



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 14 April 2020
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NOTE

From: Spanish delegation

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

No. prev. doc.: 7054/20

Subject: Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Spanish 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 14 April 2020 regarding temporary reintroduction of border controls by Spain at the internal borders between 12 and 26 April 2020.

E-MAIL



MINISTERIO
DEL INTERIOR

EX 003584 2020
14 04 2020

Received on
13. 04. 2020

Fernando Grande-Marlaska Gómez
MINISTRO

*Mr Margaritis Schinas
Vice-President of the
European Commission*

*Ms Ylva Johansson
Commissioner for Home Affairs
European Commission*

*Mr Jeppe Tranhølm-Mikkelsen
Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union*

*Mr David Maria Sassoli
President of the European Parliament*

*The Ministers of Interior of the
EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries*

Madrid, April 10th, 2020

On March 26th, Spain decided to prolong the reintroduction of controls at its internal land borders for a period of 15 days (after the initial 10 day period) until April 11th in order to avoid the spreading of COVID-19.

The current circumstances in Spain recommend, once again, prolonging all preventive measures taken against the spread of the disease, including the state of alarm. These measures have allowed being more effective in the fight against the virus as the spread is advancing at a slower pace. Therefore, a new further extension of controls at the internal borders is considered a proportionate measure, coherent with those adopted inside our territory and by other Member States, especially France and Portugal, the two EU Member States neighboring our internal land borders.

Therefore, in accordance with article 28.3 of the Schengen Borders Code, I have issued the Order INT/335/2020 of the Minister of Interior of April 10th prolonging controls temporarily reintroduced at the internal borders due to COVID-19, by which border controls at the internal land borders are maintained from 00:00, April 11th to 00:00, April 26th. The following categories of persons are exempted:



- Spanish citizens.
- Residents in Spain.
- Residents in other Member States or Schengen Associated Countries going to their place of residence.
- Frontier workers.
- Healthcare and elderly care professionals going to their work.
- Those able to prove with documents being subject to force majeure or state of necessity.
- Staff of diplomatic missions, consular offices or international organizations seated in Spain, accredited as such and travelling in the scope of their official mission.
- Transport of goods.

Please, rest assured that the scope and duration of the internal border checks will be limited to what is strictly necessary and that we will continue to carefully monitor and assess the evolution of the situation, as well as the impact and proportionality of measures taken.

Yours sincerely,