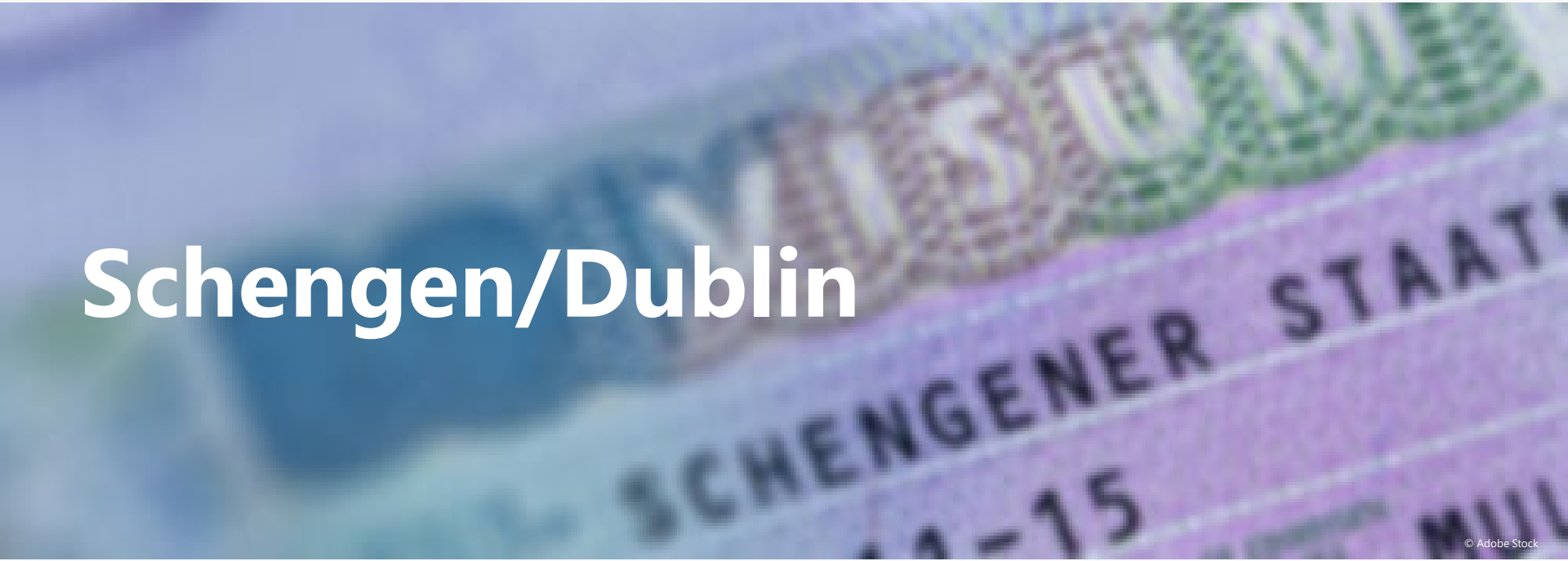
Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA



Schengen/Dublin

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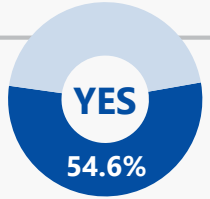
Timeline and important votes

2004
Bilaterals II

Signed

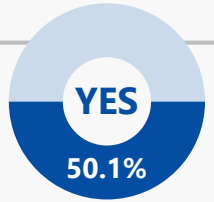
2005
Schengen/Dublin



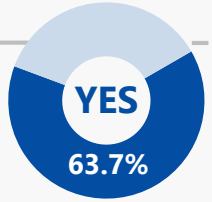
2008

Enters into force

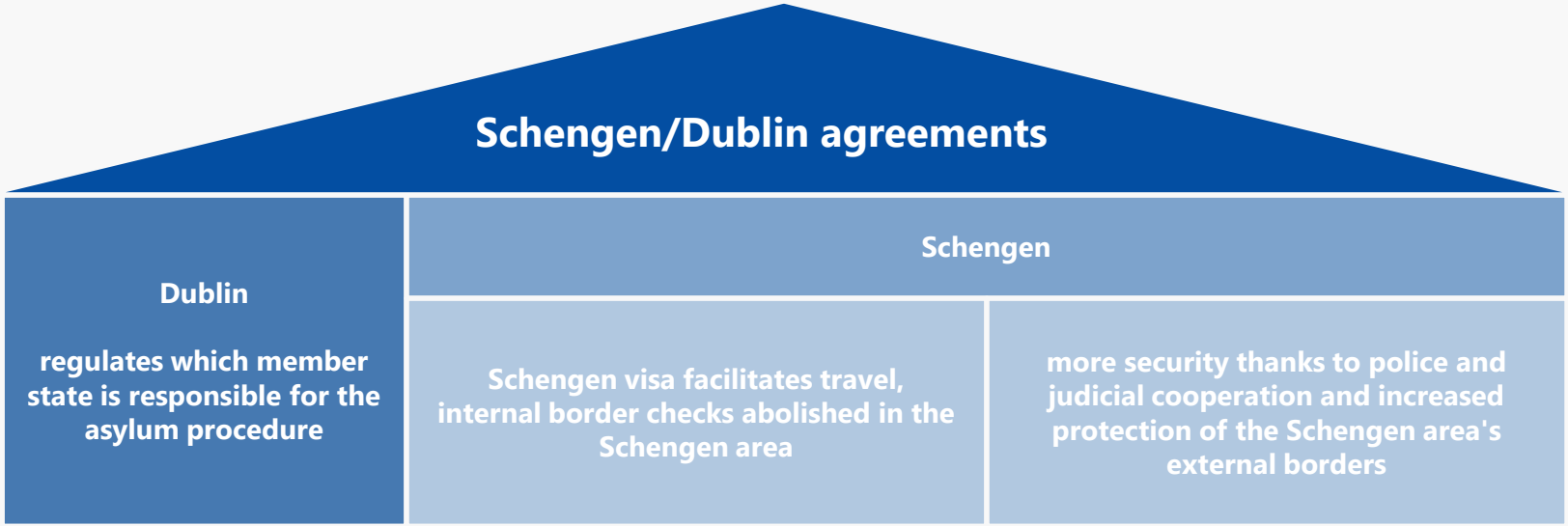
2009
Biometric passport



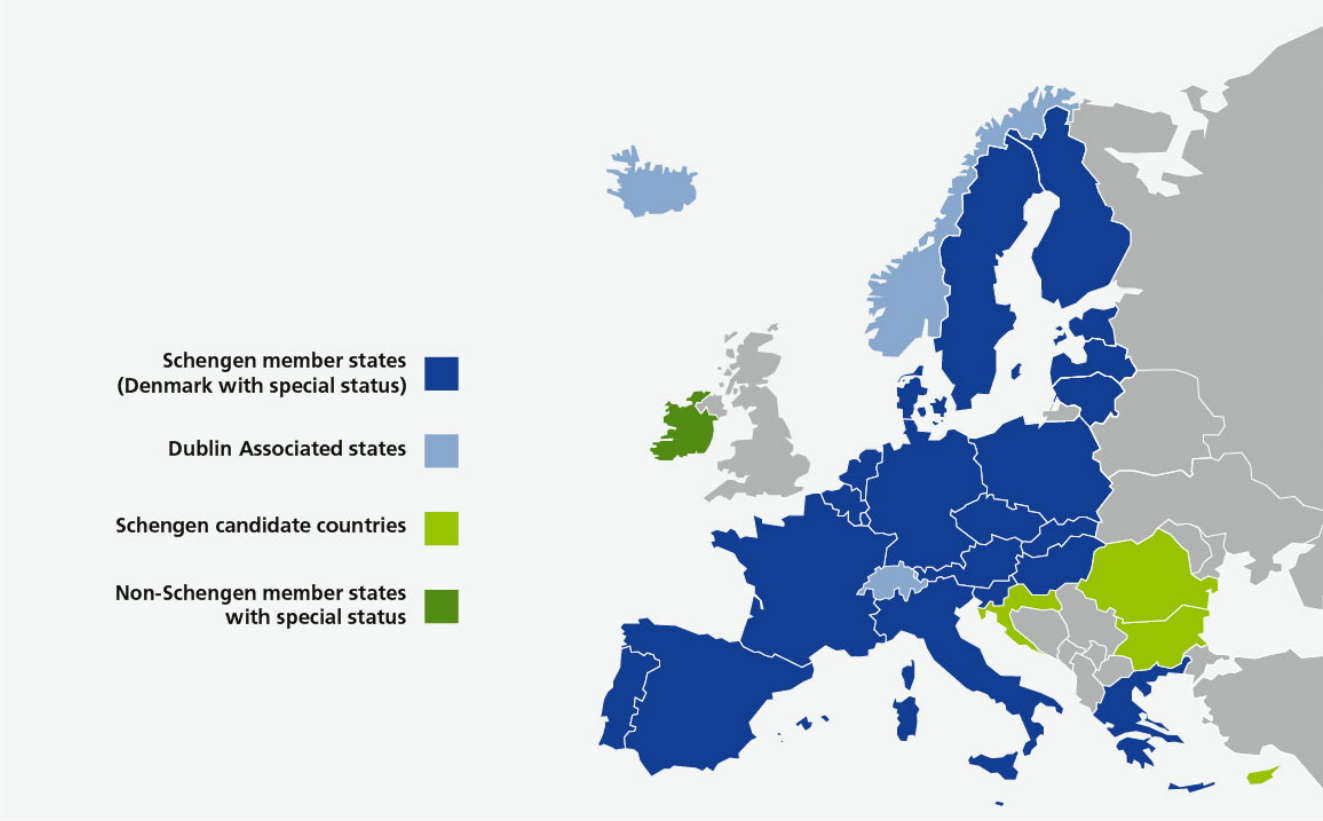
2019
Firearms directive



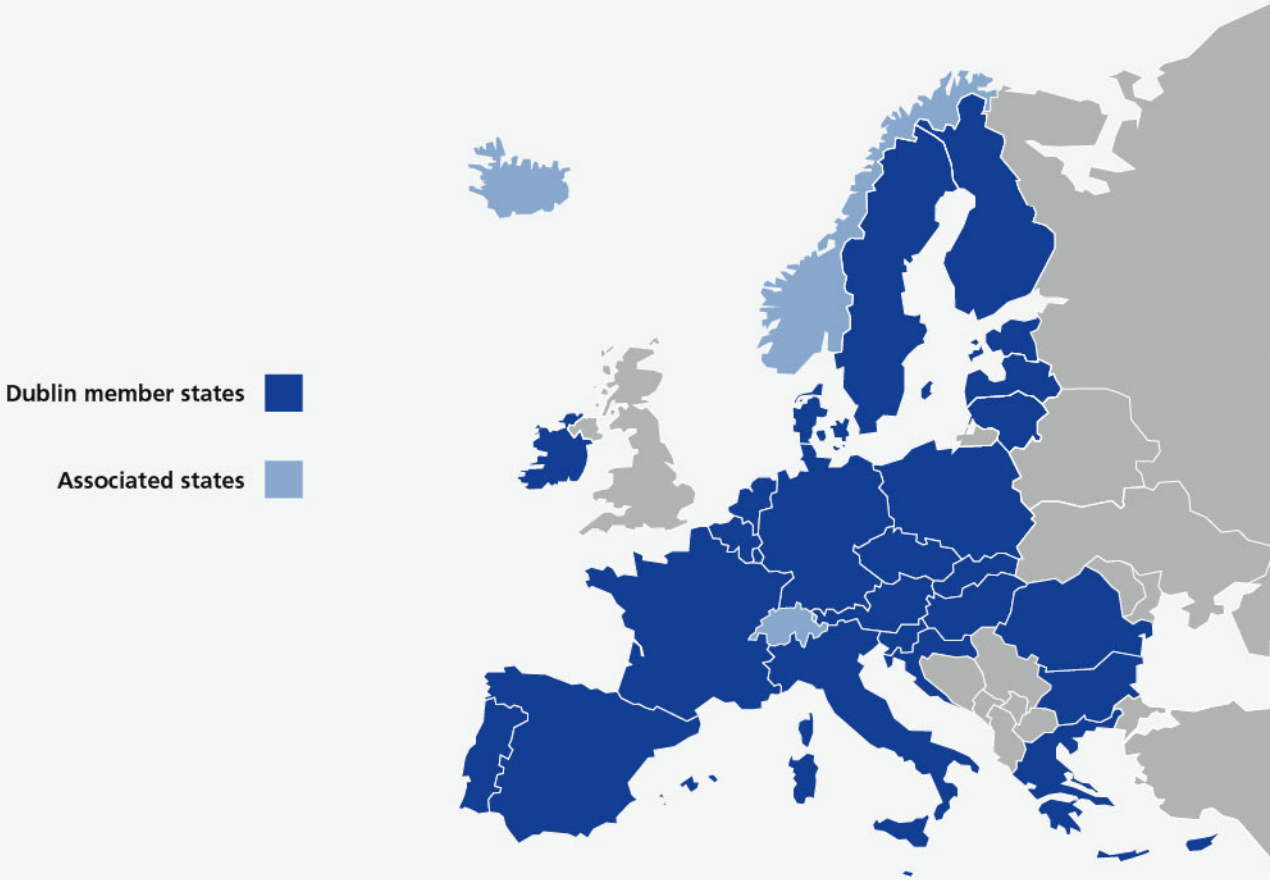
Schengen/Dublin scope of application



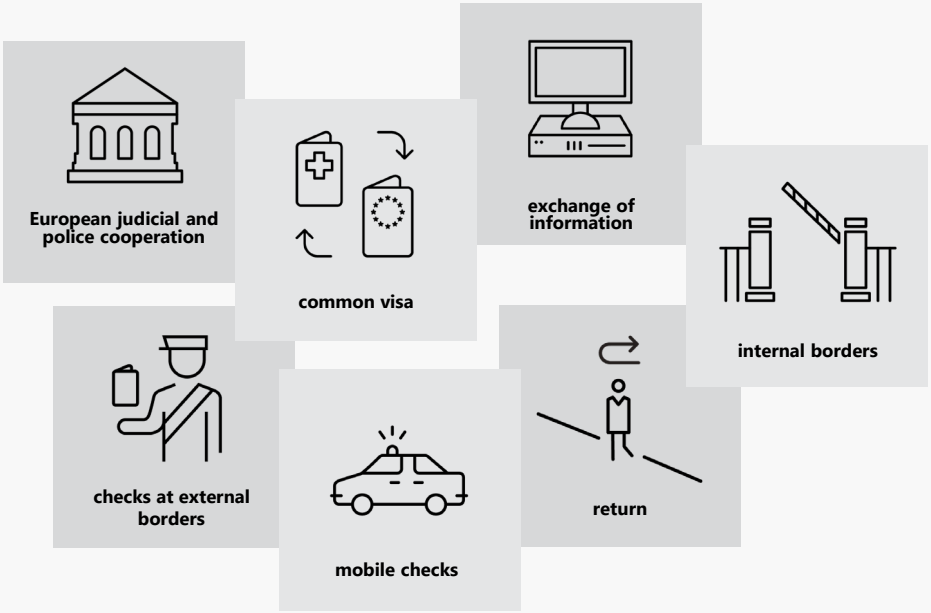
Schengen


Schengen member states
(Denmark with special status)
Dublin Associated states
Schengen candidate countries
Non-Schengen member states
with special status

Dublin



Schengen



Principle

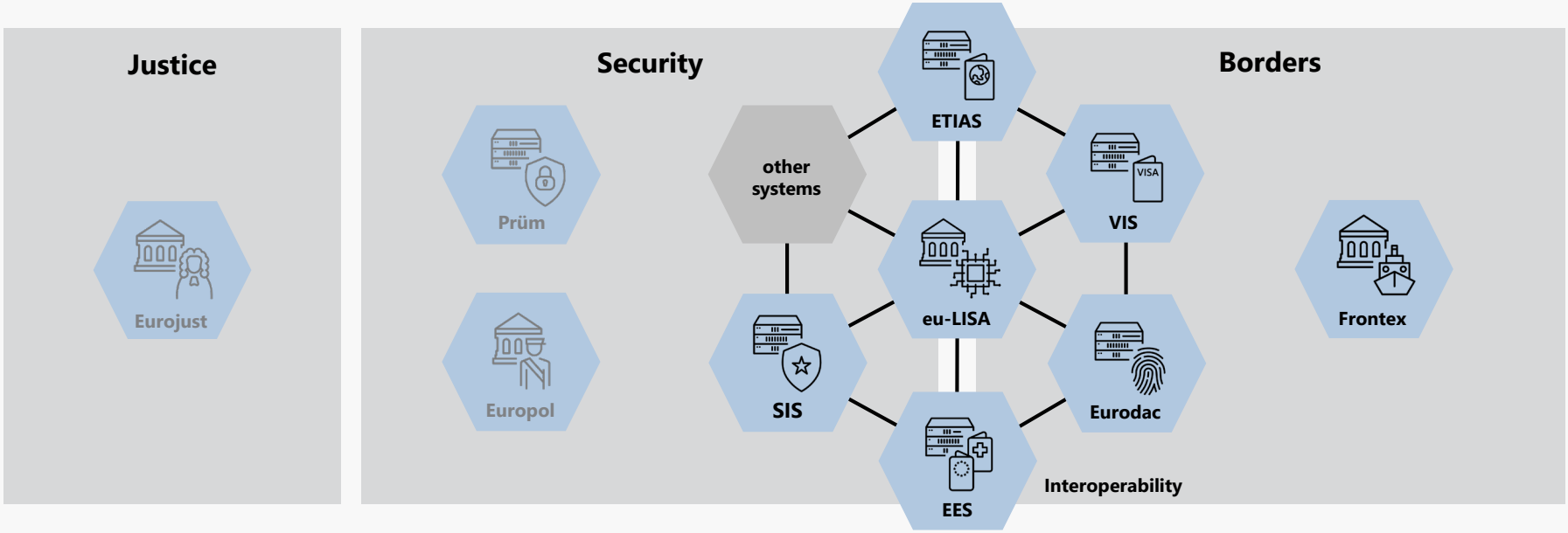
Border checks abolished, free movement in the Schengen area

More security and controls at Schengen area's external borders

Common visa policy for short stays of max. 3 months

Creation of a common area of freedom, security and justice

Instruments



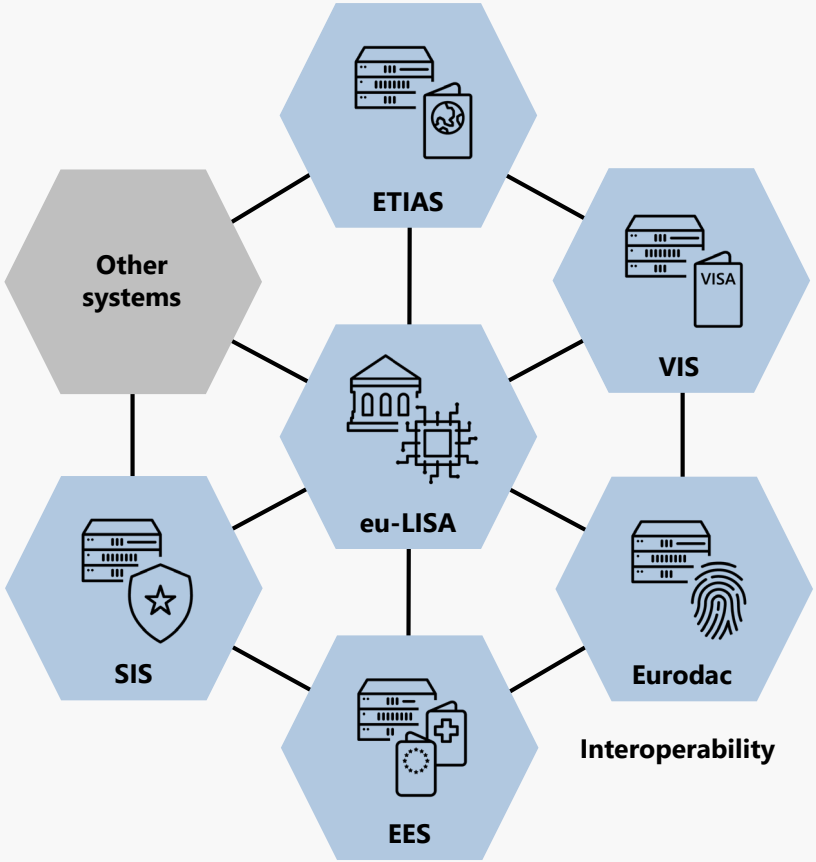
Digital interoperability

Complex threats call for interoperable IT systems and databases

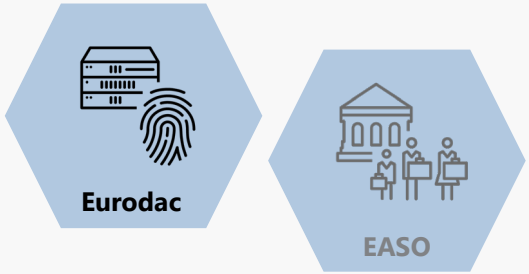
Facilitates exchange of information and access to various databases, e.g. thanks to a 'European' central search portal

Enables targeted use of available information

Automated queries



Dublin



Principle

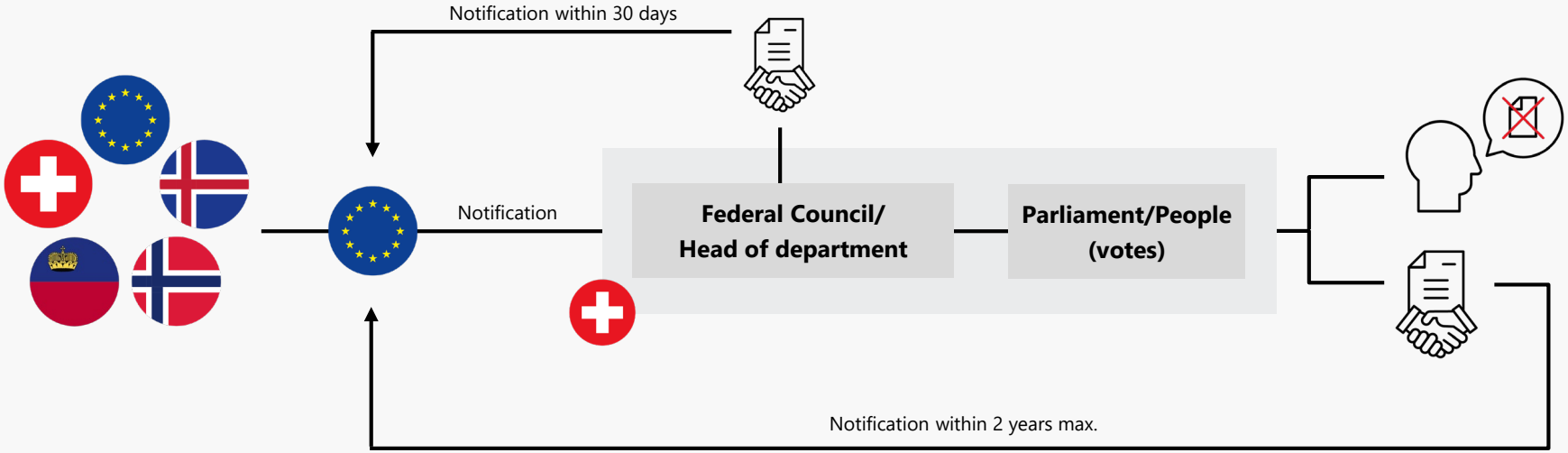
Clarifies which state is responsible for the examination of asylum applications

Avoids multiple asylum applications

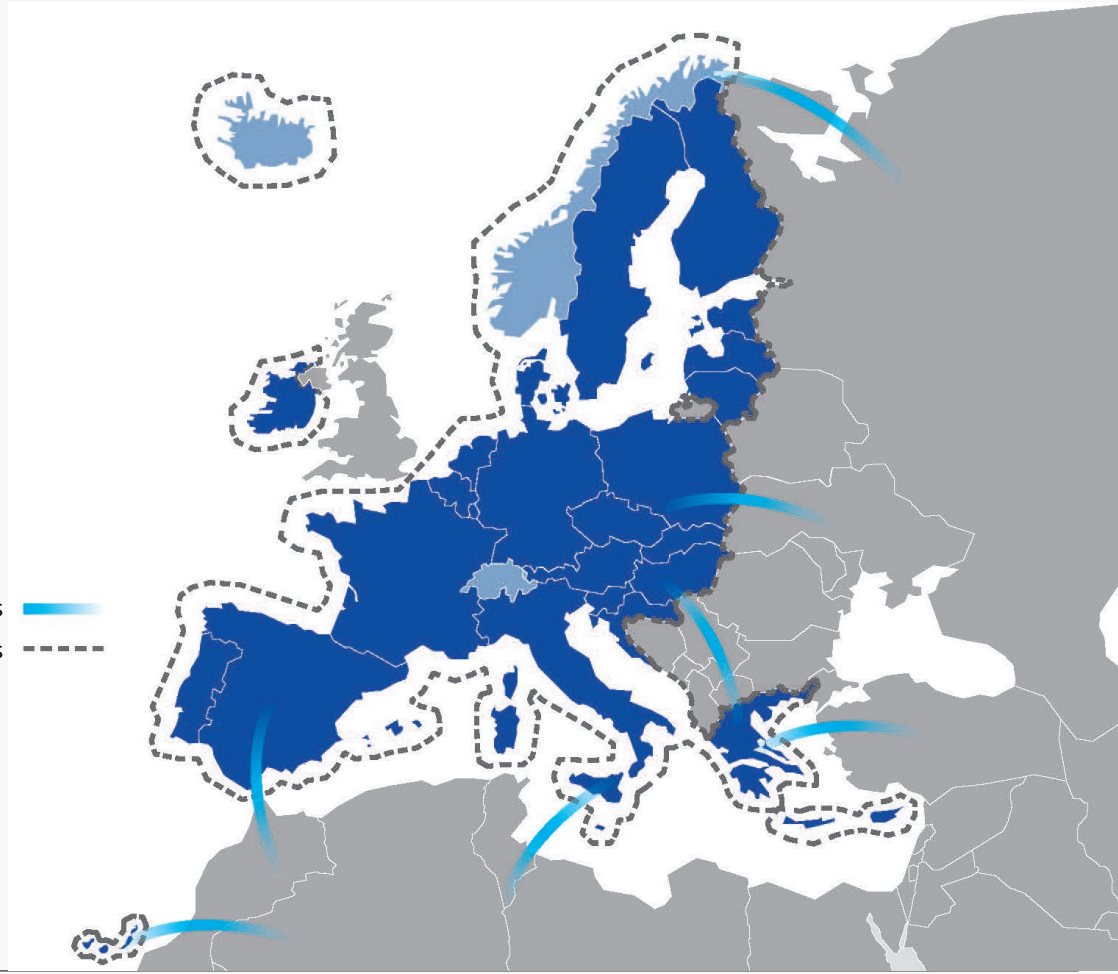
Ensures all applications processed

Coordinated asylum policy

Procedure for the adoption of developments



Routes taken by refugees and migrants



Decision-shaping right

Schengen

On principle, obligation to adopt and implement the relevant legal provisions and

decision-shaping right as an institutional counterweight **(no codecision right)**

Switzerland entitled to shape decisions at all levels up to Justice and Home Affairs Council

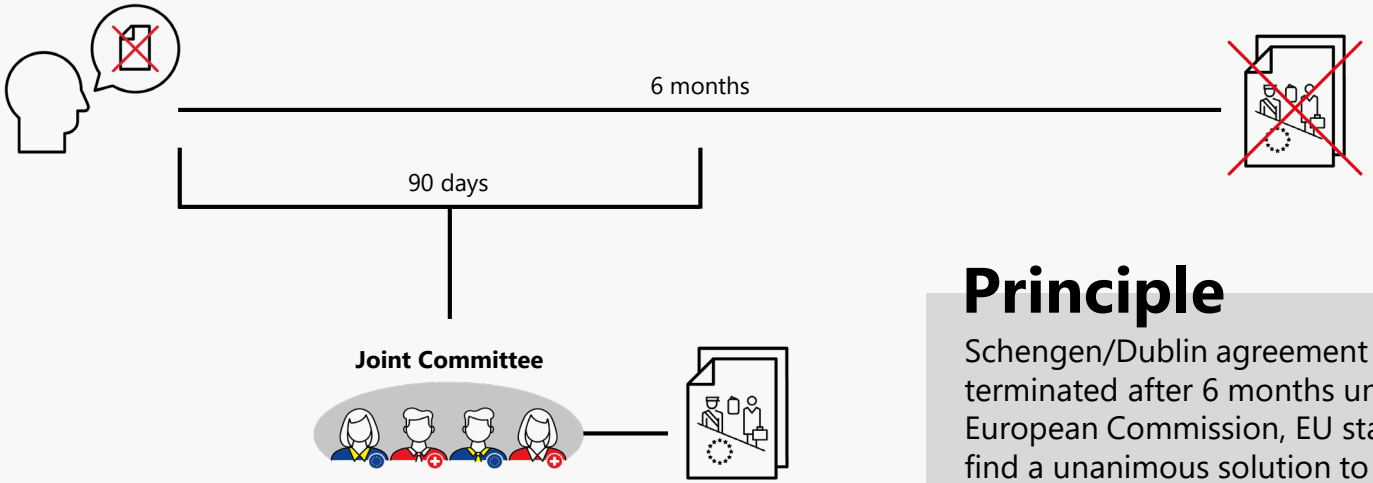
Dublin

Associated states consulted and informed **in Joint Committee**

Firearms law

- Sets minimum standards to combat the misuse of weapons
- Swiss militia system and keeping of militia army firearms at home are not affected
- Revised firearms directive adopted on 17.05.2017
- On 19.05.2019, the Swiss people voted in favour of the partial revision of Swiss firearms legislation (63.7% in favour)

Termination procedure



Principle

Schengen/Dublin agreement automatically terminated after 6 months unless within 90 days the European Commission, EU states and Switzerland find a unanimous solution to extend their cooperation (with unknown conditions)

Importance for Switzerland

Security

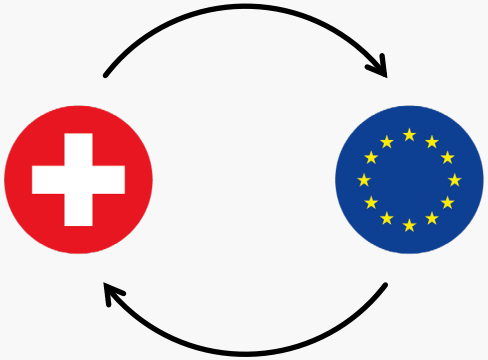
Supports efforts to fight international crime

Approx. 300,000 SIS searches per day, 19,000 'hits' on SIS per year

Fluid border traffic

Easier travel, less congestion thanks to the elimination of systematic border checks

Approx. 2.1 million people cross the Schengen border every day



Tourism and business

Schengen visa benefits tourism

Switzerland issues approx. 520,000 Schengen visas annually

Asylum

Eases pressure on Switzerland (not a typical first country of asylum)

Switzerland receives approx. 2.5% of all Dublin asylum applications

2018, Sources: fedpol, State Secretariat for Migration, European Commission; 2015, Source: Federal Statistical Office

Importance for Switzerland

Impact of no Schengen/Dublin association:

- GDP falls between 1.6% and 3.7% by 2030
- Weakened internal security, e.g. because no more access to SIS
- More time and money spent on border crossings (up to CHF 3.2 billion per year)
- Additional asylum costs (up to CHF 1.3 billion per year)
- Less appeal as a destination for tourism, business and scientific research (a decline in tourism could cost up to CHF 500 million per year)

2018, source: Federal Council report on the economic and financial effects of Schengen/Dublin association

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA

Thank you for your attention

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