



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 14 April 2020
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NOTE

From: Switzerland Mission

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

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Subject: Prolongation of temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Swiss 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 14 April 2020 regarding prolongation of temporary reintroduction of border controls by Switzerland at the land- and air borders with all Schengen States except Liechtenstein between 12 April and 1 May 2020.

E-MAIL



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

The Head of the
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To the
Ministers of Home Affairs of the Schengen States

Berne, 8 April 2020

Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border control at the internal borders of Switzerland

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

By several letters in March and April I informed you about the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the internal borders of Switzerland (with the exception of the one to the Principality of Liechtenstein) and their prolongation because of the persistent threat to public order and internal security posed by the spreading of the corona virus.

The situation in Switzerland and throughout Europe remains critical. The number of corona virus infections continues to increase in Switzerland, but also in many countries all over Europe. We, thus, need to continue to undertake all necessary measures in order to slow down the spreading of the virus, ensure the capacity of the medical facilities and protect the most vulnerable. This implies concretely that the border controls implemented by Switzerland must still be maintained over the coming weeks.

In application of article 28 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons

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across borders (Schengen Borders Code), Switzerland has therefore decided to prolong the border controls in place at the land and air borders with all Schengen-States except the Principality of Liechtenstein as of 12 April, at 00:00 a.m., for 20 more days.

By maintaining these measures, Switzerland aims to prevent the disease from spreading too rapidly, which would endanger the ability to provide adequate care to the population and protect the most vulnerable people from the virus, while minimizing the impact of the measures on the free movement of persons.

Yours sincerely

Karin Keller-Sutter
Federal Councillor
Head of the Federal Department of Justice and Police FDJP

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