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From: the Netherlands delegation

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

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Subject: Prolongation of border controls at the internal borders of the Netherlands 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 10 November 2025 regarding the prolongation of border controls at the Netherlands internal borders with Germany and Belgium from 09 December 2025 to 08 June 2026.

E-MAIL

IM 11219 2025  
10-11-2025



MINISTER VAN ASIEL EN MIGRATIE

Her Excellency Ms Henna Virkkunen  
Executive Vice-President of the European Commission  
1049 Brussels, Belgium

His Excellency Dr Magnus Brunner  
Commissioner for Home Affairs and Migration  
1049 Brussels, Belgium

Her Excellency Ms Thérèse Blanchet  
Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union  
1049 Brussels, Belgium

Her Excellency Ms Roberta Metsola  
President of the European Parliament  
1049 Brussels, Belgium

Home Affairs and Migration Ministers  
of the EU and Schengen Member States

The Hague  
10 November 2025

Your Excellencies, Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to inform you that the Netherlands will prolong its internal border controls on its land borders with Germany and Belgium and its air borders as of 9 December 2025, on the basis of Article 25a (4) and (5) of the Schengen Borders Code. The prolongation of internal border controls will last for six months, up to and including 8 June 2026. Enclosed please find the notification submitted with this letter.

Irregular migration movements, exacerbated by a malfunctioning Dublin system, continue to impact the Netherlands and its migration system, with 59% of those applying for international protection having been registered in Eurodac by another Member State. As a result of unceasing irregular migration, public services and agencies that provide essential services like reception, housing, healthcare and education have been overstretched for years. Institutions dealing with asylum and reception of migrants have reached their limits in terms of capacity, leading to concerns for public order and safety.

The reintroduction of internal border controls provides the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee (RNML) with more flexibility and assistance in the detection and prevention of irregular migration, including people smuggling. Article 23 of the Schengen Borders Code does not allow for the same degree of flexibility. Currently, the Netherlands is updating the legal framework for the execution of mobile security checks so as to make better use of the provisions of the



MINISTER VAN ASIEL EN MIGRATIE

Schengen Borders Code. The circumstances described above have prompted us to prolong the internal border controls by six months.

The temporary border checks will continue to be conducted in a targeted, situation-specific and risk- and intelligence-based manner, with flexibility in terms of location and time. They will not be carried out systematically. The Netherlands will continue to cooperate closely with its partners in neighbouring countries and has for example agreed a temporary cooperation protocol with Belgium regarding the transfer of people who have been denied entry at the border. At the same time, the Netherlands continues to strive to minimise the impact on cross-border traffic, the movement of goods, and the life and work of people in border regions.

Yours sincerely,

D.M. van Weel  
Minister of Asylum and Migration