

IDQEUC Newsletter

Improving Data Quality of EU Criminals

Introduction

Welcome to the 4th and final edition of the IDQEUC Project newsletter. This newsletter provides an update on the work of the Improving Data Quality of EU Criminals Project and the ERIC Reference Tool from the past two years and our future plans.

We have now held five Partner Country meetings, one each in France, Spain and Romania, and two in the UK. We have also held eight Project Board Meetings and the launch of ERIC at Heathrow, where over 100 delegates attended from 24 European countries.

Final Partner Country meeting

The 5th Partner Country meeting was held in the UK and hosted in London at the Metropolitan Police Empress State Building. This was a good opportunity to thank everyone for their contribution and help throughout the project and to discuss ERIC post project.

Over the past two years the Partner Country meetings have really helped the project team get a better understanding of how ERIC can support other Member States and from that, helped towards creating ERIC to be suitable for all Member States to use.



Contact

For further information or to schedule in a meeting, please contact:

eu.data.app@acro.pnn.police.uk

ERIC UK version

The reference tool has now been split into two different versions to allow free access to all Member States and to enable the UK to use the email function securely. Before the tool was divided we needed the public facing outgoing IP address for all Member States to be able to access the Tool, which proved difficult for the Member States outside the UK.

We have now created a solution where the Tool for the UK sits on a secure server and only authorised users with a registered IP address have access. This will mean that ERIC can be used, and information is sent securely as an email. It is really important that UK users enter the URL uk.eric-acro.eu, otherwise it will not have the email option and a PDF will be created. This would then need to be downloaded, saved and sent to your force's agreed destination.

When emailing an ERIC submission this is NOT automatically sending a request to another country and your force policy for making a request will need to be followed. ERIC is designed to assist you with the request process.

ERIC EU version

The reference tool has now been designed to allow free access to all Member States. Before the tool was redesigned it needed the public facing outgoing IP address for all Member States to access, which proved difficult to obtain.

A solution has been created where the tool sits on a public server and recalls the relevant information from the secure server. This allows all Member States to access ERIC freely. ERIC will then provide a PDF output of the information which will need to be downloaded, saved and sent as per the country's local policy.

When using ERIC this is NOT automatically sending a request to another country. Your country's policies and procedures for making a request will still need to be followed. ERIC is designed to assist with the request process but the correct local procedure will still need to be followed.

The future of ERIC

There is no doubt ERIC will evolve and develop in the future and if you have any issues or comments please email us at eu.data.app@acro.pnn.police.uk

ERIC can be accessed via a number of portals. The email function for the UK is via uk.eric-acro.eu. The PDF function for Member States can be accessed via eric-acro.eu. You will then need to select your country's flag. Finally ERIC can be accessed from the ACRO website www.acro.police.uk/ERIC.aspx by following the link to the interactive version. Additional information can be found about ERIC on this website along with Frequently Asked Questions and answers.

Thank you for all your help and contribution to the project.

Interfacing ERIC into your system

With the new solution that has been designed, a further function has been developed where ERIC can be interfaced with current systems. This is called an API (Application Programming Interface).

This will enable local police systems to be securely linked to ERIC. When the ERIC fields are completed it will populate directly into the local system. A short piece of code would need to be written by the Police Force or EU Member State wishing to do this.

If you are interested in interfacing ERIC please contact eu.data.app@acro.pnn.police.uk to discuss it further.



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