



Council of the  
European Union

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From:	Swedish delegation
To:	Working Party on Frontiers / Mixed Committee (EU-Iceland/Norway and Switzerland/Liechtenstein)
No. prev. doc.:	8097/22
Subject:	Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Swedish internal borders in accordance with Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2016/399 on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code)

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Delegations will find attached a copy of the letter received by the General Secretariat of the Council on 12 October 2022 regarding the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Sweden at the internal borders for six months as of 12 November 2022.



Government Offices of Sweden

12 October 2022

IN 010436 2022  
13.10.2022

**E-MAIL**

Received on  
12. 10. 2022

Ministry of Justice  
Minister for Justice and Home Affairs

General-Secretariat of the Council of  
the European Union

Dear General-Secretariat,

I would like to inform you that the Swedish caretaker Government is considering a decision to temporarily reintroduce border control at the Swedish internal borders for a period of six months as of 12 November 2022. All other measures at our disposal have after detailed consideration been ruled out as insufficient.

Such a decision would be taken in accordance with article 25 of the Regulation (EU) no 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code).

The scope of the border control may extend to all internal borders, be it land, sea or air borders, whereby the specific border sections and border crossing points would be determined by the Swedish Police Authority, following a continuous risk analysis. In accordance with the Schengen Borders Code the scope would be limited to what is strictly necessary to respond to the serious threat to public policy and internal security.

The security situation and the recent development in Europe close to our borders is extremely serious. Following the order for mobilisation in Russia large numbers of Russian citizens are leaving the country to avoid military service, with the Nordic countries and Sweden being the destination for many. Due to the changing border policies of Member States, there is also an increased risk of Russian citizens trying to gain illegal entry into the EU and the Schengen area. In addition to the Russian situation there is also an increased risk of secondary movements of other third country citizens, as confirmed by the Czech Republic and Austria where a sharp increase in arrivals of third country citizens has been noted recently.

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The Europol assessment that there is a significant risk of weapons from Ukraine being smuggled into the EU and the Schengen area by criminal networks is still valid. Reports on trafficking in human beings are still frequent and must continue to be taken seriously.

A decision of reintroduction of border control would truly be a last resort. The current Swedish legislation does not allow for police checks on persons in the border areas, in line with the Commission's Recommendation from 12 May 2017.

After an overall assessment the Swedish caretaker Government has concluded that a serious threat to Swedish public policy and internal security exists. A decision of reintroduction of border control at the internal border is the only effective and available response to such a threat.

Please let me reassure you that I do remain committed to the goal of returning to a Schengen area without internal border controls and a well-functioning Schengen cooperation as soon as the situation allows.

Yours sincerely,



Morgan Jullansson

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