NOTE

From: Lithuanian delegation
To: Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee (EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)
Subject: Temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Lithuanian 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 08 June 2023 regarding the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Lithuania as of 7 July until 13 July 2023.
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

European Commission
European Parliament
General Secretariat of the Council of the
European Union
Home Affairs Ministers of the EU Member
States and Schengen Associated Countries
Via email only

Temporary reintroduction of controls at the internal borders of the Republic of Lithuania

Please be informed that the Government of the Republic of Lithuania has decided to temporarily reintroduce internal border controls in accordance with the Articles 25 and 27 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).

This decision was taken as part of overall security plan in preparation for the NATO Summit that will take place in Vilnius on 11-12 July 2023 in reaction to possible serious threats to public policy and internal security connected to this high level political event. Given the current security and geopolitical situation in the region and, particularly, the tense relations between the Russian Federation and NATO, potential threats to security are considered to be high.

Internal border controls are deemed to be a necessary and proportionate measure for ensuring security requirements during the NATO Summit and to detain or prevent persons who may pose a threat to national security (possible terrorists, saboteurs, other types of infiltration) from entering or dangerous objects from being transported into the territory of Lithuania.

The border controls will be reintroduced at:
1. International airports;
2. International seaports;
3. Land border with the Republic of Latvia;
4. Land border with the Republic of Poland.

The reintroduction of internal border control will take effect as of 7 July 2023 8:00 a.m. and will last until 13 July 2023 8:00 a.m. and checks will be carried out only in the direction of entry to the Republic of Lithuania.

Please rest assured that the scope and duration of the internal border checks will be limited to what is strictly necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Agnė Bilotaite,
Minister of the Interior of Lithuania