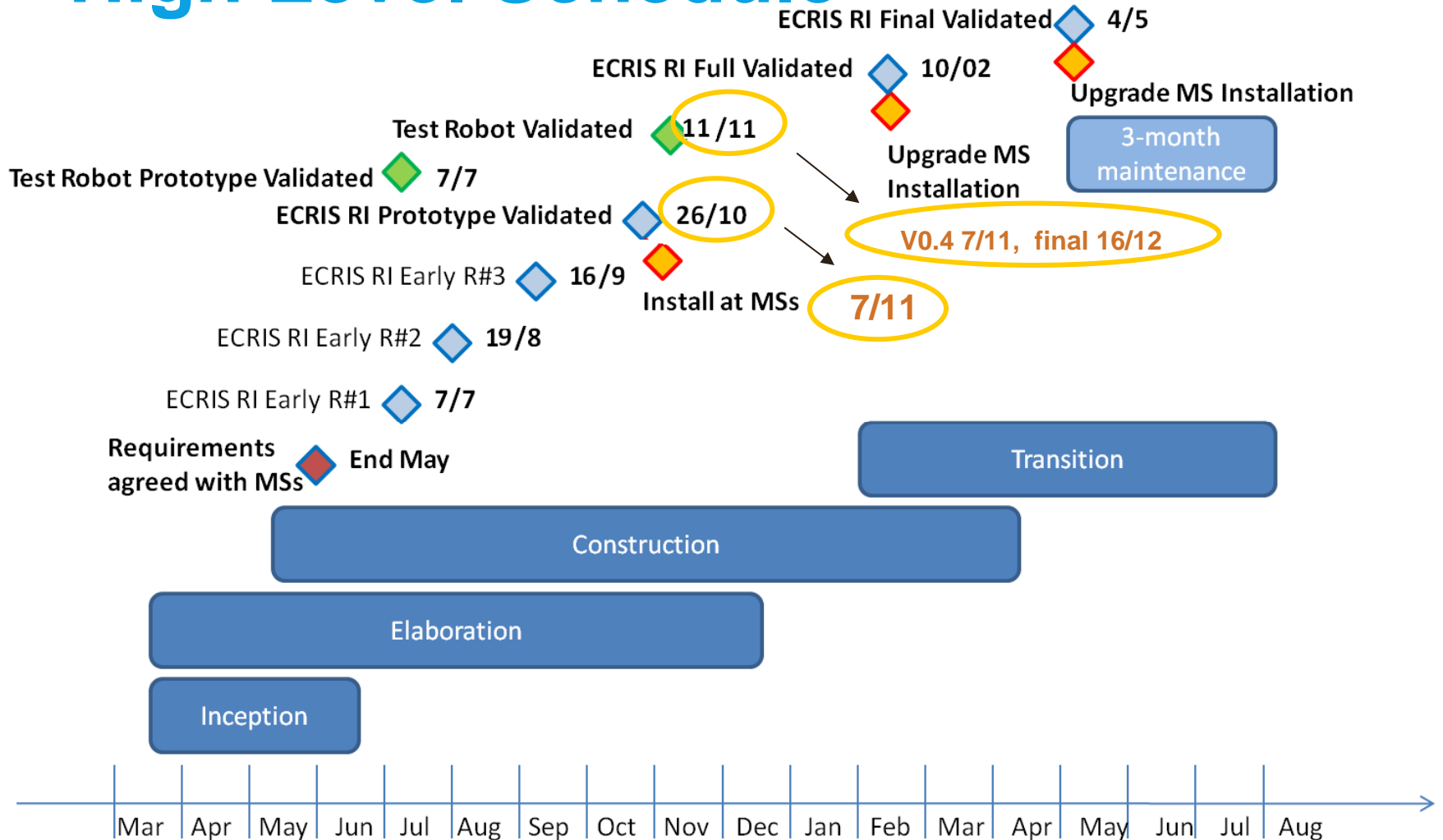
Fingerprint aspects

- Assumed that fingerprints to be exchanged **optionally** in ECRIS will be used for performing ten-prints against ten-prints matching during the identification process
- Following a standard – NIST format
- Format based on the Interpol-implementation of ANSI/NIST-ITL 1-2000
- Derivatives of this format are already used by other European projects such as in particular “EURODAC” and “PRÜM”
- Optional exchange -> Push Pull mechanism
- Max size 10 Mb

ECRIS Implementation Roadmap



High Level Schedule



In practice...

ECRIS RI

http://ecris.intrasoft-intl.com/release-5-be/

Most Visited RI ER3 - FR RI ER 3-BE ECRIS RI prototype ECRIS RI Prototype in ... php Admin ECRIS RI 0.5 ECRIS RI 0.5

ERI10 - Envoyer requête TEST My Settings ? Log Off

Principal Information Additionnelle d'Identité Errors

Anciens noms Add Former Name

Alias Add Alias

Adresses Ajouter adresse

Country: Austria | Salzburg | Town: Dornbirn | Street: strasse | Number:

Empreintes digitales

Nom de fichier:

Titre:

Remarques:

Attacher NIST Effacer NIST

Attach Fingerprints file

European Criminal Record System

The screenshot shows the ECRIS RI web application interface in Mozilla Firefox. The browser title is "ECRIS RI - Mozilla Firefox" and the address bar shows "http://ecris.intrasoft-intl.com/release-5-be/". The main content area is titled "ERI10 - Envoyer requête" and includes a "TEST" label and "My Settings" and "Log Off" buttons. The interface is divided into several sections:

- Anciens noms:** Includes an "Add Former Name" button.
- Alias:** Includes an "Add Alias" button.
- Adresses:** Includes an "Ajouter adresse" button and a form with fields for "Country: Austria", "Salzburg", "Town: Dornbirn", "Street: strasse", and "Number". Buttons for "Editer" and "Effacer" are present.
- Empreintes digitales:** Includes a "Nom de fichier:" field, a "Titre:" field, and a "Remarques:" text area. Buttons for "Attacher NIST" and "Effacer NIST" are present.

A modal dialog titled "ERI25 - Attach Fingerprints" is open, featuring a file input field, "Browse..." and "Upload File" buttons, and "Close" and "OK" buttons.

Conclusions

- ECRIS offers the technical ability to securely exchange fingerprints
- This capability could be taken advantage of by Member States



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