



Wellington, 09.08.2017

## Factsheet - Convictions and information

The sole fact that a person is no longer being prosecuted in his home country does not guarantee an entrance into Switzerland respectively the Schengen area without complications. Critical are the inscriptions in the Swiss and/or European data bases where the person entering Switzerland respectively the Schengen area is not allowed to be publicised for arrest or refusal of entry.

Everyone has the right to be given information on whether data concerning them is being stored in the **S**chengen **I**nformation **S**ystem **SIS** and **V**isa **I**nformation **S**ystem of Switzerland **VIS** and, if applicable, to have access to this data as outlined under A) and B) hereunder.

In Switzerland anyone can ask whether any data about them is being processed and where this data comes from. The information can be restricted or refused, particularly if this information is required to protect overriding public interests or the internal or external security of Switzerland or if the information jeopardises a criminal investigation or other investigation proceedings.

The request for information on data held in the **S**chengen **I**nformation **S**ystem **SIS** can be submitted to the appropriate authority in the Schengen state of your choice.

In Switzerland, the request can be submitted directly to the authority responsible for **SIS** matters: the Federal Office of Police. Applicants must prove their identity (with a copy of passport or identity card). The response is given in writing and is free of charge.

### Address:

Federal Office of Police (fedpol)  
Legal department / Data protection  
Data protection adviser  
Nussbaumstrasse 29  
CH-3003 **Bern**

[www.fedpol.ch](http://www.fedpol.ch)

### **A) Requests for information SIS in Switzerland**

The procedure for dealing with requests for information is governed by the national law of the Schengen state where the request was submitted. In Switzerland the response is normally given within thirty (30) days, at the latest however within sixty (60) days following the correct submission of the request (i.e. in writing and enclosing a copy of the identity document as outlined above).

A **model-letter** is available for download under the following link:

<https://www.edoeb.admin.ch/datenschutz/00628/00638/00652/index.html?lang=en> (under the link: Access Request **SIS**)

More information about Schengen...and your personal data can be found under the following link:

<https://www.edoeb.admin.ch/datenschutz/00796/00798/01158/index.html?lang=en>

## **B) Requests for information ORBIS / C-VIS**

The procedure for dealing with requests for information of the Visa Information System VIS and the National Visa System is governed by the [Ordinance on the Central Visa Information System](#).

A **model-letter** is available for download under the following link:

<https://www.edoeb.admin.ch/datenschutz/00628/00638/00652/index.html?lang=en> (under the link: Access Request **VIS**)