



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 13 March 2020
(OR. en)

6822/20

LIMITE

FRONT 42
COMIX 98

NOTE

From: Slovak delegation

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

Subject: Controls in application of Article 23 of the Schengen Borders Code

Delegations will find attached a copy of a letter received by the General Secretariat of the Council on 12 March 2020 regarding controls in application of Article 23 of the Schengen Borders Code.

E-MAIL

IN 002775 2020
13.03.2020

Denisa Saková
Minister of Interior
of the Slovak Republic

Bratislava 12 March 2020

Dear commissioner,

in the context of the spreading COVID-19 disease, which is caused by the novel SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, I wish to inform you about the introduction of healthcare-police measures according to art. 23 of the Regulation (EU) 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on a Union Code on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders Code), at the internal borders of the Slovak Republic with Hungary, Austria and the Czech Republic. The objective of these measures is to eliminate, or at least to significantly reduce the spread of this very dangerous coronavirus to the territory of the Slovak Republic, by the means of determining the medical and travel history of travellers.

These healthcare-police measures do not constitute border checks within the meaning of the Regulation I refer to above. In the place of border checks, the Slovak Republic is giving precedence to police measures proportionate to the existing threat to an important public interest. These measures will be applied from 13 March 2020, 7.00 until 23 March 2020, 24.00 and the intensity will be determined by the further development of the coronavirus spread. All neighbouring countries have been informed about these measures.

I trust that all the measures adopted by the Slovak Republic will contribute to an effective effort to suppress this coronavirus in the entirety of the European Union.

Sincerely

Ms Ylva Johansson
Home Affairs Commissioner

