



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 25 March 2020
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COMIX 129

NOTE

From: Norwegian Mission

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

Subject: Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Norwegian internal borders in accordance with Article 28 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399 on a Union 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 25 March 2020 regarding the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Norway at the internal borders between 26 March and 14 April 2020.



TH 003067 2020
25.03.2020

Brussels, 25.03.2020

Dear Vice-President of the Commission
Dear Commissioner
Dear Secretary-General of the Council
Dear Sir/Madam

Enclosed please find a letter from the Norwegian Minister of Justice and Public Security dated 25 March 2020 on the prolongation of the border control at the Norwegian internal borders.

We kindly ask delegations to forward it to their respective capital.

Yours sincerely

Rolf Einar FIFE

Enclosed: 1

Mr Margaritis SCHINAS
Vice-President of the European Commission
1049 Brussels

Postal address: Rue Archimède 17, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium
Office address: Rue Archimède 17 Telephone: +32 (0) 2 238 74 00 Fax: +32 (0) 2 238 74 00

Ms Ylva JOHANSSON
Commissioner for Home Affairs
1049 Brussels

Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN
Secretary-General of the Council
1048 Brussels

To the
Ministers of Home Affairs in the Schengen States

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ROYAL NORWEGIAN
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SECURITY

Minister of Justice and Public Security

European Commission
European Parliament
Secretary-General of the Council
Member States of the Schengen Cooperation

Your ref.

Our ref.
20/1379 - KKA

Date
25.03.2020

Prolongation of the border controls at the Norwegian internal borders

Although unprecedented measures have been introduced to reduce and prevent the further spread of the covid-19 virus infections, the number of infected persons in Norway continues to increase.

In my letter of March 15th, I informed you that Norway would temporarily reintroduce internal border controls at all internal borders (land, sea and air) for 10 days, effective from March 16th at 08:00, pursuant to article 28 of the Regulation (EU) 2016/399 on the rules governing the movements of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code).

The accelerating spread of the covid-19 virus throughout Europe and in Norway continues to constitute a threat to our public policy and internal security. In accordance with the Schengen Borders Code article 28, I have therefore decided to prolong the temporary internal border controls at all Norwegian borders for a further 20 days, starting from March 26th this year at 08:00.

Norway recognizes that the temporary reintroduction of internal border control is an exceptional measure of last resort. As such, the carrying out of internal border controls will be limited, both operationally and geographically, to what is considered strictly necessary to avert the threat to our public policy and internal security. In order to make the controls at the internal borders effective, while as efficient as possible, a certain channelling of traffic flows to larger border crossing points may be necessary, but has so far not been decided.

The internal border controls will of course be implemented in light of the Commission

Office address: Gullhaug Torg 4A Telephone: +47 22 24 51 00
Postal address: PO Box 8005 Dep, N-0030 Oslo, Norway
Org. no.: 972 417 831

guidelines for border management measures to protect health and ensure the availability of goods and essential services.

Yours sincerely


Monica Mæland

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