



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 8 February 2021  
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**NOTE**

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From:	Belgian delegation
To:	Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee (EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)
No. prev. doc.:	5740/21
Subject:	Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Belgian internal borders in accordance with Article 28 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 8 February 2021 regarding the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Belgium at the internal borders between 6 and 25 February 2021.

E-MAIL



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Minister of Home Affairs, Institutional Reforms and  
Democratic Renewal of Belgium

Mr Margaritis Schinas  
Vice-President of the  
European Commission

Ms Ylva Johansson  
Commissioner for Home Affairs  
European Commission

Mr Jeppe Tranholm-Mikkelsen  
Secretary-General of the Council of the  
European Union

Mr David Maria Sassoli  
President of the European Parliament

The Ministers of Home Affairs of the  
EU and Schengen countries

Brussels, 5 February 2021

Dear Colleagues,

By letter of 27 January I informed you about the temporary reintroduction of targeted border controls at all internal Belgian borders for a period of 10 days, and this in accordance with article 28 of the Schengen Borders Code in order to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

By the same letter I informed you of the decision of the Belgian government to restrict non-essential travel to and from Belgium for a limited duration from 27 January until 1 March.

As the epidemiological situation and the risk for public health did not change fundamentally since that date, the targeted checks to enforce these travel restrictions have to continue. In line with article 28 (3) of the Schengen Border Code, I inform you that, for a further period of 20 days, from 6 until 25 February, some of these checks will be carried out at the internal borders.

I reiterate that no internal borders will be closed and that all checks will be carried out in a proportionate and non-discriminatory way, while ensuring the smooth border crossing for essential travel, the supply chain and the local cross-border traffic.

Yours sincerely,

Annelies Verlinden