



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 28 September 2015
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COMIX 444

NOTE

From:	Austrian delegation
To:	Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee (EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)
No. prev. doc.:	12110/15 FRONT 189 COMIX 413
Subject:	Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Austrian internal borders in accordance with Article 25 of Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 establishing a Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code)

TRANSLATION PROVIDED BY AUSTRIAN DELEGATION

Delegations will find attached a copy of a letter received by the General Secretariat of the Council on 25 September 2015 concerning a prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Austria at internal borders.

Mr Jeppe Tranholm-Mikkelsen
General Secretariat of the Council
of the European Union
1049 Brussels
BELGIUM

Vienna, 24 September 2015

Dear Mr Secretary-General,

As already announced in the letter dated 15 September 2015, the Austrian Federal Government, effective on 16 September 2015 (00:00 hours), has temporarily reintroduced border controls at internal borders to neighbouring States under Art. 25 of the Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2006 establishing a Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code), as last amended by Regulation (EU) No 1051/2013.

Due to the enormous migration flows to and across Austria, the security situation has continued to deteriorate dramatically in recent days. Only last weekend, in the time period from 18 to 21 September (15:00 hours) about 33.000 persons have illegally entered Austria. In order to cope with such influx, 17,700 individual accommodations were created in Austria in the last few days. This is a major challenge not only for the police force and the Austrian federal army which was called for support, but also for rescue workers and all NGO personnel participating in providing assistance to refugees, which can only be managed by controlling the influx of these people in an orderly manner, and by police force and army using existing transportation means to distribute refugees to available accommodations. It is indispensable for this purpose, that the persons can be registered at the very border, and that they can be given medical care and initial food provisions.

For this reason, it will be necessary to continue to temporarily position adequate police forces at the border crossings initially with Hungary and Slovenia, subsequently if necessary also at border crossings with other neighbouring States, so that the police forces can perform border controls as appropriate and depending on the situation.

Therefore, effective on 26 September 2015 (00:00 hours), border controls will continue to be performed for another 20 days at the Austrian internal Schengen land and air borders as appropriate and depending on the situation. The intensity of such border controls will continue to be limited to the extent necessary for maintaining safety and security.

In view of the massive influx of third country nationals, such measure continues to be necessary for maintaining law and order, safeguarding internal security and avoiding continuous overstressing of police force, rescue services and public infrastructure, and for allowing the organs of the Austrian federal police force to perform their tasks at internal borders.

I would ask you to inform all entities in your country affected by the continuation of border controls by Austria of this notification.

With kind regards,
