



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 8 April 2020
(OR. en)

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COMIX 146

NOTE

From: Danish delegation

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

Subject: Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Danish internal borders in accordance with Articles 25 and 27 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 8 April 2020 regarding the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Denmark at the internal borders between 12 May and 11 November 2020.



Dear colleagues,

Please be informed that the Danish Government, in accordance with the provisions in Article 25 and 27 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of 9 March 2016 (Schengen Borders Code), has decided to temporarily reintroduce border controls at the internal borders. The reintroduction of border control at the Danish internal borders will be carried out for 6 months as from 12 May 2020.

The border control may extend to all internal borders, including land-, sea- and air borders, whereby the specific border sections and border crossing points are determined by the Danish National Police.

The persistent and significant threat to our public order and internal security caused by militant Islamists and organized criminals who are able to exploit the free mobility within the Schengen area continues to be of grave concern for the Danish Government. Furthermore the COVID-19 outbreak remains a serious and unprecedented threat to us all and the Danish Government is handling the current situation with the utmost caution.

Against this backdrop and after careful consideration, the Danish Government considers the temporary internal border controls as a necessary and effective measure to address these threats to public order and internal security.

In light of the current situation and to limit the spread of COVID-19, please be informed that the temporary border controls will continue to be carried out at all internal borders, including land-, sea- and air borders for as long as it is necessary to address the threat from the spread of the COVID-19.

Støttestrømsgade 10
DK - 1216 København K.

Phone +45 7226 8400
Fax +45 3393 3510

www.justitsministeriet.dk
jm@jm.dk

Please also rest assured that the scope of the internal border checks will continue to be limited to what is strictly necessary to respond to the threat to our public order and internal security.

Accordingly, Denmark expects to lift the COVID-19 related travel restrictions at all internal and external borders as soon as the situation allows it and then focus the internal border controls on the Danish-German land border, the Danish-Swedish land border (Øresundsforbindelsen) and the Danish ports with ferry connection to Germany or Sweden.

In accordance with the Schengen Borders code, the Danish Government has notified the European Commission about this decision.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Hækkerup