



Council of the
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From: Lithuanian delegation

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

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Subject: Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Lithuanian 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 27 April 2020 regarding the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Lithuania at the internal borders between 28 April and 14 May 2020.

E-MAIL

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**LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS VIDAUS REIKALŲ MINISTERIJA
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European Commission

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General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union

European Parliament

Home Affairs Ministers of EU Member States
and Schengen Associated Countries

RE PROLONGATION OF INTERNAL BORDER CONTROL

Dear Colleagues,

In the notification of 14 March 2020, the Republic of Lithuania informed about the decision of the Government to temporarily reintroduce border control at all internal land, sea and air borders in accordance with Article 28 of the 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 across borders (Schengen Borders Code). In the notifications of 24 March and 10 April 2020, the Republic of Lithuania informed about the decision of the Government to prolong the temporary reintroduction of border control.

After thorough examination of the current situation and taking into account the trends as regards numbers of COVID-19 cases in the Republic of Lithuania and across Europe, we find that the grounds for internal border control continue to be valid, making it necessary to prolong internal border control in accordance with the paragraph 3 of Article 28 of the Schengen Borders Code.

The prolongation of border control will take effect from 28 April 2020 00:00 and will last until 14 May 2020 18:00.

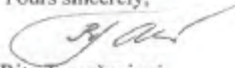
The border control will continue to be carried out at international airports, seaport of Klaipėda and the following land border crossing points (BCP): with Republic of Poland – Kalvarijos BCP, Lazdijų BCP and Šeštokų (Mockavos) BCP; with Republic of Latvia – Būtingės BCP, Saločių BCP and Smėlynės BCP.

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



Please also be informed, that the prolongation of the quarantine regime, which was announced on 16 March 2020 on the entire territory of the Republic of Lithuania, as well as the necessity of internal border control is being reassessed every two weeks. The Republic of Lithuania acknowledges that reintroduction of internal border controls should be a measure of last resort. As it is difficult to assess beforehand whether there will be circumstances giving rise to the need of having further internal border control in place after 14 May 2020, the Government of the Republic of Lithuania has not yet taken a decision on further internal border controls. Where the situation requires, the Government of the Republic of Lithuania will take a decision on temporary reintroduction of internal border control in accordance with Article 25 of the Schengen Borders Code, based on most recent information and data evidence. Where such a decision is taken, the Republic of Lithuania will inform the European Commission, European Parliament, The Council of the EU, EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries without delay.

Yours sincerely,



Rita Tamašuniene
Minister of the Interior