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Brussels, 12 November 2015  
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**NOTE**

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From: Swedish delegation

To: Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee  
(EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)

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Subject: Temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Swedish internal borders in accordance with Article 23 and 25 of Regulation (EC) 562/2006 establishing a Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across border (Schengen Borders Code)

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Delegation will find attached a copy of a letter received by the General Secretariat of the Council on 12 November 2015, concerning temporary reintroduction of border controls by Sweden at its internal borders between 12 - 21 November 2015.

# E-MAIL / FAX



REGERINGSKANSLIET

12 November 2015

**Ministry of Justice Sweden**  
*Minister for Home Affairs*  
SECRETARIAT GÉNÉRAL DU  
CONSEIL DE L'UNION EUROPÉENNE  
SGE15/10637  
Reçu le 12 -11- 2015  
Mme ROGER  
DEST. PRINC.  
DEST. COPISTES

Director General for Justice and  
Home Affairs  
Jeppe Tranholm-Mikkelsen

General Secretariat of the Council of the  
European Union

Dear Secretary General,

Due to the serious threat to public policy and internal security posed by the consequences of the unprecedented migratory pressure and the ensuing significant challenges to the functioning of the Swedish society, the Swedish government has today decided to temporarily reintroduce border control at the Swedish internal borders. Other measures have, after detailed consideration, been deemed insufficient. The reintroduction of border control at the Swedish internal borders will take place between 12 November at 12.00 hours and 21 November 2015.

The border control may extend to all internal borders, including land-, sea- and airborders, whereby the specific border sections and border crossing points are determined by the Swedish Police Authority. I have been informed that the control will initially focus on selected harbours in Police Region South and Police Region West as well as on the Öresund Bridge between Denmark and Sweden. The scope of the control will be limited to what is strictly necessary to respond to the threat to public policy and internal security and constantly adapted to the relevant circumstances.

The decision was made in accordance with article 23 and 25 of the Regulation (EC) no 562/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code).

Sweden is currently facing an unprecedented migratory flow. The flows are mixed and may include i.a. asylum seekers, economic migrants, potential criminals such as smugglers or traffickers of human beings, but also potential victims of crime. People now arriving in Sweden, not seeking to legalise their stay, constitute easy targets for perpetrators ready to abuse their vulnerable situation.

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The Swedish Migration Agency has informed the government that it is under extreme pressure. On 9 November, the agency registered over 2,000 asylum seekers and during the period 3-9 November nearly 11,000 asylum seekers were registered. The fact that the migratory flows are mixed creates great difficulties, whereby a reintroduction of border control at internal borders by way of identifying the different categories of persons, would facilitate the agency's work. The agency has therefore advocated this measure.

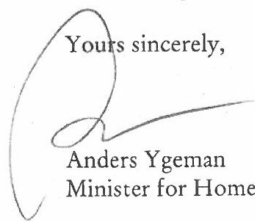
Further, following the steeply increased migratory flows, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency produces weekly national situational pictures. Over the past weeks, the agency reported that the migratory flows now lead to extreme and increasing challenges regarding the functionality of the Swedish society, which is one of the three goals of Swedish security. The agency points to severe strains on mainly housing, health care, schooling and social services, but also other areas vital to the functioning of the society.

As a consequence, there is a need to already at the border, before the migrants disappear into the country or go into hiding, be able to distinguish between the different categories of people. The border control will help directing the different categories of persons to the correct services, be it the Swedish Migration Agency, the Swedish Police Authority, the social services or some other relevant service. It will also enable the prevention and detection of serious crime. Furthermore, the possibility for immediately distinguishing between the various categories and identifying the persons will contribute to different services' capacity to manage the people falling under their responsibility. In that way, border control will contribute to the functionality of the Swedish society and thereby to the goals of Swedish security.

Taking all of the above into consideration, the Swedish government deems that the conditions now amount to a serious threat to public policy and internal security, necessitating a temporary reintroduction of border control at the internal borders, in line with the Schengen Borders Code.

I would be grateful for your support for this necessary measure.

Yours sincerely,



Anders Ygeman  
Minister for Home Affairs