



Council of the  
European Union

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**NOTE**

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From:	Norwegian delegation
To:	Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee (EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)
No. prev. doc.:	10135/16 FRONT 247 COMIX 443
Subject:	Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Norwegian internal borders in accordance with Article 29(2) 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 a letter received by the General Secretariat of the Council on 11 November 2016 concerning the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Norway at its internal borders until 11 February 2017.

E-MAIL / FAX



ROYAL NORWEGIAN  
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SECURITY

*The State Secretary*

European Commission  
European Parliament  
General Secretariat of the Council

SECRÉTARIAT GÉNÉRAL DU CONSEIL DE L'UNION EUROPÉENNE	
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**Prolongation of temporary border controls at internal borders**

Reference is made to information given in the letter of 10.06 this year from Deputy Secretary General Anne K. Herse on Norway's application of Council Implementing Decision of 12.05 2016 recommending the continuation of temporary border controls in Norwegian ports with ferry connections to Sweden, Denmark and Germany.

On 11. November 2016 the Council adopted an Implementing Decision setting out a Recommendation for prolonging temporary internal border control in exceptional circumstances putting the overall functioning of the Schengen area at risk for another three months.

I hereby notify that Norway, in accordance with Article 29 (2) of Regulation (EU) 2016/399, will apply this Recommendation and prolong the temporary internal border controls in ports with ferry connections to Sweden, Denmark and Germany.

I still must conclude that the possibilities of secondary and irregular movements strongly affecting also Norway are at hand. The Mediterranean route still produces a large number of arrivals and the situation in Greece is as described in the Council Implementing Act, still fragile. The situation is clearly unpredictable. It is also important to view the situation in the Nordic countries as a whole. These exceptional circumstances constitutes a serious threat to public policy and internal security in Norway.

Norwegian authorities have examined alternative measures to temporary internal border controls to remedy the identified threats mentioned above. It is our conclusion

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that there is no satisfactory alternative measure available now. Norwegian police responsible for border protection has stepped up control and surveillance activity in areas near to borders on a targeted basis. This is done in addition and not as an alternative to regular border controls. The temporary internal border controls are however, limited to what is strictly necessary, and based on intelligence and risk analysis. The impact on regular traffic is minimal.

Let me add that the final solution of the unstable migration and the thereby following security situation in Europe now, in our view, seems more to be linked to arrival numbers in the Mediterranean region, relocation- and return processes than alternative national measures.

We will regularly examine and re-evaluate the necessity, frequency, location and time of controls at the relevant border sections.

Norwegian authorities will report to the Commission according to the Council Implementing Decision.

Yours sincerely



Ove André Vanebo

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