



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 18 March 2009 (20.03)  
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**FRONT 19  
COMIX 245**

**NOTE**

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from: German delegation  
to: Working Party on Frontiers/EU-Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland  
Mixed Committee

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Subject: **Temporary reintroduction of border checks at internal borders under  
Article 23(1) of Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 of the European Parliament  
and of the Council of 15 March 2006 establishing a Community Code on the  
rules governing the movement of persons across borders (Schengen Borders  
Code)**

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Delegations will find attached a translation of a letter received by the General Secretariat of the Council on 13 March 2009 regarding Germany's temporary reintroduction of border checks at its internal borders, owing to the NATO summit on 3 and 4 April 2009.

WOLFGANG SCHÄUBLE, MP  
Federal Minister for the Interior

to:  
Mr Javier Solana  
Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union and  
High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy

Berlin, 9 March 2009

Sir,

As a result of increased security requirements for the NATO summit, to be held in Strasbourg, Baden-Baden and Kehl on 3 and 4 April 2009, the German Federal Government has decided to reintroduce border checks at internal Schengen borders, in accordance with Article 23(1) of Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2006 (the Schengen Borders Code).

From 20 March to 5 April 2009, border checks will be carried out at Germany's land, air and sea borders with its Schengen partners, as the situation requires. The scale and intensity of these border checks will not exceed what is necessary for security in each case. Depending on police intelligence, such checks are not to be carried out permanently or comprehensively, but in a flexible manner as to time and place.

This measure is necessary in order for the German border-control authorities to discharge their duties in full at internal borders. It is designed in particular to prevent potential violent troublemakers from travelling to venues in Germany and France and thus to help prevent disruption to the summit.

While border crossing will normally continue to be allowed all along internal borders, travellers may experience border-control checks at any point on them.

As well as the Vice-President of the European Commission and the President of the European Parliament, I shall also be directly informing all Member States applying the Schengen *acquis* and seeking their close cooperation in implementing this measure.

I should be grateful for your support for Germany's decision.

(Complimentary close)

(s.) W. Schäuble

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