



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 16 October 2015
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FRONT 218
COMIX 502

NOTE

From:	Austrian delegation
To:	Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee (EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)
No. prev. doc.:	12435/15 FRONT 201 COMIX 444
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 15 October 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, 15 October 2015

Dear Mr Secretary-General,

Following my letters of 15 and 24 September and the Austrian response of 2 October, in which further information was requested about the necessity and proportionality of the reintroduction of border controls, I would hereby like to inform you that, after another careful examination, effective on 16 October (00.00 hours), the 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 will be extended by a further 20 days as appropriate and depending on the situation.

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.

Between 5 September and 8 October 2015, 07.00, a total of 238,485 persons were apprehended at the south-eastern borders of Austria, of which 9,017 applied for international protection in Austria. Since our last statement on 2 October, more than 44,000 persons apprehended.

Against this background and in order to maintain public order and internal security, Austria is informing you, that Austria intends to extend these internal border controls, depending on how the situation develops, on the basis of Art. 23 and Art. 24 of the Schengen Borders Code. This is the only way to avoid, wherever possible in practice and by law, security deficits in the Schengen area for the benefit of our citizens.

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

In addition to the First Vice-President of the European Commission and Commissioner Avramopoulos, I will also pass on this information to the Secretary-General of the Council.

I kindly ask you to support this decision once more.

With kind regards,
