



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 13 April 2016
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COMIX 281

NOTE

From: Belgian delegation

To: Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee
(EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)

No. prev. doc.: 7351/1/16 REV 1 FRONT 143 COMIX 239

Subject: Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Belgian internal borders in accordance with Article 25 of Regulation (EC) 562/2006 establishing a Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code)

Delegations will find attached a copy of a letter received by the General Secretariat of the Council on 12 April 2016 concerning the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Belgium at its internal borders until 22 April 2016.

E-MAIL / FAX

THE PRIME MINISTER



SECRETARIAT GÉNÉRAL DU CONSEIL DE L'UNION EUROPÉENNE SGE16/03553	
Reçu le	12 -04- 2016
DEST. PRINC. DEST. COPISTES	Mme ROGER

To the attention of:
Mr. Dimitri AVRAMOPOULOS
Commissioner for Home Affairs
Mr. Klaus WELLE
Secretary-General of the European Parliament
Mr. Klaas DIJKHOF
President of the Justice and Home Affairs Council
of the European Union
Mr. Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN
Secretary-General of the Council of the European
Union

Your post of

Your references

Our references
CM/AE/MR/ap/

Date

Concerning: Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of internal border control according to article 25.3 of the Schengen Borders Code.

Dear Commissioner, President, Secretary-General,

Following earlier communications and in accordance with article 25.3 of the Schengen Borders Code, Belgium hereby announces the prolongation of the temporary internal border controls at the border between the Province of West Flanders and France for the period from 13 April up to and including 22 April 2016.

The number of intercepted transmigrants has dropped after the introduction of border controls at the end of February, but last week a new rise could be noticed.

The risk is real that this rise will continue because of the start of the summer season and the better weather conditions.

Moreover one also needs to take into account the further evacuation of tent camps in the north of France.

We will continue to do everything possible to avoid that tent camps arise on Belgian territory. For this kind of camps has a big impact on the public order and security and on the general sense of security of the citizens. In the past few weeks different attempts were noticed to set up tent camps in the coastal zone and the police services already had to intervene several times to clear starting camps.

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The transmigrants continuously make attempts to enter the port of Zeebrugge, with all accompanying security risks, and one also found that the smugglers try to bring migrants to the UK from the marina of Nieuwpoort.

If the situation does not change, Belgium will consider to continue the border controls after 22 April 2016, in accordance with articles 23 and 24 of the Schengen Border Code.

Yours sincerely,



Jan JAMBON
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister of Security and Home Affairs



Charles MICHEL
Prime Minister