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NOTE

From:	Lithuanian delegation
To:	Working Party on Frontiers/Mixed Committee (EU-Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)
No. prev. doc.:	7572/20
Subject:	Prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the Lithuanian internal borders in accordance with Articles 25 and 27 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 7 May 2020 regarding the prolongation of the temporary reintroduction of border controls by Lithuania at the internal borders between 14 and 31 May 2020.

E-MAIL

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**LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS VIDAUS REIKALŲ MINISTERIJA
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European Commission 06/05/2020 No. ID-2272
General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union
European Parliament
Home Affairs Ministers of EU Member States
and Schengen Associated Countries

RE REINTRODUCTION OF INTERNAL BORDER CONTROL

Dear Colleagues,

In the notification of 14 March 2020, the Republic of Lithuania informed about the decision of the Government to temporarily reintroduce border control at all internal land, sea and air borders in accordance with Article 28 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). In the notifications of 24 March, 10 April and 24 April 2020 the Republic of Lithuania informed about the decision of the Government to prolong the temporary reintroduction of border control.

In the last notification of 24 April 2020 on prolongation of internal border control based on Article 28 of Schengen Borders Code, the Republic of Lithuania acknowledged that reintroduction of internal border control should be a measure of last resort and pointed out that at the time of sending the notification it was not yet known and/or possible to objectively assess whether there will be circumstances giving rise to the need of having further internal border control in place beyond 14 May 2020.

The prolongation of the quarantine regime, which was announced on 16 March 2020 on the entire territory of the Republic of Lithuania, as well as the necessity and proportionality of internal border control, is being reassessed regularly. After thorough examination of the epidemiological situation based on most recent information and data evidence in the Republic of Lithuania and across Europe, and having taken due account of the European Commission's recommendations set out in Joint European Roadmap towards lifting COVID-19 containment measures, we find that the grounds for internal border control continue to be valid, making it necessary to temporarily



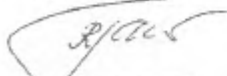
reintroduce border control at internal borders in accordance with Articles 25 and 27 of the Schengen Borders Code.

The reintroduction of border control will take effect from 14 May 2020 18:00 and will last until 31 May 2020 24:00.

The border control will be carried out at international airports, seaport of Klaipėda and the following land border crossing points (BCP): with Republic of Poland – Kalvarijos BCP, Lazdijų BCP and Šeštokų BCP; with Republic of Latvia – Būtingės BCP, Saločių BCP and Smėlynės BCP.

Please rest assured that the scope and duration of the internal border control will be limited to what is strictly necessary and that the Republic of Lithuania will continue to carefully monitor and assess the development of the situation, as well as the impact and proportionality of the measures taken.

Yours sincerely,



Rita Tamašunienė
Minister of the Interior