

Council of the European Union

> Brussels, 29 April 2020 (OR. en)

7640/20

## FRONT 115 COMIX 186

NOTE	
From:	Spanish delegation
То:	Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee
	(EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switerland)
No. prev. doc.:	7300/20
Subject:	Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Spanish 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)

Delegations will find attached a copy of a letter received by the General Secretariat of the Council on 29 April 2020 regarding temporary reintroduction of border controls by Spain at the internal borders between 26 April and 10 May 2020.

## ANNEX



DEL INTERIOR

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Verificación |

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IN 004065 2020 29.04.2020

> Fernando Grande-Morkaska Gárne Max3710

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 Interior of the EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries

Madrid, April 25th, 2020

On April 10th Spain decided to prolong the reintroduction of controls at its internal land borders for a period of 15 days until April 25th in order to avoid the spreading of COVID-19.

The current circumstances recommend once again prolonging all preventive measures taken against the spread of the disease, including the state of aiarm in Spain, which has just been extended until May 9<sup>th</sup>. These measures have allowed being more effective in the fight against the virus as the spread is advancing at a slower pace. Therefore, a new further extension of controls at the internal borders is considered a proportionate measure, coherent with those adopted inside our territory and by other Member States, especially France and Portugal, the two EU Member States neighboring our land borders.

Therefore, in accordance with article 28.3 of the Schengen Borders Code, I have issued the Order INT/368/2020 of the Minister of Interior of April 24<sup>th</sup> prolonging controls temporarily reintroduced at the internal borders due to COVID-19, by which border controls at the internal land borders are maintained from 00:00, April 26<sup>th</sup> to 00:00, May 10<sup>th</sup>. The following categories of persons are exempted:

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Spanish citizens.

- Residents in Spain.
- Residents in other Member States or Schengen Associated Countries going to their place of residence.
- Frontier workers.
- Healthcare and elderly care professionals going to their work.
- Those able to prove with documents being subject to force majeure or state of necessity.
- Staff of diplomatic missions, consular offices or international organizations seated in Spain, accredited as such and travelling in the scope of their official mission.
- Transport of goods.

Please rest assured that the scope and duration of the internal border checks will be limited to what is strictly necessary and that we will continue to carefully monitor and asses the evolution of the situation, as well as the impact and proportionality of measures taken.

Yours sincerely,

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