

Brussels, 10 November 2020 (OR. en)

12784/20

FRONT 323 COMIX 530

## **NOTE**

From:	Norwegian delegation
То:	Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee (EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)
No. prev. doc.:	11818/20
Subject:	Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Norwegian internal borders in accordance with Articles 25(3) 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 10 November 2020 regarding the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Norway at all internal borders (land, sea and air borders) between 12 November 2020 and 9 February 2021.

12784/20 MdL/cr 1

JAI.1 EN





IN 010531 2020 10.11.2020

## ROYAL NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SECURITY

Minister of Justice and Public Security

European Commission
European Parliament
Secretary-General of the Council
Member States of the Schengen Cooperation

Your ref.

Our ref. 20/1379 - SEK Date 09.11,2020

## Reintroduction of temporary controls at the Norwegian internal borders

In order to combat further spread of the Covid-19 virus infections, Norway reintroduced internal border controls at all internal borders (land, sea and air borders) on the 16th of March this year, pursuant to article 28 of the Regulation 2016/399 on the rules governing the movements of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code). Furthermore, restrictions for travel into Norway for certain groups of Schengen/EEA-citizens were applied.

In my letter of 14th of April this year, I expressed the view of the Norwegian authorities that it would be reasonable to assume that several of the measures adopted to contain and combat the infections would have to be kept in place over time.

The numbers of infections, both in Norway and in Europe are now increasing rapidly, and the situation is deteriorating fast. According to our National Health Authorities we are now experiencing a second wave of Covid-19 and thus a new threat and it is necessary to invoke exceptional measures to combat the situation. In light of this, the Norwegian government has decided to reintroduce temporary border controls at all Norwegian borders (land, sea and air), for 90 days from 12th of November 08.00, pursuant to the Schengen Borders Code article 25 paragraph 3 and article 27.

The temporary reintroduction of internal border controls is an exceptional measure of last resort. As such, the carrying out of internal border controls as a measure to limit the further spread of the Covid-19 virus infections and will be limited in scope, both operationally and geographically, to what is considered strictly necessary to prevent the threats to internal security and public policy.

Office address: Gullhaug Torg 4A Telephone: +47 22 24 51 00 Postal address: PO Box 8005 Dep, N-0030 Oslo, Norway Org. no.: 972 417 831 The controls will be targeted, based on risk assessment and carried out in accordance with the relevant Commission guidelines.

Yours sincerely

Monica Mæland