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European Union

Brussels, 7 October 2021
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COVID-19 349
COMIX 483

NOTE

From:	French delegation
To:	Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee (EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)
No. prev. doc.:	7600/21
Subject:	Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the French 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 7 October 2021 regarding the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by France at its internal borders between 1 November and 30 April 2022.

**PERMANENT REPRESENTATION
OF FRANCE TO THE
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

*Liberty
Equality
Fraternity*

The Permanent Representative

Brussels, 30 September 2021

No 2021-0464984

Dear Secretary-General,

Please find herewith a note from the French authorities concerning the extension of border controls from 1 November 2021 to 30 April 2022.

(Complimentary close)

Philippe Léglise-Costa

Copy: Ms Christine Roger

**Mr Jeppe Tranholm-Mikkelsen
Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
Rue de la Loi 175
B-1048 Brussels**

NOTE FROM THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES

Subject: Extension of border controls from 1 November 2021 to 30 April 2022 at France's internal land borders with Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, the Swiss Confederation, Italy and Spain, and at its air and sea borders.

Encl.: Updated list of authorised crossing points.

On 2 April 2021, the French authorities notified the European Commission of the renewal of internal border controls from 1 May 2021 to 31 October 2021.

With this period of extension coming to an end, the jihadist terrorist threat remains at a high level in France where, since the beginning of 2021, one attack has been carried out and three attacks have been foiled. The 'enhanced security — risk of attack' level of the Vigipirate plan, which was renewed on 5 March 2021, is consequently being maintained.

The start, in September 2021, of the trial for the attacks on 13 November 2015 necessitates increased vigilance. Media coverage of the trial is likely to give rise to further attacks, as occurred with the trial for the Charlie Hebdo attacks, in September 2020: two journalists were injured in an attack with a cleaver carried out by a Pakistani national, declared as a single minor, who had illegally entered French territory.

The acute nature of this threat is corroborated by Europol's 2021 report on the situation and trends in terrorism¹, which highlights the risk that media coverage of the 2015 attacks will inspire isolated individuals to commit similar acts, particularly in France.

Moreover, international developments suggest that the terrorist threat is unlikely to decrease in the coming months. The Taliban's takeover of power in Afghanistan is indeed a factor of international instability which, as has been the case in the past, could have an impact on the terrorist threat in Europe. France is one of the countries with one of the largest Afghan communities in Europe. It also has the largest contingent of terrorist fighters abroad and is therefore particularly affected by the growing risk of foreign fighters returning due to the instability of the military situation in northern Syria (including following an entry not detected by another Schengen State). The situation in the detention and refugee camps in the north-east of Syria, where hundreds of European women jihadists are currently being held, also remains unstable.

This exogenous threat is proven. Several plans for attacks by foreign fighters, former ISIS members who entered France irregularly, have been foiled over the last two years. Individuals of foreign origin with profiles comparable to those of those who committed attacks in France in 2020 have been arrested by the French authorities in 2021 and two cells consisting of persons of Chechen origin were dismantled in eastern France in spring 2021. In his thirteenth report on the threat posed by ISIL (Da'esh)², the UN Secretary-General considered that, after a period of calm, the number of terrorist attacks in Europe could rise again in the coming months.

¹ Europol, European Union Terrorism Situation and Trend Report, 2021.

² United Nations Security Council, S/2021/682, Thirteenth Report of the Secretary-General on the threat posed by ISIL (Da'esh) to international peace and security and the range of United Nations efforts in support of Member States in countering the threat, 27 July 2021, paragraph 30.

Finally, in recent months we have seen violent demonstrations in the Muslim world in response to Charlie Hebdo's publication of caricatures of Mohammed. Europol has also highlighted, in its analyses, the exploitation of this phenomenon by jihadist propaganda to incite terrorist attacks in France and other European countries.

These facts show that the terrorist threat remains present, serious and exogenous.

In this regard, the checks carried out at the internal borders between 1 March and 31 August 2021 proved their effectiveness, since they enabled 61 783 refusals of entry to be issued and 25 032 alerts in the national and European systems to be detected. In addition, since the beginning of 2021, on all the main routes to the European Union, 76 214 irregular arrivals have been recorded, an average of 299 persons per day. This represents an increase of 40% compared to the same period in 2020 (54 418)³ France remains one of the main destination countries for secondary movements within the European Union and this dynamic represents a considerable increase in risks to our territory. The EU legislation currently in force does not guarantee that real security checks are carried out for persons crossing the external border irregularly. In this situation, internal border controls are an inevitable consequence of the shortcomings observed at the external borders. France supports the work undertaken by the Commission, in particular through the draft screening regulation, to address these difficulties.

At the same time, the risks associated with the COVID-19 outbreak remain high at national and European level. France reached 81% vaccination coverage in September 2021, but this rate is still insufficient in the face of more communicable variants — including the Delta variant which is predominant in all European countries — that are spreading in France and among our European neighbours. The significant increase in the number of cases in the Schengen area between July and September⁴ and the sharp slowdown or even stagnation of vaccination campaigns in the majority of Member States make it necessary to maintain a high level of vigilance. Since March 2020, France has done everything possible to control the circulation of the virus, in particular by putting in place a series of lockdowns, a curfew and currently a health pass (required to access a large number of transport, leisure, cultural and food service facilities). In this context, internal borders should not constitute a loophole in the fight against the circulation of the virus and it must therefore remain possible to carry out health checks where necessary.

All these factors explain the need to continue to control intra-Schengen cross-border movement in order to ensure public security and order.

For these reasons, France hereby notifies that it will extend the controls at its internal borders from 1 November 2019 until 30 April 2022, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 25 and 27 of the Schengen Borders Code. This decision has been taken following an evaluation of the necessity and proportionality of these controls in view of the threat to public order (including public health), based on up-to-date risk assessments. The reintroduction of internal border controls remains a measure of last resort and the French authorities wish to reaffirm their commitment to the principle of free movement of persons, one of the founding principles of the European Union.

³ Integrated Situation Awareness and Analysis Report No 272 of 15 September 2021

⁴ According to the figures produced by the ECDC, for the 35th week of 2021 there are 200 cases per 100 000 inhabitants in the EU and the EEA, which is up from July (50 per 100 000).

In this respect, the French authorities are particularly careful to avoid controls at internal borders impeding the movement of persons and goods more than is strictly necessary, and take all measures to ensure that the impact of these controls on the flow of traffic is limited. In particular, they take care to deploy sufficient staff to the most commonly used transit areas in order to limit the impact that these controls might have on the flow of traffic. Currently, 3 500 to 4 000 staff are mobilised on a daily basis to protect all our borders.

The updated list of authorised crossing points is attached to this notification.

In this connection, the Minister of the Interior will send a letter to the authorities of neighbouring Member States informing them of this decision and of our wish to continue to ensure effective cross-border cooperation.

LISTE DES POINTS DE PASSAGE AUTORISÉS (PPA)

DEPARTEMENT	AUTORITÉS EN CHARGE	NOM PPA FRANÇAIS	PRÉCISION LOCALISATION PPA
1	DCPAF	CHALLEX	D89
1	DCPAF	DIVONNE - CHAVANNES	D15
1	DCPAF	DIVONNE - CRASSY	D984C
1	DCPAF	FERNEY - MATEGNIN	D35
1	DCPAF	FERNEY - VERSOIX	D35C
1	DGDDI	FERNEY – VOLTAIRE	D1005
1	DGDDI	GENÈVE CORNAVIN GARE	GARE
1	DCPAF	POUGNY	D984B
1	DCPAF	PREVESSIN-MEYRIN - LE TONKIN	D984F
1	DCPAF	SAUVERNY	D15E
1	DCPAF	SAINT JEAN DE GONVILLE	D89H
1	DCPAF	VERSONNEX	D15B
4	DCPAF	COL DE LARCHE	
5	DCPAF	COL AGNEL	
5	DCPAF	COL DE L'ECHELLE	
5	DCPAF	COL DE MONTGENEVRE	
6	DCPAF	BREIL CARREFOUR	D6204 – D2204
6	DCPAF	BREIL – ROYA GARE	
6	DGDDI	COL DE TENDE	
6	DCPAF	MENTON -PONT SAINT LUDOVIC	
6	DCPAF	MENTON – LA TURBIE	A8
6	DCPAF	MENTON GARE CENTRALE	GARE
6	DCPAF	MENTON GARE GARAVAN	GARE
6	DCPAF	MENTON PONT SAINT LOUIS	
6	DCPAF	OLIVETTA – FANGHETTO	D933
6	DCPAF	SQSPÉL CARREFOUR SAINT GERVAIS	
8	DGDDI	FUMAY	
8	DGDDI	GIVET	
8	DGDDI	GUÉ D'HOSSUS	D985
8	DGDDI	LA CHAPELLE	
8	DGDDI	VIREUX – MOLHAIN	
25	DGDDI	ABBEVILLERS	D34
25	DGDDI	BREMONCOURT	D437
25	DGDDI	BURNEVILLIERS	
25	DGDDI	COL DE FRANCE	D461
25	DGDDI	FRASNES-VALLORBE GARE	GARE

LISTE DES POINTS DE PASSAGE AUTORISÉS (PPA)

25	DGDDI	GOUMOIS	D437
25	DGDDI	LA CHEMINÉE	D464
25	DCPAF	LA FERRIERE SOUS JOUGNE	N57
25	DGDDI	LE GARDOT	D48
25	DGDDI	LES FOURGS	D6
25	DGDDI	LES VERRIERES DE JOUX	D67
25	DGDDI	MONTANCY	D140
25	DGDDI	MORTEAU GARE	GARE
25	DGDDI	MOUTHE	D389
25	DGDDI	PARGOTS	D2
25	DGDDI	VAUFFREY	
25	DGDDI	VILLARS LES BLAMONT	D173
31	DCPAF	MELLES PONT DU ROY	N125
39	DGDDI	BOÎT D'AMONT	
39	DGDDI	LA CURE	
54	DCPAF	LONGLAVILLE RODANGE	N18
54	DCPAF	MONT SAINT MARTIN AUTOROUTE	N52
54	DCPAF	MONT SAINT MARTIN D46	D46
54	DGDDI	MONT SAINT MARTIN D918	D918
55	DGDDI	ECOUVIEZ	D981
57	DGDDI	APACH	D153
57	DGDDI	AUTUN LE TICHE	D29
57	DGDDI	CARLING	D26
57	DGDDI	CREUTZWALD	N33
57	DCPAF	EVANGE	N53
57	DCPAF	FORBACH GARE	GARE
57	DCPAF	GROBLIEDERSTROFF	N61
57	DCPAF	GROBLIEDERSTROFF	N61 – D31BIS
57	DCPAF	LA BREME D'OR	N30
57	DGDDI	MARIENAU	D31
57	DGDDI	MONDORF	D1
57	DGDDI	PETITE ROSSELLE	D31
57	DGDDI	ROSBRÜCK	N3
57	DCPAF	SARREBRUCK AUTOROUTE	A320
57	DCPAF	SARREGUEMINES	D82
57	DCPAF	SARREGUEMINES GARE	GARE
57	DGDDI	SCHOENECK	D32
57	DGDDI	SCHRECKLING	D918
57	DGDDI	SCHWEYEN	D35A

LISTE DES POINTS DE PASSAGE AUTORISÉS (PPA)

57	DGDDI	SPIRCHEREN	D32
57	DCPAF	THIONVILLE GARE	GARE
57	DGDDI	VILLING	D954
57	DGDDI	VOLMERANGE	D58
57	DCPAF	ZOUFFTGEN	A31
59	DCPAF	BETTIGNIES	N2
59	DCPAF	CAMPHIN-BAISIEUX	A27
59	DCPAF	BAISIEUX GARE	GARE
59	DCPAF	CONDÉ SUR L'ESCAUT	D935
59	DCPAF	DRONKAERT À NEUVILLE-EN-FERRAIN	D78
59	DCPAF	GARE DE LILLE – EUROPE	GARE
59	DCPAF	GARE DE LILLE – FLANDRE	GARE
59	DCPAF	GHYVELDE	D601
59	DCPAF	HALLUIN EST	D617
59	DCPAF	JEUMONT	D336
59	DCPAF	MONT A LEUX À WATTRELOS	D112
59	DCPAF	QUIEVRECHAIN	D630
59	DCPAF	REKKEM - NEUVILLE EN FERRAIN	A22
59	DCPAF	RISQUONS TOUT À NEUVILLE EN FERRAIN	N350
59	DCPAF	SAINT AYBERT	A2
59	DCPAF	STEENVORDE	D 948
59	DCPAF	TOURCOING GARE	GARE
62	DCPAF	LES MOËRES	A16
64	DCPAF	ARNÉGUY	D933
64	DCPAF	BIRIATOU AUTOROUTE	A63
64	DCPAF	COL D'IBARDIN	D404 – D04
64	DCPAF	COL DE LIZARRIETA	D306
64	DCPAF	COL DE LIZUNIAGA	D406
64	DCPAF	COL DU POURTALET	D934
64	DCPAF	COL DU SOMPORT	N134
64	DCPAF	DANCHARIA	D4
64	DCPAF	HENDAYE GARE	GARE
64	DCPAF	HENDAYE PONT SAINT-JACQUES	D911
64	DCPAF	HENDAYE-BÉHOBIÉ	N10
64	DCPAF	ROUTE DE SARE – VENTA BERROUET	D04
64	DCPAF	URDOS-TUNNEL DU SOMPORT	N134
64	DCPAF	NAVETTE MARITIME HENDAYE	
65	DCPAF	TUNNEL D'ARAGNOUET/BIELSA	D173
66	DGDDI	BOURG MADAME	ROUTE DE LLIVIA

LISTE DES POINTS DE PASSAGE AUTORISÉS (PPA)

66	DCPAF	CERBERE – COL DES BALISTRES	D914
66	DCPAF	CERBERE GARE	GARE
66	DCPAF	COL D'ARES À DE MAUREILLAS	D115
66	DCPAF	COL DE COUSTOUGES	D3
66	DGDDI	LATOURE DE CAROL - ENVEIGT GARE	GARE
66	DCPAF	PERPIGNAN GARE	GARE
66	DCPAF	PERTHUS - BARRIÈRES DE PÉAGE LE BOULOU	A9
66	DCPAF	PERTHUS – VILLAGE	D900
66	DGDDI	ROUTE DU TOURNIQUET (ENTRE URR ET ENVEIGT)	N20
66	DGDDI	ROUTE NEUTRE (ENTRE PUIGCERDA ET ENCLAVE DE LLIVIA)	N154
67	DCPAF	DRUSENHEIM – GREFFERN BAC	D429
67	DCPAF	ESCHAU-PLOBSHEIM - ALTENHEIM	N353
67	DCPAF	GAMBSHEIM – RHEINAU	D2
67	DGDDI	GERSTHEIM	
67	DCPAF	LAUTERBOURG GARE	GARE
67	DCPAF	LAUTERBOURG-BIENWALD	A35
67	DGDDI	MARCKOLSHEIM	D424
67	DCPAF	ROPPENHEIM-IFFEZHEIM	D4
67	DCPAF	SELTZ-PLITERSDORF BAC	D28
67	DCPAF	STRASBOURG – PONT DE L'EUROPE	PONT
67	DCPAF	STRASBOURG GARE	GARE
68	DCPAF	BÂLE GARE CENTRALE	GARE
68	DCPAF	BÂLE-MULHOUSE FRONTIÈRE TERRESTRE PIÉTONNE	
68	DGDDI	CHALAMPE	D39
68	DCPAF	HÉGENHEIM SUD	D201
68	DCPAF	HÉGENHEIM-CROIX BLANCHE	D1282
68	DCPAF	HUNINGUE ROUTE	D107
68	DCPAF	LEYMEN GARE	D23.4
68	DCPAF	LEYMEN-BENKEN	D23
68	DCPAF	OTTMARSHEIM	A36
68	DCPAF	SAINT-LOUIS AUTOROUTE	A35
68	DCPAF	SAINT-LOUIS BOURGFELDEN	D419
68	DCPAF	SAINT-LOUIS LYSBÜCHEL	N66
68	DCPAF	VILLAGE – NEUF PONT DU PALMRAIN	D10
68	DCPAF	VOGELGRUN PONT DE BRISACH	N415
73	DCPAF	COL DU MONT CENIS	D1006
73	DCPAF	COL DU PETIT SAINT BERNARD	
73	DCPAF	MODANE GARE INTERNATIONALE	GARE

LISTE DES POINTS DE PASSAGE AUTORISES (PPA)

73	DCPAF	TUNNEL DU FREJUS	A32
74	DGDDI	ANNEMASSE GARE	GARE
74	DGDDI	GENEVE AEROPORT – ACCES PIETONS	CHEMIN
74	DGDDI	BARDONNEX AUTOROUTE – SAINT JULIEN	A41
74	DCPAF	CHAMONIX – TUNNEL DU MONT BLANC	A40
74	DCPAF	CHÂTEL	D221
74	DCPAF	EVIAN PORT	PORT
74	DCPAF	MOELLESULAZ - GAILLARD	D1205
74	DGDDI	SAINT JULIEN PERLY	D1201
74	DGDDI	SAINT GINGOLPH	D1005
74	DGDDI	THÔNEX – VALLARD	A411
74	DCPAF	VALLORCINE	D1506
74	DGDDI	VEIGY ANIERES	D1005
74	DGDDI	VIRY	D118
75	DCPAF	PARIS – GARE DE L'EST	GARE
75	DCPAF	PARIS – GARE DE LYON	GARE
75	DCPAF	PARIS – GARE DE BERCY	GARE
75	DCPAF	PARIS – GARE DU NORD	GARE
90	DGDDI	COURCELLE - ROUTE DE LUGNEZ	D21
90	DGDDI	CROIX	D50
90	DGDDI	DELLE – DERIDEZ	D221
90	DGDDI	DELLE BONCOURT AUTOROUTE	N1019
90	DGDDI	DELLE BONCOURT VILLAGE	D19
90	DGDDI	DELLE GARE	GARE
90	DGDDI	FLORIMOND SAINT ANDRÉ	D215
90	DGDDI	LEBETAIN	
90	DGDDI	RECHESY - LA RIVIÈRE	D13
90	DGDDI	VILLAR LE SEC	
	DCPAF	GARE TGV ROISSY AÉROPORT	GARE

TOTAL

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