



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 18 December 2015  
(OR. en)

15456/15

FRONT 301  
COMIX 714

**NOTE**

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From:	Swedish delegation
To:	Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee (EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)
No. prev. doc.:	15253/15 FRONT 285 COMIX 685
Subject:	Prolongation of the 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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Delegations will find attached a copy of a letter received by the General Secretariat of the Council on 18 December 2015, concerning the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Sweden at its internal borders until 9 January 2016.



REGERINGSKANSLIET

18 December 2015

Ministry of Justice Sweden  
Minister for Home Affairs

SECRETARIAT GÉNÉRAL DU  
CONSEIL DE L'UNION EUROPÉENNE  
SGE15/12130  
Reçu le 18 -12- 2015  
DEST. PRINC. Mme ROGER  
DEST. COPISTES

Secretary General for Justice and  
Home Affairs  
Jeppe Tranholm-Mikkelsen

Dear Secretary-General,

The Swedish government decided on 12 November to temporarily reintroduce border control at the Swedish internal borders between 12 November and 21 November 2015. Other measures had, after detailed consideration, been deemed insufficient. The Swedish government decided on 19 November to prolong the border control at the internal borders for the period from 22 November to 11 December 2015. On 10 December, the Swedish government decided to prolong the border control from 12 December to 20 December. Today, the Swedish government has decided to prolong the reintroduced border control until 9 January 2016.

The decision to prolong the border control was made due to the remaining 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.

In its most recent situational pictures, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency states that the challenges for a range of important services in Swedish society are great and the strained situation is likely to remain so for some time. The influx of asylum applicants in Sweden has decreased, but still remains very high. During the period from 11 December to 17 December 2015, the Swedish Migration Agency registered just over 3 200 asylum applications.

The border control may extend to all internal borders, including land, sea and air borders, whereby the specific border sections and border crossing points are determined by the Swedish Police Authority. For now, the controls will remain focused on the regions mentioned in my letter to You of 12 November 2015. The scope of the control will remain limited to what is strictly necessary to respond to the threat to public policy and internal security and constantly adapted to the relevant circumstances.

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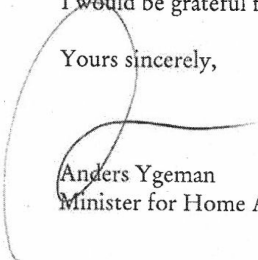
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The decision to prolong the border control was made in accordance with articles 23 and 25 of the Regulation (EC) no 562/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Community Code on the rules governing the movement of persons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

As mentioned above, the overall situation is unlikely to improve in the near future. Instead, the serious threat to public policy and internal security is expected to remain for still some time. Against this background, I wish to hereby reiterate the information mentioned in my letter to You on 10 December. Unless the situation changes significantly in the coming weeks, the Swedish government intends to decide at that time on border checks at internal borders to be temporarily carried out on the basis of articles 23 and 24 of the Schengen Borders Code.

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

Yours sincerely,

  
Anders Ygeman  
Minister for Home Affairs