



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 20 June 2008 (24.06)
(OR. de,en)**

10992/08

LIMITE

**FRONT 59
COMIX 505**

PUBLIC

NOTE

from : German delegation
to : Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee
(EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)

Subject : **Report on the temporary reintroduction of internal border controls on the occasion of the 2007 G8 Summit in accordance with Article 29 of the Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders
(Schengen Borders Code)**

Delegations will find attached a report on the temporary reintroduction of internal border controls on the occasion of the 2007 G8 Summit on 6 - 8 June 2007.

Federal Ministry of the Interior
LIMITED CIRCULATION

Berlin, 15 February 2008

Ms Monika Moßhammer
Head of Sector - Borders
Directorate B I. Borders and Visas
Justice, Freedom and Security DG
European Commission
Rue de Luxembourg 46
Office 5/12
B-1049 Brussels

Dear Ms Moßhammer,

I refer to Parliamentary State Secretary Altmaier's letter of 18 June 2007 to the Vice-President of the European Commission, Mr Franco Frattini, and your request for further information in connection with temporary internal border controls on the occasion of the 2007 G8 Summit.

From 25 May to 9 June 2007, owing to the heightened security requirements on the occasion of the G8 Summit in Heiligendamm/Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania from 6 to 8 June 2007, the Federal Republic of Germany made use of the possibility of temporary internal border controls at land, air and sea borders which is explicitly provided for in the Schengen Borders Code. The purpose was in particular to prevent the (early) arrival of potential delinquents and violent criminals from and via neighbouring European countries and thereby help to ensure that the G8 Summit was not disrupted.

Prior to this notified reintroduction of internal border controls, the Federal Republic of Germany held consultations pursuant to the Schengen Borders Code, in particular with EU and Schengen Member States, in order to ensure, among other things, that border controls were implemented as smoothly and effectively as possible in agreement with the local border authorities.

As the reintroduction of internal border controls in the overall context of the Schengen Borders Code does not involve self-imposed obligations in the sense of complete and lasting implementation of Schengen-level border controls, situation-based controls (i.e. flexible with regard to time and place) were carried out on cross-border public land, sea and air transport routes. By carrying out border controls based on knowledge of the situation (a right, but not an obligation, to control), restrictions on cross-border internal traffic were limited to the extent required for security purposes. In general, such flexible implementation takes account of individual security requirements.

In the context of these internal border controls, the Federal Police and the authorities responsible for border controls carried out checks on approximately:

- 890 000 persons (including visual checks)
- 495 trains
- 3 360 flights and
- 720 vessels.

In the course of the checks:

- 158 refusals of entry
- 58 persons for whom arrest warrants had been issued and
- 120 illegal entries

were recorded, among other things.

In the framework of border controls, entry into the Federal Republic of Germany was refused in individual cases, in particular in accordance with the legal requirements of EU legislation on residence and freedom of movement, inter alia on the grounds of a real threat to public order and security.

In the context of an agreed security concept – as on the occasion of the 2006 football World Cup – these border controls constituted an important threat filter and their preventive effect contributed to the summit's security. Also worthy of special note in this connection is the well-established (border) police cooperation with the Member States' border authorities that has been daily practice for years.

I should be grateful if you would forward the reports by Finland and France in connection with their temporary reintroduction of internal border controls.

(Complimentary close.)

p.p.
Dr Romann

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