



## Quo Vadis Prüm ?

*Biometric samples from human-remains  
and missing-persons*

**20 April 2021**

European Commission – Directorate-General Migration & Home Affairs  
Unit D1 – Police Cooperation and Information Exchange

# Biometric samples

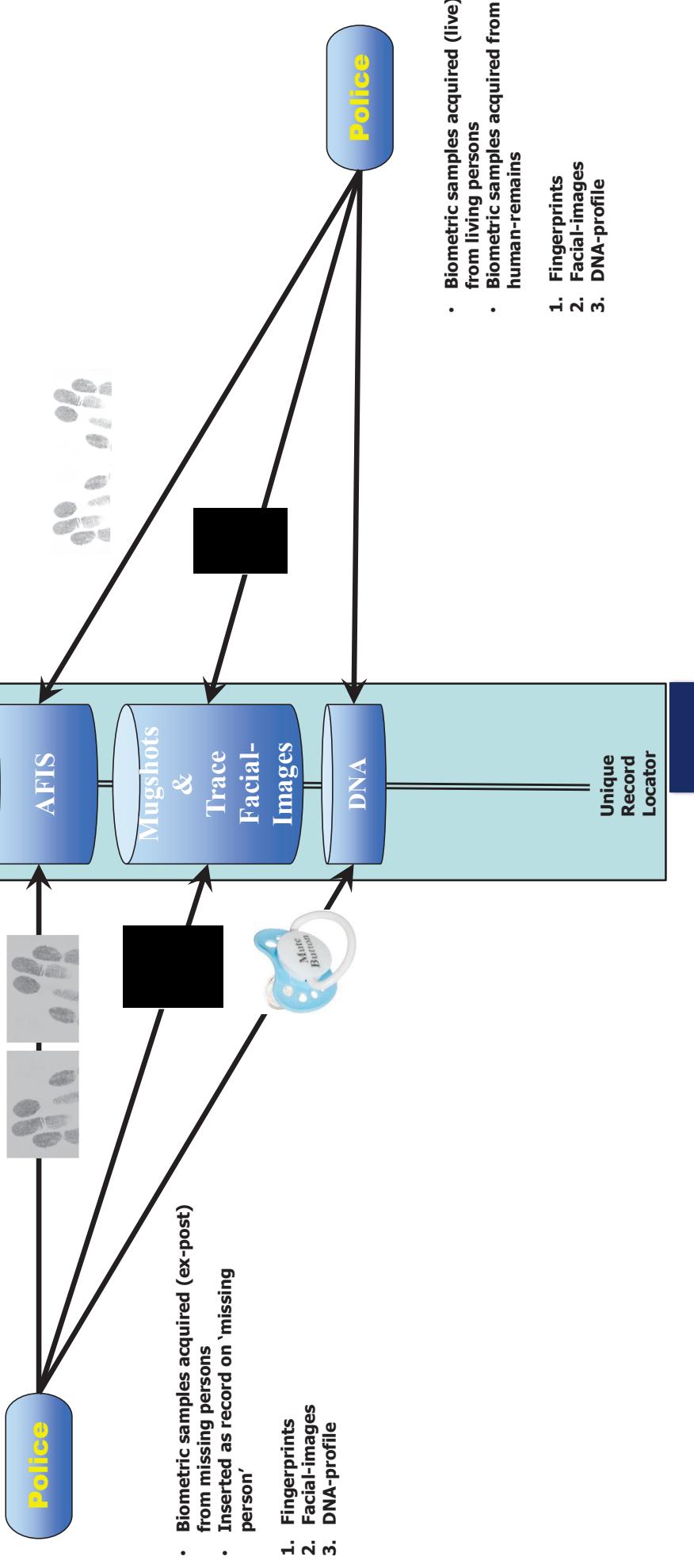
## Missing Persons & Human Remains



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### Acquire & Insert (& Search)

### Search



# Regulations 2019/817 \* 2019/818 Need for national legislation to identify human remains

European Commission

Regulations 2019/817 & 2019/818

## Article 20

Access to the common identity repository for identification

1. Queries of the CIR shall be carried out by a police authority in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 5 only in the following circumstances:
  - (a) where a police authority is unable to identify a person due to the lack of a travel document or another credible document proving that person's identity;
  - (b) where there are doubts about the identity data provided by a person;
  - (c) where there are doubts as to the authenticity of the travel document or another credible document provided by a person;
  - (d) where there are doubts as to the identity of the holder of a travel document or of another credible document; or

**(e) where a person is unable or refuses to cooperate.**

Such queries shall not be allowed against minors under the age of 12 years old, unless in the best interests of the child.

2. Where one of the circumstances listed in paragraph 1 arises and a police authority has been so empowered by national legislative measures as referred to in paragraph 5, it may, solely for the purpose of identifying a person, query the CIR with the biometric data of that person taken live during an identity check, provided that the procedure was initiated in the presence of that person.
  3. Where the query indicates that data on that person are stored in the CIR, the police authority shall have access to consult the data referred to in Article 18(1). Where the biometric data of the person cannot be used or where the query with that data fails, the query shall be carried out with identity data of the person in combination with travel document data, or with the identity data provided by that person.

**4. Where a police authority has been so empowered by national legislative measures as referred to in paragraph 6, it may, in the event of a natural disaster, an accident or a terrorist attack and solely for the purpose of identifying unknown persons who are unable to identify themselves or unidentified human remains, query the CIR with the biometric data of those persons.**

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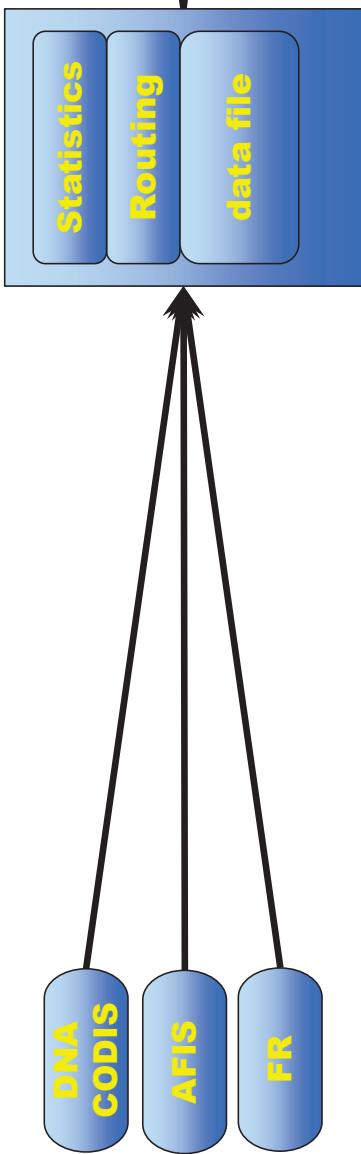
5. Member States wishing to avail themselves of the possibility provided for in paragraph 2 shall adopt national legislative measures. When doing so, Member States shall take into account the need to avoid any discrimination against third-country nationals. Such legislative measures shall specify the precise purposes of the identification within the purposes referred to in Article 2(1)(b) and (c). They shall designate the competent police authorities and lay down the procedures, conditions and criteria of such checks.
6. Member States wishing to avail themselves of the possibility provided for in paragraph 4 shall adopt national legislative measures laying down the procedures, conditions and criteria.

# Prüm Central Router



European  
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Prüm Router



Biometric search via Prüm uses biometric samples that are legally acquired by MS/SAC under national legislation.

- This may include data from human-remains

The Prüm Regulation WILL thus allow exchange of biometric samples from human-remains.

The sample must be 'tagged' accordingly as it may lead to a different follow-up.

For DNA:  
DNA-profiles from human-remains may be searched against the DNA-gallery  
Storing a DNA-profile from missing-persons and human-remains depends on National legislation

**Q & A**



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**Thank you!**